

KEARSARGE BEEKEEPERS

www.kbanh.org

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2018

NEXT MEETING:

**Sat., March 10, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

******WARNER TOWN HALL ****
MAIN ST., WARNER, NH**

Agenda: Welcome new members. Reports, updates, old & new business.

**Speaker: Andrew Munkres*
Topic: Hive Inspections/Reading Frames**

*Andrew is the Vice-President of the Vermont Beekeepers Association and teaches beekeeping at Green Mountain College. Great speaker!

President's Message...

As spring approaches, I can't help but daydream about all things bee. Will my bees be prolific and grow massive colonies? Will Mother Nature bless us with a bountiful pollen and nectar flow? Will my fence prove itself once again to be enough to hold Yogi and Boo-boo at bay? These are but a few of the thoughts that have been occupying my mind for a while now.

Much preparation will have gone into the apiary before the first dandelion shows her smiling yellow face. Bee hives will have been built and painted long before the snow has melted. Packages and nucleus colonies all were ordered what seems like a year ago.

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And according to the shipping company "The frames are on the truck".

I've spent hundreds of hours on the phone with fellow beekeepers planning and re-planning this year's goals for the apiary. Stayed up far too late watching lectures from beekeepers all over the world. All in an attempt to do the very best I can for my bees.

After countless hours of preparation, building, and studying, I feel as ready as I can be to accomplish this year's number one goal.....

To have fun!

Shane

**Kearsarge Beekeeper Association Meeting
January 20, 2018
Pillsbury Library, Warner**

President's Report – John Chadwick

- President John Chadwick expressed his appreciation and honor to serve as KBA President.
- **Monthly Report from NH Beekeeper Association**
 - Shane Howard and John Chadwick went to NHBA monthly meeting.
 - 2018 Fall Annual meeting hosted by Pemi-Baker Fall in Bridgewater reported to have broken attendance records. (Noted Bam Fleury, KBA member was the winner of the Jeparbee contest).
 - NHBA budget shows about \$18K.
 - Professional webmaster considered at NHBA as they have trouble keeping it updated and they are looking for state recording secretary.
 - NHBA Spring Meeting, March 17, Camp Carpenter in Manchester, NH. Registration and state membership forms are at their website.
 - Farm and Forest Event is February 2nd. They have large number of volunteers which is a significant change from the past. This is a great event for all!
 - New Hampshire Bee Keepers Diagnostic Network. Olivia Saunders, with NH Extension, NH Beekeepers Association and Northeast SARE (Sustainable Agriculture and Research and Education) is proposing a new opportunity for beekeepers. This is a training opportunity on honeybee pest and disease diagnosis techniques. This is needed due to the lack of diagnostic infrastructure in NH as there is no state bee inspector. The goal of the network is to train beekeepers who will provide

guidance to fellow beekeepers. The plan is to have a representative in each country with a microscope. Applicants should fill out the questionnaire and submit a letter of intent to Olivia.Saunders@unh.edu by January 31, 2018. A number of members expressed an interest but questions the need for noseema surveillance. KBA club members could represent Merrimack, Grafton and Sullivan Counties.

- Vermont Beekeepers Association Meeting is in Essex Junction Fairgrounds and on January 30th. State in Essex Junction Speaker is Pierre Vichos from Canada. There is a honey contest, report from the state bee inspector, and bee survey discussion.
- Shared the passing of Mike Bayko and acknowledged his contributions to NH beekeeping. NHBA will make a donation to research in his name. He will be missed as he was a wonderful speaker and important in promotion of the honey contest. “For over 35 years Mike was actively involved as a member of the New England Bee Keepers Association. He served in several leadership roles in NH Clubs and MA Clubs and was awarded Bee Keeper of the Year multiple times. For many years, including this past fall season, he served as a Judge for Honey in Apiary exhibits in Fairs and Festivals throughout NH and MA.”

