

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

Keeping Bees on Long Island Since 1949



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Visit the club web site at:

www.LongIslandBeekeepers.Org

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- **Outreach Director:** Annie McClintock, 516-768-1429
- **Programs Director:** Moira Alexander, 631-664-6810
- **Immediate Past President/Director:** John Most

Bee Board

- **President:** Walter Scott 516-428-1063
- **Vice President:** Joan Mahoney (Interim VP)
- **Treasurer:** Suzanne Cahill 917-714-3364
- **Secretary:** Marianne Sangesland, 631-680-5895*
- **Membership Secretary:** Conni Still, 631-472-1760

Next Meeting:

Sunday, 22 March 2026

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
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Chris Kelly, Mattituck.....631-275-5786
Deborah Klughers, East Hampton...631-377-1943
Katherine Luberto..... 631-965-7327
Joan Mahoney, N.Babylon.....631-667-5339
Grace Mehl, Smithtown..... 631-766-5648
Fred Munzer, Dix Hills.....631-243-3512
Marianne Sangesland, Smithtown....631-680-5895
Walter Scott, West Hills Huntington..516-428-1063
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>



Dear Beekeepers,

Lots of stuff at this upcoming meeting on Sunday! The bees enjoyed that little break from winter after the blizzard! So many out on cleansing flights!



Speaker of the Month:

Mary Duane is our speaker for March speaking about the Master Beekeeper Program.

BIO: Mary Duane has been keeping honeybees as a hobbyist for the last twenty-five years. She is the former President of the Worcester County Beekeepers Association, the Massachusetts Beekeepers Association, and the Eastern Apicultural

Society (EAS). She is an EAS certified Master Beekeeper. She has lectured across the east coast on the importance of honeybees in our environment and beekeeping practices. She enjoys judging honey and beeswax at state agricultural fairs each summer. She is a retired public school science teacher and runs her own Honey business -Miss Mary's Honey.

TEACHING APIARY NEWS

The Teaching Apiary schedule is set for 2026. Weather could necessitate changes, of course. A reminder of the schedule will come out approximately once a month and will include the instructor's email addresses and any specific topic or activity they intend to cover. Attendees are requested to email the instructor of their intent to attend, providing a cell phone number. This allows the instructor to notify attendees of last minute changes due to weather or other events. All attendees are required to wear a veil. Long sleeves, long pants, socks and closed shoes are highly recommended.

There are a few veils on site for real newbees who don't own one. The schedule is as follows:

April 11th - Moira Alexander
April 25th - Grace Mehl
May 9th - John Most
May 23rd - Rich Blohm
June 6th - Dawn Schmitz
June 20th - Roy Baillard
July 11th - Kevin Raffloer
July 25th - MaryEllen Cuiffo
August 8th - Marianne Sangesland
August 22nd - TBD

September 5th Joan Mahoney
September 19th - Walter Scott
October 3rd - Kathy Luberto
October 17th - Grace Mehl

There may be some management events, such as harvesting honey or wrapping and insulating hives that are held outside of the above schedule. Members may be notified of these by email if there is time.

There is also a **Queen Rearing** class that will be held on March 21st. Bill and Roy will be teaching this class. The class will require a commitment of two dates. An indoor class of ½ day on March 21, 2026 and ½ day outdoors at an apiary located in Head of the Harbor on May 9, or May 16, 2026 (weather dependent). The techniques of Dr. Jack Rath of BetterBee and Mike Palmer of Vermont will be featured. The class will be limited to 6 participants. The total cost will be \$100. Times and location, to be announced to those who register.

Beekeeper requirements: 3 or more years of beekeeping experience. A signed waiver will be required prior to the class. Contact Bill at 631-938-6233 to register.

LIBRARY REPORT:

NOVEMBER ACTIVITY

7 books signed out by 5 members

3 books renewed by 3 members

3 books returned by 2 members

Hoping everyone has time to finish reading by the January 2026 meeting. The library will only be accepting returns this month. Annie

McClintock graciously volunteered to collect books so please be sure to give them to her.

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](mailto:librarian@longislandbeekeepers.org)



Upcoming events:

Hey Beeks!

Our upcoming meeting is Sunday, March 22nd at building 4 of the Sisters of St. Joseph, 1725 Brentwood Rd, Brentwood NY. Follow the yellow bee meeting signs! The doors will open at 12:30. The meeting will start at 1:00. Come early if you intend to pay your dues at the door, please!

- Our JUNE meeting has been rescheduled for June 14th due to a conflict at our venue. Please put this date on your calendar!

- Our Intermediate Beekeeper Class was conducted on March 14th and was really well attended. *Thank you so much to all the following club members who pitched in to make this a success: Moira Alexander, John Most, Walter Scott, Bill O'Hern, Kevin Raffloer, Laurie Wills, and Dawn Schmitz! We couldn't have done this without all of your help!*

- The Teaching Apiary program begins on April 11th. Moira will be kicking it off on that day and Grace will be conducting the session on April 25th. Contact them by email or text to sign up.

