
NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS



ASSOCIATION NEWS



VOL 23 ISSUE 1

Dec./Jan. 2009

Letter from the President

Hi

I hope that all of your hives are in good shape going into the winter with enough honey and bees to make it until spring. When we get a break in the weather it would be a good idea to make a last check on their condition.

Just a few reminders. The state honey show will be judged on 2/10/09 at the state agricultural convention. It would really be great if we had even more entries than last year. To get your entry in you can give them to any executive board member who is attending the board meeting on 2/6/09.

As usual our winter meeting will follow the convention on 2/14/09 and I hope to see you all there. Just a reminder elections for next year of officers will be held at the meeting. Anyone who is interested in getting involved can run for any office, even if it is currently occupied.

Looking in to the future I want to remind the chapters that we need their support in sponsoring up coming meetings. By the way if your chapter runs a meeting, you won't have to drive as far.

Finally the last and most important thing. I hope that everyone has a great holiday.

Pete

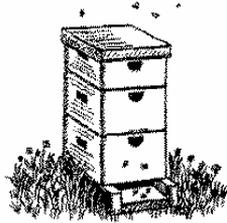
State Honey Show February 10, 2009
State Membership Meeting February 14, 2009
At the Rutgers Agriculture Museum.



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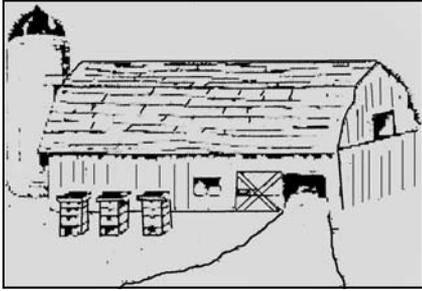
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Important Bee Dates

Feb. 6 2009 NJBA E Board Meeting

Feb. 10 2009 State Honey Show at Crown
Plaza Hotel, 2349 W. Marlton Pike, Cherry
Hill, N.J. 08002

(Show Rules on Pages 15, 16, 17)

(Entry form on center page pullout)

**Feb, 14, 2009 NJBA Membership
Meeting, N.J. museum of Agriculture , Rutgers**

Feb. 21 2009 3 Day Short Course on Bee-
keeping, Essex County. (see page 17 for
more details.)

April 23,24,25, 2009 Beginner Beekeeping
Course at Rutgers

New Jersey Museum of Agriculture

103 College Farm Rd, North Brunswick, NJ
08902

DRIVING DIRECTIONS;

From New Jersey Turnpike (North or South) Exit
9 – “New Brunswick” After toll, stay right onto Route
18 NORTH Follow Route 18 to U.S. Route 1 SOUTH
Get off at third exit: College Farm Road (Cook College)
At end of ramp, turn right onto College Farm Road
Museum is first driveway on right (look for windmill)

Garden State Parkway (from the South) Exit 129
– “New Jersey Turnpike” Take New Jersey Turnpike to
Exit 9 Follow directions for Turnpike above

Garden State Parkway (from the North) Exit 130
– “U.S. Route 1 SOUTH toward Trenton” Follow U.S.
Route 1 SOUTH over the Raritan River Take the fourth
exit after River: College Farm Road At end of ramp,
turn right onto College Farm Road Museum is first
driveway on right (look for windmill)

U.S. Route 1 (from the South) While staying on
U.S. Route 1 NORTH look for intersection with Route
130 shortly after, pass DeVry Institute on right side
Take next exit: College Farm Road & Squibb Drive
Exit will make U-turn under U.S. Route 1 to other side
At end of U-turn, at stop sign, turn left onto College
Farm Rd. Museum is first driveway on right

U.S. Route 1 (from the North) Follow U.S. Route 1
SOUTH over the Raritan River Take the fourth exit
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right onto College Farm Road Museum

**Interstate 287 (South) Exit 1B: U.S. Route 1
SOUTH** Follow U.S. Route 1 SOUTH

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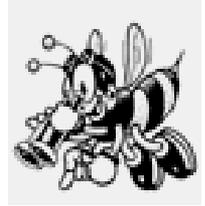
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Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws Article II, Sections 2 and 3 of the New Jersey Beekeepers Association, Inc.

These proposed amendments were approved unanimously by the Executive Board of the NJBA at their September 30th meeting in Trenton. The proposed amendments will be submitted to the membership for ratification at a subsequent Association meeting held not less than sixty days (60) after publication of the proposed amendments in the New Jersey Beekeepers Association Newsletter. To become effective the amendments must be approved by at least 2/3 vote of the members present at that Association meeting, which will be the Winter Meeting in New Brunswick, February 14, 2009.



