

# The Norfolk Bee

September 2024 • NORFOLKBEEES.ORG

## NCBA September Activities

The next in-person NCBA Meeting will be September 9th at 7PM at the Aggie, and will be Ed Karle speaking about Fall Hive Management. This will be an In-Person and Zoom meeting. Try to join us LIVE to renew NCBA acquaintances.!

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Our loyal sponsors



### It's Wax Moth SEASON!

Keep a careful eye on stored frames. It only takes a week or two of inattention for an infestation to occur. And from my perspective there is nothing more disconcerting than a wax moth ruined frame of comb. It is truly disgusting to find, clean, and resolve. The upside to my problem was that the comb was due to be recycled..

Dear Fellow beekeepers,

A new season of meetings are upon us. We are excited for the new board members and for Alla to be handling programs. We should be in for an exciting year.

I hope that everyone's bees are doing well. Fall is almost here. Now is the time to start your winter preparations.

I encourage you to all come to the September 9th meeting. It is a great way to start off the year by seeing all of your beekeeping friends. We will have Ed Karle, past member, doing a presentation on Fall Hive Management, and knowing Ed, it will be great.

See you in a week.

Tony Lulke



## Bee Keeping Online Resources

### •American Bee Journal

- Beekeeping Resources, Research and Articles - <https://americanbeejournal.com/>

•American Beekeeping Federation - Membership Organization with great resources and educational opportunities - <https://abfnet.org/resources-for-beekeepers/>

### •Auburn University

**Extension** - Agriculture and Beekeeping related webinars and resources - <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/>

•Bee Conservancy - Resources for beekeepers & supporting Pollinators - <https://thebeeconservancy.org/10-ways-to-save-the-bees/>

• **Bee Informed Partnership** Beekeeping Blog - <https://beeinformed.org/blog>

• **Cornell University Beekeeping Courses and Resources** - <https://ecornell.cornell.edu/certificates/beekeeping/>

• **Eastern Apicultural Society** - Membership organization for beekeepers in the Eastern United States - resources, education, conferences and research for beekeepers - <https://easternapiculture.org/>

• **Honeybee Health Coalition** - resources and education for beekeepers - <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/focus-on-forage/>

• **Massachusetts Apiary Program**, hive inspections, information, support - <https://www.mass.gov/apiary-program-honey-bees>

• **Massachusetts Beekeepers Association** - Resources and Programming for MA Beekeepers - NCBA is part of the state organization - <https://www.massbee.org/>

• **Norfolk County Beekeepers Association** - <https://www.norfolkbees.org/>

• **North Carolina State University Apiculture Program** - Resources, Educational Opportunities and Data to inform your beekeeping <https://www.ncsuapiculture.net/>

• **Northeastern Integrated Pest Management Center** - Hosts monthly Zoom workshops on a variety of topics on pest management in beekeeping - <https://www.northeastipm.org/ipm-in-action/the-ipm-toolbox/bee-breeding-and-ipm-for-better-pollinator-health/>



• **PennState Extension** - Beekeeper and Pollinator Resources - <https://extension.psu.edu/insects-pests-and-diseases/pollinators/beekeeping>

• **Planet Bee.org** - Resources about pollinators, pollen providers, and bee friendly plantings -

• **Pollinator.org** is a resource for ecoregional planting guides for pollinators - <https://www.pollinator.org/guides>

• **Randy Oliver's Scientific Beekeeping** website - research, resources, and data to inform better beekeeping - <https://scientificbeekeeping.com/>

• **University of Massachusetts Bee Lab** - Pollinator Resources - <https://ag.umass.edu/resources/pollinators>

• **University of Minnesota Bee Lab** - featuring the work of Marla Spivak and others - data and research to inform your beekeeping - <https://beelab.umn.edu/>

• **USDA Bee Disease Diagnosis Service** - <https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md-barc/beltsville-agricultural-research-center/bee-research-laboratory/docs/bee-disease-diagnosis-service/>

• **USDA National Agricultural Library Apiculture and Beekeeping** resources - <https://www.nal.usda.gov/animal-health-and-welfare/beekeeping>

