



THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER

September 2013
Volume No. 8

The Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeeper's Association



GOOD FOOD



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GOOD TIMES



GOOD FELLOWSHIP



Photos by Deb Morse

News 'n Views...

EAS 2013 and the PSBA summer picnic started my August. My first impression of both events was the tremendous amount of time and effort that went into these events. It is not by accident that everything comes together smoothly. I would like to extend my appreciation to the beekeepers of the Philadelphia Beekeepers Guild, Chester and Montgomery County for the endless hours to make these events successful.

I was only able to attend EAS the final day. I had a chance to sit in a few workshops. Always great information that helps paint a full picture. The friendships and networking are often as valuable as the presentations. As useful as email is... it doesn't replace talking face to face.

The PSBA summer picnic, hosted by Montgomery County Beekeepers Association, was very welcoming. On the location of Morris Arboretum, there were plenty of fascinating trees and flower gardens. The old trees protected with lightning rods is something I'd never seen before. The giant bugs ... pretty cool.

Items of interest from the executive meeting include Rachel Bryson initiating a communications campaign, which includes social media. "Like" us on Facebook, Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association.

Our 'popular' state newsletter is limited on space. There have been suggestions to turn the format 90 degrees. This would create a booklet similar to how the newsletter was published in the 1940's- 50's. It was unanimously agreed the advertising rates be increased as it's quite a bargain compared to other publications. If you would like the newsletter by email, please let Yvonne know. It's in color and stores easily.

There has been some feedback regarding the Best Management Practices. Mostly a misunderstanding in how some rules are written. Once explained, we seem to be okay. I would encourage feedback. This document will be reviewed next year. If something needs clarified, defined, added or deleted that can be addressed.

Steve Repasky reported the BMP has been useful and incorporated in different township ordinances in the Pittsburg area. As townships do, they still want to add their own restrictions. Overall, they are satisfactory and bee-friendly. He is willing to pass along copies to anyone interested. It seems every few weeks, another township places restrictions on beekeepers. It is not really surprising, as independent beekeepers pick up the art and do it in urban/suburban settings that never had to deal with it in the past. An interesting twist is in some cases; beekeepers already employ what is written into our Best Management Practices, in order not to be easily detected.

August is always one of my busiest months of the year. It is consumed with getting ourselves ready for the Crawford County Fair. My wife Cathy and I have been chairpersons of

the Apiary Department since 1997. A few years ago we slid into a vending spot right across the isle from the judged exhibit and display. Every year, people would want to buy honey from the judged exhibit. So, a vending spot was a perfect fit and location. We could work both sides of the isle for a total experience. The apiary exhibit includes an observation hive connected to a large atrium with Plexiglas front. The bees fly all day long and keep the crowd's attention. Volunteers from the NW Pa Beekeepers Association man the rail and answer every question imaginable.

Pa Honey Queen, Elena, was 'live' on the grounds for media day. With Cathy as her escort, guide and liaison, Elena did live interviews on several radios and a local television. A wonderful ambassador to our industry. THANKS for a job well done!

<http://honeybeenet.gsfc.nasa.gov>

I mentioned my hive that sets on a platform scale, for a NASA study. () It gained 72 pounds in 10 days at the end of June. It gained 9 pounds in July. It lost 10 lbs. in the first two weeks of August. Then one day I discovered wax moths had gotten into two deep boxes of last year's honey, that was intended to boost weak hives before winter. Honey was leaking on the floor. *Drat!* I'd rather the bees have the honey, than wax moths. So, I set it out for the bees to rob. It worked! The hive on the scale gained 34 lbs. that day. *OOPS!* Anyway, it is beginning to gain on it's own, with fall flow beginning about Aug 25th. It is gaining earlier than other years, with 3 - 4 weeks still ahead. Most hives are very light, so this may be good in prepping for winter and some surplus. Unless the rains start again.

Don't forget to keep out those nice frames for the Farm Show. Bottle some for show. Use that beautiful wax. It's okay to show it off.

Start thinking about doing a 'county exhibit' or 'individual exhibit' at the next Farm Show.

Charlie Vorisek,

President PSBA

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EAS 2013

The Eastern Apiculture Society held its annual meeting at West Chester University, in West Chester, PA from August 5 through 9. The meeting was divided into a short course and the conference. Over 700 people attended at least one day.

