# Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.

ECBS PO Box 688 Roseland, NJ 07068

Edition: December 2016

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 13 7:00 – 9:00 pm Garibaldi Hall, Essex County Environmental Center, 621B Eagle Rock Avenue, Roseland, NJ

Topic: Mead Making by Ban Ang and Jim Culley; Holiday Get-Together

### Officers

President and Newsletter Editor: Joe Treimel, Sailbeejoe@aol.com 862-221-9783

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As I was shopping in a local Fruit and Vegetable Store recently, I noticed a rather large display of honey and I pulled a number of jars from the shelf, not only to look at the prices, but at the labels. One group of shelves were boldly labeled "LOCAL HONEY." The honey was all from Virginia!!! It was priced at \$6.00 per pound.

Meanwhile, on another shelf there was a collection of Jersey Fresh labeled honey – at \$11 per pound - and the variety of honey was listed as Dutch Clover. Huh? That's news to me. The same company also had dozens of jars with "Organic" labels on them. I'd like to know where one finds organic honey anywhere in this country.

A recent news article which I read mentioned that the Food and Drug Administration checks little if any claims on honey, although it defines honey as "honey from which the pollen has not been removed." More than 70% of the samples taken and tested for this article had no pollen in them, pointing to the fact that is was likely imported and from China. Many of the packers contacted by the article's author would either not comment on the origin of their honey or say that they ultra-filtered it because the supermarkets want it ultra-filtered honey to prevent crystallization. Well, keep this information in your head the next time you are talking up your Local, Unfiltered, Unheated, Unadulterated Honey to its buyers.

Our upcoming meeting should be fun, with Ban and Jim telling us about making mead, and a large spread of refreshments, as this will be a Holiday Party/Meeting.

NJBA Calendars are now available at \$10 each.

NJBA dues for 2017 may be sent in to Patti Campbell, and the form and mailing information is found on the NJBA web page. Please don't just hand Patti or me \$25 at a meeting and say it is your dues. Please provide a membership form with it.

I am looking into ECBS polo shirts and information follows on the next page.

Best wishes to all.

Joe Treimel, President

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## **December Beekeeping**

The holidays are a perfect time to give your family and friends jars of honey and other bee-related products as gifts.

Relax and enjoy yourself. Everything is completed for the year and it's time to take it easy.

## **ECBS Polo Shirt**

A proposal was made at a recent meeting that the ECBS have its own shirt, which we might show off who we are at meetings and in public.

I spoke to a local shop which does embroidery on clothing and I got a price of \$26/each for a 3-Button, collared Polo shirt with embroidery included. The materiel would be 60%Cotton, 40%Polyester. There would be a \$2 extra charge for XXL size. I saw the shirt and it is of good quality.

The shirts would come in either women's or men's style. Colors are wide ranging, but to work with the artwork and get the proper contrast, I think that the colors Apple, Cornflower or Yellow would work best. Also, I discussed with the owner about changing one of the thread colors (gray) to get a more realistic color for the head & thorax. It is possible to do so.

The picture below is that from the artwork book which I happened to like. There are others with a single bee, but this one seemed the most pleasing to me. Above the artwork would be our club name.

I would like to hear from club members who would be interested in a shirt. I plan to have one made for myself and will have it available soon.

