



# WEST VIRGINIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

## Mountain State Beekeepers Working Together

### Fall 2011 Newsletter

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### Editor's message

I hope this edition of the WVBA Fall Newsletter finds your bees strong and overflowing with honey! I want to thank those that sent information and articles for the newsletter. I would encourage all local association to send an update as to what your group has done or is about to do. It is always interesting to see what everyone is doing.

We hope to see you at the Fall Meeting at Jackson's Mill. We have an excellent line up of speakers and breakout sessions.

Bee happy, bee well and bee at the fall meeting!

Joyce Frey, Editor

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### ASSOCIATION NEWS:

#### **Southeastern Beekeepers Association - Kelly Sparks, President**

We have no meeting in August and our September meeting is scheduled to be held at the Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg located at 200 Church Street. We are relocating because our membership is growing; we now have over 100 members. Thanks to Pat Izzo for arranging this meeting space and thanks to the members of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church for allowing us the use of your facility.

By acclamation SEBA acted to make Dr. Gerald Erskine a lifetime member of WVBA and our organization. This action was taken because of the

generosity, direction and support Dr. Erskine has given SEBA over the years.

Sam Golston, chair of our audit committee reported to the membership at our July meeting that our books are in good order and that Mary Holesapple, Secretary-Treasurer, has been performing her duties to the highest standard. During this year the Board approved and Mary has implemented a voucher system that makes it easier to keep track of our expenditures. Mary is a charter member of SEBA and has been Secretary-Treasurer of all but four years since its inception. Mary is always available to assist new beekeepers with hands on instructions or to assist elderly beekeepers who can no longer maintain their bee yards. She does not wait for a call for help; she seems to sense the need and willingly volunteers.

Her helping includes education and at every meeting she distributes copies of helpful hints, informative articles and any such other material that may be helpful to the association's members. She also looks for volume buys of products that we all need and often measures and weighs these into smaller containers so our members can save on purchase. Being 70ish, Mary can no longer lift a super, so she must take the hive apart frame by frame, but age and health problems do not seem to slow her down.

SEBA thanks State Apiarist Paul Poling for his excellent presentation at our July meeting; because of Paul we have a better understanding of diseases of the hive and of how to keep our bees healthy.

Ed Saugstad a noted entomologist from Monroe County will present "Bees-An Entomological Perspective" at our September 8<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Troy Holbrook, WVBA President will lead a roundtable discussion entitled "Weathering The Winter Months Ahead", at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Election of officers and our annual picnic will take place at this time as well, all are invited to attend.

SEBA thanks U.S. Senator Rockefeller and U.S. Representative Rahall for their lengthy, knowledgeable and timely response to our communications to them on pesticides that are harmful to our bees. Their letters and emails let us know that they understand the plight of colony collapse disorder (CCD) that is killing our bees, and its possible connection to pesticides. If you have the opportunity, thank Jay and Nick for staying on top of this issue.

We are experiencing a major dearth in the Greenbrier valley and surrounding areas and many beekeepers including myself are feeding our bees to build them up for winter. We hope other parts of the state are doing better. Kelly Sparks, President

**Marion County** celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Otis Shaver was the original founder and offers the following story: As a child raised on a farm, my parents taught me the appreciation of the honeybee – and the honey we found in gum trees. In 1966, being married and having 4 children, I

again became interested in the honeybee. The county library had very few books so I called Dayton Michael the Marion County extension agent and he gave me what little information he had. After reading more I became obsessed with the honeybee. The following fall my children gave me the book my father had favored – ABC's and XYZ's of Beekeeping.

I again called my friend Dayton Michael and we sent out a newspaper invitation for the local beekeepers to come to the Library in Fairmont for a meeting. We had 13 attend - 6 months later we formed the Marion County Beekeepers Association. I was elected president & served for many years, till job demands were heavy. Starting out we had very little funding, so I used a slide projector and a tape recorder with slide programs loaned from Dadant & Sons bee equipment supplier. I made a speaker from a 5-gallon bucket & about 20 feet of wire. My two sons Mark & Bryan would help with the presentations.

That was 40 years ago. Many things have changed – from beekeeping methods to the electronic technology used in the presentations. Beekeeping is not as simple as it was then but the beekeeping community is still a great group of people bonding for the common cause of preserving the blessed honeybee.

