

The "BEE LINE" LONG ISLAND BEEKEEPERS CLUB, INC.

Keeping Bees on Long Island Since 1949



Committees:

Editor: Conni Still, 631-472-1760

Webmaster: Nick Hoefly,

Librarian: Lorraine Leacock

Club Photographer: Phyllis Stein

Hospitality: Laurie Wills & Janet Ingoglia

Designer: Audrey DeLong

Visit the club web site at:

www.LongIslandBeekeepers.Org

- **Outreach Director:** Rick Cannone, 631-445-6266
- **Programs Director:** Moira Alexander, 631-664-6810
- **Immediate Past President/Director:** Steve Chen 646-625-9910

Bee Board

- **President:** John Most, 516-361-3413
- **Vice President:** Walter Scott 516-428-1063
- **Treasurer:** Suzanne Cahill 917-714-3364
- **Secretary:** Marianne Sangesland, 631-680-5895*
- **Membership Secretary:** Conni Still, 631-472-1760
- **Education Director:** Grace Mehl, 631-766-5648

Next Meeting:

Sunday, 24 August
Sisters of St Joseph
Building 4
1-3 pm!

MASTER BEEKEEPERS LIST

Moira Alexander, Smithtown.....631-664-6810
Peter Bizzoso, Manorville.....631-874-4750
Rich Blohm, Huntington.....631-271-7812
Steve Chen*, Holbrook.....646-625-9910
Carl Flatow, Oceanside.....516-510-6227
Walter Goldschmidts, Lloyd Harbor.301-613-0001
Nick Hoefly, Astoria.....352.875.5642
Chris Kelly, Mattituck.....631-275-5786
Deborah Klughers, East Hampton...631-377-1943
Ray Lackey, Caledonia, Michigan
Katherine Luberto..... 631-965-7327
Joan Mahoney, N.Babylon.....631-667-5339
Grace Mehl, Smithtown.....631-724-5053
Fred Munzer, Dix Hills.....631-243-3512
Marianne Sangesland, Smithtown....631-680-5895
Walter Scott, West Hills Huntington..516-428-1063
Miguel Valentin, Ronkonkoma.....631-588-6102
Wayne Vitale, Setauket.....516-680-3020
Laurie Volel-Wilkowski.....516-643-6011
Neal Wechsler, Lindenhurst.....631-957-7136

Master Beekeepers are certified beekeepers who have a detailed knowledge of honeybee biology, expertise in the proper practices of beekeeping, and can present this information to the beekeeping and non-beekeeping public in a detailed, accurate, clear and authoritative manner.

Master Beekeepers provide education and assistance to beginning beekeepers and serve in other capacities in the community as experts in beekeeping. The Master Beekeeper program was developed by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University. The program has been expanded by the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America to other areas.

You can learn more about the Master Beekeeper Program by visiting the Eastern Apicultural Society website: <http://www.easternapiculture.org/master-beekeepers/certification.htm>



Check your account on the website every month to access the newsletter!

Hello Beekeepers

Hope all your bees are busy! If you are planning to bring bees to the meeting to test for Nosema they may be frozen or in alcohol. No live bees, please!

September will be one week earlier than usual and is the Honey tasting contest. Yum!

Bee Well 

Speaker of the Month

The *August* meeting will be three presentations on Nosema, given by Joan Mahoney, Kevin Raffloer, and Walter Scott on Nosema.

Then there will be a lab after that. Thank you to those who lent their microscopes for this event!

The meeting will include a presentation on Nosema and also a Lab, sort of like High School Biology. If you want to participate in the *Nosema laboratory program*, please bring 50 bees or just the abdomens either frozen or in alcohol to the meeting. The equipment will be at the meeting to prepare them for testing and performing the test. If you need direction or are unsure about the dissection, bring the frozen bees and a pair or more of tweezers.

- Please remember to bring your microscope if you volunteered to bring one! Even if you didn't volunteer, but you have one, please bring it.

- Hive Alive samples of the liquid to add to syrup will be available at the meeting as well. Each sample is good for 1 gallon of syrup.



TEACHING APIARY NEWS

Please email the instructors if you would like to attend. Please include your *cell phone number* when you email just in case of last minute weather issues causing changes or cancellations.

