



## General Membership Meeting Agenda

September 18, 2020

7:00 pm: Networking followed by Zoom Meeting at 7:30 pm

1. Minutes: Approved
2. Treasurer's Report: Balance = \$11,320.00
3. Announcements:
  - a. Family Bee Day Picnic Update: Tentative new date: Spring at Oak Tree Lodge
  - b. Thompson Park Day Update: The event has been cancelled for 2020.
  - c. Oak Tree Festival: Columbus Day Weekend
  - d. Mite research project by high school student: Currently the student has a beekeeper to help her. Contact has been made with researchers at Stockton and Rutgers. Research involves mites in egg incubators. CJBA loaned brood minders to use for the project.
  - e. VP Position available for November "Election" meeting. If interested, please contact Geff Vitale: [geff.vitale@gmail.com](mailto:geff.vitale@gmail.com)
  - f. New Facebook Administrator: Danielle Garske – Welcome!
  - g. Reminder to renew membership
  - h. Fall Beekeeping Short Course at the Monmouth County Agriculture Building has been cancelled. It will possibly be rescheduled in the spring.
4. "Roundtable Discussion" of questions submitted by the membership:
  - a. Regarding local bee packages to purchase: At the time bee packages are needed here in NJ, local beekeepers do not have the bees available. Bees are sent in from Georgia, California and Texas. The spring season in these areas is about one month before ours. Nucs can be purchased locally in June however, the seller should be certified by the state apiarist.
  - b. Ideal density of bees per acre or square mile: There should be no more than 3 hives on ¼ acre. However, the number of hives depends on how much food is available to support them.
  - c. Avoiding swarms: Combine small hives into a queen right hive. This will reduce wax moths and hive beetles. Requeen in the fall. Be sure that there is plenty of comb for bees to have room to store nectar. Eliminate queen cells.

- d. Hedges overrun by bumblebees: Bumblebees don't over winter. They are gentle bees and pollinate tomato plants because of the way they vibrate as they forage. Means to eliminate them depend on the species of bumblebee.
  - e. Courses online: Penn State and Cornell are two institutions that offer online courses.
  - f. How to register for membership: Go to <https://njba38.wildapricot.org>. Click on "Join Us". You can choose an individual or family membership for \$25. A Junior membership is also available for individuals under the age of 18. You must join one branch but may also choose a secondary branch as well. The secondary branch membership is \$8 and should be paid directly to that treasurer. You can also go directly to [www.njbeekeepers.com](http://www.njbeekeepers.com). Under "About NJBA" select "Membership" and follow the prompts.
  - g. Use of blower and hive beetle traps: Many beekeepers use a blower (low power) to remove bees before extracting honey. Use a tripod to lift the blower to the appropriate height. Hive beetles: Purchase the hive beetle traps that are placed between the frames. Add a mixture of corn oil and apple cider vinegar to the trap. The beetles are attracted to the traps and will suffocate in the mixture.
  - h. Swarm Removal: Go to [www.njbeekeepers.com](http://www.njbeekeepers.com). On the right hand side there is a box which is dedicated to swarm removal. Click for info. You will see the different varieties of bees and the honeybee will be identified. You can search by county, zip code and distance. A map will appear with pins locating the beekeepers that can be of service. When you click on a pin, the beekeeper's contact info will show and when he/she is available. Repairs for honeybee removal is not included and is the responsibility of the homeowner.
  - i. Honey labels: Since the regulations change often, google the requirements before you print.
5. "Farmers' Market" presentation by Angelo Trapani
- Since Farmers' Markets vary, the best practice is to speak to the manager. Some are specific as to what you can sell. It will be necessary to fill out a vendor form and most likely there will be a charge.
- Fresh Markets are run by a specific company which sets rules and regulations. Insurance is not required. You must select your dates and the market will take place rain or shine. There may be a Board of Health fee. Vehicle parking is a challenge and it is advised that you have a cart. You must be ready at the opening time which requires you to get there early. You cannot dismantle until the market closes for the day even if you run out of products.

Meeting adjourned: 9:26 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Juffey, Central Jersey Beekeepers Association Secretary