

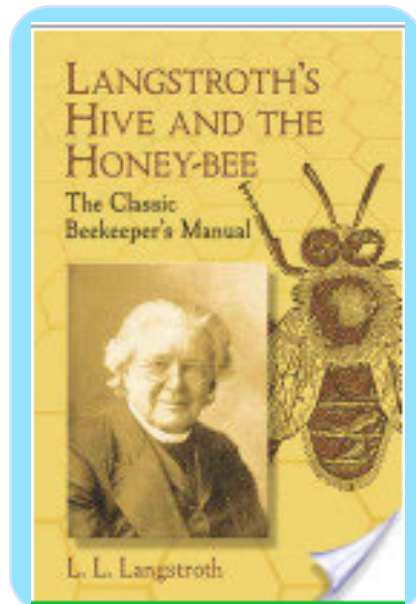
1



The Buzzzer

Susquehanna Beekeepers' Association

Volume 21 Number 4 September 2015



**The Rev. Lorenzo L. Langstroth,
“Father of American Beekeeping”
Entered his Father’s House
and History
120 years ago on October 6, 1895**

“Buzzzer” Table of Contents

Page 2	New meetings
Page 3	Harford Fair Winners & Workers
Page 4	The Fair and Beekeeping Classes
Page 5	Drawings and Comments
Page 6	Secretary’s minutes
Page 7	Media’s “beepocalypse”
page 8	Happy faces!
Page 9	Who’s who and what to do

PRINT IT OUT! This newsletter is only 10 pages long. We suggest printing it out and putting it on the table next to your recliner so that you can look at it during those long commercials.



Shutting Down Your Apiary For The Winter

You have spent the spring and summer building up your colonies for honey production. Now, what are you going to do for winter preparation. Several new beekeepers have asked for information on how to shut down the apiary for winter.



At our September 11, 2015 meeting we will have a presentation by our experienced

beekeepers on how they prepare for winter followed by a discussion and question and answer session. Hopefully you will go home with new ideas to help get your bees through the winter.

A successful wintering is the easiest and fastest way to get off to a great start in the spring. Come to the meeting with your success stories from last year and questions that you need answered.

Jim Perkins, Program Ch.

The Susquehanna Beekeepers Association Fall Meetings

**Claverack Building
Route 706 (now paved!)
Friday Sept. 11th
7:00 PM**

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

September 11 Program
October 9 Board meeting
November 7 Annual Dinner



**GUARDING
AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS**

From Gleanings in Bee Culture,
August 1942

Honey Show

Winners

Chunk Honey

1st & Best of Show
Richard Sheldon

Candles, Fancy

1st & Judges Delight
Kathy Swepston

Light Extracted Honey

1st-Jeffrey Benson
2nd-Jim Perkins
3rd-Cheylyn Adams
Hon. Mention-Richard Sheldon

Amber Extracted Honey

1st-Dave Taylor
2nd-Cheylyn Adams
3rd-John Reagen

Dark Extracted Honey

1st-Dave Taylor
2nd-John Kantz
3rd-Jim Perkins

Honey Spread

no entries

Comb Honey Sections

Light
1st-Jim Perkins
Dark
1st-Jim Perkins

Round

1st-Jim Perkins

Cut Comb

no entries

Frame of Honey

1st-Jim Perkins
2nd-James Wood

Single Piece Beeswax

1st-James Wood
2nd-John Reagen

Molded Candles

no entries

Dipped Candles

1st-Kathy Swepston

Collective Exhibit

1st-Jim Perkins
2nd-Sara Swepston

“ Fun at the fair... That’s what I’m talking about... ”

The busy bees that helped at the fair this year deserve more than a thank you. They kept smiling while they probably felt as their strength was melting because of the temperatures. BUT they persevered just like the workers in the hives. We had a highly successful week and needed everyone of you to make this happen. Please accept my thanks & best wishes to you and your bees for the coming year. Ginny



Photos on Page 3 & 4
by Donna Reagen

Sorry, we did not get the names of those winning in the honey cookery contest. We didn't judge them, but they sure looked delicious! If we find the winners, we'll list them in the December issue.