The amendment basically raises the dues for all members to \$20, eliminating the confusion between individual and family memberships by making all memberships essentially family memberships, with each membership entitled to a single vote. Section 1, which will remain unchanged, is printed below as well:

Original Text of By-Laws Article II, Sections 1-3:

Section 1: Any boy or girl under the age of 18 who is interested in Apiculture may become a Junior member. Dues of \$8.00 per year are payable in advance.

Section 2: Anyone interested in apiculture may become a Regular Member. Dues of \$15.00 per year are payable in advance.

Section 3: A Family membership will be \$20.00 per year, payable in advance.

Section 2 (revised): **Any individual, or family residing at the same address, may become a member of the Association for \$20 per year, payable in advance. Membership will include one newsletter subscription, and one vote in matters put before the membership.**

Section 3 (revised) **Memberships are for one calendar year, beginning January 1st and ending December 31st. New members who pay after July 31st will have their memberships run through the current year to the end of the next.**

Respectfully submitted by Secretary C. Crowell 16 November, 2008

Apiarist Report November 2008

Hi everyone, I hope your beekeeping went well in 2008. You may have thought you made mistakes but as long as you learn from them you will become a better beekeeper. Beekeeping is not easy; many decisions need to be made based on weather, colony build up, parasite load, ect. Keep at it. By now your colonies should be put to bed for winter. Mouse guards in place, inner covers deep side down, outer covers shimmed up ½ inch to allow moist air to escape. Some weight on top to keep the lid from blowing off.

Bears:

Starting October 25, 2008 through November 7, 2008 I received calls from 5 beekeepers that had bee yards hit by bears. The number of colonies damaged was 60. Some were protected by bear fence with bacon on the wires, some were not, none of the beekeepers were happy. I have learned a few things this past year about bears. 1 many beekeepers use ratchet straps over the top of the colony down the sides and through the cinder blocks the colony is sitting on. They ratchet everything together. This way even if the bear gets through the fence usually he will only knock over the colony. Another beekeeper uses flood lights on his colonies wired to a motion sensor that has a radio wired into the circuit tuned to talk radio. When ever a movement causes the lights to go on people's voices will be easily heard. This was helpful in 1 beekeepers area. Remember last winter meeting we had a bear biologist from the Division of Fish Game and Wildlife speak. He told us there have been verified sightings of bears in every county in the State of New Jersey. In the future this may not just be a North Jersey problem.

It is very important that you **Report black bear damage or nuisance behavior to the DEP's 24-hour, toll-free hotline at 1-877-WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337).**

I would also be interested in knowing if

you have bear damage. I can be reached at 609-462-7820, or Tim.Schuler@ag.state.nj.us

Take pictures of the damage.

Rutgers Beginner beekeeping course:

October 23, 24, and 25, 2008 Bob Hughes and I taught the third Beginner beekeeper course for the year. We had about 100 students complete the class. That makes over 300 people took the class this year. There are already 30 people signed up for next April's class. The dates for that class are April 23, 24, 25, 2009. We had good weather, Bob brought in some colonies and the afternoons in the bee yard were very educational. The bees behaved beautifully. Students held framed bare handed, with no veil, Yes it is possible. They saw queen, eggs, larve, pupa, drones, honey , pollen, Varroa mites. Saw some treatments applied. It was a really good 3 days.

Bob and I have begun work on a next level class. We have decided on the lectures, and are planning on 2 classes limited to 40 people each. The class will be 2 days with classroom in morning and bee yard in afternoon. Keep your eye out for further information.

Rutgers Business course for beekeepers;

December 5 and 6, 2008 Rutgers will be offering a course called **Business Tools and Marketing Strategies for Beekeepers**. This 2 day course will cover the business decisions a beekeeper will need to make in order to turn their beekeeping endeavor into a business.

Annual wintering yard registration:

Now is the time to renew your overwintering yard registrations. The form may be found on the NJDA web site. <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/beeinspection.html>

Entitled Beekeeper Registration form, please print a copy, fill in the form, and mail it to my office. New Jersey Department of Agriculture PO Box 330 Trenton NJ 08350 Attn. Tim Schuler. This registration allows me to update my records to know who the active beekeepers are how many colonies are in NJ and where they are located.

I hope you prepared your colonies well for winter. I will be running the same winter loss survey in March 2009 that we ran March 2008. If you recently got an e-mail address or changed your old address please make sure Curtis Crowell gets the update. E-mail is a very cost effective way for the NJBA to communicate with its membership.

