



the Norfolk Bee

JUNE 2020 • NORFOLKBEEES.ORG

NEXT CLUB MEETING

June 1, 2020
7:00 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://zoom.us/>

Please see an emailed
invite from Dana
Wilson. If you did not
receive one, contact
Dana at
dwilson831@gmail.com

NEXT MEETING

September 14, 2020
7:00 to 9:00 pm

(Labor Day is 9/7.)
Stay tuned for HOW
we will meet.

Two years have sped by

Two years have sped by faster than a swarm on its way out of the hive. Our slate came on board July 1, 2018; so much has happened since then.

I am particularly grateful for the outstanding board. Thank you to Janice Loving our Vice President for her wit and wisdom and all the clever and fun games created for our events – Beekeeper Feud I and II, and the Bee Game at last year's June Picnic – oh how I wish we could do the Picnic this June!

MaryBeth Noonan, our Treasurer, worked with past treasurer Eileen Groth Walther to transition us to her management of the Treasury. MaryBeth took on some of the state level administrative tasks graciously. We will be dividing up the Treasurer tasks just a little to spread the large amount of work more equitably going forward.

Colleen Neutra, our Corresponding Secretary, has expanded the work Dana Wilson did on the digital newsletter, and made the NCBA Newsletter an incredibly beautiful work of informative art – and she is carrying forward to the next Board as well. She has been working with Tony Lulek to get our website to the next level in the coming year, something I wanted to be sure to achieve before ending my role as President.

Thank you to Kathy Gasbarro for stepping into the role of Recording Secretary to take minutes – and thank you from the bottom of my heart too for the incredible work she did to create a wildly successful Mass Bee Fall meeting last November. Helping to achieve success at that State meeting and at all the NCBA meetings is Alison Dempsey, our Programs Chair – we could not have done this without you.

Our fantastic Introductory Bee School administrator Dana Wilson keeps Introductory School and the Mentors Program all running smoothly – he will be continuing in that role (and in running the kids bee suit renting) and joining Tony Lulek (President) as the Vice President for the next two years – Susan Robinson and Tony Lulek have continued to grow Introductory Bee School into something which our Club can always be very proud. Past-President Ed Szymanski has created the new Intermediate Bee School, much needed.

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PROGRAM COMMITTEE

We are looking for a few people to join this committee. We have 7-8 programs a year that we need to be planned and organized well in advance. If you are interested,

please contact Tony Lulek. This is a great way to get involved in the club. Anyone is welcome to join this committee regardless of your level of beekeeping experience.



NCBA BOARD MEMBERS 2020-2022:

PRESIDENT

Tony Lulek tony@littlebeehivefarm.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Dana Wilson dwilson831@gmail.com

TREASURER

Stephen Green greeness@comcast.net

RECORDING SECRETARY

Edward Rock erock0616@gmail.com

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Colleen Neutra cneutra@gmail.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Carin Cohen

Alison Dempsey

NCBA BEE SCHOOLS:

INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Sue Robinson smrbus10@msn.com

Tony Lulek tony@littlebeehivefarm.com

INTRODUCTORY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Dana Wilson dwilson831@gmail.com

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Ed Szymanski lunariafarm@outlook.com

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Marian Szymanski

marianszymanski@verizon.net

COMMITTEES:

APPAREL

Lauralyn Smith lauralynsmith@gmail.com

DOOR PRIZE/RAFFLE

Kathy Varney spencersmumkv@verizon.net

HOSPITALITY

Rose Thornton rthornton714@gmail.com

EXTRACTORS

Brianda Younie briflower@gmail.com

HISTORY

Tony Lulek tony@littlebeehivefarm.com

IT/FACEBOOK

Kathy Halamka khalamka@gmail.com

LIBRARIAN

Janice & Mike Barczys janice@barczys.com

PROGRAMS

Alison Dempsey

alison.dempsey@medwaycommunityfarm.org

News from the Landing Board

June Meeting via Zoom, Monday, 6/1

Please "attend" our June monthly meeting via Zoom from 7:00 to 9:00pm, with a ten-minute break at 7:55. Please see an emailed invite from Dana Wilson. If you do not receive one, contact Dana at dwilson831@gmail.com

- Ed Szymanski will moderate a Q&A Panel on **SWARMS AND INSPECTIONS**. Any questions are welcome, however it will be helpful to know them in advance. Please email your questions to Ed before the end of Sunday, May 31. lunariafarm@outlook.com
- We will again have special **DOOR PRIZES** for members in good standing who attend!

As of this month, the lovely list to your immediate left has been updated to reflect the new board and committee members.

Are you suffering from FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) while locked in your house? Well, a cure for that is... volunteer! Even in a passive way, if you think you'd like to take on a role, you could "job shadow" a member and learn what they do before you're free flying on your own.

A perfect example is I will be looking for someone to replace me as the Corresponding Secretary by April 2022, in time for the Nominating Committee's slate for that May's meeting. — Colleen Neutra

NCBA Officers for the 2020-2022 Board

During the May Zoom meeting, the slate of proposed officers was unanimously confirmed by the attendees. The officers serve a two-year term from July 2020 to June 2022.

Any member is always welcome to join a Committee, recommend that a Committee be formed, and encouraged to attend a Board Meeting to observe or learn how NCBA is run.

Like a healthy bee hive, we volunteers have jobs and tasks we do to improve our club. A little or a lot, your help is always welcome! See a board member to have your questions answered or explore ways you can become involved.

