



Vol. 2, Issue 1

www.frederickbees.org

March 2016

CALENDAR

FCBA Field Day
April 30th

EAS 2016 is in New Jersey in July!

Galloway, NJ EAS 2016 NJ.
Short Course July 25-27,
2016

Conference July 27-29,
2016

5th MidAtlantic Organic Honey Bee Convention,
March 5, 21 J.B. Finley Rd
Sandston, VA. \$50/one,
\$90/two, info: maohbc.com

Delaware Beekeepers Association Annual Meeting, March 19, 2016,
St. Jones Reserve. <http://www.delawarebeekeepers.com/debeekeepers@gmail.com>

VA State Beekeepers Assoc. Spring Conference, June 17-18,
Smithfield Center, Smithfield, VA, www.virginiabeekeepers.org

Committee News

Ad Hoc Auditing Committee

No updates.

Bylaws Committee

No updates.

Newsletter Committee

FCBA Newsletter will be published 4 times a year electronically. (March, June, September, December)

Submissions will be asked for prior to publication and all submissions are welcome, as are any suggestions or requests for content.

For June: Would like to do some stories on "Newbees" experiences (challenging or not) installing nucs/packages. Maybe some photos of your set up, how you painted your hive....anything you care to share.

Ad Hoc Nominating Committee

No updates.

Public Outreach Committee

No updates.

Science Committee

No updates.

Next Meeting

Please note the new location...
69 Thomas Johnson Drive!



Our State Apiary

Inspector: Cybil Preston

Please register your hives!
And please consider donating what you can to the **Apiary Inspectors Fund.**

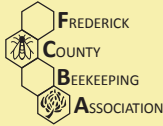
Office of Apiary Inspector
Md. Dept. of Agriculture
50 Harry S Truman
Annapolis, Md. 21401
(410) 562 3434

In this issue. . .

Maryland Pollinator Protection Act Update - Bonnie Raindrop
FCBA Short Course 2016

Member Happenings
Spring Planting for Bees and Native Pollinators

Recipes!
Bee Humor!
Trivia and Such. . .



Maryland Pollinator Protection Act (PPA)

*Submitted by Bonnie Raindrop, Chair, Legislative Committee, Central Maryland Beekeepers Association;
legislate@centralmarylandbees.org; www.centralmarylandbees.org*

The purpose of the Pollinator Protection Act (PPA) is to restrict the flood of 250+ home garden products containing neonics and to require signage or labeling of plants, seedlings and seeds sold by retailers that are pre-treated with neonics.

50+% of plants sold as “bee-friendly” were found to contain enough neonics to kill bees.

As Maryland beekeepers contend with some of the highest colony mortality in the nation, we could get some help from the Maryland General Assembly if they pass Maryland’s Pollinator Protection Act, HB211 and SB 198. Beekeepers MUST ACT to support this bill by contacting their legislators. Use the following link to identify and send a letter of support to your legislator:

<http://tinyurl.com/mdbeesafe>

More than 60 pieces of written testimony supporting the bill were submitted by experts in toxicology, honeybee research, water ecosystems, birds, public health, food security, conventional and organic farming, and other public interest advocates. Beekeeping clubs supporting this bill include: Central Maryland Beekeepers Association (CMBA); Frederick, Anne Arundel, & Carroll Cos., Bowie Upper Marlboro Beekeepers (BUMBA), Baltimore

Backyard Beekeepers Network; and two of Maryland’s commercial pollination services: Charles Smith Apiary and F&D Apiary—in all representing approximately 1,000 Maryland beekeepers.

Opposition to this bill is being led by MD Dept. of Agriculture’s Asst. Sec. of Plant Industries & Pest Mgmt.; Carol Holco, Farm Bureau; trade associations for nursery growers; and a retailers group, all claim the bill is unnecessary and could have a financial impact on their businesses.

Residential landscapes comprise 19% of Maryland’s land use. Before the introduction of 250+ neonic-containing home & garden products began three years ago, these areas were a lush source of nutrition for pollinators. Beekeepers with hives in some of these productive areas are now finding 75–100% losses. In the same 3-year period, Maryland has seen its colony losses increase from 18.6 to 61% in 2014-15 (BiP).