Attendees must wear a veil and dress appropriately with long pants and long sleeves with closed shoes, as we will be opening hives. There are a few veils available on site for real NEWBEES. The instructors will determine when they have reached a limit for their session in accordance with what they are comfortable with. If there is rain, Sunday will be the rain date for the Saturday session. If both days are rainy, the instructor may opt to have a discussion class inside the Barn. The instructor will notify you if a change in the schedule is necessary.

The Teaching Apiary is at the Sisters of St. Joseph's Honey House, 1725 Brentwood Rd, Brentwood. the main entrance is across from 5th Ave. Follow the yellow "Bee Meeting" signs to the Honey House and meet the instructor there.

Directions: The LIBC Teaching Apiary is located on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph's Campus at 1725 Brentwood Rd, Brentwood, NY. Enter the Sisters of St. Joseph's complex at the 1725 Brentwood Rd, Brentwood, NY entrance (across from 5th Ave. on Brentwood Rd.) and pass the guard shack going straight, then turn right at Maria Regina Rehab Center and then go right again at the traffic circle and take the first right out of the traffic circle toward the parking area and go to the end of the parking lot, then right at the rain garden toward the Honey House and park on the left side of the road where you will see other cars parked. Walk to the Honey House where the group will gather to meet your instructor. The Teaching Apiary hives are to the left of the Honey House.

August Schedule:

10:00, Saturday, August 23rd - Kevin Raffloer, contact at Raffhome@optonline.net

September Schedule:

10:00, Saturday, September 6th - Carl Flatow, contact at Carl.flatow@gmail.com

10:00 Saturday, September 20th - Walter Scott, contact at VP@Longislandbeekeepers.org

LIBRARY REPORT:

Our Librarian is on a well-deserved vacation: returns only this month!

These folks have overextended their loans and we have tried to reach them without success:
ANGELA ASSELTA - *Beekeeping for Dummies*
BOB LINEKIN - *The Backyard Beekeeper* AND *The Beekeeper's Bible*
CIENNA RIZZA - *The Beekeeper's Handbook*
MARGIE RIZZA - *Homegrown Honey Bees*
MICHELLE SALZ - *Natural Beekeeping* AND *Simple Smart Beekeeping*

If anyone is in contact with them, the returns would be very much appreciated. The librarian may be reached by email: librarian@longislandbeekeepers.org



UPCOMING HONEY FESTIVALS

Long Island Fair is September 12th, 13th, and 14th at the Old Bethpage Village Restoration in Bethpage. Get details about entering at lifair.org. ENTRY FORMS ARE DUE BY

AUGUST 20th! You don't have to have your entries ready then, but, you have to fill out and submit the form by then.

15th Annual NYC Honey Festival, Saturday, September 13th, 2025 at 11:00 until 5:00 pm on the Boardwalk at B106th, Rockaway, NY

National Honey Bee day at Eisenhower Park: Cornell Cooperative Extension Nassau County Farmers Market is putting together a "Bee Grateful Market" -- A fun, family-friendly celebration of honeybees, beekeeping, and honey - on August 16th. They are inviting local beekeepers to contribute to a "Taste of the Island" honey flight at the market. You can join in the buzz by:

- Sharing a jar of you local honey
 - Share a few notes about your bees (location, plants, flavor, story)
 - There is an option to join the booth and chat with the public (and also vend additional jars of honey if you want)
- Contact Kathy at 917-873-2616 or email greenhoney@gmail.com

Club News:

The meeting will include a presentation on Nosema and also a Lab, sort of like High School Biology. If you want to participate in the *Nosema laboratory program*, please bring 50 bees or just the abdomens either frozen or in alcohol to the meeting. The equipment will be at the meeting to prepare them for testing and performing the test. If you need direction or are unsure about the dissection, bring the frozen bees and a pair or more of tweezers.

- Please remember to bring your microscope if you volunteered to bring one! Even if you didn't volunteer, but you have one, please bring it.
- Hive Alive samples of the liquid to add to syrup will be available at the meeting as well. Each sample is good for 1 gallon of syrup.
- Remember to send out your letters to your Congresspersons, Representatives and to reorganization@usda.gov to comment on the USDA Reorganization and closing of the Beltsville Bee Lab.
- Formic Pro will be available at this meeting.
- Club Honey! Text Grace at 631-766-5648 if you want more than a couple of jars! Price is still \$12 a pound.
- Food pantry non-perishable items for the Sisters of

Volume 33, Edition 8

St. Joseph food closet will be collected.

- Our hospitality volunteers (Laurie and Janet) can always use help setting up the table and coffee, and of course, donations of cake, cookies and snacks are always welcome!

