

# Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.



Edition: March 2009  
Next Meeting: Tuesday, Mar. 10  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Place: Essex County  
Environmental Center, 621-B  
Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland  
Subject: Making Nucs and Splits  
Speaker: George Sr. & George Jr.  
Schaeffer of Jeans Honey Farm,  
Flemington

## Officers

President: Joseph Lelinho  
973-226-4806  
[Klutch.Cargo@verizon.net](mailto:Klutch.Cargo@verizon.net)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: PJ Martin  
973-467-3292  
[cappymo@live.com](mailto:cappymo@live.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Al Weber  
973-744-5482  
[Alweber5@verizon.net](mailto:Alweber5@verizon.net)

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President: Pier Guidi  
[purchases3@comcast.net](mailto:purchases3@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Joe Lelinho

Corresponding Secretary:  
Joe Treimel  
973-633-9870  
[Sailbeejoe@aol.com](mailto:Sailbeejoe@aol.com)

Recording Secretary:  
Margaret Mainardi  
[Mmainardi@shp.org](mailto:Mmainardi@shp.org)

Newsletter Editor: Joe Treimel

The month of February has been a good month here at ECBS. First of all the NJBA had their Annual Honey Show in Cherry Hill. I'm pleased to report that we did well. Landi Simone, as usual had first place finishes in a number of categories and Joe Lelinho had a first in Dark Honey. But the pleasant surprise was Pier Guidi with a third place finish in Photography. If the name of Pier Guidi isn't that familiar, it's because he's a first year beekeeper. He is also our Web-Master and nominated to be our 3rd VP. Pretty good for a "rookie." Great going Pier; we're proud of you!

Our next good news was from the County of Essex. After discussions with the County, we have come up with a new program. This program - a copy of which is on the last page - is geared to this year's Short Course graduates, and it's a Training Field for these new beekeepers. This program is an opportunity for those graduates to further their education by moving their first honeybee colony to a managed Training Field which is being provided by the County of Essex.

The Training Field is located at Kip's Castle, Upper Montclair. This is a replica of an old stone castle situated high on a cliff facing east with nothing but sky for the bees flight-line. Oh yes, it's also on 20+ acres of greenery over looking the town of Montclair and beyond. We're planning this to be the first of many apiary's that The County will make available to us and who knows maybe we can get some land for us "seasoned" beekeepers to expand our operation, keep in touch.

Finally, on February 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> we had our second annual Short Course at Garibaldi Hall at ECEC. Landi Simone coordinated and created this year's course, just as she did with last year. We're very fortunate to have Landi; she did an excellent job setting up curriculum, material, venue, refreshments and speakers. We had approximately 20 students who are now new ECBS members. Our Thanks go to those who assisted Landi and either taught or managed the refreshments. Those ECBS members are Joe Treimel, Pat Gamsby, myself and of course Tim Schuler, the NJ State Apiarist. A Big WELL DONE and Thank You, go out to Landi and her crew for the terrific job they did this year.

# Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.

At our meeting this month we will be welcoming back our old friends George Sr. & George Jr. Schaeffer of Jeans Honey Farm, Flemington, NJ. The Schaeffers are well known for their honey and quality Nuc's. They will be discussing the Making of Nuc's and & Splits. Be sure to bring a pen and paper as this is a great opportunity to get some tips from the experts on how you can increase the size of your business from your own bees. Besides creating your own Nuc's, you'll be saving money and saving your bees from swarming.

So please set aside the time and come out and support ECBS with your attendance.

Joe Lelinho

## Club News

Pier Guidi has set up a web site which is now active and accessible. The address is: <http://ecbs.njbeekeepers.org>. Pier encourages all members to submit items of interest in beekeeping for the Web-site to him directly. His E-mail address is on Page 1.

### Upcoming events:

April 7<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting, Subject: Swarms: Catching and trapping. Coordinator: Liz Nelson  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> : Essex County Environmental Center Earth Day

Also coming in April: Field Day for Short Course graduates. Date TBD

May Meeting: Honey Plants; Coordinator: Pat Kotlar-Paslowsky

**A number of ECBS member names for 2008 were discovered on a list provided to us from the NJBA. Our apologies to those we have missed in sending newsletters, as your name was not on our local list.**

Pay your dues (\$20) for 2009 if you have not done so. Those who do not pay this month will not receive any further NJBA Newsletters until they do. Send dues to Joe Lelinho, 15 Hill St. North Caldwell, NJ 07006.

