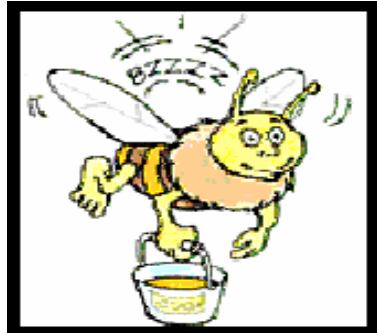


March, 2005

# The Next Meeting Will Be

## Monday, Mar. 7th



The Norfolk County Beekeeper's Association (NCBA), is dedicated to apiculture education and promotion of the art and science of beekeeping among beekeepers, agriculture and the general public. This is a "Not for Profit" organization, meeting the first Monday of every month, at 7:30 PM (second Monday if the first Monday is a holiday). The meetings are held at the Norfolk Agricultural High School (Media Ctr. Cafeteria) in Walpole, MA. Meetings in June-August will be held at members' bee yards as announced.

### Notes From The Editor:

Because I didn't have room inside this issue, I want to pass along information about the upcoming Maine Beekeepers Meeting, so here it is. Sorry for the squished look.

Knox-Lincoln County Beekeepers are pleased to host the Maine State Beekeepers Annual Meeting in Augusta on Saturday, April 9, 2005. The meeting, beginning at 8:00 a.m., will take place at the Augusta Elks Lodge on 397 Civic Center Drive. The featured speaker is Dr. James E. Tew who is an Extension Specialist, Apiculture at Ohio State University's Department of Entomology. Dr. Tew's topics for this meeting are:

1. Package Bees - Are They Still an Option?  
His comments here will be about the ever increasing costs of package bees. Plus it appears that the Canadian border may be slightly opening. How about packages from New Zealand?
2. Our Uneasy Relationship with American Foulbrood  
AFB is probably worse than Varroa.

There will be raffles to benefit the association. You are invited to bring an item for the raffle table (not necessarily bee-related). Everyone who pre-registers receives one free raffle ticket and can purchase more. The registration fee of \$25.00 includes the program, coffee break, and a hot luncheon buffet. Registration forms and a description of the program are available on the web at [www.klcbee.com](http://www.klcbee.com) or by calling Vice President Al Maloney at (207) 832-5162. There are several hotels/motels in the Augusta area. Check out <http://www.augustamehotels.worldweb.com>. The ones located closest to the Elks Lodge are the Holiday Inn Civic Center, (207 622-4751), and the Comfort Inn Civic Center, (207 623-1000). Both of these hotels are close to the Augusta Civic Center on Community Drive. The center is featuring the Manchester Lions Club Home & Garden Show on April 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets may be obtained by calling the Box Office at (207) 626-2400 or through TicketMaster website at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

And that's all she wrote. Be well. Happy Spring!!!

*Irene Gorczyca*

Norfolk County - Massachusetts  
**THE NORFOLK BEE**  
Online at: [www.norfolkbees.org](http://www.norfolkbees.org)

### 2004-2005 NCBA Officers

#### President

Tim Sullivan  
101 Sherman Road  
Dedham, MA 02026  
(781-326-2834)  
[TimSul123@comcast.net](mailto:TimSul123@comcast.net)

#### Vice President

Norm Shaw  
19 Skyline Road  
Hyde Park, MA 02136  
(617-361-5359)  
[theshawzzz@hotmail.com](mailto:theshawzzz@hotmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Miguel Lessing  
45 Russell Road  
Wellesley, MA 02482  
(781-431-2411)  
[miguellessing@comcast.net](mailto:miguellessing@comcast.net)

#### Recording Secretary

Mike Miconi  
172 Berwick Road  
Attleboro, MA 02703  
(508-226-8212)  
[mrmiconi@msn.com](mailto:mrmiconi@msn.com)

#### Corresponding Secretary

Irene Gorczyca  
(aka, Attila the Honey)  
276 Winter Street  
Walpole, MA 02081  
(508-668-0547)  
[ikgorczyca@comcast.net](mailto:ikgorczyca@comcast.net)

#### Bee School Director

Howard Crawford/Tim Sullivan  
11 Miller Street  
Norfolk, MA 02056  
(508-528-9869)

#### Fair Committee Chairperson

Irene Gorczyca

## Minutes from the February Meeting Mike Miconi

The meeting was called to order at 7:35. There were 30 people in attendance. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published. There was no treasurer's report this month.

