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September 2015

Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Association

2015 Honey Cup

8:00 pm Friday Sept. 18th
Ramapo College - Mahwah, NJ

Free Honey Tasting
and Competition



Your vote counts!



njbees.org

September 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	Jaimie Winters	551-486-7479
2 nd V. Pres.	John Gaut	201-961-2330	Treasurer	Bob Jenkins	201-218-6537

Meeting on: **Friday, September 18th 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 **September 18th** for the Annual Honey Cup – Honey tasting competition. The only one of its kind. All honey contests are based solely on looks (except ours!). Are there any bubbles at the top? Is it up to the fill line? Is it the right color? Everything but taste! We think taste is the most important factor and that's the reason the Honey Cup was created. You're the judge! You taste and record your favorites. Hand in your tally and we all get to see and hear from the lucky winner. Additionally, you get a good feel for the variety of honeys in the Northeast New Jersey region. Food, fruit and beverages will be served to cleanse the palette. Bee sure to read the rules below Frank's message. See you all then!

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 Honey Cup Northeast NJ Beekeepers!

It is hard to believe, but another Honey Cup is upon us! I love this event, as it's a great way for all beekeepers to celebrate a year's worth of work, and for many, to taste how our sweet crop of success stacks up to the competition.

This is also a great event because a lot of non-beekeepers will attend to enjoy our honey, which is exactly what we want--more people to be happy about bees and local beekeeping. So remember, invite your friends, neighbors, or anyone you'd like to taste the benefits of local beekeeping. The Honey Cup is a celebration of what we do, and the more people who are part of our celebration, the better!

We will have lots of food this year, sandwiches, cheese, crackers, fruit, and deserts. This is our club's biggest event, and we're going to do it with style!

If you're a new member, or if you have never attended, the Honey Cup is our honey tasting competition. It's a blind taste test, as we transfer all the honey into numbered jars, so the winner is decided only by taste, and everyone who attends gets to vote. What I always find amazing is how different all the honeys taste, even though they are all from such a relatively small geographic area.

We will also have our contest for best label, so remember to also bring your label Friday night. (Please make sure it still has its backing on it and is NOT on a bottle. All labels will be adhered to a poster board for judging.)

No matter if you are planning on entering the honey tasting competition or not, the Honey Cup will be a great time for everyone. Lots of food, lots of people, and lots and lots of honey!

I look forward to seeing everyone on Friday, and I wish each and every one of you the best of luck!

Until then, remember the first rule of Honey Cup is telling everyone about Honey Cup!

Frank Mortimer
President, Northeast NJ Beekeepers





2015 Honey Cup Rules

Who will bee our 2015 Honey Cup Champion?

All members of the Northeast NJ Beekeepers are invited to participate in the competition. Everyone who attends, including the general public, will vote for their favorite honey.

Honey Cup Trophies will be awarded for the Champion, 2nd, & 3rd places.

If you would like to enter, please remember the following:

- 1) Any member who wants to participate can enter one jar of honey.
 - a. Only one jar per household/family is permitted.
 - b. A full jar of honey is not required, as the judging will be done on taste.
 - c. Your entry can be delivered in any type of jar or container.
 - d. Only honey extracted from a member's local hive can be entered.
 - e. Only 100% honey (nothing added) can be entered.
- 2) It will be a blind tasting, as all entries will be transferred to matching bottles and given a number, so no one will know whose honey is whose.
- 3) Everyone who attends the meeting will get to vote for their favorite honey. One person = one vote.
- 4) All jars of honey must be submitted to Rich, John, or Frank before 7:30 pm September 18th. Each jar must be labeled with your name and phone number.

(You can also submit your honey prior to the 18th to Rich, John, or Frank.)

We will also have our "Best Label" contest! Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd & 3rd places.

- 1) Any member who wants to participate can enter one label.
 - a. Only one label per household/family is permitted.
- 2) Please bring your label with the backing intact. We will affix the labels to poster boards.
- 3) Labels cannot be on bottles.
- 4) Everyone who attends the meeting will get to vote for their favorite label. One person = one vote.



