

# Essex County Beeline

The Newsletter of the Essex County Beekeepers' Association,  
an Internationally Acclaimed Award-Winning Organization

*Keeping Bees Since 1923*

July 2008

The Essex County Beeline is published eleven times a year and is a benefit of membership in the ECBA.

Articles in this newsletter are copyrighted by the authors unless otherwise stated.

President (08-10):  
**Dave Meldrum**  
978-474-8700

Vice-president (08-10):  
**Larry Goldstein**  
978-887-8580

Recording Secretary (07-09):  
**Candy Leva**  
978-231-8409

Membership Secretary (08-10):  
**Linda Boylan**  
978-887-3917

Treasurer (07-09):  
**Jan Gaglione**  
978-535-1622

Directors (2008-10)  
**Peter Delaney**      **Dan Phillips**  
978-887-5726      603-394-0130

Directors (2007-09)  
**Diane Sellars**      **Stan Sample**  
781-862-1975      978-372-5672

Beeline Editor:  
**Candy Leva**    781-231-8409  
e-mail: [Candice.leva@avnet.com](mailto:Candice.leva@avnet.com)

Essex County Beekeepers' Assoc.  
P.O. Box 10  
Topsfield, MA 01983-0010  
Telephone: 978-887-6100

Website: [essexcountybeekeepers.org](http://essexcountybeekeepers.org)

club activity. It keeps people engaged in beekeeping while making new friends and we all learn something. To me it sounds like having fun with bees, which is probably why most of us are doing beekeeping.

I have been having fun catching swarms. I received two calls from people who got my name off of the internet. I put my name in at the police station, but did not hear anything from them. Both swarms were reasonably low to the ground and the people knew what honey bees looked like, so there were no surprises when I arrived. If the bees are too high up, I just say, good for Mother Nature and let them go. I now have a check list of things to bring with me. They include:

- o Pruning loppers
- o Sugar syrup in a spray bottle
- o Smoker & fuel (just in case)
- o An empty nuc or hive box, that can be strapped shut and screened.
- o Beekeeping tool box
- o Veil

First I spray the swarm and then hold the box with some frames removed, under the swarm and brush them in. I let the box sit near where the swarm was so that the stragglers smell their way to where the queen is. That usually takes about 25 min. That's a good time to talk the property owners and thank them. After I get them home I feed them sugar water and wait a couple of days and then add a frame of brood to propel them along. It is getting into June, so anything

**Monthly Meeting**  
July 13, 2008  
**Annual**  
**Cookout/Picnic**



**Golf Tee Time 8:30AM**  
**Softball 11:30AM**  
**Silent Auction**  
Details on page 5

## Club Business

### Presidents Message

It was really great to see all the new beekeepers at the June meeting. There were lots of interesting questions and discussions, and what a great place for beekeeping. Thank you to both Jim Koester for hosting the meeting and Rick Reault for doing the hive opening.

Vinnie Gaglione said he is starting up an interest group to do over-wintering of nucs. I like this kind of

after this will be either just to draw out comb, or make up an observation hive.

By the time you read this, the spring flow will probably be winding down. For me July is usually a bust and a good time to harvest the spring crop. I looked yesterday and there appears to be a good crop, but not much capped yet. I am hoping the next couple of weeks will be a god time for the bees to ripen the honey.

Our annual picnic is Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> and I highly recommend that you attend. We have golf, softball, smoker contest, silent auction, food and fun. Look at the announcement later in the Beeline, to see what to bring for food. Also don't forget the silent auction. If you have something you no longer need and think some else would bid on it, bring it. It is a really good time to get to know other beekeepers and you can bring the entire family.

Dave Meldrum

## June Meeting

President Dave Meldrum started the meeting with a Q&A session. Lots of great questions were posed and the answers and suggestions seemed to be very helpful to those that attended.

Vinny Gaglione and Stan Sample are starting a wintering over nuc group. Meetings will be held in July. If interested contact Stan @ 978-372-5672 or email him at [samplebee@gmail.com](mailto:samplebee@gmail.com)

The meeting was called to order @ 3:35PM by thanking Jim Koester for hosting and Rick Reault for doing the hive opening at this month's meeting. A motion was presented to accept the minutes as published the June newsletter and was passed.

Jan Gaglione read the treasurer's report, listed the balances and the expenses for the month. Motion to accept the treasurer's report as read

and to pay all expenses noted pending audit was approved.

Bee School will be meeting this Tuesday night to discuss the pre-registration. Brian Glass will be Bee Schools new Chairperson.

Fair Committee: Candy and honey stix are in and the wax order is on the way. Workshops: Tuesday & Thursday 7-9PM, starting on July 8<sup>th</sup> and will continue until all tasks (i.e. packaging candy & wax kits) are done. Hope to do some light painting and nail pulling too. Please consider coming in when you can to lend a hand.