There was a general discussion on how members' hives are fairing for the winter and general beekeeping questions. There seems to be mixed success with the loss of some hives at this time.

Andy Reseska brought in a frame tainted with American Foul Brood to show those who have never seen AFB what to look for. Thanks Andy.

Andy also reminded everyone that it is time to order bee's for the spring. He will be selling 3 pound packages of Italian bees. The price for Club members will be \$60.00 (\$63.00 for non-members). Please send your money directly to Andy Reseska – BY MARCH 1<sup>st</sup> - and make sure you note that you are a club member. The pick up date this year is currently scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> – a THURSDAY. Tim Sullivan has offered to pick up bees at Reseska Apiaries and deliver them to the Aggie school for member pick up on Thursday afternoon/evening.

The topic of the evening was small scale queen rearing. Tim showed a power point presentation noting important considerations regarding rearing your own queens and then a tape, produced by the University of Minnesota, showing the different steps involved in one method of queen rearing.

There was a break between the two presentations and the door prizes were awarded at this time. There were three door prizes this month:

A bottom board – donated by Andy Reseska and won by Ray McKay.

A Ross Round of honey – donated by Howard Crawford and won Joe Svelnis.

The tape (and accompanying book) on the evenings topic of queen rearing was donated by Tim Sullivan and was won by Howard Crawford.

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### Mass Beekeepers Survey

Please take a few minutes and complete this survey. When complete, please mail to:

**Massachusetts Beekeepers' Assn., Inc.**

**2005 Member Survey**

**c/o Andrea Desilets**

**16 Pond Street, #3**

**Ayer, MA 01432**

1. How many hives do you operate?
2. Are you a member of a county organization? Y / N If so, which one?
3. What do you expect from your membership in MassBee?
4. Are there any speakers or topics you would like to see for future meetings?

## Wolves and Honey: A Hidden History of the Natural World by Susan Brind Morrow Contributed by Mike Miconi

Publisher Comments:

Susan Brind Morrow brings her singular sensibility as a classicist and linguist to this strikingly original reflection on the fine but resilient threads that bind humans to the natural world. Anchored in the emblematic experiences of a trapper and a beekeeper, *Wolves and Honey* explores the implications of their very different relationships to the natural world, while illuminating Morrow's own poignant experience of the lives and tragic deaths of these men who deeply influenced her.

Ultimately for Morrow these two -- the tracker and trapper of wolves, the keeper of bees -- are a touchstone for a memoir of the land itself, the rich soil of the Finger Lakes region in upstate New York. From the ancient myth of the Tree of Life to the mysterious reappearance of wolves in the New York wilderness, from the inner life of the word "nectar," whose Greek root ("that which overcomes death") reveals our most fundamental experience of wonder, to the surprising links between the physics of light and the chemistry of sweetness, Morrow's richly evocative writing traces startling historical, scientific, and metaphorical resonances. *Wolves and Honey*, attuned to the connections among various realms of culture and nature, time and language, jolts us into thinking anew about our sometimes neglected but always profound relationship to the natural world.

Review:

"In this lyrical memoir, Morrow (*The Names of Things*) muses on New York State's Finger Lake region, where she grew up. Her ruminations are loosely based on her memories of two men - one a trapper, the other a beekeeper - whose ability to connect with nature had a profound influence on the way she views the world. In a poetic narrative, she contemplates the natural history of the area and tells of the people who have inhabited it - the Seneca, spiritualists, fur traders, artists, scholars, scientists and nurserymen. Morrow goes beyond the obvious, allowing each observation to remind her of something else and searching for the inner meaning of words. The sight of a flock of crows, for example, reminds her of a poem by the Greek poet Pindar, and this leads to a meditation on what it means to be a poet. The apple tree, which grows so plentifully in the region, is a 'talismán that one could follow through the layers of Finger Lake soil, through layers of memory and history,' and this prompts thoughts on the Swedenborgian missionary John Chapman (known as Johnny Appleseed), spiritualism, the molecular structure of sweetness, Lucretius and the origin of apples in the mountains of Kazakhstan. Morrow's language is rich and sensuous, for she thinks like a poet.

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## We Had A Super Lunch at FENG'S 88 !!!!