- Tee Shirts and Sweatshirt will be available for purchase.

- We are looking for a volunteer to assist the Librarian. She will not be at the club meeting. Books may be returned to Conni. Please see John to volunteer to assist her.

- We are looking for a volunteer to video the club meetings, so part or all can be posted to our website. Please see Walter. He is going to be looking into having some zoom meetings in the future.

- We are looking for a volunteer to update and maintain our Long Island Beekeepers Facebook page. See Joan.

- Please contact Walter Scott if you have signed up for the Kutik's Queen rearing event in September. He will be tracking numbers. After the event, with a receipt, the cost of the class (not hotel or travel, or other expenses) can be re-imbursed by the club.

- John will be talking about the Hive Alive Fondant order. We will be able to get the same price as last year if we get a full pallet. That means a box of 15 patties would be \$75 again. This is a one time per year order. It will not be stored. The order schedule will be discussed at the meeting.

September is Honey tasting. The categories will be light, medium, and dark. Each FAMILY may only pick ONE JAR of honey to enter. So, pick the category you are most likely to win and enter your jar that fits that class.

**- October is Honey judging contest. You can review the rules and categories on the website.
- October will be the smoker lighting contest as well.**

Thanks to the 10 members who ordered the educational boxes from the National Honey Board for the ESPHA table at the NY State Fair! Thank you!

Heads up! The *September* meeting date has been changed from the normal fourth Sunday to SEPTEMBER 14th due to a conflict at the Sisters of St Joseph.

The *August* meeting will be three presentations on Nosema, given by Joan Mahoney, Kevin Raffloer, and Walter Scott on Nosema. Then there will be a

lab after that. Thank you to those who lent their microscopes for this event!

We encourage you to mail to your government representatives regarding the administrations closing of the Belville research lab in Washington DC. It is imperative that you consider mailing this to your representatives as soon as possible during the USDA open comment period which ends on August 26th. Below are the emails and or FAX numbers. Please highlight the letter, copy and paste it into your email or document. Change the greeting to match who you are sending it to and send it ASAP! Multiple individuals from each family can mail/FAX this letter as well. Sample letter follows

1. Governor Kathy Hochul: FAX 603/271-7640 OR governor.ny.gov (to send letter fill out contact form, copy paste in comment section)
2. Senator Charles E. Schumer: FAX for Washington D.C. office (202)-228-3027, Syracuse office, (315) 423-5185. Email address; senator@schumer.senate.gov
3. Senator Kristen Gillibrand: FAX for Washington D.C. office (202) 228-4977, Buffalo office, (202) 224-0039. Email address; kirsten_gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov
4. Congressman Nick LaLota: FAX for Hauppauge office 202-225-3143.
5. Congressman Thomas Suozzi: FAX for Queens office 631-777-7610. Email address; Justin.Connor@mail.house.com
6. Congressman Andrew Garbino: FAX for Washington D.C. office (202) 226-2279, district office, (516)-541-6602
7. Director of US department of Agriculture; Brooke Rollins; email:reorganization@usda.gov

Dear Congressperson.....,

I'm writing in regards to the USDA

reorganization plan currently being considered. As proposed, this USDA reorganization plan will eliminate a central USDA laboratory presence in the Northeast Region, namely the Beltsville Maryland USDA Laboratory. This facility contains 17 agricultural research laboratory units including the Beltsville Honey Bee Laboratory. Eliminating the Beltsville Lab will effectively eliminate the region as a whole from the geographic structure of the organization.

A complete closure of the Beltsville Laboratory facility would leave the entire Northeast Region without a USDA facility in the region of the country that pays more into federal coffers than it receives in federal funding. Although there are other USDA laboratories in the country, the Beltsville MD Lab is very important in representing the needs of Northeast agricultural industry, and the Honey bee lab which specifically supports commercial, sideline and hobbyist Beekeepers.

Every resident of the states that comprises the Northeast Region should be furious that they will no longer have a federal research laboratory located in and representing the needs of the Northeast Region! These states include: ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, WV, and VA.

Honey bees are the economically the most important pollinators of our crops and through pollination services alone, contribute \$18 Billion annually to the U.S. economy. The ability to move colonies of Honey bees from crop to crop makes them uniquely suited to support numerous large crops, such as Apples, Blue Berries, Pumpkins, Stone Fruits, Melons, Almonds, among many others. Domestic honey production is another \$350 Million annually. At a time when losses of honey bees are at an all-time high, and new threats, in the form of invasive pests, are an imminent danger, the Beltsville Honey bee research laboratory is key in securing our future food security.

