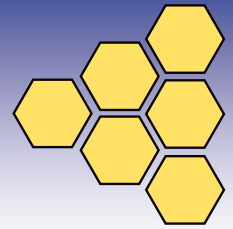




# The Producers



The Newsletter of the Empire State Honey Producers Association

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

Summer 2017 | Issue 103

## 2017 ESHPA Summer Picnic

ESHPA 2017 Summer Picnic and  
General Membership Meeting  
July 22, 2017

### Theme: Determining Hive Health

Come join us at the 2017 ESHPA Summer Picnic at the famous Cornell Dyce Labs! We're going to do some hands-in-the-hive learning, play some beekeeping games, win door prizes, enjoy a good lunch and listen to the latest from Cornell bee researchers.

**Picnic Date:** July 22, 2017

**Location:** Dyce Lab for Honey Bee Research, 209 Freese Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850

**Cost:** \$25 – includes Chicken BBQ, Pasta Primavera, Pesto Potato salad, breads cookies, water and soda from Ithaca Bakery (lunch pre-registration required by July 8). Walk-in meeting-only registration also available.

Register online at [ESHPA.org](http://ESHPA.org) or use the coupon on page 2.

Our special program includes a chance to learn from expert beekeepers (veils are required for everyone approaching live hives.) Planned breakout sessions include:

- "Varroa detection in the hive" taught by Emma Mullen, CCE Extension specialist
- "Hive inspection basics" by Earl Villecco
- "Supplemental feeding strategies using sugars and pollen" by Jim Doan, commercial beekeeper
- "Making splits and nucs" taught by Dan Winters, commercial beekeeper
- "Preparing for the Fall Meeting honey show in Ontario" by Jon Ryan, commercial beekeeper
- "Nosema detection" by Christina Wahl

## President's Message

As members of the Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc. (ESHPA) we all have responsibilities to the Association; it is ours to care for, care about, and work within to make it better going forward.



As board of directors members, our volunteer officers and directors have certain specific responsibilities, such as being prepared for board meetings, attending and actively participating in board meetings and committee meetings, maintaining a duty of care, which involves being active in the organization's activities and understanding its mission, and acknowledging a duty of loyalty, which puts the interests of the association above all else.

On February 11, 2017, our board met for its "spring board meeting". You can find the minutes of that meeting published later in this newsletter.

The next day, Sunday, February 12, 2017, under the direction of Michele Colopy of the Pollinator Stewardship Council, just over half of the board, along with one guest, participated in a strategic planning meeting in an attempt to get us, the officers and directors, to come to a better understanding of our association's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT). This was an all-day affair running from 9:00 AM until about 5:00 PM.

Prior to our meeting, back in December, Michele Colopy provided the board members with a SWOT analysis questionnaire seeking individual answers to questions which Michele compiled into a 16-page report listing all of the answers our board members provided.

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## **2017 ESHPA Summer Picnic**

### Agenda:

10:00 am Welcome by President Mark Berninghausen

10:15 am Speakers: Dr. Scott McArt, Department of Entomology Cornell University with an update on Cornell's NY research programs, and Emma Mullen, Cornell Honey Bee Extension Associate, on Varroa Mite Updates.

11:15 am General membership meeting

Lots of door prizes from Mann-Lake, Dadant and Brushy Mountain

12:00 pm Catered lunch and some fun beekeeper themed contests by Michelle Fuller

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Breakout Sessions (rotating 20 minute sessions)

### SPEAKER BIOS

Scott McArt is an assistant professor of pollinator health at the Cornell Department of Entomology. Before starting at Cornell in 2014, he completed his Masters at the University of Alaska, PhD at Cornell and a postdoc at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Major current research projects include: 1) Assessing pesticide risk to bees across different landscape and agricultural contexts, 2) Evaluating the relative importance of pesticides, pathogens and other factors on colony performance, and 3) Understanding pathogen transmission in complex plant-pollinator networks. Current extension efforts include the NYS beekeeper tech team, training veterinarians on honey bee diseases as part of the new Veterinary Feed Directive and advising growers on pest control practices that minimize risk to bees.

Emma comes to us from Ontario, Canada, where she completed her Master's degree in honey bee behavioral genetics at Western University and served as the campus beekeeper. She then worked at the University of Guelph, reporting to the Ministry of Agriculture on the status and trends of bee health in Ontario. [ekm75@cornell.edu](mailto:ekm75@cornell.edu)

The ESHPA summer board meeting will be held at Dyce Labs the night before (July 21, 2017) at 4 pm followed by networking at a local micro-brewery. All members are welcome to come to the board meeting and join the board for dinner afterward.

### ***Mail-in Summer Picnic lunch and meeting reservation.***

***(Registration must arrive by July 8 for catered lunch reservation.)***

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NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check out to "ESHPA" for \$25 per person (includes catered lunch) and mail to Sue Garing, ESHPA Treasurer, 294 Ostrum Rd. Kirkwood, NY 13795 [sgaring@verizon.net](mailto:sgaring@verizon.net)



## *Making spring splits*



A mixed Carniolan queen tries to avoid the well-trained eye of Amy Wakefield. Got ya! She stays in the source hive.

# *Save the date for the ESHPA – OBA Joint Fall Meeting*

November 17-18, 2017

Four Points By Sheraton Niagara Falls Fallsview  
6455 Fallsview Blvd, Niagara Falls, ON L2G 3V9, Canada

This year we're traveling north over the border for a joint meeting with the Ontario Beekeepers Association.

We're planning on bring in great speakers, going out for a tour of a large local beekeeper and having fabulous food and specially made honey beer!

Just a reminder: you will need to have a valid US passport, or enhanced New York State drivers license/ID to cross the border into Canada.

