



Membership Meeting Agenda
September 22, 2017
6:30 pm – Monmouth County Agriculture Building

- Refreshments
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduce New Members

New Business:

- **Monmouth County Fair Recap:** The arrangement of the table and Observation Booth was changed which aided the flow of visitors. Thirty volunteers assisted Geff. 9,000 honey sticks were sold and we also sold out of honey. It was suggested that a second display of honey sticks be assembled at the other end of the display table to accommodate buyers. A sign was also displayed to inform buyers that honey was being sold at the table. The Honey Show Competition participation was low. Ideas to stimulate participation (Black Box, Alternative Honey Show) will be investigated. Good weather was definitely a factor in the success of the fair. Products sold included jarred honey, honey sticks, candles, lip balm and hand cream. Supplies purchased included honey sign, table cloths, water, ice, aprons and audio. Geff visited the Kentucky State fair and observed their candle (roll) making table. We will explore this as an addition for next year's fair.
 - Fair Revenue = \$7,234.00
 - Fair Expenses = \$3,561.00
 - Fair Profit = \$3,673.00
- **New Jersey Audubon Society** – More information is needed regarding this donation opportunity.
- **Pinelands Nursery** – Information regarding plant removal from leased Pinelands Nursery lots will be obtained and members will be notified by MailChimp.
- **Treasurer's Report** ~ Curtis Crowell was absent.
- **CJBA 2017 List of Events and Activities:**
 - Membership Meeting – March 10
 - NJ Natural Gas Earth Day Celebration – April 19
 - Bayonet Farms Earth Day Celebration – April 30
 - Picnic – Sunday, May 21, at Oak Tree Lodge in Wall Township
 - Monmouth County Conservation Family Day – June 3
 - Membership Meeting – June 23
 - Monmouth County Fair – July 26 – 30
 - East Brunswick Library – August 2
 - JEI Learning Center (Marlboro) – August 10
 - JEI Learning Center (East Brunswick) – August 17
 - Master Gardener's "Bugs, Birds and Beyond" – Saturday, August 19
 - Garden Club (New Brunswick) – August 28
 - Ocean County Library – August 31
 - Meridian Early Learning Center – September 20
 - Membership Meeting – September 22
 - Holmdel Park Harvest Festival – September 24
 - Leisure Village Nature Club – September 25
 - Master Gardeners – September 27
 - Alpha Delta Kappa International Honor Society – October 4
 - Thompson Park Day – Sunday, October 15
 - Cliffwood Elementary School Garden Club – October 19
 - Membership Meeting – November 17
 - Hive 1 Workshop Dates –

Sunday, March 19th - "Woodware"

Sunday, April 23rd - "Hive Inspection/Swarm Prevention"

Sunday, June 4th - "Supering/Swarm Prevention"

Sunday, July 16th - "Honey Extraction/Hive Treatment"

Sunday, September 10th - "Winter Preparation"

Sunday, November 12th - "Candle Making"

- **Thompson Park Day** – Sunday, October 15th. Geff will be asking for volunteers. We plan to sell honey, honey sticks, candles, etc. An observation hive will be set up and honey samples will be available. A MailChimp will be sent to the membership for volunteer opportunities.
- **New Jersey Beekeepers Association 2017 Annual Fall Meeting** will be Saturday, September 30, 2017 at Sparta High School in Sparta Township. The meeting is hosted by the Sussex County Beekeepers Association and will feature Jerry Hayes and Randy Oliver. Registration details are on the website.
- **Slate of Officers:** The Slate of Officers will be presented at our next membership meeting. The 2nd VP is open. All those who would like to run or challenge an Office must do so by November 17th.
- **Presentation by Landi Simone, Gooserock Farm ~ "Managing your Bees for Optimum Health and Maximum Honey Production"**

Summary: Several factors determine a healthy hive. The number of bees in a colony, proportion of foragers to nurse bees, age and vigor of queen, health of the colony, weather, location of apiary and proximity of nectar. The biggest factor within your control for a healthy hive is the level of varroa mites. Colonies with high levels of varroa mites don't live as long, are more vulnerable to viruses, sometimes leave the hive, and rarely survive the winter. Beekeepers must do an alcohol wash to determine the mite level. Test the bees from open brood with nurse bees 3-4 times annually. Apply treatment in May – June and after honey supers are removed. Certain treatments such as Apivar cannot be applied with honey supers on. It is critical that beekeeper read the conditions for these treatments since some of them such as MAQS (formic Acid) kill mites under cappings but may also kill queens and brood.

During an average beekeeping year, May 1 to Mid July, honey is being made. July to August is the Dearth. September to October, more honey is produced. So your opportunity to destroy varroa is before May 1, July 15 to August 15th, and after fall honey is produced. Use this basic schedule to design your Mite treatments which should be at least 2-3 (sometimes 4) times annually. A possible Mite treatment schedule is: March 1- check to see if bees are alive, give sugar solution, put 2 apivar strips in the top box. April 1 – reverse supers and check strips. April 15 – remove strips. May 1 – Add supers. July 15 – pull supers, use Apiguard and begin feeding. July 29 – Apply 2nd Apiguard treatment. Use MAQS in September. September 15th – Apply Apivar. The MAQS is the only treatment you can use with the honey supers on. Feeding while treating for mites stimulates the queen to lay eggs. Many beekeepers use “open feeding” methods during the dearth. Mix a 5 gallon bucket of sugar solution and place it about 100 yards away from your hives. Add straw and a stick that reaches the bottom of the bucket. Rest the lid of the bucket on top of the stick (which extends out of the bucket) so it appears half open. Allow 1 bucket of solution per hive. You can also add Honeybee Healthy as a supplement. For more information, visit the Essex County Beekeepers Association website and click on Resources.

- Membership Kits/New Members

50/50

Door Prizes

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 PM

**Respectfully submitted,
Angela Juffey, Secretary**