

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR TODAYS PORK PRODUCERS

SPRING EDITION 2015

NEW YORK PORK PRODUCERS ANNUAL MEETING

"Pork Industry Updates and PQA Certification"

On Saturday, March 21st, New York Pork Producers will hold its 2015 Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Waterloo, NY. The emphasis this year is on housing environments and health management programs. Producers as well as 4-H youth are invited and encouraged to attend.

Pre-registration is encouraged by March 4th. Everyone who pre-registers will be eligible for the door prize. Call 716.697.3031 or email info@newyorkpork.org. Please leave your name, phone number, number attending and the names of those attending. PQA certification participants must indicate PQA when pre-registering to have a manual ordered for you.

Beginning with registration at 8:30 AM, this free, one-day meeting will feature informational speakers, a silent auction and an excellent pork buffet sponsored by Pork Check Off. The New York Pork Producers' Annual Members Meeting will follow this event.

Speakers for this exciting and educational meeting include Dr. Meghann Pierdon, DVM (Sow Housing, PRSS & PEDV Control Program), Todd Rodibaugh (Pork Check Off Update & PQA Certification Course), and Greg Thornton (NPCC Update & Strategic Investment Program). Following the speakers, there will be an "Ask the Experts" question and answer session.

The silent auction always includes interesting, useful and fun items. A spirit of friendly competition reigns as participants enjoy bidding against each other. All proceeds from the auction go to the Empire Swine Youth Scholarship Contest.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for March 21st for the chance to network with fellow producers, "win" something fun at the silent auction, have a delicious free meal and take home some practical advice from these swine industry experts.

Welcome to a New Year!

My family and I had a fantastic holiday season filled with family, friends, too much food, and pork of course! I hope you and yours were able to experience the same blessings. With this New Year off to a strong start, don't forget to set new goals and resolutions as they relate to your operation and herd. On my farm, we realize the importance of evaluation and resetting so we make the start of a New Year the time to set new goals and decide the direction we will take for the year to come.

The New York Pork Producers Cooperative Inc., largest initiative for 2015 will be making our members and supporters aware of our industries requirement of premises identification numbers. As of January 1, 2015 harvesters of cull breeding stock are requiring premise ID numbers. Our state has many small producers, these small producers may say "so what?" When this question arises we must be reminded that producers no matter the size must keep our industries best interest in mind! Also, if you sell cull breeding stock or overweight hogs without a premises ID the buying station may be limited on marketing options and potentially dock or award lower price to the seller. To resolve any potential issues, producers should acquire a premise identification number, once the producer has their specific number tags can be purchased for the operation or one can contact the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and request metal tags to use as identification for their hogs, lastly the use of these tags on an operations herd can safeguard issues during harvest and food channel entry. Request your identification number and implement this program into your operation as soon as possible! During the winter months, there are many trade shows and opportunities to further your education and connections throughout our industry. Some upcoming events hosted by the New York State Pork Producers Cooperative Inc. include our annual meeting to be held in Waterloo, New York on Saturday, March 21st. Topics to be highlighted at the annual meeting include; sow housing, PRRS, PEDV control programs, membership committee opportunities, PQA training, and much more. A silent auction will be held to benefit our Empire Swine Youth Scholarship program, both bids and item donations are welcome. Please come and join us for an informative meeting, complimentary lunch, and annual members meeting following the program.

The New York Pork Producers will be hosting a swine reproductive seminar in April of 2015, additional details will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Our guest speaker will be Tim Safranski PHD from the University of Missouri. This session comes at the request of many of our members and we look forward to learning more about swine reproduction and how to take our breeding programs to the next level. The board and I are here to serve all producers, please do not hesitate to reach out and address any questions, comments, or concerns that you may have. We would like ideas on recruitment, training, pork promotion, and youth programming that can help you in your region and most importantly on your farm.

Please enjoy this newsletter and we look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting!

