



“The Buzz”

*Sussex County Beekeepers
Association Newsletter*

July 2014

Summer Issue



President's Message

A Work In Progress....

A big THANK YOU to Elly Lessin, one of our new members, for taking on the Newsletter Editor position. This is the first Sussex County Beekeepers Association Newsletter in a long time. We hope you enjoy it and welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to Elly at news@scba.club.

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The newsletter is one of many projects that are underway. All were started at the request or suggestion of members and I consider them all “works in progress”. They are intended to improve the club and we need your input to confirm they really are improvements. Please be a part of the process and provide comments – either positive or negative. But if it's negative also include suggestions for improvements – No “this stinks” without a why & what could be done differently!

Following are brief discussions of these projects:

By-laws. As most of you know last year our parent organization, the New Jersey Beekeepers Association (we are officially the “Sussex Branch” of the NJBA) revised its by-laws. Our by-laws are currently under review to evaluate whether changes are needed relative to NJBA's revisions.

Elections We are due to hold Executive Board elections in January. If you are interested in running for an office or would like to nominate someone please let Carmine DeFalco, John Harrison or me know in person or email elections@scba.club

Fair Vendors The SCBA Executive Board has opened the sale of hive-related products at the Fair to all SCBA members. An application process was developed and all members were invited to apply. Thank you to Leeann Coleman for putting this together and Tom Makoujy for handling the implementation.

Honey Queen/Princess and Jr. Beekeepers

Dan Perez has drafted an explanation and application process for our Honey Queen / Princess program. We have added a Jr Beekeeper to this program for interested young men. Expect to see these young people working at our fair booth as they develop their beekeeping, money handling and public speaking skills.

Honey Show Rules At the request of some members we have added a Photography class to the Honey Show this year and at the Judge's suggestion we have made some other updates to the rules.

Thank you to Karen Longo and John Harrison for handling this project. The application package has been emailed and hard copies will be available at the 7/19/14 meeting. Entries may be submitted at the 7/31/14 final set-up meeting, or 8/1/14 before noon.

I'm sure I have missed some things but, its all a “work in progress” and hopefully will improve with time. I look forward to seeing you all at the Fair!

Best,
Debbie





Road Trip Anyone?

We are organizing an SBCA Day Field Trip to Mann Lake in PA.

If enough people are interested, Mann Lake will put on a special tour and provide us with a discount on most items purchased.

Let us know if you would be interested at:
news@sbca.club

Calendar and Events

July 19, 2014 at 10:00 am. Fairgrounds Richards Building (The Big Blue Building) Fair bee booth partial setup, Fair schedule & signups and pot-luck lunch.

July 31, 2014 at 6:00 pm, fair bee booth final setup, Honey Show entry drop off and honey royalty crowning.

Aug 1-10, 2014 New Jersey State Fair

August 27, 2014 at 7:30 pm, fair admin bldg, recap of fair and preparing your apiary for fall/winter.

September 13, 2014 noon start, SCBA/SENY Joint Picnic at Leeann Coleman's place 150 Beaver Run Road Road Hardyston, bring a chair and dish to share.

October 11, 2014 Harvest Fall Festival,
Roman will be coordinator.

November 15, 2014 Holiday Dinner,
time and place to be determined.

January 10, 2015 Annual meeting-elections.

Teleconference Call

Save Our Bees!

Jennifer Sass, NRDC Senior Scientist, NRDC
Health and Environment Program

Wednesday, July 23rd

4:00 pm Eastern

NRDC filed an emergency petition with the EPA, calling for a ban on bee-killing neonics.

Join a teleconference to get an up-to-the-minute report. Dr. Sass is delighted some beekeepers may be in attendance!

If you will be on the call **please RSVP**

no later than Monday, July 21st

by email at membership@nrdc.org

or by phone at 212-727-4510. They will provide a call in number.

Bees in the News



Web Links

(click your cursor over type)

Our Bees Ourselves

Bees - Science - The New York Times

Nature's 3D Printers: Using Honeybees to Create Art ...



World Concern

The world is waking up and concerned about the plight of honey bees! Everyone I tell that I am a new beekeeper has some knowledge about the importance of bees as pollinators, and that's a good thing!

Here are some interesting news articles and even artworks featuring bees.

Think Global Act Local

NJ Assemblyman Parker Space sponsored 4 bills to protect New Jersey's 3000 commercial and hobbyist beekeepers. He said, *"Bees are vital to our food chain. They are instrumental in pollinating our state's strawberry, pumpkin, squash, peach, apple, cranberry and blueberry crops. Our state's 7 million dollar honey bee industry contributes to the production of nearly \$200 million worth of fruits and vegetables annually."*

Officers and Mentors

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Timely Tips...

From our SCBA Mentors and the State Apiarist.
Its Mite Treatment Time.

Now is the time hives are raising the nurse bees that will raise the bees that need to survive the winter. If these nurse bees are weak the next generation will be weak & less able to survive the long northeast winter.

There are many products out there some organic and some not. You will need to research which is best for your apiary and follow the label directions. Most of the treatments have specific temperature ranges so you will need to check your local weather forecast before treating. Some treatments can be used with honey supers in place others should not be used with honey supers in place.

If you have questions – ask a mentor.



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