



NEWS & VIEWS

"There is nothing more frightening than ignorance in action" – Goethe

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF MEAT PROCESSORS, INC.

Affiliated with the American Association of Meat Processors
Sustaining member of CAST – Council for Agricultural Science & Technology

www.wi-amp.com

From the President's Desk

John Haen

Haen Meat Packing, Inc. • Kaukauna, Wisconsin

Fellow Processors and Supplier Members,

The recent WAMP Convention was very well attended, and what I find personally to be the most rewarding convention experience is catching up with old acquaintances and meeting new ones. It sure is great to share ideas and maybe help each other out with some equipment advice or a great processing tip! The seminars were very informative, and the companies in the supplier exhibit hall were well represented. From talking with processors and suppliers alike, I got the impression the overall experience was a positive one. I hope you found some new products beneficial to your business back home or perhaps found a piece of equipment to meet a specific need.

We made a few changes to this year's convention that went very well, and the Board of Directors already have some new ideas for next year that are just in the talking stage, but these will be finalized in future meetings. So, if anyone has any suggestions or input about anything they would like to see at future conventions, please let any director know. If it's feasible to do, we will give the suggestion serious consideration.

Once again, the product show proved that Wisconsin really has talented sausage and cured meat processors. It was great to see the awards given out to so many different processors, some for the very first time! Congratulations – that first award always has special meaning. Good luck in future competitions! I would like to thank all processors who entered the competition and help make this one of the best meat product shows in the country.

I would also like to recognize **Sailer's Meat Processing** for winning the Robert W. Bray Best of Show Award and **Maplewood Meats** for winning the Dennis R. Buege Best of Show, along with the WAMP Product Show Excellence in Product Manufacture Award. These awards were certainly well-deserved.

I'd like to take this opportunity, as well, to congratulate Louis Muench of Louie's Finer Meats for his induction into the Wisconsin Meat Industry Hall of Fame. Louie is well deserving of this honor and we are lucky to have him as a strong supporting member of WAMP.

Summer is fast approaching, and I hope all the upcoming festivals and backyard cookouts keep you all busy making your great sausage products. Don't forget about the AAMP Convention in Omaha, Neb. Take some time off and help make sure Wisconsin is well represented. I also encourage you to take time and participate in the upcoming State Fair Meat Products Competition. While you're helping support the programs of the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, you gain some terrific publicity for your own business as well. Watch for future information on how to participate in this annual event

**Have a great and prosperous summer,
John Haen, President**

UPCOMING EVENTS

AAMP CONVENTION
QUEST CENTER, HILTON
OMAHA, NEB.
JULY 16-18, 2009

**JUDGING OF STATE
FAIR PRODUCTS**
MILWAUKEE
JULY 31, 2009

**STATE FAIR PRODUCT
SHOW AUCTION**
STATE FAIR PARK
MILWAUKEE
AUGUST 11, 2009

HACCP WORKSHOP
UW-MADISON
AUGUST 20-21, 2009

**2010 WAMP
CONVENTION**
MARRIOTT
MIDDLETON
APRIL 9-11, 2010

2009 WAMP Convention Highlights



Cutting the ribbon to open the Supplier Showcase were, left to right, Brian Halopka, John Haen and Mike Vold.



Kari Underly, representing Beef Innovations Group and sponsored by Beef Checkoff, gave a demonstration on cutting a variety of beef cuts.



Cookie decorating at the children's program.



Cookie decorating contest winners.



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