

Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello,

KBA's turnout for the fall conference was excellent! I enjoyed Cory Stevens' presentation very much. He talked about his queen rearing routine and then was joined with Troy Hall for a round table discussion. The weather couldn't have been better! Thanks to all that turned out and assisted with setup and cleanup. I believe we had around 80-100 beekeepers show up with lots of food leftovers sent home with attendees. The Appleseed restaurant did a great job and the food was delicious.

Cory Stevens has a bunch of You-tube videos explaining his operation's goals and how he performs his research. Check them out. [Harbo Assay Demystified: Expert Insights and Finding Mite Resistance with Cory Stevens](#)

I've really been enjoying the warm weather this week (after my real job). I took the opportunity to do my OAV treatments on my hives. Mouse guards are on, insulation is under the cover, and the hives are heavy. As much as I enjoy the warm weather it is time for it to go. Time for the bees to cluster and make the long trip to Spring. Now it's time to think about next year's goals and start preparing. For the 1st or second year beekeepers it will be a very, very long wait to see if you bees make it till Spring. What are your goals for next year? Do you need to purchase more equipment for making increases? The long timers take advantage of the down time to clean and paint equipment in preparation for the 2025 season.

An invite for our Harvest dinner was sent out via email a week ago. Please take the time to fill it out and make a note about what dish you plan to bring. It's BYOB, I will have seltzer's and soda's. If you didn't receive an invite, send an email to KBA. Bring an item for the raffle. The next day at the same location, Andrew Munkres will speak. [Vermont Beekeepers Association - Meet Andrew Munkres](#) Hope to see you there!

Bee school is coming together nicely. Thanks to Bob Deluca and the committee members working hard to bring another successful program together for next year. We got confirmation from the Newport HS Administration on the dates we submitted! We will be in the new Sugar River Tech. building.

KBA and the rest of the bee club's in NH will be receiving grant money from NHBA via a USDA block grant of around \$40,000 next year around March. We need to put on our thinking caps and come up with some ideas for research and education for the money. This will be discussed at upcoming meetings. If you have an idea for a project, please come to a meeting and share your ideas. For instance, I think the industry needs to really study probiotics and pollen substitutes more. Beekeepers spend hundreds of dollars every year without any real scientific evidence that they provide a benefit to the bees. Perhaps some sort of project with mite control?

Maybe you always wondered if your bees would swarm if you stacked 6 honey supers in April without a queen excluder? Last year I did away with all my upper hive entrances and added 4 inches of insulation under the cover along with 1-2 inches around the outside of the hive. Yes my hives survived with little mold found. Was I lucky? Let's put our antennae together and figure out a fun project.

... continued on page 3



Sweet treats made by Marla Miller and shared at the NHBA Fall Meeting in Croydon on Oct 19th.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- KBA Meeting Notes 2
- Meeting notes cont'd 3
- Presidents Message cont'd ... 3
- KBA Committees 3
- Bee School
 - Raffel Donations 4
- KBA Committees 4
- Harvest Dinner
 - and Guest Speaker 4
- 2024 KBA Calendar 5
- KBA Membership Dues 5
- KBA Library 5
- KBA Officers 5

NEXT MEETING

**NOV 8, 2024
HARVEST DINNER
@ 6:00PM**

**NOV 9, 2024
BRIEF MEETING
AND GUEST SPEAKER
@ 9:00 AM**

**BOTH AT THE
WILMONT COMMUNITY
CENTER (THE RED BARN)
64 VILLAGE RD
WILMOT, NH 03287**

OCTOBER 2024 KBA MEETING NOTES

October 12, 2024—At Sutton Fire Department. Warner was having their annual festival so we could not use the town hall.

Attendance 19 members, 2 guests, **Members** Shreve Soule, Diane Mancino, Patrice Fredette, Betsy McNaughton, Bob O'Neal, John Chadwick, Bob Deluca. Dave Nelson, Heidi Nelson, Cathay Chesley, Tim Young, Jim McDonald, Ann Harris, Marla Miller, Denise Wilde, Joey Byrnes, **New members!** Kim Cooper, Rick Lovell, **Guests:** Ericka and Bill M.

Secretary's Report Diane Mancino. Newsletter Was sent out to all KBA 355 contacts which includes about 103 annual and 10 lifetime members. We use gmail for our email and only 1 newsletter was mailed to a member by USPS. I delete any contact that requests unsubscribing from the emails. It has been brought up that contacts should be deleted from the rolls after 3 years of non renewal. **Let's include a membership renewal notice in the monthly newsletter.** I plan on going through the Gmail contact list and purging the expired non-members.

I received emails from members donating equipment and requesting assistance with their beehives. No new members were added this month.

