

KEARSARGE BEEKEEPERS

www.kbanh.org

MAY 2019

NEXT MEETING:

**SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019
9:00 A.M.
NEWPORT HIGH SCHOOL
245 N.MAIN STREET
NEWPORT, NH
SPEAKER: SAM COMFORT
OF ANARCHY APIARIES**



**Take a look:
anarchyapiaries.org**

You are going to be glad you came to this meeting!

The Bee Boys Song

by Rudyard Kipling

Bees! Bees! Hark to your bees!
'Hide from your neighbours as much as you please,
But all that has happened, to us you must tell,
Or else we will give you no honey to sell!

A Maiden in her glory,
Upon her wedding-day,
Must tell her Bees the story,
Or else they'll fly away.
Fly away - die away -
Dwindle down and leave you!
But if you don't deceive your Bees,
Your Bees will not deceive you.

Marriage, birth or buryin',
News across the seas,
All you're sad or merry in,
You must tell the Bees.
Tell 'em coming in an' out,
Where the Fanners fan,
'Cause the Bees are justabout
As curious as a man!

Don't you wait where trees are,
When the lightnings play;
Nor don't you hate where Bees are,
Or else they'll pine away.
Pine away - dwine away -
Anything to leave you!
But if you never grieve your Bees,
Your Bees'll never grieve you!

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Kearsarge Beekeepers' Association Meeting Minutes April 13, 2019 Warner Town Hall

President Shane Howard opened the meeting and welcomed newcomers. Treasurer's report – Robin Gray absent. Secretary's report – Deb Dunlop absent. Kim Tuttle filling in to take this month's meeting minutes. March meeting minutes by Deb Dunlop accepted. Vice President Brian Jasinski reported that the NH State Beekeeper's Assn. Hive Loss Surveys will be accepted through the May 1 deadline.

President's Report: KBA is one of 11 local chapter clubs. Jamie Ellis will be the speaker for the NHBA Fall meeting. Beekeeper of the Year was not announced at the NHBA Spring Meeting this year mostly because nominations were not in on time. Next year, we as a club will put forth a nomination instead of relying on individuals to submit them. NHBA is also asking for items for their newsletter- articles, recipes, etc. NHBA Scholarship deadline is May 1. S.A.R.A. queen mating clinic to be held at Cornell University for 3 days this summer. Five spaces were available to attend, deadline for applying has passed. At least 3 applied from this club. Hopefully, someone will get to go!

The annual NHBA Musterfield Picnic is to be held at Musterfield Farm in Sutton on Saturday June 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free but must be a member of NHBA to attend or you can pay dues at the event which will also cover you for the annual Fall meeting. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share; they will provide the cooks and hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, barbecue chicken, drinks, and paper goods. Bring a regular sized smoker for smoker contest. Bring a veil if you want to be around beehives. Speaker will be Chuck Souther from Apple Hill Farm in Concord who will talk about improving relations between beekeepers who provide pollination services and farmers.

Club Apiary: Apiary schedules were handed out at the meeting and a copy will be provided to Barbara Burns for the Newsletter. Most of the Hands On Workshops will take place from 6-8 p.m. at the 223 North Rd. Sunapee apiary location on Tues. and Weds. evenings with a couple of Saturday sessions. Randy Fleury will

demonstrate how to install a package on Tues. April 23 at 5 p.m. rain or shine. The Club approved purchasing one package from Randy and an extra one will be donated by him if he has extras from his pick-up in Georgia.

Brian Jasinski will post events at the KBA Apiary 2 days prior.

New business: Kim Pease will help upgrade the website. The Club voted to approve \$60.00 a year for the new service that will get rid of a lot of the ads. We now have a website, Facebook public page (Shane is the moderator) and a private group (must be a member).

The tentative date for the KBA annual barbecue will be on Sunday July 21 at the Ramspott's in Sunapee at our Club apiary. Port-o- Potty on site. Free to members. Barbecue meats, rolls and soft drinks to be provided by the club. Bring bee related items for the raffle. The Picnic Committee members are Betsy McNaughten, Eric DeKing- who will be lead, John Chadwick, Shane Howard, John Simmons, 'Bam' Fleury and another John whose last name escapes me.

7 MiteCheck units will be distributed to 'mite mentors' for Club use From MiteCheck.com which monitors mite levels nationwide. There have been no submissions from NH so far.

The first of two Kurk Webster open house events at his apiary in Vt. begin next Sat. April 20. A group of four or five will be carpooling from the KBA. The next one will be in July. These are timed to see his bee operation when bees are near their weakest and strongest populations.

Speaker: Protecting Beehives from Predators by Colin Kennard from Wellscoft Fence, Chesham NH (part of Harrisville). Colin talked about the basic 3 components of electric fence systems which are by far the most effective against bears: Conductors (the wire), Energizers (solar, hard wired, and battery) and the Ground Field. Electric fence works because the animal completes the circuit from the voltage line to the ground. Baiting the fence is essential to teach animals to respect the fence because they receive a shock on

the nose, tongue, ear etc. establishing a ‘psychological deterrent’.

A .15 joule Patriot solar energizer delivers the same energy as 4 D cell portable unit. Solar units should be stored for the winter with at least a 70% charge. Don't allow full discharge or the battery will freeze – not good. There are only about 3 useable solar hours in the winter and snow also insulated animals from completing the ground and getting shocked. The battery life of a typical Patriot solar unit used for beehive protection is 4-5 years. Battery replacement runs from \$30- \$50 dollars.

‘Over –energizing’ a fence i.e. using an energizer with more joules than you typically need will compensate for long vegetation shorting out the fence but you will need more ground rods. One 4’-6’ ground rod per joule is recommended. Hang ‘flashers’, warning signs , or baiting metal containers near a corner or other post so that the fence doesn't sag and wires touch. If you use grounding mats made from chicken wire or chain link instead of rods, don't let it contact the fence or it will short it out.

