

# Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

*Greetings to my fellow beekeepers,*

*The time change has made me a happier person since we have more daylight hours after work now! I’ve seen 2 good cleansing flights from my hives. Using a small stick I like to clean out dead bees from the hive entrance this time of year. They would do it on their own, but it makes me feel useful.*

*Of my 8 hives, most felt like they still have good stores in them after hefting them. One got some sugar cakes. This is the time of year where things can go south fast, especially if the spring is wet and cold into May. Now that the bees have had a cleansing flight or 2, it would be fine to throw on some pollen substitute. My personal preference is to wait until the cleansing flights begin in March with temps in the 40’s. If your hives did not survive winter this year, chin up, we all have lost hives. Do not feel embarrassed, try to learn from your mistakes. An inspection diary or log is a good way to help with this. Weeks pass by and it is difficult to remember small details from the past year. I try to write a small note on each hive. Some members are smartphone savvy and dictate their notes into the phone. I note the date/time, weather conditions and what’s blooming. What did you see? 1 frame with eggs/larva? Frames with pollen and nectar or honey? When did you do a mite check? How many? There are many fine details that you won’t remember. Heck, I now forget what I walked out to get in the garage! Document and you won’t be sorry.*

*There are so many things to think about with beekeeping. Plan ahead, try not to be a reactive beekeeper. It will save you some stress. The bees will always give you a surprise or two during the season!*

*For those of you that just over wintered your first hive/hives, what are your plans? Are you going to try and increase the number of hives in your yards? If so, do you have the extra hives to do so? Do you plan to test and treat mites?*

*Continued page 2...*



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## NEXT MEETING

APRIL 8 , 2023  
@ 9:00 AM

In person @ the **Warner Library**  
18 E Main St, Warner, NH 03278

AGENDA TO INCLUDE:  
*Minutes from the Previous Meeting*  
*Treasurer’s Report*  
*Old Business*  
*New Business*

*(President's message continued from page 1)*

**Now is the time to start gathering needed equipment and or plan for course of action. Remember the more experienced club members and mentors are happy to answer your questions!**

**The April meeting will be at the Warner Library at 9am. Our own Eric DeKing will speak about what to plant to attract bees and other pollinators following our business meeting.**

**KBA Club cookout will be July 15th, with a rain date of July 16th at the Ramspott's/Club Apiary.**

**The New Hampshire Beekeepers Association is revamping**

**the state webpage. Stay tuned!**

**NH Farm, Forest and Garden Expo will be May 5th and 6th. NHBA usually has a display and needs volunteers. More info to come!**

**NHBA will be holding their annual cookout at Musterfield Farm in Sutton July 29th with speaker Sam Comfort. NHBA is also planning the fall meeting, Oct 21 at Rockingham Ballroom in New Market with speaker Dr. John Zawislak.**

**At your service,  
Shreve Soule  
President of KBA**



## MARCH 2023 KBA MEETING NOTES

MEETING WAS HELD AT THE WARNER TOWN HALL, MARCH 11, 2023, 9AM, FOLLOWED BY A ZOOM PRESENTATION BY LANDI SIMONE- ALTERNATIVE SWARM CONTROL METHODS

### Last meeting Follow Up

**Robin Gray Treasurer's report:** \$8,524.00 Is in the club account. Bee School Expenses, and Membership renewal. We have 30 paid members so far.

**BAM Apiary Report.** We have activity in all hives. Candy boards/sugar blocks will be added in the coming days, weather permitting, and OA treatments have begun. Question, What to do with the NUC'S that survived the winter? Do we sell or expand the apiary? VOAB Tech in Newport: we could donate 2 NUCs to them.

**T-SHIRTS** We have a Logo. Find out if we can get proofs, and colors- We have an image, pricing. How many colors in a logo- send over Logo to Joey Byrnes for the website development.

**Location of KBA Meetings.** Warner Town Hall is Ok for meetings. We do not need to be a resident. Just sign up at the town hall as KBA and get the key. The Town Hall is not available for April. **The April Meeting will be at the Warner Library 9am. 18 E Main St, Warner, NH 03278**

It was noted that we used to meet at the Warner Town Library, but they open later, at 9 am. For the town hall, get the key by Thursdays 4pm.