Building meeting date is still pending.

Library on wheels will be available during the summer meetings. PLEASE pick up your tags. List of unclaimed name tags are growing. See list enclosed in this newsletter.

Peter Delaney of the nomination committee asked that anyone interested in the club offices up for election in November should let Peter know. Open positions include Treasurer, Recording Secretary and two Directors. Thank you to Candy for a job well done in capturing the job descriptions for the open positions.

Jane Wilde reported that the individuals that signed up for the Queen Rearing class being held July 18 & 19 will be receiving a detailed letter requesting payment of a non-refundable check of \$84. Breakfast items and lunch will be included and provided by Chris Delaney. Location will be held at Gretel Clark's Farm.

Who is going to EAS, beekeeping conference in Tennessee?

### New Business

Bee Demo update  
Kathy Sample & Chris Delaney attended the kite festival run by Groundwork Lawrence. It was

successful event and Chris commented on how many of the children had never tasted honey before. ECBA was invited back, see Chris Delaney if you would like to be a part of the next event.

Peabody Essex Museum in Salem on August 17, Story hour, 2:30 - 4:30PM

Massachusetts Beekeeper's Association 3rd Annual Field Day, Saturday, June 21, 2008 9:00 AM Registration, 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Programs are rain or shine. Held at UMASS Agronomy Farm, River Rd. South Deerfield, MA.

Door Prize: \$75 Gift Certificate to Crystal Bee Supply – Winner Ann Uppington

Meeting was adjourned @ 4:05PM.



Rick Reault (on right) answering questions from a group of on lookers.

## Library News

The library will be open during the annual club picnic. Stop by and check out some light summer reading about bees, learn how to process wax, cook with honey, start an observation hive, make mead, or learn about bee keeping history.



Since the picnic will be at the Bee Building, this is a great time to return your books that are due.

### Fair Workshops

The workshops will start July 8 and run Tuesday & Thursday nights 7PM to 9PM at the Bee Building during the month of July and then until be finish. We cut up the wax for the make your own candle table. Make up candle kits, bag candy and bundle up honey sticks for the selling counter. This is the major fund raiser for the association. Which allows us to do all we can do and keep the dues as low as they are. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make for light work. Any questions please contact Kathy Sample 978-372-5672 or email: [samplebee@gmail.com](mailto:samplebee@gmail.com)

Thank You, Topsfield Fair Committee

### Calendar

**June 21, 2008**

Mass Bee Field Day

**July 13, 2008**

Cookout/Member Meeting

**July 18, 2008**

Newsletter Deadline

**Tuesdays & Thursday in July**

Summer workshop, start July 8<sup>th</sup>

**July 18-19, 2008**

Queen Rearing Class

**August 4, 2008**

BOD Meeting

**August 10, 2008**

Member Meeting

### Did you know...

ECBA members receive discount subscriptions to bee magazines? Yes they do, please the club librarian at the next meeting for details.



(Meeting images provided by Adam Collier)



Show & tell with Rick Result at the June ECBA Meeting.

### Auction Items Wanted

ECBA is asking for donations for the silent auctions during the July Picnic. Your graciously donate benefit the ECBA Scholarship Fund. No item is too big or small and does not have to be bee related. Bring your items to the picnic and we ask that you note a minimum starting bid on your item.



### Bee Demonstrations

#### Lowell Spinners

Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM

Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

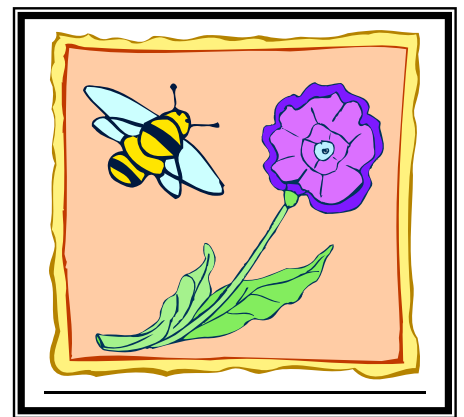
We usually have an observation hive and lots of things for fans to look at. We have done this in the past and it is a lot of fun. If you would like to participate contact Chris Delaney. Volunteers should be at the field one hour before game time. The Spinners generously donate \$100 toward ECBA Scholarships.

