



New York Pork Producers

A Quartley Newsletter For Today's NY Pork Producers

Winter Edition 2016

NEW YORK PORK PRODUCERS ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Temple Grandin-Guest Speaker



On Saturday, January 28th, New York Pork Producers will hold its 2017 Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn Buffalo Airport in Cheektowaga, NY. Producers as well as youth, involved in hog production, are invited and encouraged to attend.

Pre-Registration is encouraged and all registrations received by January 13 will be eligible for the door prize.

Online Registration

To Pre-Register: go to the NYPP website (www.newyorkpork.org) and fill out the online registration form under NYPP Annual Meeting and submit.

Or call: Krista at (716) 697-3031

Please leave your name, phone number, number attending and names of those that are attending.

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.

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.

Donations for the silent auction are open to everyone and are greatly appreciated!



Don't forget to mark your calendar for January 28th 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.

Any youth that plans on participating in the 2017 ESYS Contest will get 2 points for attending this meeting.

Letter from the NY Pork Producer President

New York Pork Producers Members:

For most New York Pork Producers members and readers of this newsletter it is no secret that when it comes time to write the presidents letter I sit down with the women of my family and brainstorm ideas that I feel need to be shared. It wouldn't be the same if I did it on my own, we all need our families to make us better! When it came time for this quarters newsletter, I had a lot of fun reflecting on our summer in the show ring together, selling pigs in new ways through avenues such as Meat Suite, and looking to slower and more relaxed winter nights on our farm. We have a lot to be thankful for as an industry.

This summer, with the help of dedicated producers and industry sponsors The New York Pork Producers Empire Swine Youth Scholarship was hosted at The New York State Fairgrounds. It is always great to see young people making memories in that old historic barn through our program. A big thanks to Karen Hargrave and Deanna Schwab for their efforts towards the program. Thanks to all that they do we were able to award over \$6,000 to nearly 20 participants. An increase from 2015. Please spread the word about the contest and thank those who graciously supported our industries future throughout the year. I would love to see 50 youth participants awarded from a pot of \$10,000 in 2017! Let's make it happen!

We will discuss the scholarship and other opportunities related to our industry at The 2017 New York Pork Producers Annual Meeting this winter. The meeting will be held in a new location this year to accommodate our guest speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin. Please join us in Buffalo, New York on January 28, 2017 at The Holiday Inn Buffalo Airport for a day filled with Dr. Temple Grandin, other pork producers, and updates on our industry and all that it is facing! I am extremely excited to see how this meeting comes together and proud of the line up my fellow board members are putting together for you and yours. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend! This is one you are not going to miss.

Lastly, as we look to colder weather and winter months I am always thinking about how to button up my barn to prepare for the cold harsh New York winters that we face. I remind you to be safe as you prepare for colder days and consider rodent and pest control options for your operation. Keeping your pigs and our environment safe, healthy, and better then when we received it is always our number one priority.

As always, thank you for your membership and dedication to production in our state. Encourage your neighbors and fellow pork producers who are not current members to enroll and take advantage of the growing opportunities our organization has to offer. It is an excellent value.

Wishing you and yours a prosperous fall and happy and healthy holiday season filled with lots of pork on your forks!

Best Wishes,

Ed Keller
New York Pork Producers President



Empire Swine Youth Scholarship

The historic swine barn at The New York State Fair was filled with youth participants both new and returning for this year's contest themed, "The Olympics." Families take the event theme very seriously and decorate their pens to reflect what the youth chose as the theme at the closing ceremony the year prior. There was a podium with stuffed medal winning pigs, Olympic torches displayed high, strands of flags from around the world, a weight lifting champion pig, and lots of American flags hung at this year's event.



As always, participants competed in swine evaluation, showmanship, herdsmanship, public presentations, poster contest, written examination, oral interviews, swine judging, Skillathon, records, and even some fair fun to name some of the items that kept the participants busy. Each area of competition was assigned a points value, the points scale was revised by the committee this year.

Before the event, outside of preparing their market hog entry for the show, the committee and the New York Pork Producers, work to engage the youth in our industry. Awarding additional points for involvement in continued education at The NYPP Annual Meeting, public education on the program by soliciting two sponsors, and points can be earned by learning how to properly prepare and serve pork at Empire Farm Days.

For 14 year old Austin Noel of Chaffee, New York the livestock judging contest and showing at The New York State fair has allowed him to step out of his comfort zone and meet new people. "It really challenges me but is a great opportunity for my brother and me to meet new people and showcase all of our hard work." This is the second year Austin has participated in the program.

Interviews, records, Skillathon, herdsmanship, written examinations, judging, posters, presentations, and pre-points are all totaled by the committee chairs and lead into the swine show. Showmanship honors and market hog placings contribute to the final scores. Melissa Keller of Corfu, New York was the Grand Champion Showman and Champion Senior Showman and Camryn Harper of Jamestown, New York was The Reserve Champion Showman and Champion Junior Showman. Market hog honors went to Mercedes Alderman and Cody Noel.

For Cody Noel age 12 of Chaffee, New York "showing pigs is my favorite part of the event. I like winning ribbons and having lots of fun." He said, "This was an awesome fair. I worked towards achieving big things and did and now I have to work harder to achieve more."

Melissa Keller has participated in the contest since age 8 and has been Reserve Champion scholarship winner for the past two years, this year taking home Grand Champion Empire Youth Swine Scholarship honors. This was Jessica Engel age 13 of East Concord's first year participating and she took home the Reserve Champion honors, followed by Rachael Harper in third of Jamestown, New York.

"I thought State Fair was going to be a little lonely because I had never been but it was a great experience with a lot of different things to participate in allowing everyone to get a taste of winning. Everyone talks to each other and that allows for a lot of new friends to be made which was the best part!"



The New York Pork Producers look forward to hosting the contest again in 2017! We look forward to additional participants and supporters. If you would like more information on youth participation, volunteering, or supporting the event financially please contact info@newyorkpork.org. We better get to work because the theme for the 2017 ESYS is "Construction."

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28, 2017	NY Pork Producers Annual Meeting – Buffalo , NY
February 2-4, 2017	WNY Farm Show – Hamburg Fairgrounds
March 1-3, 2017	NPPC Pork Forum – Atlanta, Georgia
March 21, 2017	Board of Directors Meeting – 6:00 pm
June 2-4, 2017	Hog & Lamb Preview – Hamburg, NY
August 8-10, 2017	Empire Farm Days – Seneca Falls, NY
August 9-20, 2017	Erie County Fair – Hamburg, NY
Aug. 24-Sept. 4, 2017	NY State Fair – Syracuse, NY
August 27-30, 2017	Empire Swine Youth Scholarship – NY State Fairgrounds – Syracuse, NY

If you are a NY Pork Producer member and would like to attend a Board Meeting
Please contact the office.

Phone: 716-697-3031 or Email: info@newyorkpork.org

**NEW YORK PORK PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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