

District of Ross Mills Ross Mills Newsletter February 2019

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MAPLE SUGAR

851



Maple sap begins to rise in the very early spring.

MAPLE SUGAR During the warm, sunny months of summer, the leaves of sugar

Sugar Maple
Leaf

continued from the first page...The Golden Encyclopedia Book 9 1960

maple trees produce a large amount of sugar. They make it out of water and carbon dioxide, just as all green plants do. Much of this sugar the maple trees use up at once, for they need food just as all living things do. But some of it they store up in their roots and trunks. It stays there during the winter. In late winter or early spring, the sap begins to rise in the trees again, and it gathers up the sugar. Maple sugar is made from this sap.

To get the sap, small holes are bored in the trunks of the maple trees. A spout or tube is driven into each hole, and from the outer end of it is hung a bucket. The buckets are carefully watched, and the sap is collected from them.

The sap is strained and then boiled. As it boils, it gets thicker and thicker. When

it is rather thick, it may be used for maple sirup. The sirup must be canned quickly or it may spoil. If maple sugar is wanted, the sirup is boiled still more. At last the sap is so thick that when it is allowed to cool it hardens into solid cakes of maple sugar.

Taking sap from maples as it is now done does not harm the trees. When people first began making maple sugar, the plan for getting the sap was not such a good one. A big piece was chopped out of the trunk of each tree to make a hollow to catch the sap.

Making maple sirup and maple sugar is an important kind of work in Canada and some areas of the United States. Vermont, New York, and Ohio are three states famous for their maple sugar. (See LEAVES; PLANT FACTORIES; SUGAR; TREES.)



Valentine's Day

Ross Grange Gives Memorials

Ross Grange met January 14 with Robert Goodwin presiding. An application for membership was received from Jacqueline M. Rettzer.

A letter of thanks was received from the Erie PA Veteran's Hospital for Veterans cards sent to them. Also from the Salvation Army Red Kettle Fund for the \$100.00 donation.

A picture of treasurer, Mary Jane Griffith presenting a check to Keith Martin for the "Fill the Truck" campaign for the Saint Susan Soup Kitchen was shared. It was announced that Dennis Webster, WJTN announcer was honored at the NYS Ag Society meeting in Albany for his agricultural writings. He has been a "Friend of the Farmer" in this area for many years.

Mrs. Griffith gave the treasurer's report. A memorial will be sent to the NYS Grange Museum for our deceased members Gordon Carlberg, Jeanette Olson, John Cheney and Norman Sprague.

Lecturer, Betty Wakefield presented a program on "Remembering." She also was hostess for refreshments following the meeting.

Ross Grange Meeting 1-28-19

The Charter was draped in memory of long time members, Valerie Bartholomew and Dorothy W Sprague. Committee to write resolutions of respect are Betty Wakefield, Opal Sprague and Mary Jane Griffith.

A thank you was received from the State Grange Museum for the memorial given for several Ross members.

We will host local library personnel on February 25.

Betty Wakefield reviewed various projects sponsored by the Family Activities Committee, with the rolled cookie contest to be March 11.



Sherwood R. Michael, 85, formerly of Jamestown, N.Y., passed from this life peacefully on Tuesday Jan. 8, 2019, at the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond Va.

He was born Sept. 17, 1933, in Falconer, the son of the late John Henry Michael Jr. and Alberta Huckelberry Michael. Sherwood graduated from Falconer High School and was a veteran of the U.S Navy, proudly serving aboard the USS Porterfield.

~ from the Post Journal

Sherwood was a great baseball fan, why not, his dad John and Uncle Bud played with Hugh Bediant back many years ago. At times in the local teams. Hugh went on to the major leagues to the Boston Red Sox (there was a new stadium that year in 1912). He pitched in 1912 when they took champion.

For many years the Michael's had a farm on the Gerry Levant Road. Sherwood's younger years was on the Ross Mills 3722 Road and going to school in Ross Mills.

~Emory



April 20, 1912:
FENWAY PARK
OFFICIALLY
OPENS, RED
SOX BEAT NY
HIGHLANDERS
7-6 - Boston's
Fenway Park
hosts its first
professional
baseball game

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