Short Course

This year the short course was divided into the Core Classes and several Electives. Many of the short course lectures were given by local beekeepers. For the first time this year, those attending had an opportunity to take a short exam to test their basic knowledge of beekeeping at the end of the two days of Core lecture/demonstrations. Over 60 individuals took the exam.

In the Electives series, there was an all day Microscopy workshop where participants had the opportunity to learn how to use a microscope and then to view pollen, AFB, and Nosema. Additional topics included both a lecture and hands-on workshop concerning Topbar hive beekeeping. There were also lectures for those interested in the business side of beekeeping with presentations on marketing, honey house design and growing your business. There was also a series of lectures and hands-on workshops on queen rearing.

Conference

The conference began Wednesday morning with welcome address by EAS officials and the Secretary of Agriculture, George Greig. Brain Snyder of the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture opened the conference with a lecture on 'Foodsheds.' Dr. Mark Winston from Simon Fraser University discussed 'Lessons Learned from the Bees.' Dr. Christina Grozinger, the James I. Hambelton Award winner, discussed 'Cooperation and Conflict in Honey Bee Colonies'. Wednesday afternoon had two symposia 'Making Peace and Places for Bees' and 'Honey Bee Biology: A deeper Understanding.'

Unfortunately, I could not attend Thursday and Friday and so missed a series of exciting and informative talks.

I encourage everyone to plan on attending next year's Eastern Apiculture Society meeting that will be held July 28 – August 1 at the Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, KY (<http://www.easternapiculture.org/>).

Vince Aloyo
Vice-president

FOR SALE:
12 frame extractor,
Dadant miscellaneous equipment.
York County
Phone: 717 456 7011

PA Honey Queen Program Update

Hello everyone. The Honey Queen committee continues to work diligently to improve our program and I wanted to share some recent changes with you. We live in an ever-changing society and our program must also continue to evolve and improve to ensure that we are representing beekeepers and the industry in the best possible way. One change the committee approved was to raise the minimum age of our program to 18 for Queen contestants, and 17 for Princess contestants. These changes will take affect this year.

The committee made the decision to raise our ages after a great deal of consideration. Some of the main reasons for the change include challenges we faced with a minor using the program credit card, and making hotel reservations. This change will be another way of improving and continuing to grow our already notable program.

Some exciting news for the Honey Queen Program is that 2014 marks our 60th anniversary. A small committee is already working on special events and activities to commemorate this achievement. We hope to have more information to share with you at the PSBA convention in November on these activities.

It may be hard to believe but the time has come to begin looking for young women to compete for our 2014 Honey Queen and Princess positions. Any single young woman between the ages of 18 (17 for Princess) and 24 who is a resident of Pennsylvania is eligible to compete. She does not need to be a beekeeper herself, but rather have a passion and desire to represent our industry. Applications must be received no later than October 10. Please be thinking about and contacting any young women you know who may be interested in our program. Complete application packets are available from me. If you would like more information on the program, please let me know.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Honey Queen Program. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or would like to invite the Queen and/or Princess to your events. We look forward to seeing all of you in November at the PSBA convention. You won't want to miss it!

By Rachel Bryson
Honey Queen Program Chair

For Sale:
Electric uncapping knife \$75.00
Stainless Steel Liquefying Tank
(holds 3-5 gallon buckets) \$150.00
Call (814) 383-4714

PSBA's Annual Meeting November 8th & 9th

Plans are well underway for our annual meeting at the Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg. The program begins on Friday at 1:00 p.m., with our banquet Friday evening. On Saturday, the latest news and breakout sessions will be held along with our PSBA business meeting and election of officers. For a preliminary lineup of the program, please view on Page 7. A complete program will be listed in the October newsletter. An **Executive Meeting** will be held **Friday at 9:30 a.m.** in the conference room at the Inn. **County representatives are urged to attend.**

There will be a \$20.00 registration fee (includes both days) to help cover the program expenses. The registration fee for one day is \$15.00.

