



Membership Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2018
6:30 pm – Monmouth County Agriculture Building

- Refreshments and Social Hour
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence: Wolfgang Kuehn

Presentation by: Ryck Suydam – President of the NJ Farm Bureau

Ryck has operated Suydam Farms, LLC since 1985. The 300+ acre farm in Franklin Township, Somerset County, produces hay, straw, pumpkins, cut flowers, herbs, pigs, eggs and Christmas trees. Ryck is also a partner in Suydam Insurance Agency since 1987. Ryck was elected 2nd Vice President of New Jersey Farm Bureau in 2004. In 2012, Ryck was elected President of the New Jersey Farm Bureau. Some of Ryck's other community activities include serving as a director of the Belle Mead Farmers Co-op; a member of the Franklin Township Environmental Committee (1999-2002); Executive Vice President of the Franklin Township Chamber of Commerce; and Chairman of the Franklin Township Agricultural Advisory Committee. Ryck holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Maine. Ryck's family came from Holland in 1713 and bears a rich 300 year family farming history in this area. He will be speaking about the NJ Farm Bureau's support of the NJ beekeepers opposition to the proposed NJDOA Beekeeping Regulations and the political issues behind this fight. Ryck's presentation will also detail the mission of the NJ Farm Bureau as "A grassroots, membership supported non-government organization which is the largest advocate for agriculture in New Jersey, that represents all types of agriculture: equine, nursery, fruit and vegetable, field crops, apiary, wine grower, Christmas tree, forestry, livestock, etc."

Ryck encouraged the membership to contact and work together with the Farm Bureau. At this time there are no beekeepers on the Board of Agriculture. The State Board of Agriculture is supported by the public.

Janet Katz, President of the New Jersey Beekeepers Association updated the membership regarding the newly proposed beekeeper regulations:

- 1100 negative comments were made about the newly proposed regulations, representing 36 municipalities. Only 18 comments supported the regulations.
- A committee is currently working on the regulations and categorizing the negative comments. However there are no beekeepers on this committee to help categorize the comments. Some of the comments are very technical and may be misinterpreted by someone who does not have beekeeping knowledge.
- Attorney Judith Gleason did not communicate with the NJBA regarding the new regulations. There were two meetings scheduled in two years. She has recently retired and has been replaced by another attorney who seems to be more receptive.

Business Meeting:

- Introduce New Members
- CJBA 2018 List of Yearly Events:
 - Membership Meeting – March 9
 - Bayonet Farms Earth Day - April 22
 - Deep Cut Gardens Day – May 12
 - CJBA Family Picnic – May 20
 - Seeking membership to make “How to” presentations during picnic
 - Ocean County Fair – 1st week in July: Geff asked for a volunteer to organize and run the event.
 - Clearwater Fair
 - Membership Meeting – June 22
 - Monmouth County Fair – July 25 – July 28
 - Seeking a member to design a new label for the honey jars (include “LOCAL” and “RAW” on label)
 - Ocean Township County Library
 - Ocean County Library – Upper Shore Branch – July 9

- Ocean County Library – Plumsted Branch – July 31
 - Birds, Bugs and Beyond – August 18
 - Ocean County Library – Toms River Branch – August 22
 - Membership Meeting – September 21
 - Longstreet Farm – September 30
 - Thompson Park Day – October 14
 - Membership Meeting – November 16
- Treasurer’s Report ~ Curtis Crowell
 - \$10,435 in the Treasury
 - 183 members
 - 77 have not yet renewed

New Business:

- Jeff Burd, First Vice President of NJBA, requested the membership to complete the online survey regarding the Winter Meeting which was held on February 17th and 18th in East Windsor.
 - An Intermediate Beekeeping Class will be held May 18th and 19th and June 8th and 9th. Information will be forthcoming.
 - The NJBA Auction will be held on August 11th or 25th.
 - The Eastern Apicultural Society Conference will be held August 13th – 17th in Hampton, Virginia.
 - The Spring Meeting will be held on June 2nd.
- Geff presented the Member Participation Incentive Program:
 - a. **Executive Board:** (reimbursed registration fees)
 1. State Meetings
 2. EAS in Virginia or a Conference (subject to Board approval)
 - b. **Committee Head:** (reimbursed registration fees)
 1. All State meetings
 - c. **Committee Member:** (reimbursed registration fee)
 1. One state meeting
 - d. **Fair/Event Volunteer:** Admission passes will be provided

Members who participate in the Incentive Program will be required to give a presentation (pictures) to the membership and/or supply content for the newsletter.

- Membership Kits/New Members – New member kits will be handed out at the next meeting.
- Calendars – sold at the door for \$10.00

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

50/50 - \$54.00

Door Prizes

**Respectfully submitted,
Angela Juffey
CJBA Secretary**