

Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Another month has flown by, we spend all winter thinking about the upcoming season and then all of a sudden, it's here!

The weather continues to be challenging or a pain in the Bee-hind. The hard frost managed to kill what blooms were on my peach tree. I think my apple trees might produce a few apples as the blossoms came out after the frost, and the bees were working on them.

I spent a few days with Bam Fleury driving to and back from Baxley Georgia for bee packages. The trip is always a nice distraction from work. We had great weather on the way down and back. It's about a 20-24 hour trip one way. I think South Carolina had the cheapest gas prices at \$3.03. Yes, I had some grits. Gotta have them grits & biscuits when in the south!

I have one hive that overwintered and has been struggling. I should have been feeding them but instead, I would throw a frame of capped brood with a little nectar from another hive in and let them continue to struggle. I hate spending money on sugar. The queen is laying a good pattern but the brood weren't swimming in jelly and last year's capped honey was depleted. I have fed them a gallon of 1: 1 syrup and they are back on track looking good. The hive had 3 frames of capped brood and 5 of various stages. The queen is really making the rounds! All my other hives were doing great, bringing in fresh nectar and almost getting pollen bound. 3 of my queens are on their third season. Still laying very well.

An email will be sent out looking for a head count for our July Cookout. Please try to respond if you are planning on attending. One of our members (John Downing) has graciously donated the hotdogs and hamburgers for the cookout. Thank you John!

Check out the HOWS schedule. I try to go to as many as possible. I'm in my 13th year of beekeeping in NH and always come away feeling invigorated because I learned, or was reminded of an essential skill. After Kevin Sargents HOWS on queen rearing, I find myself motivated in raising my own queens and just how easy it can be. I usually wait for the swarm cells to make splits but this year I plan to use specific queens that are on their 3rd season of service to the hive.



Kim Pease is working on finishing her Master Beekeeper certification. She needs our mite washed dead bees for her study. I hope you will support her in her efforts. Contact Kim for more information.

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NEXT MEETING

AUGUST 12 , 2023
@ 9:00 AM

In person @
the **Warner Town Hall**

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

MAY 2023 KBA MEETING NOTES

The monthly meeting was held at the Warner Town Hall May 13, 2023

Attendance total 19 members: Shreve Soule, Diane Mancino, Betsy McNaughton, Kim Pease, Gordon Ramspott, Reed Lambert, David Lambert, Ada Harris, Joey Byrnes, Liz Peterson, Marilyn Milne, Shane Howard, John Chadwick, Bob Deluca, Mike Plunkett, Susan Menard, Dana Ramspott, Randy Bam Fleury, Gerald Patnode.

Secretary's report

Minutes from the last meeting were read .

Treasurer's report

Robin was away. \$8086.00 reported last month. 63 paid members.

Funds from the T-Shirt sales were collected and deposited to the KBA account.

Committee Reports

Bee School Committee Report, John Chadwick.

The next meeting for the committee will be in June.

NH Farm and Forest Expo was at the Deerfield fairgrounds May 5-6. The NH Beekeepers Assn had a booth, and some of our members volunteered. Several New Hampshire clubs were represented, and we helped to promote KBA and hand out KBA pamphlets.

Educational Committee, Kim Pease

Kim is speaking at Brown Memorial library, Bradford. no additional news

The next meeting will be held June 10, 9:00 am at the apiary in Sunapee, A HOWS will be conducted by members Dave and Dorinda.

Apiary Report, Randy "Bam" Fleury

All hives are alive, We would like to raise queens again this summer. April 5, Bam installed a package of bees as a HOWS demo. A HOWS was conducted May 6, 10 people attended. This was the first full hive inspection, we pulled insulation off. 3 hives had low population, so boxes were reversed to help expansion. One of the queens was a drone layer, so Bam needs to replace the queen. There were no drones. The over winter nuc hive will be installed in the top bar hive.

- There was a HOWS at Tucker Mountain Farm, April 23. On electric fencing.
- May 24, Kevin would like to do queen rearing. Looking for volunteers.

- May 20 9 am HOWS is on splits. The club does not want any more hives, so we will split one of Dana's hives.

Speaker Committee

- June Dave Priebe and Dorinda hive inspections.
- We don't have a speaker for the July BBQ 15 or 16,
- September 9 Troy Hall "coming back from the brink"
- November 10,11 harvest dinner and regular meeting Dr Zac Lama will attend both days

We have a request for presence at Unity Old home Day, Saturday July 29th from 8am to 2pm. Can we get a tent with an observation hive?

Musterfield Farms August 26-27 is looking for volunteers. Bam will have an educational booth, sell honey and he will provide an observation hive.

New Business

Apiary Porta Potty

Dana contacted Ron's Johns about processing our own potty to save month. Purchase an older model for around \$250. and have it serviced as needed. We only need it serviced a few times a year. Discussion tabled, Purchase allotment of \$500 approved for now.

Newsletter Recipient list

We will send out a membership renewal notice with Postal Mail recipients.

