



nnjbees.org

October 2013



NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

A division of New Jersey Beekeepers Association

President	Frank Mortimer	201-417-7309	Secretary	Ed Vaeth	908-283-1925
V. President	Lynn Paglia	845-558-1921	Treasurer	Karl Schoenknecht	201-891-0947
2 nd V. Pres.	Rich Schluger	201-693-6949	Beekeeper Emeritus	Tom Fuscaldo	973-942-5066

Meeting on: **Friday, October 19th at 7:30 PM**, Location: **Ramapo College of NJ, 505 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430**



Bee Enthusiasts & Bee Curious always welcome!



Weather permitting.



This month we are proud to present Michael J. Pessolano, MJP Land Use Planning LLC.

Message from the President:

October is here, and that means your hives should be heavy with honey stores so your bees will have plenty to eat as we go into winter. It's also getting cold, so if you are still feeding your hives, you should think about removing your feeders, because the moisture plus the cold temperatures are not good for the bees. Now is also a good time to make sure your bee yard is ready for winter. One year ago this month, Hurricane Sandy hit our area, and while it was a rare event, it is always better to be prepared. Look around and see if there are any trees or tree limbs that might break and crash onto your hives. Can you remove them now, before it gets too cold or too windy? For that extra security, I also like to recommend strapping down your hives, especially if your hives are not in your backyard. Then, you don't have to worry about your hive top blowing off, either from a gust of wind, a falling tree, or a black bear, knocking your hive over. A solid strap through the cinder blocks will bring you a lot of peace of mind.

Fall is also a good time to catch up on your bee reading. If you're like me, you pick up a few new bee books when they come out, which always seems to be in the springtime or summer. But, since that is also the busiest time of year for beekeepers, I usually pile the books up, and start reading them now. The same also goes for Bee Culture Magazine. By fall, I usually have 4-6 months worth stacked up, and since I can't get into my hives, now is when I catch up on the latest research and articles. (NOTE: As a member of NJBA, you are entitled to a discount of Bee Culture, and all you have to do is tell them when you're ordering.)

This time of year is good for starting to plan what you want to do next year. Many of the bee supply catalogs have free shipping in December, so if you are going to increase the number of hives you have, you should start planning for everything you will need in the spring. Also, when you start thinking about expanding, there are lots of factors to consider, including what rights do you have as a beekeeper. So, this month's speaker will be Michael J. Pessolano, from MJP Land Use Planning LLC. Michael will be speaking on what you should consider about land use and beekeeping. (Or, how to prevent the town or your neighbors from coming after you.) I am really looking forward to Michael's talk, because the more informed we are as members, the better we will be at keeping bees harmoniously within our neighborhoods.

I look forward to seeing you Friday night, and I encourage everyone to bring lots of questions for this month's speaker.

Until Friday, Bee well!

Frank Mortimer

President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers



Message from Lynn:

The Ramapo College hive is thriving, treated, and ready for winter. The hive produced about 15 pounds of honey which was extracted during the summer. Kristen Adragna, a Ramapo College student has been leading the students since last summer is doing a wonderful job. We extracted the college honey together, since learning all aspects of beekeeping is the main focus of the club. Twenty one students showed interest for the bee club and Kristen has been dividing the students into groups for the initial demonstrations. Once the club is formed the students will have more money that can be used for veils, bee suits, and bee supplies.

Jackie Ehlert (Ramapo College President, Dr. Peter Mercer's wife) is developing a curriculum for the Havermayer House Gardeners and local high school students that showcases honeybees and their contribution to our food supply.

I will be bringing a nucleus hive to the Havermayer. House in the spring and showing Jackie how to work with honeybees as well feeding and growing the nucleus hive into a full size hive. The two hives already at the Havermayer house are thriving due to the many local nectar and pollen sources.

Lynn



meetings.