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/unionleader/obituary.aspx?pid=187787203>

- President called for introductions of new members. One new KBA member was introduced

Vice President Report – Bill McDonald

- Bill McDonald expressed thanks for his tenure as VP.

Secretary Report – Deb Dunlop

- Motion was made to accept past meeting minutes. Approved.

Treasurer Report – Robin Gray

- Assets - Dec 31, 2017 = \$7,385
- Income - dues, bee school, donations, T shirts (minus), raffle = \$2,520
- Expenses - administration, website, speakers, insurance, donations, apiary, miscellaneous
- Motion was made to accept Treasurer's Report which was approved.

Bee School Report - Laurel Bride

- John Chadwick heads KBA Bee School Committee.
- Bee School will meet meeting on Feb 10, 17 and 24 and Mar 3 (hence no KBA Meeting on 2.10.18)
- School meeting at 9-12 am at Sunapee Middle High School
- Need for folks to come a few minutes earlier for registration as we may have up to 50 students.
- Call or send \$50 for book, T shirt and school
- Ads in local print – please post when you get e-mail copy
- Need help with set up and clean up, refreshments and raffle.
- Committee will discuss bee packages for school attendees.
- Program:
 - John Chadwick– Introduction Bee Biology and equipment
 - Bam Fleury– Starting with bees and management (Follows Beekeeping Basics)
 - Dana Ramspott– Maladies: Disease, Pests, Bears and Fences
 - Troy Hall - Honey production and processing, Pollination, Products
- Oversight: Robin – registration. Eric DeKing and others- refreshments. Bam – raffle.
Facility approved. Costs to facility will be paid. KBA members can sign up for free. Food will be in hallway. Smart board will be available. Library volunteers were asked to help deliver books, sign out and monitor

library books at Bee School. Shane and John offered to bring books on some days.

Election Committee - Dave Hartman

Nominations for elections have come to him by phone but noted it was not “ringing off the hook”. Slate of officers was announced.

- Shane Howard - President
- Vice President - Nomination made for Randy Bam Fleury for Vice President but he declines
 - Brian Jasinski nominated and added to the slate
- Treasurer - Robin Gray
- Recording Secretary -Deb Dunlop
- Corresponding Secretary -Barbara Burn

Call was made for other nominations. A motion was made to vote on this slate. Motion approved. Ballot was cast for the above slate by the Secretary. New slate of officers approved.

Appreciation expressed

Club extended great appreciation to Martina Daley for her work as club librarian making books available at most meetings and events. Additionally, appreciation extended to Linda Hartman for her contributions at the dinner meeting and refreshments at the monthly meetings. Thank-you both.

Facebook page

KBA-NH – Please use this as this is a great way to communicate.

Raffle Items for Spring NHBA meeting

1. Hive – Shane and Brian will construct hive and Richard will paint.
2. Family membership to KBA in name of Mike Bayko- Bam suggestion raffle for family membership for KBA membership in name of Mike Bayko. Motion to give membership to KBA for one year. Approved unanimously.
3. Book -Troy suggested book raffle from club in Mike Bayko name. Motion made and approved to offer The Hive and the Honey Bee, Dadant & Sons Publisher. Club will add inscription.

Pictures for Farm and Forest

Please post pictures at FB site. Kevin can deliver pictures to Farm and Forest and

Katie will be reimbursed for pictures used at Farm and Forest.

Donation to Warner Town Library

Club gave \$100 to library in 2016 for use of the Warner Library so a motion was made for \$200 for each 2017 and 2018 which was approved. A new motion was made to spend add another \$100 for the Library which was approved. So, \$300 will be donated to Warner Library for 2017 and 2018 each for use of the space.

Club Meeting and Apiary discussed

Meeting at the Apiary was great but maybe too many in a row. Some expressed missing the monthly speakers and requested we resume this. Kevin had been going on Wednesday night but may not be able to do this in 2018. The attendance and activities was always excellent especially when they witness an active swarm. Normally there were 10 -12 in attendance.

