



The BUZZER

Susquehanna Beekeepers' Association

Serving beekeepers and friends in Northeast Pennsylvania

Volume 22 Number 4

September 2016



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MEETINGS

Second Friday 7PM
Claverack Building Montrose
Route 706
East of Andre & Sons Supply
West of Endless Mountains
Hospital

Sept. 9 Meeting
Oct. 14 Board
Meeting



Sarah McTish
2016 PA Honey Queen



**SAVE THE DATE: PBSA 2016 CONFERENCE WILL BE AT THE DAYS INN
IN STATE COLLEGE NOVEMBER 11TH AND 12TH!!**

OUR FIRST TIME ATTENDEES ARE ENTHUSIASTIC AND RECOMMEND IT !!

If you are interested, ask about our scholarship offer!

SBA July Minutes July 8, 2016

Meeting CTO at 7pm by VP Aubrey Elbrecht filling in for Pres. Dave Taylor

Treasurers report balance \$ 1,385.71
Treasurer Kathy Swepston reported that if all outstanding bills are paid our balance will be -26.00

Ginny is owed 159.97 and 348.86 for a total of 508.83 She has agreed to wait to be paid until after the fair

We need to be more careful with our spending and a budget will be discussed at the next board meeting

Treasurers report was accepted

Old Business none

New Business:

It is very important to have entries of honey and honey products to continue the tradition at the fair and maintain our space

Vendor sheets for sales at the fair are available, please use 1 line for each item and print legibly

A sample of all honey sold at the fair is required, please have address on the label

Aubrey asked what our insurance policy covers regarding liability

James Wood will install ceiling fans donated by Jim Moronski & the bench also needs to be painted

Sheets for volunteers to sign up for bee demo are available

Ginny still has a few extra t-shirts they are 12.00 please pay Ginny if you had a shirt ordered hats will be in shortly

Workday picnic: this event will be potluck due to low funds in the treasury & will begin at 11:00

Honey prices were discussed

A majority vote to raise prices on 1 lb jar to 8.00 was reached after some discussion

Other prices set:

2 oz 2.00

12 oz 6.00

2 lb 15.00

3 lb and cut comb (square) *consult Richard Sheldon since he primarily sells this product*

round cut comb 10.00

creamed lb 10.00

hand cream *see Frank Licata*

honey bears 6oz 4.25

8 12.50

12 6.50

Candles specialty sizes set by vendor if 2 people have the same product they need to agree on a price

Motion to set prices passed awaiting Richard's & Frank's responses for select items

It was suggested we make nominations at the next regular meeting rather than the work day/ elections will be at the banquet

Dick read from the SBA constitution and it is acceptable to do nominations at a regular meeting

Nomination committee will be set by Pres. Dave Taylor

Program:

Jim Barber and Dick Chapin explained how to prep honey, beeswax entries etc. and how they are judged

We received a donation to SBA in the amount of \$500.00. from Rod & Laura Grosvenor They also gave \$100.00 toward the workday picnic

John and Else Brunner also made a donation of \$500. Our thanks to both families.

Rae-Ann Marsland, Sec.

Susquehanna Independent
"One Hundred Years Ago"

Harford, PA ,1916

"Horace Lindsley, aged 72 years, fell from a tree at his home here on Saturday, striking a picket fence in such a way as to cause death. He was trying to hive a swarm of bees, which had alighted in the tree, when a limb on which he was sitting broke.... For many years he was sexton of the Congregational church and caretaker of the Harford cemetery. His widow and three daughters survive."



Free Sources of Beekeeping News and Tips:

Free "ABJ Extra" (American Bee Journal)
e-newsletter www.americanbeejournal.com
Free "Catch the Buzz" (Bee Culture)
e-newsletter
www.beeculture.com/catch-the-buzz

FREE DOWNLOAD:

A Field Guide to
Honey Bees
and Their Maladies

ABOUT VARROA DESTRUCTOR

Selections from an article in
Journal of Apicultural Research 2016
Via: Kelley-Newsletter-JULY-2016.pdf

A major goal of bee breeders is to develop a honey bee resistant to the parasitic mite varroa (*Varroa destructor*). This mite was observed in the USSR on European honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) in 1952. From there, it took only 35 years to spread throughout Europe, Asia, South and North America, where it was found in 1987. At the present time, only a few countries such as Australia are free from the mite (Rosenkranz, Aumeier, & Ziegelmann, 2010). In France, the mite caused extensive damage to the beekeeping industry after its arrival in 1982. Measures to limit its progression by restricting hive movements were not effective, and in some cases may have helped spread the mites as beekeepers tried to move their hives from infested to mite free zones. Varroa has been considered as one of the major causes of bee mortality in France (Faucon & Chauzat, 2008) and other parts of the world (Ritter & Dejong, 1984).