Honey Bottles

Bam asked if anyone like to order honey bottles in bulk order? Visit <https://www.gambercontainer.com/>

Meeting Location

Warner Town Hall. Is preferred for a meeting location.

FAA

\$600.00 was approved to purchase the nucs. Amelia has been hanging out with the Newport high schoolers on Mondays, The FAA bee colonies are doing great. She will be having a field trip to the apiary, including a smoker lighting , refreshments, may-be open a hive 9-12pm. Bam will bring a queen to install.

Continued on page 3...

... President's Message continued from Page 1.

Due to a busy schedule this month for myself and Patrice, there will be no business meeting in June. June 10th there will be a HOWS at the club apiary with our state bee inspector Dave Priebe at 9am. I would highly recommend that everyone attend. Hope you all can make it!

Lastly, Thank you to our club Secretary Diane Mancino. Diane organized our club's new t shirt purchases. Hope to see those beautiful shirts all over the Kearsarge Area!

At your service,
Shreve Soule
KBA Club President

... May Meeting Notes continued from Page 2.

KBA Website

Joey Byrnes has been doing a great job updating the website. Programming help would be nice. The Committee chose a web design, and agreed that the web site's goal would be promotion, education, and resources. It will have a members only section, membership sign up and renewal, Information on the next bee school.

Subscription to Web building company Go Daddy was chosen to build the new website, Their services cost is \$11.99 a month \$71.64 annual. Money will be needed. We approve \$300 annual for Web page expenses. We should consider implementing electronic payments. .

The webpage address is <https://kbanh.wordpress.com/>

T-Shirts.

Most T-Shirts orders were picked up. We paid \$874.75-for the tshirts.

As of this week \$1,051.00 has been taken in and deposited to the KBA account. 5 preorders need to be picked up, and 8 extra T-shirts are in our inventory. Square Invoicing program, was used to manage sales and accounting. It can be utilized for taking in electronic payments for future projects and donations.

Betsy suggested we could have an online store.

Honey Trophy

Betsy offered us 2 choices of design, we made a decision, and Betsy will work on getting the final product made. What type of base? Cost.

ZOOM subscription.

Dana used to take care of it. We approved continuing our \$150.00 annual renewal. Use it for speakers, committee meetings.

You Tube

We have a YouTube account https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5wceWUsxny_mu_mlah6o3DQ. There are videos on here already and another resource for us

Sample Request

Kim is looking for bee samples for a Cornell study on varroa mite count and nosema. Do a alcohol mite wash, freeze/ refrigerate your sample, keep in a freezer bag. contact Kim for pick up.

NH Beekeepers Association Summer Gathering Event.

Shane spoke about NHBA Summer Gathering at Musterfield Farm North Sutton. July 29th 10am-2pm at Muster Field farm, Smoker contest, bring your own smoker, fuel provided. NHBA is providing the food, catered by NH Food Bank truck. Bring something to drink and chair to sit on. Dessert to share. Speaker will be Sam Comfort

Next meeting at the town hall will be on August 12.



A few photos from the May 6th HOWs



Queen rearing HOWs with
Kevin Sargent

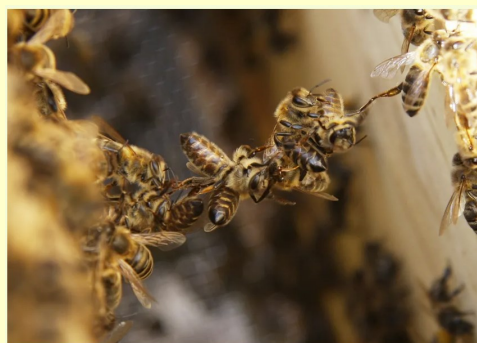


Inspection HOWs, May 27th



KBA Hands On Workshops (HOWs) are a great way for all KBA members to learn about beekeeping. New beekeepers see first hand how to work with bees including handling, inspections, pest management and other management skills and techniques. HOWs offer something for everyone and ALL beekeepers are welcome and encouraged to attend. Experienced beekeepers might consider signing up to lead a HOW and sharing their knowledge and skills. HOWs are shared in the KBA calendar (last page of the newsletter), on the KBA website ([Kearsarge Beekeepers Association – Dedicated to promoting beekeeping and supporting local beekeepers \(wordpress.com\)](http://Kearsarge Beekeepers Association – Dedicated to promoting beekeeping and supporting local beekeepers (wordpress.com))), through email and the KBA Facebook page (KBA-NH). For more information or to take a HOW, reach out to Bam Fleury at randybeeman4@gmail.com. Hope to see you at the next HOW!

Festooning bees: lacework between the frames



Festooning bees. Flickr photo by Maja Dumat/blumenbiene.

Festooning is a mysterious honey bee behavior. You most often see festoons during comb-building season in early spring. A lacework of bees hanging together, leg-to-leg, between the frames of comb is called a “festoon” and the behavior is called “festooning.” The bees hang in lace-like sheets between the frames. Sometimes the pattern is as wide and as deep as the frame itself, but often it is smaller.