The Smart on Pesticides Coalition consisting of 65+ organizations, are supporting Maryland’s Pollinator Protection Act, which is a huge advantage in helping beekeepers get a pollinator bill passed. Our voices are critically important, and this is our moment to advocate for bees and the importance of pollinators to agriculture and ecosystems.

UPDATE – 3/6/16

This week, an amended SB198 is poised to be voted on by the full Md. Senate. The amended bill lost the labelling of plant materials treated with neonics component, but the bill would still get neonics off store shelves and has strong beekeeper support. Votes seem to be split with Democrats supporting the bill and Republicans voting against. Weakening amendments are being proposed and debated daily, so your representatives need to hear from you by phone and email—even if you have already contacted them.

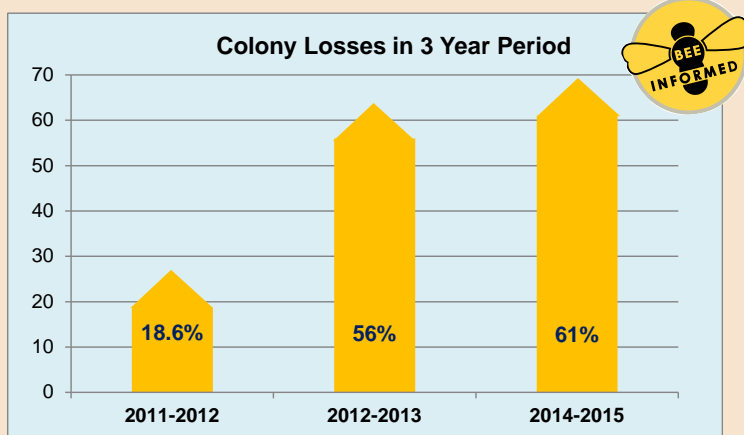
ACTION ALERT:

Send an email thanking your Senator for their support if a Democrat, and an email urging FOR their support if a Republican. Tell both NO weakening amendments!
<http://tinyurl.com/mdbeesafe>

If SB198 passes the Senate, it is expected this version will go to the House of Delegates for a full House vote.

We need to keep the pressure on! Please continue to urge your representatives to SUPPORT SB198 / HB211.

Report your colony losses. Sign up for an invitation to participate, April 1-30, 2016. Go to Bee Informed to sign up



BEEKEEPERS: ADVOCATE FOR BEES!

Use this link to send an email to your representatives and ask them to vote YES on passage of Pollinator Protection Act: <http://tinyurl.com/mdbeesafe>

Use your social media to post message and link: Maryland lost 61% of its bees last year. Help pass the Maryland Pollinator Protection Act. <http://tinyurl.com/mdbeesafe>



2016 FCBA Short Course

Submitted by Glen Mayers, FCBA course organizer

FCBA presented its annual short course this year on the Saturdays of January 9th, 16th and 30th at the USDA building on Thomas Johnson drive. This year marked the largest class to 'graduate' from the short course, giving certificates to 66 new beekeepers.

Presented with some challenges throughout the course, coordinators worked together to have the course come off without a hitch to participants. However, 36 inches of snow during the third week was too much to overcome and class had to be postponed.

As always, a wide array of topics were covered by various members of FCBA. Mike Turell covered Biology of the European Honeybee, as well as other pollinators in our area. Bill McGiffin covered the Langstroth Hive, as well as getting bees into your hive after purchase. And Ed Mordan talked about getting bees into your hive after catching a swarm. Allen Winpigler spoke about choosing an apiary site, whereas Allen Winpigler and Bill McGiffin always do a great job of showing newbees how to assemble hives. Joe O'Connell and Dave Maloney covered the beekeeping year, and Glen Mayers talked on feeding your bees. Dave Maloney gave an excellent talk on pests and diseases of the honeybee. And Steve and Janet Davis always finish up the presentations with their demonstration of products of the hive. That's always a 'fan' favorite.

The course always provides new beekeepers with the tools to help them get started in the spring with their own bees. The entire course wouldn't take place without the help of many who make it possible. Dave Maloney and Liz Thompson, along with Nellie Delgado, are paramount when it comes to putting the course on. Dave registers each and every attendee and follows up to make sure they pay in a reasonable amount of time. Liz does all the shopping for the food and drinks provided during the course. Nellie is Liz's right hand woman and helps throughout the course.