Sunday, August 17, Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Story hour 2:30 - 4:30PM

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for getting information into the next newsletter will be **July 18, 2008**. Please make submissions to Candy Leva by email at:

[Candice.leva@avnet.com](mailto:Candice.leva@avnet.com)



# JULY ECBA COOKOUT/PICNIC

SUNDAY, July 13, 2008

Topsfield Fair Grounds



*\*Golf Tee Time 8:30 AM  
Family Softball Game 11:30 AM  
Silent Auction 12-2:30 PM  
\*Smoker Contest 12:30 PM  
Cookout 1:00 PM  
Door Prize~*

*Bring your lawn chairs, food assignment, softball equipment, and smoker!*

Bring something for the Raffle Table and an Auction!

### Food Assignments:

Last name A-G: Pasta or Potato Salad

Last name H-O: Dessert

Last Name P-Z: Green/Veggie Salad

Please bring a **Silent Auction** item (does not have to be bee-related.) All donated items should come with a suggested minimum bid.

**All proceeds benefit the ECBA Scholarship Fund.**

Golf Outing - Lakeview Golf Course, Route 1A, Wenham, Tee time 8:30AM - Contact Peter Delaney (978-887-5726) or [Rigby100@msm.com](mailto:Rigby100@msm.com) to get on the roster - We will be playing best ball in foursomes. All abilities are welcome come and enjoy a morning on the golf course. After golfing we can then head to the fairgrounds for a game of softball.

Smoker Contest - All you need to bring is a smoker & Hive Tool (if you use it for packing your fuel). The Fuel Packets will be given to you at 12:30; it will include the fuel, piece of newspaper, and 2 wooden matches. The smoker must be up and running by 1PM. After 1PM the only one that can touch the smokers will be the judge. The judge will give each smoker 3 puffs every 15 min. Smokers will be eliminated when no smoke comes out. There will be a junior and an adult division





## Unclaimed Name Tags

The library reports that the following name tags have been ordered and never picked up. Please contact Barbra Milhender during any member meeting or email Barbara Milhender at [mybaku2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mybaku2000@yahoo.com)

|           |             |           |                  |           |           |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Terry     | Axten       | J.J.      | Halper-Rosenthal | Mary Beth | Nolt      |
| Bill      | Axten       | Elias     | Halper-Rosenthal | Steve     | Nolt      |
| Ernie     | Baldwin     | Gordon    | Hubbard          | Valian    | Norris    |
| Shirley   | Baldwin     | Christina | Hubbard          | Jan       | Paolini   |
| Dexter W. | Beattie     | Fred      | Johnson          | Domenic   | Paolini   |
| Amanda J. | Beattie     | Ken       | Jorgenson        | Katie     | Perry     |
| Lori      | Byman       | Peter     | Kelleher         | Steve     | Petrie    |
| John A.   | Cardillo    | Chris     | Kelleher         | Maureen   | Petrie    |
| Susan     | Cort        | Mac       | Kelleher         | Lori      | Porcaro   |
| Erik      | Dahlgren    | Dave      | Killam           | Colleen   | Razin     |
| Nancy     | Delisio     | Susan     | Langan           | James     | Rudolph   |
| Kelly     | Dibacco     | Christine | Lewis            | Lisa Lynn | Russo     |
| Mauro     | Dibacco     | Edwin     | Lewis            | Claire    | Sanford   |
| Alexandra | Dibacco     | Mary Beth | Lonergan         | Anne      | Seyffert  |
| Samatha   | Dibacco     | Pete      | Lonergan         | Thomas    | Silvestro |
| Charlotte | Dion        | John A.   | Mahon            | Alicia    | Sirois    |
| Bob       | Duggan      | Dianne M. | Mailo            | Faye      | Somes     |
| Ann Marie | Duggan      | Richard   | Marshall         | Al        | Somes     |
| Ed        | Falis       | Dominic   | Mastrangelo      | Alex      | Soroka    |
| Diane     | Frithsen    | Kevin     | McDermott        | Anne      | Springer  |
| Sarah     | Froio       | Cindi     | McDermott        | Sharon    | Sutton    |
| Jason     | Froio       | Guy T.    | Moore Jr.        | Loretta   | Swift     |
| Violet    | Frothingham | Winnie    | Nauda            | Nathaniel | Swift     |
| Scott     | Fumicello   | Erika     | Nauda            | Marcia    | Swift     |
| Frank     | Genovese    | Alex      | Nauda            | Skip      | Tobin     |
|           |             | Eli       | Nauda            | Robi      | Tobin     |



ESSEX COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. BOX 10  
TOPSFIELD, MA 01983-0010

July 2008



**What's in this month's issue?**

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>President's Message</b>     | <b>1-2</b> |
| <b>June Meeting Report</b>     | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>Library News</b>            | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>Fair Workshop Details</b>   | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>Calendar</b>                | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>Bee Demonstrations</b>      | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>Treasurers Report</b>       | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>July Meeting Details</b>    | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>Unclaimed Name Tag List</b> | <b>5</b>   |