Banquet

The Annual Banquet will be held in the dining room of the Country Cupboard Friday evening, Nov. 8, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The cost of the Banquet (which includes a buffet dinner) is \$25.00 for adults, \$11.00 for ages 11-12, \$8.50 for ages 5-10, 4 & under, free. These prices include tax and tip. Please make your reservations with Yvonne Crimbring, (570) 673-8201, **before Nov. 4th.**

Door prizes are being given out during the banquet and we are looking for donations. Anyone wishing to donate door prizes, please send them to Dave Hackenberg at 1466 Crossroads Dr., Lewisburg, PA 17837 or bring them with you to the meeting.

The Country Cupboard Inn is located on Rt. 15, 3 miles north of Lewisburg. When coming in from the East or West - take I-80 to Rt. 15S exit and travel south approximately 10 miles.

PSBA Apiary Products Show

Don't forget about our Apiary Products Show* where your best honey and beeswax can win a ribbon. This is a friendly show that is great for new-bees and show veterans alike. Look for the show rules and class descriptions in this month's newsletter. We will take entries Friday afternoon, Nov. 8, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. No late entries will be accepted after 5:00 p.m. Friday. Winners will be announced and presented with ribbons on Saturday afternoon. *There will be no Baked Goods Contest this year.

Need a Place to Stay?

If you are interested in staying overnight, rooms are available at the Country Cupboard Best Western, 524-5500. Be sure to mention you are with PSBA. Make your reservations early!! They will be holding a block of rooms for PSBA until October 12th at the cost of \$110.00 plus tax (per room). Other places to stay include: Country Inn Suites, 570-524-6600; Hampton Inn-Lewisburg, 570-522-8500; Days Inn University, Rt. 15, Lewisburg, 523-1171; Econo-Lodge, Rt. 15 South,

Lewisburg, 523-1106; Comfort Inn, New Columbia, (5 mi. N. of Lewisburg, I-80 & Rt. 15) 568-8000; and Holiday Inn Express, New Columbia, (5 mi. N. of Lewisburg, I80 & Rt. 15) 568-1100. For Bed and Breakfast accommodations: Brookpark Farm Bed and Breakfast Inn, 523-0220 and Pineapple Inn, Market St., Lewisburg, 524-6200. All above phone numbers are in the 570 area code.

PSBA Communication Plan

Hello all. The recent surveys many of you completed for my master's program project were a huge success! Thank you!

We have now entered stage two of the project, but let me first give you a recap of what has been done to date. This project is to design a communication plan for the PSBA. What does that mean? As you may have noticed from the survey, many of the questions focused on the current communication methods used by the PSBA. The purpose of this project was to evaluate those methods, and based on that research, see what opportunities PSBA has. Many excellent opportunities were found through the research, and the communication plan looks at using several of them. The full plan will be made available on the PSBA website, as will the presentation from the summer picnic.

To summarize the plan, we will be adding several new communication outlets, include social media, as well as possibly revamping our current communication methods (newsletter and website) and our two main events (picnic and convention).

During the next several months you should anticipate seeing changes and, hopefully, more buzz in the community about PSBA. Social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube have already been established. You can find links to these accounts below and on the website. We would love for you to like, follow, and watch us.

I encourage all of you to take a few minutes to read the plan found on the website. There are many recommended action items, all with the main goal of strengthening the PSBA and providing even more services to its members. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the plan.

Look for more updates throughout the coming months on the plan's progress.

Thank you all for your support of this project.

Social Media Links:

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pastatebeekeepers> (or search PA State Beekeepers Association)
- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/PABeekeepers> (or search @PABeekeepers)
- YouTube - search for PA Beekeepers

By Rachel Bryson

Upcoming Dates To Remember



**Deadline for the October issue of
The Pennsylvania Beekeeper is September 24th.**

Monroe County Beekeepers

Wednesday, September 11, at the Monroe County Environmental Center. For more information, contact Bob Armstrong at 570-620-9421 or email RJArmstrong1@verizon.net

Susquehanna Beekeepers of NEPA

Friday, September 13, 7:00 p.m. at the Claverack Bldg. in Montrose. Topic: Wax processing method by Sue Garing (Southern Tier Beekeepers-NYS). Contact James Wood at 570-934-1166, email jimnginw@epix.net, for more information.

Chester County Beekeepers

Saturday, September 14, 9:00 a.m. at the Stroud Preserve. Visit the CCBA website at www.chescobees.org for more information.

