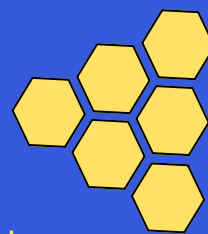




The Producers



The Newsletter of the Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc.

A Statewide Organization to Promote and Protect the Interests of New York State Beekeepers

Summer 2014
Issue 97

Welcome to the 2014 ESHPA Summer Picnic!

10 AM Saturday, July 19, 2014

Location: Tinker Nature Park, 1525 Calkins Rd., Pittsford, NY 14543 (also listed as Hansen Nature Center, 1525 Calkins Road, Henrietta, NY 14467), just south of Rochester, NY. Our hosts are the Ontario Finger Lakes Beekeepers Association, with special thanks to member Ben Carpenter for all his footwork.

<http://ontariocountybeekeepers.org/>

Agenda:

9:00 Welcome by the host, Ontario Finger Lakes Beekeeper Association. Opening remarks by President Mark Berninghausen

9:15 Speaker: Jon Ryan and Sue Garing, "How to Present and Enter Your Honey at this Year's ESHPA Fall Meeting Honey Show"

11:00 Speaker: Bob Talkiewicz, award winning mead maker and beer judge, presents "Mead Making 101"

12:30 Picnic lunch. **ESHPA will provide table service, barbecue, and beverages. Bring a dish to pass.**

2:00 ESHPA general membership business meeting

3:00 Adjourn

Tinker Nature Park: In 1991 John and Carol Aldridge donated 68 acres of the Tinker family farm to the town of Henrietta, New York. This land was developed as the town's nature park. The park's Hanson Nature Center includes an indoor honey bee observation hive. The park features a 1.2-mile walking exercise trail, a half-mile nature trail, a snake hibernaculum, and an orienteering course. Also on site is a pond for fishing, a playground

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President's Corner "Get Involved!!"

Just a little back ground. I grew up in the suburbs just Southeast of Washington, DC, in the 1950s, '60s, and early '70s. The first living US President that made an impression on me was President John F. Kennedy. One of the things that President Kennedy said in his inaugural address was, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."



The way I see it, it is up to each member of the Empire State Honey Producers Association (ESHPA) to ask themselves, "What can I do for ESHPA? What is my role? How do I fit in?" If you expect to get something out of ESHPA, what are you willing to do, willing to give? If you feel as though you were not made to feel a part of ESHPA, get involved.

My mother, Jane Berninghausen, when I was a youngster, was a member of The League of Women Voters. (Dad called them "The League of Lady Voters"). One of mom's responsibilities was to mimeograph the League's newsletter, with which I loved to help her. That's one way she exercised her rights as a citizen and as a member of the League. You can do that, too.

There are many ways to be involved in ESHPA. Besides being an officer or a director, there are many things that need doing and you may just be the

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President's Corner—continued

right person to do them. Later on in this newsletter you will see some of the things others are doing, and you should see some way that you can insert yourself into the process — the State Fair Honey Booth just to name one.

The way I see it, every beekeeper in NY state can be a member of ESHPA, and as many as want to can be active members.

ESHPA needs people to work at the summer picnic and at the fall meeting handling registration and membership. Lend a hand moving things around, maybe help set up tables and chairs or help vendors get their stuff into the room and set up. Or give someone working the registration table a break.

ESHPA needs people with talent, skills, and interest to maintain and improve the website. There currently are open seats on the board and there are seats coming open this fall. Pat Bono may like some help in some way with this year's Bee Wellness Workshops. If that's where your interests lie, ask her.



So Much Pollen and So Little Time - No Time to Pack Those Pollen Baskets on Autumn Olive

When you come through the line at the next meeting, be forewarned, you might just get asked to step in for someone who needs a break, just for a short while.

Beekeepers are workers. We love to be involved in our hives, to a greater or lesser degree. To see and know what's going on in those boxes. To know that everything is all right. Look on ESHPA as the hive you belong in, your colony. And as a member, are you a worker bee or a drone? What is your job? Are you a Nurse Bee, a House Cleaner Bee, a Forager, or, heaven forbid, an Undertaker Bee? We each have our own role within the colony, within the hive. What is your role? Don't be a Robber Bee.

Get involved!!

Mark Berninghausen
2014 ESHPA President



Packing Blue Siberian Squill Pollen

Beekeeper and photographer, **Lucinda V. Van Vleck**, enjoys getting up-close shots of honeybees in their natural environment. Getting a quirky or humorous shot of a honeybee makes the day that much better. For more beautiful bee photography and paintings, visit www.FineArtAmerica.com, Lucinda V. VanVleck, gallery.



Balanced on a Crocus Pistil

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Report to the Empire State Honey Producers

By Paul Cappy

The NYS Apiary Inspection Program has been asked to bring beekeepers up to date on the events for the last few years in this spring's ESHPA Newsletter. There has been some interest in what the Apiary Industry Advisory Committee has been doing, the make-up of the committee and how it has been representing NYS beekeepers to the commissioner up to now. First topic is the make-up of our membership:

We have 12 beekeeper members made up of three groups:

Back yard -	4 members with 1 to 50 hives
Sideliners -	4 members with 51 to 299 hives
+ Commercial-	4 members with 300 + hives
Total	12 members

Backyard	Sideliners	Commercial
Stephen Wilson Ron Tweedie Earl Villicco Sam Hall	Jonathan Ryan Roberta Glatz Ted Elk*	Richard Linck Dan Winter James Doan Chuck Kutik

*A new member from Long Island may join the group as a sideliner, completing the 12 members. The other three members are advisers:

- Peter TenEyck (apple grower)
- Catherine Mural (Farm Bureau)
- Vacant (Cornell University)

Each member of the committee serves a one-year, two-year, or three-year term. There is no limit on how long a member can serve on the committee, since the law provides for no limit on the number of terms, or for a limit on the number of years of participation, by a committee member.