***Fireworks on Friday to celebrate OBA's 150th Anniversary!***



But sometimes even Amy misses one and the only queen-right split in the out yard gets lots of attention.

## ***Treating Packages: New NY Bee Wellness Project to "Fight the Mite!"***

Summary: This spring many beekeepers will be replenishing dead hives with packages. As all bees have some level of varroa mites, controlling mites in newly installed hives before the brood is capped is key to ensure colony growth in the spring and summer. NY Bee Wellness, partnering with Beta-tec, maker of HopGuard II, will be conducting a program where beekeepers will treat their newly hived packages with either HopGuard II or oxalic acid, re-treating in the fall, and checking monthly for efficacy of treatments. This monitored trial is a first for the Northeast region. Similar trials have been done in the Southwest.

For more info, contact Pat: [info@nybeewellness.org](mailto:info@nybeewellness.org)

Ever wonder what the AIAC is? ESHPA has a representative on the AIAC but many people are probably unaware of what it's all about. Here's the definition from the nysenate.gov website. It spells out the purpose and members of the committee.

## **Ag and Mkts Article 14**

### **Section 169-d. Apiary Industry Advisory Committee.**

1. There is hereby established within the department an apiary industry advisory committee which shall consist of no more than fifteen members to be appointed by the commissioner on the basis of their experience and expertise in the apiary industry. Of the members so appointed, at least two members shall represent each of the three sectors of the apiary industry, commercial beekeepers, part-time beekeepers and hobbyist beekeepers; at least one member shall represent the horticulture or vegetable industry and one member shall be an officer or employee of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Service. Members shall be appointed for a term of three years and may serve until their successors are chosen provided, however, that of the members first appointed, five shall serve for a term of one year, five shall serve for a term of two years, and five shall serve for a term of three years. Members shall serve without salary. A chairperson shall be elected by a majority vote of members of the committee.

2. The duties and responsibilities of the apiary industry advisory committee shall include providing advice, comments, and recommendations to the commissioner in regard to state government plans, policies, and programs affecting the apiary industry and such other matters as the commissioner may request in relation to this article.

3. The advisory committee shall meet at least once annually at times and places set by the commissioner.

4. The commissioner may ask other individuals to attend the committee's meetings or work with it on an occasional or regular basis.



### **Keep'n up with Chuck Kutik is hard to do!**

Above, Chuck moves bees into blueberries. Bushes are covered in ice to protect them from late 2017 South Carolina frosts. Below, Chuck shows well-dressed ABC Morning Show meteorologist Ginger Zee how bees are loaded for their trip to California and the almond orchards.



# Beekeeper of the Year

*Awarded at the Conference Banquet*

**Stephen O. Wilson, Beekeeper of the Year 2016**

The Awards Committee of the Empire State Honey Producers' Association has prepared criteria for the Beekeeper of the Year Awards:

- A member in good standing of the Association for a minimum of five years;
- Has reached out to the non-beekeeping public to explain the value of honey bees in our lives;
- Has been involved in the beekeeping community locally, regionally and/or nationally;
- Is influential in teaching and mentoring new beekeeper(s);
- Has contributed in some substantial and positive way to beekeeping in New York.

This year's Beekeeper of the Year meets these criteria, as well as contributing to the beekeeping industry in numerous other ways. So it is my sincere pleasure to announce this year's Beekeeper of the Year is Stephen O. Wilson.

Stephen has spent many hours and traveled many miles on our behalf. If I had a nickel for every hour and every mile, I would be very wealthy. While Stephen did not graduate from Cornell University, he has, no doubt, spent the equivalent of at least four full years pressing for the establishment of a permanent apiculturist position on their entomology faculty and for desperately needed research funding.

In addition, Stephen served on the Commissioner of Agriculture's Apiary Industry Advisory Committee for 15 years and as its chairman for twelve of those. Again, his leadership abilities and his generous investment of time and energy have resulted in well-run, productive meetings.

Therefore, Stephen, for all you have done for our state's bees, beekeepers and our industry, we sincerely thank you by naming you the Empire State Honey Producers Association's 2016 Beekeeper of the Year.

Jon Ryan, Chairman, Awards Committee  
November 4, 2016

# NY State Fair!



Hans Junga manning the booth

## VOLUNTEERS ... CONTESTS ... DISCOUNTS

The NY State Fair is taking place August 23 through September 4 this year. We need volunteers to fill the six hour shifts during the 13 days of the fair -- one more day was added for 2017. Please consider setting some time aside to help out at the honey booth. It doesn't matter how much beekeeping experience you have. We value the knowledge from the people who have made this their full-time occupation. Others that are just starting out have a good opportunity to learn from spending a few hours talking with other volunteers.

All volunteers will receive an admission ticket and parking pass. Any ESHPA member with liability insurance is welcome to supply honey for sale. The price paid for extracted honey is \$4.50 per pound. Any person is encouraged to enter the honey competition. Rules and regulations may be found on the State Fair's website under the Competitions section.

A successful fair is only possible with your help. Proceeds from the income go to the planning of the annual ESHPA fall meeting, which is open to anyone interested in beekeeping. This year's meeting will be held jointly with the Ontario Beekeepers Association in Niagara Falls, Canada. All volunteers will receive a \$10 coupon towards the registration fee for the meeting.