Moira - Ramoi@aol.com or cell phone: 631-664-6810

Grace -

Education@longislandbeekeepers.org or cell phone: 631-766-5648

- The Queen Rearing Class classroom session is next Saturday on March 21st. Contact Bill O'Hern at 631-938-6233 to enroll. More info is on the website.

- Thank you to all those who promptly paid your dues on the website. When you pay by check or cash, your info must be manually updated on the website and this takes time. We are trying to expedite this with new help! *If you are paying your dues at the meeting, please come early!* Checks are

great and should be made out to Long Island Beekeepers Club for \$40 and have your *EMAIL written clearly* on them so the website and email list can be updated, but cash will work also.

- Moira will be speaking about the creation of a "Swarm Commander" position. More info at the meeting.

- Bee Tree payment will be collected at this meeting! *Please make checks out to Long Island Beekeepers Club*. Moira will be collecting for the ordered bee trees at the meeting by check or cash. If you can't attend the meeting, you *must mail a check* to Moira Alexander at 25 Dawn Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787. The check must be in her hand by March 28th. Her cell phone number is 631-664-6810. There is a waiting list of people who want trees and didn't get on the list early enough, so if you are unable to pay for your trees, they may be re-allocated to someone who wants them.

- If you have large plastic pots that can be used to pot up trees, please bring them to the meeting and give them to Moira.

- Joan will be discussing our glassware bulk order at this meeting. Joan is working hard to figure out the best way to make our order possible. This is the last meeting to order glassware. If you cannot attend the meeting, please text her at 631-316-6284. Once again, all of the glassware must be pre-ordered and pre-paid and we cannot store your glassware. Once firm, you will be notified of the price per case. You must be available to pick up or have someone else pick up on the day of distribution.

- We have a 6 Frame Maxant Extractor and a full 10 frame hive with deep boxes as a Raffle prizes and will have them at the meeting so you can see them. We will be selling tickets for both at this meeting and again at the April meeting for the extractor. Drawing for the hive will be at the March meeting and drawing for the extractor will be at the April mitting. You

do not have to be present to win.

- We also have door prizes for this meeting. Additional donations are gladly accepted as door prizes too!

- Kevin and Patty Raffloer are hosting the club's manual extractors for rental. Please contact them at 631-495-9209 to set up to borrow one if you have honey to extract.

- 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!

- Dolores Oesterle is administering the club facebook page and doing a great job. If you have pictures that you would like to send her, please send them to her dolores_oesterle@yahoo.com.

- Items for the Sisters of St. Joseph food pantry (non-perishable items) will be collected. This includes paper goods, baby food, pet food, and personal hygiene products. Thank you for support shown in the past and we appreciate all support as there is still a desperate need.

- The club LIBRARY will be available for check out and return of books. We also have a few new books, so see Lorraine and ask about them.

- Tee Shirts and Sweatshirts will be available at this meeting.

- Our new Outreach Director, Annie McClintock is looking for volunteers to go and speak at events about bees and beekeeping. You all know more about bees than the public! Please volunteer to get on her list of contacts willing to go to events. She will then contact you with possibilities. Her cell phone number is 516-768-1429.

- Club Elections: Since all nominees were running unopposed, the following are the new people in each position:

President: Walter Scott

Web Master: Dolores Oesterle

Education: Grace Mehl

Outreach: Annie McClintock

Due to Walter stepping up to President, Joan Mahoney has been appointed by the board to fill the role as interim Vice President until next year's election for that position

- Small Hive Beetle traps and Drone Comb will be available for purchase at the meeting.

- A survey of losses due to Small Hive Beetles in 2025 will be passed around at the meeting. Please only fill it out if you have losses due to SHBs.

- Moira will be talking about a new "Ask a Beek" program at the meeting.

- People have asked about Beekeeping insurance. The Point of Contact is Melissa.daley@american-national.com. Her office number is 631-542-0101.

- NYS Burn Ban
- Bee-L
- Honeybee Health Coalition
- new website about Tropilaelaps mite
- NY Bee Wellness Youtube
- Buy Field guide, Hat, mite shaker
- Links
- Donate
- Quiz Yourself!
- Weird brood

BEE WELLNESS UPDATES!