The issues discussed at the last two meetings (September 20 and November 14) were as follows:

On September 20, 2013,

- A group of beekeepers interested in the continuation of bee research at Cornell University spent time discussing the issue.
- Discussion led by Paul Cappy on the condition and health of honey bees in NYS.
 1. Winter loss and present status of bee diseases in NYS in 2013.
 2. Why colony losses are occurring in NYS.
 3. Best bee management practices to minimize colony loss conditions in NYS.

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New York State Department of Ag & Mkts Report—continued

- Update from Jim Doan about the US pollinator research meeting held at Penn State in August, 2013.
- Commissioner Darryl Aubertine's presentation on the need for marketing NYS produced products.
- Committee discussion on the additional needs of the state beekeepers with pertinent comments and suggestions from the commissioner on how the beekeepers should address their issues.
- The pressure of pollination and the health required of the NYS honey bees and the pollinators in order to pollinate the \$279 million in fruit and berry crops and the \$450 million in fresh and processed vegetable crop grown in NYS. Presented by Paul Cappy.
- Update on the US pesticide research affecting the health of honey bees. A review the Cornell guidelines on pesticides that are now showing a negative impact on pollinators in NYS.
- Entry certificates were down to about 40% from a normal 82% to 88% compliance for 2013 year. Presented by Paul Cappy.
- The need for a General Bee Inspection Program, and the means to fund and staff the program. Presented by Stephen Wilson.

On November 14, 2013,

- Meeting business presented by Stephen Wilson
 1. Minutes and resolutions
 2. Replacement of a member
 3. Renewal of members for 2013
- Update on *Nosema* samples for 2013. Presented by Paul Cappy.
- The National Honey Bee Survey report and NYS involvement in the program (a 28-page report). Presented by Paul Cappy.
- Discussion by the AIAC committee on the National Honey Bee Survey Report, including NYS involvement.

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets' 2013-14 Winter Loss Survey showed an average 47% loss of colonies this winter. We submitted the results to the National Colony Loss Management Survey, conducted by the Bee Informed Partnership. They will send to me the additional NYS beekeeper results that were sent directly to them. We hope to receive this information by the end of May 2014.

Paul Cappy,

NYS Apiculturist

518-457-2087 paul.cappy@agriculture.ny.gov

Why should you become an ESHPA member?

You will have a voice at the state level by supporting ESHPA and its mission to promote beekeeping and honey through NY state legislation and regulations.

Membership includes voting rights as a general individual member at ESHPA general membership meetings.

Members enjoy reduced registration at the fall meeting and can enter the honey judging contest.

Membership includes :

- ◆ Twice yearly ESHPA Newsletter
- ◆ **FREE** online advertising for events and
- ◆ **FREE** classifieds in the newsletter ,and online at www.eshpa.org in the "Buy Local Honey" and "Marketplace Classified" listings.



Southern Tier Beekeepers Association—"hands-on class"

ATTENTION LOCAL BEE CLUBS!

Put your NYS bee club *on the map* on the "New York Club Links" page of www.ESHPA.org.

Users hover over a map of NYS and link directly to your club's webpage or Facebook page.

Email Greg Kalicin (greg@harmonyfarm.net) with your club name, target counties, and link.



2013 Beekeeper of the Year

The "Beekeeper of the Year" award was presented to Hans Junga for his contributions to ESHPA since joining the organization in 2004, and serving as secretary/treasurer since 2007.

Beekeeper of the Year Award

I want to take the opportunity to thank all the ESHPA members involved for presenting me with the Beekeeper of the Year Award at last year's fall meeting. It was truly a very surprising evening for me, one that I think back on fondly.

To be associated with those that have previously received the award is an honor I'm very much proud of. I hope to continue working with bees as long as they have and to keep learning through the good and bad times.

Being on the board as secretary/treasurer gave me the privilege to spend time with many fellow beekeepers that I've gained a lot of respect for through the years. The great thing about the organization is the diversity among all the members. I find the willingness to share experience and information such a benefit of being part of a group with similar interests from all over New York state.

I would encourage any person interested in beekeeping to join ESHPA, and to all that have been members from one to 20+ years to stay involved. Come to the meetings and communicate with your board members so that all voices can be heard.

The 2014 Beekeeper of the Year will be chosen by you, the members of ESHPA this year. This will give everyone the chance to nominate someone that they feel deserves the award. The candidates can be anyone that has been successful in their business, or one that has contributed to the organization in a significant way. Nominations may be sent at any time to:

Hans Junga
46527 Co. Rt. 1
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
hans@castletv.com



Draft: Guidance for Industry
**Proper Labeling of Honey and
Honey Products**
Updated April 2014

This guidance advises firms on the proper labeling of honey and honey products to help ensure that honey and honey products are not adulterated or misbranded under sections 402 and 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 342 and 343).

Full document available at:
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/UCM389828.pdf>

Empire State Honey Producers Association 2014 Officers and Directors

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<i>North</i>	Bill Roome	willjroome@hotmail.com
<i>South</i>	Jonathan Ryan	jp13@cornell.edu
<i>North</i>	Amy Wakefield	amywake@twcny.rr.com

NY Bee Wellness Workshops Update

2014 is the third year of the NY Bee Wellness program. It is a USDA-NIFA funded program to encourage beekeepers with less than 10 year's experience to stay in beekeeping. The official title is: *Train the Trainer Workshop: Honeybee Disease Identification and Treatment, to Encourage and Retain Beginning Beekeepers in New York State.*

Members of clubs or organizations attend two-day intensive workshops in preparation for teaching other beekeepers in their local groups. One of the focus points of the program is to have all beekeepers, even beginners, check for varroa mites. Over 17 clubs have participated in the program in New York, plus groups from Ohio and Connecticut. In 2012 three *Train the Trainer* workshops were held.