Anyone interested in participating in the fair may contact Hans Junga by phone (315-482-6438) or email: [hans@castletv.com](mailto:hans@castletv.com)

# 2016 Fall General Meeting

## Minutes - Draft

November 4, 2016  
Embassy Suites-East Syracuse  
6646 Old Collamer Road  
East Syracuse, NY 13057

A-Roll Call- Mark Berninghausen, Chuck Kutik, Eric Sprout, Dan Winter, Jim Doan, Bill Roome, Jon Ryan, Ben Carpenter, Ben Rullison, Tom Tyrell, Sue Garing, Aaron Morris, Jim & Alayne Doan, David W. Hill, Monique Christensen, Andy Card, Kitty Kiefer, Daniel W. Winter,, Neal Alexander, Barry Lindquist, Amber Lindquist, Pam Rideout, Carse Frey, Bob Finch, Vinnie Finch, Manual Bush, Calvin Cushman, Donald Matheson, Rodney Whitaker, Pete Biazzo, Bob Talkiewicz, Mark Rulison, Bill Hilker, Willis Hilker, David Hackenburg, Greg Hodges, Tom Kingsley, Marty Skye, Paul Busch, Kenneth Gates, Wayne Bryan, Sam Hall, Kim Ess, Mark Fiegl, Brent Viau, Hans Junga, David Boise, Ernie Schwosnicks, Levi Johnson, Carl LoPresti, Bill Powell, Justin Wade, Dustin Manwarten, Chris Cripps, Jake Rath, Paul Cappy, Stephen Wilson, George Jeney, Gary Bennett.

B-Review and Approval of past minutes.

**Motion #1 “To accept the minutes as revised”, by Chuck Kutik. Second by Ben Carpenter. Vote passed.**

C-President and Treasurer Reports - Mark Berninghausen spoke of last night's board meeting; see board meeting minutes. Sue Garing passed out copies of her financial report to those present, went over this document and answered questions.

D-Committee Reports

*State fair Committee* - Hans Junga reported on the many improvements to the fairgrounds in general, and to our ESHPA booth. He spoke of the upcoming second phase building improvement by our NY governor for 2017. Hans reported that honey sales were surprisingly up in numbers considering the booth's relocation. The number of volunteers was up this year, and Hans greatly appreciated this.

*Meeting Committee* - Chuck Kutik spoke of the upcoming 2017 summer picnic, and asked for location ideas. Mentioned the new survey, and asked everyone there to please fill one out.

*By-Laws Committee* - No Report

*Website/Newsletter Committee* - Sue Garing asked for members to please send in photos, and any content on beekeeping for the newsletter.

*Beekeeper of the Year committee* - Committee reported that there was one selected for the 2016 Banquet, but were looking for suggestions on who for 2017.

*AIAC Committee* - Chuck Kutik reported that he met with the NY Ag Commissioner on August 1, 2016 along with NY Farm Bureau. He had asked in this year's budget where they had cut funding for NYS Pollinators, and expressed what types of research on NY Honey Bee health our organization would like to see going forward.

*Membership Committee* - No report by committee.

A discussion on how to better our communications with government, when discussing beekeeping issues and laws in both NYS and federal governments. A discussion on our Legislative Committee, and where a change was very much needed. Also that drafting a response from this organization (ESHPA) to the NYS Pollinator Protection Plan should be completed. It was discussed strongly that when lobbying or discussing NY honey bee health, that communication with the State Ag Commissioner might be better served if going directly to the governor. Also discussed was the point of ESHPA using the NY Farm Bureau to help in our legislative efforts. Another point mentioned was that we (ESHPA) should look to our local politicians on legislative efforts as a chain of command.

**Motion #2 by David Hackenburg, second by Don Matherson, “That ESHPA draft a response from this organization (ESHPA) to the NYS Pollinator Protection Plan. Vote passed.**

It was discussed that a survey should be drafted and handed out at the 2017 summer picnic, asking members what they want of ESHPA. The survey would also be placed up on our web site.

A motion by Peter Bizzoso to establish an ESHPA Legislative Committee. Withdrawn after discussion about the existing ESHPA Board Legislative Committee with the same mandate. Additional members volunteered for the Legislative Committee. Eric Sprout, Carol Frey, Jim Doan, Dave Hackenberg, Andy Card, Jon Ryan, Chuck Kutik, and Steve Wilson as chairman of this committee.

**Motion #3 by Ben Carpenter, second by Chuck Kutik, “Directing the legislative committee to create a list of lobbying items to take to Albany and to report that list to the board of directors and to the membership”. Vote passed.**

*Nominations Committee* - Mark Berninghausen reported that both the western director’s (Jim Doan), and the southern director’s terms were up this coming year. He also stated that Alayne Doan was stepping down at secretary and that position needed to be filled.

**Motion #4 by Dave Hackenberg, second by Wayne Bryant. “Accept Jim Doan to fill the western director position.” Vote passed.**

**Motion #5 by Earl Villecco, second by Aaron Morris. “Accept Jon Ryan to fill the southern director position.” Vote passed.**

**Motion #6 by Aaron Morris, second by Bill Hilkner. “Accept Laura Doan as the secretary for the remainder of this term, and for the following term.” Vote passed.**

**Motion #7 by Aaron Morris, second by; Chuck Kutik. “Continue our membership in the Pollinator Stewardship Council at the \$5,000.00 level.” Vote passed.**

A discussion on creating going forward a yearly budget for ESHPA. Sue Garing stated that this would be done.

**Motion #9, by Jon Ryan, second by Chuck Kutik. “Donate matching ESHPA funds to the Barkman Honey Company donation up to \$3,000 made payable to Dr. Jon Lundgren of Ecdysis Foundation.” Vote passed.**

E-Good and Welfare - A Mr. Jim O’Brian, who was the last living founding member of the Southern Adirondack Beekeeping Club, has passed. Alayne Doan will send a card.