Schedule

KAB -No meeting 2.10.18

KBA - March meeting 3.10.18.

NHBA – March 17, Manchester

Discussion on what is happening in The Hive

- Bam combined two hives in warm weather and now has big cluster.
- Report of dog eating dead bees.
- Suggestion was made to now give sugar board.
- Kevin - Will sell nucs this year with payment upfront.
- Troy is out of packages as he has a flood from the river with ice as high as 6-7 feet high near the Cornish Bridge destroying 18 hives.
- Brian checking on bees moved to Florida.
- All should check for cleansing flights tomorrow.
- Notes by Troy - First pollen is still 10 weeks away so there is much time for winter. Much can change in February and March. Last year's mild winter then severe March caused a lot of mortality in late Feb and March, so consider feeding fondant now (not liquid). But of course the best prevention is making sure there is enough honey in fall. He observes that clusters are

wintering better as the cold temps shut them down more.

Meeting Conclusion from outgoing President- What happens to Old Presidents? Sometimes they buzz off, or drone around, or maybe just drone around and brood but other times they are happy to be.

Minutes submitted by Deb Dunlop, secretary.

Some pictures from 2018 KBA Bee School at Sunapee Middle High School



Bee School 2018



Troy Hall lectures

KBA Bee School 2018

The class planning got started in early January with some correspondence between Dana, Robin and me. We had our first school committee meeting on January 6 and there were 10 people present with 2 absent.

From that first meeting there came a huge amount of energy from all the members. I think we had almost everything covered or considered by the end of the meeting. The instructors were chosen, advertisements planned, registration and cost decided, cleanup and refreshment volunteers, foul weather plan, raffle ideas and even an idea for T-shirts.

We got in one more meeting and did some additional planning through email before the classes started.

The classes were held at the Sunapee Middle High School this year with around 50 people at each class. We held the classes on four consecutive Saturday mornings starting on February 10th.

Not all of the folks present were taking the class, many were on the committee or were club members sitting in for the class.

The instructors were John Chadwick, Bam Fleury, Troy Hall and Dana Ramspott. It seemed like all the classes were engaging and students were getting a well-rounded look into getting started with bees.

At the end of the last class we had a raffle and what a raffle it was! There was a Richard Brewster painted hive built by Shane and Brian, Kevin Sargent nuc, Troy Hall queen, Brian's Vermont Apiaries candles and lip balm, Baker Hill Apiary cream and soap, Live Bee or Die honey plus smokers, hives, veil and a hive tool. And I'm probably forgetting something.

Robin will have a report for us on the finances and attendance at our March 10th meeting. Much of the club's funding comes from the tuition and raffle sales. Perhaps because of our decision to have the school every year we may find the club adjusting some of the fees in the future.

I mentioned T-shirts earlier. This idea was from Tom Coverdale, Sunapee teacher and bee school committee member. All students and the committee members will be receiving a 2018 Beekeepers School T-shirt. The

committee really liked this idea! Tom has done it in other clubs he is involved with and says that it is always popular. I can say that I can't wait to get mine!

In closing I would like to thank the committee and all the club members who put this year's school together. Most of all we would like to thank all the students and new club members, we hope to see you at our meetings and the club apiary.

Bee well,

John Chadwick



KBA Bee School Class of 2018



**Hive. A prize for a lucky beekeeper.
Painted by Richard Brewster.**

**NH Beekeepers Association
Spring Meeting Registration Form
March 17, 2018
9am to 3pm**

Venue: *Camp Carpenter*, 300 Blondin Rd., Manchester, NH 03109

Speakers:

Nick Catania will be leading an interactive discussion about his website, 'Honey Bees 911', a source for finding 'swarm chasers' aka beekeepers who are willing to pick up stray bees. He will also spend a little bit of time on swarms, a timely spring topic.