In 2014 two *Train the Trainer* workshops are scheduled: Wappingers Falls (Stony Kills Farm) June 7 & 8, and Leroy, NY, August 9 & 10. Registration and info are on NYBeeWellness.org. The instructors are Diana Sammataro, Larry Connor, and the Ontario Tech Transfer Team.

The website NYBeeWellness.org has been redesigned, and has information pertinent to New York beekeepers. If you have a good resource link, idea or suggestion, please contact me. Volunteers are needed to submit information and/or help at the workshops. I congratulate and thank those beekeepers who dedicate their time and effort to train others within their clubs on how to keep honey bees successfully!

Plans are being made to expand the program. NY Bee Wellness will function as an educational not-for-profit. Diana Sammataro will be one of the directors. An advisory group will include Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tom Seeley, and representatives from various beekeeping clubs. We are also forming partnerships with the Ohio State University Bee Lab.

This is also the first year of the NY Bee Wellness Spring Survey. Preliminary reports show a 48% average loss among non-migratory beekeepers, with cold and starvation as the top potential causes; final results will be posted at the end of May on the website.

If your club would like handouts on how to do mite checks, how to submit samples to Beltsville, flyers about American Foulbrood, etc., please let me know.

I thank and acknowledge the very generous donations from Once Again Nut Butter, and Mark Berninghausen (Squeak Creek Apiaries). Please consider donating to further educational programs and outreach.

Please see the most current NY Bee Wellness Newsletter at <http://tinyurl.com/nyheq5c>

Pat Bono, Project Director, NYBeeWellness.org nybeewellness@gmail.com

These workshops are made possible through funding from the USDA NIFA Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program, Grant # 2011-494400-30631, and with matching funds from the Empire State Honey Producers Association.

NY Bee Wellness Spring Survey is found at <http://nybeewellness.org/resources/2014-survey/>
Donate to the Bee Wellness program: <http://nybeewellness.org/support/>

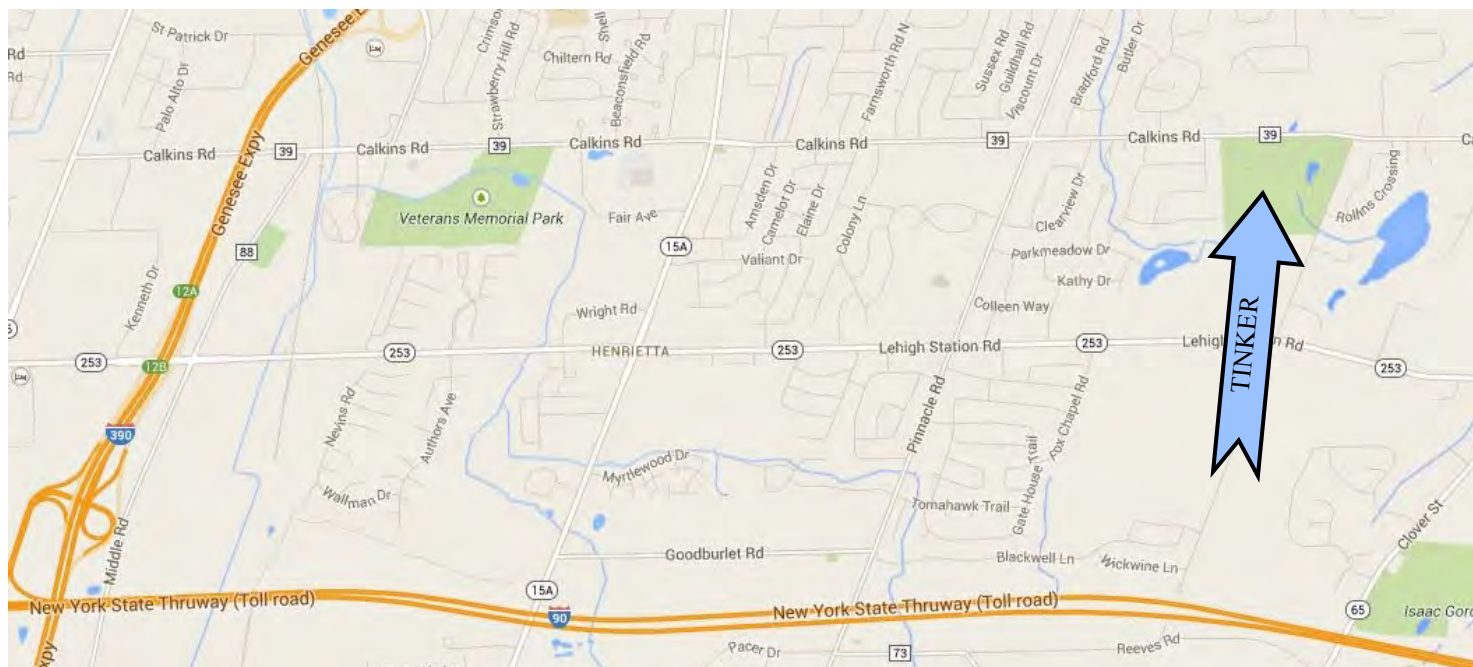


Summer Picnic—continued from page 1 and horseshoe pits. Note: dogs are not allowed in this park.

<https://sites.google.com/site/hansennaturecenter/>

Hotel Accommodations: We also have a block of rooms reserved for Friday, July 18 at the Country Inn and Suites by Carlson, located at 797 East Henrietta Rd., Rochester, NY. To receive the ESHPA special group rate of \$114.00 plus tax, please call 1-800-830-5222 by June 18. When calling and prompted, ask for Empire State Honey Producers Association for your special rate.

Summer Board Meeting: The ESHPA summer board meeting is scheduled for Friday evening, July 18, at 6 PM, at Tinker Nature Park. Dinner is assorted sandwiches, dessert, and beverage. \$7.00 pp.; please RSVP by July 15 to adoan@rochester.rr.com. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting.