[Festooning bees: lacework between the frames - Honey Bee Suite](#)

Visit the KBA Library!

Don't forget that as a KBA member, you have access to the KBA Library. The Library is kept at the Apiary. Checking books in or out is easy! Current books include, but are not limited to:

- Following the Wild Bees, by Thomas D Seeley
- Selecting and Operating Beekeeping Equipment, USDA
- Beekeeping Basics, Penn State
- IPM for Beekeeping in Ontario, Ontario Beekeeper's Association



What's in Bloom in June?

[Beekeeping Calendar for the Northeast.pdf | Powered by Box](#)

Lots of blooms continue: deadnettle, black locust, tulip poplar, hawthorn, autumn olive, willow, dandelion, oak, apple, cherry, plum, honeysuckle, pear, elderberry, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, and the earlier clovers- plus white sweetclover (*Melilotus alba*) and yellow sweetclover (*Melilotus officinalis*). Basswood/linden (*Tilia* spp.) may bloom by the end of the month. The European species, littleleaf linden, can usually be found in parks and urban areas. It blooms slightly earlier than the American basswood (July), which is generally found in the wild. Other blooms include catalpa trees (*Catalpa speciosa*), milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), yellow rocket (*Barbarea* spp.), birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), hairy and purple vetch (*Vicia villosa*, *Vicia americana*), chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), grape (*Vitis* spp.), and sumac (*Rhus* spp.). These also include invasives such as purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), knapweed (*Centaurea* spp.), and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*). Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) may also be in bloom, although it is generally cut for hay before it flowers.



*How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower!*

– ISAAC WATTS

KBA COMITTEES

Apiary Committee

Randy (Bam) Fleury

KBA Scholarship Committee

Kim Pease

Library Committee

Patrice Fredette

KBA Bee School Committee *

John Chadwick

Education/Outreach Committee

Kim Pease

Nomination Committee

John Chadwick

Speaker Committee

Susan Menard

Kim Pease

Ad-hoc Committees

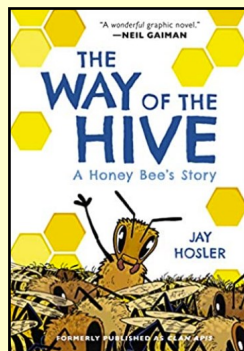
Summer Picnic Committee

Harvest Dinner Committee

If you are interested in participating on a committee, please reach out to any of the officers listed on the back page of this newsletter or any of the chairs listed above. Email KBA at kbanhclub@gmail.com for contact information.

* Looking for a Chairperson for these Committees.

Book Review

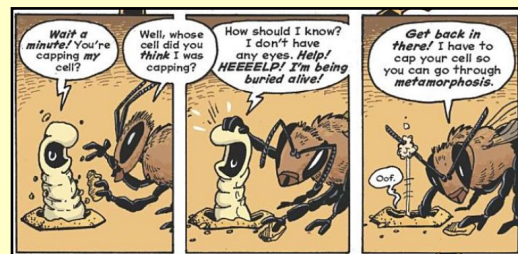


Experience the life of a honeybee in this coming-of-age story about a bee named Nyuki, in this full-color graphic novel by Jay Hosler, perfect for curious kids who are fans of the Science Comics series.

Nyuki is a brand-new honeybee—and she has a lot of questions. Like:

- When does a bee go through metamorphosis?
- Why does a queen bee sometimes leave her hive
- And where does all this honey **come from**, anyway?!

But Nyuki's biggest question is, "What is this inner voice I hear, and why does it tell me to **go forth to adventure**?"



[The Way of the Hive: A Honey Bee's Story: Hosler, Jay, Hosler, Jay: 9780063007369: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780063007369)

KBA MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES

KBA Memberships due January 1.



A membership to KBA comes 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 a form can be found on the 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
June 03	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Single Brood Management	Bam Fleury
June 10	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	Guest: Dave Priebe, State Inspector Note: There is no Business Meeting in June	
June 17	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Dearth	Eric DeKing
June 24	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Mite Washes/When to Treat? Option	
July 1	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Inspections	Marilyn Milne
July 7	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Solar Wax Melter / Inspection	Bill Goggin Bam Fleury
July 15 (tentative)	Sat	TBD	TBD	KBA Summer Picnic (July 16 rain date)	
July 22	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary		
July 29	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Honey Harvest	
Aug 5	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Mite Treatment	
Aug 12	Sat	9:00 AM	Warner	KBA Monthly Meeting	
Aug 19	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary	HOWs: Feeding for Winter	
Aug 26	Sat	9:00 AM	Apiary		
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



Interested in ordering honey jars?

With the cost of shipping, KBA is looking at purchasing a group pallet load of glass honey bottles through Gamber Glass company in PA. Please reach out to kbanhclub@gmail.com if interested in ordering or for more information.

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
 Join our Facebook page at: KBA-NH (private group)