Have a great winter and don't forget the NJBA state honey show.

Tim

Letter from the Editor

I would like to welcome all the new beekeepers to the NJBA. With all of the Beginner Beekeeping classes, membership in all of the chapters have grown and so has the NJBA. This should be a signal for all the chapters to have some work shops on some good bee management practices. Attendances at local and state meetings are very important, by having some educational time, some good questions with good answers, and some good socializing with members who have the same interest. In the up coming months their will be elec-



tions, a state honey show, and a state meeting.

The honey show is our way of showing the state that the NJBA is alive and well. The show will be on display for all state politicians to see. So I encourage everyone to get some entries in the show. It only takes a little time, because as I write this letter I have my creamed honey mixing and I can see my yeast working in my mead.

Our next membership meeting is always a lot of fun with the auction. At the auction all of the winning entries from the show get auctioned off. Last year we had an entry sell for a record price. So here's your chance to buy that blue ribbon entry and see what makes it a champion. Plus we always have some informative speakers and some good food. Hope to see everyone there.

Now that cold weather is here it looks like the bees stopped taking the sugar water. You have to hope they have enough stores to make it till spring, but if they are light you might have to continue to try to feed them. One way you can feed them is with sugar candy paddies near the cluster or sugar on the top board, but they have to break cluster to go up and get it. The worst part of beekeeping is when you go out to check your bees and they are dead and warm weather is just around the corner. This happens even to the best beekeepers, so don't get discouraged just get back up and keep going. Because in the summer when your extracting your honey, you look back and it feels very rewarding.

Your Editor.

P.S. I sincerely wish you a happy holiday and a great New Year. This last one sure went fast.



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Questions For The Experts

What can I plant so the bees have a nectar flow for late summer and early fall?

Experienced beekeepers often say that beekeeping is like real estate; it's all about "location, location, location." But don't despair. It's not just what's on your own property that the bees will utilize. Remember that in our area honeybees typically forage about half a mile from the hive, and sometimes much more. So take a drive around your neighborhood, paying especial attention to the trees and shrubs. Many older neighborhoods have streets lined with linden trees - a great source of nectar. You may also see black locust and more tulip poplar. Any untended areas with weedy growth such as power line easements are often excellent sources of bee wildflowers such as goldenrod, knapweed, thistle, smartweed, japanese bamboo and wild aster, blooming in August-September and even into October. And count yourself fortunate if you live near a river, pond, lake or wetland. They usually support abundant summer nectar-bearing wildflowers, including purple loosestrife - very invasive, but great for bees.

You can plant some things on your own property to give the bees a hand, and if every homeowner did that, it would actually make a difference. However, short of planting every available bit of ground in sweet clover or buckwheat, you're not going to make much difference to the bees. They need huge numbers of flowers, way more than a 2/3 acre suburban plot will support. However, here are a few thoughts of some good summer blooming bee plants you can plant:

Aromatic herbs, especially ones like mint, oregano, rosemary and thyme, are very attractive to bees. Anise hyssop falls into this category and is a beautiful perennial. Asters are good. There are a number of ornamental goldenrods, too, but

check the variety because not all of the many goldenrod species are nectar-bearing. Holly and privet hedge are excellent bee plants and beautiful ornamentals as well. I sometimes find my honey bees on my echinacea but not too often. (Suspect they have something better here when it blooms.) You can overseed your lawn with white clover (not sweet clover; it's wonderful, but can get 4 feet tall!) Joe pye weed is great if you have some room, and if you can plant a tree or two, focus on those that help.

And if all else fails and your hives begin to get light, feed, feed, feed! In my area we rarely have much in the way of fall flows so I start feeding my bees in August as soon as I've finished pulling honey, and I continue feeding until the weather turns or they're nice and heavy, whichever comes first. In November, our ECBS club is having a meeting devoted just to feeding bees: when, how, and what. We'd love to see you there. Details are on the www.njbeekeepers.org website.

Bee Well
Landi

Can you leave a third deep on the two bottom deeps for the winter for extra food, or will it let the hive become too cold?

Yes. You can leave a third deep on for the winter if you want, however make sure you remove the bottom deep early in the year {First nice day in Feb. /early March } so as not to have 3 deeps for the bees to raise brood in. If you do leave the 3rd. deep on it will allow the bees to fill all 3 with honey/brood and cut way down on you honey production for your own personal use. For the most part in N.J. 2 deeps are all you need for bees to winter over provided the top brood super is wall to wall honey

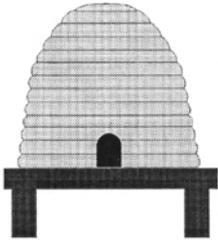
Hope this helps. If not contact me and we can go further.