Support Your Club!



BEE



Club Booster Packs \$20

BEEKEEPERS

On Sale at The Honey Cup!

Get yours now to support your club.

Northeast New Jersey Beekeepers Association

Attention Mead Makers!

We will be holding a judged mead competition at this year's Honey Cup. Bring in your mead and see how you stack up to the competition.

There will be one category for mead, and the judging will be solely on taste.

Mead must have been made by the member submitting it.

Ribbons for awarded for first, second and third place.

Submit your mead to Rich, John, or Frank.



THANK YOU HONEY CUP 2015 VOLUNTEERS!!!

This year's Honey Cup is thanks to all of our member volunteers. Thanks to you, your dedication to our club, and all of your hard work, this will be the best Honey Cup our club has ever hosted. Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

A *BIG* Northeast NJ Beekeepers shout to all of our Honey Cup Volunteers:

Set Up

Walter Churchill
Diane Churchill
Mike O'Donovan
Bob Simpson

Honey Collection & Bottling

Sofie Mortimer
Miles Mortimer

PR & Advertsing

Billy Neumann
Bob Simpson

Event Photography

Larissa Symbouras
Billy Neumann

Food

Rita Jenkins
Rana Leibowitz
Emma Stein

Clean Up

Reg Edmonds
Eric Symbouras
Bob Segal

Event Management

Rich Schluger
Bob Jenkins
John Gaut
Jaimie Winters
Karl Schoenknecht



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!

Beekeeping in September

By: John Gaut - 201-961-2330

I hope everyone is having a good Labor Day Weekend. The bees in the Northeast have had a good few weeks of a nectar flow from golden rod, a little aster and a lot of knotweed. It has been very dry; I'm surprised they can find anything at all! The hive weights have been steady or slowly increasing. There are a few colonies that need some more stores for the winter so I will be feeding them soon. I'll also put entrance reducers on the smaller colonies I am feeding to prevent robbing.

The mentors and mentees should cover the following points this month:

- Hive Inspection and Colony Evaluation
- Mite Monitoring
- Mite Treatment
- Tactical Feeding (with a fall nectar flow)
- Queen evaluation (Re-queen?)

The most important things to help the bees survive the winter are adequate honey stores and low mite counts. Most beekeepers in this area try to have at least 60 pounds of honey in the hive for the winter. (The total hive weight will be over 100 pounds with frames, boxes and bees.) Low mite counts are also very important. If the mite counts are 6 % or more, the colony only has a 50% chance of surviving the winter. (The viruses the mites transmit weaken the colony and cause paralysis, preventing the colony from maintaining a warm cluster in the winter.) Mite counts should be below 1%; very difficult to achieve this time of year because the bee population is naturally decreasing while the mites keep reproducing and increasing. The hives should have been treated with MAQS or ApiGuard in July and August, holding down the mites. A final treatment of ApiVar now will reduce the mites further. The ApiVar should be in the hive for at least 42 days and no longer than 56 days. You will need up to 4 strips for each full sized hive, less if there are less than 20 frames of bees. Attached are the detailed instructions for ApiVar. Bob Jenkins still has some ApiVar at a reduced club price of \$34 for a 10 pack. If you haven't treated with ApiVar yet, please consider treating ASAP!

Overall we had a good spring and summer. Most of the colonies built up nicely and are preparing nicely for the winter. The colonies are doing their job by building the stores. We need to help them by keeping the mite levels low and feeding if needed.





Joined ▾ Share Notifications ...



1,426 Strong!!!

We quickly blew through the 1000 member milestone and are, as of this writing 1,426 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

All Beekeepers Receive 10% Off!

Next Month
The Northeast NJ Beekeepers welcome **Jorik Phillips & Megan Denver** of Hudson Valley Bee Supply who will discuss sustainable beekeeping and bee hunting. Many of our members have used Hudson Valley as they are the most local Bee Supply house. Bee there for more info.

❖ Volunteers ❖	
Judy and Terry Regan	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
Tom Miller	Refreshments – Cakes, cookies, brownies, tea, etc
Rachel Avenia-Prol	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.