Who are the members of the Empire State Honey Producers Association (ESHPA)?

ESHPA open to all beekeepers in NYS, from the hobbyist with one hive, to the commercial migratory beekeeper with thousands. This is made clear in the preamble of the bylaws:

To promote and protect the interests of New York State beekeepers, and

To form an association for mutual benefit of New York State honey producers; to promote and assist in efforts to preserve and protect the honey bee; to assist New York State honey producers in promoting, marketing and publicizing honey and hive products and educate the public to the value of honey bee pollination; to aid in presenting a uniform point of view on concerns of New York State honey producers to state and federal agencies and the general public.

To procure uniformity and certainty in customs and usages of trade and commerce, and of those having a common trade, business, financial or professional interest; to promote a more enlarged and friendly intercourse among beekeepers.

ESHPA was originally founded in 1870 as the “New York State Bee-Keepers Association”, with dues of \$1 (considered too high by many potential members). Ladies interested in beekeeping could join with just a signature.

Today ESHPA is a 501(c) (5) Federal Tax exempt corporation with a governing board elected by the general membership. Full bylaws are available at ESHPA.org. Regional “North-Eastern” “Southern” “Western” and “Long Island” directors are elected to three-year terms. Officers are elected to two year terms.

The majority of ESHPA members have less than 50 hives according to a voluntary online survey conducted in 2012.



ESHPA Fall Meeting Honey Contest Rules



Honey Show Competition Returns to the Fall Meeting

The Empire State Honey Producers Association is pleased to announce the return of its honey show competition. In an effort to stimulate interest and participation in the fall meeting and the honey show, blue ribbons will be awarded to first place winners along with a prize; second place winners will receive a red ribbon and a prize. And to really make entering worthwhile, a \$200 cash prize will be awarded for the best of show and \$100 cash prizes to all first place winners. Additionally, each person entering the show will be awarded points as follows: ten points for all first prize entries, six points for all second prize entries and three points for all other entries. The person awarded the most points will also receive a \$50 cash prize.

The 2014 show will feature four classes of liquid extracted honey: light, light amber, amber and dark. There will also be three classes of beeswax: a one-pound block, molded taper candles and dipped taper candles. If interest and demand are great enough, more classes —such as creamed and comb honey could be added next year.

So here is the deal for the four liquid extracted classes:

- Three samples should be entered for each color class. Don't worry about matching Pfund grade specifications. The judge will determine the class. However, if you plan to enter more than one color class, enter a significant difference in colors.
- Submit three samples per class in one-pound queenline or similar style jars.
- There shall be no labeling on the jar; however, a twenty dollar bill taped to the bottom will be allowed.
- Plastic or metal lids may be used.
- Judging criteria: samples will be judged on the following: 1) moisture content (density); entries over 18.6% moisture will be disqualified, 2) absence of crystals, 3) cleanliness (absence of dirt, wax, foam, lint or air bubbles) 4) flavor (lack of off flavor such as burned, fermented) 5) container appearance (glass, lid flaws) 6) accuracy/ uniformity of filling.

And here is the deal on the three beeswax classes:

- For the block of beeswax class, a single one-pound cake of natural beeswax shall be submitted.
- For the two beeswax candle classes. a pair of each shall be submitted. The drip end of the dipped candles should be left intact and wick between the two candles shall not be cut. Again, no identifying markings are allowed on the beeswax products. It is recommended that all beeswax entries be submitted in a clear plastic wrap that can be easily removed for judging.
- Judging criteria: the samples will be judged on: 1) cleanliness 2) aroma 3) uniformity of appearance 4) cracks and shrinkage.

Entries will be accepted at the fall meeting until noon on Friday, the day of the show. Samples may be submitted in person or by a trusted friend. All submissions must be the product of the entrant and produced in New York state. There is no entry fee; however, all entrants must be current members of the Empire State Honey Producers Association. This would include those paying dues on the day of the show. Awards will be given at the banquet Friday evening. All submissions will remain on display until after the banquet. After that the submissions should be retrieved. After 11 AM Saturday morning any unclaimed samples will become the property of ESHPA.

Comments and suggestions for improving the honey show will be greatly appreciated. Please submit them to any Association board member.

Jon Ryan, Director

ESHPA Fall Meeting PREVIEW

November 21-22, 2014

Two full days of speakers, plus banquet, vendors, and honey show at our new luxury location:
Embassy Suites Syracuse, 6646 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057

- Friday and Saturday speakers featuring the business of beekeeping and the latest in research results.
- Honey Meade, donated by local NY wineries for the banquet.
- Hospitality table showcasing donated NY food products that feature honey as an ingredient, along with other food items.
- ESHPA Honey Contest with cash prizes
- Live auction
- An ideal location to meet old and new friends from around the state in a quiet relaxing space evoking the beauty and lushness of the Adirondacks.

ESHPA chose this hotel due to its central location, excellent food, guest services and accommodations. All rooms are suites, with a sleeping room with attached full bath. The hotel is located right off of Thruway 90, and close to the airport for easy access. This hotel offers a full scale restaurant with room service. Also a breakfast/lunch area, and two full service bar areas. Included in the hotel room rate is a full breakfast buffet, and each evening, an open bar with hot food. These two services are provided for a small fee for non-staying guests. ESHPA room rates are: King- \$123.00, Double- \$129.00. We have reserved rooms for Saturday night at the same rate for anyone wishing to stay the extra night.

Hotel reservation link at
www.eshpa.org/index.php/calendar-b/fall-meeting



2014 New York State Fair ESHPA Honey Booth

August 21– September 1, 2014



Ribbons at the 2013 State Fair

Join ESHPA at the NY State Fair Honey Booth in 2014. See you there!! Hans Junga and Rob Sorenson will heading up the event organization and staffing. The fair committee is creating fresh new display fixtures and signage for the booth.