CLUB BULLHORN - NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

- ✚ Club hats, decals, pins and shirts are still available. Contact Frank pre-meeting for size and availability.
- ✚ Mead Makers are always welcome at meetings. Bring your latest creation and show it off.
- ✚ Honey taste testing and sales - Members are always welcome to offer and sell honey @



Don't Forget: Our Honey Recipe Book

Thanks to Bob Slanzi's great idea, we would like to produce a club cookbook filled with all of our favorite recipes. Of course, since we are a bee club, all recipes will include HONEY as one of the ingredients.

Please send frankmort@gmail.com your recipes by November 1st.

All recipes must:

- 1) Contain honey as one of the ingredients
- 2) Be submitted as a Microsoft Word document.
- 3) Include your name(s) and town, so we can credit your recipe
- 4) When you submit your recipe, the subject line of your email should read, "Recipe for Cookbook"
- 5) If you have a picture of the finished dish, please send along as an attachment in the same email as your recipe.

After we get all the recipes, we will assemble them into a club cookbook that will be available for sale, and all proceeds will go to support the club. Once we have the recipes and get the costs to produce it, we will let you know how much the cookbooks will be.

If you have any questions, please let us know.



Official Results

The Northeast New Jersey Honey Cup Competition

The Northeast NJ Branch held their first annual honey competition on Friday, September 20th. Over twenty members entered a bottle of their best honey from this year's honey harvest. Frank Mortimer, President of the NNJBees club, and Rick Schluger, Vice President, organized and presided over the blind taste test. Mortimer notes 'Usually honey is judged on color and clarity. We wanted to let people vote on the most important aspect of honey--on taste'. More than 80 participants conducted a blind taste test. Honey was placed in identical bottles and labeled with a number. Each participant received one vote. 'The variety of colors and taste was amazing, especially considering that all the honey was produced in the area. It goes to show that Bergen County has a tremendous diversity of flowers and trees' says Schluger. 'The voting could have gone two ways--a handful of votes for each jar of honey or a landslide. I'm happy to report the later--there was a clear preference among our judges says Ed Vaeth, Club Secretary. Three local beekeepers were awarded trophies.

First place went to Brian & Cindy Eromenok, Rachel Avenia and Bob Prol took second, and Lynn Paglia received third. In addition to the tasting contest, 11 beekeepers entered their honey labels and prizes. First prize went to Eric Mueller, Rita Jenkins took second, and Gloria Leustek received third.

The leftover honey will be used in an upcoming Mead (honey wine) workshop later this fall, hosted by Bob Slanzi, nationally known, award-winning mead maker.



Frank Mortimer, President of NNJBees, Brian & Cindy Eromenok, First place winner in honey contest, and Rick Schluger, Vice President of NNJBees.



Frank Mortimer, President of NNJBees, Rachel Avenia and Bob Prol, Second place winner in honey contest, and Rick Schluger, Vice President of NNJBees.



Frank Mortimer, President of NNJBees, Lynn Paglia, Third place winner in honey contest, and Rick Schluger, Vice President of NNJBees.

We quickly blew through the 700 member milestone and are, as of this writing, 708 members strong, and growing, on our Facebook page! Be sure check it out. See the great pics and stories posted by the Facebook fans we have at our page.

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

Next Month

In November we will be hosting Janet Katz, President of the NJBA. She will be discussing Hive Products, Lip Balms & Hand Creams.



Mary Ann's Gourmet Market

1011 MacArthur Blvd.

Mahwah, NJ 07430

201-962-8611

www.maryannsgourmetmarket.com

All Beekeepers Receive 10% Off!

❖ **Volunteers** ❖

Judy and Terry Regan

Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc

Tom Miller

Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc

Rachel Avenia-Profl

Web site creation and training: www.nnjbees.org

John Gaut

NJBA Constitution Committee.

Michael Miller

Apparel production, beekeeping instructor

Hugh Knowlton

Workshop/Event coordinator and presenter

Thank you all! If any member wants to volunteer to help our club please contact me either at the meetings or via email. There is lots to do!



Honey Cups and Ribbons