In the USA, three commercial stocks have been developed with selective breeding that demonstrate different levels of mite resistance. These include: Russian hybrid bees (RHB); Varroa Sensitive Hygiene bees (VSH); and the Minnesota Hygienic line (MNHYG). Each stock has its own specific mechanism(s) of resistance.

SUSQUEHANNA BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION
WORKDAY – July 30, 2016

17 members and 3 children came together to prep the honey house for Fair time.

The bench & gazebo floor was spruced up with paint; windows were washed; two window blinds installed; the shelves, counter & floor were thoroughly scrubbed. A beautiful cross-stitch picture (in keeping with the honeybee theme) was donated by Dave Taylor's mother for display during the Fair. Also a lovely poster was donated by the Master Gardeners for the beekeeper's honey house.

After work completion – a delicious picnic lunch was enjoyed; thank you to everyone. Thank you to Rod & Laura for their donation to purchase the entrees.

Dave Taylor appointed Jim Barber, Richard Sheldon & Ginny Wood as nominating committee for election of officers for 2017 to be voted on at the annual dinner meeting, Nov. 5th.

Summary submitted, Ginny Wood



Thank You Beekeepers and
Bee Lovers
for helping at the Harford Fair in 2016

Jim Barber
John Brunner
Dick Chapin
Jane Conboy
Scott Darling
Audrey Elbrecht
Sandy Elbrecht
John Fiore
Virginia Fiore
Rod Grosvenor
Catherine Hynes
John Kantz
Rae Ann Marstand
Jim Odislevy
Sharon Odislevy
Jim Doronski
Jim Perkins
Dan Petrolaci
Donna Reagen
John Reagen
Ed Ronstadt
Rich Sheldon
David Smith
Susan Smith
Kathy Suepston
Arlene Taiariol
Joe Taiariol
Dave Taylor
Lucinda VanVleck
Carl Villecco
Lori Wallace
James Wood

Ginny Wood, Coordinator

Our annual Beekeeping Course

for beginners,

in the Montrose Area Adult School,

begins September 13.

There will be two class sessions on the 13th

and 20th,

and two Saturday field days in apiary

and honey house.

Please pass the word? Thank you.

Catalogues available online at

<http://www.montroseadultschool.org/>

HARFORD FAIR
DEPARTMENT 23

HONEY

Light Extracted Honey

1st-John Reagen
2nd-Jim Perkins

Amber Extracted Honey

1st-John Reagen
2nd-Lucinda VanVleck
3rd-John Kantz

Dark Extracted Honey

1st-Lucinda VanVleck
2nd-Catherine Hynes
3rd-Jim Perkins

Finely Crystalized Honey

1st-John Brunner
2nd-Jim Perkins

Honey Spreads

1st-Catherine Hynes
2nd-Jim Perkins

Cut Comb

1st-John Brunner

Frame Honey

1st- & Judges Delight-John Reagen

BEESWAX

Single Piece

1st & Best of Show-Lucinda VanVleck
2nd-James Wood
3rd-John Reagen
Hon. Men.-Jim Perkins

Candles, Dipped

1st-Jim Perkins
2nd-John Brunner

COLLECTIVE EXHIBIT

1st-Clara Grube
2nd-Jim Perkins

Judges

Jim Barber & Dick Chapin
Stewards
Jim Perkins & Tina Wood



HONEY COOKERY

Cookies

1st & Best of Show- Lucinda VanVleck
2nd-Jean Grube
3rd-Amy Boot

Cake

1st-Lucinda VanVleck
2nd-Amy Boot

Bars / Brownies

1st-Jeralyn Adams
2nd-Lucinda VanVleck
3rd & Judge's Delight-Jean Grube

Yeast Bread or Rolls

1st-Lucinda Van Vleck
2nd-Jeralyn Adams

Yeast Bread Fancy

1st-Jeralyn Adams
2nd-Lucinda VanVleck

Quick Bread

1st-Lucinda VanVleck
2nd-Jean Grube
3rd-Else Brunner

Muffins

1st-Lucinda VanVleck

Pie

1st-Lucinda VanVleck

*Congratulations to all our winners
and thank you to all who entered*

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Natural Beekeeping Techniques ◆ How-To For Beginners

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WALKING THE EXTRA MILE

*Some of our members deserve an extra
“thank you” from all of us!*

About James n’ Ginny Wood:

James was on hand at the Fair every day. He filled in for absent or late volunteers, performed the demonstration duties whenever needed, provided and managed the observation hives and secured the proceeds. There was probably more, but needless to say, we all owe him a “thank you” and if you want, a hug!