Volunteers receive free entry and parking passes and the opportunity to wrangle bees in the gazebo, teach the public about bees and beekeeping, and get lots of practice finding the queen in the observation hive. Contact Hans at hans@castletv.com to volunteer.

We're expecting everyone to enter this year's honey show. Show entrants receive free entry and parking passes too and, maybe, a big State Fair champion rosette!

Sell your honey at the fair! We almost always sell out. ESHPA pays \$4.50/lb. You must have liability insurance. This will be your last chance to get Lloyd Spear's fabulous creamed honey. He's retiring, but Hans stashed some for the fair.

2013 Fall Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Thursday, November 14, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

Place: Comfort Inn and Suites, Syracuse, NY

President Aaron Morris called the meeting to order. Minutes of the summer board and general membership meeting, officer and director list, State Fair report, and treasurer's report were presented by Hans Junga. Annual financial report for the NY Bee Wellness Workshops was provided by Pat Bono.

Officers and directors also in attendance were Mark Berninghausen, Sue Garing, Chuck Kutik, Donal Peterson, and Amy Wakefield.

The first motion to accept the summer board meeting minutes was made by Mark Berninghausen. It was seconded by Sue Garing and was unanimously passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

An amendment to the bylaws concerning proxy voting was discussed. Board members would like to eliminate proxy voting as long as it is not a requisite for the bylaws. Robert's Rules of Order discourages proxy and absentee voting for organizations other than those organized for financial purposes.

It was decided that ballot voting will be the method used to collect and count votes to determine winners of the board's term limit and vacancy elections. Voting will be done by written ballot to insure confidentiality, and will contain recommendations from the board with space made available for write-in nominees.

Pat Bono presented the annual financial report for NY Bee Wellness Workshops for year 2 of the Federal Grant. Highlights included the net cost to ESHPA of zero dollars. The matching funds required to administer the grant was offset by workshop tuition for 2012 and 2013, and projected tuition for 2014. The sale of promotional items also accounted for income raised. Goals for 2014 include upgrading the website, two intensive workshops in western and eastern NY, providing teaching materials to local clubs, continuation and expansion of the program beyond 2014.

The legislative bill for the NY standard of identity for honey is currently inactive. While the national standard is also in rough draft form, an opportunity exists for amendments, changes or improvements to be negotiated in the interim. The standard of identity was started as a goal to ensure quality honey.

Efforts to promote NY state produced honey by ESHPA have been evident throughout the year. Pat Bono has increased awareness through the bee wellness program with new banners, t-shirts, etc., that provided visibility at places such as Washington, D.C., and the NY State Fair.

Aaron Morris received a kind letter of appreciation from the Discovery Center of the Southern Tier for the contribution made by ESHPA at the summer meeting. As part of their honey bee educational exhibit, they are searching for assistance in designing and constructing an observation hive.

The National Pollinator Defense Fund is now known as the Pollinator Stewardship Council. ESHPA remains interested in following the accomplishments of this group.

Donal Peterson mentioned the first Long Island Beekeepers Conference, which took place during the year, with 110 attending. Guest speaker Jim Haskell's program featured "Over-wintering Nucs in Summer Dearth Areas, Bee Club Sponsored Queen and Nuc Program." Jeff Pettis presented "Why Queens are Failing, The Mystery and Myth of CCD and Pollinator Declines." Mike Palmer spoke about "Setting Up, Managing, Wintering, and Raising Queens to Support Nucleus Colonies."

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The second motion was made by Pat Bono to recommend the purchase of liability insurance coverage for board members at the general membership meeting. The motion was seconded by Mark Berninghausen, and was unanimously passed. Advice from an attorney confirms that an organization could suffer significant financial loss should it require defending itself against legal action taken against it. Similar organizations such as the Eastern Apicultural Society carry this type of insurance for its board members.

The third motion was made by Pat Bono for the Apiary Inspection Advisory Committee to provide ESHPA with copies of meeting minutes, whether final or draft, and to keep ESHPA informed of any other executive actions taken. The motion was seconded by Mark Berninghausen and was unanimously passed. Chuck Kutik was named to continue his role as liaison between ESHPA and AIAC. Chuck mentioned that concerns may be communicated to himself as well as Dan Winter and Sam Hall.

The fourth motion made by Pat Bono was, during Sam Hall's meeting with Wegmans Supermarket management, he will mention that ESHPA is in support of maintaining the Dyce Lab professorship at Cornell University. The motion was seconded by Mark Berninghausen and was unanimously passed. Sam Hall is a representative of a group of concerned beekeepers that is soliciting corporate and individual pledges to help fund the continuation of apiary research being done at Dyce Lab.

Pat Bono proposed a resolution: "Whereas Cornell University, a Land Grant College, has a legacy of enriching beekeeping in NYS, and NYS beekeepers would benefit from a continuation of an apicultural position within Cornell University, the Empire State Honey Producers Association has always supported a professorship at Cornell University and continues to do so."

NEW BUSINESS

Dysfunction within the organization, and how to address it, was a topic of the meeting. Some feel that the group's purpose of "Promoting and protecting the interests of New York State Beekeepers" has come into debate in recent years. In fact, one can research notes of meeting minutes long past that describe the exact same problem. Constructive conversations about these challenges are a good start towards achieving solutions that will benefit all members.

Elections will be held on the following day at the general membership meeting. This year, voting will take place for the office of president, three vice president positions, secretary, treasurer, western director, and two southern director openings.

There was a discussion concerning the need for ESHPA to purchase instruments to own and use in judging honey competitions. This

equipment was loaned by individuals in the past for judging the honey show at the State Fair. Chuck Kutik recommends bringing this item to the general membership for a vote.

The fifth motion was made by Pat Bono to consider changing the organization's name to "The New York State Beekeepers Association." Amy Wakefield seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 7 in favor, to 1 opposed. It is thought that the word "honey producer" may discourage a beginner beekeeper from joining the group, while "beekeeper" better describes every member, regardless of their specialty. The proposed new name is actually the original name the organization had upon its formation in 1870.

