

1

# The BUZZER

*Susquehanna Beekeepers' Association*

*Serving Beekeepers of N E Pennsylvania*

Volume 20 Number 5      December 2014



*Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah,  
and a Blessed New Year  
to All our Members and Friends*



## SCHEDULE - 2015

The Susquehanna Beekeepers Association is fortunate to have scored another nationally known speaker for our March meeting.

Doctor Dewey Caron, author of HONEY BEE BIOLOGY AND BEE KEEPING and frequent contributor to the Bee Culture Magazine will be our guest presenter.

More details will be in an upcoming issue of the Buzzer and on the web-site when they become available.

Please mark your calendars for this important meeting.

Also, we are making plans for a presentation on Pollinators in addition to our honey bees.

We are also going to have a presentation Pollinator Gardens and Plantings to encourage all pollinators including honey bees.

If you are interested in having a presentation on a topic of interest to the club please let Jim Perkins know.

If you are willing to make a presentation at an upcoming club meeting let Jim Perkins know.

Jim Perkins  
Program Coordinator

967-2634 [perkmar@stny.rr.com](mailto:perkmar@stny.rr.com)

Board of Directors' Supper  
Planning Meeting  
Friday, February 13th 6:00PM  
Place to be announced  
*Association members welcome*

## PERSONAL NOTES

Thanks to everyone for the support and help these past four years as SBA president, to make the club run smoothly. I appreciate the members volunteering their time & talents wherever needed whether programs, the fair, input during the meetings & beyond.

The subscription for Bee Culture magazine is a nice surprise and I thank you.

Hopefully, we all will keep up the good work with Dave Taylor as your new president since "the smoker" has now been passed to him.

May the winter bee kind to all our colonies; see you in the spring.

As Abraham Lincoln said - "If you want to harvest honey - don't kick over the beehive".  
James



Although I thoroughly enjoyed my "job" as financial secretary with SBA, it's time for me to concentrate on giving in other ways within the club.

Financial Secretary has been my pleasure working with you and I thank you for making it easy. Lynn Anderson will be taking over soon and hope she finds the same.

A special thanks for the little pep talks & e-mail 'sillys' that make me smile. (You know who you are...)

Thanks for the beautiful plant & gorgeous bouquet of autumn flowers.

See you next year. Stay safe and bee happy.  
Ginny



November 1st meeting,  
dinner, and speaker  
At South Montrose Church

Opening by James Wood  
Prayer by Aubrey Elbrecht

**Thanks given to:**  
Kitchen Staff - for all the work put into the dinner  
LeJune Ely - for hosting the speaker, Maryann Frazier  
Jim and Marcia Perkins - for all their work putting together the door prizes  
James Wood - given a 2 year subscription to Bee Culture magazine for his years of service  
Ginny Wood - presented with bouquet of flowers for her years of service

**Nominating Committee:**  
The Nominating Committee announced their nominations for next years positions. Then the floor was opened for other nominations. The following nominations were passed unanimously.

**President** – Dave Taylor  
**Vice President** –  
Aubrey Elbrecht  
**Secretary** –  
Rae Ann Marsland  
**Financial Secretary** –

Lynn Anderson  
**Treasurer** –  
Kathleen Swepston

**Board Members:**  
James Barber  
John Brunner  
Richard Chapin  
LeJune Ely  
Jim Perkins  
Richard Sheldon  
Ginny Wood  
James Wood

**After Dinner,** names were drawn for door prizes and the winners were:

Honey super complete with frames- donated by Mann Lake:

Lucinda Van Vleck

Gift Card - donated by Brushy Mountain:  
Rae Ann Marsland

Pink Hive Tool - donated by Marcia Perkins  
Kathy Swepston

Smoker - donated by Dadant  
Jim Moronski

10# box of Winter Patties- donated by Mann Lake  
Susan Smith

Gift Basket- donated by Cathy Hynes  
Aubrey Elbrecht

\$25 Gift Card -donated by Drapers  
Dave Taylor

Gift Card for personalized jar labels - donated by Better Bee  
Marcia Perkins

Other Door Prizes:  
Richard Chapin  
Susan Garing  
Lynn Anderson  
Patrick O'Brien  
Jim Mislevy  
Donna Reagen  
Kandy Taylor  
John Brunner  
Frank Licata  
John Reagen  
Earl Villecco  
Jim Barber  
Sara Swepston  
Sharon Mislevy  
June Conboy  
Raymond Adams

We then adjourned to the sanctuary for the speaker's presentation "***Will there be honey for Tea***" where Maryann Frazier from Pennsylvania State University gave her talk focusing on factors that effect our bees such as pesticides, queens and locations.