**Motion#10, by Chuck Kutik to “Adjourn”. Second by Ben Carpenter. Vote passed.**

Adjourn 6:05

Respectfully submitted by Alayne Doan,  
Acting 2016 ESHPA Secretary

## **Update on Antibiotic Regulations**

As of January 1, 2017, beekeepers in the US are required to use the services of a veterinarian to obtain antibiotics. The FDA has issued new guidelines covering all “food animals” in order to address concerns with antibiotic resistance. Antibiotics labeled for use in honey bee colonies include oxytetracycline (Terramycin), tylosin (Tylan), and lincomycin (Lincomix); all can be used to control AFB additionally, Terramycin can be used to treat EFB.) (NOTE: it is illegal in NYS to use antibiotics to treat hives infected with AFB.). Many beekeepers do not use antibiotics at all and will not be affected.

There are two ways a veterinarian can order drugs for a beekeeper: either through a veterinary feed directive (VFD) or by prescription. It is likely that prescriptions will be most useful for beekeepers as there is a bit more flexibility in their implementation.

In either case, a veterinarian must first establish a veterinary client patient relationship (VCPR) with the individual beekeeper, by visiting his apiary or apiaries and familiarizing himself with the beekeepers operation and style of management as well as level of skill.

Few veterinarians have specialized beekeeping training and it is unclear exactly how things will unfold. Dr. Chris Cripps (a co-owner of Betterbee in Greenwich, NY, and licensed veterinarian) is an exception and has become an expert on the subject. He has established a web site to help beekeepers find knowledgeable veterinarians (<http://beevets.com/>). His September, 2016, interview in Bee Culture magazine is a great source of further information (<http://www.beeeculture.com/do-i-need-a-vet-for-my-bees/>).

Treatments for varroa mites are regulated by the EPA and are available over the counter. This new rule does not affect any of the mite treatments that are so important, nor Fumagilin, which is used by some people for Nosema.

### **CLASSIFIED AD** *(free for ESHPA members!)*

BEE TRUCK FOR SALE: 2005 F450  
XLT Ford 4 x 4 diesel. 73 K miles. 6-  
speed standard trans., 12-ft. flatbed w/  
1,600 lb. tailgate lift. Michelin tires. Well  
maintained. \$17,000.

Rich Wakefield 315-493-0347



# 2016 Fall Board Meeting

## Minutes - Final

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

Embassy Suites-East Syracuse  
6646 Old Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057  
November 3, 2016 6pm

Roll Call; Sue Garing, Chuck Kutik, Aaron Morris, Hans Junga, James Doan, Eric Sprout, Bill Roome, Andy Card, Dan Winter, Jon Ryan, Ben Rulison, Mark Berninghausen, Ben Carpenter, Alayne Doan. Guest: Bob Talkiewicz.

**Motion #1 by Bill Roome. "To accept the Summer Picnic board minutes as amended." Seconded by Dan Winter. Vote-passed with one abstention.**

President Mark Berninghausen gave opening remarks, and Treasurer Sue Garing handed out copies of her report, and the board discussed the report.

### Committee Reports

*State Fair* - Hans Junga reported that our booth did well despite the booth's change of location, and that the overall sales were up. Hans reported that the new honey show display case was well received. Hans passed out copies of the document, "Affirmative Action and Equal Membership Opportunity Policy" that he had written. The board discussed this. It was discussed that the board needed "directors and officers insurance", so that they would not be personally sued, and that Mark Berninghausen was to look further into purchasing this policy. Ben Carpenter stated that he would place this document on the ESHPA web page, so when any person purchased a new membership, this document would have to be signed automatically. (See Motion #7 below)

**Motion #2 by Sue Garing. "That we as ESHPA board adopt the policy presented by Hans Junga. That this new Affirmative Action and Equal Membership Opportunity Policy is to be required of all new ESHPA members to acknowledge and sign." Second by Jon Ryan-Vote-passed.**

A discussion was held on the amount of profit made at the state fair and how to improve this. It was discussed that the governor of NY had included in this coming 2017 budget another 50 million to be spent on state fair improvements.

**Motion #3 by Ben Carpenter. "I make a motion that the state fair committee consider the following:**

**A- consider the 50-million-dollar project and lobby for money to be used for the ESHPA honey booth.**

**B- come up with a list of improvements and income generating products to be done and ready for the 2017 fair with the idea of tripling our income from the state fair."**

**Second by Chuck Kutik. Vote-passed**

**Motion #4 by Ben Carpenter. "I make a second motion that a volunteer committee be formed to get, organize and assign volunteers for any ESHPA function." Second by Chuck Kutik. Vote-passed.**

*Meeting Committee* - Chuck Kutik stated that he was delegating the job of chairing the picnic meeting to Dan Winter, and the chair of the fall meeting to Eric Sprout. This will help in the future succession of officers and understanding of their job requirements. It was discussed that the committee was looking into a different venue for this next year. The current venue was to overhaul their current space, but may not be ready by 2017 meeting date. Also, due to the 150th ESHPA anniversary in 2017, the committee was looking into a possible joint meeting with OBA in Niagara Falls. A location for the summer picnic was needed. Alayne Doan reported on ABF Honey Queens visit to the NYS Fair.

*By-Laws Committee* - Bill Roome stated that the committee was active, and had a thorough understanding of all By-Laws.

*Newsletter/Web site Committee* - Sue Garing reported that all current members received a hard copy of the newsletter. The committee found that sending it through snail mail reached more membership than by e-mail.

*Beekeeper of the Year Committee* - Jon Ryan reported and displayed this year's trophy to the board.

*Membership Committee* - The board discussed that the 2017 membership dates needed change because most people re-up for the current year at the fall meeting so late in the year and are confused that they are not members at the following Fall Meeting.

*Nominations Committee* - The board discussed that Jon Ryan from the South district was up for re-election for one more term. Jon Ryan reported that he would accept one more term. It was also discussed by the board the same for Jim Doan, as the western director. Jim reported that he

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# NY Beekeeping Business Profile

## Queen Producer Lynn Barton

by Amy Wakefield

Lynn Barton likes to keep a low profile. He has no social media or online presence, and does not use e-mail. His queen rearing business has no official name other than his own. Maybe because of this, many beekeepers in New York do not realize that he is a serious queen producer. He produces approx. 5,000 queens a year in SC and NY.