Bob H.



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Robert "Beeman" Simonofsky
(member of the North West Branch of NJBA)

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A Few Notes from the Treasurer-

This is the time of year to renew your membership for next year, if you have not already done so. The mailing label on the cover of this newsletter will indicate when your membership expires. If the expiration date is 2009 (or later if you've paid for more than one year in advance) - you're already set for next year.

Payment is made to your local branch treasurer. I suggest paying by check since it's easier to track the payment down if it's misplaced, or not posted properly either by me or by your branch treasurer. I do screw up sometimes, and these little bits of information are helpful to getting things straightened out.

Please make it easier for everyone by paying before the end of the year. This will be your last newsletter if you don't renew for 2009.

You will also note that the mailing label indicates if we have a valid email address on file for you. If our address is no good, or if your email has changed, please inform your branch treasurer, and either myself or Janet Katz—the webmaster. All email 'broadcasts' to the state membership are sent out by Janet so this address is important.

New members will note that if they joined after July 31st their membership will expire at the end of the following year. This practice, in place now for a few years, are reflected in the proposed changes to the constitution elsewhere in this newsletter.

Annual Honey Show Entry Form

Name of Entrant(s): _____

Branch Affiliation (Check one): (note your dues must be paid thru the current year!)

- Central
- Northeast
- Essex
- Northwest
- Jersey Cape
- South Jersey
- Morris
- Sussex

Name of Apiary (if applicable) or name on label: _____

Address: _____

12

E-mail Address: _____ Tel. # _____

Classes entered (Check all that apply): (If unsure of class for extracted, guess and judge will reassign. Judge is final arbiter of class assignment.). Remember, one entry per class per entrant. (Members in a family cannot have entries in the same class unless each member has an individual membership.)

- Class 1: Extracted Honey Light
- Class 2: Extracted Honey Light Amber
- Class 3: Extracted Honey Amber
- Class 4: Extracted Honey Dark
- Class 5: Section Honey & Cut Comb
- Class 6: Creamed Honey
- Class 7: Chunk Honey
- Class 8: Frame of Honey
- Class 9: Mead: Dry
- Class 10: Mead: Sweet

0	Class 1: Extracted Honey Light	0	Class 11: Mead: Made with Fruit Juices
0	Class 2: Extracted Honey Light Amber	0	Class 12: Mead: Sparkling
0	Class 3: Extracted Honey Amber	0	Class 13: Beeswax Block
0	Class 4: Extracted Honey Dark	0	Class 14: Novelty Beeswax
0	Class 5: Section Honey & Cut Comb	0	Class 15: Beeswax Tapers
0	Class 6: Creamed Honey	0	Class 16: Novelty Beeswax Candles
0	Class 7: Chunk Honey	0	Class 17: Hand Cream
0	Class 8: Frame of Honey	0	Class 18: Soap
0	Class 9: Mead: Dry	0	Class 19: Lip Balm
0	Class 10: Mead: Sweet	0	Class 20: Photography

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Annual Honey Show

The NJBA Annual Honey Show will be held the February 8-10, 2009 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, NJ. I hope that everyone with honey will at least submit an entry of extracted honey. If you have questions about the show, please contact me by phone (908 879-4377) or email, janet@rapseik.org. This is our chance to show the ag community our stuff!

Annual Honey Show Rules

Exhibitors must be current NJBA) members, with dues paid for 2009. All entries must be the product of the entrant's apiary and must have been produced since the previous year's honey show. Entries in Classes 1 through 7 in the Honey division and entries in the Cosmetics division should have labels on all three entries in each class. Entrants are limited to one entry in any given class. That means people with family memberships are limited to one entry per class per family.

Entries may be delivered to a member of the NJBA Executive Board (these are state officers, branch presidents and secretaries) or any person attending the last Executive Board meeting prior to the State Honey Show (probably February 5 or 6, 2009), or delivered directly to the show prior to the judging. If the entries are not delivered directly to the show by the exhibitor, the exhibitor must fill out an entry form, which will be consolidated at the Executive Board meeting where entries are collected, to insure that all entries are accounted for prior to judging.

Honey:

1. **Classes 1 through 4 (Extracted Honey):** Entries must be in glass Queenline type jars or Gamber Classic honey jars with plain metal or plastic lids. Honey color will be graded by the show chairman and judged on density, absence of crystals, cleanliness, flavor, fill and container appearance.

