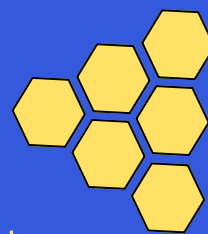




The Producers



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 2015
Issue 99

ESHPA Summer Picnic

July 18, 2015 10 am

Washington County Fairgrounds

392 Old Schuylerville Rd., Greenwich, NY 12834

Hosted by **Betterbee**

8 Meader Rd., Greenwich, NY 12834



Meeting Theme:
WINTERING HIVES IN NY.



Agenda:

- 10:00 am Welcome by President Mark Berninghausen
- 10:15 am Dr. Jack Rath—"Wintering the Betterbee Way"
- 11:15 am General membership meeting
- 12:00 pm **Potluck lunch**
- 1:00 pm Alan Tremblay—"Canadian Hive Wraps"
- 1:45 pm John Gibbs—"Indoor Wintering"
- 2:30 pm Paul Cappy—"Cheap Insulated Winter Cover"

Open house at Betterbee just a couple miles down the road from the fairgrounds (9-4 pm). Call in your orders ahead of time for pickup.

Limited quantity of roast chicken, drinks, and locally made honey ice cream will be available, \$7 suggested donation.

Watch the webpage for more information-
www.ESHPA.org / Calendar / Summer Meeting

Our Speakers:

Dr. Jack Rath is a northern queen breeder, veterinarian, and co-owner of Betterbee. He has been keeping bees

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President's Message



"A Look Back At Last Year"

November 2013 through 2014 was an interesting year for me as president of the Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc. (ESHPA). I never considered being president and actually thought that, were the opportunity to come my way, I would decline. But, as is obvious, that's not what happened. I was asked by some to serve and told by others that I should. So, when the opportunity came, I put my fate in the hands of the membership and the rest is history.

It has been "on the job training" and feeling one's way in the dark. Fortunately, I have a good team of really smart and hardworking people doing the work that keeps us afloat and moving forward.

Looking back on the three major events of the 2014 - the Summer Picnic, the state fair, and the Fall Meeting,- I'd have to say that "two out of three ain't bad." And even though our Summer Picnic wasn't well attended by the general membership, we had an enjoyable gathering. We had some good talks presented by ESHPA members, we had a nice potluck lunch, and we gained a couple of new members who later came to our Fall Meeting.

The 2014 state fair was great. ESHPA had a nice variety of honeys on display from across NY for tasting and selling. A big thanks to all of the members who supplied honey for us to sell and to some who donated their product. That's why people come to see our booth - to buy NY Honey from NY beekeepers. The gazebo (The Bee-zebo I call it), looked nice with its new paint job. A big thanks to the folks that got that done. The educational displays and the observation hive gave beekeepers a chance to interact with the public, talking with them about what beekeepers do and why they do what they do. A big thanks to those who contributed to the educa-

tional outreach effort. I hope you all will give some thought to volunteering to spend half a day at the state fair interacting with our customers. It's fun.

The state fair was fun and profitable, too. And I must mention the Fall Meeting flier that we had at the booth to pass out and sent to clubs, and which also ran as quarter page ad in the American Bee Journal. That PR was a monumental team effort which paid off well, resulting not only in a good turnout at our Fall Meeting but also really impressing our Fall Meeting speakers.

Speaking of which, I don't know about you, but I thoroughly enjoyed our 2014 ESHPA Fall Meeting. Despite the glitches and technical difficulties, we had a good meeting. We will be meeting in the same venue this coming November. From what I heard at the February board meeting, we are going to have another good meeting with an interesting way for vendors to display themselves. All of the vendors who came in 2014 said they would be with us in 2015, so arrange to pick up items from them and save some shipping costs.

We had a great variety of speakers who complemented and supported each other with their talks-good speakers who were approachable and easy to talk to during the social times of the meeting.

I hope you all had as good a time as I did and that you will join us at our 2015 meeting in November 21 and 22. But before that, be sure to put July 18 on your calendar and make plans to join us for the 2015 ESHPA Summer Picnic in Greenwich, NY.

See you all mid-summer,
Mark Berninghausen

NY BEE CLUB PROFILE

SABA

The **Southern Adirondack Beekeepers Association**, or SABA, is based in Ballston Spa in Saratoga County, but has members from nine or more counties around there. SABA has 320 members and is very active.

You may be familiar with the annual seminar which is held each spring, and where people can hear three nationally known speakers at a full-day event. SABA also runs a beginner and an intermediate series of classes each year. Roughly 20 students attend each level, each year. Another



way SABA members learn is at bee yard visits, which occur about once a month from April to October.



A few years ago, a Google Groups forum was begun, which is a way members can ask and answer questions online. It has been a lively way to interact, and has helped many people.