Three other ladies help tremendously behind the scenes checking folks in and making sure we have catalogs from each of the companies, as well as just helping me out with organization. Those three are Deb Turnell, Kit May and Darlene Donaldson.

Each year we have great door prizes and even better raffle drawings, many of which are donated by our local vendors. This year's vendors included, Jim Fraser from Maryland Honey Company, John Klapac from Western Maryland Apiaries and Allen Winpigler and Kim Runyon from Allen's Apiary. Mary Riesch and the Davis' were there selling their wares, as well.

Special thanks go out to new club members Barbara and Dick Schading for securing the USDA facilities we were able to use this year.

Our annual 'Field Day' for new and old beekeepers alike will be held on April 30th, weather permitting, at Allen's out yard. Time and directions to come. Thanks to all who make this year's short course a reality. – Glen Mayers

Thank-you Glen for all your hard work in organizing Class!

2016 FCBA Class of 2016!



Mike Turrell



Dave Maloney



Bill McGiffin



*FCBA Pres.
Joe O'Connell*



Ed Mordan

Member Happenings. . .

Installing Nucs and Packages

Submitted by Dave Maloney

Greg Cary of Assoc. of the Southern MD Beekeepers posts timely stuff on his FB page. At this past FCBA meeting, Glen made mention of this FB page and suggested you subscribe. I think that is a good idea. As Glen mentioned, the SMBA is in Southern MD, and often what Greg reports going on down there will be happening up here a week or so later. Knowing that gives us some heads-up on what to expect.

Greg recently made mention of a couple links that will be of interest to those installing packages or nucs.

Here is a good video from Brushy Mountain regarding installing a nuc:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ET3A0vSDELQ>

And here is one about installing a package. There are many ways to install a package, btw. You might have seen other methods. They pretty much all work, but this method is well presented. Note that he uses an internal frame feeder as opposed to a top feeder that many folks also use.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_31TcM7J-SU

"BEES BY THE BUCKET"

Date: March 12, 2016

Place: Evangelical Church of Korea

Address: 8325 Yellow Springs Rd., Frederick

Time: 9:00 am

Learn how to build an inexpensive swarm trap out of a 5 gallon bucket.

Bees do not like plastic buckets because they retain heat and the smooth surface is difficult for attachment.

We have overcome these problems and also have the swarm start out on the two frames in the bucket.

Now there is an inexpensive way to build enough traps to surround your best buddy's bee yard and capture his/her swarms.

We will start out with a brief lecture on swarms and swarming followed by a demonstration on how to assemble the trap.

At the conclusion, everyone is invited to join us for lunch and further discussion.

Cost is \$30.00 per person and that includes a copy of Larry Connor's book, "Swarm Essentials."

Please RSVP so there will be enough books available.
jsklapac@xecu.net

Lanstroth Horizontal Hive Seminar

On March 19 and 20th, Abe Olsson and John Klapac will be attending a two-day seminar in Missouri on the subject of the Langstroth horizontal hive.

The program will be conducted by the author, Dr. Leo Sharashkin and the intention is to offer the same program here in May.

John will bring back several copies of Dr. Sharashkin's book and samples of his hive for display. John tentatively plans on having a demonstration at his place on Saturday, May 14th.

Member Happenings. . .



Kim and Allen's booth set up at the **Home and Garden Show** in Timonium Maryland. Show continues March 11-13.



On a warm day in January, Lisa Patrican shared this photo of her bees having a lovey buffett of dry sugar, water, and pollen on her lime and lemon bush.

Member Happenings...



Emma, Wyatt, and Gressa New with Mrs. Sensor from the Libertytown Lions club.

◀ Emma, Wyatt and Gressa New did a presentation on being “New” Beekeepers, to the Libertytown Lions Club. They used the public outreach hive and info to talk about beekeeping... thank you to Allen for the honey, candles and soap! They did a phenomenal job.

Emma did a presentation to ▶ FCBA during their February Meeting. Presentation was on the Himalayan Honey Bee..the Rai people from Nepal chase the world’s largest honeybee up 250 ft up in to cliffs without any protection!