For more info on electric fence beehive protection, I highly recommend attending the spring Wellscroft Fence clinic or their series of Wednesday workshops:

<https://www.wellscroft.com/support-center/fence-clinic/spring-fence-clinic>

Kim Tuttle



SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AT KBA APIARY, 223 NORTH ROAD, SUNAPEE

Tuesday, May 7, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Hive inspections, questions, apiary maintenance
Mentor: John Simonds

Tuesday, May 14, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Feeding colonies, reading frames
Speaker: Brian Jasinski

Wednesday, May 22, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Hive inspections, questions, apiary maintenance
Mentor: Shane Howard

Tuesday, June 4, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Treating for mites, types of treatments
Speaker: Brian Jasinski

Wednesday, June 19, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Queen marking and wing clipping
Speaker: Kevin Sargent

Tuesday, June 25, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Making splits into nucs, honey flow
Speaker: Dana Ramspott

Saturday, July 13, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Hive inspections, questions, apiary maintenance
Mentor: Shane Howard

Wednesday, July 17, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Honey Harvesting
Speaker: Kevin Sargent

Tuesday, July 23, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Hive inspections, questions, apiary maintenance
Mentor: Brian Jasinski

Wednesday, July 31, 6-8 p.m.

Topic: Summer dearth: What to do?
Speaker: Eric Deking

Apiary Committee Members:

Brian Jasinski
Eric Deking
Dana Ramspott

Bill McDonald
Kevin Sargent
John Simonds

New directions to Club Apiary at 223 North Road, Sunapee

From Rte 89 take exit 12 follow Rte 11 west towards Sunapee approximately 6 miles. Look for Smokey bear sign at bottom of hill in Sunapee. Take next right onto Lower Main Street, follow for approximately ½ mile, North Rd will be on the right, follow for exactly 1 mile. North Rd turns off 90 degrees to the right at the top of the hill just before you reach the apiary, you will see the hives up in the field when you make the turn. 223 North Rd will then be the first house on the left, the number is on a sign in front of the house. Some parking in the yard (stay off the grass), or park along the side of the road.

From Claremont area follow Rte 11 east through Newport towards Sunapee bear left at Rtes 11 and 103 junction look for Lower Main Street on left approximately 1½ miles beyond junction. Follow Lower Main Street for ½ a mile, North Rd will be on the right, follow for exactly 1 mile. North Rd turns off 90 degrees to the right at the top of the hill just before you reach the apiary, you will see the hives up in the field when you make the turn. 223 North Rd will then be the first house on the left, the number is on a sign in front of the house. Some parking in the yard (stay off the grass), or park along the side of the road.

Bring your bee veil (required for close-up viewing) and other protective clothing if you wish. Also bring needed supplies for any spring outdoor event such as boots a folding chair, tick repellent, water, camera, etc. Most of all bring all your curiosity and beekeeping questions. If you don't yet have a bee veil, there may be a few available to borrow at the apiary.

Thanks to Sherry Gould who got lost a couple of times following the old directions!!



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**NHBA SUMMER PICNIC
SATURDAY, JUNE 15
10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
MUSTER FIELD FARM
HARVEY ROAD
NORTH SUTTON**

Picnic is free to NHBA members, but you can pay your dues at the event. Bring side dish or dessert to share. Meat, drinks, and paper goods provided.

Bring regular sized smoker and fuel to participate in smoker contest. Veil required for getting close to hives. Speaker: Chuck Souther from Apple Hill Farm in Concord. Topic: Improving relations between beekeepers who provide pollination services and farmers.

**KBA SUMMER PICNIC
SUNDAY, JULY 21
AT THE CLUB APIARY IN
SUNAPEE**

Bring food to share (details will be provided prior to the date). Club will provide meats, rolls and soft drinks. Highlights will be:

Watch for details! Always a good time!!

**Big Semi-annual Raffle
Our Own Smoker Contest**

KEARSARGE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) _____

Street or PO Box _____ Town _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Check: New or Renewal

Check one:

I would like to receive my newsletter by downloading it from the club website _____
(Saves \$ for the club) www.kbanh.org

OR

Please send a printed newsletter to my mailing address above _____

2019 DUES ARE \$20.00

Please make checks payable to: **KBA**

MAIL TO: Robin Gray

PO Box 275

Warner, NH 03278

KBA CLUB OFFICERS 2019

President

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Vice-President

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Recording Secretary

Deborah Dunlop 938-2027

ddunlop@nec.edu

Newsletter Editor

Barbara Burns 927-4965

bbbsews@gmail.com

CLUB EXTRACTOR

KBA owns a 3-frame tangential extractor, great for small batches. It is available to any and all KBA members. Please contact Dave Hartman at 456-3881 to arrange to borrow it. Of course, it needs to be cleaned before it is returned

KBA MENTORS

The following club members have graciously volunteered to be mentors to our new beekeepers. They are also available to share their experiences and knowledge with other members who have questions or need advice.

Richard Brewster, Andover, 735-5457

Alan Carruth, Newport, 863-7064

John Chadwick, Sutton Mills, 927-4327

Randy Fleury, South Sutton, 927-4144

Dave Hartman, Warner, 456-3881

Bill McDonald, Newport, 863-4012

NH BEE AND EQUIPMENT DEALERS

Hillside Apiaries, Merrimack 429-0808

B-Line Apiaries, Alden Marshall, Hudson 883-6764

Spring Fever Farm, Ben Chadwick, Alton 875-3544

NH Honey Bee, Gilsum 354-8019

Troy Hall, Plainfield 298-7209

Kevin Sargent, Newport, 843-5927