SABA runs a swarm hotline, which is a way for anyone who needs help with a swarm to get in touch with many beekeepers. The swarm hotline number is 518-38-SWARM. Though occasionally a call comes in from someplace far away like NYC, most are within our area and quickly are forwarded to the closest SABA beekeeper who is willing to pick up swarms.



We have an Education Scholarship Fund which is designated for SABA members in good standing who seek assistance with costs related to beekeeper education and training and are willing to share what they have learned with SABA. This could be very helpful in defraying costs of going to EAS or ABF.

For many years now, SABA has given away a full set of hive items, plus bees, classes and a mentor of one year to a middle- or high school-aged student. This is called the Wolf-Lounsbury Young Beekeeper Award. A few years ago, Margaret Stevens began to fund a second award in memory of Bob Stevens, which is run through SABA as well. It is called the Bob Stevens Young Beekeeper Award.

We have an educational and sales booth at the Saratoga County Fair as well as at the Washington County Fair.

General membership meetings are held on Monday evenings in Ballston Spa. An extensive lending library of books and DVDs is available for members at each meeting. A guest speaker or program along with honey goodies and snacks are always part of a membership meeting. In September, the meeting is preceded by a potluck dinner.

In November 2014, elections were held, and our excellent president, David Wood, stepped down after four years, and Chris Cripps was elected to take his place.

Our website can be seen at www.adirondackbees.org. Details about every aspect mentioned here, plus other valuable resources like our Marketplace page, can be seen on the site.

~ Ann Frey

NY's Apiary Inspection Program

Talk to one of NY's apiary inspectors, Chris Stevens, and you'll quickly realize what a wealth of knowledge they have about the health of bees in NY. That knowledge is a phone call away for any NY beekeeper, whether you have 5,000 hives across several counties or two in the backyard. The program's primary contact is Paul Cappy, NY Dept. of Ag & Mkts apiculturist and the chief apiary inspector. He can provide 56 years of beekeeping experience. His contact number at the Albany office is 518-457-2087 or by email at paul.cappy@agriculture.ny.gov.



Chris tells me the current NY apiary inspection program is principally tasked with inspecting and certifying all shipments of bees leaving NY, as well as assuring that bees brought into NY are certified by their state of origin, or if necessary, by NY apiary inspectors when they arrive. Inspectors are keeping a sharp eye out for diseases such as AFB, chalk brood, and EFB, as well as pesticide kills. They also send sample bees to Beltsville for Nosema analysis with results sent to the individual beekeeper and Albany. Additionally, they do a varroa test in the field to get approximate mite levels per 100 bees in a colony. They also check for Africanized honey bees when they inspect colonies in a bee operation.

There is finite funding for tests, of course, so beekeepers may be asked to submit tests directly to labs. This data is analyzed by Ag & Mkts and provided to NY beekeepers through briefings by Bob Duncan and Paul Cappy at bee meetings across the state.

NY apiary inspectors Bob Duncan and Chris Stevens are officially part time, working from May through mid-November. In winter, issues are handled by their boss, Paul Cappy. Chris handles north, central, and east NY and reports to Bob, who handles southern and western NY. They work together to sample at least 10% of large migratory operation hives before they leave the state. An additional inspector, Joseph Koehring, is hired for two months in Clinton County to cover NY's far north.

What is the future of the NY apiary inspection program? The plan is to hire an additional inspector this year, and triple the size of the pesticide monitoring program. NY's inspectors have supported the National Honey Bee Survey (NHBS) since 2010. A sample of NY beekeepers (24) is surveyed yearly for varroa mites, Nosema disease, and seven viruses. In addition, pollen samples were taken for three out of the five years from 10 of the participating beekeepers' colonies. All results go to the individual beekeepers as well as to Albany.

Also in the works is a research program through Cornell to analyzing pollen samples from 30 beekeepers across the

state for a total of 120 colonies. NY's apiary inspectors will assist this Cornell research by being the feet on the ground, collecting the pollen samples from each participating apiary every month May through October. This research may shed more light on the role of pesticides in colony health and help beekeepers develop best management practices in their bee operations. Cornell is waiting for approval of the research funds at this point.

Chris tells me he thinks that bees are making a comeback in NY although some NY beekeepers are still experiencing severe losses. He's in a position to know, having inspected thousands of hives across the state during his 14 years on the job. He says commercial beekeepers are learning to face the challenges of the last couple of decades and that's going to ultimately benefit all apiaries large and small.

~ Sue Garing



So you wanna be a commercial beekeeper?

Chuck Kutik says it was a soft landing. Only one box bent. Working/sinking in NC blueberries March '15.



Summer Picnic (from cover)

since he mail ordered this first hive in 1968 from Montgomery Ward.