Pat Bono proposed a resolution: "Whereas the NY Bee Wellness program has been a success, teaching many beekeepers honey bee disease recognition through workshops and local clubs, and has been financially well budgeted to incur no net cost to the Empire State Honey Producers Association, the Empire State Honey Producers shall allocate donated funds to continue the NY Bee Wellness program beyond 2014 in the amount of \$4,000.00 after August 14, 2014."

The sixth motion was made by Pat Bono to encourage ESHPA to make a donation to continue funding for the NY Bee Wellness Workshops when the USDA grant expires in 2014. The motion was seconded by Chuck Kutik and will be presented to the general membership for a vote. After August 14, Pat is interested in establishing the NY Bee Wellness Workshops as a separate 501(c) (3) entity, allowing for it to accept non-taxable donations.

The seventh motion was proposed to advocate a NYS Honey Promotion Program. The motion was tabled for further discussion by the committee. It has been pointed out that it has been a challenge for some beekeepers to keep up with the demand for their NY produced honey during seasons of low honey yields.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Ed and Judy Doan are not expected to attend the fall meeting for the first time in countless years. Ed is recovering from a recent illness and a "get well" card will be made available at the general membership meeting for all to sign and wish him all the best.

Amy Wakefield revealed a special award made for Dr. Nicholas Calderone upon his retirement from Dyce Lab. A gold plated hive tool was mounted on a plaque with an inscription which thanked Nick for his efforts and contributions he has made to NY beekeepers during his professorship at Cornell.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m., November 14, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Hans Junga
Secretary/Treasurer

ESHPA members may attend ESHPA board meetings. Officers and directors welcome your suggestions at any time.

Proposed Amendment to ESHPA Bylaws

Eligibility for ESHPA Officer Positions

The following motion was passed at the spring board meeting (held at Kutik's Honey, 285 Lyon Brook Rd. Norwich, NY, March 1, 2014).

"He or she should be a member of ESHPA for four consecutive years and have had been a director on ESHPA board for two consecutive years in order for them to be eligible for president or officer of ESHPA."

As required in the ESHPA bylaws (amended and adopted November 15, 2013): by-Laws may be adopted, amended or repealed at the annual fall meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of members present, provided that any such amendments be made available in writing to all members thirty (30) days prior to the vote.

Therefore, written notice is given of the proposal to amend ARTICLE V- OFFICERS Paragraph 1 to add:

To be eligible for election or appointment as an ESHPA officer, nominees must have been a member for four consecutive years and an ESHPA director for two consecutive years.

This proposed amendment will be voted on at the Friday afternoon business meeting on November 22, 2014.

Advertisement

Introducing a Better Way to Produce Bees to Replace Overwintering Losses



The Two Colony "Super" Hive™

Is better than 100% overwintering possible?
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2013 Fall General Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Friday, November 15, 2013 - 3:15 p.m.

Place: Comfort Inn and Suites, Syracuse, NY

President Aaron Morris called the meeting to order. The Summer Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Report, and State Fair Report were provided by Hans Junga. The Annual Financial Report for the NY Bee Wellness Workshops was provided by Pat Bono.

Roll call was made via sign up sheet, and is listed on page 4 of meeting minutes. Officers present were Aaron Morris - President, Mark Berninghausen - 1st Vice President, Pat Bono - 2nd Vice President, Greg Kalicin - Past President, and Hans Junga - Secretary/Treasurer. Directors present were Chuck Kutik - Director at Large, Bob Brachmann, Sue Garing, Donal Peterson, Bill Roome, and Amy Wakefield.

The first motion to accept the Summer Meeting minutes was made by Greg Kalicin. It was seconded by Chuck Kutik and was unanimously passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The second motion was made by Bill Ferris to amend Article 3, Section 6 of the Bylaws to discontinue the practice of proxy voting at ESHPA business meetings. The motion was seconded by Mark Berninghausen and was passed by majority vote of 40 in favor, to 8 against.

NY Bee Wellness - Workshops that were designed to help beginner beekeepers were attended by 550 students from 19 clubs in and around New York State. Plans are to update the website and for continued growth through 2015. Pat Bono expressed her gratitude to Christina Wahl for teaching the microscopy portion of the workshops. Thanks were also given to Betterbee, the Mid York Club, and Western NY Honey Producers for their generous donations to the program.

NY Honey Standard - There is nothing new to report while the legislative bill is currently inactive. The national standard which is in rough draft form is also inactive. Those in favor would like a modernized version of the standard established in 1902 that would set limits for high moisture content, and that honey with pollen removed should be labeled as such.

NY Honey Promotion - Members are encouraged to list themselves in the "Buy Local Honey" link on the ESHPA website. Banners and other promotional items made this year could be seen at the State Fair at the honey booth. The "Taste NY" theme brought many people to see ESHPA at the fair. Pat Bono attended Farm Days in Washington DC again featuring honey from NY.

ESHPA Outreach - The Discovery Center in the Southern Tier was very grateful for the contribution made at the Summer Meeting to help fund their Honey Bee Educational Exhibit. They are interested in assistance with an installation of an observation hive.

The National Pollinator Defense Fund is now known as the Pollinator Stewardship Council. Chuck Kutik and Bob Brachmann will stay in contact with the organization for reports on the progress of activities that ESHPA has helped to fund.

OLD BUSINESS

The third motion was made by Bill Ferris to approve expenditures for liability insurance coverage for ESHPA board members. It was seconded by Ray Lackey and was carried by majority vote of 45 in favor, to 3 against.

Stephen Wilson took the floor to give a report on a meeting at Cornell University between a group of "concerned beekeepers" and the entomology department. The purpose of the meeting was to express the importance of keeping Dyce Lab open, to maintain the faculty position left upon the retirement of Dr. Nicholas Calderone, and to continue the extension program. Corporate and individual pledges are being accepted to add to the \$30,000 pledged so far. Money pledged towards this goal is a sign of commitment by New York beekeepers. It is hoped that the university will consider the priority of apiculture before the final decision date to close Dyce Lab on March 15, 2014.