Ed Keller Jr.
President
NY Pork Producers Coop Inc.



2015 EMPIRE SWINE YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Spring is around the corner and we hope everyone is gearing up for the upcoming Empire Swine Youth Scholarship Contest at the New York State Fair. In 2014 we had many participants and large and small contributors. Because of generous donations we were able to award over **\$6,000** in scholarship money!

Any 4-H youth who enters a market hog for show can participate in the 4 day, August 2015 event at the NYS Fairgrounds in Syracuse. The contest encompasses participation in several categories including showmanship, judging competition, back fat and loin eye scan, market hog evaluation, record keeping, interview and knowledge review. Participation in these activities will develop life skills as well as increase knowledge of agriculture. Contest awards include rosettes and scholarship monies for everyone as well as prizes for top placing contestants.

New York Pork Producers is proud to help sponsor and administer this educational program at State Fair.

We hope that you will consider both a contribution and participation!



For more information: Karen Hargrave (585) 534-5382 or Deanna Schwab (585) 356-9055

Contributions can be made at the following levels: Gold (\$1000), Silver (\$500), Bronze (\$250), Contributor (\$100), or Patron (<\$100)

Please send donations to:

New York Pork Producers Coop Inc 5146 Transit Road Depew, NY 14043

The theme for this year is "Disco"...

So get out your platform shoes, glitter shirts, wild hair styles and you can't forget the disco ball, and have some fun while participating in the 2015 ESYS Contest!



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5-7, 2015	WNY Farm Show Hamburg, NY				
March 5-7, 2015	NPPC Pork Forum San Antonio, TX				
March 21, 2015	NY Pork Producers Annual Meeting Holiday Inn Waterloo, NY 8:30 AM				
May 19, 2015	Board of Directors Meeting Larry's Steak House Batavia, NY 6:00 PM				
May 29-31, 2015	WNY Hog & Lamb Preview Classic Hamburg, NY				
June 3-5, 2015	2015 World Pork Expo, Des Moines, Iowa				
July 21, 2015	Board of Directors Meeting Abagail's Restaurant Waterloo, NY 6:00 PM				
August 11-13, 2015	Empire Farm Days				
August 12-23, 2015	Erie County Fair				
Aug 27-Sept 7, 2015	NY State Fair				
September 15, 2015	Board of Directors Meeting Larry's Steak House Batavia, NY 6:00 PM				
September 18-20, 2015	Oinktober Fest BBQ Clarence, NY				
October 8-10, 2015	NJSA Eastern Regionals Hamburg, NY				
November 17, 2015	Board of Directors Meeting Abagail's Restaurant Waterloo, NY 6:00 PM				

If any member would like to attend a Board meeting, Please call or email the office.

Thank you.

NEW YORK PORK PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE, INC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT:	Ed Keller	1654 Phelps Rd.	Corfu	NY	14036	(585) 330-6889		
VICE PRESIDENT:	Ben Wickham	1680 Jacob St.	Hall	NY	14463	(585) 354-5424		
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DIRECTORS:	Doug Bruning	215 Bloomingdale Rd.	Akron	NY	14001	(716) 860-7453		
	John Lash	3380 State Route 414	Seneca Falls	NY	13148	(315) 568-2225		
	Steve Ledoux	7141 Old State Rd.	Croghan	NY	13327	(315) 346-1741		
	Steve McCann	4124 A MacDougall Rd.	Waterloo	NY	13165	(315) 651-1320		
	Jonathan Parish	129 East Williams St.	Waterloo	NY	13165	(315) 651-3670		
	Deanna Schwab	1461 Perry Rd.	North Java	NY	14113	(585) 356-9055		
	Gerald Swartley	60 Boy Heights Circle	Geneva	NY	14456	(315) 730-2065		
CORNELL UNIVERSITY								
SMALL FARMS:	Nancy Glazier	417 Liberty St. Suite 1024	Penn Yan	NY	14527	(315) 536-5123		
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