2. **Class 5 (Sections and Cut Comb):** Sections must be in window cartons, and Ross Rounds must have transparent plastic

lid. Cut comb should be in clear plastic containers.

3. **Classes 6 (Creamed Honey) and Class 7 (Chunk Honey):** Must be in clear, one-pound glass jars. Creamed honey will be graded on fineness of crystals, uniformity and firmness, cleanliness and freedom from foam, flavor and fill. Chunk honey is graded on cut, cleanliness, uniformity, density and flavor of liquid.

Class 8 (Frame of honey): Must be displayed in bee proof cases, which have both sides made of transparent glass or plastic. The frame is judged on uniformity, absence of uncapped cells and watery cappings, cleanliness, freedom from granulation and pollen.

Mead:

All mead entries should have been produced by the exhibitor by the process of fermentation.

1. All entries in Classes 9, 10 and 11, should be exhibited in clear, non-frosted wine bottles, standard 750 ML or 25.4 FL OZ.

Natural cork, plastic stoppers or screw-tops may be used.

Entries in Class 12, sparkling, should be in champagne-type bottles.

Beeswax:

1. It is suggested that entries be covered with clear plastic.

2. The optimum color for pure beeswax is light yellow.

Cosmetics:

1. Class 17 (Hand cream/lotion): All jars must be a minimum of 1.5 ounces. Entries will be judged on jar appearance, consistency and texture of product, and fragrance added.

2. Class 18 (Soap): Bars must be a minimum of 3 ounces. Soap will be judged on packaging, overall appearance and fragrance.

Class 19 (lip balm): Tins, plastic pots or tubes must be a minimum of .15 ounce. Lip balm

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will be judged with the same considerations as in Class 17.

Photography:

Prints should be 5” x 7” or larger, mounted on a mounting board that extends at least one inch beyond the print on each side. No frames are permitted. Photos must relate to beekeeping and can be close-ups, scenics (e.g. apiaries, hives) or a portrait (person who is obviously a beekeeper or performing a beekeeping procedure in an appropriate setting).

Exhibitors should refer to copies of individual class score cards for details on judging criteria, these are available on the NJBA website or by contacting the Show Chair, Janet A. Katz, 908 879-4377.

Show Classifications

Extracted Honey Division

Class 1: Light
Class 2: Light amber
Class 3: Amber

Class 4: Dark

Entries in each class should be in glass Queenline or Gamber Classic honey jars. Each class requires an entry of three jars, all three with labels.

Honey Comb/Spreads Division

Class 5: Sections

Three Box or Round sections or cut comb

Class 6: Creamed honey

Three cylindrical or square, glass, 16 oz. jars

Class 7: Chunk Honey

Three cylindrical or square, 16 oz. jars

Class 8: Frame of honey

One frame, wooden or plastic

Mead Division:

For all classes: one clear, non-frosted wine bottle, cork or screw top, 750 ml

Class 9: Mead, dry

Class 10: Mead, sweet

Class 11: Mead made with fruit juices

Class 12: Mead, sparkling. Made with or without fruit juices

Beeswax Division

Class 13: Beeswax. Single block, one pound or slightly more, pure beeswax

Class 14: Novelty beeswax. A single or a coordinated set of any size, any shape pure beeswax item(s) with no wicks

Class 15: Taper Candles. One pair, poured or dipped tapered candles, pure beeswax

Class 16: Novelty candles. A single or coordinated set, any size, any shape, pure beeswax. They may be decorated and/or painted.

Cosmetics Division

Class 17: Hand cream/Lotion

Three jars of hand cream/lotion, containing beeswax

Class 18: Soap

Three bars of soap, containing beeswax

Class 19: Lip Balm

Three tins or tubes of lip balm, containing beeswax

Photography Division

Class 20: Photography

Photos must relate to beekeeping and can be close-ups, scenics (e.g. apiaries, hives) or a portrait (person who is obviously a beekeeper or performing a beekeeping procedure in an appropriate setting).

Best of Division

The Best of Division must be a First Place Winner in one of its division's classes. The judge will decide which one First Place Winner receives the Best of Division award.

Best Exhibitor Award

Best Exhibitor will be awarded to the person receiving the highest accumulation of points.

