

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

NOV. 1, 2021

7:30 to 9:00 pm

### Hosted via Zoom Meeting

An email will be sent with a meeting invite. This will include a meeting ID # and a password.

In advance of the meeting, please download and install the free Zoom app to your computer, phone or tablet. If this is new technology for you, perhaps you can do a test meeting with a friend.

<https://vimeo.com/616977404>

Dear Beekeepers,

The time is surely flying by. Winter is on its way and I hope all your hives are ready. Once you finalize your winter preparations, don't forget to have your supplemental feeding ready (fondant, etc). Late fall and winter is a great time to catch up on reading all the great books in our library (we are looking for a new librarian), clean your equipment, store your honey supers, take note of how you did this year, and start getting ready for spring. We have a new program that we will be announcing sometime this winter. I think everyone will be excited.

It was the board's decision not to have an in-person holiday party this year due to COVID. We felt it was in the best interest of the safety of all of our beekeepers. We will be having a ZOOM PARTY on December 6th. There will be lots of great things happening. Stay tuned for the details on that.

See you all at the November meeting on ZOOM.

Tony Lulek

## NCBA seeking a new librarian

NCBA is in need of a new librarian. Janice and Mike Barczys, who have done remarkable jobs as the NCBA librarians for years, are turning in their card catalogs and Dewey Decimel System

for diapers, middle of the night bottle feedings, and all the associated joys of having young children.

If you always wanted to be a Bee Club Librarian, this is your chance! Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

The club maintains an excellent library program. The NCBA Library includes over 190 books and 30 DVDs. All materials are available to borrow by members in good standing.

Normally the library would be made available to members to *comb* through the offerings, borrow, and return books at in-person monthly meetings. Until then the Library can be accessed virtually.

Please contact Tony Lulek if you have questions or are ready to sign up now!

## Children invent deadly bee trap

The war between optimists, pessimists and whether the glass is half full or half empty has been settled by beekeepers. A half full can of soda is *fully* deadly to honeybees! Beware of the soda can sitting around. The bees are attracted by the sugar scent but cannot escape the small opening. Dozens of bees can perish, and in autumn, as the brood nest shrinks, those bees will not be replaced.





# News from the Landing Board

## NCBA BOARD MEMBERS

2020-2022:

### PRESIDENT

Tony Lulek

### VICE PRESIDENT

Dana Wilson

### TREASURER

Stephen Green

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Edward Rock

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Kevin Keane

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Carin Cohen, Joel Richards,  
and Jenna Tibbetts

## NCBA BEE SCHOOLS:

### INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Tony Lulek

### INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Dana Wilson

### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Ed Szymanski

### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Marian Szymanski

## NCBA TECH GURU

Greg Rushton

### APPAREL

Lauralyn Smith

### DOOR PRIZE/RAFFLE

Kathy Varney

### HOSPITALITY

Rose Thornton and Carin Cohen

### EXTRACTORS

Brianda Younise

### MEMBERSHIP/FACEBOOK/GOOGLE

Rose Thornton

Deb Spielman

### LIBRARIAN

Janice & Mike Barczys

### PROGRAMS

Ed and Marian Szymanski

## The November 1st Meeting Agenda

**Ang Roell** from They Keep Bees Apiary in Montague, MA will be the speaker. Be sure to join in! Ang has always been on the cutting edge of beekeeping and queen rearing, and promises to provide food for thought as we prep for winter and start dreaming of spring.



## A look ahead... Future Meeting Agendas

**December** The year-end holiday party will be remote. Join us by Zoom! This year we are looking into creating a virtual fair, bee trivia, and sharing of your favorite bee-themed cocktail or mocktail. Masks will not be required! This will be a fun event and provide bee-themed vendor to show their wares, and for members to get a bit of holiday shopping done.

**January:** Bumblebees!

## Investiture of Kara Sullivan

Congratulations to Kara Sullivan who has volunteered to be the NCBA **Door Prize/Raffle Chair**. Kara's role is to secure the door and raffle prizes awarded at each monthly meeting.



NCBA Board members gather at the investiture of Kara Sullivan last week.





# Board Meeting Minutes 10/18/21

The Board of Directors Meeting is the third Monday of each month. It's held at 7:00pm via a Zoom Video Meeting. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## NCBA BOARD MEETING

**OCTOBER 18, 2021**  
7:30 to 8:30 pm

Attending:  
Tony Lulek  
Dana Wilson  
Ed Szymanski  
Stephan Greene  
Joel Richards  
Kevin Keane  
Kathy Varney  
Jenna Tibbetts  
Deb Spielman  
Kara Sullivan  
Mohamad Khalil

### President's Update – Tony L

- Old & New Business
  - Minutes from previous meeting accepted
  - New scholarships for the 2023 Cornell Master Beekeeper program
  - Kathy Hamleka shared:

### President's Update – Tony L

- Old & New Business
  - Minutes from previous meeting accepted.
  - 2023 Cornell Master Beekeeper program.
  - Kevin Keane – New Idea - Queen Program 2.0 – establish a late season split program throughout the club – pull a committee together to discuss (NUC sustainability program)
  - Kevin Keane - No breeders have requested payment yet. Kevin to reach out to vendors for list of beekeepers getting Queens.
  - Continue with Monthly Zoom meetings.
  - List of Bee School members that are still members of NCBA,

### Vice President's Update – Dana

- Nothing new.