Lancaster County Beekeepers

Tuesday, September 17, 6:30 p.m. at the North Museum. Dr. Lockey will be speaking to the club about allergic reactions to bee stings. For more information, contact Jim Pinkerton at jim@gatheringplacemj.com

Montgomery County Beekeepers

Wednesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center, Creamery. Dave Hackenberg will talk on the current status of commercial beekeeping and the impact industrial agriculture has upon it. For more information, contact Mark Antunes at 484-995-0768 or email honeyhillfarm@verizon.net.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Thursday, September 19, 7:00 p.m. Kutztown Univ., Academic Forum Bldg. Rm 102. Movie night: "Queen of the Sun". Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 for more information.

2 C's and A Bee Beekeepers

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 p.m. at the Village at Morrisons Cove, Martinsburg. For more information visit their website www.cbbee.org or email secretary@cbbee.org

Jefferson County Beekeepers

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 p.m. at Hartzell's Honeys and Bee Supplies, Brookfield. Contact 814-653-2054 for more information.

York County Beekeepers

Thursday, September 26, 7:00 p.m. in the Rhul Community Room, Penn State York Campus. Speaker: Dr. William Towne, Kutztown. Contact Gail Leasure at 717-968-0911 or email Gail@geezbeez.biz for more information.

Susquehanna Beekeepers of NEPA

Saturday, September 28, 12:00 Noon, at the Cornell Coop. Ext. Auditorium, Binghamton, NY. "What is Natural Beekeeping? – Practical tips on keeping bees alive in today's world" presented by Jennifer Berry. Contact James Wood at 570-934-1166, email jimnginw@epix.net, or visit the [Southern Tier Beekeepers link](#) for more information.

North East PA Beekeepers

Wednesday, October 2, at 7:30 p.m. at 32 Comm St., Honesdale. Contact Charles Kinbar at 570-497-6402, email: purepahoney@gmail.com for more information.

Central Western PA Beekeepers

Saturday, October 5, 6:00 p.m. at St. Johns Reformed Church. Pot Luck Dinner For more information, Robert McMillin, email rmmill@zoominternet.net.

Monroe County Beekeepers

Wednesday, October 9, at the Monroe County Environmental Center. For more information, contact Bob Armstrong at 570-620-9421 or email RJArmstrong1@verizon.net

Chester County Beekeepers

Saturday, October 12, 9:00 a.m. at the Stroud Preserve. Visit the CCBA website at www.chescobees.org for more information.

Lancaster County Beekeepers

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. at Dutch Gold Honey, Lancaster. Meeting and Honey Round-Up. For more information, contact Jim Pinkerton at jim@gatheringplacemj.com

Montgomery County Beekeepers

Wednesday, October 16, 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center, Creamery. Jim Bobb will speak about his trip to South Africa; The Big 6, Cape Bees and Africanized Bees. For more information, contact Mark Antunes at 484-995-0768 or email honeyhillfarm@verizon.net.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Friday, October 18, 6:00 p.m. at the Fullerton Fire Company, Whitehall. Annual Banquet. Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 for more information.

Northwestern Beekeepers

Saturday, October 26, 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lake Social Hall, Edinboro. For more information, contact Tara Miller at beecharmer1@verizon.net

Susquehanna Beekeepers of NEPA

Saturday, November 2, 6:00 p.m. at the S. Montrose Community Church. Annual dinner meeting & election. Speaker: Landi Simone, EAS Master Beekeeper, Morris Co., NJ. Contact James Wood at 570-934-1166, email jimnginw@epix.net, for more information.

PSBA Annual Conference

Friday and Saturday, November 8 & 9, 2013 at the Best Western Inn/Country Cupboard, Lewisburg. Additional information is included in this issue and will be posted on our website <http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org>

Pennsylvania Farm Show

January 4 - 11, 2014 at the Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg. Plan now to volunteer at the Honey Booth (Stu Mathias at 717-533-2231 or Aaron Fisher at 717-242-4373), Learning Center (Sharon McDonald at sailor.mac.bruce@gmail.com or Marketplace (Tom Jones at 717-243-0356).

North American Beekeeping Conference & Trade Show

January 7-11, 2014 at The River Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. For more information, visit their website: <http://www.nabeekeepingconference.com>

PA Honey Queen Report

Hello fellow beekeepers! It was great seeing a bunch of you at the PSBA summer picnic in Philadelphia! I hope you're all in good health and that your bees are as well! This month I've been a busy bee and have attended 8 wonderful promotions!

