

## Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dear Members,*

*It's finally May in New Hampshire—and the bees know it! After a long, temperamental spring, we're seeing the first major nectar flows begin, especially with dandelions, and maples. This is one of the most critical months for beekeepers in our region, as our colonies build up rapidly and prepare for the season ahead.*

*Now is the time to be vigilant: keep an eye out for swarm cells, monitor space in the brood nest, and consider adding supers if your colonies are strong. Swarm season is just beginning here in the Granite State, so timely management can mean the difference between a booming honey crop and a hive hanging from your neighbor's apple tree! KBA's HOWs are a great resource for beginning beekeepers and veterans alike. There is a list of upcoming HOWs on the KBA website.*

*Thanks to all who joined us last month for our KBA meeting at the Sutton Fire Department. I want to say a huge thank you to Joey Byrnes and Marilyn Milne, who have both agreed to join the KBA Board in their current positions as Webmaster and Newsletter Secretary. I really appreciate both of you volunteering to do this so we can meet the minimum number of Board members per our new bylaws. THANK YOU JOEY AND MARILYN!!*

*Just a reminder that our May KBA meeting will be held on 5/10/25 at the Warner Town Hall. I hope we don't have a snowstorm like we did for the April meeting! It is spring in New Hampshire and the weather can be fickle, but I'll keep my fingers crossed for nice weather.*

*Wishing you strong queens and smooth inspections,*

*Patrice*



*Photo shared by KBA member Jamie Mason Drown.*

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### NEXT MEETING

**MAY 10, 2025**  
**WARNER TOWN HALL**  
**@ 9:00 AM**

*Agenda to include:*  
*Committee Reports*  
*Old Business*  
*New Business*

# APRIL 2025 KBA MEETING NOTES

April 12, 2025 9 AM, Sutton Fire Department

Attendees low turn out due to spring snowstorm 12 :Patrice Fredette, Diane Mancino, Shreve Soule, Nonie Reynders, Ken Foster, Mick Plunkett, Marilyn Milne, Myra Gray, Robin Gray, GUEST: Michael Lesser-SBA

## Secretary's Report Diane Mancino

The KBA March newsletter was sent out along with the meeting minutes.

A membership renewal letter was sent out and 4 members were added to the 2025 paid list.

Reminder: <https://kbanh.org/join/> is also the link to renew your membership. My weekly task is updating member status when members pay the renewal fee or sign up and add to our database. As of April 27, I have 93 listed in the 2025 paid list-7 more than the treasurer's report.

Current KBA member profiles are being labeled as Mentors if they elect to do so. An effort is being made to match new beekeepers with members in their community. We will be able to check the KBA member contact list and pull up a list of "just mentors" to cut down on unnecessary emails. 3 mentors were matched this month. Please contact us if you are needing help, or would like to be a mentor in your area.

The HOWS schedule was sent out to members, along with event reminders. A good video was created and uploaded on DEAD OUTS AND BEEHIVE FRAME CONDITIONS. It can be viewed on our KBA Facebook Page

I hosted a ZOOM social hour KBA Member Zoom Social Thursday March 20, 7-8:30 pm Invitations went out to all paid KBA members. It was fun. Contact me if you would like to have more of these and can you help host one.

The monthly meetings have been recorded through voice memos since 2023, I uploaded them and stored them in KBA Google documents. It is noted that as of right now only the Secretary and Webmaster have access to these files unless requested. The GOOGLE backup phone number needs to be updated and assigned to a member. Who should this be?

**Treasurer's Report Robin Gray** The KBA Bank Balance \$7,405, member status 83 members. 22 lifetime members. We are still working on matching online Stripe payments to our database. Email payments received to KBANH.ORG should also be sent to the Treasurer to verify they have been updated.

We verified that we had approved a \$200 donation to the Beekeeper relief fund 10/2024 but still needed to pay it.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded.

## Committee reports

**Apiary Report Shreve Soule** We have a sign up sheet for anyone who would like to conduct a HOWS or assist at the HOWS event. There are still some slots that have not been filled. It's OK if you just want to assist. Sometimes you just need to observe what is going on in the hives. Enter that information in the log books in the apiary shed. So please sign up and list your contact information.

