



The Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey

Joseph Maugeri, President

(www.njveggies.org)

(www.facebook.com/Njveggies)

July 2016

Dear VGANJ Member,

Once again, it is time to renew your VGANJ membership. Membership is \$100 and includes attendance to the Educational Sessions and Trade Show (free coffee & danish each morning) for the farmer and a guest, Tuesday evening Social & Auction. The guest may be the farmer's spouse, partner, manager or child. There will be a charge of \$25 for any additional attendees to the Annual Convention.

In the past the Commercial Vegetable Production Guide was always included with your dues for free. Due to higher printing costs and fewer copies being printed, we will have to charge \$10 for this guide. You can access it on the Rutgers website for free and print out any pages you want for free. In the past the Extension offices have sold the book for \$15 to \$20 so this is a savings. If you want a PRINTED copy of this Guide, please check the box on the membership form and add the extra \$10 to your fee. The Proceedings will still be given to all members at no charge.

Membership in the VGANJ runs from July 1 through June 30. By paying the membership dues in advance of the Convention, your name tag will be waiting for you at the registration table, making your registration as efficient as possible. Daily passes continue to be available for those guests that prefer to attend both the Trade Show and the Educational Sessions just for one day. The price of one day passes is \$50. One day passes do not include the Proceedings and Recommendation books; these can be purchased for an extra fee. **Please fill in the attached form completely and return to John Rigolizzo, Jr. at the address on the top of the form, also note that there is a change of address for John. You can also go to our website www.njveggies.org and register online using Paypal. If you do not feel comfortable sending your form through the mail with your credit card info, please send Marita Rigolizzo an email and request an invoice. She will email you an invoice that will have a link to pay online. Her email address is marita.rigolizzo@gmail.com**

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) will merge with our convention again next year slated for **February 7 – 9, 2017** at the **NEW** Harrahs Resort Waterfront Conference Center. You can check our website www.njveggies.org or our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Njveggies) to find any updates that will be posted for the convention. The educational sessions schedule will be posted there in September. When you receive the Convention information in November/December, you will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the Awards Banquet held on Wednesday evening, any luncheons that will be held, as well as the necessary information regarding hotel accommodations.

Again, VGANJ encourages distributors/vendors/buyers to exhibit in the Trade Show. This is a great opportunity to network and establish new contacts for your farm products. Also, we are seeking exhibitors of large equipment. The room for the exhibits provides easy access through large overhead doors directly onto the Trade Show floor. If you have any suggestions for possible new exhibitors, please contact **Rocky DiGerolamo at 856-797-1686, Wayne Knerr at knerrw@helenachemical.com, or Donna Dugan at donnavg52010@comcast.net**. In addition, VGANJ has offered all agricultural organizations the opportunity to participate in the 2017 convention. It is our hope that by getting as many agricultural groups as possible involved that The New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade show can enhance the services it provides to reach an even broader section of the agricultural community.

The Officers, Board of Directors, and the NJDA are all looking forward to seeing you in Atlantic City, at the Harrahs Resort Waterfront Conference Center for an exciting 2017 Convention.

Sincerely,

Joseph Maugeri
President, VGANJ
Enclosure