Their name will be engraved on an annual plaque to be displayed during the annual New Jersey State Honey Show

Awards

<u>Place</u>	<u>Ribbon</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Blue	4
2 nd	Red	3
3 rd	White	2

Honorable Mention – 1 Point

Best of Show Award

Best of Show will be awarded to the person who, in the opinion of the judge, has the single first place entry that represents the division and class entered better than any other first place entry. Their name will be engraved on an annual plaque to be displayed during the annual New Jersey State Honey Show.

All entries that win a first place will be put up for auction at the winter general membership meeting in February. At that time, all entrants can pick up their entries, ribbons, checks and score sheets.

Application of Rules

No changes can be made in the judging and scoring criteria at any point during the show.

3-DAY SHORT COURSE ON BEE- KEEPING



Day 1: Saturday, February 21; Day 2: Saturday February 28; Day 3 (Field Day) TBA in April. 9am to 4pm

Location: Essex County Environmental Center, 621B Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland, N. J. 07068, Garibaldi Hall

The Essex County Beekeepers Society will present this short course appropriate for new beekeepers as well as those who need a refresher. We take you through a full year of beekeeping, including everything you need to know from purchasing and assembling equipment to harvesting, extracting, and bottling honey. Basics of disease and mite management and control also covered. For more information and to register, contact Joe Treimel at 973 865-9043 or sailbee-joe@aol.com. Scholarships are available to young people for this course, ages 12-22. Visit www.njbeekeepers.org <<http://www.njbeekeepers.org>> for more details. **Fee: \$70 per person; includes ECBS/NJBA membership and continental breakfast and afternoon snack**

Important

N.J.B.A. Scholarship Notice



“The NJBA will provide a number of scholarships for the Rutgers “Bee-ginner’s Beekeeping” course (next session in April, 2009) and the Sussex branch “Short Course” (planned for March, 2009), which were the two courses associated with the NJBA in some way that we were aware of that are currently scheduled for 2009 as of the deadline for this newsletter. The scholarships are for any young person between the ages of 12 and 22 (as of the start date of the course) and who is a full time student. Applicants must submit a brief essay of no more than 100 words on the topic, “The Importance of Beekeeping”. Deadlines for submissions, applications and details may be found on the NJBA website’s Education Page, <http://www.njbeekeepers.org/Education.htm>. Applications can be submitted via the website by emailing to scholarship@njbeekeepers.org, or via snail mail to Curtis Crowell, 152 Broad Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520. Applications and essays will be reviewed by the NJBA Executive Board, and scholarships will be awarded at their discretion. Scholarship recipients are responsible for transportation to the course. If you have questions, contact Janet A. Katz at 908 879-4377 or janet@rapseik.org.”

Janet A. Katz
460 Route 24
Chester, NJ 07930-290

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Inside The Hive; Update on Bill’s Scale Project

Rush hour is over and my hives are quiet. Mouse guards are in place. Finally I have time to think about what has been happening in the bee yard. I have been recording the weight of one of my hives since June 13. Perhaps you can help me figure out what is really going on inside the hive. A graph of changes in the weight of my hive is presented below. This hive is located in an urban area of Middlesex County, N.J. where there are no farms-only ornamental flowers, backyard gardens, roadside wild flowers and trees.

Each bar on the graph represents the average daily change in hive weight during that week. I now have information for the past 22 weeks.

So---What have the bees taught me this year?

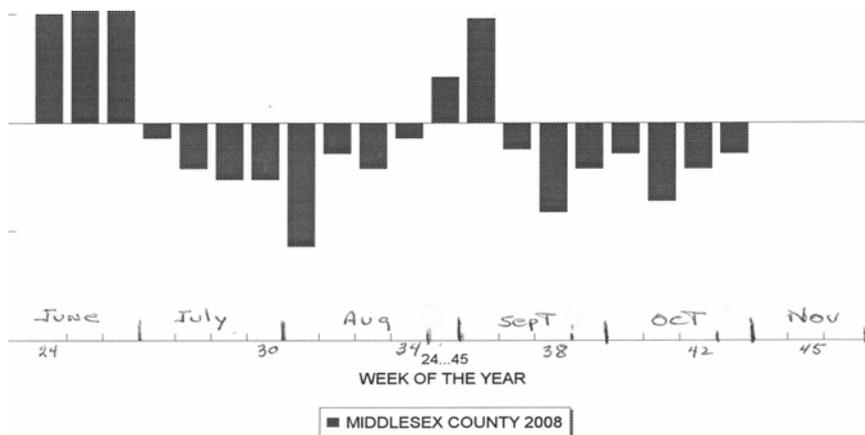
The bee hive is constantly adapting as available nectar goes through highs and lows. Excess honey is stored during peak flows to stock the larder for times when flowering plants are not producing nectar and pollen. Yes we all know that but I was surprised when measurements indicated that on 80% of the days the bees collect less nectar than is needed by the hive.