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

Lynnie Anderson

Jim Barber

Tony Baroni

John Brunner

Dick Chapin

Scott Charles

Jane Conboy

Audrey Elbrecht

Sandy Elbrecht

John Fiore

Virginia Fiore

Leslie Foster

Rod Grosvenor

Catherine Hynes

Fred Hotchkiss

Valerie Hotchkiss

John Kantz

Frank Licata

Jim Dislevy

Sharon Dislevy

Jim Doronski

Jim Perkins

Dan Petrolati

Donna Reagen

John Reagen

Ed Ronstadt

Rich Sheldon

Kathy Swepston

Arlene Taiariol

Joe Taiariol

Dave Taylor

James Wood

Tina Wood

MORE ABOUT THE FAIR

Besides all the cheerful volunteers who work during the week, we commend James Barber who provides the nucleus colony every year for the gazebo demonstrations. Jim has to select one of his colonies, move it around to disperse the field bees, bring it to the bee booth on Sunday and take what remains home a week later, usually minus a good queen. It is a contribution for which we are grateful!

The observation hive colonies have a somewhat less stressful adventure, but do require preparation. This year, they were provided by James Wood and Dick Chapin. We appreciate the attention given by our volunteers who made sure they were safe.

We also appreciate James, who was there every day and, along with Ginny, took care of the proceeds from all those “jars of gold”, honey sticks, and beautiful candles, etc. It was a good year!

We thank our members who entered the honey show competition. There were not as many as last year, but we did ensure our space for next year. Good honey, special exhibits, and Kathleen’s exquisite flower bowl candle!

Last but not least, “thank you” to Ginny Wood for organizing the whole operation!

From one of our newbees...

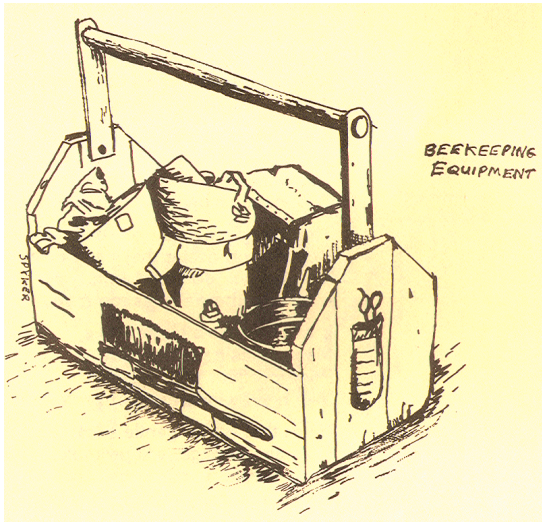
So far membership in the bee association has been incredibly enlightening and I want to be sure to contribute to the best of my abilities.

ADULT SCHOOL

Beginning beekeeping course begins on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 PM in the Montrose Area High School. Three evening classes and one Saturday field day are designed to jump start a successful adventure in the Spring of 2016.