The first event I attended on the 2nd and 3rd of August was the Pennsylvania Organic Farm Fest. This promotion was held at the Grange Fair Grounds in Centre Hall and was a blast! There were plenty of vendors to talk to about beekeeping and why honey bees are so important for the agricultural industry. There were also many kids who loved getting a bee hand stamp if they could give me a fact about honeybees! It was a great promotion.

Next, I traveled down the street to my own county fair on the 4th the Union County West End Fair. It was great to teach not only new faces about the importance of honeybees and pollination, but it was also awesome to teach my friends and community as well! During my time there I taught many people and handed out tons of "I love honey" stickers, and was given the chance to speak to one of our state representatives, Fred Keller.

After being in my home town, I headed toward West Chester from the 6th to the 9th for the Eastern Apicultural Society's conference held at West Chester University. It was a magnificent week! Princess Jessica and I went to so many fantastic educational lectures such as honey processing, usurpation, honeybee communication, and much more! When we weren't in classes we were mingling with many beginner and advanced beekeepers from all over the United States, while also selling lots of raffle tickets. Then, American Honey Princess, Emily Campbell, joined us and we helped EAS raffle their items at their banquet. It was a successful week for the beekeeping industry! Next year you can join EAS as it travels to Kentucky!

Immediately following the EAS conference, we attended the PSBA summer picnic held at Morris Arboretum. It was wonderful to catch up with PSBA members and speak about my travels as Honey Queen. During the picnic, Emily, Jessica, and I helped with the smoker lighting contest, and we each spoke about our work for the beekeeping industry.

From West Chester, Princess Jessica and I drove to State College for Ag Progress Days from the 13th through the 15th. On the 14th we attended the Ag Progress Days Luncheon where we were able to talk to the Secretary of Ag, George Greig, and also talk to many of our state representatives. We spent our time at Ag Progress not only scooping honey ice cream and selling honey root beer, but also eating some ourselves! We had a great time working hard to help raise money for the Honey Queen Program!



On the 16th I then travelled to Newville for the Cumberland County Ag Expo. While there I was able to talk to many individuals about honey bees, and had the privilege of being a judge for the Cumberland County Ag Expo Little Miss contest. Before the contest began I was given time to speak to the audience about my year so far, the Honey Queen Program, and a little bit about honeybees. It was a wonderful promotion.

From Newville, I got the splendid invitation to spend time with the Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association who hosted National Honeybee Day, August 17th, in Emmaus! Together we had an awesome day using the observation hive as a tool to not only teach children, but also parents about honeybees. The observation hive is always available at the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus! During that time, some of the event volunteers gave extracting demonstrations. I gave a cooking demonstration with honey butter and honey raspberry lemonade. After that, we spent plenty of time teaching even more about honeybees and pollination and showing attendees live hives on the Conservancy. It was an awesome National Honeybee Day and a great success for the industry!

Finally, the last event I attended for the month was the Crawford County Fair in Meadville on the 19th. While there, I was able to spend plenty of time with Charlie and Cathy Vorisek at their honeybee booth. We not only were teaching kids at the observation hive, but also letting everyone taste different kinds of honey and explain to them how you can have so many different flavors of honey. While there, when I wasn't in the Vorisek's booth, Cathy had me out and about talking to many radio stations. I was able to talk to The Stream from Titusville for a radio and television interview, Froggy 100.3, Froggy 98.5, Majic 99.3, Majic 104.5, Wuzz 94, Wuzz 107, Andy Alm who is the news director for Forever Broadcasting for a morning segment, and Cool 101.7. It was an amazing time teaching about honeybees and a huge success for the beekeeping industry and the Honey Queen Program thanks to Charlie and Cathy's support.

Overall August was a busy but amazing month! After I finished all these events I spent my last weekend in August moving into college at West Chester University. If you're bummed that you haven't had time to schedule an event with Princess Jessica or I, don't be! You still have a few months left to organize our attendance to your event! To invite me or Princess Jessica to an event, contact Rachel Bryson, queen program chair, at honeyqueen@pastatebeekeepers.org or 717-300-0146.