From June to November, my hive increased in weight during only 5 weeks (30 days).

The major increase in weight occurred from June 13 to June 28. During these 16 days the hive gained 14 ½ lbs. It was over by the end of June. On June 27, I Harvested slightly more than 50 lbs. of honey from above the queen excluder on this hive. Measurements account for only a small portions of this harvest. Since I did not remove any honey that the bees had stored below the queen excluder, it is obvious that nectar flow began well before mid-June. I noticed that pollen began to appear on these bees by mid February and some honey was

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Continued on page 19 with graph



accumulation in the hive by April 10. Nectar flow probably began in late March or early April.

A second increase in hive weight occurred from August 24- September 6. During these 14 days the hive gained 5 lbs. This was my minor fall nectar flow. From June 27 to August 24 the hive decreased in weight each day. For the next 54 days the bees could not harvest enough nectar to maintain the hive weight. Each day more was consumed than was being collected. End of day measurements indicate that the hive weight drops by about 1/2 lb. each day in spring and summer. Brood rearing, worker/ queen meals use up honey and water is being lost by evaporation from uncapped cells. During most of the summer it looks like nectar gathering offsets some but not all of the honey being used by the hive. But then came the first week of August. Little or no nectar was available. The hive lost 1/2 lb. each day.

Obviously hives that do not have the workers to exploit the early nectar flow would go into the midsummer without enough stored honey. This is why I must feed my spring splits.

After September 6, the hive decreased in weight continuously. The pattern is strange. What caused the 21 day cycle of consumption in late September and again in late October? Could this be the rearing of two distinct non-overlapping broods for winter?

Or is a small amount of nectar produced in late September and late October. I don't know. Do you?

From October 26 to November 8 the weight of the hive has not changed at all. Not a single pound has been lost. Flying and flowering days have been few. Food consumption in the hive must be very low. Although there is bee activity, it appears that the hive has gone into "hibernation". It will be interesting to see what happens in December, January and especially February. Does food consumption accelerate as brood rearing increases in February? If so, it would explain why a hive healthy in January can be dead in February. February feeding is important.

Tom Fuscaldo now has a hive scale in Paterson. Let me know, if anyone else is interested in collecting and sharing information on seasonal changes in hive weight. Perhaps we could put together a network that would give NJ beekeepers an idea of when they must have heavy populations in their hives to harvest the nectar that becomes available.

Reporting from a backyard in Middlesex County.

Bill Coniglio and Cindy Werts

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Honey Recipes

New York—Style Honey Cheesecake



- **Ingredients:**
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 4 packages (8 oz.) cream cheese, room temperature
- 3/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup flour
- 5 eggs
- 1/3 cup heavy cream
- 1 Tablespoon lemon zest, grated
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Directions : To make crust, in a small bowl stir together graham cracker crumbs and butter until well blended. Press mixture evenly onto bottom and sides of a greased 9-inch springform pan; set aside. Preheat oven to 350°F. To make filling, combine cream cheese, honey and flour in bowl of an electric mixer. Beat until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in cream, lemon zest and vanilla. Pour cream cheese mixture over crust, bake 15 minutes. Lower oven temperature to 200°F and bake 1 hour and 30 minutes longer or until center no longer looks wet or shiny. Turn oven off. Let cheesecake cool in oven 1 hour with oven door ajar. Remove cheesecake to a rack to cool completely. To prevent top of cheesecake from cracking during cooking, run a knife around the edge of the pan so that cake can pull away freely as it contracts. Cover and refrigerate cheesecake for at least 4 hours before serving

Honey Lemon Glaze

- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 Tablespoon butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest, grated

Directions; In a small bowl, whisk together honey, melted butter and grated lemon zest. Drizzle over cooled cheesecake.

Queen Bee Apple Pie

- **Ingredients;**
- 6 cups green apple, pared and sliced
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- 1-1/4 cups cold water
- 1/3 cup cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 cup honey
- 1 pkg. (15 oz.) 2 unroll and bake 9-inch pie crusts
- 1/4 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped
- 1/3 cup raisins

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F. Toss together apples and lemon juice in large bowl; set aside. In small saucepan, whisk together cold water, cornstarch, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Add honey; mix well. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Continue to cook and stir until mixture thickens and becomes translucent. Pour hot honey mixture over apple mixture; toss to coat evenly. Turn apple mixture into pastry-lined 9-inch pie plate. Sprinkle walnuts and raisins over apples. Place second crust over filling. Seal and flute edges. Cut slits in top crust for steam to escape. Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely on wire rack.