Alan Tremblay is a beekeeper in the Southern Tier, and is a neighbor beekeeper to Joe Rowland. Allen originally comes from Canada, where he was a commercial beekeeper producing clover honey. He kept at least 1000 colonies of bees, and he was very good at wintering them in Canada. He uses the system he developed to winter his colonies in NY. The honey he produces in NY is sold at the NYC Green Markets. He has a very successful second career owning his own business as a tax consultant. This includes preparing the yearly federal and state tax returns for his clients.

John Gibbs caught his first swarm in 1983 and it was love at first sight. He just couldn't leave them alone. Through the years it got worse, he kept adding more and more hives and he's still loving it. But with every winter came such a disappointment. In 2006 they were thinking about the next five year plan. The cost in fuel, or trucking, to go south had been kicked around. They started really thinking about inside wintering so he built a building to just for this. He says it is a lot easier than you may think. Today they can winter 3000 hives. This building enables them to send bees to California, a big plus for the business. It worked out for them, but yes, there is more to it than these words.

Paul Cappy is the NY State Apiculturist, Division of Plant Industry, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets."

Preliminary Winter Loss Report

It is too early to tell what the overall losses are going to be for the state. However, "the early returns" are coming in and Long Island and Dutchess County are showing large losses. Dutchess County was dry last fall so goldenrod did produce pollen, but very little honey. They also reported no summer basswood honey for that area. The result is that fall winter-preparation for the bees was not optimal. This poor fall environment did not help keep the winter loss low for 2014-15 winter. The cold hard winter resulted in 50% to 70% loss of their colonies in that area, and the loss was not from starvation.

Limited winter loss reports from Broome County indicate that they seem to have losses from 7% to 20%. However, basswood honey may have helped reduce the winter losses by reducing the *Nosema* disease levels. *Nosema* spore levels from mid-July to October

were under 4-5 million, down to 0.00. This helped reduce the winter loss. A good fall honey flow from goldenrod helped reduce losses as well. Plenty of winter bees and stored honey are a good combination. The better the fall honey flow, the more pollen is collected. That helps develop a lot more winter bees which are able to survive the winter months.

Starvation is on the minds of some beekeepers after this cold snowy winter season. We will see what happens to the other parts of the state as spring months show what occurred during the winter months.

~Paul Cappy, paul.cappy@agriculture.ny.gov

HELP WANTED: NY Apiary Inspector

New York State Agriculture and Markets is looking to hire one new apiary inspector for the 2015 honey bee season.

The requirements for the inspector position are as follows:

- a. The inspector is to supply his or her own on the job transportation with \$ 0.575 cent per mile for reimbursement for mileage expenses incurred by the inspector. The apiary inspector official station and office is his or her own apartment or home.
- b. New York State rules allow an apiary inspector to own up to 50 colonies.
- c. Apiary Inspector I (Trainee) minimum requirements:
 - at least two years' experience with ownership, culture, or management of honey bee colonies,
 - or
 - one summer season working for a commercial beekeeper.

Qualifications must include:

1. A knowledge of bee behavior; a familiarity with bees, colony and apiary management practices.
2. A knowledge of, and working experience with, bee equipment.
3. The required skill and ability to open hives of bees and to remove combs for visual inspection. This would include the ability to remove and replace combs, queen excluders and other bee equipment properly without killing the queen and only a few bees.
4. Basic knowledge of both larva and adult bee diseases; their life history and symptoms.
5. Be able to accept instructions, direction and training by experienced bee inspectors.
6. Be available to relocate to other areas within New York State for a limited period of time.
7. The qualifications are for the minimum standards, but additional bee experience is helpful for this position.

Please contact the Human Resource Division with your resume, and/or work experience, with ownership, education, and management of honey bee colonies at:

Human Resources
10B Airline Drive,
Albany, NY 12235

Provided by Paul Cappy, paul.cappy@agriculture.ny.gov



Miticide Registration What do Section 3 or 18 Designations Mean?

Section 18

From <http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/pesticide-emergency-exemptions>

Introduction to Pesticide Emergency Exemptions

Emergency exemptions can be requested by a state or federal agencies when a serious pest problem jeopardizes production of agricultural goods or public health but no pesticides are currently registered for that situation. They submit information describing the pest emergency and request permission to use a specific pesticide even though it is not currently registered for that use.

We can grant a limited use of the pesticide in specific geographic areas for a finite period of time once we confirm whether the situation meets that statutory definition of "emergency condition" [emphasis added] and conduct risk assessments: One year for specific or public health exemptions. Three years for quarantine exemptions.

Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) authorizes the EPA to allow an unregistered use of a pesticide for a limited time if we determine that an emergency condition exists. The regulations governing Section 18 of FIFRA (found at [Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 166](#)), define the term "Emergency Condition" as an urgent, non-routine situation that requires the use of a pesticide(s).