By: Elena Hoffman

Jeremy's Corner

It was two o'clock in the afternoon, late May. The sun was shining as I stood on the steps of a high rise, studying the blue blue sky. I was neat, clean and gassed up with fuel stored by my sisters (half-sisters, actually - same mother who chose not to share the proceeds of her sugar daddies with me.) I was a cool dude and I didn't care who knew it. It was time to go. I flexed my muscular, toned thorax and stretched my lustrous wings so that the sun reflected off the sheen, dazzling the sisters, foolish slaves to their genes, who were returning home from a shopping expedition. With one kick I was airborne and back in the hunt.

I headed southwest; previous jaunts had showed that was where the best dames hang out. Cruising at 65' with the speed control set at 15 mph, it took only 12 minutes to arrive at my destination.

I recognized it as soon as I saw it. It was big, the ceiling was high, and the red carpet was as rich and deep as the blood of a wounded deer seeping into snow. Once again I regretted not being able to see red.

I circled the room, casing the joint. Rivals, petty and inadequate as they were, circled and spiraled; clearly I had no competition to speak of. I sat back, watching and waiting for the right opportunity.

And then I saw her. She was trouble but she was worth a stare. Her six legs streamed behind her - they seemed to be arranged to attract attention. They were visible well above the knee and one of them to the abdomen, which itself was small and compact and capable of expansion. The legs were dimpled and clean, not like the hairy corbicula of my half-sisters, dappled with carelessly strewn bits of pollen. Ms. Regina was slim with enough melodic line for a tone poem. She was rangy and strong looking. Her 2500 eyes were open and alert. She had a good proboscis and a sulky droop to her lower maxilla.

She was worthy of being the mother of my two million children, her lack of maternal instinct notwithstanding.

I made my move. With an alluring RAM (rapid antennae movement) I launched myself in her direction. I'm discrete - as tight as a vault with a busted lock. Valor is the better part of discretion. As a suitor, better never than late. She was coy, turned her back and flew higher, abdomen wagging suggestively. I followed, rival suitors falling by the wayside. Her conditioned proboscis response was increasing; I knew she was interested. At 80' she slowed and I circled. She spiraled upward and I trailed behind. At 100' she leveled out and not being one to mince words or waste time, I moved in.

There was evidence of a previous suitor blocking my final approach. I cursed silently, a gentleman to the core (so to speak.) Ms. Regina clearly was not one to limit her favors. Deftly I removed it, backed up, re-set my sights and approached again. This was the moment I lived for, the culmination of my mission in life, my gift to eternity, the

reason I was born, and the first of many sorties vindicating my superiority as a male.

I twisted over, flying upside down, made contact and...



RIP

Dwight the Drone

b. May 3, 2013, d. May 24 2013.

"Sex pretty much cures everything." (Chuck Palahniuk)

Jeremy Barnes

With apologies to Raymond Chandler.

Nature Notes

Goldenrod and **Joe Pye weed** are covered bees of many sizes. **Ragweed**, remember, hosts no foraging bugs because ragweed is wind-pollinated, spreading pollen onto the wind and into our noses.



Why does a **peach tree** waste so much energy, making a delectable peach for us to slice onto our cereal? Fruit helps a plant's seeds **travel**. Fruit trees and vines produce seeds that pass on their DNA to a new generation, but they do not want children living too close to them. Fruits are made to be eaten, preferably in one slurp so the seeds do not get crushed. The animal that gulps the fruit later deposits the seed, along with a measure of fertilizer, somewhere else. Some seeds will not germinate unless a seed coating is removed by passage through a digestive tract.

Skippers have appeared in the garden. They are the high performance jets of the butterfly world, dashing about on short flights. We have many species. Most are less than an inch long. A larger, easily identifiable one is **silver spotted skipper** with a conspicuous white wing patch visible when this skipper is perched.

Tiger swallowtails are dancing in the garden, too. The tigers have two color forms: yellow with black stripes or black with darker black stripes. How can they be so agile in the air using those four seemingly stiff wings?

Careful observers may see **agarden spider**, a **black and yellow argiope**, on her web. Argiope webs usually have a **zipper-shaped pattern**woven vertically in them. Male spiders are tiny and have to know the proper dance step to use when courting a female on her web to avoid being captured and eaten. After they mate, the male has done his life's work. He may be eaten by the female, providing nutrition for making eggs. Those eggs do carry his DNA.