WHO'S WHO in NJBA

President –Pete Leighton, 732-928-4259, p.leighton@att.net
1st Vice President –William Coniglio, 732-247-1424, wrabbit1@ix.netcom.com
2nd Vice President –Landi Simone, 973-263-0674, beelady@optonline.com
3rd Vice President –Karoly Toth 732-873-2989
Secretary—Treasurer -Curtis Crowell, 609-651-4585, curtis.crowll@att.net
Recording Secretary -Open
EAS Director -Dave Peregmon, 856-981-9483, cell 856-981-9483 preferred, dave mill@msn.com saw-
Ag. Week Delegate -Grant Stiles, 732-661-0700,
MAAREC Representative -Joe Lelinho, 973-228-4806, Klutch.cargo@verizon.net
Research Committee—Jake Matthenius, 908-454-7316
Speakers Bureau & Flim Librarian -Pat Ricci, 609-758-8729, Mrpatr@comcast.net
Honey Queen Program - Jim Schuler, tim.schuler@comcast.net
Honey Queen –Emily Schuler, timschuler@comcast.net
Budget Committee -Ray Markley, 609-261-1638, rambeeman@aol.com
Honeybee Advisory Committee -Bob Hughes, 609-585-4359, BobsBuzzyBee@aol.com
Publicity –Seth Belson, 856-285-0074, snakesrb@comcast.net
Web-Master -Janet Katz, janet@rapseik.org
NJBA Newsletter Editor- Angelo Trapani, 609-259-7457, atrap69530@aol.com

**NEW JERSEY STATE APIARY INSPECTOR: -Tim Schuler, 856-697-0483,
Tim.Schuler@ag.state.nj.us**

Branch Presidents:

Central Jersey—Pat Ricci, 609-758-8729, mrpatr@comcast.net
Essex County- Landi Simone, 973-263-0674, beelady@optonline.net
Jersey Cape -Karl Novsak, 609-523-1765 (telephone preferred), knovsak@virizon.net
Morris County –Mark Muller, 732-357-5895, markmuller@optonline.com
Northeast Jersey -Tom Fuscald, 973-942-5066, tomfuscaldo@aol.com
Northwest Jersey -John Peterson, 908-638-8224, j.phoneyfarm@yahoo.com
South Jersey -Seth Belson, 856-285-0074, snakesrb@comcast.net
Sussex County -Linda Osborne, foxhill4@embarqmail.com

Branch Club Dates:

Central Jersey	Dec 14	CHRISTMAS PARTY CAPTIAN'S INN
Jersey Cape	Third Thursday,	7:00 PM Cape May County Extension
Morris County	Dec. 7	Holiday party at the Lamplighter Inn
North East	Third Friday,	678 S. Maple Ave. Glen Rock



Do you know new beekeepers? Sign them up today with this form!

NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Membership Form

Check one: **New** **Renewal**

Name _____

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Check here if you agree to have your name, city, phone and e-mail address published and made available to other NJBA members only (your full mailing address will **not** be published).

Make checks payable to your local branch (e.g. "Essex Beekeepers") and mail the dues with a copy of this form to the appropriate branch treasurer below.

Membership is for a full calendar year, ending December 31st. Dues are payable by January 1st of the current year and are considered delinquent as of March 1st. New memberships paid for after July 31st are good through December 31st of the following year. Dues must be current to receive the state newsletter, informational emails from the state, be listed on the product or swarm collector web pages and to enter the annual honey show.

Junior membership (under 18) \$8.00

Individual membership \$15.00

Family membership \$20.00

Central Jersey Branch: Curtis Crowell, 152 Broad St., Hightstown, NJ 08520

Essex County Beekeepers: Joe Lelinho, 15 Hill St., N. Caldwell, NJ 07006

Jersey Cape Branch: Bill Eisele, 280 Old Tuckahoe Rd., Petersburg, NJ 08270

Morris County Branch: Janet A. Katz, 460 Old Route 24, Chester, NJ 07930-2903

North East Branch: Karl Schoenknecht, 683 Summit Ave., Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

North West Jersey Branch: Karin Weinberg, 337 Tunnel Rd., Asbury, NJ 08802-1120

South Jersey Branch: Patty Schuler, PO Box 228, Richland, NJ 08350

Sussex County Branch: John Vnenchak, 29 Dogwood Tr., Kinnelon, NJ 07405

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