



Corks & Forks Express

March 2011

Lisa J. Palmer
Coordinator
255 Market Street
Ste. Geneveive, MO 63670

573-883-2500
Coordinator@
MississippiRiverHills.org

5th Annual Spring Conference

Date:

Friday, March 25, 2011

Time:

4 pm to 7:30 pm

Location:

Lazy L Safari Park
2763 County Road 618
Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Event Schedule

- 4 - 5:30** Conference Registration
Tour of Lazy L Safari Park
Member Tradeshow Exhibits
- 5:30 - 6:30** Conference Speakers
- 6:30 - 7:30** Membership Meeting & Election of Officers

Member Spotlight

Cape Girardeau County:

The on-farm market at Jones Heritage Farms in Jackson is your local connection for fresh products. Focused on hormone & antibiotic free meats and range-free eggs, the end result is a better tasting food.
JonesHeritageFarms.com

Jefferson County:

Wilson Farms. Owner Kenny Wilson sells hay and farm-to-table beef. Call Kenny at (636) 944-3285

St Francois County:

Enter the gates, drive along the vineyards, and enjoy a relaxing afternoon in the beautiful tasting room of Twin Oaks Vineyard. TwinOaksVineyard.com

Ste. Genevieve County:

The Bolduc Historic Properties can't wait to share its new activities and expanded gift shop with you. Visit their website for programs and hours:
BolducHouse.com

Flying Princess Productions, LLC, is a live entertainment production company. Please visit their website for upcoming events:
FlyingPrincessProductions.com

Free Training! Free Park Entrance!

Bring the family: Owner and MRHA board member, Vicki Lantz, has offered free admittance to the Park for all MRHA members and their families during this private event.

Non-MRHA members welcome: If you are interested in learning about what MRHA has to offer you and your business, please accept our invitation to join us for the free tour of the Park, free training, and membership meeting.

Conference Speakers:

- Vicki Lantz, Lazy L Safari Park: The Wild Side of Business
- Lisa Palmer, MRHA Coordinator: Agritourism - Is it an Option for You?
- Linda Culbreth: Making Your Business Findable on the Internet

Wrap-up: Membership Meeting and Election of Officers

Tradeshow and Member Showcase: All MRHA members are welcome to bring brochures, product examples, and other information to introduce themselves at the conference. Space is limited, please RSVP to MRHA coordinator, Lisa Palmer by phone 573-883-2500, or by email: Coordinator@MississippiRiverHills.org

2011 Season Grand Opening

Lazy L Safari Park will open to the general public on April 2. Don't miss out on the day's fun activities. Visit them at LazyLSafari.com for hours, days, admittance, AND party ideas!

Recipe: Horse Shoe Pines Lamb Marinade

This wonderful recipe is a favorite of Teresa Meier's family. It is great for any grilled lamb cut. For fresh, local lamb contact: Ben Meier - cell phone number (573) 270-0601

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2/3 c lemon juice | 1/4 c olive oil | 1 tsp ground ginger |
| 1/2 c brown sugar | 1/4 c soy sauce | 1 tsp salt |
| 1/4 c Dijon mustard | 2 cloves garlic, minced | 1/2 tsp ground black pepper |

Mix the above ingredients in a small bowl. In shallow container, pour mixture over the lamb, cover, and marinate in the refrigerator 8 hours or over night.

Drain marinade into a small saucepan. Bring to boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer, whisking constantly, until slightly thickened.

Preheat outdoor grill for medium heat. Lightly oil the grill grate. Over indirect heat, grill the lamb, turning to cook all sides, to a minimum internal temperature of 145 degrees F. Serve with thickened marinade mixture.

MRHA Board Member, Teresa Meier and her family have discovered success in diversity in their business. Their annual Christmas Tree farm is shared every Spring with the Easter Bunny. Don't miss this year's celebration on April 22 & 23. Enjoy egg hunts, a visit to Bunnyville, and wagon rides to the Tree fields. For more information visit: MeierHorseShoePines.com

10,000 Maps. Oh my!

The first week of March, the MRHA mailed or delivered 30 boxes of maps to Chambers of Commerce, Convention & Visitor Bureaus, State Visitor Centers, and other locations throughout Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, and the MRHA region.

In addition to boxes holding 300-400 maps each, the MRHA mailed over 60 envelopes containing maps and other MRHA information to banks and bus companies in the surrounding mid-west states.

Please help us know if our efforts are working for you and send us occasional reports on the number of guests the maps bring to your door.

Getting You Out There

Your coordinator, Lisa Palmer, and board member, Vicki Lantz of Lazy L Safari Park, hosted a MRHA booth at the Annual Agritourism and Small Fruits & Vegetable Growers Conference in Springfield, Missouri, this past month.

On February 24, Ms. Palmer, along with MRHA president, Kenny Wilson of Wilson Farms, and several others joined Letitia "Tish" Johnson of Ste. Genevieve MU Extension for Extension Legislative Day in Jefferson City. Most of the Representatives in the 6-county region received information regarding MRHA efforts.

MRHA Board of Directors

| Stakeholder Group | Representative | Stakeholder Group | Representative | Stakeholder Group | Representative |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| Capre Girardeau County: | (vacant) | Artisans: | (vacant) | Local Government | (vacant) |
| Jefferson County: | (vacant) | Hospitality & Tourism: | Lynda Lorenz | Director Vacancies | |
| Perry County: | Clyde Bruckerhoff | Producers: | Kenny Wilson | Each county and each stakeholder group is allowed two (2) representatives. For the MRHA to function in your best interest, please consider serving your stakeholder group as a member of the Board of Directors. | |
| Scott County: | Garth Fuchs | Retailers: | Teresa Meier | | |
| St. Francois County: | (vacant) | Wineries & Vineyards | Jody Meyer | | |
| Ste. Genevieve County: | Bob Eckenfels | | | | |

Info Explosion!

Culinary Experiences 2011

June: Food & Wine Pairing

Hosted by Sainte Genevieve Winery, enjoy an evening of local food paired with some of our host's best award-winning wines. (maximum number of guests: 20)

July: Dine Among the Vines

Hosted by Cave Vineyards, join us for an evening of dining in a private location of the vineyards. Ticket includes a Cave Vineyards wine tasting and trip to the salt-peter cave the vineyards are named after. (maximum number of guests: 40)

August: A Saxon Lutheran's Journey

Hosted by the Saxon Lutheran Memorial in Frohna, join us for an adventure back in time. Experience baking in an out-side brick oven, making fresh butter, and foods of the 1840's. Your experience includes a personal tour of the grounds, along with stories of its history and legacy. (Maximum number of guests: 20)

September: Ideas? We are looking for a farm or u-pick experience for 20 guests.

October: Farm Fantastic!

Host has not been chosen, watch for info in a few weeks. (Maximum number of guests: 40)

February 28 found Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Wilson, and MRHA member Linda Williams of Windrush Farm, speaking at the Missouri Rhine Valley producers meeting in New Haven, Missouri. MRV is a sister project of the Missouri Regional Cuisines Project.

March 18 - 20: Ms. Palmer will have a booth at the SEMO Home Builders Home & Garden Show at the Show-Me Center in Cape Girardeau.

Speaking of our next event, we are running low on most of our member brochures. To take advantage of the SEMO event, please mail your brochures to arrive at MRHA before March 17, or you can also drop them off at the MU Extension office.