## UKRAINIAN BEESWAX EGGS

Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

For those of you who missed this incredible program last year, our own Dr. Pat Kotlar-Paslowsky will again be teaching how to make beautiful Ukrainian Easter eggs at the Environmental Center using beeswax. Now that Lent is officially here, the season for making these lovely things has arrived. It's easier than you might think and Pat makes it seem even easier.

Discover the world of beeswax art and learn how to make Ukrainian Eggs. Using wax, dye, and a special tool called a "kistka," you will create a unique springtime decoration of your own to take home. Workshop fee includes all materials. Space is limited! Contact Environmental Center ASAP at: 973-228-8776

Fee: \$17 per person; **Free for Essex County Beekeepers Society members.**

## Apiary Advice

Keep checking and feeding your hives as needed. As the bees are now actively raising brood, their stores of honey and pollen will be used rapidly. Word of advice: take the stone / brick from the top of the hive before lifting it, and remember that the bees & wood have some weight. When in doubt: feed them.

On a warm day get the bottom boards cleaned off and pull the mouse guards, if you so desire. Some folks leave them on year-round, when made of 1/2" hardware cloth.

If you have plans for adding equipment to you inventory, order it now. Prepare equipment outside on warm days or in basement/workshop. Speaking for myself, one of the biggest headaches in this hobby is to find you need equipment immediately, but it remains unassembled and / or unpainted.

# Essex County Beekeepers Society, Inc.

## Guidelines for Participants in Apiary Training Yard (DRAFT)

We are pleased to announce a joint effort between Essex County Parks, Daniel K. Salvante, Director and Essex County Beekeepers Society. This effort allows ECBS the opportunity to offer to its Short Course Graduates the ability to complete their study of honeybees in a Managed Apiary Site along with fellow graduates and experienced beekeepers to guide them. The apiaries will be situated on county property or green areas that are made available through Essex County Parks.

The apiary site's primary purpose will be as a Training Yard, for lack of a better name, to be set aside for instructing New B's in the actual hands on of all aspects of keeping honeybees. This field instruction will in no way supplant the Short Course, to the contrary, in order to be considered for the Training Field you will have had to successfully complete the Short Course and, additionally, acquired equipment and bees. This opportunity will begin once your bees are purchased, usually in April or May, and run through September of that year. This will only be available for one "Beekeeping Year" and, more specifically, your first year. After the "Beekeeping Year" is complete you will need to move your bees to your own site to winter over so as to make room for next year's new class of graduates.

During the year, we will hold scheduled and supervised classes in the apiary to instruct on topics which are pertinent to the beekeepers' year. We will show how to correctly install a package or a nuc, how to feed your new bees, how to make correct hive manipulations as the bees build out the hive, how to add new levels as the hives grow upward, swarm warnings and their control, honey extraction, disease and pest controls and, finally, how to prepare a hive to be moved and how to move that hive to your own Apiary.

Of course, when we have the general public in close proximity to our honeybee colonies safety is our paramount concern. Therefore, guidelines for the use of the Training Field must be adhered to by all resident beekeepers. Some of the guidelines are as follows:

Park hours and rules must be adhered to.

Under no circumstances can a beekeeper "work" his/her bees without the supervision of approved instructors.

During scheduled instructional work days, you can only work your own colony and may not work another's, even if the owner approves of it.

Use of any chemical or pesticide is prohibited, except those that are approved and used in accordance with instruction from an approved instructor.

For the safety of the other resident colonies, any hive at any time can be inspected by an approved instructor (s) or State Bee Inspector.

At a date so designated, all colonies must be moved to the resident beekeeper's permanent site.

Hives that are deemed diseased with American Foul Brood, European Foul Brood or in any way unmanaged may be required to be removed for the safety and health of other resident colonies.

**\*\* Any of the following is considered Working the Hive:** Lifting the telescopic top, installing feed or moving your colony in any way will constitute "working" your bees and is prohibited without supervision.