Photos of our Bee Booth
courtesy of Donna Reagen



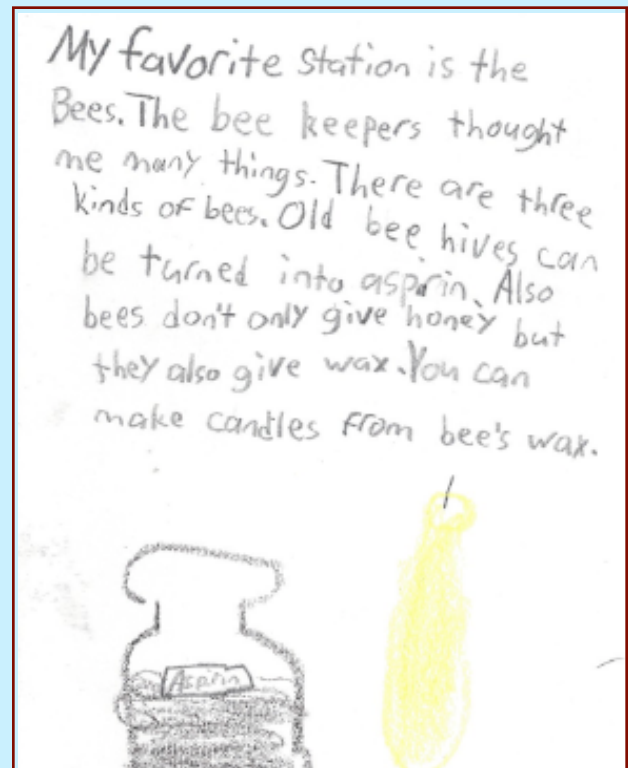
Illustrations
on this page from
Walt Crawford's
"Poems of the Honey Bee",
Copyright 1984
Printed and published
by Walter B. Crawford & Son
Goodword Graphics,
Massillon, Ohio
Reprinted with permission
of W. Allen Crawford, 1999



"The bee is little among such as
fly:
but her fruit is the chief of
sweet things"

Wisdom of Jesus the Son of Sirach
(Ecclesiasticus)

Among the always enjoyable
'thank you' notes
from students attending the
Wyoming Co. Field Day in May



Honestly, we did not teach him
all of that!

Minutes of our Regular meeting, July 10, 2015

Brief business meeting.

Looking for presenters for bee demo in the honey house

Jim Moronski is helping James with Honey House floor

Deadline for honey entries Aug 1

Vendor sheets each item gets one line per Kathy Swepston

Honey sales are the only fund raiser for our group

Work Day & Picnic August 1st 11:00 bring a covered dish and your own drinks,
prices will be set for honey at this meeting

Ginny suggested topic for Sept meeting “ leg biter bees” if Lucinda is willing to
discuss her experiment

Frank Licata offered to donate a starter kit from Mann lake to be raffled.
donations will go towards scholarship fund or school projects

SBA brochures will be produced by Ginny

Some members have had the apiary inspector visit their bee yards

John Kantz has basswood comb boxes for sale


Program: Overwintering bees presented by member Frank Licata, Master
Beekeeper & Manager of Mann Lake Ltd. Wilkes Barre.

Rae-Ann Marsland, Secretary

Urban Beekeeping Information ♦ Honey Plants

♦ Beekeeping Book Reviews ♦ New Equipment Articles

See www.BeeCulture.com for
our \$15.00 Full Digital Edition.
Save 40% off the Regular
Price and 75% off the
Newsstand price.



2013 Honey
Production
Utah's Best
Honey

**Don't Miss A Single Issue!
Resubscribe Today!**

☐ \$25 For 12 Big Issues including Free Annual Beekeeping Calendar

☐ \$48 For 24 Big Issues including Two Free Annual Beekeeping Calendars

☐ \$15 12 ISSUES OF OUR DIGITAL EDITION

☐ Payment Enclosed ☐ Bill Me Later (U.S. Only)

Name (Please Print)

Address

City State Zip

Email Address Required for Digital Subscription

Phone # Required if using Credit Card

Credit Card #

FOR IMMEDIATE
Subscription service
www.BeeCulture.com

You can also send your check or credit card info to
Bee Culture Magazine, 623 West Liberty Street, Medina, OH 44256

Natural Beekeeping Techniques ♦ How-To For Beginners

♦ Monthly Honey Report ♦ Kids' Page ♦

Savings Based On Newsstand
Price. Foreign Subscriptions Add
\$20/year Additional Postage.

In 2006 commercial beekeepers began reporting unusually high rates of honeybee die-offs over the winter, blaming a variety of factors for the decline.

Since then the media have warned of a “beepocalypse” threatening America’s food supply. In 2013, NPR said bee declines could bring “a crisis point for crops,” and a Time magazine cover looked ahead at a “world without bees” that are responsible for pollinating one-third of the crops Americans eat.

But here’s the buzz now: There are more honeybee colonies in the U.S. today than in 2006. Data released in March by the Department of Agriculture showed that the number of honeybee colonies is at a 20-year high, and U.S. honey production is at a 10-year high.