Hive status: 2 live over winter NUCs we will be installing 3 new packages from BAM, who is getting them from Georgia & populate the top bar hive around April 15.

Amelia talked to Dave and Dorina Priebe, NH State Apiary Inspector. They will be speaking at the club apiary in June. Amelia has been laid up with back problems, and has not been able to work the apiary. Let's step up, pitch in and help maintain this great club asset!

Apiary expenses: Shreve bought cases of honey jars at Better-bee and Formic Acid strips. \$480 for bee packages.

HOWS we had a good turn out April 5 for the HOWS on dead outs and electric fences, about 20 people came out on a very cold morning. The following HOWS were canceled due to weather. A good video was posted on YouTube of the event.

Member resources: reminder that we have some items to lend out to members, such as a solar fence, honey extractor, OA wands etc.

**KBA website** Joey Byrnes no new news.

**BEE School Bob Deluca.** No new news, Next meeting probably will not be until August. 25-30 evaluations were received as feedback

**Nominating Committee John Chadwich** no new news. Discussion was made on NHBA wanting nominees for beekeeper of the year from every club in New Hampshire. Qualifications do not matter. Go to the NHBA website and nominate someone from our club. The deadline has passed for this year, but we should keep it in mind for 2026. <https://www.nhbeekeepers.org/about/beekeeper-of-the-year>.

## MARCH 2025 KBA MEETING NOTES, CONTINUED

...Meeting Notes continued from page 2.

### KBA Outreach Report Amelia Lantz April 12, 2025

\$75 Gift certificates were purchased and delivered to Deb Stevens, John Lunn, and Dana Mongillo. They expressed their gratitude, and we are equally thankful for their contributions.

Amelia supported Clara Shanahan of Valley News by referring interviewees for an article on honeybee colony loss—Brian Jasinski was featured on the front page (April 4, 2025).

In March, Amelia collaborated with Deb Stevens and the Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center's Plant & Animal Science class to present 10 Lessons in Beekeeping. Highlights included a field trip to Hall Apiaries to learn about honey extraction and a guest visit from Brian Jasinski, who demonstrated lip balm making and donated products.

Upcoming speaking engagements include:

- Plainfield Library – May 16
- Newbury Library – June 7
- Eastman Summer Camp – July 14

Amelia plans to bring an observation hive, engaging materials, and Marilyn's poster to each event.

Submitted by: Amelia Lantz Date: April 11, 2025

**Beekeeper relief fund Mike Plunkett** The relief fund is growing like crazy! We spoke at the Vermont meeting and a fellow beekeeper donated \$3000 worth of 8 frame equipment. Most of it is still in the box and is available for raffles. One example: We helped out a family that was burnt out in the north country. The program is being expanded into Massachusetts and Maine. We have some great events coming up and are getting recognized by agencies like the NH Farm Bureau. Thank You for your Support!

Mike would also mention **HIVES FOR HEROES** <https://hivesforheroes.org/?srsId=AfmBOoqPCrab8HHYp4WISZgs8uF-TanIX-1oqCM9pcsaLe7IAcAOTADn>

They team up a mentor with 3 years experience with local veterans who are interested in Beekeeping.

**New Business Patrice Fredette** Per our new Bylaws, we have to add a fifth person. So, we have 4 officers, but if you read the bylaws, we have to have a minimum of five board members. We need to add somebody, who would you like to nominate. We need a minimum of five but we can have more. Webmaster? Editor? If a member is interested let us know, otherwise we will ask for nominations at the next meeting. The requirement is basically in case we need to sign paperwork and if we have a situation where we have to decide as a board on something. This discussion is tabled till the next meeting when we have a better meeting turnout .

The discussions on if Bee School should have its own budget and adding a 5th officer were tabled till the May 10 meeting due to low attendance.

**Announcements** The EAS conference will take place at the doubletree by Hilton, Cherry Hill, NJ July 27 through August 1, 2025.

KBA signed up for a Farmer's market Wilmont, NH Saturday, June 28.

The state will pay for a booth at the NH county fairs. We can sign up and set up an exhibit and sell KBA honey.

