



Northwest PA Maple Producers Association Newsletter—June 2023



2023 was a very good year for maple syrup producers in Northwest Pennsylvania. Our season began earlier than usual but the sap produced very sweet maple syrup. The 2023 Taste and Tour had nice weather with members pleased with the turnout and sales. Many other activities have occurred. We would like to update you on activities happening in and around Northwest PA. .

Officers of NW PA Maple Producers

President: Matt Hickin
Vice President: Tim Coryea
Secretary: Lew Steckler
Treasurer: Daryl Sheets

Committee Chairpersons include:

Membership Chair: Jim Bortles
Crawford County Fair—Greg and Chris Walberg
Erie County Fair—Jeff & Tami Ellsworth;
Taste & Tour—Haleigh Coryea
State Representatives—Daryl Sheets
Maple Ambassador—Haleigh Coryea

Are you interested in becoming a committee member of the NW PA Maple Association? We welcome you to join us and bring your ideas along. Monthly meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month at the home of members. Please talk to any of the officers or committee members on where the meetings are held and join us.

Your \$30 membership dues also pay for you to join Pennsylvania Maple Syrup Producers Council and North American Maple Syrup Council.

Pennsylvania Maple Syrup Producers Council

(PMSPC) When you join Northwest Maple Producers, you are receiving membership into our state association. PMSPC consists of 6 associations across Pennsylvania. They work together to promote the maple industry in Pennsylvania. Daryl Sheets and Tim Coryea are the Northwest Maple representatives for PMSPC. To find out more information on what is happening with PMSPC, check out the website at www.pamaple.net

North American Maple Syrup Council (NAMSC) is an advocate and resource for maple associations and their members working to ensure the sugarmakers have the tools and support needed to sustainably produce high quality products. More information can be found at www.northamericanmaple.org.

Maple Ambassador

Currently Northwest PA Maple is searching for a young male or female to become a Maple Ambassador. An ambassador would be willing to represent the maple industry at fairs, parades, and local events. Our local ambassador would also represent Northwest PA Maple at the state ambassador contest during the fall state maple tour. If you know a person interested in being a Maple Ambassador contact Haleigh Coryea at coryeamapleproducts@gmail.com or 724-813-0394 for more information.

Maple Jugs

The maple industry has been affected with the supply chain and keeping of maple jugs available. We have received a shipment of plastic Sugarhill Syrup and Cream containers but uncertain when the next shipment will arrive. You can purchase from the NW PA Maple at Northrup Egg Farm near Spartansburg. Call Steve Northrup at 814-654-7175 ahead to schedule a time to purchase the containers. Containers are sold cash & carry. Check our website for current prices. Bring payment when picking up You must be a member of NW PA Maple Association to purchase jugs.

Events

PA State Maple Tour: November 10-11th The State Maple Tour will be held in Northwest PA this year in conjunction with the Lake Erie Maple Expo. The PMSPC meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 9th in the conference room at the Confort Suite in Edinboro. On Friday, the tour will include workshops with LEME. Friday evening will conclude with a banquet at Nick's Place in Edinboro where a PA Maple Ambassador will be selected. Saturday, the tour will conclude with members attending LEME at Northwestern High School in Albion. More information on the State Tour and LEME will be available on our website pamaple.org

Lake Erie Maple Expo: November 10-11th The Lake Erie Maple Expo (LEME) is a great place to visit with old friends, find products we need, and learn more about the best practices in the maple syrup industry. Many manufacturers of maple products will be on hand to answer your questions. Anthony Honeycut and members of the FFA at Northwestern High School have been preparing a list of speakers to present information we can all use in our sugarhouses. For more information and a registration form, go to pamaple.org and click on Lake Erie Maple Expo.

Fairs: The fairs in 2022 went well. . Both fairs reported good attendance and good sales of maple products, Greg and Chris Walberg are chairpersons for the Crawford County Fair. Jeff and Tami Ellsworth are chairpersons at the Wattsburg Fair, Please contact Greg Walberg or Jeff Ellsworth if you can help at the fair booths this summer.

PA Farm Show January 6-13th, 2024. The 108th PA Farm Show is a great place to send maple products to be judged against other maple producers across Pennsylvania. Many awards were won by members of Northwestern PA for their maple syrup and products. You can also send products to the show to be sold at the PA Maple Producers booth. If sending products down to be sold, you will also be asked to spend a day or two working

at the booth. Volunteer to work at the Farm Show and your hotel room and part of your traveling expenses will be paid.

January Annual Meeting There was a good turnout for the 2023 Annual Meeting held on Jan. 28th at the Pampered Palate in Saegertown. Mike Lynch, regional sales rep for CDL, spoke on the future of maple syrup. A member of the Albion FFA demonstrated making pumpkin spice maple butter. Everyone enjoyed the time together to listen to projects happening in our association and to meet again with other producers.

Plan on attending the 2024 annual meeting on January 27th at the Pampered Palate. Let a committee member know if you have a speaker you would like hear at the meeting.

Taste and Tour: The 2023 annual Taste and Tour was a big success. The 18 participating sugarhouses reported good crowds both days and excellent sales. The 2024 Taste & Tour is scheduled for March 16th and 17th. We are always looking for new sugarhouses to join. Here is a great place to showcase your sugarhouse and to sell your products. Check the information on Taste and Tour that is enclosed or on the website for an application and more information. www.pamaple.org

Recognition Award: Do you know a maple producer from NW PA who deserves recognition for their work in promoting and producing quality pure maple syrup. Please go to pamaple.org and download an application to submit a person for recognition. Their names were also included on a plaque displayed at the Hurry Hill Maple Museum near Edinboro.

Check the website for the latest information on what is happening in the maple industry and NW PA

www.pamaple.org.