Overhead, **broad winged hawks** are heading south. When a broad wing encounters a **thermal**, a rising column of sun-heated air, it circles upward in the thermal. Other broad wings see the circling bird and fly to the thermal. The milling gyre of birds (called a "kettle" of broad wings) rises
(Continued on Page 15)

Recipe

Pumpkin Honey Bread

- 1 cup - honey
- 1/2 cup - butter or margarine, softened
- 1 can (16 oz.) - solid-pack pumpkin
- 4 - eggs
- 4 cups - flour
- 4 teaspoons - baking powder
- 2 teaspoons - ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons - ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon - baking soda
- 1 teaspoon - salt
- 1 teaspoon - ground nutmeg

Directions

In large bowl, cream honey with butter until light and fluffy. Stir in pumpkin. Beat in eggs, one at a time, until thoroughly incorporated. Sift together remaining ingredients. Stir into pumpkin mixture. Divide batter equally between two well-greased 9 x5 x 3-inch loaf pans. Bake at 350°F for 1 hour or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Let loaves cool in pans for 10 minutes; invert pans to remove loaves and allow to finish cooling on racks.

Taken from the National Honey Board
www.honey.com

Beeline Apiaries & Woodenware Dealer

**Package bees for Spring 2013
 \$75.00**

Tentative dates: April 13 & April 20

Nucs: \$100.00



Dealer
 By appointment

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 178 Milnor Road
 Greencastle, PA 17225
 717-598-8184**

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Nature Notes (Continued from Page 13)

and then heads south again, spreading out to search for the next thermal. Sometimes hundreds of birds will circle in a thermal together.

Why are we told to keep **more than one colony** of bees? Eight honeybee colonies in one SE Pennsylvania yard were examined toward the end of August. Honey supers had been taken off in July. One colony had the top medium hive body filled with honey. One had brood in the top medium and no stored honey. One had an empty top medium and solid brood in the box below it. One had mostly eggs and not much capped brood. One had a solid brood pattern and a little uncapped nectar. One had several hundred bees, no brood, larvae, or eggs and no nectar or honey. One had the top medium half drawn out, filled with brood and honey, and solid brood in the medium below. One had the top medium half drawn out with solid brood in the medium below.

Maintaining several honeybee colonies teaches us that every colony is different and allows us to use the resources of one colony to help another colony.

Canada geese are back in flocks, honking at dusk as they fly to roost on lakes and ponds where they are safer from predators. The birds are not Canadian; they are properly called Canada geese.

Our **katydid and cricket chorus** is always a surprise to those who return from the Great North Woods of the north-eastern states. Nights there are quiet except for the rustle of a toad hopping through dry leaves (which can sound like a big animal walking slowly), the hooting of owls, and the wailing of loons.

Vega, the brightest corner of the **Summer Triangle**, is overhead as darkness falls. **Antares**, the red heart of Scorpius, is low in the west. **Arcturus**, which was overhead in June, has slid off to the west. After darkness falls, **Cassiopeia**, a big "W," is halfway up the eastern sky.

By Tim Sterrett

PSBA Apiary Products Show Rules

These rules follow the general format of the Apiary Products Show at the statewide Farm Show in Harrisburg, EXCEPT entries should not be labeled with exhibitor's name and address. This is to eliminate any possible bias in judging if names were to be identified, since our judge is likely to know some of our exhibitors. Instead of labels, exhibitors will be provided numbered tags to identify their entries. If you wish, you may bring labels and apply them after entries have been judged.

1) Entries will be accepted at the PSBA Annual Winter Meeting on Friday, Nov. 8 from approximately 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

2) All apiary products exhibited must have been produced in Pennsylvania and must have been produced by the exhibitor during 2013.

3) Exhibitors may submit only one entry per class, but they may enter as many classes as they wish.

4) An entry must fulfill all of the requirements of the class in which it is exhibited. (see class descriptions, below).

5) All entries will be handled and placed on the show table by the honey show committee.

6) The judges may open and sample any exhibit. Moisture readings will be taken for all extracted honey and these will be recorded on your scorecard. Honey with a moisture content above 18.6% will be disqualified.

7) The show committee will provide a score card for each entry which contains a record of the judge's scores. Ribbons will be awarded to the top three places in each class.

COMB HONEY CLASSES

Class 1. Comb Honey (3 sections, either 3 square sections or 3 Cobana rounds, no labels).