Recently I spoke with Lynn on the phone (he does answer his cell phone most of the time!) and asked him a few questions about his life and business.

Lynn was born in Morris, NY, where he lives today. He describes his beekeeping as “a hobby that got out of hand.” One year in the early 80’s he bought a few packages, a nuc or two, and caught a swarm from a tree.

The first year he had five hives, the second year he had 45, and the third year he was working for Rossman Apiaries in Moultrie, Georgia, helping to manage 4,500 hives for queen and package bee production. It was here that Lynn learned queen rearing from Floyd Porter, who had raised their queens for 40 years and took a liking to Lynn.

He describes the work as hard: often they would work from 7 to 7, shaking bees into packages rain or shine, feeding bees, and maintaining the precise schedule necessary for queen production. Lynn worked for Rossman’s for ten years, off and on, meanwhile building up his own bee business up north.

When the tracheal mites became a problem in the early 80’s, Lynn decided to sell out and change jobs. He worked for the Cooperstown Brewing Co. for six years, and Brewery Ommegang for two and a half. A broken leg caused him to lose this job, and he returned to beekeeping, accepting a job with Gus Rouse of the Kona Queen Company in Hawaii.

Lynn stayed in Hawaii about four years and describes it as a “great experience.” He learned a lot from Gus, whom Lynn describes as an intelligent businessman and a good queen guy. It is a large operation, 22,000 mating nucs and up to a quarter million queens produced each year. They are sold all over the world, mostly to the mainland U.S. and Canada, but also Japan and the Middle East. Personal matters brought him back to NY around 2005. He worked as a NY bee inspector for a few years while re-establishing his bee business.

He worked raising queens for Chuck Kutik for a few years before going out on his own four years ago. He now runs around 400 hives. All are shipped to SC for the winter, where queen rearing starts in late February.

Around May 1 the whole operation moves back up to NY. Lynn aims to run about 1,000 mating nucs and produce 5,000 queens a year. He sells queen cells for pick-up only, but will ship queens.

Lynn describes his queens as “mutts” of mostly Carniolian lineage with some Italian heritage.

He feels that 90% of the quality of a queen comes from the way she is raised. He selects grafting material from productive hives and makes sure there are large numbers of drones available with diverse genetics.

It takes a lot of organization to run a queen business, and Lynn states that the planning takes place six months to one year ahead. He relies on part time help.

When asked about his favorite part of queen rearing, Lynn cited the satisfaction of raising good quality queens and the resulting enthusiastic feedback from his customers. His least favorite parts of the business include the stress of trucking bees to SC as well as what we can all relate to: when customers do not pay up in a timely manner.

Lynn’s queens are competitively priced. Queens from South Carolina are sold out but he will have queens available after May 1 and throughout the summer. He can be reached at 607-316-7359.



Lynn teaching membership of Southern Tier Beekeepers about raising queens (Lynn with beard)

We spent much of our day with Michele looking over the results of the questionnaire and prioritizing the answers, pinpointing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats within and without ESHPA. Work groups discussed the comments provided by board members, determined items that shared support, and then voted upon priorities within each topic area. Issues receiving the most votes are priority issues for ESHPA.

One thing that came out of this day's work is a mission statement which must be voted on by the board. It reads, "The mission of ESHPA is to promote and protect the interests of NY beekeepers through modern and scientific beekeeping methods."

In order to fulfill this mission statement, and actually to progress further with the By-Laws Preamble as written, we have much work to do during this year, as well as the next, to get our house in order and to have a more disciplined association with foresight so we aren't reacting in a knee jerk/haphazard way to things that come down the pike.

In order to do some of the things we identified as important to the future of the association (improving our legislative process; becoming accomplished lobbyists, expand the state fair honey booth, improve income (by being able to accept tax deductible contributions from individuals and corporations), and be[ing a] major voice for beekeeping) we need to change our nonprofit status from 501(c)5 to 501(c)3. That, or maintain two nonprofit corporations. To do this we will need to change Article X - Dissolution in our By-Laws from "In the unlikely event of dissolution of the Corporation, any remaining assets of the corporation shall be transferred to Heifer International" before we set up another corporation. So we can transfer our assets from one ESHPA corporation to another ESHPA corporation. Otherwise the assets would go to Heifer International.

The recommended wording of the new Article X- Dissolution will read, "Upon dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes."

This By-Law change is but one of the changes to the By-Laws which are being recommended. But this is perhaps the first and most important so that we may proceed with focus and intent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Berninghausen

would also accept one more term.

*Legislative Committee* - It was reported by committee that a letter was addressed to the governor, the state agriculture commissioner, and the DEC commissioner thanking them for all their work on NY Pollination Plan/2016. Chuck reported on the Farm Viability Conference.

#### Other Reports

*AIAC Committee* - Chuck Kutik reported on the past meeting in July. He reported the committee membership has been reassigned by the commissioner in a more tech way, and that they discussed foul brood and the inspection program in NY.

Bill Roome had a question on the current ESHPA \$1,000 budget for education, and where it was being spent. The board then discussed that \$500 had already been used for the 2016 Fair. This was spent by sponsoring the ABF Honey Queen. Alayne Doan said she would like to repeat this sponsorship once again for 2017. The board also discussed and questioned the remaining \$1,000 budgeted for education and how it should be used. A motion was passed by the board in 2016 to purchase media equipment for ESHPA use; Ben Carpenter was again directed to purchase A/V equipment for use at meetings.

*Old and Unfinished Business* - A discussion was held on "Who Is ESHPA?"