• **Washington State University Honeybee and Pollinator Program** - Resources and new research for beekeepers - <https://bees.wsu.edu/>





**NCBA BOARD MEMBERS  
2024-2025**

**PRESIDENT**  
Tony Lulek

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Mohamad Khalil

**TREASURER**  
Brian McCafferty

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Mike Passmore

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Edward Rock

**MEMBERS AT LARGE**  
Amy Musante, Paul Reilly, Archie Acevedo

**NCBA BEE SCHOOLS:**

**INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL DIRECTOR**  
Tony Lulek

**INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR**  
TBD

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DIRECTOR**  
Joe Jankovsky

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR**  
TBD

**NCBA TECH GURU**  
Greg Rushton

**APPAREL**  
TBD

**DOOR PRIZE/RAFFLE**  
Kara Sullivan

**EXTRACTORS**  
Brianda Younie

**MEMBERSHIP/FACEBOOK/GOOGLE**  
Dana Wilson  
TBD

**LIBRARIAN**  
Michael Simone

**PROGRAMS**  
Alla Ostrovsky

**SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS**  
Lara Davis

## Renew Your Norfolk County Beekeepers Association (NCBA) Membership

*Summer is over, kids are back in school, and club activities are picking up again. And September is the first time you can renew your membership for the coming year (2025).*

### By renewing you will continue to receive:

- \* **Informative monthly NCBA Newsletter**
- \* **Access to monthly state-of-the-art Bee-Educational and Bee-Social in-person and zoom meetings**
- \* **Unique NCBA re-Queening Program - discounts when purchasing queens**
- \* **Access to the enormous wealth of beekeeping experience NCBA members have and share with fellow club members**
- \* **Valuable discounts and important information**
- \* **Access to numerous scholarships and grants (NCBA Scholarship, Jan Daniels Grant, Master Beekeeper Scholarship...)**
- \* **Use of NCBA Extractors**
- \* **FREE Bee Suit Rentals (Several Children's Sizes)**
- \* **Special Discounts on unique DIY classes like Soap-Making**

So go to <https://www.norfolkbees.org/membership.html> and renew your membership on the club's secure website using your credit card. It will take you less than 2 minutes!

*Don't wait until the last moment!  
RENEW NOW.*

*Your annual membership will still run through December 31, 2025!*

Thank you for your continued membership and support of the club  
Your Membership Committee:  
Tony Lulek and Dana Wilson

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

**NCBA  
BOARD  
MEETING**  
**AUGUST 27, 2024**  
7:05-8:10PM.

Attending:

- Tony Lulek
- Edward Rock
- Greg Rushton
- Archie Acevedo
- Mike Simone
- Brian McCafferty
- Dana Wilson
- Paul Reilly
- Mohamad Khalil
- Joe Jankovsky
- Kara Sullivan
- Mike Passmore
- Alla Ostrovsky

## ALL ARE INVITED

*Please remember that all NCBA members are welcome at each and every NCBA Board Meeting. As a matter of fact - we encourage as full a participation by our membership in the Board and Committees as possible.*

*Board Meetings are typically held on the third Monday of each Month. Just e-mail Tony Lulek and he will send you the Zoom Link for the meeting.*

## NCBA Board Minutes August 27, 2024 – 7:05 PM - 8:10 PM

### President's Update – Tony L

- Welcome new Board members Amy Musante, Paul Reilly, Archie Acevedo, and Mike Passmore.

### Vice President's Update – Mo K

- Has emailed legislative issues to all members.
- Will discuss the swarm topic with Greg at a later time.

### Treasurer Update – Brian McCafferty

- Written report later this week, reconciled through June 30.
- Brief explanation for new members of our revenue and expense calendar and fiscal year.
- Bank balance is \$7,401 as of August 27, 2024, and total assets are \$33,312.00.

### Recording Secretary: Minutes – Mike P

- Notes from the May Board Meeting were accepted.

### Corresponding Secretary – Ed R

- All articles and notes to Ed Rock by end of day Friday, August 30.

