



The Gathering Tank

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Robyn Pearl, Editor

A Newsletter of the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association, Inc.



IMSI/NAMSC Annual Meeting



The 39th annual meeting of the IMSI and the 54th annual meeting of the NAMSC will be held at the Delta-Beausejour in Moncton, New Brunswick from Wednesday, October 23rd until Friday, October 25th.



On Saturday, October 26th, a tour is available of the area including a visit to Hopewell Rocks and the Bay of Fundy coast. A companion tour is offered on Friday taking attendees to the Acadian Coast which offer the warmest waters in Canada.

Besides the IMSI-NAMSC meetings, workshops and technical sessions, there will be a photo contest and a syrup and confections contest. See how your maple products rate with the rest of the maple industry! Deadlines for entry are coming up soon, so be sure to get your submissions in soon.

Registration for the entire event includes the welcome reception on Wednesday evening, breakfasts, lunches, and entry for all meetings, sessions and the trade show. One day registrations are available as well for Thursday and Friday which include meetings, lunch, trade show, technical sessions and a conference book.

Each evening will offer entertainment and other events including a silent auction and the awards banquet. Friday night will host a banquet dinner beginning with a market salad with a maple vinaigrette and finishing with a maple cheesecake. That may make the whole trip worthwhile!

Here's the link for registration:

<http://www.northamericanmaple.org/index.php/en/2013-annual-meeting>

Be sure to call the hotel right away for accommodations. They may be booked for the week, but may have suggestions of other locations for lodging.



It's time to get back to school! The 2nd Annual Maple School will be in session on Saturday, October 26th at Winnisquam High School in Tilton, NH with registration beginning at 8:00 am and concluding at 3:00pm.

The format will be the same as last year, with morning sessions, a break for lunch when you will be able to enjoy a freshly made meal in the cafeteria or head to town to find a meal, and return for the afternoon classes.

This year's topics offer options for sugaring operations of all sizes. Subjects include backyard production, tapping techniques, working with vacuum, gravity fed lines, sugarbush management, reverse osmosis, boiling concentrate, filtering, bottling, making candy and cream, flavor identification, gaining customers on the web and updates from the NH Dept. of Agriculture. Classes are 45 minutes each with 3 sessions held in the morning and 2 after lunch. A brochure with the full schedule can be found at : <http://extension.unh.edu/events/files/2231320D-93D6-9856-8ADCB5163981B3D8.pdf>

Registration is available online at: https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=15631

To guarantee a lunch reservation, please register by October 18th. Registration will also be allowed at the door and you can check if lunch is still available.

Vendors will be on hand to answer questions and provide you with all your needs for getting your operation ready for the upcoming season.

Be sure to bring a notebook and pencil. You'll need them with all of the information that will be offered!





Sugar House Tour Guide

The deadline is coming soon to sign up for the publication of the 2014 Sugar House Tour Guide, an annual brochure that offers to members year round advertising. There is a \$30.00 participation fee.

The guide is distributed to the rest areas across the state by volunteer aide from the Division of Agricultural Development, part of the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food. It also is available to the public at the fairs, educational forums and by request.

The application is available on our website, www.nhmapleproducers.com or can be printed off from page 3 of this newsletter.



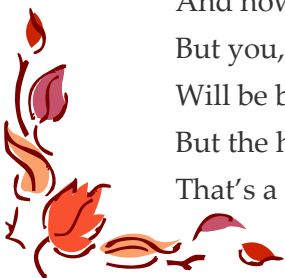
The Distraught Maple

by John F McCullagh

The first taste of Fall
made the young sapling fret.
"My leaves, once were green,
Now the cold turns them red."
"Now look, how they fall,
How they clutter the ground.
and now I'm bare naked
My leaves are all down!"



I sympathize tree, really, I do.
I once had a full head of hair
much like you.
First it went grey
when it used to be brown.
Then I, too, got denuded
And now sport a bare crown.
But you, by this Spring,
Will be back in your glory,
But the hair I once had?
That's a much different story.



NHMPA Website Updates



Be sure to check your listing on our website to make sure the information is up to date. Remember, inclusion on the list is by request. It is not automatic with membership. It is another promotional tool offered to help those members who wish to let the public know that they have products and services available on a year round basis.

If you want to be posted on this list, please send an email to nhmpa@aol.com with the following information:

Sugar house name, member(s) name, address, contact information you wish the public to use (phone number, email address, website), year round hours (if appropriate), and products/services available.

A new feature that will be in place by the end of the year is changing the grouping of members/sugar houses on our website and in publications from counties to regions. By doing this, we will be much more in line with other promotional organizations. It will help tourists to more easily identify where to find sugar houses by recognizing the region of New Hampshire they are visiting opposed to knowing which county they are in.

The 7 regions are Great North Woods, White Mountains, Lakes Region, Merrimack Valley, Monadnock Region, Seacoast and Dartmouth/Lake Sunapee. The map of the regions and the town listings can currently be found at www.visitnh.gov under the Planning & Travel Tools tab, then Maps & Directions tab. We will also be posting the map and list of towns on our website when we complete the changes on our website.



If you have any information that you wish to share with the association, have questions or any needs from the NHMPA, please send an email to: nhmpa@aol.com. Much information can be found on our website:

www.nhmapleproducers.com
Check the calendar under the events tab to see what's coming up!





2014 SUGAR HOUSE TOUR GUIDE

It's time once again to plan our Sugar House Tour Guide: **New Hampshire Maple Sugar Houses Welcome Visitors**. The brochure had a new look this year utilizing brightly colored maple leaves on the cover and amber topic headlines. It featured a list of sugar houses broken out by county, a state map with county lines and numbered key for reference, a brief history of maple production, pictures, and other helpful information about maple and maple products.

Last year, 11,000 copies were printed. All were distributed prior to the sugaring season and throughout the year to highway rest areas, chambers of commerce and other strategic locations, including fairs, expos, educational forums, etc., and to individuals requesting them.

This is a great opportunity to get your sugar house advertised year round for thousands to see, and for a low cost. The more listings we have, the more effective the brochure is. We had an almost capacity listing last year, so if we have even more members choosing to participate, we may switch to a booklet format that would be the same size but feature counties on their own pages.

This service is provided only to current paid members of the NHMPA. If you would like to be listed in the brochure, please send a \$30.00 check made out to **NHMPA** to:

Robyn Pearl, 409 Loudon Ridge Road, Loudon, NH 03307.

Please note: All contact information on this form is for public use. List the means by which you wish visitors to contact you.

WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION BY OCTOBER 31, 2013



Name _____ County _____

Sugarhouse Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Physical Address of Sugar house _____

Phone _____ Email/website _____

Same description as last year? Yes ___ If not, please give a **brief** description of what you offer: (i.e. pancake breakfast, mail order, etc.). This is a **year round** listing, **not** for Maple Weekend. If the description is too long, it will be edited to fit.
