



nnjbees.org

August 2015



NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

A division of New Jersey Beekeepers Association

President	Frank Mortimer	201-417-7309	3 rd V. Pres.	Karl Schoenknecht	201-891-0947
V. President	Rich Schluger	201-693-6949	Secretary	Vacant	
2 nd V. Pres.	John Gaut	201-961-2330	Treasurer	Bob Jenkins	201-218-6537

Meeting on: **Friday, August 21st at 7:30 PM**, Location: **Ramapo College of NJ, 505 Ramapo Valley Rd., Mahwah, NJ 07430**



Bee Enthusiasts & Bee Curious always welcome!



Weather permitting.



Please join us on **August 21st** as we continue with our BeeTalk™ Series. This month's topic: Feeding and Dealing with the Dearth & Mite Treatments. This is the meeting you should attend. There is a lot of value to be gained by bee-ing at this meeting!

Also, we will be discussing the Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Annual Honey Cup which will be taking place at our September monthly meeting. This is always a very exciting and entertaining meeting and a time for all our beekeepers to present 1 pound of their sweet harvest to be judged for taste against the other Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers members. Bragging rights are at stake and an education on the various honeys in this region of the state.

BEEKEEPERS

Yearly Dues are payable now!



Your \$20 yearly dues goes to fund all of our activities, our post meeting refreshments, club supplies and all other necessities required to bring the best possible programs, classes, mentoring and to introduce new beekeepers to the art and craft of the hobby we all love so much. See Bob Jenkins to make your timely dues payment and from all the officers, "Thank you for your continued support."

Message from the President:

Happy August Northeast NJ Beekeepers!

Instead of talking about this month's meeting, I want to talk about September's meeting, The Honey Cup, and ask for volunteers, as we need your help.

Our annual Honey Cup is one of our club's best events. It's when we find out which member has the best tasting honey. But, the Honey Cup is also a time to celebrate our successes as Beekeepers and share our joy (and our honey) with the general public. The club raises money all year so we can put on the Honey Cup, and have plenty of food and drink for everyone who attends.

I am very proud of this event and how many people get to enjoy it. This year to make the Honey Cup a success, we need some volunteers to pitch in and help.

We need volunteers to:

- Show up early to set up.
- Help during the event to direct people and keep everything moving.
- Act as our PR person and get our event listed in local newspapers and on community websites.
- Contact reporters from newspapers and other media outlets and get them to attend and cover our event.
- Act as our club photographer, take pictures throughout the night and post them on club's Facebook page and on our club website.
- Implement your ideas on how to make the Honey Cup even better.

If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact me at frankmort@gmail.com or just talk to me at this month's meeting.

I am sure the Honey Cup will be great, especially with all the new volunteers, and I thank you in advance for helping to make YOUR bee club better for all of us.

I look forward to seeing and talking with you at our August meeting!

Until then, Bee Well!

Frank Mortimer
President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers





EAS 15

New Jersey was well represented at the Eastern Apiculture Society Conference in Guelph, Ontario. Attached is a picture of some of the representatives from NJ.

The conference ran from Monday until Friday night with the main activities on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There were courses for all levels of beekeepers on Monday and Tuesday. Jim LaConte took the IPM course and I took the Queen Rearing Course.

Wednesday was a full day of sessions with subjects ranging from the pheromones queens and bees use to communicate to the swarming cycle and its biology.

Most everyone went on a tour on Thursday. The weather was perfect to visit the Butterfly Conservatory and the Niagara Falls from the Canadian side. We had lunch at the Niagara College and toured the wine and brewery teaching laboratories. We then visited a very large commercial beekeeper with 9600 colonies. We saw his highly automated extraction line in operation. The extractor spun 120 frames at a time! Then on to another large beekeeper. I was mostly interested in the queen rearing operation there, and the BBQ dinner!

Friday was back to business with various topics followed by a banquet in the evening.

A few important points were made during the week:

Varroa is a scourge everywhere, including Canada and Europe. 85% of the winter losses in the U.S. can be attributed to high mite counts. If the mite load is above 6%, the colony is more likely to die in the winter than survive. ApiVar, MAQS and ApiGuard are effective treatments.

People who do not treat their colonies are a threat to healthy colonies. Untreated colonies die and the mite load moves to the surviving colonies in the area. These colonies are overwhelmed and may result in their death too, even colonies that were treated and have Hygienic traits.

Nosema is not a factor in winter loss. Nosema can cause poor build up in the spring though.

Beekeeping has a broader benefit to society and the environment than just the monetary value of pollination, honey and wax.

Insect pollinators are in decline around the world, irrespective of habitat type.

Alberta has a large beekeeping industry and has very cold winters. The losses were less than 10% last winter. The key is having strong and healthy colonies going into winter. The beekeepers keep on top of their mite counts.

While viruses can be transmitted various ways in a colony (food, contact, contaminated equipment), most of the viruses are transmitted by the varroa mite. Viruses multiply in the mite before being transferred to the bee. Viruses are much more virulent than they were a few years ago, so the threshold for mite levels have come down too.

The lineage of a bee can be determined by genotyping. For example, is the colony Africanized? Also the phenotype of a trait like hygienic behavior can be found by genotyping; there are 22 genes associated with Hygienic behavior.

Having the conference in at Guelph University was fantastic. There is a lot of significant research being conducted at Guelph. The sessions were very informative and the presentations were polished.

The 2016 EAS conference will be at the Stockton College in South Jersey. Every New Jersey beekeeper should take advantage of the conference being close by and attend. There is something for every level of beekeeper.

John A. Gaut



You're Invited!!!

Northeast NJ Honey Tasting Competition

8:00pm, September 18th

Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ

Anisfield School of Business, Room 135S



The Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers

Proudly present the annual Northeast NJ Honey Tasting competition on September 18th, at Ramapo College, 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ in the Anisfield School of Business, Room 135S. starting at 8:00 pm.

Everyone who attends will get to taste different local honeys and cast a vote for the honey they think should be the 2015 Honey Cup Champion.

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!



1,414 Strong!!!

We quickly blew through the 1000 member milestone and are, as of this writing 1,414 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!



Mary Ann's Gourmet Market
 1011 MacArthur Blvd.
 Mahwah, NJ 07430
 201-962-8611
www.maryannsgourmetmarket.com

Next Month

The Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Annual Honey Cup Competition. The Honey Contest where Taste is the deciding Factor. Enter a pound of your harvest and see and taste the competition. All members who attend are the judges and no one knows whose honey they are tasting. Admission is FREE and all are welcome!

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-Pro	Web site creation and training: www.nnjbees.org
Jennifer Phillips	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies and other treats.
John Gaut	NJBA Constitution Committee, Mentor Coordinator.
Hugh Knowlton	Workshop/Event coordinator and presenter.