### Treasurer Update – Stephen

- Bank balance \$40,430.03 as of 10/18/2021
- Three financial reports accepted.

### Recording Secretary: Minutes – Ed R

- Nothing new

### Corresponding Secretary – Kevin Keane

- Tony suggested Newsletter sent by Wednesday, October 27th.
- Kevin wants material by Friday, October

22nd, 2021

### Committees:

- Programs – Ed S and Marion
  - Monday October 4th Club Meeting (ZOOM Meeting)
- Angela Roell, November speaker.
  - Considering Bumble Bee session January 2022.
  - December Holiday meeting details forth coming. Ed suggesting program for vendors to pitch their goods with 5-10 minute presentation.
  - During Holiday meeting: Honey based Holiday drinks to be discussed.
- Intro to Bee School – Tony
  - Registration - 42 sign-ups so far
  - Starts up January 25th, 2022 (Tuesdays) – 10 Classes
- Intermediate Bee School – Ed & Marion (FYI – First Class in 2021 starting in March – Zoom-Based)
  - September 22nd – Was last Class for year
  - October 6th was Q&A session
  - Opening Intermediate School registration after January 1st, 2022 and start classes in March 2022
- Extractors – Brianda
  - Nothing New.
- Library – Janice & Mike
  - Have asked to step down from

(Board meeting minutes, continued)

- position and the board is looking for new librarians.
- Door Prizes – Lauralyn, Kathy & Greg
  - Kathy is passing the torch to Kara Sullivan.
- Website – Greg
  - Nothing New.
- Membership – Facebook – Google Groups - Rose & Deb
  - 638 active members
  - 138 members have renewed since last meeting.
- Longest members have been with NCBA from 1982
  - Add blurb in Newsletter about renewing your membership (from Rose and Dana) – geographically spread out
- Bee Apparel - Lauralyn
  - Nothing New
- Calendar Committee – Jenna Tibbetts
  - Added new dates for Bee Schools to Newsletter.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM

## Thank you 5, 10, and 15 Year Members

The NCBA board is happy to announce that they will be recognizing those members who had their 5th, 10th, and 15th year anniversary in 2021. This recognition will occur in December, so another great reason to join in on the December Holiday Party.

It is because of members like you that make the club strong; bringing a wealth of information and expertise to our community of beekeepers.

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**



(Continued from page 3)

teach beekeepers of all levels, and it gives me a significant increase in credibility to anyone skeptical of my qualifications.

I expect to continue communicating with beginner and intermediate level beekeepers, and I can envision advocating for bees and beekeepers to local Boards of Health regarding beekeeping regulations, to State Representatives in matters of pesticide regulation and other pollinator health issues.

In my operation, I plan to use what I learned to improve my planning, to better identify colony problems, and take decisive action quickly.

I can help to improve pollinator health in my area by standing up for pollinators on issues such as open space preservation, pesticide regulation, and beekeeping-related ordinances and regulations.

To be a Master Beekeeper is to be an educator and advocate in all things beekeeping and pollinator related.

– Ed Szymanski

NCBA MEMBERSHIP as of 06/30/21	
Year Joined	# of Members
1982	2
1983	1
1984	1
1989	1
1995	3
1999	1
2000	3
2004	3
2005	5
2006	5
2007	4
2008	4
2009	15
2010	22
2011	17
2012	10
2013	25
2014	29
2015	34
2016	45
2017	52
2018	58
2019	46
2020	64
2021	176
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>626</b>

*Data! Data! Data!*

## Membership over the years

Look at this data of NCBA membership broken out by year joined. After an initial winnowing out after Bee School - some people learn that beekeeping is just not for them - membership settles down as beekeepers take 4-6 years to understand their craft.

Evidently, measures taken after 2009 to reach and educate beekeepers may be paying off.

Prior to 2004 have no-to-low retention, but those who have stuck with it have been doing it for 30+ years!

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**Package Bees & Nucs 2019**

We have *three* delivery dates for packages this spring. Multiple pick-up locations and delivery available for convenience!

5 Frame Nucs available in deep frame and medium frame options.

Pick-up expected late May!

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**Board** Built as one piece instead of two separate pieces for stability. They are made with galvanized 1/8" screen and white plastic slide-in tray to count mites. Glued and screwed together for long lasting durability.

**Slatted Racks** Completely assembled, glued and nailed. This gives the bees more room in the hive on rainy days and when they are all in for the night making them less likely to think about swarming due to crowding.

**Supers** Made out of pine; with pre-drilled finger joints, and handles cut into boards, comes unassembled. Deep, Medium and Shallow available.

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# **NCBA Bee School 2022**

*Combing* through catalogs looking for that perfect gift?

Turns out that a gift to Bee School makes a wonderful holiday gift for all those people who are always interested in *your* hives. This is the nudge they need.

Minimal wrapping is required!

[Order online](#). Best of all, there are no lines, shipping charges, or delays!



## **Bee School is Coming**

Enrollment is now open for Bee School 2022, and already more than a quarter of the seats are taken. It is still under discussion if classes will be all via zoom, in person, or a combination of the two. All classes will take place on Tuesdays. If you know a wanna-bee beekeeper let them know that they ought to sign up soon. Class dates for 2022 are: January 25; February 1, 8, and 15; March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5.