*Cheylyn Adams, Secretary*





**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – FRIDAY,**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2014**

ATTENDEES: James Wood, Dave Taylor, Jim Barber, Aubrey Elbrecht, Jim Perkins, Richard Sheldon, Ginny Wood, Richard Chapin & guest, Jim Moronski

Meeting opened at 7 PM by James Wood.

1. Discussion of paid mileage for scheduled educational visits authorized and conducted by volunteer members of this association; Motion made and accepted at \$.56/per mile.

2. Fair Honey Prices – Suggested prices at Harford Fair, 2015 for quarts (\$19.00); 5 lbs. (\$29.00); and full square comb (\$9.00). Although the profit was more due to raised prices – less honey was sold this year. Another item regarding fair week, is that the vendor must take their empty boxes home after placing honey on the shelves. It may be helpful during the week as the boxes are emptied, that they be put to one side so as to make checking the remaining boxes for items. Accepted.

3. Honey Queen Fee – Decision to send \$300.00 for the promotional fund. Accepted.

4. Banquet Door Prizes – Decision to accept the tangible item amounting to the sum of \$50.00 from Mann Lake; also suggested from Jim Perkins that we offer (2) \$25.00 gift certificates. So passed.

5. Sentinel Hive (UMD) – After much discussion – motion made by Richard Chapin to send \$50.00 as contribution for further study/research re: honeybees pests. So passed.

6. Demo Guide – Ginny asked if anyone interested in doing an educational demo whether at the Harford Fair gazebo or elsewhere – would please review the Demo Guide (as suggested by Jerry Ely). This may give some insight for better output.

OLD BUSINESS:

Richard Chapin says a couple of items of the SBA Constitution needs re-wording in order to keep up with the changing of ways; please see following:

(a) - OBJECT: to ensure liability coverage for our extensive outreach activities.

RESOLUTION: The officers, directors and members of the Susquehanna Beekeepers Association, in Board dinner meeting on October 10, 2014, declare that all scheduled school visits, field days, adult classes and open hive demonstrations, conducted by volunteer members of this association for the purposes of education about honey bees and beekeeping, are authorized activities and extensions of the mission of this society.

Approved.

(b) – As pointed out by Ginny, the following section of the constitution should be changed since our method of collecting dues has changed and we have life dues, etc.

Article II – Section C – Dues for the following year are payable by November. Membership in the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association is encouraged.

This proposal to be brought before the association at March, 2015 meeting. Proposal so passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Acting Secretary, Ginny Wood



## ***The Cup of Warm Water***



### *Our Yearly “Buzzer” Message*

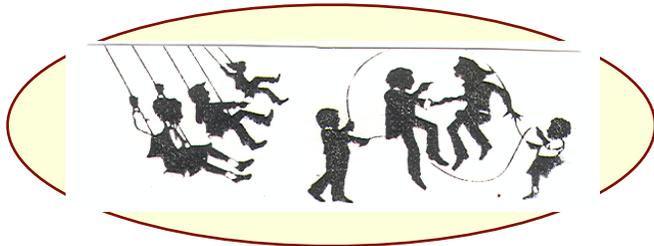
“He whose birth we will soon celebrate once assured us that He would remember even a cup of cold water given to the least of His creatures. That He loved birds is evidenced by His frequent references to them during the recorded years of His life. Charity to the birds would seem, therefore, a most fitting Christmas benevolence.

“We often think to give birds food in summer. It involves no more than scattering table crumbs on the snow, though if our benevolent instincts be more fully developed we may build feeding trays more or less elaborate. But water is no less necessary to birds than food, and they are often harder pressed for something to slake their thirst than they are for something to eat. This is especially so in severe weather, when the chance pools that usually afford them a supply are frozen solid. It is then that a pan of water set out in a sheltered spot, clear of cat danger, will be most welcome to the birds. And do not set out merely a pan of cold water if the weather be freezing. It will immediately seal itself with ice, perhaps before all the bird clients that visit your yard shall have had a chance to drink. Let it be warmed up -- make it as warm as you like your own tea or coffee. Then it will be a long time freezing, for water has an astonishing capacity for heat and loses it more slowly than any other common substance. Birds do not have the same prejudice American humans have in favor of ice water, especially in winter. They are glad to get something warm to drink.”

“There is no charity bought so cheap that can make so many living creatures happy as cup of warm water.”

