



RENOWNED CULINARY AUTHORS TO PARTICIPATE IN FIRST ANNUAL VERMONT CHEESEMAKERS FESTIVAL

June 2, 2009—Burlington, VT – On Sunday, August 23rd, some of the nation’s most authoritative authors on artisan cheese will gather in Shelburne, VT, for the first annual Vermont Cheesemakers Festival. The one-day event, hosted by the Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese, the Vermont Butter & Cheese Company, and the Vermont Cheese Council, will feature over 100 types of cheese from 40 different cheesemakers, a variety of locally produced wines and beers, and several other artisan foods, including maple syrup, honey, chocolates, baked goods, and more.

The following authors will be taking part in the festival:

- **Laura Werlin**, one of the country's foremost authorities on cheese, is the author of *Great Grilled Cheese* and the new book, *Laura Werlin's Cheese Essentials*, as well as the award-winning books, *The All American Cheese and Wine Book* and *The New American Cheese*.
- **Liz Thorpe**, Vice President of Murray’s Cheese in New York City, is the author of the upcoming book, *The Cheese Chronicles: A Journey Through the Making and Selling of Cheese in America, From Field to Farm to Table*. She is also the co-author of the *Murray's Cheese Handbook*.
- **Max McCalman**, Dean of Curriculum and Maitre Fromager at Artisanal Premium Cheese in New York City, is the author of *The Cheese Plate* and the award-winning book, *Cheese: A Connoisseur's Guide to the World's Best*.

Several local Vermont authors will also be present at the Festival including:

- **Allison Hooper**, President of Vermont Butter & Cheese Company, is the author of the upcoming book, *In a Cheesemaker's Kitchen*, which will be released by Countryman Press in the fall. She is a pioneer of artisan cheesemaking in the United States, whose company is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.
- **Jeff Roberts**, co-founder of the Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese, is the author of *The Atlas of American Cheese*.
- **Ellen Ogden**, food writer, is the author of *The Vermont Cheese Book*.
- **Tom Bivins**, Executive Chef of the New England Culinary Institute, in conjunction with his colleagues, helped to co-author *A Master Class: Sensational Recipes from the Chefs of the New England Culinary Institute and Ellen Michaud*.

- **Melissa Pasanen**, food writer, is the co-author of *Cooking With Shelburne Farms: Food & Stories from Vermont*.

All of the authors will be participating in book signings throughout the day where visitors can meet them and purchase copies of their books. Laura Werlin, Liz Thorpe, and Max McCalman will also be leading seminars on cheesemaking and cheese pairings. In addition, Tom Bivens will be leading a cooking demonstration on new innovative ways to incorporate cheese and other local products into everyday cooking.

“Over the past several years, Vermont has become one of the nation’s most visited culinary destinations,” said Catherine Donnelly, co-director of the Vermont Institute for Artisan Cheese. “The participation of these authors in this year’s Festival adds even more luster to Vermont’s reputation for the best in artisan food.”

Tickets to the Festival are available online at <http://www.vtcheesefest.com/> for \$20 each, and the event will be open to the first 1,000 people who register.

For further information or to attend the Festival, contact: Amy Jaick, Goodman Media International, 212.576.2700 x 229 or ajaick@goodmanmedia.com.

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