NY Bee Wellness Newsletter
Late Winter 2026

[NY Bee Wellness](#) - an independent grassroots educational 501c3

NY Bee Wellness Inc



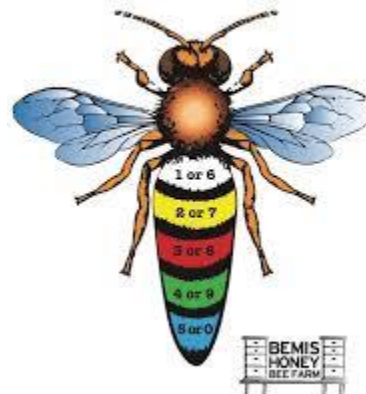
NYBeeWellness.org

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- USDA: Better amitraz
- USDA: AI for EFB
- Winter Capped Brood Monitoring
- Bees' Flight Paths
- Time to Order Plants

QUEEN COLOR CODE

Year Ends In:



2026 is WHITE

Fall Survey 2025 NY Bee Wellness RESULTS!

Thank you to all who have completed the survey!

The survey represents a sample of 387 non-migratory beekeepers from New York State. It may show trends that are occurring throughout the state. **Be sure to check your region results and share with your local group, the PDF links are at the bottom of the page.**

Highlights: Statewide participants generally increased their apiary size during the year by ~30% for the Winter of 2025-2026 after a 38% 2024/25 winter loss. Most hives added in 2025 were from splits, swarms, and nucs. ~15% of participants experienced a colony loss of greater than 15% or greater in the Fall, with Queen Problems/loss as a possible cause: 31%, followed by robbing, 14%, and Parasitic Mite Syndrome (PMS): 8%

2025 had early rain, but became dry by mid-summer, 54% of reporting beekeepers were happy with their honey crop; the Central region was 71% happy, while only ~30% were happy with the crop in the NYC Metro region. About 47% of beekeepers do not monitor varroa mite levels, but some assume that they have varroa and proactively apply treatment. The top 2 varroa mite treatments used were Formic and Oxalic vapor. The top 3 problems that respondents had with their bees are: small hive beetles, varroa mites, and possible queen failure.

[Fall 2025 Survey - NY Bee Wellness \(pdf\) for best viewing, click here](#)

[📄 Results- Fall 2025 Survey, NY Bee Wellness](#)

Western Region: Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, Allegheny Counties. (Buffalo, Jamestown)

North Central Region: Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Yates, Wayne, Seneca, Yates Counties. (Rochester, Canandaigua)

South Central Region: Schuyler, Cayuga, Tompkins, Chemung, Steuben, Tioga, Cortland Counties. (Ithaca)

Central Region: Oneida, Onondaga, Madison, Chenango, Broome, Delaware, Otsego, Herkimer Counties. (Syracuse, Utica, Binghamton)

Northern Region: Jefferson, Oswego, Lewis, St Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Warren Counties. (Watertown, Oswego)

Eastern Region: Fulton, Montgomery, Saratoga, Schenectady, Washington, Schoharie, Albany, Rensselaer Counties. (Albany)

South East Region: Greene, Columbia, Ulster, Dutchess, Sullivan, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester Counties. (Poughkeepsie, Kingston)

NYC Metro Region: Bronx, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk

Fall 2024 Survey results: <https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=84212338dd107852d694d9b24&id=123445fc21>

LINKS

[Splitting Hives - YouTube](#)

[The Winter Hive's Secret Life: My 7 Aah-ha Moments; Etienne Tardif; a Bee Wellness webinar](#)

[Finding More Effective Treatments in the Fight Against Varroa Mites](#)

[Trees for bees: from planting to pruning with Mike Connor](#)

And [ENT 71 15](#) Trees for bees!

[2024-25 Winter Capped Brood Monitoring / Auburn University College of Agriculture](#)

"The status of capped brood in honey bee colonies during winter is critical information beekeepers must consider when choosing an appropriate control product for the mite *Varroa destructor*. As colonies emerge from winter, insight into colony brood rearing also helps beekeepers plan for early spring management, such as feeding and swarm control."

Informative to look at the different localities for the timing of disappearance of capped brood in the autumn and the reappearance in the spring. There is definitely a clear influence of latitude.

[Precise, individualized foraging flights in honeybees revealed by multicopter drone-based tracking: Current Biology](#)

Each bee develops a personal and highly precise path, like a private highway in the sky.

Dr. Andrew D. Straw and his team studied experienced honey [bees](#) flying between their hive and a feeder placed 400 feet (122 meters) away in an agricultural area in Germany.

The landscape included a tall cornfield, hedges, and a large tree that blocked a straight flight path. This setup forced the bees to make decisions about how to move around obstacles.

Clear landmarks improve precision, while uniform areas increase uncertainty. Individual bees also develop unique, repeatable routes.

With the help of advanced drone tracking, scientists now see that a honey bee's brain supports highly accurate three-dimensional navigation in complex environments.

[Tropi STOP | Pollinator.org](#) A new website about last month's topic, the Tropilaelaps mite!

VISIT THE CLUB WEBSITE AT

WWW.LONGISLANDBEEKEEPERS.ORG

Check your account on the website every month