



nnjbees.org

September 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 nd V. Pres.	Rich Schluger	201-693-6949	3 rd V. Pres.	Tom Fuscaldo	973-942-5066

Meeting on: **Friday, September 21st 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.



This month we pick up again on our All Star Guest Speaker Program. We are honored to have Dr. David Gilley of William Paterson University. Dr. Gilley is the only academic bee researcher in New Jersey. Prior to his William Paterson faculty appointment, Dr. Gilley was a research associate at the U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service/Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, Arizona. Read more about Dr. Gilley [here](#).



Message from the President:

Hello Northeast NJ Beekeepers!

The other day I received a call from a fellow beekeeper. He said while he was not a member of our club, he and I spoke 2 years ago and he had an urgent question...He started his story off by saying that he and his father were just now pulling off their honey supers. They waited until September because they thought waiting would give them as much honey as possible. The method they chose to pull off their supers was to go frame by frame and brush the bees off as they went. Then it seemed that the more bees they brushed off, the more agitated the bees became. The bees were becoming quite aggressive until one found its way inside one of their veils. As the bee was angrily buzzing around inside the veil, the new beekeeper decided that before this bee stung him, he would take off his veil to let the bee out. Unfortunately, when he let this bee out, he gave the rest of the hive access to his now exposed face, head and neck.

You can guess what happened next...

We all make mistakes, and I know I have personally made many more mistakes than most. However, the real lesson is that the best way to learn is from one another. But, the only way this can happen is by talking with other Beekeepers, asking questions and offering one another advice and support. The good news is that the best place to talk with other Beekeepers is at our monthly meetings. Imagine how this story could have been completely different if the aforementioned Beekeepers had regularly attended our meetings. One of the most amazing aspects about keeping bees is that no matter how much you know, there is always something more to learn. Which is one of the greatest things about our club, the Northeast NJ Beekeepers. We have many knowledgeable members and so many are willing to help out, offer advice, and share what has worked, and what has not. I am proud of our club, we have become a tight-knit community that helps one another through the local month-by-month challenges that are constantly being thrown at us. We are a community that is proud of what we do, and we are lucky that we also enjoy spending time with one another as we talk about our bees over coffee, treats, and if we're really lucky—homemade mead.

So, if it's been awhile since you have been to a meeting, or if you know someone who has a bee in their bonnet about attending meetings, try to stop by one of these Fridays. I promise you'll enjoy it more than a dozen stings to your face.

Frank Mortimer

President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers

Message from Lynn Paglia:

Fall is here and winter is not far away. The bees are getting ready for winter and are storing honey in the upper deep box and pushing the queen down into the bottom deep box. She might still be in the top box but as the bees fill the top box with nectar the queen will go down. It is good to check every week or two to make sure that the bees are storing away their winter supply of honey. If not you must feed the bees heavily. A top hive feeder or pail feeder is good since a lot of sugar water can be given at one time and they can build up their stores quickly. Each full size hive should have between 60-70lbs of honey stored in their comb for the winter. All hives must have their frames of foundation drawn out into honeycomb. Feed your hives heavily if they are still drawing out their frames of foundation. Frames of foundation in an overwintered hive are a recipe for disaster since the bees can't store honey or pollen in sheets of wax. Mouse guards must be put on the entrance to each hive. A mouse will get in a hive once it starts to get colder to get warm and can chew through honeycomb and leave a mess.

Ramapo College has been so supportive of our beekeeping club. Richard Schluger and I were just asked to attend a honey themed dinner at the Havemeyer house. The evening was lovely and the emphasis on honeybees really served as an education for the other guests. They put so much effort into bee details in the menu, the centerpiece and the whole evening. A special thank you is in order to Ramapo College, and in particular President Peter Mercer and his wife Jackie for making the evening possible and for honoring the honeybee and our bee club. The honey that was used in the meal was from one of the hives on their property and extra was given for their use.

Club Happenings:



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

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



Next Month: The Northeast NJ Beekeepers will present **Ross Conrad**, a regular contributor to Bee Culture Magazine, author of "Natural Beekeeping" and owner of Dancing Bee Gardens on Friday October 19th.

Ross will be speaking about Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) and the current state of Beekeeping. An overview of the latest on CCD, and an exploration of ideas that each of us can use to counter the stresses on our bees and techniques for keeping our hives alive.

The Northeast NJ Beekeepers meet at Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ in the Anisfield School of Business, Room 135S. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. **Suggested donation is \$7.50.**



❖ **Volunteers** ❖

Judy and Terry Regan	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
Katie Devitt	Hard mailings for the Newsletter, Club shirts
Rachel Avenia-Prol	Web site creation and training: www.nnjbees.org
Ken Hyman	Built a Warre hive and donated it to the club
Michael Miller	Apparel production, beekeeping instructor
Leigh K. Lydecker	Beekeeping Instructor
Hugh Knowlton	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!



Another great Tom Miller photograph.

BEEKEEPERS