



nnjbees.org

November 2012



NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
A Division of The New Jersey Beekeepers Association

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Meeting on: **Friday, November 16th 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 continue with our All Star Guest Speaker Program. Bob Slanzi and Co., Master Mead makers extraordinaire. Bob will go into detail on how we can all make mead from start to finish. Bob has garnered many awards for his meads and it is clear that he knows his meads. Bee there for this interesting, informative and thirst quenching lecture.



Message from the President:

Hello Fellow Northeast NJ Beekeepers!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your bees dry, warm, and ready for winter. Since our last meeting, our area was devastated by a hurricane, hit with its first snowstorm, and we're still having days in the high 60s. While Sandy was trying to knock down every tree in the tri-state area, my thoughts turned to my bees. I wondered if a hive has a sense of an oncoming storm, and when the winds really start to pick up, collectively, what are the bees "thinking?" Without honeycomb-sized TVs, all tuned in to The Weather Channel, does a colony somehow know that one storm is worse than another? Or, do the bees just huddle, generate heat and wait until the storm has passed? I also tried to imagine what would the bees think and do if the top was blown off their hive? Would they just stay huddled, trying to block the rain out, or would they reshape the honeycomb into umbrellas, or tiny surfboards and ride a wave to higher ground. After the storm passed, and I was able to check on my hives, and what a glorious sight it was for me to see so much activity! I wondered as the bees were flying about, did any of them have any sense of the devastation around them, or were they just focused on seeing if anything was in bloom.

Soon, we will move into winter, the temperature will begin to drop, and if the forecasters predications are correct, the snow will pile up around us. During the winter, even if you are new to beekeeping, it is easy to know what any colony of bees is thinking, "it's cold, it's cold, it's cold!!!" But, the bees will do what they have done for ages, they will work together, for the good of the hive, so they can be ready, and start fresh in the spring. As a member of our club, I would ask you to take a lesson from the bees and ask yourself what could you do for the good of our "hive" our club.

The Northeast NJ beekeepers association has seen tremendous growth in the past few years, and moving forward, we need your help. In December, we will be holding our yearly elections. I would encourage every member to volunteer to help out any way you can. Speaking on behalf of all the club officers, we want to continue to host meaningful meetings and have more hands-on workshops in 2013. And, the more help we have, the more we will be able to do. We have started to do great things, and what we have to remember is that we are just getting started. Our goal is to make the Northeast NJ Beekeepers the best bee club, by being informative, member-driven, and the most fun. So, as you read this, please start thinking about what you could do to help your club. You will make a difference, and you, along with all of us, will benefit from anything that you can do.

See you at this month's meeting, where we will learn the art of mead making by the master, Bob Slanzi. Bee well!

Frank Mortimer
President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers

Club Happenings:



Be sure to go to our Face book page to see great pics posted by the over 530 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: Elections are at hand. In December we will elect the officers of our bee club. I encourage each and every one of you to consider running for office. You can make a difference! Beekeeping experience is not a qualification for office, enthusiasm, drive and innovative thinking is!



❖ 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.njbees.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!