SECTION 18 Registrations in NY

Curious about which products have obtained "Emergency" registration status in NY? Point your browser to <http://cfpub1.epa.gov/oppref/section18/search.cfm> put "New York" in the Applicant search box. You can also read through 36 pages of the Emergency Exemption database.

This is what a search for 'New York' returned in March 2015 for bee related pesticides:

Chemical	Site	Pest	Applicant	Received Date	Response Date	Status
AMITRAZ	BEEHIVES	VARROA MITE	New York	1/29/13	2/1/13	ISSUED
FENPYROXIMATE	BEEHIVE	VARROA MITE	New York	5/29/09	6/1/09	ISSUED
HOP BETA ACIDS	BEEHIVES	VARROA MITE	New York	3/4/14	3/12/14	ISSUED
HOP BETA ACIDS	BEEHIVES	VARROA MITE	New York	2/6/13	2/15/13	ISSUED

~ Sue Garing

Section 3

From <http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/conditional-pesticide-registration>

Introduction

FIFRA section 3(c)(5) sets the basic legal standard for granting pesticide registrations. *It provides that EPA shall register a pesticide if, among other findings: The pesticide will perform its intended function without unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment;* [emphasis added] and The pesticide will not generally cause unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment when used in accordance with widespread and commonly recognized practice.

After reviewing the data and information submitted to support an applicant/registrant's pesticide product application under consideration, EPA determines whether the pesticide meets this statutory standard. If EPA determines that the pesticide meets the statutory standard and there are no outstanding data requirements, the Agency may approve an "unconditional" registration.

If, on the other hand, EPA finds that the pesticide meets the standard for registration, but there are outstanding data requirements, the Agency may, under certain circumstances, grant a "conditional" registration pursuant to FIFRA section 3(c)(7).

However, before granting a conditional registration, EPA must determine that, although an application lacks some of the necessary data, use of the pesticide would not significantly increase the risk of unreasonable adverse effects on the environment during the time needed to generate the necessary data.

Want to Test Your Knowledge of Bees & Beekeeping?

Become a MASTER BEEKEEPER.

Ben and Kim Carpenter's experience taking the EAS Master Beekeeping tests.

Little did I know back in the fall of 2008 when I told my wife, Kimberly, I wanted to learn to make maple syrup that her response would be that she wanted to take up beekeeping! That took me off guard, which, she will attest, is a hard thing to do. How could I predict where her (our) beekeeping hobby would lead us? Fast forward to today. Our beekeeping hobby is no longer a hobby; it is a rapidly growing enterprise, which is now my wife's full time job. Chances are you have probably looked us up for some beekeeping supplies, or for our queens that Kimberly grafts, or to order nucs or packages. And maybe you have run into one or both of us at the conferences and events across the East coast that we have attended. At one of those many conferences, we learned of a program that would really push us as beekeepers, the Eastern Apicultural Society's (EAS) Master Beekeeper program.

The Master Beekeeper program was initially developed by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University, and eventually was handed over to EAS. If you think moving the program from Cornell University to EAS has lessened the reputation of the Master Beekeeper program, I would argue it has not. The program put on by EAS is designed to prove you know bees and beekeeping. It is overseen by some of the most experienced beekeeping professionals in the world, such as Dewey Caron and Clarence Collison.

Master Beekeepers are expected to provide education and assistance to beginning beekeepers. They serve their wider communities as experts in beekeeping. As a result, the things one must know not only include modern day bees and beekeeping but also the history; proper use and proper name of equipment; the history of beekeeping; the proper use, EPA approvals, and primary active ingredients of treatments and chemicals; and detailed honey bee biology, as well as being a master at identifying issues inside the hive.

The program consists of four parts: written, lab, field and oral. I will not be going into each part in this article but rather refer you to EAS's website for the most up-to-date information on each of the tests. (<http://www.easternapiculture.org/master-beekeepers.html>). The testing takes place at EAS's conference each year.

To be accepted as a Master Beekeeper candidate, you go through an application process that includes referrals. The tests are intense; less than 20% pass the first time around. A passing grade on each of the tests is 85. You have a limited time frame to retake

parts you have not passed. One can prep and study all he or she wants, but I like to think that becoming Master Beekeeper and maintaining certification is a constant process of learning and studying—just like beekeeping in general.

There is a nice list of books on EAS website you can use to hone your knowledge and prepare you for the testing. However, you must also go to conferences, read recent articles in bee journals, stay on top of the latest research, and be in tune with the beekeeping community to round out your knowledge. Speaking of community, the Master Beekeepers are a close-knit community with great camaraderie, all look forward to seeing each other again at each year's conference. The Master Beekeepers that I have come to know all seem to have a different perspective on things. They have one part optimism, one part a wise dose of reality, and they all are great teachers. And like our bees, stay ever busy in their work, not dissuaded by anything.

