

NW PA MAPLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING

The regular monthly meeting was held at Bill and Marge Phillips home on November 13, 2014. Attending were: Chris Casbohm, Ruby and Burton Kimball, Daryl Sheets, Jim Bortles, Trisha and Jason Palmer, Laura Dengler, Bonnie and Bob Boylan, Marge and Bill Phillips, and Lew Steckler.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Phillips at 7:15. Minutes of the October meeting were reviewed with one minor correction. (Jeff and Tami Ellsworth not Greg). Motion to approve by Laura, seconded by Daryl and passed. Written treasurer's report was passed out for review. Current balance in \$23,231.80. Motion to accept by Laura, seconded by Bonnie and passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Trisha discussed a detailed written report on the maple booth at the Crawford County Fair. Attendance was lower this year with higher admission fees at the gate, as a result our sales were also down from previous years. Bottom line was a profit of approximately \$1100.00. Ideas for next year were discussed, along with ways to get producers to work at the booth. We will definitely be getting ice cream from a new vendor next year. Product improvement for upcoming year to include addition of maple cookies and using dark syrup in milkshakes. Thanks Trisha for your efforts.

NEW BUSINESS: Bill suggested an audit of treasurer's books. Chris thought that Bonnie Talbot might do this for the association. Taste and Tour report from Marge. New color brochures for March 2015 with no placemats. Reservations are coming in slowly at \$100.00 per sugarhouse. Plan to do Erie newspaper advertising again. Daryl reported that LEME attendance was good with full breakout sessions and good comments from producers. Group did note low attendance from NW association members.

Laura reported on committee meeting planning the annual meeting for Jan 31, 2015 at a new place-Pampered Palette in Sagertown. Buffet style lunch including tax and tip to be about \$13.00 per person not to include hall rental. Program is being finalized.

The association will pay for hall rental and coffee and donuts during the morning. Motion made by Marge to charge pre-registered members \$10.00 with NW paying the \$3.00 difference. Members paying at the door will be charged \$15.00. This was seconded by Lew and passed.

Ruby reported on taking orders for Farm Show product. Gary will be renting a trailer again to transport syrup to Harrisburg. Burton reminded those using glass containers that most now made overseas and to inspect carefully before filling. Jim had a 3rd place in light syrup at the international meeting. Good job.

Next meeting will be Christmas dinner at Eagle Hotel in Waterford Dec. 11th at 6pm
Meeting adjourned at 9:05. Thanks to Marge and Bill for refreshments.

Lew Steckler, Secretary