**Motion #5 by Jim Doan. "I make a motion that ESHPA form a committee to investigate developing more purposes for why members should join ESHPA." Second by Andy Card. Vote-passed.**

A new committee was formed. "ESHPA Development Committee" members: Jim Doan, Ben Carpenter, Andy Card, Aaron Morris.

A discussion was held on volunteer compensation for any meeting volunteers. It was discussed that ESHPA will not be obliged to pay volunteers; a form of compensation was not determined. A discussion was held on starting a volunteer list.

**Motion #6 by Aaron Morris. "I move that we offer compensation to any volunteer who requested it, with vetting." Second by Jim Doan. Vote-passed.**

The issue of "directors and officers insurance" was revisited and discussed. Board members all agreed that we really needed this.

**Motion #7 by Chuck to "Seek bids and purchase O&D insurance for the ESHPA board." Vote passed.**

**Motion #8 by Chuck Kutik to adjourn. Second by Jim Doan. Vote passed**

9:18pm. Adjourn  
Respectfully submitted by  
Alayne E. Doan  
ESHPA Secretary

# NY Bee Wellness Workshop Honeybee Disease & Management



July 7-9, 2017

Morrisville State College,  
Morrisville NY (Madison Cnty)

Instructors: Medhat Nasr, PhD, and Jennifer  
Tsuruda, PhD

Three options to attend:

1) Friday, July 7, 7-9pm session, Medhat Nasr, PhD, presentation; open to all, general admission, \$20

2) Saturday, July 8, 9-5pm, lecture and demo, open to all, general admission, \$50

3) Special two-day session- Sunday and Saturday, July 9 is the field and lab session, 9-5pm workshop, enrollment limited to 24 participants; participants must meet requirements and also attend the Saturday session, \$150, add Friday evening (\$20 extra) for the full three-day event.

Eventbrite registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ny-bee-...ts-33005508364>

This award winning program concentrates on the skills needed to address honey bee disease and management.

Alberta, Canada, provincial apiculturist Medhat Nasr has received the Roger A. Morse Outstanding Teaching/Extension Service/Regulatory Award. He has over two decades of research, teaching and extension work with the Ontario Beekeepers' Association, Rutgers University, and, for the past 15 years, in Alberta. He developed both the Bee Health App, and the Varroa alcohol wash shaker jar.

Jennifer Tsuruda, PhD, Apiculture Specialist, Clemson University

Questions?, Contact Pat Bono: [workshop@nybeewellness.org](mailto:workshop@nybeewellness.org)  
<http://nybeewellness.org/>  
585-820-6619



Earl Villecco prepares nuc boxes in South Carolina

## A Request for ESHPA History

The history of ESHPA is interesting reading for those researching the soon-to-be 200 years that the organization has existed. Not all of the years are documented, and it is an ongoing project for the historian to eventually bring up to date. Roger Morse wrote about the time from the founding year in 1868 to 1967, and this document can be found on our website. Fred Ludwig continued the writing including the years from 1968 to 1985. These years will also be available for viewing on the computer in the upcoming weeks. I already have most documents from 2008 to 2013 when I was secretary/treasurer. <http://www.eshpa.org/about-us/>

This article is an invitation to ESHPA members, present or former, to help with collecting any information about ESHPA especially from the years not covered. Good items of interest include, but are not limited to: newsletters, annual meeting programs, meeting minutes or miscellaneous notes, lists of officers and directors or general membership. Old photographs would be a great find, especially ones with names to go along with them. I have had photos scanned in the past, preserving the images for many uses well into the future.

Items of interest may be donated to Hans Junga, ESHPA Historian, for safe-keeping, or I can make copies of material and return them to you. Files may be emailed to [hans@castletv.com](mailto:hans@castletv.com), or printed matter sent to 46527 County Route 1, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. Another option is to bring items along with you to a summer picnic or annual fall meeting.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Hans, ESHPA Historian

Did you know the first president of ESHPA was Moses Quimby of St. Johnsville, NY? He presided over the fledgling organization from 1870-1875.

1958

*In this year a special attempt was made to invite beginners and hobbyists to a special Saturday afternoon session following the regular meeting. Harold Merrell of Wolcott and Everett Clark of New Hartford led the discussion. Few hobbyists attended the session but it is interesting to note that the commercial beekeepers stayed to hear the discussions on the fundamental principals of beekeeping. (from Roger Morse's History)*

## ***ESHPA participates in NY Farm Bureau Lobby Days***

Members of the Empire State Honey Producers Association traveled to Albany on March 6 - 7, 2017, and spent two days advocating for funding and legislation important to NY farmers and beekeepers as part of the annual New York Farm Bureau (NYFB) lobby days.

In preparation for the event, Stephen Willson, ESHPA's legislative advisory lead, articulated a set of talking points (See display ad, page 13). These, as well as a new tri-fold brochure describing ESHPA's organizational purpose and goals, were developed through a collaborative process and then expertly laid out and printed by Ben Carpenter. Their value at the Lobby Day event was clear to me and they will be made available to interested local bee clubs in the future.

The kick-off event was the Taste of NY reception held in the Empire State Plaza. ESHPA joined nearly 90 other county NYFB and agricultural organizations, hosting a table featuring honey samples from Kutik's Honey and Rulisons Honey Farm. During the reception, ESHPA legislative committee members Stephen Wilson, Karen Kutik, Ben Rulison and I discussed the importance of the honey bee and the role of the beekeeper in NY agriculture with legislators, staff members and state agency representatives. The relaxed informal setting was an excellent chance to meet a host of interesting and influential people including Agricultural & Markets commissioner Richard A. Ball, who was one of the evening's final visitors to the table.