I'd like assistance adding others access to Gmail and being able to send out emails in case I am not available or offline.

Treasurer's Report Robin Gray was absent, Prior membership reported at 103 paid members, KBA Account balance \$5773 which included honey sales from Musterfield farms. Porta Potty was paid at \$55 every 2 months

Committee reports

KBA Apiary Report Amelia Lantz October 7, 2024 There are 14 colonies of honeybees in the Apiary—1 SRVRTC, 2 Dana, 11 KBA. Of the KBA colonies, there are 2 Nucs, 3 in TBH, 1 eight frame, 5 ten frame— two single deep, two single+medium, one in two deeps. All of these colonies are being fed 2:1 syrup, all replenished Oct 7th, and one 5 gallon pail of 2:1 syrup remains in the shed. KBA bought 100 lbs of sugar off Troy Hall. It takes two 5 gallon pails of syrup to feed all the colonies. Dana has recharged the drill batteries. Dana is also cutting 1/2" hardware cloth into mouse guards. All of the colonies were queenright as of 28 September. They were treated with Formic Pro mid-September. With continued feeding, hopefully they will be at winter weight by the end of October. We will treat with OAV and wrap the hives mid-November. An inventory of what we have for winter wrap, and a plan for how we will winterize, should be done asap.

Bam has a new knee that is healing, Amelia is gone until mid-Nov, so the syrup-making, feed-refilling, winter wrap inventory work will be shared by John C, Dana R, Ali C, and Mike P of the apiary committee, and anyone else who'd like to help!! A big Thank You to Laurie Bride and her husband for signing up, and then, stirring up syrup & feeding the Apiary colonies in September. Their huge contribution of time & trouble to support the bees set a path for good health for the fall, and we are grateful!

Next HOWS November 16 Hive Wrap and feed for winter (subject to change).

Bee School Bob Deluca Newport wanted a "Facility Request form" that listed the dates and Shreve got the proof of liability insurance coverage. A Committee meeting was held October 9, they discussed the form and it was submitted to the school on Thursday October 10. We want to start Bee School on January 25 and go for 5 Saturdays. Waiting for approval. 9-12 am We have the presenters and it is coming together. We have a coffee maker and supplies for bee school. Member Valerie Carter sent an email volunteering for Bee School
Bee School Raffle: Betsy made a motion, was seconded, and approved that we will purchase and raffle off a full beehive setup at bee school. Mike Plunkett will sell it at cost for \$200.00

Speaker Committee Kim Pease & Susan Menard absent, no report.

Library Committee Patrice Fredette no new news. No requests for books. Patrice keeps the books at her house. Discussion was made should we sell the books?

Nominating committee John Chadwick We are still looking for a Vice President. Shreve will be stepping down as president, and Patrice Fredette will be taking that position. 2 year positions. Diane continues as secretary, but assistance is always welcomed. Robin will remain as Treasurer.

KBA Website Joey Byrnes It was suggested that we improve communications consolidating emails, Facebook postings, and making things simpler. Joey is waiting on event dates to update the website

Educational Outreach Amelia Lantz absent, no report.

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OCTOBER 2024 KBA MEETING NOTES... CONTINUED

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T-Shirts Diane Mancino Time was spent this month picking up the T Shirts, and sorting T-Shirt orders. 25% (\$540 @ \$20 per shirt) of the inventory was sold at the monthly meeting and \$540 taken in. Patrice Fredette will keep the inventory and bring it to the meetings. **Any members who can not get to the meetings can contact us for t- Shirt purchase.** <https://mail.google.com/>

New KBA News

Thank you Shreve for your efforts!!

NHBA Fall Meeting is hosted by KBA October 19 9:00am - 2PM \$15.00 registration online. \$25 dinner. Only 20 people have signed up and the meeting is in 1 week and we need a headcount. Croydon Fire Department. Registration was set up online. Sandwiches Catered by Appleseed Restaurant. We will have a check in at the door to check membership and event payments. Mike Plunkett is requesting assistance at the door. **Joey created grab bags that will be handled out at the door for the fall meeting.** Set up committee will go Friday evening to set up.

Beekeeper relief Mike Plunkett will have a table at the meeting. Money is being sent down to Georgia for hurricane relief. Let's have KBA challenge the other clubs to match a \$200 donation to Greater Good Charities Disaster Relief Beekeeping of Georgia \$200 donation was approved

Harvest Dinner November 8 2024 5-8 pm
Location Wilmot Community Center, 64 Village Rd, Wilmot,

NH 03287 off rt 11 AKA Wilmot Red Barn. Patrice is doing the Evites which will let us know the headcount and what dish attendees are bringing. BYOB. **Help! Sign up to help set up at 4:30 and clean up.**

Honey Tasting Contest and Trophy. Patrice Fredette. Patrice brought the trophy to the meeting, it looks great! Names can be engraved on it. Bring ½ pint of honey to participate. **Thank you Laura & Gary Stanhope for donating the hive wrap for the harvest dinner raffle**

An opportunity for members: Brandon Mioduszewski is a documentary filmmaker in my final year at Dartmouth College. For my senior year final project, I want to create a documentary about beekeeping in New Hampshire, especially since I've been hearing a lot about bee colony loss in the region.

