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# July 2012



**NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY**

*A Division of The New Jersey Beekeepers Association*

President	Frank Mortimer	201-417-7309	Secretary	Open	
V. President	Lynn Paglia	845-558-1921	Treasurer	Karl Schoenknecht	201-891-0947
2 <sup>nd</sup> V. Pres.	Rich Schluger	201-693-6949	3 <sup>rd</sup> V. Pres.	Tom Fuscaldo	973-942-5066

Meeting on: **Friday, July 20th at 7:30 PM**, Location: **Ramapo College of NJ, 505 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, N.J 07430**



*Bee Enthusiasts & Bee Curious always welcome!*



*Weather permitting.*



It is with deep regret that I inform you of the loss of our friend, member and beekeeper Frank Morrisey. Frank has been a member of our branch for 3 years. He was an enthusiastic supporter of our branch and beekeeping in general and participated in many of our functions.

**Rest in Peace Frank. You will be missed.**

We will be continuing our BeeTalk® series where our meetings are dedicated to answering your beekeeping questions. July is an important month for beekeepers. The dearth is approaching and beekeeper questions abound. The honey harvest has begun or will begin soon. Hive treatment options will be discussed. We are here for you. We will do our best to get you opinions from our more experienced members and we will deal with all kinds of situations.

## Message from the President:

### Hello NJ Beekeepers,

While I am certain there is a special place in Dante's Inferno for the first person to ask, "Is it hot enough for you?" I'm also willing to bet THAT guy never wore a bee suit! Yes, the last several weeks have been unbelievably hot, and you should take extra care of your bees and of yourself. Bees and their keepers both need plenty of water and ventilation.

The next month will be filled with many to-dos for all of us. If you were lucky enough to get honey this year, now is the time to start planning to pull off your supers. Remember, you should only pull them when you are also ready to extract your honey. All it takes is one wax moth to destroy your honey crop and negate all of your bees and your hard work.

If you are planning on treating your bees for Varroa mites, soon will be the time. Consistently, the research from our NJ state apiarist, Tim Schuler, has shown that if you treat your bees in July and August, then they have a significantly higher probability of surviving the winter. So, if you are going to treat, now is the time.

My hives seem to be doing well, with varying amounts of honey production. I remain amazed and fascinated how hives sitting next to one another can have so much variance, everything from temperament to honey production. And, for me, that is one of the most exciting parts of beekeeping. No matter how much you read, study, or work your hives, the bees still make up the rules. If you listen to, and observe your bees, they will tell you exactly what they need.

Here's to the hot, yet honey-sweet month ahead!

Frank Mortimer

President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers

## Message from Lynn Paglia:

The nectar flow has slowed down and we are nearing the dearth when food is scarce. All new hives should be fed heavily to encourage wax production. Any interruption in the sugar water will slow down or stop the bees from drawing out the comb in the brood boxes-those frames need to be drawn out before long before winter so the bees can store their food for the winter in the combs.

July is month to extract honey from the supers of the established hives. You must make sure that the frames with honey are capped since extracting combs that are not capped or have too much of the frame uncapped can mean that the moisture content of the honey is too high. Too high moisture content in the honey can lead to fermentation. Once the frames of honey are removed from the hive they must be extracted within a few days. If you put off extracting you can come back to a mess caused by the wax moth and larvae. The wax moth larvae tunnels through the comb, eating as it goes, and destroying the honey and comb. Once the honey is extracted, the frames can be put back on the hive to let the bees have the leftover honey on the comb to eat or store for their use over the winter.

Once the honey supers are off the hive, the hive should be treated for mites. There are a few choices, what you decide is up to you. The treatments should be applied early taking into account the temperature ranges for each treatment. Decreasing the mite count in the hive early means that the fall/winter bees will be healthier and better able to form a large cluster and make it through winter to the spring.

New hives should have a good laying queen and a good brood pattern. A good brood pattern means that there will be many new bees to care for the queen, produce wax, and share the jobs in the hive.

## Message from Tom Fuscaldò:

Tom reports that his scale hive shows no further weight gains and, in fact, is starting to show a small loss of weight. This may or may not signal the end of the nectar flow as the weather has been very dry. It is also important to note that Tom is located in Paterson NJ and this may be a localized effect but it has been hot and dry all over the State.

## Club Happenings:



After finally getting the Warre hive placed at Ramapo College (just behind the Sustainability Center) it turned out to be too late to populate it due to the swarming season coming to a close. In its place we have sited 2 nucleus hives which are being tended to by Lynn. They are doing well and will over-winter in that spot. Next season we will replace the nucs with the Warre hive with a freshly caught swarm.



Dan Fryda, founder and president of Spa Technologies was scheduled to speak at the upcoming July meeting about his unique, high-end skin care products incorporating natural ingredients including honey, propolis and beeswax. He has gone to California on business and will **not** be able to present to our club in July. We will reschedule.



Be sure to go to our Face book page to see great pics posted by the nearly 500 Facebook fans we have at our page and recent articles in the news about our members.



Club hats and shirts will be on sale at the July meeting. Support your club by buying them. They are \$20 each and they look great. Show your Northeast New Jersey Beekeeper pride by wearing our gear.

**Remember:** <http://www.njbees.org> is your website. Check that site for everything Northeast New Jersey Beekeeping!

**Next Month:** We continue our BeeTalk® series where we focus on the month and what beekeepers should be doing with their hives, what to look for on a frame during an inspection, when, how and what to feed, harvesting and treatment, equipment questions, tips and tricks and techniques. You are not in this alone. We are here to support you! We will be talking bees and taking questions from our members and devoting each meeting to providing answers designed to insure a prosperous and healthy colony of bees. No question goes unanswered.



❖ <i>Volunteers</i> ❖	
<b>Judy and Terry Regan</b>	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
<b>Katie Devitt</b>	Hard mailings for the Newsletter, Club shirts
<b>Rachel Avenia-Prol</b>	Web site creation and training: <a href="http://www.nnjbees.org">www.nnjbees.org</a>
<b>Ken Hyman</b>	Built a Warre hive and donated it to the club
<b>Michael Miller</b>	Apparel production, beekeeping instructor
<b>Leigh K. Lydecker</b>	Beekeeping Instructor
<b>Hugh Knowlton</b>	Workshop coordinator and presenter

Thank you all! If any members want to volunteer to help our club please contact me either at the meetings or via [email](#). There is lots to do!



Frank generating some Buzz at Whole Foods in Englewood NJ