Pat Bono proposed a resolution: "Whereas Cornell University, a Land Grant College, has a legacy of enriching beekeeping in NYS, and NYS beekeepers would benefit from a continuation of an apicultural position within Cornell University, the Empire State Honey Producers Association has always supported a professorship at Cornell University and continues to do so."

Jonathan Ryan made the 4th motion for ESHPA to donate \$2,000 each year for the next 3 years towards a pledge to keep Dyce Lab open. Mark Rulison seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Concerns were voiced by some that the money may not be spent as the members intended it to be. Proponents claim that there is support by the apple and dairy industry, NY Farm Bureau, and out of state entities that are in favor of maintaining a honey bee research facility at Cornell.

NEW BUSINESS

The fifth motion was made by Chuck Kutik to spend up to \$1,000 on equipment for judging honey shows, to be the property of ESHPA. A pfund grader, refractometer, and polariscope were instruments being considered. This equipment will also be made available for loan to other local beekeeping clubs. The motion was seconded by Christina Wahl and was unanimously approved.

The sixth motion was made by Pat Bono to consider changing the name of Empire State Honey Producers Association to New York State Beekeepers. This is in effort to better define the current membership of hobbyists, queen producers, pollinators, as well as the traditional honey producers. Jonathan Ryan suggested that this motion be entertained at the next fall meeting.

Pat Bono proposed a resolution: "Whereas the NY Bee Wellness program has been a success, teaching many beekeepers honey bee disease recognition through workshops and local clubs, and has been financially well budgeted to incur no net cost to the Empire State Honey Producers Association, that the Empire State Honey Producers to allocate donated funds to continue the NY Bee Wellness program beyond 2014 in the amount of \$4,000.00 after August 14, 2014."

The seventh motion was made by Pat Bono for ESHPA to allocate

funds in the amount of \$4,000 when the USDA grant expires on August 14, 2014. The motion was seconded by Mark Berninghausen and was approved by a vote of 47 in favor, to 1 against.

The eighth motion was made by Stephen Wilson to waive date of record requirements as written in the bylaws (ARTICLE III, SECTION 4, FIXING RECORD DATE). A member must be current in dues payment 10 days before an election in order to be eligible to vote and run for a position on the Board. An exception was requested to allow a member to be considered for a Director position after payment of dues was made on the day of the election. The motion was seconded by Peter Bizzoso, and after discussion, the motion was disallowed. Requests for changes to the bylaws must be made 30 days in advance of an election.

ELECTIONS

An election ballot was printed and furnished to each member with candidates selected at the board meeting and nominations made from the floor. The ninth motion to close nominations was made by Christina Wahl. It was seconded by Ray Lackey, and was unanimously carried. Ballots were collect and counted by Sue Garing and Amy Wakefield, and results were announced on Saturday morning.

The office of President nominees were Aaron Morris and Mark Berninghausen. Mark Berninghausen won the election with 38 votes. Aaron Morris received 23 votes.

The office of 1st Vice President nominee was Chuck Kutik. He ran unopposed and won the election.

The office of 2nd Vice President nominees were Pat Bono and Eric Sprout. Eric Sprout won the election with 40 votes. Pat Bono received 19 votes.

The office of 3rd Vice President nominee was Dan Winter. He ran unopposed and won the election.

The office of Secretary nominees were Pat Bono and Alayne Doan. Alayne Doan won the election with 42 votes. Pat Bono received 10 votes for Secretary, and 7 votes for a combined Secretary/Treasurer position.

The office of Treasurer nominees were Sue Garing and Pat Bono. Sue Garing won the election with 54 votes. Pat Bono received 2 votes.

The western Director nominees were Geri Hens and Jim Doan. Jim Doan won the election with 39 votes. Geri Hens received 17 votes.

There were 2 southern Director positions open. The nominees were Peter Borst, Jon Ryan, and Rob Sorensen Jr. The first position was won by Jon Ryan with 44 votes. The second position was won by Peter Borst with 28 votes. Rob Sorensen Jr. received 24 votes.

Due to time restrictions, the business meeting was continued on Saturday morning.

GOOD AND WELFARE

A "get well" card was circulated for all members to sign wishing a speedy recovery for Edward Doan, who is recovering from a recent illness.

The "Beekeeper of the Year" award was presented to Hans Junga for his contributions to ESHPA since joining the organization in 2004, and serving as secretary/treasurer since 2007.

A presentation of a Gold Hive Tool was made to honor Dr. Nicholas Calderone following his retirement from Cornell University. The plaque inscription read:

*Presented to
Dr. Nicholas Calderone*

By

*The Empire State Honey Producers Association
In recognition of his years of service to the beekeepers of New York
State
November 15, 2013*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m., November 16, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Hans Junga
Secretary/Treasurer