### KBA Hands on Workshops (HOWs)



Between the snow and rain the spring weather has made it difficult to keep our regularly scheduled HOWs, but our dedicated members have persevered! April HOWs included fencing tips, recon of over-wintered hives, smoker tips, OA treatments, and successful installations of packages. Mark your calendars for a special HOWs with Dave Priebe (NH Apiary Inspector) and Dorinda Priebe (Master Beekeeper) at the KBA apiary, June 7th.



*A great turnout for the April 19th HOWs.*



[New Hampshire Beekeepers Association](#)

### Deadline extended for Beekeeper of the Year Nominations!

The Francis Dodge Beekeeper of the Year Award- An award for outstanding beekeepers who have made a significant contribution to beekeeping in New Hampshire. [Beekeeper of the Year](#)  
[New Hampshire Beekeepers Association](#)

### Events

**May 2nd and 3rd**—NH Farm Forest and Garden Expo, Deerfield Fairgrounds, NH

**July 26**—NHBA Muster Field Picnic, North Sutton, NH

**October 18**—NHBA Fall Meeting with Mike Palmer, Keene, NH

### State Laws for Keeping Bees and Selling Honey



Do you know about the requirements associated with beekeeping and honey production in New Hampshire? Check out the following resources:

- NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Foods. [Apiaries and Beekeeping | Plant Industry | NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food](#)
- [Guidelines for Selling Honey in New Hampshire](#)
- [Pesticide Applicator Permit](#) [New Hampshire Beekeepers Association](#)

### KBA Facebook Shares

In case you missed it!

Resources and tips shared by KBA members on our KBA-NH Facebook page. Thank you for contributing!

### Single Serving Pollen Patty

Did you ever need just one patty for a weak hive? Directions are for mixing up the whole 10lbs of sub on the bucket. Here is a 1lb patty recipe:

- 127g of Ultrabee
  - 2oz of hot water
  - 2 teaspoons of vegetable oil
  - 147g of granulated sugar. Mix with hot water/oil.
- Stir all together into thick paste

### Smoker Tips

Bees: If You've Got 'Em, Smoke 'Em—[How to Use a Bee Smoker | Betterbee](#)

**2025 NHBA FALL MEETING OCTOBER 18TH WITH MIKE PALMER** [2025 NHBA Fall Meeting October 18th with Mike Palmer](#) [New Hampshire Beekeepers Association](#)

**VIDEO:** [How to Install a Package of Bees](#)

**Listen to the Story:** [Telling the Bees – Emily Polk](#)

**The Beekeepers Relief Fund** offers prompt support to beekeepers during critical events such as emergencies, illnesses, crises that necessitate specialized beekeeping skills, equipment replacement, or financial assistance. We can help Beekeepers with:

- Hive Management and Assessment
- Beekeeping Equipment and Supplies
- Financial Assistance



To find out more about the Beekeepers Relief Fund, for assistance, or to donate, please visit:  
[www.beekeepersreliefund.org](http://www.beekeepersreliefund.org).



# STAY UP TO DATE ON 2025 KBA EVENTS

## Events - Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

Next KBA Regular Meeting: May 10, 2025 @ 9:00 AM, Sutton Fire Department

Mark your calendars for special HOWs with Dave Priebe (NH Apiary Inspector) and Dorinda Priebe (Master Beekeeper) at the KBA apiary, June 7th.

Visit [kbanh.org](http://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), Mentors, and access to the KBA Facebook members only page, just to name a few!

More info can be found on the [kbanh.org](http://kbanh.org) website. Download the form and send it in, or join / renew online right from our website!

If sending in, make checks payable to KBA or Kearsarge Beekeepers Association.

Mail to: KBA, PO Box 243, Warner, NH 03278

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

### 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](mailto:kbanhclub@gmail.com) for contact information.

## Kearsarge Beekeepers Association

President: Patrice Fredette

Vice President: Matt Hoyt

Treasurer: Robin Gray

Secretary: Diane Mancino

Newsletter: Marilyn Milne

Website: Joey Byrnes

Please send information for the newsletter to: [kbanhclub@gmail.com](mailto:kbanhclub@gmail.com)

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

[kbanh.org](http://kbanh.org)