If you are looking for a challenge to take on in beekeeping, in addition to keeping the bees alive and well, then maybe the Master Beekeeper program is for you. I took it to prove to myself what I know, and what I need to study up on. Both my wife and I look forward to completing our certification this year as well as attending EAS's conference in Guelph, Ontario Canada. It certainly gives us hope for spring and something to study up for during these winter months. In a weird and odd way, I look forward to the challenges awaiting me that the program will set forth, a kind of beekeeper obstacle course of sorts and if I am going to complete it, I'd better bring my bee game.

~ Ben Carpenter – co-owner, Hungry Bear Farms; Ontario Finger Lakes Beekeepers Association President; Empire State Honey Producers Board Member; EAS Master Beekeeper Candidate

About Hungry Bear Farms

We are currently dealers for Brushy Mountain, BetterBee, Kelly Bee Company, Mann Lake, Pierco and Maxant. We are able to match/beat most of the pricing from each manufacturer even on large orders for commercial and sideliner beekeepers. We stock most beekeeping supplies at our beekeeping supply store in Canandaigua NY. In addition, we raise our own queens for sale and put on beginner classes and a variety of workshops. Read more about us at www.HungryBearFarms.com.



Fall 2014 Board Meeting Minutes

Embassy Suites, 6646 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY
November 20, 2014

Roll Call: Mark Berninghausen, Alayne Doan, Chuck Kutik, Jim

Doan, Eric Sprout, Daniel Winter, Susan Garing, Ben Carpenter, Bill Roome, Jonathan Ryan, Amy Wakefield, Hans Junga, and Ted Elk (non-board member).

Motion #1 Motion by Jim Doan to accept the summer 2014 board minutes as read. Seconded by Chuck Kutik. Motion passed.

State Fair Committee: Hans Junga said in his report that the 2014 state fair booth was another success. He thanked Ted Elk for all the Gazebo improvements. Sales were \$2,000 more than 2013. Hans thought that, for 2015, sales would be around 1,600 lb. honey, 700 12-oz. bears, 650 creamed honey, and 300 lb. cut comb. Hans stated that for 2015 much more cut comb would be needed from producers for the fair. He expected to sell also 45 lb. of wax, and 35 pairs of candles. Due to all the extra space for our booth in 2014, Hans would like to expand the display area to include extractors and other honey equipment.

Motion #2 Motion by Jim Doan: "If a member of ESHPA worked a total of six hours or a half a day at the state fair ESHPA booth, they would be given a \$10 off coupon toward the ESHPA Fall Meeting registration fee. Non-transferable." Seconded by Dan Winters. Motion passed.

Meetings Committee: Alayne and Chuck read their written report. Everything ready to go. Needed persons to greet speakers as they walked in. Needed persons to help with registration table, and collecting tickets at all meal times. Needed persons to be at the ready to help with any little situation during meeting times.

A discussion was held on the many jobs that were required to put on one of these annual meetings. So it was decided that a new committee, "Policy Manual Committee," would be formed, with Bill Roome as Chairperson, and Chuck Kutik and Jim Doan on committee. So it was suggested that a list of all duties be made, and duties be volunteered by or handed out to all board members.

Bylaws Committee: Need to have membership vote on a new proposed dues schedule. Hobbyist- \$30, Sideline- \$50, Commercial- \$100

Website/Newsletter Committee: Ben Carpenter showed board the new ESHPA pins for sale, and said they would be sold at the registration table. Everyone loved them. Ben reported on the ESHPA web site, and how he recently refreshed it, and on his goals for improving the site. Sue Gar-

Beekeeper of the Year Award Nominations Welcomed

BOTY recipient will meet the following criteria:

- Member in good standing of ESHPA for a minimum of 5 years.
- Has contributed in some substantial and positive way to beekeeping in New York State.

Contact **Mark Berninghausen** (315) 769-2566 mark-berninghausen@yahoo.com for addition informational, and with nominations.

ing talked about the recent newsletter, and how she wanted to do more interviews on beekeepers, and her goals on future additions.

NY Bee Wellness: Alayne handed out a report by Pat Bono, committee chairperson. Pat requested a donation by ESHPA for her program. It was discussed by board, and decided that more budgetary documentation needed to be provided by Ms. Bono, and would be brought up at the business meeting tomorrow. Pat Bono was not available to answer any questions concerning her proposal.

Membership Committee: An effort by all board members to select a local bee club, and then attend a meeting to see what needs we could assist these clubs with happened throughout this past summer. It was suggested by Chuck Kutik that a speaker bureau be set up for bee clubs in NY. This would also help promote ESHPA.

Nominations Committee: Ben Rulison would be on the slate as a northern director. Also that Bill Roome still had a second term as a northern director. Andy Card's name was suggested as the western director. Mark was going to discuss it with him further. It was discussed that there were four positions open at this time, and that perhaps the board needed to redo the map for directors.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Garing read her report, and handed out copies to board.