New Beekeeper Jeannie Cumbo shared some photos of her Long Langs...

“I started with the traditional langs last year but the lifting was killing my back. Came across the design for these and had a coworker make 3 for me. Loved them so much I had someone else make 3 more. I’m looking forward to continuing this great adventure and learning more!”



Member Happenings: SnowZilla January 2016!

Pictured here are three of Dave Maloney's bee hives that are now well insulated following the January snow storm.



One of Deb Turnell's hives post clean-up--no before pictures because I could not get to the hive to get pictures!

Abe Olssen and his hives post-cleanup



Resources for Honeybee and Other Pollinator-Friendly Flowers and Environments

Time to think of Spring planting! Check out these resources for pollinator-friendly flowers and efforts to save our Honeybees and other native pollinators

The Honeybee Conservancy

The Xerces Society

*Bee-Friendlier by
Cascadian Farms*

Pollinator-Friendly Seed Directory

Beyond Toxics has compiled a comprehensive directory of companies and organizations that sell organic seeds to the general public. Included in this directory are seeds for vegetables, flowers, and herbs.

Visit [Monarch Watch](#) to find pollinator-friendly plants

Below are some good choices of plants to grow in your garden that are especially attractive to bees. Visit [Beyond Toxics](#) to see a comprehensive list of companies and organizations that sell organic seeds. (Source: [BeyondToxics.org](#))

Native Plants

Native plants should be your first choice to help our native bees. Listed below are some plants that are good sources of nectar or pollen for bees. This list is not exhaustive; there are many other plants good for bees. Individual species have not been included. Not all of these genera will have species in your local area, but they do represent plants that will grow in a variety of environments. Use a wildflower guide or contact local nurseries to find your local species.

Aster	Aster	Penstemon	Penstemon
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia	Purple coneflower	Echinacea
Blazing star	Liatris	Rabbitbrush	Chrysothamnus
Caltrop	Kallstroemia	Rhododendron	Rhododendron
Creosote bush	Larrea	Sage	Salvia
Currant	Ribes	Scorpion-weed	Phacelia
Elder	Sambucus	Snowberry	Symphoricarpos
Goldenrod	Solidago	Stonecrop	Sedum
Huckleberry	Vaccinium	Sunflower	Helianthus
Joe-pye weed	Eupatorium	Wild buckwheat	Eriogonum
Lupine	Lupinus	Wild-lilac	Ceanothus
Oregon grape	Mahonia	Willow	Salix

Garden Plants

Flower beds in gardens, business campuses, and parks are great places to have bee-friendly plants. Native plants will create a beautiful garden but some people prefer "garden" plants. Many garden plants are varieties of native plants. This list includes plants from other countries—"exotic" plants—and should be used as a supplement to the native plant list. As with the native plants, this list is far from exhaustive.

Basil	Ocimum	Hyssop	Hyssopus
Borage	Borago	Marjoram	Origanum
Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster	Mexican sunflower	Tithonia
English lavender	Lavandula	Rosemary	Rosmarinus
Globe thistle	Echinops	Wallflower	Erysimum

<http://www.environmentamerica.org/go-bee-friendly>



Annuals

Asters, Calliopsis, Clover, Dandelions, Marigolds, Poppies, Sunflowers, Zinnias

Perennials

Buttercups, Clematis, Cosmos, Crocuses, Dahlias, Echinacea, English Ivy, Foxglove, Geraniums, Germander, Globe Thistle, Hollyhocks, Hyacinth, Rock Cress, Roses, Sedum, Snowdrops, Squills, Tansy, Yellow Hyssop

Fruits and vegetables

Blackberries, Cantaloupe, Cucumbers, Gourds, Peppers, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Strawberries, Watermelons, Wild Garlic

Herbs

Bee Balm, Borage, Catnip, Coriander/Cilantro, Fennel, Lavender, Mints, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme

Shrubs

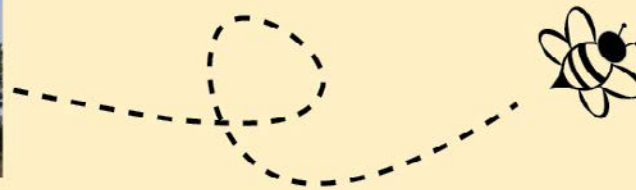
Blueberry, Butterfly Bush, Button Bush, Honeysuckle, Indigo, Privet

Trees

Alder, American Holly, Basswood, Black Gum, Black Locust, Buckeyes, Catalpa, Eastern Redbud

Fruit Trees

Crabapples, Golden Rain Tree, Hawthorns, Hazels, Linden, Magnolia, Maples, Mountain Ash, Sycamore, Tulip Poplar, Willows



*** SAVE THE DATE ***

ANNUAL MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 30, 9 am - 2 pm, Frederick News Post Building

Choose from thousands of plants: vegetables (heirlooms and hybrids), herbs, flowering annuals, hanging baskets, perennials, small fruits, and hard-to-find natives.

Master Gardeners will answer your questions and offer advice on selecting the right plants for you.

We'll also have free children's crafts and activities, displays and handouts on gardening ideas and tips, and a Garden Flea Market featuring hypertufa pots hand-made by Master Gardeners!

Recipes Using Honey or Bee's Wax

Recipe for Feeding Bees (Motherearthnews.com)

- 2 quarts (8 cups) of white sugar (do not use brown sugar or other substitute)
- 3 cups of almost boiling water
- 1 cup of chamomile tea (can use chamomile flowers or tea bags)
- 2 tablespoons of your own honey
- ½ teaspoon of fresh squeezed lemon juice
- a healthy pinch of sea salt
- 3-4 drops of lemongrass essential oil
- 1 teaspoon vegetable glycerine
- Mix sugar and water until all sugar is dissolved.
- Mix in the chamomile tea, honey, lemon juice and sea salt until well combined.
- Mix the lemongrass oil into the glycerine, then add to the syrup.
- Cover and let cool to room temperature before feeding your bees.



Tumeric Golden Milk

Turmeric has been used as a spice in Indian recipes and as Ayurvedic medicine for many thousands of years. Turmeric offers many health benefits since it has both anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant properties. <http://www.turmericforhealth.com/turmeric-recipes/benefits-of-turmeric-milk>



This is a delicious recipe and if you like, you can make and keep turmeric paste mixture for a month in the fridge.

So, to make the turmeric paste, take good quality (organic) turmeric powder – ¼ cup and add ½ cup of pure water. Combine both and keep over a medium flame for a minimum of 7 minutes until a thick paste forms.

If the mixture gets too dry, add a little more water. Take this mixture off the fire and allow it to cool before putting in a glass container and storing in the fridge.

To make the organic golden turmeric milk, take a teaspoon of the turmeric paste and combine with a cup of organic milk. The milk can be soy, goat, cow, coconut, almond or any other milk of choice. Let this mixture boil well.

Take off the stove and add some honey or maple syrup to taste. To this add ½ teaspoon of organic sesame or almond oil or ghee (clarified butter). Turmeric milk is ready to enjoy.



Ingredients

For the filling:

- ¾ cup ricotta cheese
- ¼ cup cream cheese, softened
- zest of 1 orange

For the syrup:

- ¾ cup - honey
- juice of ½ orange
- ½ teaspoon - cinnamon

For the French toast:

- ½ cup sliced almond
- 3 eggs
- ¾ cup milk
- splash vanilla
- pinch salt
- 8 thick slices of challah or brioche bread
- 3 tablespoons butter

Preheat the oven to 350°. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the whisk attachment, whip the ricotta and cream cheese until smooth. Stir in orange zest. In another small bowl, whisk the honey, orange juice and cinnamon. Add three tablespoons of that mixture to the ricotta and stir. Reserve the rest for the topping. In a shallow wide bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, vanilla and salt. Spread the almonds out on a plate. Heat a skillet over medium heat. Melt half the butter in the skillet. Dip half the bread slices in the egg mixture, letting it soak in for about five seconds on each side. Place both sides of the bread in the almonds, pressing them into the side. Put the bread in the melted butter and grill until browned, about 2-3 minutes on each side. Put the finished bread on an ungreased baking sheet. Melt the rest of the butter in the skillet and repeat with remaining bread slices. Bake the grilled bread in the oven for 8-10 minutes or until cooked through. If desired, heat the honey mixture on the stove top or in the microwave. Serve the french toast slices with a dollop of ricotta and the honey.