Please oppose the closure of the Beltsville facility as a whole, and specifically the closure of this the Beltsville Honey bee laboratory as its significant contribution to the health of honey bees and our future food security. The

contributions of this lab and the expertise of the researchers. The loss of this location and team, would impact the Honey bee industry, which is already under tremendous pressure on so many fronts, for many years to come. Please give this matter your utmost attention and oppose the closing of this key component of the USDA network.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter.



The hot weather prevented many people from treating hives for Varroa mites until recently, although it should not have kept you from conducting mite counts! Now that the weather is not so hot, if your counts are above 2-3 mites per 100 bees, you should consider treating. If you are not sure how to do a mite count, go to <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resources/varroa-management/>. This site provides videos and info on managing Varroa mites.

VSH bees are sometimes able to keep the mite count down. But, you don't know that unless you do a count. If you have high counts, treatment is in order if you want the bees to survive. Colonies that have high mite counts can be requeened with a more hygienic queen *after* you get the mite count down. Putting in a young VSH queen in late Summer is a great way to ensure your bees come out of Winter strong. But, is it also an option to requeen a hive in the Spring, *if you get the colony through the winter*. In Spring, it is often easier to find the queen and remove her to a nuc

(good insurance) and put a new VSH queen in that hive. This is also a great way to prevent Swarming!

Reports of Small Hive Beetle infestations are coming in. Small Hive Beetles can fly many miles to enter a hive. It only takes a small crack, a bad box corner, or screened bottom board or inner cover for beetles to enter. A strong hive guards the entrance. But, even a strong colony cannot guard the entire screened bottom board! Small Hive Beetles have become an issue on Long Island, where they weren't much of one before the last couple of years. Traps and swiffer sheets can help keep the numbers down once they get into the hive. But, it is better to *keep them out* with strong colonies guarding the entrance and no un-intended openings that they can squeeze in through.

Soil treatments such as Diatomaceous Earth or nematodes, etc, can keep the pupae from becoming adults around your hive. But, it doesn't keep the adults from flying in from other hives in the area. Hives that fail to thrive for any reason can then become breeding grounds for Small Hive Beetles as well as Wax Moths. Being a conscientious beekeeper means not letting a dead-out become a problem for other colonies by becoming a breeding ground for pests. Properly store away equipment after losing a hive to keep it from becoming a problem for your other colonies or any of your neighbors (who may be miles away and still suffer from the pest pressure from a neglected dead out).

Speaking of wax moths, they are another pest that can move into a weak hive, but, they especially like to move into improperly stored equipment. As you take off supers or condense hives during the dearth, which is a good idea to help bees protect their space, it is important to prevent pests from moving in. Most honey supers are nice white wax combs. But, darker combs are more at risk. Pest such as Wax Moths especially like dark comb that has held brood as they eat the pupal skins and fecal matter that the bees wax over in this dark comb after the brood emerges. Using Paramoth, BT402 (Certan) or keeping frames frozen will keep wax moths

from invading. These products have instructions on the labels. The important thing is to store them properly to prevent loss of your valuable comb and prevent pest pressure by allowing breeding in stored equipment.

The nectar flow is very "nicky", meaning, some have some flow going on and others are definitely in a dearth. Bees in dearth can become more defensive. Working bees during a dearth is more challenging than working bees on a nectar flow. Robbing can be triggered by simply opening hives during a dearth or spilling honey or syrup in the bee yard. Using extra inner covers to cover boxes as you remove them, working quietly and efficiently is even more important. Working hives first thing in the morning or later in the afternoon when less bees are flying can sometimes work better. This is not the time to admire every frame. But, you do have to make sure your colonies are queenright and healthy! Pay attention to the entrances of your hives and watch what is coming in. Watch for fighting or signs of robbing. Smaller colonies can be robbed out in a matter of hours. A wet sheet, robbing screen, or even a sprinkler over the hive might be needed to stop robbing. Keep smaller hive entrances smaller.

LINKS

[Charles Mraz Apitherapy Course & Conference \(CMACC\): One Health & Honeybees](#)

[This is BARC](#)

VISIT THE CLUB WEBSITE AT

WWW.LONGISLANDBEEKEEPERS.ORG

Check your account on the website every month