

the Norfolk Bee

NOVEMBER 2018 • NORFOLKBEEES.ORG

2019 ANNUAL DUES

- The 2019 calendar year dues are \$25.
- Whether rejoining or new, please fill out a membership form, as we are cleaning up our membership list.
- You can find the membership form at the end of this newsletter.
- Please bring the completed form and check to the next meeting OR mail it to: NCBA
P.O. Box 258
West Roxbury, MA
02132-1901

**If you're not sure you're up to date, ask at the sign-up table at the November meeting.*

Please get this done, before the December meeting, which is our Holiday party!

Fun time only!

December is always fun with the spirit of holiday cheer and the **NCBA CLUB'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**. For the fifth year in a row, club members will be selling home-made items from their cottage industries. What a great opportunity to have time to talk with other members, enjoy good food, and purchase some holiday gifts. **December 3rd from 7:30 - 9:00pm.**

Brrr!

Feeding, feeding, feeding! That is the refrain you heard in October. Now it is time to look at how you will provide windbreaks or insulation, and other aspects of winterizing. We have had two great meetings this autumn on that topic, and one more chance to talk Winterizing with a presentation by Ed Szymanski on Oct 31 at the Norfolk Library (more about that on page 2). If you still have questions about what you might do for winterizing after these talks, please reach out to your mentor or ask questions on Facebook or in a Google Group email. There is so much knowledge banked in the brains of our amazing longtime beekeepers, don't hesitate to ask questions.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 17th, 8am-5 pm to attend the MassBee Fall Meeting. See page 9 for a link to their website. The meeting treats us to two top-notch speakers: Dr. Jamie Ellis presents "The Birds and the Bees: Well Just the Bees," and "What is Killing the Bees and What Can We Do About It?" Dr. Samuel Ramsey presents "Varroa Destructor Feed on Hemolymph" and "Two Other Alternative Facts Tropiaelaps Mites: A Fate Worse Than Varroa." There will be honey, cooking, and photo contests, so please enter!

Our own NCBA meeting November 5th brings us something to look forward to after the coming season of cold weather: the warm season of queen rearing next year. Bob Hickey of Wetlands Apiary will be sharing a bit of what he and his great team teaches in an intensive queenrearing course. I learned a great deal about beekeeping in that queenrearing course. I know you will come away from this presentation with a greater appreciation for queenrearing options for your own apiary. At this meeting, we will have the raffle in addition to door prizes. Please donate something cool and bee oriented (the sort of thing you would love to win yourself). I will put out a call for hospitality too on Facebook and Google Group.

I could not succeed in my role as President without the amazing NCBA Board and all the work they do behind the scenes: Janice Loving and Marian Szymanski attend the MassBee Board Meetings as representatives of our club; Alison Dempsey is doing a fantastic job building the NCBA programs through the end of the 2020 season (Join the Programs Committee — we need your input!); our Bee School Team (Dana Wilson, Dave Shaner, and Susan Robinson) is working hard to get the curriculum ready for January; Ed Szymanski is building our intermediate bee learning program; Treasurer MaryBeth Noonan is always busy keeping us on the straight and narrow; door prizes really rock thanks to Kathy Varney's keen shopping skills; we have a beautiful newsletter (thank you Colleen Neutra); the library graces each meeting thanks to the Barczys' efforts; we have a new Club Historian, Tony Lulek; and our Member's-at-Large on the Board — Carin Cohen and Kathy Gasbarro — are a great new addition to the team. Come be a part of the board! Members are always welcome to participate in the board meetings on third Monday night of each month at 7pm at 17 Unity Lane, Sherborn MA. I am still seeking a Recording Secretary — so don't be shy!

See you November 5th.



Kathy Halamka, President, NCBA



News from the Landing Board

Here's info on two timely events that occur **BEFORE** our November 5th club meeting....

NCBA BOARD MEMBERS 2018-2021:

PRESIDENT

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Janice Loving Janice.Loving@bfim.com

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Alison Dempsey
Kathy Gasbarro

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PROGRAMS

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VARROA CONTROL GROUP (VCG)

Eric Studer eric.studer.ma@gmail.com

A special talk with the author of *The Honey Bus*

Noah Wilson-Rich of The Best Bees Company, will co-host a talk with Meredith May. She is a beekeeper in San Francisco, and author of the memoir, *The Honey Bus*. Noah was a reader and scientific advisor for her draft, and appreciates this special tale of Meredith's growing up with her beekeeper grandfather in Big Sur, CA.

Sunday, October 28, 6pm, at Follow the Honey (1132 Mass Ave., Cambridge). This event is free and open to all. See page 10 for more info!

Wintering in Beekeeping, one more chance to learn a few tips

Ed Szymanski will teach an intermediate/advanced one-night only class on Wintering in Beekeeping. This issue can't be emphasized enough! This free class will be held on Halloween Night, Wednesday October 31st, from 7:30-9:00pm at the Norfolk Library, 139 Main St, Norfolk, MA. Skip the Treats and just learn the Tricks on how to keep your bees going over the winter!

SPEAKING OF LANDING BOARDS... Our Librarians and Hospitality Committee members would GREATLY appreciate having use of the parking spots directly in front of the door to the Aggie Administration Building.

The November Meeting Agenda

- ◆ Hannah Whitehead, Honey Bee Extension Educator at the UMass Amherst Center for Food, Agriculture and the Environment will describe her research from graduate school on mite management and drone brood removal and then talk about her role at UMass.
- ◆ Bob Hickey, from Wetlands Apiary will talk about the art of re-queening, queen rearing, and it's importance in an apiary. Carolyn Holmes and Roger Hill round out the Wetlands team during this exciting presentation.

Our Raffle Table

We host a Door Prize at each monthly meeting. Every other month, we host a Raffle Table. (September, November, January...) During the May meeting, we host a Plant Raffle. Please consider saving or getting bee-oriented items to donate to this great fundraiser for our club! This is a fun feature of our meetings and needs your support; please keep it in mind while shopping, crafting, and collecting gear. Contact our Door Prize/Raffle Coordinator with any questions or ideas: Kathy Varney at spencersmumkv@verizon.net