2020-2022 OFFICERS

President:
Tony Lulek

Vice-President:
Dana Wilson

Treasurer:
Stephen Green

Corresponding Secretary:
Colleen Neutra

Recording Secretary:
Edward Rock

President's letter: continued from page 1
 Marian Szymanski is ably assisting as Intermediate Bee School Administrator. Everyone came together last summer with many in-depth meetings to grow the knowledge on sustainability — important now more than ever. Jane Sloboda and Scott and Kari Mofford have shared their knowledge with us and I very much hope that continues for a very long time. Our Schools reflect this coming-together to work toward the greater good.

Brianda Younie has been our Extractor Czarina and is carrying forward with that task — thank you! We have added Rose Thornton as Hospitality Chair, and I very much hope that the pandemic situation

allows us to have in-person events soon. Kathy Varney continues to display her amazing shopping skills as the Door Prize Chair, can't wait to see what she comes up with at each meeting! Thank you Member-at-Large Carin Cohen for all her words of personal support — and especially her help at the picnic and events. Kudos to Eric Studer for his work on the Varroa Control Groups, I am hoping the NCBA can grow that program as we go forward.

I make this final letter thanking everyone not just to thank them: **I want everyone in the NCBA to consider the joy and value in being an integral part of the club.** Thank you to each and every one of

you who attend meetings both in-person and on Zoom, help at meetings, answer Facebook and Google Group questions to form our Community. Be a part of the NCBA board and events, you will get to know some truly wonderful people. I know I have, and I cherish that.

Blessings,



Kathy Halamka, *President*, NCBA

Resources for NCBA Members

EXTRACTORS

NCBA owns six extractors which can be borrowed by members for personal use. Contact Brianda Younie at briflower@gmail.com to make a pick-up arrangement. **PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN THE EQUIPMENT YOU BORROW IN A FOOD-SAFE QUALITY CLEAN STATE.** Also, be sure to report any issues with cleanliness or functionality to Brianda.

OUR MEMBERS-ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

Our Facebook page, *Norfolk County Beekeepers Association*, is closed to the public. Members are added by approval only. This is a great place for members to ask questions, post articles, share pictures and stories. Several members of the club monitor the page. This is also a place that we will post notices, updates, and changes to club related events.

OUR PROMOTIONAL BROCHURE

Are you showing at a fair? Have a table at a farmer's market? NCBA can provide you with brochures to hand out events. Our brochure promotes our mission and encourages membership. If you are interested in receiving a bundle for your



next event, please email Colleen Neutra at cneutra@gmail.com. Allow time for a reply and a way to coordinate brochure delivery.

OUR LENDING LIBRARY

Janice and Mike Barczys, our super awesome librarians have organized books by theme. Be sure to take a look at how they've done it. You just might discover your next great read. Also, let them know if there is a book you would like added to the Library!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members in good standing may place a classified ad in our newsletter for free. Please keep it simple and relevant to beekeeping, bee products, or home/cottage industries that would be of interest to other members. Email Colleen Neutra at cneutra@gmail.com with your artwork, a scan of your business card, or questions.



Minutes of Board Meeting 5/26/20

Board Meeting called to order at 7:06 by Kathy Halamka via Zoom conference call.

Present:

Kathy Halamka, Colleen Neutra, Janice Barczys, Deborah Spielman, Kathy Varney, Susan Robinson, Dana Wilson, Ed Rock, Ed Szymanski, Brianda Younie, Stephen Green, Tony Lulek, Janice Loving, Kathy Gasbarro

Kathy H made a motion to adjourn – seconded by Ed at 8:17pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathy Gasbarro

Ed S. made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. Kathy H seconded – approved.

Scholarships

Clarification was made regarding a donation in the memory of Terry Twombly in the amount of \$ 150 for a bee school scholarship. Colleen will connect with Bob Johnson to confirm.

A second NCBA scholarship was approved via email vote as there were five highly qualified candidates. It was a tough decision by the scholarship committee.

Two NCBA scholarships for \$1000. each.

One scholarship to the Aggie for \$1500. which they divide between two students.

Surveys

Dana sent out two surveys to bee school students. The first was to the class of 2020 with a 50% response rate. A summary of the results will be in the newsletter, but it seemed as though Zoom classes were well received. Participants liked being able to review the content.

The second survey looked at what happens when bee school is over. The goal was to understand why they continue in beekeeping and why they don't. There were 88 responses. It seemed to stress the importance of staying in touch with a mentor past the first year.

Tony will compile the results for both concisely for the newsletter.

COVID-19 and meeting planning

• Dana submitted forms to the Aggie to reserve dates for next year. Discussion followed regarding a larger room. Susan R mentioned that there might be room in the animal science building. Dana will follow up.

- Children's bee suits will not be shared at this time
- Brianda requested a reminder to people regarding disinfecting procedures for extractors

During the COVID-19 shutdown, The Board of Directors Meeting (held on the third Monday of each month except June & July). Will be conducted via Zoom at 7:00pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please email a board member for a link.

Library

Janice ordered a new book as a replacement

Programs

Pollinator/ Bumble bee talk in the fall - likely on Zoom.

June meeting - round table discussion on a topic - swarming seemed to be timely , i.e. the importance of frequent inspections, what to look for and what to do about it, hive dive modeling - how to handle frames with queen cells

June 6th (7th rain date) hive dive live 1:00-2:00 and 2:00-3:00 Ed S will do one & Tony the other. Session will be recorded and available after on Vimeo.

Door prize - solar wax melter from Brianda and gift certificates that will be mailed

Other business

NCBA apparel sales on hold

Tony is working on the new website and has a volunteer - will be a weebly commerce site.

MaryBeth is transitioning treasury responsibilities to Stephen Green.



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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:

Woodenware, frames, hive components & accessories, hive tools, extracting & bottling equipment, wide selection of protective gear, & much more!

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Custom Hive stand and Screened Bottom

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.

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).