***-From American Bee Journal- Dec. 1932***





**Our School Program**  
Report-to-Date for 2014 - 2015  
**Jim Barber, James Wood,**  
**Dick Chapin, Coordinator**

- 10/1 Blue Ridge Elementary 2nd grade
- 10/8 Roslund Elementary 4th grade
- 10/15 Lathrop Street Elementary 4th grade
- 10/22 Lackawanna Trail Middle 5th grade
- 11/19 Choconut Valley 5th grade

**Scheduled:**

- 12/10 Carbondale Elementary 3rd grade
- 12/17 Mt. View Elementary 4th grade
- 4/8 Forest City Elementary 3rd grade

**FIELD DAYS & PARKS**  
**James Wood, Coordinator**

to be scheduled for 2015



**Our Current Exhibit!**



**What's the Buzz?**  
*A Honey of an Exhibit*

Make a beeline to The Discovery Center to see our 30th Anniversary exhibit, "What's The Buzz? A Honey of an Exhibit" all about the honeybee! You'll 'bee' amazed by this extraordinary insect as you have some pure, sweet fun exploring the life of the honeybee and its impact on life as a worldwide pollinator. Climb into a 14-foot beehive, take your seat on the Queen Bee's throne and try your hand at bee mythology with puppets. This multidisciplinary exhibit will leave you bug-eyed as you learn about health-related bee research with microscopes and waggle-dance your way through the history of bees in math, literature and the arts!



**Bee Culture Magazine**

Box 706  
 Medina, OH 44258  
 800-289-7668

Bee Culture has a free e-mail newsletter called "Catch the Buzz"

**American Bee Journal**

51 South 2nd Street  
 Hamilton, IL 62341  
 888-922-1293

<http://www.americanbeejournal.com>

Or subscribe through our association for a discount  
 Ginny at 570-934-1166  
 Also, ABJ has a free e-mail newsletter



## Keeney and Ziegler

Dennis C. Keeney  
9351 Old 22  
Bethel, PA  
*Honey Producer / Packer*  
*Supplies, Queens*  
*Honey Jars & Caps*  
BREEDER of  
NORTHERN QUEENS  
717-933-8565

### *In Memory*

Dennis Clark Keeney, age 60, of Dillsburg, passed away Tuesday October 14, 2014 at home. Born November 11, 1953 in Lebanon, he was a son of the late Clarence I. Keeney and Ruth E. (Frantz) Keeney of Rehrersburg.

He was employed at the PA State Farm Show Complex for over 25 years, and for several years was a PA State Bee Inspector. He was the owner/operator of Keeney and Ziegler Apiaries, Bethel. In 1987 after his uncle Paul Ziegler suffered a heart attack, Dennis took over the management of the Apiary.



He graduated in 1971 from Tulpehocken High School, where he was active in music and sang in District Chorus. He later studied at Elizabethtown College where he sang with the Concert Choir and at West Virginia University, graduating with a degree in Agronomy. Dennis was an experienced beekeeper, a breeder of queen bees and was named Beekeeper of the year in 2003 by the PA State Beekeepers Association. He was a member of the Carlisle Church of the Brethren; Eastern Apicultural Society; PA Beekeepers Association and the Berks and Schuylkill Beekeepers Association. Dennis had a great appreciation for nature and enjoyed hunting.

In addition to his mother, surviving are his wife Elaine L. (Garvick) Keeney, daughter Christen M. Keeney of Dillsburg and two brothers the Rev. Delmas L. Keeney of Mechanicsburg and David N. Keeney of Coudersport.

## Welcome to our new members for 2014

Lanny Adams  
Jim & Jane Conboy  
Robert Crifasi  
Leslie Foster  
Jill Marchakitus  
Cheryl Matulevich  
Jim Moronski  
Stephanie Purdy  
William Ropp  
Charles Scott  
Rowland Sharp  
Eric Sprau  
Lori Wallace  
Ed Zymunt





Check out our good neighbors to the north.  
<http://www.southerntierbeekeepers.org/>

Search your browser for “beekeeping videos

Penn State book “Beekeeping Basics”  
available free at <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/agrs93.pdf>

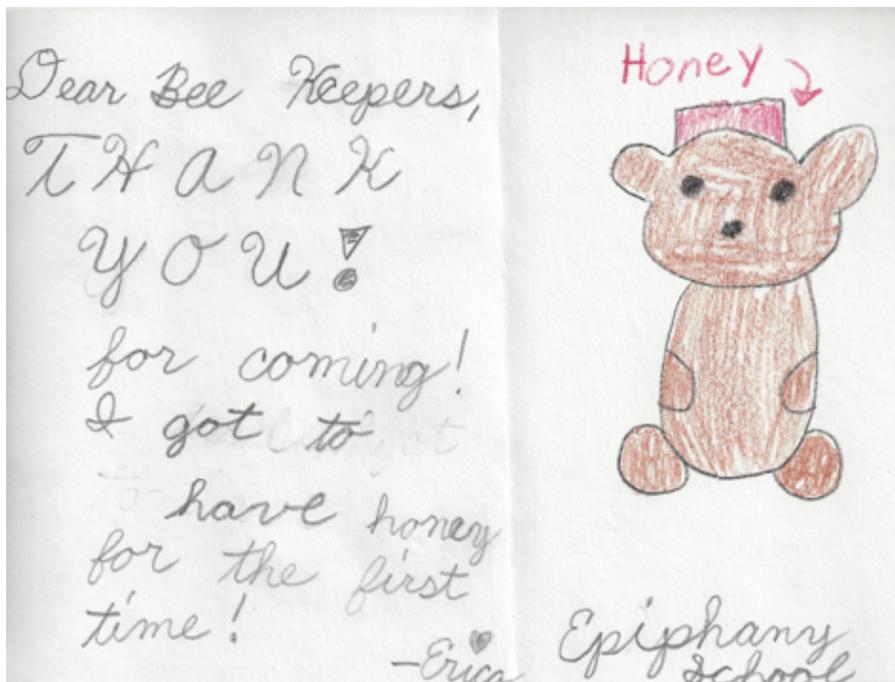
CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Scientists attached radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags to hundreds of individual honey bees and tracked them for several weeks. The effort yielded two discoveries: Some foraging bees are much busier than others; and if those busy bees disappear, others will take their place.