AIAC Liaison Report: Jim Doan reported that they had a presentation by Dr. Scott McArt who spoke on a project that he is looking to get funded by different groups for \$149,000.00. This project would be monitoring NYS bee hives in a pollination setting and possibly being affected by pesticides.

Ted Elk was elected to vice chairman of the AIAC committee. Paul Cappy read a letter from U.S. Sen. Markey to EPA. This was in regards to pesticides. The committee had a presentation by Virginia Green of the USDA concerning the Conserva-

tion Reserve Program through the USDA. The committee discussed the Roadside Flower Program thru Department of Transportation. The committee discussed the EPA planned actions in response to the President's June 2014 memo. Paul Cappy gave an overview of components of NYS Pollinator Protection plan to be developed.

Old and Unfinished Business

Raising of the membership dues was discussed, with a proposal of a new dues tier structure beginning 2015 as follows: Hobbyist- \$30, Sideline- \$50, Commercial- \$100.

Ted Elk suggested that a new historian be chosen for ESHPA, as the current chairperson is ill and no longer can continue.

Adjourn.
Respectfully Submitted,
Alayne Doan
ESHPA Secretary

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

Fall 2014 General Meeting Minutes

Embassy Suites, 6646 Collamer Road
East Syracuse, NY
November 21, 2014



Attendance sheets were passed around the room to prove a quorum, and it was determined to be so.

President Mark Berninghausen opened the business meeting at 4 p.m.

ESHPA Summer Picnic minutes were read as written, and the following corrections were noted;

- "50-cent increase" in the selling and buying price of honey at the State Fair
- "Bill Roome" not "Bill Broome"
- "150" not "1500"

Motion #1 Motion by Ray Lackey to accept the Summer Picnic minutes as corrected. Seconded by Ted Elk. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

State Fair- Hans Junga thanked Ted Elk for the gazebo improvements. Sales were \$2,000 more than 2013. Hans was anticipating sales next year to include 1600 lb. of honey, 700 12-oz. bears, 650 creamed honey jars, and 300 lb. of cut comb honey. Hans stated for 2015, the fair booth would be

needing more cut comb producers. He also predicted that the fair booth would sell 45 lb. of wax and 35 pairs of candles.

Hans would like to add extractors and other honey equipment to the enlarged fair booth. Hans noted the board approved a \$10 off coupon for the Fall Meeting registration as an incentive for volunteering at the fair.

Treasurer Report- Sue Garing summarized the 2014 income (\$46,191), and the 2014 expense (\$40,198) to be thus as of this meeting. Sue noted that approximate \$16,000 of the income and expenses was pass-through funding for the Bee Wellness program.

Bee Wellness Report- Mark Berninghausen read a summary of the Bee Wellness program provided by Pat Bono, committee chairperson.

New Business

Motion #2 Motion was made by Peter Bizzoso to accept a three-tiered membership dues structure for 2015 and future years.

Hobbyist- \$30 year dues

Sideline- \$50 year dues

Commercial- \$100 year dues

Gary Rulison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Jim Doan read a resolution to donate \$4000, to Bee Wellness. A discussion about providing budgetary documentation followed. Bee Wellness chairperson Pat Bono was not available to answer questions.

Motion #3 Jim Doan made a motion to table Pat Bono's proposal for a \$4,000 ESHPA donation to Bee Wellness in 2014. The motion was seconded by Don Matheson. The motion passed.

Nominations: Bill Roome presented a slate of directors for consideration.

Northern director: Ben Rulison (replaces Amy Wakefield)

Northern director: Bill Roome (second term)

Western director: Andy Card

Southern director: open

Additional nominations for southern director were made from the floor. Michelle Fuller was elected by a show of hands.

Motion #3 Jim Doan made a motion to cast one vote for the slate of directors. Jon Ryan seconded the motion. The vote passed.

Good and Welfare

Richard Wakefield spoke of Fred Ludwig, and that Mr. Ludwig was in poor health. Due to his health Mr. Ludwig decided to step down as ESHPA historian. Richard Wakefield noted all the dedication by Mr. Ludwig over the years, and that he would personally send him a card of thanks from ESHPA for all he did as our archivist.

A discussion regarding who would take over the historian position from Fred Ludwig followed. A historian committee was proposed, consisting of Hans Junga and Earl Villecco. Earl said he would help out in any way he could, and Hans said he would accept this position as historian chairman.

Roberta Glitz raised the issue of annual audits. Stephen O. Wilson reminded us that regular audits would make obtaining grants easier. Sue Gering encouraged the organization to conduct annual audits as a way to prepare for potential grant applications, and as a good business practice. Mark Berninghausen referenced the bylaws and noted that it was his obligation to appoint an annual audit committee.