Farm Bureau organizes the annual Lobby Day event to provide an opportunity for members from all over the state to meet face to face with their local senators and Assembly members. Additionally they visit "adopted" lawmakers who represent areas of the state underrepresented by agriculture, such as New York City.

As a Broome County Farm Bureau member, I joined the contingency from my region. We called on Sen. Daniel Squadron, Assemblywoman Weinstein, Assemblyman Clifford Crouch, Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo and Senator Fred Akshar. Karen Kutik, a Chenango County Farm Bureau member, also had appointments with her county's contingency. A coordinated effort set the County Farm Bureau appointments in such a fashion that a maximum number of contacts were made. In most instances, the sessions ran about 20 minutes. As NYFB was the

event's organizer, their priority legislative initiatives were generally the first items up for discussion. However the representatives being called on usually made it a point to address each visiting member individually, and thus concerns of the beekeepers were brought forward.

As an ESHPA member attending NYBF's Lobby Day event for the first time I was impressed with the level of professionalism and the access the Farm Bureau organization allowed. ESHPA is currently exploring ways to have a better legislative impact. Last year NYFB proved a strong ally in garnering support and funding for honey bee health and research. NYFB's work in Albany provides a great template for NY state beekeepers to consider following. Many commodity industries host their own lobby days. ESHPA envisions working with NY's many local bee clubs in a similar fashion. Perhaps we'll see ESHPA hosting a lobby day event of its own. In the meantime, joining NYFB is a great way to support an organization that has already gone to bat for us.

Some beekeepers don't agree with all of Farm Bureau's current legislative priorities. As a Farm Bureau member, I now have a voice and can participate in the conversations that guide their organization's policy in the future. An example of this was the opportunity to sit with dairy farmers over an informal boxed lunch and discuss the topic of invasive species and bee forage. The camaraderie gained over a day of a shared experience addressing and advocating for issues we knew we could agree on helped start a conversation about a topic that neither side might have previously had the personal insight or understanding of the other's position on, outside of the rhetoric of stated opposition.

Many may not know this, but Farm Bureau, a national organization with huge influence, started right here in NY in 1911 when John Barron, a farmer who graduated from Cornell University, worked as an extension agent in Broome County, New York.

As a beekeeper, I share a strong commitment to the region where I keep my bees as well as the belief that grassroots efforts are the surest way to find solutions to the problems that plague us all. The only way to have a voice in the policy that shapes our future is to join in the conversation. This beekeeper is grateful for the welcome Farm Bureau extended to a new member and looks forward to working with them to forge legislative common ground in the future.

Michelle Fuller, Southern Region Director



From L to R: Kevin Frisbie, Hank Ferris, Bradd Vickers, Karen Kutik, Tina James, Michele Kline, Eric Winsor, Fred Akshar, Judi Whittaker, Michelle Fuller, Dave Johnson, Bill Olin, Joe Cornell, Keith Vanalthuis visit Sen. Akshar office in Albany.



## Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc.

*The Empire State Honey Producers Association, Inc. is in support of the following and asks for your help to ensure that Honey Bees have all the help they need!*

1. Support the Governor's Budget Request for continuing funding of the Pollinator Protection Plan (P3) at \$500,000, especially that part which continues honey bee health research and extension education at Cornell and the Cornell Tech Team- NYFB supports \$500,000 in funding for the Pollinator Protection Plan in the Environmental Protection fund.
2. The NYFB legislative request for \$200,000 to continue and expand the Cornell honey bee pollen testing and analysis program- NYFB supports \$200,000 for the Cornell Honeybee Research and Extension Program
3. Ensure that last year's and this year's P3 portion of the \$500K designated for DEC Pesticides Regulations Enforcement is implemented and enforced- NYFB hasn't identified specific portions of the Pollinator Protection Plan for funding, but supports overall funding for the Plan.
4. Sustain our asking for a full-time honey bee biology (apiculture) faculty teaching position in the Department of Entomology, Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) - consult with Andy Card and Sam Hall as to their progress in finding matching funding for this.- NYFB supports.



Visit Us Online [www.ESHPA.org](http://www.ESHPA.org)

## Fall Meeting Honey Show Announces New Contest!

Have you found it strange that the Roger A. Morse Honey Show at the November ESHPA fall meeting doesn't use *flavor* as a criteria in honey judging? We thought so too, so, we're adding a best flavor contest! Yes, flavor is the only criterion for this new competition.

Enter a one-pound glass jar of your own honey. We're not judging on color so put tape or paint or something opaque around the jar.

Judging this subjective could get sticky so we hope to wrangle some of our speakers onto the panel of experts.

Full honey show rules are available at [ESHPA.org](http://ESHPA.org)





## ESHPA Donates \$3,000 to Blue Dasher Farms

Dr. Jonathon Lundgren, founder (with his wife, Jenna Lundgren) of the Ecdysis Foundation and Blue Dasher Farm was an inspiring speaker at our fall meeting. Keep up to date with his work to determine and establish successful regenerative agriculture practices at [bluedasher.farm](http://bluedasher.farm) or on Facebook.

These are specific goals listed for honey bee research (From the web site):

"Honey bee and pollinator conservation. Numerous factors currently threaten pollinators (with an emphasis on managed honey bees), including diseases, pests, pesticides, and lack of forage. As mentioned above, Blue Dasher Farm is committed to investigating ways to diversify agroecosystems in ways that promote pollinator diversity and function while simultaneously reducing the nutritional stress and pesticide exposure that contribute to pollinator declines. Specifically, we are examining how cropland in the landscape affects honey bee and native pollinator community abundance and physiology, working with agronomists and seed dealers to develop new crop rotations that are pollinator friendly, investigating the benefits of conservation strips in pollinator performance. Additionally, we are developing predatory mites as a solution to the Varroa mite problem in honey bee hives. Pollinator conservation cannot be attained if this issue is siloed, and Blue Dasher Farm strives to link pollinator services to other ecosystem services provided by biodiversity (soil processes, dung removal, biological control, etc.)."