The findings are [reported](#) in the journal *Animal Behaviour*. Tagging the bees revealed that about 20 percent of the foraging bees in a hive brought home more than half of the nectar and pollen gathered to feed the hive. “We found that some bees are working very, very hard – as we would have expected,” said [University of Illinois Institute for Genomic Biology](#) director [Gene E. Robinson](#), who led the research. “But then we found some other bees that were not working as hard as the others.”

To read the rest of the article, go to:

*American Bee Journal*  
“Extra”  
& *Bee Culture* “Catch the Buzz”

**Editorial: Sound familiar? By the way,**



## **Officers & Directors**

**2015**

**President: Dave Taylor**

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**Vice Pres. Aubrey Elbrecht**

879-4733 [aubrey.elbrecht@gmail.com](mailto:aubrey.elbrecht@gmail.com)

**Recording Sec: Rae-Ann Marsland**

574-8943 [rmrhd@netzero.net](mailto:rmrhd@netzero.net)

**Financial Sec: Linnie Anderson**

465-9851

[lyndon@nep.net](mailto:lyndon@nep.net)

**Treasurer: Kathleen Swepton**

675-8306 [kathyswep@yahoo.com](mailto:kathyswep@yahoo.com)

### **Directors:**

**Jim Barber**, Past Pres.

767-1312 [jbeekeeper@hotmail.com](mailto:jbeekeeper@hotmail.com)

**John Brunner**, Past Pres.

278-1774 [elsejohnmolly@gmail.com](mailto:elsejohnmolly@gmail.com)

**Richard Chapin**, Past Pres.

432-4007 [oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com](mailto:oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com)

**James Wood**, Past Pres.

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**LeJune Ely**

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**Richard Sheldon**

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**Ginny Wood**

934-1166 [jimnginw@epix.net](mailto:jimnginw@epix.net)

## **Our Website**

**Dave Taylor, Webmaster**

[www.susquehannabeekeeping.com](http://www.susquehannabeekeeping.com)

### **The Buzzer Staff:**

**Editor: Richard Chapin**

432-4077 [oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com](mailto:oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com)

**Production Manager: Valerie**

**Hotchkiss**

553-2086

[valeriehotchkiss54@gmail.com](mailto:valeriehotchkiss54@gmail.com)

## **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)**

**(includes state newsletter)**

**Name:**

**Address and Zip:**

**Tel. #**

**E-mail:**

**Payment Method:**

**( ) check or ( ) money order**

**Check payable to**

**Susquehanna Beekeepers**

**Association**

**Send to Linnie Anderson, Fin. Sec.**

**2198 Howell Road**

**New Milford, PA 18834**



**Required by law if you have bees:**

**PA State Registration \$10.00 / 2 years**

Bureau of Plant Industry – Apiary Section 2301 North

Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 717-110-9408 Phone

717-772-5225 Fax

717-705-6518 forms at meetings or online: [http://](http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm)

[www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm](http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org/inspection.htm)

## **Our Facebook Page**

**Cheylyn Adams, Manager**

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

[SusquehannaBeekeepersAssociation](http://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.

## *Our Constitution*

### *President George Washington: from his Farewell Address*

“I shall carry it with me to my grave, as a strong incitement to unceasing vows that Heaven may continue to you the choicest tokens of its beneficence; that your Union and brotherly affection may be perpetual; **that the free constitution, which is the work of your hands, may be sacredly maintained;** that its Administration in every department may be stamped with wisdom and Virtue; that, in fine, the happiness of the people of these States, under the auspices of liberty, may be made complete, by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of this blessing as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and adoption of every nation which is yet a stranger to it.

“With slight shades of difference, you have the same Religion, Manners, Habits and political Principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils, and joint efforts; of common dangers, sufferings and successes.”