Mark Berninghausen read the bylaw change published in the summer 2014 newsletter to add additional criteria for officer candidates. Chuck Kutik stated that the board no longer supported the change. The general membership rejected the proposed bylaws change by vote.

Ben Carpenter voiced his appreciation for the hard work done by Hans Junga and Bob Sorenson at the state fair. Mark asked Alayne Doan to draft a letter of appreciation to both of them.

Motion to adjourn by Peter Bizzoso. Motion Passed.

Adjourn 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Alayne E. Doan

ESHPA Secretary

OXALIC ACID Approved for Use in the U.S.

NY DEC Approval expected later this year

The following is taken from the “Registration Decision For the New Active Ingredient Oxalic Acid”. The full EPA document is available here:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0043-0119>

Regulatory Decision

In cooperation with our regulatory partners in Canada, the evaluation of the application for registration of oxalic acid was completed as a work share. Considering the assessed risk to human health and the environment, the Agency concludes that oxalic acid meets the regulatory standard under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). There are no outstanding data requirements for oxalic acid. Therefore, the EPA is granting the unconditional registration of oxalic under Section 3(c)(5) of FIFRA.

Section 2. Evaluation

Oxalic acid dihydrate (the crystalline form) is a dicarboxylic acid, which is a relatively strong organic acid. Oxalic acid is ubiquitous in the environment being found naturally in many plants and vegetables, as well as in honey. It occurs naturally as the potassium or calcium salt in sap, notably in plants of the Oxalis and Rumex families. It is also a product of the metabolism of mold. In the U.S., oxalic acid is marketed for a range of non-pesticidal uses. On the general consumer market, it is commonly known as wood bleach. As mentioned, oxalic acid was first registered as a pesticide (disinfectant/sanitizer) in 1957. When oxalic acid was evaluated for reregistration the Agency concluded in the RED that the pesticide uses of oxalic acid would not result in unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment and that all registered products containing oxalic acid were eligible for reregistration. The registrants of these products, however, decided to voluntarily cancel them in 1994. The information on the evaluation of oxalic acid provided to EPA by PMRA included an updated review of the toxicity, dietary exposure, environmental fate and transport, and product chemistry data. A dietary assessment, and an occupational assessment for the proposed use were also forwarded by PMRA. EPA concurs with the conclusions and registration decision made by our Canadian colleagues.

Assessment of Risk to Human Health

The use pattern for this compound is in beehives when honey supers are not present. Dietary exposure from the proposed use as an in-hive application will be indistinguishable from naturally occurring levels of oxalic acid. In fact, oxalic acid is a natural constituent of honey and is commonly found in the range of 1 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg. Moreover, EPA has established an exemption from the food tolerance requirement for oxalic acid under 40 CFR 180.910. Oxalic acid is ubiquitous in the environment and exposures from use in honeybee hives will be minimal, therefore the contribution to aggregate risk from this use will be insignificant relative to the total exposure from other sources.

Application Methods and Labeling

Oxalic acid will be labeled for application by three different methods: 1. By Solution to Package Bees (Oxalic acid in sugar solution is applied as a spray to the package) 2. By Solution to Beehives (Oxalic acid in sugar solution is trickled between frames and other spaces) 3. Vapor Treatment of Beehives (Oxalic acid dihydrate is heated and the vapor sublimates in the hive)

ESHPA Fall Meeting PREVIEW

November 20-21, 2015

THIS YEAR'S THEME - HEALTHY BEES

Two full days of speakers, plus banquet, vendors, and honey show at the same luxury location as last year: Embassy Suites Syracuse, 6646 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057

- Friday and Saturday speakers on our "Healthy Bees" theme
- **Expect speakers from around the country and beyond who will address the most critical issues facing *Apis mellifera***
- Lots and lots of vendors. All of last year's vendors are returning.
- ESHPA honey and mead contests with cash prizes
- Live auction—bring your credit card!
- Online registration
- Special room rates
- Honey-themed banquet
- 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.



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NEW ESHPA HISTORIAN

Hans Junga is taking over as the official ESHPA historian in addition to his State Fair booth duties. Please forward your ESHPA memorabilia to Hans for safekeeping. And thank him for all he does for ESHPA!
hans@castletv.com

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 Ben Carpenter with your club name, target counties, and link.
ben@hungrybearfarms.com

ESHPA 2014 Fall Meeting Honey Show Results



And the winners are

Class	First	Second
Light Honey	<i>Marshall Berninghausen</i>	<i>Kimberly Carpenter</i>
Light Amber	<i>Bill Powell</i>	<i>Lucinda VanVleck</i>
Amber	<i>Henry Brooks</i>	<i>Lucinda VanVleck</i>
Dark Amber	<i>Bill Powell</i>	<i>Lucinda VanVleck</i>
Wax Block	<i>Lucinda VanVleck</i>	<i>Ann Sill</i>
Molded Candle	<i>Michael Johnston</i>	
Dipped Candle	<i>Ann Sill</i>	
Best in Show	<i>Henry Brooks</i>	
Most Points	<i>Lucinda VanVleck</i>	



Fall Meeting Honey Show Rules

The Empire State Honey Producers Association is pleased to announce the 2015 honey show competition.