**Refreshments** Amelia, Motion approved to purchase a coffee pot, and coffee. Carry in and out of any refreshments and dishes donated by members.

**Club Website** Joey Byrnes reported: assessment is that the site needs to be upgraded. We are only paying \$20 a month for the

site right now. What is the purpose of the site? What are we paying for the site, Template, advertisements? We should have more local and regional news and information, a section specifically for Bee school, beekeeping information, education, recruitment. We will need to pay more for a better website. Infrastructure costs? Joey can upgrade the site format now, but wants guidance on content. Let's develop a website committee and have a few web design meetings. Thank you Joey!

**Library books:** Martina, the previous librarian, turned in some books, but we need donations. Should the club purchase recommended books? \$200 is already allocated for Library books.

**Summer picnic** date is July 15, rain date July 16. The club buys the meat. Potluck style. BYO drinks. John Downing offered to donate hamburger meat & chicken. Also has a spare grill. Thank you John!

### New Business

KBA Meeting dates are always the 2nd Saturday of the month. **The April meeting will be at the Warner Library at 9:00 am.**

HOWS June 10 at apiary with the State inspector.

AFB outbreak in Central Massachusetts. Do we want to vaccinate queens? Is this necessary for us in New Hampshire if we are inspecting/caring for our hives.

BEE HELP app for iPhone was recommended by Kevin

July 31-Aug 4 BAS dates?

### Adjourn

## KBA T-SHIRT and LOGO UPDATE

Our new logo designs were voted on at the Harvest dinner 2023, and we are moving forward with the ordering.

Diane paid \$50 for the embroidered logo set up.

There is no charge for a screen print logo and if we choose to have screen print, only the \$50 will be applied to our order. We can have the KBA Logo on the front and the KBA smoker on the back, which is what I propose we agree on doing, since it's the same price..

There is a minimum order of 24 T Shirts for any screen print idea. Any design we wish, such as the smoker on the front, can be done, but we need to get our account established.



The base price for the basic shirts is only \$12.00 each, Plus sizes a little more. There are many styles of shirts to pick from.

For embroidered, there is a minimum order of 12 T-shirts . Size and colors are needed, and this will be treated as a separate order.

It is easier to have 1 color for the screen print- The shirts must be all light colors or all dark to contrast with the logos, but can be a mix of sizes and colors. Let's make a final decision.

I have the order proposals and color samples.



The smoker logo will be adjusted to make it transferable and is screen print only at this price. I told them one color, probably black for a light color shirt, or silver for a black shirt. front and back the same color.

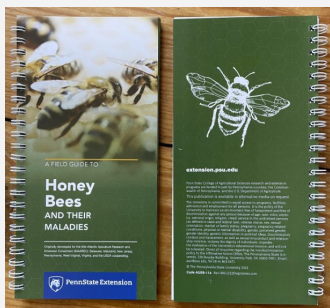
The Ink Factory has a nice website and catalog. <https://www.inkfactoryclothing.com/catalog>

We have lots of options to pick from, just remember that each logo has a minimum order of shirts.

I'm forwarding a copy of the logos to Joey for use on our webpage.

Diane Mancino

### Honey Bees and Their Maladies A Field Guide from Penn State University



Spiral bound field guides available at the next KBA meeting. Supplies are limited and it's first come first serve. \$12 each . See Amelia Lantz.



Bam Fleury will have packages of bees available in early April and mid May, and Russian nucleus colonies mid to late April. Anyone interested should contact him at [randybee-man4@gmail.com](mailto:randybee-man4@gmail.com) for more information.

A recent share on the KBA FaceBook page:

### *What is Honey Bee Dysentery? How Honey Bee Health Can Suffer in an Unrelenting Winter*

Beekeeping is rife with confusing terminology that can baffle even experienced beekeepers. Honey bee dysentery is a perfect example.

