



**PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, SEPT. 4, 2018 FOR INCLUSION IN THE
'LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS' "PUMPKINFEST SPECIAL" SUPPLEMENT!**

Dear Fellow SquashBuckler: What an exciting Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™ we have planned for September 29 - October 8, 2018 in Damariscotta, ME! Our **ALL-VOLUNTEER** Pumpkin-Posse is busy scheduling a crowd pleasing program for the Twelfth Annual Damariscotta Pumpkinfest™, including the motorized & paddleboat **Giant Pumpkinboat "Regatta" to be held in Damariscotta Harbor, mid-day Monday, October 8.** <http://www.damariscottapumpkinfest.com/>

The 2013 motorized regatta was featured on the "CBS News - Sunday Morning" show, after the festival was highlighted in 2012 on the ABC talk show "The Chew". The 2008 regatta appeared on Discovery Channel's "Wreckreation Nation", where the rules were explained as "there are no rules and no fouls, other than that the pumpkin needs to float and needs to go really fast"! This "extreme sport of gardening" is a real-life jack-in-the-beanstalk event that brings 10-15,000 fans annually to the Damariscotta region. Those fans have included U.S. Senator Susan Collins and WCSH's Bill Green, who have watched giant gourds, powered by "wicked nice motors", ply the waters of the Damariscotta River. A free performance by The (Misery) Gulch Band will precede the regatta.

Other family-friendly Pumpkinfest events include:

- the officially sanctioned, \$11,000 total purse, Great Pumpkin Commonwealth (GPC) Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off, as well as a \$2,500 total in-kind purse Volunteer-Growers' Weigh-Off,
- "Seedling Sunday" - the Atlantic Giant Pumpkin Plant Giveaway on May 20, where 600+ plants were given free to volunteers, who then return their pumpkins in October to become part of the festival,
- the "Pumpkin Derby" (think: "soapbox derby") for kids and adults,
- the world famous 180' Pumpkin Drop onto junked cars, preceded by the kid-pleasing Pumpkin Hunts & a free performance by the Nikki Hunt Band,
- Giant Pumpkin Parade on Main Street Newcastle/Damariscotta, past dozens of carved & painted giant fruit lining that street,
- the scrumptious Pumpkin Dessert contest, in addition to the raucous and messy Pumpkin Pie Eating contest with music by the Nikki Hunt Band,
- KidsZone games & activities for three days, Skidompha Library Story Hour for the youngsters, and a children's free movie matinee ("Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie") at the Lincoln Theater, &
- the ever popular Catapult & the "Giant Pumpkin Sling-Shot", featuring pumpkins slung at targets!

We hope that you might consider joining the sponsors of this family-friendly community event!

Pumpkinfest is created each year by an ALL-VOLUNTEER (as in: "no one is paid anything") group of civic-minded folks whose sole motivation is community support. FYI: the annual budget for 2018-Pumpkinfest includes: \$20,000 for pumpkin acquisition + \$9,000 for the shuttle + \$5,200 for buskers/cranes/scales/etc. + \$5,000 for insurance + \$4,900 for communication + \$3,000 for the parade + \$2,000 for Port-A-Potties + \$1,800 for storage units, + \$1,300 for LCN-ad, approximating \$70,000 which is injected back into our community from this festival! Nearly 60% of this budget is covered by our generous local sponsors, with another 35% is derived from the sale of Pumpkinfest merchandise.

Please consider supporting our community festival in one of the following categories:

Jack-o-Lantern (\$200)

- ★ Logo and web link on the Damariscotta Pumpkinfest™ web site.
- ★ Your name in the September 2018, *Lincoln County News* “Pumpkinfest Special” Insert.
- ★ Your company’s name in the November 2018 *Lincoln County News* “Thank You” ad.

Great Pumpkin (\$400)

- ★ All of the above, plus
- ★ Atlantic Giant Pumpkin, if available, placed along Main Street, Damariscotta/Newcastle*

***SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF PUMPKINS**



Maxima (\$600)

- ★ All of the above, plus
- ★ Pumpkin located on Main Street, Damariscotta/Newcastle
- ★ Named Event Sponsor (in Flyer & at Event) of either: The non-profit InfoZone (SOLD), OR the Queen of Pumpkins photo-throne, OR co-sponsorship of the Pumpkin Pie Eating Contest (SOLD)

Great Atlantic (\$1,000)

- ★ All of the above, plus
- ★ Business will be “liked” and linked on our very popular Facebook & Twitter pages
- ★ Named Event Sponsor (in Flyer & at Event) of either: the Official Giant Pumpkin Parade, OR the 180’ Pumpkin Drop, OR the Kid’s Pumpkin Hunt (SOLD), OR co-sponsorship of the Dessert Contest (SOLD), OR the Pumpkin Catapult & ‘Sling Shot’



First Mate (\$1,500)

- ★ All of the above, plus
- ★ Named Event Sponsor (in Flyer & at Event) of either: KidsZone, OR Pumpkin Derby, OR the 3-day Buskers/Street Entertainment program (SOLD)

Admiral (\$2,500)

- ★ All of the above, plus
- ★ Named Event Sponsor (in Flyer & at Event) of either: the Official GPC Weigh-Off & the Volunteer-Growers’ Weigh-Off (SOLD), OR the Pumpkinboat Regatta (SOLD), OR Parking & Shuttle Transportation

Simply check your preferred level, and remit your sponsorship to Damariscotta Pumpkinfest™ at P.O. Box 1101, Damariscotta, ME 04543-1101. Also, please note your contact details below:

Business Name: _____ Phone No.: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

We appreciate and look forward to your participation in the 2018 Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™ !

Kathy Anderson, volunteer-administrative

KathyPaul7@aol.com

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™ - 2018

P.O. Box 1101

Damariscotta, ME 04543-1101

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www.damariscottapumpkinfest.com
www.facebook.com/damariscottapumpkinfest
<https://plus.google.com/110776828289499124015>
www.twitter.com/squashbuckler

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