Once again, 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 courage entering, 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: 10 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 receive a \$50 cash prize.

The 2015 show will feature the same classes as last year. For full rules for the contest and each class please see the ESHPA webpage - www.eshpa.org navigate to Calendar/Fall Meeting/Honey Contest

~ Jon Ryan, Director



2015 New York State Fair ESHPA Honey Booth

August 27– September 7, 2015



Hans Junga

Join ESHPA at the NY State Fair Honey Booth in 2015. See you there!!

Hans Junga and Christina Wahl will head up the event's 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.

As an added incentive this year, volunteers will receive a coupon for \$10 off registration at the 2015 ESHPA Fall Meeting. The meeting will be held in Syracuse again at the Embassy Suites, site of last year's meeting.

We're expecting everyone to enter this year's honey show. Show entrants receive free entry and parking passes 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. Please consider supplying the crowd favorites of creamed and cut comb honey this year. Any quantity will help a lot, and price paid is more than liquid honey.

ESHPA 2015 Fall Honey Show Photos



Jim Doan, Ann Sill, and Natalie Towne assist Jon Ryan with the judging.



Bill Powell wins with light amber and dark amber honey.



Henry Brooks takes **BEST IN SHOW** with his amber honey.



Natalie Towne and Jon Ryan sort entries by color.

NY Bee Wellness Program



Fall Survey 2014

Thank you to all who completed the survey!

- 212 Non-migratory beekeepers reported, from 52 of 62 counties in New York
- 1,278 Total number of bee colonies in April 2014
- 2,212 Total number of bee colonies in November 2014
- 74% Average increase of colonies during the growing season of 2014

Full results for questions on disease, mite control, and wintering are found at <http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=84212338dd107852d694d9b24&id=243ccf6a5c>
Links to the regional survey results are at the bottom of the survey link page.

The survey represents a sample of non-migratory beekeepers from across New York. The results may also assist those who are conducting classes for or providing mentoring to other beekeepers.

Please send any comments, suggestions, or questions. The survey can be further refined on request. Please watch for the NY Bee Wellness Spring Survey in 2015, and the national BeelInformed survey.

NY Bee Wellness Workshops, NYBeeWellness.org, an educational nonprofit program teaches beekeepers honey bee disease recognition and promotes honey bee health.

~ Pat Bono, Project Director, NY Bee Wellness
NYBeeWellness@gmail.com

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ATTENTION BEEKEEPERS!



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437 Hurley Rd., Brasher Falls, NY 13613
markberninghausen@yahoo.com
- 1st V-P* **Chuck Kutik** (607) 316-0474
285 Lyon Brook Rd., Norwich, NY 13815
Kutikshoney@mkl.com
- 2nd V-P* **Eric Sprout** (315) 480-5554
P.O. Box 208, Rose, NY 14542
eastcoastpollination@yahoo.com
- 3rd V-P* **Daniel Winter** (315) 594-2634
7311 East Port Bay Rd., Wolcott, NY 14590
twinter5@rochester.rr.com
- Secretary*, Newsletter Mailer **Alayne Doan** (585) 732-2870
343 Morton Rd., Hamlin, NY 14464
aedoan@rochester.rr.com
- Treasurer*, Newsletter Editor **Susan Garing** (607) 775-5041
294 Ostrum Rd., Kirkwood, NY 13795
sgaring@verizon.net
- Directors
Past-Pres. **Aaron Morris** aaronqmorris@gmail.com
West **James Doan** jdoan@rochester.rr.com
West **Andy Card** cardbee@aol.com
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- North* **Bill Roome** willjroome@hotmail.com
North **Ben Rulison** rulisonhoney@verizon.net
South **Jonathan Ryan** jprl3@cornell.edu
South **Michelle Fuller** bestbee@icloud.com
Member-At-Large **Ben Carpenter** ben@hungrybearfarms.com

* term expires in 2015, election at the Fall Meeting

Historian **Hans Junga** hans@castletv.com



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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:

- Life Membership is set at 10 times annual membership (\$300, \$500, \$1000)
- Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2015**: see list below for membership level
- Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2016**: see list below for membership level

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.

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Business Name	
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Mailing Line 2	
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Email	
Phone 1	
Phone 2	

- I would like to receive my newsletters by email.
- Please mail my newsletter.



ESHPA
343 Morton Rd
Hamlin, NY 14464

CALENDAR OF ESHPA EVENTS

ESHPA Summer Picnic, July 18, 2015

ESHPA Fall Meeting, November 20-21, 2015

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