Bee Humor !

Importance of Recognizing First Time Attendees

Submitted by Rick Stephens

Washington County Beekeepers Association

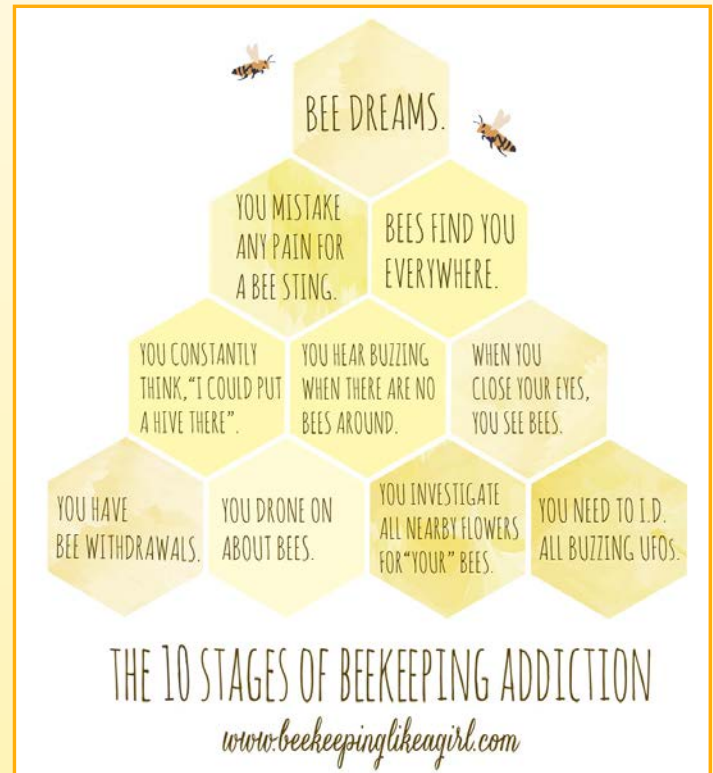
At the start of our meeting [March 2, 2016], I welcomed all who came and asked the people who had come for the first time, to introduce themselves. I pointed to a young lady in the front row. She said her name and that she lived nearby. I asked her if she already had Bees. She responded "What?" I said again "Bees." She said "what are Bees?" I thought she was pulling my leg but decided to bite and said "Uhm, this is the Washington County Beekeepers Meeting."

She said... "I thought this was to register for Soccer." It was a nice laugh.

But, it does point out that not everyone there, is where they think they are.

Submitted by Abe Olsson

Frederick County Beekeepers Association



Submitted by Abe Olsson

Frederick County Beekeepers Association




<http://www.klausesbees.com/beeHumor.html>

Trivia and Such . . .

Interesting facts about March. . .
<http://www.ten-facts.com>

- In Old English one name for the month of March was “Hlyda” meaning “loud” possibly because of the roaring March winds.
- The expression “mad as a March hare” dates back to 1529. It refers to the wild behaviour of male hares during the mating season in March.



wunc.org

Tomorrow belongs to those who can hear it coming.

~ David Bowie

Sierra Club Daily Ray of Hope
www.sierraclub.org



THE HUMBLE HONEYBEE
Inside the Hive

Caste Members

- Queen**: 1 per hive. Lays all the eggs in the hive. She is the only female that can lay eggs.
- Workers**: 20,000 - 80,000 per hive. They do all the work of the hive. They are the most numerous caste.
- Drones**: 300 - 5,000 per hive. They are the only male bees in the hive. They are the only bees that do not work.

Meet the Brood

Bee Communication

Approximately 30% of the food humans consume is produced from bee-pollinated plant life.

For humanity to thrive, honeybees must be allowed to thrive.

Sponsor-A-Hive. Visit www.TheHoneybeeConservancy.org

Cool Infographic:
‘The Humble Honeybee’,
Infographic by
Hayden Loos
(Click image)

OFFICERS

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Deb Turnell (dturnell08@comcast.net)