Class 2. Cut Comb Honey (3 12-ounce sections, no labels). **Best Exhibit of Comb Honey**

EXTRACTED HONEY CLASSES

The color divisions for classes 3, 4, and 5 are approximate. The show committee and/or judge may shift an extracted entry to another class to provide more consistent color ranges in each class.

Class 3. Light Extracted (Extra White to White, 3 one-pound jars, no labels).

Class 4. Medium Extracted (Extra Light Amber to Light Amber, 3 one-pound jars, no labels).

Class 5. Dark Extracted (Amber to Dark Amber, 3 one-pound jars, no labels).

Class 6. Creamed or Finely Crystallized (in glass, 3 jars, each 1 pound or less, no labels).

Best Exhibit of Extracted Honey

BEESWAX CLASSES

Class 7. Commercial Block (single piece of pure beeswax not less than 3 pounds).

Class 8. Molded or Designed (not less than one pound of pure beeswax, i.e. ornaments, fancy candles, bar cakes, sculptures, etc.).

Class 9. Dipped Candles (one pair made from pure beeswax).

Class 10. Molded Candles (one pair made from pure beeswax).

HONEY IN A FRAME CLASS

Class 11. Medium Frame of Capped Honey (enclosed in a case)

IF THE READER WHOSE MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES

7/14 and receives the newsletter at 14490 Piney Ridge Road, Hesston, PA will send his/her name and an account of his/her beekeeping operation to the editor at 2565 Southside Road, Canton, PA 17724 by October 20 he/she will receive a years free subscription to either *Gleaning in Bee Culture*, *American Bee Journal*, *The Speedy Bee* or *The Small Beekeepers Journal*. When you respond, please specify your choice of magazine.

PSBA Annual Meeting Program
PSBA Annual Meeting
Nov 8-9, 2013
Country Cupboard, Lewisburg, PA

Friday Morning PSBA Special Board Meeting
President: Charles Vorisek

9:30 – 11:30 Executive Board Meeting – Each local organization should send one delegate.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and develop action items to be presented at the PSBA General Meeting Saturday. Each committee chairperson should attend and present the report of his committee.

Friday Afternoon and Evening Program

- 12:00 Registration opens for the conference
- 12:30 Vendors Open
- 1:00 State of beekeeping in PA –
Karen Roccecca; PDA
- 1:30 Building Better Bees – To be announced
- 2:15 PA Farm Bureau (focus on beekeeping and food safety) TBA
- 2:30 Break and visit vendors
- 3:00 Bee nutrition: you are what you eat –
Deb Delaney, Univ. of Delaware
- 3:45 TBA

6:00 Banquet

Adieu to our 2012 Honey Queen
Crowning of the 2013 Honey Queen
Brief Auction

Saturday Morning Program

- 8:00 Registration
Vendors Open
- 8:30 Welcome and comments –
Charlie Vorisek, PSBA President
- 9:00 The sustainability of honey bees: an
evolving beekeeping industry-
Deb Delaney
- 9:45 Urban Beekeeping; Pittsburgh,
Steve Repasky
- 10:00 Break (Visit our vendors)
- 10:30 TBA
- 11:00 Business meeting, reports and election of
2014 officers

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch - On your own

Saturday Afternoon Program

- 1:30 Announcement of honey show winners
Presentation of the Paul Ziegler Award –
Dennis Keeney
- 1:45 TBA

2:00 – 3:00 Breakout Sessions (select one)

Understanding the honey consumer: marketing and education for honey producers, Deb Delaney
Bees in schools, Rachel Bryson
PSU Graduate Student Research Posters

3:00-3:30 - Break

3:30 – 4:30 Breakout Sessions (select one)

The right to keep bees; BMP and working with local governments, Steve Repasky and Charlie Breinig
Cooking with honey... - TBA
PSU Graduate Student Research Posters

The PSBA needs your Help!

WE WANT YOU



Volunteers needed to scoop and serve honey ice cream at our 2 annual events, Farm Show and Ag Progress. The proceeds from the events go directly to support the Pennsylvania Honey Queen program.

The 98th Pennsylvania Farm Show
Harrisburg PA
January 4 – 11, 2014

Pennsylvania State University
Ag Progress Days
State College PA
August 12 – 14, 2014

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