Ginny not only organized the work schedule, but managed the ordering of honey candy & sticks, deposited the daily proceeds in the SBA bank account and printed SBA information brochures. Your editor considers her the Den Mother of the Susquehanna Beekeepers. Having a history in scouting, I know that she is an outstanding den mother!

About Jim Moronski:

Jim stopped by daily to make sure that supplies of all kinds were on hand.

About Joe & Arlene Taiariol:

Joe & Arlene counted and bagged approximately 56+ lbs. of honey candy, as they have done for the past few years, so that the supplies could be easily available for sale.

About Jim Barber:

Getting bees ready for the demonstration gazebo is not just a matter of dumping some bees into a nuke. Jim moves them several times to shed the field bees, ensuring a gentle colony for demonstrations. He also risks losing a good queen at the hands of different beekeeper demonstrators intent on answering the questions of interested spectators. Getting the bees in and out of the fairgrounds can be challenging. This year when he was required to start from the parking area, he was refused a ride on the usual “jeep” due to the driver’s fear of the bees. Instead, he had to put the bees on a “bus” with about 25 people who were unaware of the “terrible danger”. Beekeeping can be challenging in more ways imaginable!

Note:

For years, your editor, carrying an observation hive, was in the habit of saying to the ticket takers, “let me in or I’ll let them out”, and for years, some of the ticket takers would say it before I got to them! Anyway, we beekeepers are appreciated and loved by those who run the annual fair. We’re part of the family.

P.S. We hope some of our new members take note and be ready to volunteer in the future if the need arises. Lots of work goes on in the background, but the work is shared and highly valued. On to 2017!

Our Own Website

<http://www.susquehannabeekeeping.com/>

Check it out! Try “Tips & Tricks”, etc.

Lots of good help



Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association: PSBA

<http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org/>

Southern Tier Beekeepers / Broome Co., NY

<http://www.southerntierbeekeepers.org/>

Lackawanna Backyard Beekeepers

[http://
lackawannabackyardbeekeepers.blogspot.com/](http://lackawannabackyardbeekeepers.blogspot.com/)

Beginner Help

Mid-Atlantic: [maarec.cas.psu.edu/
BegBeekeeping.html](http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/BegBeekeeping.html)

Officers & Directors 2016

President: Dave Taylor

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

Local dues-

1 yr. \$10.00

3 years \$25.00

Lifetime \$100.00

**Members age 70+ free
(includes newsletter)**

PA State Assn. dues - \$20:00

(Optional)

Life Member \$200.

(includes state newsletter)

Name:

Address and Zip:

Tel. #

E-mail:

Payment Method:

() check or () money order

Payable to

**Susquehanna Beekeepers
Association**

**Send to Ginny Wood, Financial Sec.
4466State Route 367
Montrose, PA 18801**

Required by law if you have bees:

PA State Registration \$10.00 / 2 years

Bureau of Plant Industry – Apiary Section

Karen Roccasecca, State Apiarist

2301 North Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA

717-3467 9567 Phone 717-783 3275 Fax

forms at meetings or online: <http://>

www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm

Our Facebook Page

Cheylyn Adams, Manager

www.facebook.com/

SusquehannaBeekeepersAssociation

When you log onto your Facebook account you can search for Susquehanna Beekeepers Association and it will take you to our page. Then you can “Like” our page.



Thomas Jefferson

3rd U.S. President, Drafter and Signer of the Declaration of Independence

"God who gave us life gave us liberty.

And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure
when we have removed their only firm basis,
a conviction in the minds of the people
that these liberties are of the Gift of God?

That they are not to be violated but with His wrath?

Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just;
that His justice cannot sleep forever;

That a revolution of the wheel of fortune, a change of situation,
is among possible events; that it may become probable
by Supernatural influence!

The Almighty has no attribute which can take side with us in that event."