### Committees:

- Programs – Alla O
  - Upcoming
    - September 9th – Ed Carle, Rhode Island Beekeeping Association, will present in person on Fall Hive Management. In-Person & Zoom
    - October 7th – Andrew Munkers, Vermont Beekeeping Association President, will present via Zoom on Winter Hive Management. Zoom Only
    - November 4th – Kim K, Maryland Beekeeping Association, will repeat her EAS presentation via Zoom on developing a Personalized Apiary Plan. Zoom Only
    - December 2nd – No speaker needed for our Holiday meeting. In-Person Only
  - 2025 – Speakers not yet scheduled.
  - Determined that September and

December will be in-person meetings.

Tony mentioned that one of the first three months of the year should be a Better Bee presentation, and May is usually our Plant Sale.

Dana/Brian will secure and pay for the Aggie as needed.

- NCBA Intro to Bee School – Tony L and Dana W

Tony, Dana, Mo, and Ed R will get together during second week of September to discuss.

Archie must have access to the student list because he'll be running the mentor program.

Raising tuition to \$100 per person with \$25 for additional person in household due to overall increased costs. Greg updated and launched the updated web page.

- **Intermediate Bee School – Joe J**

Update

Tony suggested that Joe, a Cornell Master Beekeeper, draw on the expertise of NCBA Masters. Joe added Dan Conlon, Bob Hickey, and Jane Sloboda.

Joe said he will discuss topics with Ed Z and will need a list of NCBA Masters.

Decided not to raise price of tuition but will see how program develops. Ed R suggested promoting with other clubs because few have an Intermediate course.

- **Extractors – Brianda Y**

There's a problem with the websites's Extractor page. Greg is looking into it.

- **Library – Michael S**

Still in the process of consolidating. Only a few, mostly introductory, books left, and they'll be brought to our next in-person meeting.

Tony asked if Michael would be willing to add our Zooms and Vimeos to the website for access by members only. Michael agreed to look into it, and Mo will get access for him.

- **Door Prizes – Kara S**

There are only 5 hybrid meetings (in-

*(Continued on page 4)*

(continued from page 3)

person and Zoom), while the rest are Zoom only.

Decided that there will be door prizes only for the hybrid meetings and only for those attending in-person.

Alla suggested a silent auction for some of our in-person meetings, as well as fun meetings in May and June.

#### • **Website – Greg R**

Greg is working on problems with pages for Brianda and Dana. He asked for assistance from anyone with Weebly expertise. Mo will try to help.

Mo asked for a fix on the Bee School page, and Alla mentioned that the calendar is not accurate. Alla will forward changes.

Greg has not gotten to the new swarm feature.

#### • **Membership – Facebook – Google Groups – Dana W**

578 Members have renewed & 190 have not renewed. These results are pretty typical historically

Decided not to increase membership price at this time. We have raised the price on Beginner Bee School, cut back on door prizes, and have fewer Aggie meetings.

#### • **Bee Apparel – Vacant position**

No update – no significant interest at this time – would need to revisit.

#### • **Calendar Committee – Vacant position**

Greg will help out.

#### • **Scholarships and Grants - Lara D**

Nothing happening. Will revamp/ Update wording on the website.

### **Old Business**

#### • **Queen Program**

Greg will remove two obsolete vendors from the website, leaving only Archie / Northeast Bees and Bob Hickey / Wetlands Apiaries.

Last year NCBA spent \$1700 on the program. It was suggested that we limit queens per member. Tony will report next month on the reasons given when requesting a queen.

Both Archie and Bob are out of queens for the year.

### **New Business**

#### • **Bylaws – Michael S**

Draft bylaws are available to all Board Members for comment.

Tony mentioned that there is a process for approval. Approximately 30 days advance notice is required before the bylaws can be voted on by the full club membership.