“Since colony collapse disorder began in 2006, there has been virtually no detectable effect on the total number of honeybee colonies in the United States, nor has there been any significant impact on food prices or production,” according to the Property and Environment Research Center (PERC), a Montana-based non-profit environmental think tank, which attributes the industry’s health to the “savvy” of commercial beekeepers.

The beekeepers have been actively rebuilding their colonies, often by splitting healthy colonies into multiple hives and buying new queen bees from commercial breeders.

The fees beekeepers charge farmers to provide pollination services have risen for a few crops, but the higher fees have helped beekeepers offset the cost of rebuilding their hives.

According to the USDA, the honeybee industry thrived last year, with the number of colonies rising to 2.74 million from 2.64 million in 2013. The honey yield per colony also rose, from 56.6 pounds to 65.1 pounds, and production increased from 149 million pounds to 178 million.

Yet the Obama administration last year announced the formation of a task force to develop a “federal strategy” to promote honeybees and other pollinators. Last month the task force disclosed a plan aimed at reducing honeybee-colony losses to “sustainable” levels. It calls for more than \$82 million in federal funding to promote pollinator health.

PERC observed: “Somehow, without a national strategy to help them, beekeepers have maintained their colonies and continued to provide the pollination services our modern agricultural system demands.

“With U.S. honeybee colonies now at a 20-year high, you have to wonder: Is our national pollination strategy a solution in search of a crisis?”

Keeney and Ziegler
9351 Old 22
Bethel, PA

*Honey Producer / Packer
Supplies, Queens
Honey Jars & Caps*

BREEDER of
NORTHERN QUEENS
717-933-8565

**Pennsylvania State Beekeepers
Association: PSBA**

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



Pumpkin Time !!



2015 PA Honey Queen and Princess

Honey Princess Blair Hetherington &
Honey Queen Jessica Onstead (on right)
Blair visited our Harford Fair
"Bee Booth" on Monday

Check out our good neighbors to the south.
Lackawanna Backyard Beekeepers

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

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](http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/agrs93.pdf)

**AMERICAN
BEE JOURNAL**

www.americanbeejournal.com
Return to: American Bee Journal
51 S. 2nd St., Hamilton, IL 62341



or Call 1-888-922-1293

Association Member Subscription
(Rates listed below are 25% below regular rates.)

U.S.		<input type="checkbox"/> New
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr.	\$21.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr.	\$39.75	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yr.	\$56.25	

Prices good through
Dec. 31, 2015

***The Beekeeper's
Companion Since 1861***

*Don't let your beekeeping
fall behind the times!*

Published Monthly

Free sample copy upon request

Subscriber's Name _____
Address _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Officers & Directors 2015

President: Dave Taylor

378-3728 drt105@aol.com

Vice Pres. Aubrey Elbrecht

879-4733 aubrey.elbrecht@gmail.com

Recording Sec: Rae-Ann Marsland

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

Financial Sec: Linnie Anderson

465-9851 lyndon@nep.net

Treasurer: Kathleen Swepston

675-8306 kathyswep@yahoo.com

Directors:

Jim Barber, Past Pres.

767-1312 jbeekeeper@hotmail.com

John Brunner, Past Pres.

278-1774 elsejohnmolly@gmail.com

Richard Chapin, Past Pres.

432-4007 oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com

James Wood, Past Pres.

934-1166 jimnginw@epix.net

LeJune Ely

278-2170 jlely8@frontiernet.net

Jim Perkins

967-2634 perkmar@stny.rr.com

Richard Sheldon

727-2045 sheldon@nep.net

Ginny Wood

934-1166 jimnginw@epix.net

Our Website

Dave Taylor, Webmaster

www.susquehannabeekeeping.com

The Buzzer

Editor: Richard Chapin

570-432-4007

oldbeekeeper83@gmail.com

Production Manager:

Valerie Hotchkiss

570-553-2086

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

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

Cheyln Adams, Manager

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.



God Bless America