

Missouri River Salsa Company
August 24-26, 2012

Members attending:

Burt and Margo Riskedahl
Alan and Barb Scherbenske
Linda Scherbenske
Bill Hampton and Laura Riskedahl-Hampton
Josh Hisley
Clark Wold
Mark Riskedahl and Melissa Powers (flew home to Oregon prior to meeting)
Ashley Scherbenske and friend Grace

Prospective members until their full acceptance on Sunday morning:

Angie Scherbenske
Cheryl Johnson

Members not in attendance for the weekend:

Barb and Don Vellanga
Max Khalidi, Diane Riskedahl, Zade, Layla
Paul Ogren

Mary Glanville Wold and Sandra Bailey Ogren are always remembered and missed
Clark reported Mae is doing well. She gets a lot of good care and attention from Susie.

Friday evening and Saturday morning guests:

Jim and Judy Sauter
Vern and Marty Sauter

Saturday morning guests (and suppliers of Saturday carmel rolls)

David and Delayn Popke

Saturday evening guests:

Kevin, Kyle, Adyson Scherbenske

Missouri River Salsa Company
August 24-26, 2012

Friday night and Sunday morning meetings were called to order by President Clark

Highlights of the Salsa Weekend

- Everyone arrived on time each day – except for those who didn't come
- Saturday Timeline
 - 8:20 - Cinnamon and carmel rolls from DeLayne were wonderful
 - 9:10 - New record set for beginning of beer drinking
(confession by Alan that half of that 1st can was dumped in the bushes... some concern by Alan and Clark re what would the Jamestown College Marquis say about that)
 - 9:18 - Tomatoes were put to boiling
 - 9:22 - Tomato squishing began
 - 11:10 - Half-way-through-tomatoes point reached
 - 12:05 - Lunch until 12:45
 - 2:36 - Last tomatoes scalded
 - 4:15 - Jose' arrived
 - 4:45 - Processing completed
 - 7:00 - Supper until departure after Prairie Walk to see sunset about 9:00
- The Salsa
 - 6 bushels of tomatoes
 - 112 quarts
 - 10 of 112 quarts was juice
 - Post distribution suggestion/decision was to not include juice in count in future years. Juice will be a take-what-you-want approach. (This should be discussed by entire group and final decision made prior to next year's salsa making)
 - Omitted cilantro in 2012 salsa as taste of processed cilantro was negligible
 - 10 pounds of tomatillos used in 2011 were doubled to 20 pounds in 2012
 - Corn relish was added to the processing when neighbor brought more corn than could be eaten at supper.
 - Margo will deliver our thanks as well as relish and salsa to that neighbor and to the neighbors who let us borrow the pretty and helpful red umbrellas
 - Mole was not same as in previous years. Caused mole salsa to be quite "gravy like". Might be better used as meat sauce (as on enchiladas). Will look for more authentic mole next year.
 - One batch of mole left kettle burned. Did not impact taste of salsa was the kettle was a %^\$&# to clean. Covering the burn with baking soda and letting it soak was helpful.
 - Burt recommended that those who burn the mole should clean the cookers!
 - In future, mole cooking will need to include careful and frequent stirring.
 - Two moles were processed, mole and mole+
 - Cost per quart was \$7.50

Missouri River Salsa Company
August 24-26, 2012

- With much deep conferencing amid laughter this was calculated by Clark and Alan. They are quite sure it is correct. They don't care if it is not. They welcome BarbV's return to doing this task next year.
- Clark and Alan resign from anything to do with finances
- Price depends on cost of tomatoes, peppers, onions, propane, need for rings
 - ❖ 50# of onions were purchased, but used only about half because the onions were very strong
 - Leftover onions and garlic were distributed among members
 - ❖ Peppers included 20 habanaros
- Weather was spectacular. Burt's miles of mowing to keep mosquitoes at bay was much appreciated
- Health inspectors from AZ/MN and TX gave high marks
 - They were careful to inspect and photograph each station
 - Group strongly encourages them to come again and again and again
- At some point in the meeting, Bill connected with Don via phone, noting that Don had to get his usual REG salsa or it might be a case for the Supreme Court. Clark noted that that would be ok as Mark is getting Supreme Court experience soon and can handle all such cases that should arise from Salsa Weekend.
- Food for all meals was wonderful, appreciated and way too much (but oh well to that!)
 - Thanks to
 - Friday supper - Burt and Margo, Josh, Mark and Melissa
 - Saturday breakfast – Burt and Margo, DeLayne
 - Special thanks to DeLayne not only because the rolls were delicious but to encourage her to continue to supply!
 - Saturday lunch – Linda
 - Saturday Jose' – Clark
 - Saturday supper – Barb and Alan
 - Sunday breakfast – Laura and Bill
 - Angie's scotcheroos were a great solution to the 2011 shortage of chocolate for snacks
- Appreciation for Barb's chokecherry jelly, Linda's chokecherry jam, pickled beets, canned peaches and excess of dishcloths which were available to all. Linda appreciates this family willingness to help with her over abundance of dishcloths.

