

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.



More News from the Landing Board

Vendors Once again to Participate in December Party

December is always a fun time of year beginning with the club’s annual Holiday Party that will be held on Zoom Monday December 6th.

One of the special events, during the meeting, will be club members selling their handcrafted items. Each club member, who is selling their crafts, will spend 5-10 minutes exhibiting their product. Some will be giving a tour of their workshop. Showing what they have to offer, and how they make or process their crafts. The handmade crafts being sold will include art, soaps, lotions, club apparel, mead and so much more.

What a great opportunity this will be to get some of that shopping done. To have an opportunity to buy local and to purchase some holiday gifts. All while sitting in your chair with your favorite drink in hand.

If you would like to participate as a vendor, contact Ed Szymanski at lunariafarm at outlook dot com



NCBA meetings

All NCBA meetings will be remote, and hosted on Zoom, until further notice.

What does it mean to be a Master Beekeeper?

In the Cornell Master Beekeeper program, we are often asked to write a piece for discussion within the group. We are asked various questions about mite treatments, bee health issues, etc. At the end of our current module (one more to go!) on Managing Pests and Diseases and General Bee Health, we are asked the question:

What does it mean to be a Master Beekeeper? There are other questions in there as well pertaining to how we plan to use the skills we have acquired. People often ask “why become a Master

Beekeeper?” “This is a lot of work, why are you doing it?”

I thought I would share my answer in hopes it will answer those questions.

To me, it means validation of all I have done to improve my beekeeping skills and knowledge such that I can be the best possible steward and advocate for honey bees and all pollinators. To other beekeepers, it means that they have someone they can trust to help them be better beekeepers in the midst of a tremendous amount

of misinformation available on the internet and elsewhere. They know that I put a lot of work into achieving this and that I care about them and their bees. To the public, it means that there is someone available to advocate for pollinators and to represent them in government actions.

I have seen my role to be that of an educator and facilitator for several years now. The Master Beekeeper program has expanded my knowledge such that I am now better equipped to

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Renew your membership!



2022 is closer than you think - and you will want to be sure to renew your NCBA membership.

This is a reminder that it is time to renew your membership. By doing so you will continue receiving valuable information from the other club members, the amazing monthly newsletter, access to monthly zoom meetings and other important information.

There are now two ways to pay your members’ dues:

1. Go to <https://www.norfolkbees.org/membership.html> and renew your membership on our secure website using your credit card. (this is the easiest)
2. Go to norfolkbees.org and download the membership application form, fill it out and send it along with your check to our post office box listed on the applications.

It is important that you renew your membership before December 31, 2021. The membership committee will be cleaning house on the Google group email list and Facebook page on January 1, 2022. You must be a paid member to be included in both of these groups after December 31st.



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!



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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
Grand Total	626

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!

Hive Starter Kits

Assembled & unassembled complete hive kits available for new beekeepers and beekeepers adding a hive!

We also have:

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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.

Inner Cover Ventilated, wooden inner cover.

Outer Cover covered with Tin Made from 3/4" exterior plywood, completely assembled, glued and screwed. Cover comes with tin cover to protect from outdoor elements.

Complete Hive Setup Includes screened bottom board, two deep supers, 20 frames with wax foundation, inner cover and outer cover.

Hive Frames—Deep, Medium, and Shallow Wooden frame, made out of pine, held together with 10 nails. (Does not include wire or foundation).



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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.