2013 Fall Meeting Roll Call of Members and Guests

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Neal Alexander | 32. Rob Graves | 59. Sonia Vazquez |
| 2. Bryan Babcock | 33. Joe Hewitt | 60. Earl Villecco |
| 3. Christin Babcock | 34. David Hill | 61. Christina Wahl |
| 4. Annette Bair | 35. Theresa Jones | 62. Amy Wakefield |
| 5. Lynn Barton | 36. Hans Junga | 63. Rich Wakefield |
| 6. Rob Bauman | 37. Debs Kalicin | 64. Thomas Wells |
| 7. Darlene Bentley | 38. Greg Kalicin | 65. Todd White |
| 8. Mark
Berninghausen | 39. Neal Kober | 66. Daniel Winter |
| 9. John Bishop III | 40. Chuck Kutik | 67. Larry Winter |
| 10. Peter Bizzoso | 41. Karen Kutik | 68. Stephen Wilson |
| 11. David Boise | 42. Ray Lackey | |
| 12. Pat Bono | 43. Donald
Matheson | |
| 13. Peter Borst | 44. Aaron Morris | |
| 14. Bob Brachmann | 45. Donal Peterson | |
| 15. Henry Brooks | 46. Tim Pylman | |
| 16. Wayne Bryan | 47. Bill Roome | |
| 17. Joseph Cali | 48. Ben Rulison | |
| 18. Ben Carpenter | 49. Gary Rulison | |
| 19. Kim Carpenter | 50. Mark Rulison | |
| 20. Ben Chadwick | 51. Jonathan Ryan | |
| 21. Alan Clark | 52. Ann Sill | |
| 22. Chris Cripps | 53. Rob Sorensen | |
| 23. Alan Dixon | 54. Eric Sprout | |
| 24. Alayne Doan | 55. Jill Stackpole | |
| 25. Jim Doan | 56. Bob Talkiewicz | |
| 26. Theodore Elk | 57. Robin Towne | |
| 27. Brian Evans | 58. Octavio
Vazquez | |
| 28. Bill Ferris | | |
| 29. Anne Frey | | |
| 30. Sue Garing | | |
| 31. Roberta Glatz | | |

"ESHPA? Oh, that's for the Commercial Beekeepers."

At last year's Summer Picnic with the Catskill Mountain Beekeepers I asked some of the folks co-hosting the meeting/picnic if they were also ESHPA members or had considered joining ESHPA. The reply I got was, "No, ESHPA is for Commercials.", or some variation of that.

Over the years I have heard this sort of comment many times all over the State. "ESHPA is for Commercials." or in one case a local club President said "I stopped having anything to do with ESHPA years ago when I suggested a solution to a problem and didn't get any support for the idea."

It is said that perception is reality. So, is how ESHPA perceived by nonmember beekeepers accurate? It is hard to see oneself the way others see you. So, is how others see ESHPA the way things really look, the way things really are? Is that okay? What's wrong with the way things appear to be? What's wrong with ESHPA being "for the Commercials"?

The way I see it, that statement, that ESHPA is for the Commercials is narrow minded thinking and dismissive. It's obvious by the diversity of our membership that there are plenty of noncommercial beekeepers who are members of ESHPA, sideline and small scale beekeepers as well as commercial beekeepers. And there are plenty of commercial beekeepers who aren't ESHPA members.

Is how ESHPA is seen something to be concerned about? Something ESHPA should embrace or try to change? ESHPA cannot be everything to every beekeeper in NY State. But, everyone who wants to be part of ESHPA should be able to find a place within ESHPA, if that's where they want to look for that place.

Looking at all of the local bee clubs around NY State that exist now,

many that weren't there last year or ten years ago, and looking at all of the programs those clubs provide such as the Champlain Valley Beekeepers April Lecture and the Southern Adirondack Beekeepers Association (SABA) Spring Seminar to name a couple, it seems to me as though the local clubs are providing programs that their members want, and need, and can take advantage of, often on a monthly basis.

This is a great time for new beekeepers to get into beekeeping

in whatever way appeals to them. The local clubs, many meeting monthly, are best suited to help new beekeepers get started and then to support them over the years. Maybe ESHPA could help do that too, but ESHPA only meets twice a year.

So maybe ESHPA is best suited, as it appears to nonmembers, "for the Commercials". I don't see it that way. It is so much more. It can be so much more. But maybe that is primarily what ESHPA is and is for.

If that is not the way it should be, I will say my 2014 mantra again, "Get involved. Get involved. Get involved." To borrow a phrase from the Civil Rights Era, "Be the change you want to see."

MarkB



ESHPA Programs 2014

ESHPA monitors NYS apiary law, promotes and sponsors research into apiary issues such as pesticide use and bee disease by donating funds to national organizations and vocal support for NYS bee research.

ESHPA facilitated the initial grant for the NYS Bee Wellness project, and continues financial support of the program.

ESHPA organizes "The Honey Booth" at the NYS Fair in Syracuse providing tremendous visibility for NYS honey products by selling honey from across the state. Don't forget to enter your honey, candles, wax and cut comb in the "Honey Products" competition.

ESHPA recognizes the value of local bee clubs and businesses although ESHPA membership is on an individual basis.

ESHPA liaisons with the NYS Apiculture Advisory Council and the Eastern Apiculture Society. ESHPA is a member of NYS Farm Bureau, NOFA, Ontario Bee Federation, American Honey Producers, American Beekeeping Federation, EAS.



Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc.

Membership Form

Please complete this membership form and send it along with a check (payable to E.S.H.P.A.) to

Alayne Doan, Secretary

343 Morton Rd.

Hamlin, NY 14464

Or join **online** at www.ESHPA.org

Please select a membership year:

Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2014** \$20

Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2015** see list below

Please select a membership level:

Commercial (300 + hives) \$100.00

Sideliner (50-299 hives) \$ 50.00

Hobbyist (0-49 hives) \$ 30.00

\$_____ Total amount enclosed.

Only individual dues paying members may vote. One vote per member.

Member Name	
Business Name	
Mailing Line 1	
Mailing Line 2	
City, State, Zip	
E-Mail	
Phone 1	
Phone 2	

I would like to receive my newsletters by e-mail.

Please mail my newsletter.



ESHPA
 343 Morton Rd
 Hamlin, NY 14464

CALENDAR OF ESHPA EVENTS

ESHPA Summer Picnic Saturday July 19, 2014
 Location: Tinker Nature Park, 1525 Calkins Rd.,
 Pittsford, NY 14543 (outside of Rochester)

NY State Fair Honey Booth August 21—
 September 1, 2014

ESHPA Fall Meeting November 21-22, 2014
 New Location— Embassy Suites Syracuse, 6646
 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057

ATTENTION BEEKEEPERS!



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