#### • **Selling/Donating an Extractor – Paul R**

Tony said that all NCBA extractors are identical for reasons of uniformity, so we have no need for another extractor. Brian suggested Facebook Marketplace

#### • **Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM**

### **Honeybee Education Days at the State Apiaries**

**Who:** The MDAR Apiary Inspector Staff

**Where:** Bristol County Agricultural High School, Standish House Administrative Building, 28 Center Street, Dighton, MA 02715 or University of Massachusetts Agricultural Learning Center Farm, 911 North Pleasant Street, Amhurst, MA 01002

**Cost:** FREE

**When:** Fridays from 1-3PM

**What:**

\*September 20 - Fall Management and Winter Prep

\*October 11 - Winterizing Colonies



### **Worcester County Beekeepers Association Fall Speaker's Event**

**When:** October 19 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**What:** October Speaker Conference  
**Where:** Whitinsville Christian School  
279 Linwood Ave, Whitinsville, MA

**Who:** Dr. David Tapy from the NC State University and Dr. Zac Lamas from the USDA in Beltsville, MD will present to you some of their latest research on pertinent issues beekeepers are dealing with in today's environment. 8am-9am: Registration and breakfast [...]

**Cost:** \$10 for Tickets & \$15 for Lunch

[Click to get Get Tickets](#)



# Visiting bees in the Netherlands

by Joe Jankovsky

We had our first international family trip since COVID-19, traveling to the Netherlands to visit my wife's extended family. The middle of our trip took us to Oisterwijk, a picturesque Dutch village located in the province of South Brabant in the Netherlands. The biggest attraction of the village are its nature preserves, the Oisterwijkse Bossen en Vennen, which translates to "forest and fens". While it is widely known as a vacation spot for "heading back to nature", there are numerous working farms scattered throughout the preserves, including my wife's maternal family farm.

Growing up she would travel from the US every other summer to live on the farm with her grandparents. It was primarily a dairy farm but they would grow various vegetables and flowers for the family table. And her grandfather was a beekeeper! He was an active member of the village bee club. Here's a photo of the commemorative ceramic emblem from Opa's club meeting we have in our kitchen.



Unfortunately there are no bees or cows at the farm any more. It's now a vegetable farm run by a cousin.

Below is a typical Bijenstal, or bee shed. This one belonged to a neighbor of an uncle in a neighboring town. With the weather as it is in the Netherlands, protection from the rain is preferred for both the hives and beekeepers trying to inspect them. At the far end you can see the window of the door that gives direct access behind the hives.



From the opposite angle you can see the access door and a well placed hedge. The hedge that forces the bee flight path up and over the



backyard just to the right. The box to the right of the hedge is a solar wax melter. I'm not sure if we saw enough sun to melt anything during our stay.



They even had an observation hive. This photo was taken around 3pm on July 3. Note the cluster over the brood trying to stay warm! “Summer” is more of a goal than a reality in the Netherlands.



The photo above is some hive bodies that were at the cabin we stayed at in the forest. These are Simplex Hives, the most common hive used in the Netherlands. They use 11 frames per hive body and the dimensions are a little different than Langstroth hives. These bodies were styrofoam and the frames were wax foundation.

As it was pretty chilly and rainy in July during our visit, a styrofoam hive is probably beneficial even in the summer.

Our last bee interaction in Oisterwijk was at a nature-themed restaurant in the middle of the nature preserve called Groot Speijck. They had a small gift shop with several bee themed items including the skeps in the photo.

Other trip highlights include the scents of Linden trees lining the roads in Utrecht, many natural and manicured landscapes and more canals than we could count. Although we had a few teenage eye rolls as “Dad is taking pictures of bees again,” we had a great trip.





# Honey in London

by Ed Rock

As Joe and his family ventured abroad this summer, my wife and I also took a great trip to London, Edinburgh, and Copenhagen. While I wasn't very good at finding beekeepers and hives on my trip, I did find an amazing gourmet food shop, Fortnum and Mason, a gourmet food chain, in London and they had a wonderful offering of honey products taking up a 1/5th of their first floor.

flawless and beautiful.

**Flavored / Infused honey** seemed to be a significant product for them, with Cinnamon, Smoked Chipotle, Vanilla, and other varieties.

Finally, they had a full wall display of honeys from all **geographies** of England. They also had a variety of honeys from different **seasons** (Spring, Summer & Fall represented.

Just some travel food for thought on how you might expand your honey offerings to your honey hungry audiences.



We saw an incredible stack of **Full Frames of Capped Honey** priced at \$128.25 each. The stack of available frames were





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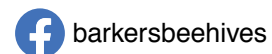
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