Attila

Well, if you didn't attend the Second Annual Social on February 13th, then you missed out on a really good time. We had 28 members and guests in attendance, and we dined and chatted for over two hours. Tim and Jean brought along a bee skep cake and cupcakes with enough for everyone. The cake itself was raffled off and won by Joe Svelnis. Fred Rapkin was on hand with his digital camera and caught Tim and Jean putting the final decorating touches on the cake, and a nice close-up of the goodies before they were devoured. He also caught other pictures, and those I have destroyed, although, after two hours, I really did get the hang of using those chopsticks ... even though my dinner got cold.

As a surprise to all, the restaurant even brought out a platter of roast duck, cut into hearty chunks for all to try. It was absolutely delicious! And as promised, the food was plentiful and there were many requests for doggie bags as the dinner plates were taken away. The meal was ended with a light, reddish-colored soup with round dough balls made of rice flour, signifying the closeness of family in the new year. And we are family, are we not? Of course we are, and we're sorry we missed you if you couldn't attend. Perhaps next year, yes? Make it your New Year's resolution!



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### Honey 'could help fight cancer'

From: The Massachusetts Bee, Winter 2005

Honey and royal jelly could become part of the arsenal of weapons against cancer, researchers say. A team from the University of Zagreb, in Croatia, found a range of honeybee products stopped tumors growing or spreading in tests on mice. Writing in the Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture, they say human cancer sufferers may also see benefits. But they said the products should be considered for use along with, not instead of, chemotherapy treatment.

Tumor growth - The researchers looked at the potential benefits of bee venom and honey. There is no doubt that honey has beneficial properties and can be very good for you says Dr Emma Croager, Cancer Research UK. They also examined compounds found in propolis. And they also looked at royal jelly. Tumors were generated in the mice via the injection of cancer cells, and each bee product was given to different mice before, at the same time, or afterwards. It was found that giving honey orally appeared to inhibit the development of tumors when it was given before the injection of cancer cells - although if given afterwards, it appeared to fuel the development of secondary cancers.

*(continued on page 4)*



From:

Irene Gorczyca  
276 Winter Street  
Walpole, MA 02081

TO:

### Swap N' Sell

Here's a column where you can sell, swap, or giveaway just about anything. If you are a paid member, advertising is free for as many issues as you wish. If you are not a member, the cost is \$8.00/ad/issue (so, it pays to become a member for just \$15!)

**FOR SALE:** Honey, 60 lb. pails. Please call Merrimack Valley Apiaries, (978) 667-5380 for prices.

**FOR SALE:** Claire Desilets from BCBA has taken on a dealership for Honey B Healthy. A feeding stimulant made up of spearmint and lemongrass oils; it promotes healthy, vigorous bees, aids in re-queening, and calms bees when used as a spray. 8 oz./\$13.00. Please call, (508) 888-2304, or email <beekeepr@qis.net>

**3 lb bee packages** w/Italian queens .from Wilbank's Apiaries, available for pick-up in Holliston April 7 (date is subject to change), \$ 63.00 each or 10+ \$ 60.00 each. Orders can be combined to get discount. Call Reseska Apiaries, Inc. (508) 429-6872

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(continued from page 3)

Injecting the mice with royal jelly at the same time as they were injected with tumor cells significantly reduced the spread of the cancer. And injecting bee venom into the tumor appeared to lead to it shrinking. When propolis or caffeic acid, a chemical found in propolis, were injected, researchers saw significantly reduced subcutaneous tumor growth and increased the survival time of mice.

The researchers say it is not yet clear how bee products affect cancer cells. But they suggest they may cause apoptosis (cell suicide) or have direct effects which are toxic to the cells, or which help the immune system fight the development of tumors. The research team, led by Dr Nada Orsolich, said their study indicated honey-bee products could be a useful tool in the control of tumor growth in research.

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### Get Your Bee Orders In !!!

Early indications are many hives were lost this winter for a variety of reasons, so there is a great demand for bees this spring. Get your orders in now if you have any hope of deliveries before June!

## 2005-2006 Meeting Schedules:

### MONTHLY MEETINGS:

MON, 07 MAR 2005	MON, 12 SEP 2005
MON, 04 APR 2005	MON, 03 OCT 2005
MON, 02 MAY 2005	MON, 07 NOV 2005
JUN 05, TBD	MON, 05 DEC 2005
JUL 05, TBD	MON, 09 JAN 2006
AUG 05, TBD	MON, 06 FEB 2006

### BEE SCHOOL MEETINGS

Bee School will resume Tuesday, February 15, 2005 at 7 PM. For more information, call Tim Sullivan (781) 326-2834, or Howard Crawford (508) 528-9117.