IMSA Gearing Up for the Indiana State Fair August 7–18

Our own private label jug to be introduced

Plans are shaping up for activities at the IMSA’s sugarhouse in the Indiana State Fair’s Pioneer Village. The Indiana State fair opens Wednesday August 7 and runs through August 18.

A new feature this year will be the association’s own private label jug. Many Hoosiers purchase their year’s supply of maple syrup during their annual visit to the fair, and our own jug helps to promote the association’s own unique identity.

IMSA director Chris Rahe designed the label.

To further promote maple products for Hoosier producers, brochures and a map showing the location of IMSA members around the state help direct people on to local sources of Indiana maple syrup.

There’s a job for everyone.

Time is getting short, and we still need volunteers to help staff the sugarhouse during the fair.

Sugar makers who like to “meet and greet” have a great time with folks who stop by to see the demonstrations, ask questions, and sample our finest syrup. In the meantime, others can help at the sales counter or restock the shelves. A good turnout of volunteers means that we can also schedule some time for everyone to visit the rest of the fair.

The sugar shack is a popular stop in the Pioneer Village, and exhibits include an evaporator, buckets, spiles and photographs. We’re always happy to receive additional sugaring items for display.

We recognize that summer is a busy time, and as an expression of our appreciation, IMSA will arrange for a gate pass and one meal voucher for all members who help out for a full day at the fair. Check the enclosed calendar and schedule your day with Steve Deatline right away. He can be reached at 765-874-2170 or email him at deatline@globalsite.
It’s time to pitch in

A great big “thank you” to all those who helped can syrup last month in preparation for our summer milestone at the Indiana State Fair. Besides handling the hot syrup, it was another hot summer day (aren’t we glad God made sugaring for early springtime?). The jocularity and teamwork that goes on during this event turns our hard day of working together into a celebration of achievement.

And thanks to Chris Rahe, we now have jugs with our own IMSA logo.

It is hard to believe that we are on the down hillside of our summer for 2002, which means our fair responsibility is upon us.

If you have never spent a day in the Pioneer Village, downtown Possum Holler, sharing with and educating our Hoosier public on the natural product we produce from the sap of maple trees early in the spring, you have missed another fun-filled day.

It also does your heart good to help out the IMSA (Indiana Maple Syrup Association) by volunteering one of your greatest resources — your time. No organization is successful without volunteers who have willing attitudes and caring hearts for each other and the organization.

The IMSA is a strong organization because of the dedication of those who have given of their time and talent to see that the association meets the goals and deadlines necessary to the life and growth of an organization.

Let’s all be helpful and make this one of the greatest years yet at the state fair. See you there…(I’m the one with no hair!)

Phil

Highlights of the June Board Meeting

Officers held an informal board meeting during Canning Day on June 8 in Rockville.

Bob Proctor of the Mapleton-Fall Creek Neighborhood Association presented some information and ideas about his neighborhood located next to the state fairgrounds. Many years ago 38th St. was named Maple Road and the city of Indianapolis is going to reinstate that name soon. There was a sugarhouse almost where our sugar shack is in Pioneer village.

Bob would like to promote this maple connection for his neighborhood and he may be calling on the help of our association as with advice, sharing of knowledge and supplying maple syrup for a neighborhood pancake breakfast in April.

The board agreed to invite Bob to our annual meeting in December to share more information with members.

Treasurer Kenneth Shipley reported that we had $15,000 in the treasury but we still owe for containers.

The state fair schedule was discussed and Steve Deatline will be coordinating the schedule of workers.

Members Prepare Syrup for Fair

IMSA members, directors and friends gathered on Saturday, June 8 at the Williams and Tague Sugarhouse near Rockville to can syrup for the 2002 Indiana State Fair.

Moving the day to Saturday made it possible for more members to participate. Thanks to the good turn-out, we have the syrup all packed and ready for the fair. Syrup will be sold in half-pints, pints, quarts, half gallons and gallons.

The weather was perfect, and Florence Williams prepared a delicious meal for all the workers.

The work of our canning volunteers makes it possible to have plenty of syrup available for our friends at the fair, and it provides the funding for much of the work of the IMSA.

Our special thanks go to the following people who helped with canning:

- Jared Brickley
- Ron Burnette
- Steve Deatline
- Dave Hamilton
- Doug Hanner
- Phil Hanner
- Art Harris
- Jacob Martin
- Bob Proctor
- Rufus Purdue
- Chris Rahe
- Zebulon Rouse
- Kenny Shipley
- Garry Sink
- Nancy Sink
- John Teague
- Florence Williams
- Todd Wirth
- Matthew Wirth

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Join Us at the Fair

Make plans now to take part in the Indiana Maple Syrup Association’s Pioneer Village Demonstration at the Indiana State Fair  August 7 - 18, 2002

Already a number of members have indicated when they’d like to help run the sugarhouse at the 2002 Indiana State Fair.  ‘But you know it’s quite a task to sugar if you’re short handed even as a demonstration.  Talk it over with family and friends, pick your day to visit the fair, and volunteer your time at the IMSA sugarhouse in Pioneer Village.

Complete the registration form below and return it to Steve Deatline and we’ll send you a confirmation of your date, your assignment for the day, and all the information about entering at the fair.

Yes, sign me up for the Indiana State Fair on August __________

Name(s) __________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________

City ___________________________  State _______  Zip ___________

Phone __________________________  e mail _____________________

Send your completed registration to

Steve Deatline, Fair Coordinator, IMSA
7773 S 100 East
Lynn, IN 47355     765-874-2170     deatline@globalsite.net
Helpful Information for You

NAMSC & IMSI Annual Meeting Coming in October

The joint annual meeting of the North American Maple Syrup Council and the International Maple Syrup Institute will be held October 20-24 at the Red Jacket Inn in North Conway, NH.

The program will feature educational and technical presentations on maple production as well as tours of area sugarbushes. Syrup from member producers will be judged in international competitions.

Contact Roy and Mary Ellen Hutchinson at MapleDigest@TDS.net or fax 603-783-9953.

Website for the Indiana Maple Syrup Association is

http://www.indianamaplesyrup.org

e mail at  imsapr@hotmail.com

Join Us for the Indiana State Fair
August 7-18

The 2002 annual meeting of the Indiana Maple Syrup Association will be held Saturday, December 7, at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds in Goshen. A program and registration form will be included in your October issue of the Tapline.