Some of my distant relatives are beekeeping hobbyists, but I've never had the chance to explore beekeeping in-depth. I would be grateful for an opportunity to meet some of your club members to learn more about beekeeping and how community is created through the hobby.

Please let me know if you'd be able to put me in touch with any beekeepers from your club. I would love to check out some hives and bee yards before the winter season! Happy to communicate over email, or give me a ring/text at 630-335-5672 if that's more convenient.

With gratitude,
Brandon Mioduszewski
630-335-5672

... *President's Message continued from page 1.*

KBA is still looking for a member to step up and serve as Vice President. It is not a hard job. No experience necessary. Also, if you have any interest in doing the club newsletter, talk with Marilyn Milne.

Thank you to Patrice Fredette who has volunteered to be our next President. Diane Mancino will stay on as KBA secretary and Robin Gray Treasurer.

Here is my YouTube video of the month. It's about Honey and its healing properties. It also covers the Royal Jelly business in France. It's very interesting. I've had customers ask me about selling royal jelly and it's hard to explain to them just how difficult the process is. Check it out! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siBovNkMOZY>

I will see you on November 8th at the Harvest dinner.

*At your service,
Shreve Soule
KBA President*



Interested in Donating to the 2025 Bee School Raffle?

KBA puts on a fantastic Bee School each year. Five Saturdays in January and February are spent with members and new-bees talking and learning all about bees. On the last day of Bee School, there is a raffle for students and members to participate in, although some items are only for students. In the past, great items have been gifted and are a good way for a new-bee to get started.

Any donations of new beekeeping or bee related items for the 2025 raffle would be greatly appreciated. If you have an item that you would like to donate to the raffle, please feel free to bring it to the next meeting or the harvest dinner. Betsey McNaughton coordinates the raffle, but anyone on the Bee School Committee can help get your donation to where it needs to be.

Thank you! KBA Bee School Committee

KBA COMITTEES

Apiary Committee

KBA Bee School Committee

Speaker Committee

KBA Scholarship Committee

Education/Outreach Committee

Library Committee

Nomination Committee

If you are interested in participating on a committee, email KBA at kbanhclub@gmail.com for contact information.

Friday, Nov 8 Harvest Dinner

Location Wilmot Community Center, 64 Village Rd, Wilmot, NH 03287 off rt 11 AKA Wilmot Red Barn. Patrice is doing the Evites which will let us know the headcount and what dish attendees are bringing. BYOB.

Help needed! Sign up to help set up at 4:30 and clean up after the dinner.

Saturday, Nov 9 Meeting and Guest Speaker

A brief business meeting will be held prior to the Guest Speaker.

Guest Speaker: Andrew Munkres, Lemon Fair Honeyworks

Lemonfair Honeyworks is located in Cornwall, Vermont, and takes its name from the Lemon Fair river which flows in the valley behind our honey house. We produce raw honey, comb honey, nucleus colonies and queens from bees that have not been treated with miticides, antibiotics or other medications.



[lemonfairhoneyworks](http://lemonfairhoneyworks.com) | [treatment-free beekeeping in vermont's champlain valley](http://treatment-free-beekeeping.com)

2024 KBA CALENDAR

Month/Date	Time	Location	Topic
Nov 8, Friday	5:00 - 8:00 PM	Wilmot Community Center (Red Barn)	KBA 2024 Harvest Dinner
Nov 9, Saturday	9:00 AM	Wilmot Community Center (Red Barn)	KBA Regular Meeting Followed by Guest Speaker: Andrew Munkres, Lemon Fair Honeyworks

Visit kbanh.org and the KBA Facebook page, KBA-NH, for updates on HOWs and other KBA events.
The KBA Apiary is located at the Ramspott Farm, 223 North Road, Sunapee, NH.

2025 KBA MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES

KBA Memberships due January 1.

A friendly reminder for everyone to pay their dues. 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 a form can be found on the kbanh.org website. Current members needing to update information (such as a new email address), please submit a form as well.

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

Visit the KBA Library!

As a KBA member, you have access to the KBA Library. The Library is kept at the Apiary. Checking books out is easy and there are a number of different resources and topics available.



Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

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

Please send information for newsletter to: kbanhclub@gmail.com

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

kbanh.org