In humans, dysentery is a contagious illness caused by bacteria that are associated with unsanitary conditions. But in honey bees, dysentery is not caused by a pathogen. Instead, it is the result of an excess amount of fecal matter in the honey bee's gut. It's not a disease, but simply a condition.

[What is Honey Bee Dysentery? - Backyard Beekeeping \(iamcountryside.com\)](http://iamcountryside.com)



## KBA COMITTEES

### Would you like to get involved with KBA?

KBA has standing Committees as well as occasional "pop-up" or ad-hoc Committees that are organized as needed. If you have an interest in participating on a particular committee, don't hesitate to reach out to the Chair. If you'd like to get involved, but are unsure where help is needed, feel free to reach out to any of the Officers listed on the back page of this newsletter or any of the Chairs listed here. We'd welcome the added interest and volunteers!

#### **Apiary Committee**

Randy (Bam) Fleury

#### **KBA Bee School Committee \***

John Chadwick

#### **Speaker Committee**

Susan Menard

Kim Pease

#### **KBA Scholarship Committee \***

#### **Education Committee \***

John Chadwick

#### **Library Committee**

Patrice Fredette

#### **Nomination Committee**

John Chadwick

#### **Ad-hoc Committees**

Summer Picnic Committee

Harvest Dinner Committee

\* Looking for a Chairperson for these Committees.

## 2023 KBA MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES

### **KBA Memberships due January 1.**

A special reminder for everyone to make sure to send their dues in to Robin Gray. Membership dues come with great benefits including: Access to Hands On Workshops (HOWs), KBA Newsletters (emailed and on website), Library, Mentors, and access to the KBA Facebook members only page, just to name a few!

More info and form can be found on the [kbanh.org](http://kbanh.org) website.

If you are a current member and need to update your information (such as a new email address), please also submit a form to Robin.

Make checks payable to KBA or Kearsarge Beekeepers Association.

Mail to: Robin Gray, PO Box 275, Warner, NH 03278

Dues are: \$20 for individual, \$175 Individual lifetime, and \$250 Family lifetime



# 2023 KBA CALENDAR

Month/Date	Day	Time	Location	Topic	Mentor
April 05	Wed	4:00 PM	Apiary	HOWs: Package Install/ 4pm	Bam Fleury
April 06	Thur	TBD	Apiary	HOWs: TBD	Bam Fleury
April 07	Fri		Apiary	HOWs: Check on Installed Hive	Bam Fleury
April 8	Sat	9:00 AM	Warner Library	KBA Regular Meeting 18 E Main St, Warner, NH 03278 Presentation: What to Plant to Attract Bees and Other Pollinators by Eric DeKing	
April 22	Sat	TBD	Andover	HOWs: Electric Fencing Tucker Mtn Farm, Andover NH	Kim Pease
May	TBD	TBD		HOWs: Queen Rearing	
May 06	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Hive growth/Swarming	
May 13	Sat	9:00 AM	Warner	KBA Monthly Meeting 9am	
May 20	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Making Splits	
May 27	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Hive Inspections/Marking Queens	Shreve
June 03	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Single Brood Management	Bam Fleury
June 10	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	KBA Monthly Meeting 9am Guest Speaker: Dave Priebe, State Inspector	
June 17	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Dearth	Eric DeKing
June 24	Sat		Apiary	HOWs: Mite Washes/When to Treat? Option	
July 15 (tentative)	Sat	TBD	TBD	KBA Summer Picnic (July 16 rain date)	
Nov 10 (tentative)	Fri	TBD	TBD	KBA Harvest Dinner	
Nov 11 (tentative)	Sat	TBD	TBD	KBA Regular Meeting and Guest Speaker	

Additional events and HOWs may be added through the month. Check the KBA Facebook page for announcements and updates.  
KBA Apiary: 223 North Road, Sunapee NH

## Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

President: Shreve Soule  
Vice President: Patrice Fredette  
Treasurer: Robin Gray  
Secretary: Diane Mancino  
Newsletter: Marilyn Milne

Please send information for newsletter to: [kbanhclub@gmail.com](mailto:kbanhclub@gmail.com)  
Join our Facebook page at: KBA-NH (private group)