Jessica Kern is a neuromuscular therapist and a beekeeper; she will be speaking on ergonomics with respect to hive management. She will discuss some theories as well as demonstrate some techniques related to it.

Meal details to be announced as soon as available on our website at nhbeekeepers.org.

Please bring a morning snack to share.

Our big *annual raffle drawing*.

Pre-registration required for meals. Deadline for meal registration: 2/23/18

Name(s) _____

Street or PO Box# _____ Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Attending with meals @ \$20 each _____ # Attending without meals @ \$10 each _____

Not a paid-up member for 2018 yet? Please include your membership fee _____

2018 Membership: for individuals \$15 _____ for families \$20 _____

Directions to venue: *from route 93 North (traveling north)*

take exit 5 and turn right onto route 28 (Rockingham road). Go past diner on left and take the immediate left onto Auburn road. At the four-way stop, take left onto Old Derry road. Old Derry road becomes Bodwell road at the Manchester/Londonderry line. Take a right onto Blondin road after you pass East Meadow condominium complex. Continue onto Blondin road to the camp.

From route 101, route 293: take exit 1 off route 293 onto route 28 (South Willow Street). Go past 2 mall of NH entrances and turn left at the next intersection with traffic lights onto Huse road. Go over highway and take next right onto Mooresville road. Continue to the end of Mooresville road and take a right onto South Mammoth road. Go under highway and take next left onto Bodwell road. Continue for 1.7 miles and take left after the convenience store onto Blondin road. Continue on Blondin road to Camp.

From route 93 South (traveling south)

: take Hanover street, Candia road exit. At Hanover street go straight. At Candia road take left and go under highway. Take second right onto East Industrial drive (first left leads to Boy Scout Office). At the end of East Industrial drive take right on Island Pond road. Take immediate left onto Cohas ave. At the end of Cohas ave (stop sign) take left onto Bodwell road. After passing the convenience store take left onto Blondin road to Camp.

***Please make checks out to and mail to: NHBA,
Shahana Sharmin 47 Regency Dr. Dracut MA 01826***

KEARSARGE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2018 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) _____

Street or PO Box _____ Town _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Check: New or Renewal

Check one:

I would like to receive my newsletter by downloading it from the club website _____
(Saves \$ for the club) www.kbanh.org

OR

Please send a printed newsletter to my mailing address above _____

2018 DUES ARE \$20.00

Please make checks payable to: **KBA**

MAIL TO: Robin Gray

PO Box 275

Warner, NH 03278

NH Beekeepers Association
2018 Member Registration Form
(January 2018- December 2018)

Name(s) _____

Street address/PO Box _____ Apt./Unit _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Single \$15 ___ Family \$20___ Date of payment ___/___/___

New member _____ or, Membership renewal _____

Cash amount _____ or, Check amount _____

Bee Research Fund Donation in any amount (optional) _____

Change of address from previous one for renewing members? Yes: ___ No: ___

Newsletters will be available online at **nhbeekeepers.org** unless otherwise requested.

Members with no online access or for other reasons, please check here for paper copies of newsletters: ___

Please make checks out to NHBA and mail at:

NHBA
C/O Shahana Sharmin
47 Regency Drive
Dracut, MA 01826

KBA INFORMATION – 2018

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Shane Howard 276-8040
showard@lebanonpet.com

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Recording Secretary

Deborah Dunlop 938-2027
ddunlop@nec.edu

Newsletter Editor

Barbara Burns 927-4965
bbbsews@gmail.com

KBA MENTORS

The following club members have graciously volunteered to be mentors to our new beekeepers. They are also available to share their experiences and knowledge with other members who have questions or need advice.

Richard Brewster, Andover, 735-5457
Alan Carruth, Newport, 863-7064
John Chadwick, Sutton Mills, 927-4327
Randy Fleury, South Sutton, 927-4144
Dave Hartman, Warner, 456-3881
Bill McDonald, Newport, 863-4012

CLUB EXTRACTOR

KBA owns a 3-frame tangential extractor, great for small batches. It is available to any and all KBA members. Please contact Dave Hartman at 456-3881 to arrange to borrow it. Of course, it needs to be cleaned before it is returned!