## Your Ad *HERE*

An affordable option for reaching NY's beekeepers with your message.

Advertising rates (per edition):

**\$110 full page**

**\$70 half page**

**\$50 quarter page**

**\$40 for an eighth page**

Contact Sue at [sgaring@verzion.net](mailto:sgaring@verzion.net)

## Empire State Honey Producers Association 2016 Officers and Directors

President	Mark Berninghausen	(315) 250-0555 437 Hurley Rd., Brasher Falls, NY 13613 <a href="mailto:markberninghausen@gmail.com">markberninghausen@gmail.com</a>
1st V-P	Chuck Kutik	(607) 316-0474 285 Lyon Brook Rd., Norwich, NY 13815 <a href="mailto:kutikshoneychuck@outlook.com">kutikshoneychuck@outlook.com</a>
2nd V-P	Eric Sprout	(315) 480-5554 P.O. Box 208, Rose, NY 14542 <a href="mailto:eastcoastpollination@yahoo.com">eastcoastpollination@yahoo.com</a>
3rd V-P	Daniel Winter	(315) 594-2634 7311 East Port Bay Rd., Wolcott, NY 14590 <a href="mailto:twinter5@rochester.rr.com">twinter5@rochester.rr.com</a>
Secretary, Newsletter Mailer	Laura Doan	(585) 729-2437 343 Morton Rd., Hamlin, NY 14464 <a href="mailto:lidoan3405@yahoo.com">lidoan3405@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer, Newsletter Editor	Susan Garing	(607) 775-5041 294 Ostrum Rd., Kirkwood, NY 13795 <a href="mailto:sgaring@verizon.net">sgaring@verizon.net</a>
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North	Ben Rulison	<a href="mailto:rulisonhoney@verizon.net">rulisonhoney@verizon.net</a>
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Historian	Hans Junga	<a href="mailto:hans@castletv.com">hans@castletv.com</a>



Send memberships and address corrections to [lidoan3405@yahoo.com](mailto:lidoan3405@yahoo.com)

### ESHPA Newsletter Deadlines

The ESHPA newsletter is expanding! We'll continue to publish two paper newsletters in advance of our Summer Picnic and Fall Meeting, but check your inboxes for more current events mailings from ESHPA. Have a regional meeting or a bee class that NY beekeepers need to know about? Let ESHPA know and we'll help you get the word out.

Summer Newsletter deadline: April 1

Fall Newsletter deadline: August 1

### ESHPA Voting By-laws Extracts

"Annual and life membership dues are set by the board of directors and approved by the general membership. Only paid-up members are eligible to vote on corporate business."

"Spouses of members must take out a separate membership if they wish to vote."

"A paid-up membership is entitled to one vote."

"A membership roll showing the list of members as of the record date, certified by the secretary of the corporation, shall be produced at any meeting of members upon the request therefore of any member who has given written notice to the corporation that such request will be made at least 10 days prior to such meeting. All persons appearing on such membership roll shall be entitled to vote at the meeting."



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

**Laura Doan, Secretary**

**343 Morton Rd.**

**Hamlin, NY 14464**

Or join **online** at [www.ESHPA.org](http://www.ESHPA.org)

Please select a membership year:

Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2017** see list below

Dues for membership year January 1- December 31, **2018** 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

Student \$ 10.00 (nonvoting)

You can also pay for your ESHPA dues online. Membership is individual, one membership one vote. ESHPA bylaws require membership to be paid in full 10 days before a General Meeting to vote at that meeting. Thank you for joining/renewing.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 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.

**Revised 3/12/2017 SCG**



ESHPA  
343 Morton Road  
Hamlin, NY 14464

## **Reminder to NY Nuc Producers: Get Your Hive and Nucs Inspected**

Dear Bee Clubs and Members,

Healthy bees are essential to successful honey and pollination operations. A critical first step is starting with healthy stock. This letter serves as a reminder that the New York State Apiary program needs to inspect and certify in state bee operations that are selling nucs produced in New York. Most of the nucs sold in NY enter our state with a certificate issued from the state where they were produced. The colonies were inspected for American Foulbrood (AFB) disease in that state and are certified no disease found. This out-of-state certificate meets the requirements of NY. In recent years, many in-state beekeepers are producing and selling nucs. In-state beekeepers' nucs and/or their parent colonies need to be inspected and certified as no AFB disease found. The nucs are able to be sold with assurance of no AFB disease was found at the time of the inspection.

This inspection benefits both the seller and buyer, being a third-party check of the bee operation and possibly the nucs, showing no evidence of AFB disease at the time of the inspection.

We appreciate the in-state nuc producers' cooperation in this matter. If you are producing nucs for sale in New York State please contact the Apiculturist in Albany and I will schedule an appointment for the bee inspectors to inspect your colonies of bees or possibly your nucs for the 2017 spring bee season.

Please share this information with anyone you may know who is selling NY produced nucs.  
Thank you,

Paul Cappy  
Apiculturist  
Division of Plant Industry  
New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235  
Phone: 518-485-8760  
Fax: 518-457-1204  
e-mail: Paul.Cappy@agriculture.ny.gov

### **Calendar of ESHPA Events**

**ESHPA 2017 Summer Picnic and  
General Membership Meeting**  
July 22, 2017  
Dyce Lab, 209 Freese Rd, Ithaca, NY

**ESHPA Fall Meeting**  
November 17-18, 2017  
Four Points By Sheraton Niagara Falls Fallsview  
6455 Fallsview Blvd, Niagara Falls, ON Canada

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