Note for going forward:

Missouri River Salsa Company
August 24-26, 2012

- Burt will purchase 3 new cookers prior to next year's Salsa Weekend. Cost for these cookers will be as outlined in the bylaws of the first years of the Company
- The wire baskets for the cookers could not be found. After many noble attempts were made to find them, it was concluded that they no longer exist and, more importantly, that they are not needed and probably never were.
 - Noteworthy is the number of jars broken during the processing by Alan and Bill: NONE
- Angie is going to search for cookers during her annual Family (women only) Rummage Sale Weekend. The 20ish-quart steel cookers (Bill, this is cookers, not hookers) are much preferred)
- Margo reported that having purchased many jar rings this year, additional rings should not be needed soon
- BarbS reported that there are many jars left in storage for next year, though additional pints might be helpful

Acceptance of New Members

- Alan made motion for acceptance of Angie as member of MRSC
 - Question raised of her acceptance being contingent on her bringing a next generation
 - Idea emphatically rejected
 - It was noted that Angie had willingly and of her own volition multitasked, and done that very well moving among roles of chopper, squisher, peeler
 - Angie may need to be reminded that potty breaks are allowed
 - Motion for Angie being a member was seconded and approved
 - Question raised of whether or not Kevin would join
 - While he totally supports Angie joining, his wanting membership is his decision and not at this time likely
- Cheryl's membership as probationary with her 2012 attendance being as a guest was waived on motion by Margo, passed by a the membership
 - It is to be noted that this is a one-time decision, not a change in policy
 - Burt spoke in favor of Cheryl's membership because she came early on Friday to assist with advance preparations, she came with credentials supplied by Clark (Clark reported that he had informed her "what the hell would happen", and because there is obviously no further need to be concerned about her fingers.
 - Cheryl is a concert pianist. Concern was alleviated with the report that there is, in fact, an availability of music for 9 fingers or for left hand only. Concerns about the necessity for legal papers declining liability were put aside.
 - Bill is concerned about Cheryl's membership because she is small. Clark rejected the concern based on his being small as well.
 - Alan emphasized that Cheryl can come even if Clark does not.

Missouri River Salsa Company
August 24-26, 2012

- Cheryl's membership was enthusiastically passed by the group
- Cheryl expressed that she is honored, relieved, and grateful for the fast track
- Ashley and any friend she deems to invite were named as Cinderhoppers (Ashley being Cinderhopper1, friend being Cinderhopper2)
 - These titles are based on their expressing their feeling like Cinderella as they hopped from one task to another
 - Burt opposed to the duplicating of names as each member deserves their own individual name
 - Bill raised a question "do we want to expose children" to this weekend?
 - This comment was ignored

Miscellaneous

- Josh to a smoke break
- Reminder of the policy that a member cannot miss more than once or a thorough initiation will be required
- Request to move MRSC weekend back to Labor Day
 - Move away from Labor Day was to accommodate school start which is no longer a factor
 - If date is moved, Josh swore under oath that he would be here for the weekend and bring a friend
 - Decision will be made after input from Max and Diane
 - Margo will contact and distribute info prior to decision time for next meeting of MRSC
- Cheryl requested that a "whole process overview" be made available
 - How-to video would be most helpful
 - Recommendation for Mark or Max to create video to include people at stations briefly describing their job
 - Background music and mission statement should also be included
 - Motion to this effect carried
- Burt said it was helpful to have MRSC meet at their home
 - It makes their cleaning the yard and house imperative
 - He is appreciative that all seem to feel at home and take their responsibilities to take care of premises seriously
- Clark extend the appreciation of all for Burt and Margo's wonderful hospitality
- It was good and helpful to have Josh, Laura and Bill come early to help with set up

Meeting adjourned to distribution with many laughs, thoughts, hopes...