NH BEE AND EQUIPMENT DEALERS

Hillside Apiaries, Merrimack 429-0808
B-Line Apiaries, Alden Marshall, Hudson 883-6764
Spring Fever Farm, Ben Chadwick, Alton 875-3544
NH Honey Bee, Gilsum 354-8019
Troy Hall, Plainfield 298-7209
Kevin Sargent, Newport, 843-5927

KBA WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

www.kbanh.org

Webmaster Mike Bellino 603-938-5129
mike_bellino@yahoo.com

In addition to a public Facebook page, where you can find information and announcements, KBA also has a private Facebook Group. Here is an explanation from Katy Toomey, our administrator:

“As a dues-paying member, there is a new benefit and resource available to you. If you are a Facebook user, search Groups for “KBA-NH” and request to be added to the group. This is a private group for members of the KBA to post bee pictures and videos, ask bee-related questions, and stay up to date with the KBA. The content cannot be seen by the public and any member can post content. It is a private message board type of group where you can further your relationships with other members of the KBA and learn from our mentors’ posts and pictures. Please join us and stay connected through our mutual love of bees.”

HERE ARE A COUPLE OF USEFUL WEBSITES. WHY NOT START YOUR OWN COLLECTION OF FAVORITES?

This is an excerpt from the “free download” section of a commercial website out of Connecticut: www.bee-commerce.com. Like many bee suppliers, they have provided lots of free information. It is fun to explore what is out there for information and see how it compares to what you have been told or read elsewhere.

Where to Situate a Hive. The placement of a hive is not difficult. You needn't have a large parcel of land (I know plenty of beekeepers in Manhattan). The ideal location for a hive would take into consideration the following:

- Place the hive where it will not be a nuisance to neighbors, family or pedestrian traffic.
- Place the hive where access to it is easy (if you are going to remove a hundred pounds of honey, your back will thank you if you have no steep hills to negotiate).
- Place the hive with a water source nearby. Bees use lots of water in the summer to cool the hive. They will find the water they need, but the closer to the hive the better.

Your neighbor won't want them lapping up water from his pool. Provide the bees with their own water source on your property.

- Place the hive where they will enjoy dappled sunlight. Deep shade is not ideal (they need the warmth of the sun to get started in the morning), nor is having the full sun all day long (they waste too much time and energy trying to cool the hive in the hot summer).
- Place the hive so it faces the South East. That will get the bees up and flying with the early morning sun, and warm the hive for most of the day.
- Place the hive where the neighborhood can't see it. Hives can become an attractive nuisance for youngsters and the source of apprehension for those who are terrified of stinging insects.

Another great website for beekeepers and lovers of honey is that of the National Honey Board. www.honey.com Here is a recent recipe:

INFUSED HONEY SIMPLE SYRUPS



INGREDIENTS: 1 cup water, 1 cup honey

Choose Flavor: 1 vanilla bean OR 3 cinnamon sticks OR 5T dried lavender

DIRECTIONS:

Bring 1 cup water to boil. Add in flavor agent of your choice (lavender, vanilla, cinnamon). Add 1 cup honey. Bring to boil, reduce heat, and simmer for 5 minutes. Let cool. Let sit for 2 weeks for maximum flavor. Pour into beverage of your choice & serve.

DO **YOU** HAVE ANY LIBRARY BOOKS THAT NEED TO COME BACK TO THE KBA LIBRARY SO THAT OTHERS CAN ENJOY THEM? PLEASE CHECK YOUR STACKS AND SHELVES AND BRING ANY THAT YOU HAVE TO THE MARCH 10 MEETING.

THANKS FOR CHECKING!
MARTINA DALEY, KBA LIBRARIAN
603-643-8588
Email: mbd253@gmail.com

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