### **TriState Beekeepers Association**

(tristatebeekeepers.com) has continued to strive to promote honeybees and beekeeping. We had a very successful spring novice program presented by John Grafton, the president of the neighboring Ohio Beekeepers Association. 23 individuals attended and a large number of them have gone on to obtain colonies and align themselves with our club.

As partners with Oglebay Park here in Wheeling, our club has donated two hives which were placed on the Robert Trent Golf Course in the park. Course managers are developing the site as an Audubon area to encourage conservation of the environment and felt the presence of honeybees would add to their project and stimulate more awareness of the honeybee and its importance in nature. This represents just one more step in our drive to promote and protect the bee.

At our regular June meeting we held an open hive demonstration at Beeholding Acres, the home of Kathie and Steve Roth. 15 members attended and much was learned from Steve's numerous mistakes. We will finish the summer with our annual club picnic in August to include bottled honey and capped frame judging. As our numbers of beekeepers with growing experience increase, we hope to use the fall monthly meetings to explore more advanced aspects of beekeeping.

**Barbour County Beekeepers Association** braved this summer's heat and had a great field day hosted by Rose and Joyce Frey including a picnic and a quick look into a hive for a powdered sugar mite check. Heat quickly forced most back to the shade. A smoker contest was fun for all with several of the novice beekeepers smokers going for over an hour. The winner was Lester Lind after Janet Clayton was disqualified for having a BIG smoker. Rose Frey gave a solar wax melting demonstration. Many of our members are new beekeepers and have had a pretty good year for learning as nectar flows have been better than the last few years. Few area hives are experiencing mite problems but all in all most look healthy and producing nice honey crops. Members provided honeybee education programs at a local church camp (two different camps) and are gearing up for the Barbour County Fair including kids day and senior day. The group has installed a bee and butterfly garden at the Adaland Mansion and has been asked to provide several demonstration booths for National Honeybee Day.

### **North Central West Virginia Beekeepers Association**

We have had some really informative meetings so far this year beginning with seven of our members demonstrating how to build different parts of a hive at our January meeting. In February, we had State Apiarist, Paul Poling give a talk on What Killed Your Bees in the Winter Months. On March 5, we had an all day Beekeeping for Beginners Class with about 12 participants. In April we had Master Beekeeper, Dave Reckenwald, speak to our club about Russian Queens and the Dark Side of Beekeeping. On April 23, we met at Rick Fragman's apiary to learn how to keep your bees from swarming the easy way using the Snelgrove Board,

instructed by Steve Hamrick. Dr. Don Trisel and Caitlyn Jones from Fairmont State University gave us an interesting presentation of Hive Scale Data, Pollen Traps and Flower Surveys on May 16. June 27th was a big day for the club as we had our 30 year anniversary celebration with close to 60 people attending, including several past presidents, Ruby Wyatt, Don Wikert, Roy Kerns and Kevin Griffith. We finished off the evening with Bill Kapphan bringing his Ice Cream Factory Creation to everyone's enjoyment.  
President, Steve Hamrick

**The 2010 Association of the Year Awards** were presented at the Spring Meeting with Marion County receiving first place in the Kees-Mead award for large associations and for the John Campbell award for small associations Barbour County earned first place and Kanawha Valley second place.

### **WVBA T-Shirt**

WVBA T-Shirts have been ordered with expected delivery at the fall meeting.

### **WVDA Apiary Highlights for 2011**

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Apiary staff began the 2011 season with an abundant number of apiary inspection requests. As the season has progressed most of the requests have been completed and reports of low mite levels and fewer virus issues have been reported this season. Only one case of American Foulbrood has been reported, but European Foulbrood has increased with four cases reported. These colonies have been quarantined for one year and were treated with prescribed antibiotics. The colonies appear to be free from infection at this time.

The apiary programs portable autoclave has been undergoing some repairs thanks to a grant from Marketing & Development. A new water pump, plumbing and gauges need to be in place before operations can begin. Repairs to the housing and trailer will be made. Plans are to have it operating in October before the winter season begins.

Apiary staff has also been busy this season cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service. Staff is collecting 3 individual samples from 200 colonies of honey bees in 25 apiaries, along with a visual inspection of the colonies in the apiary. A 1/4<sup>th</sup> cup of live bees are collected and placed into a live bee box from 8 colonies in each apiary. A 1/4<sup>th</sup> cup of live bees are also placed into a container of alcohol. 1 deep frame of uncapped brood from each of the 8 colonies is then bumped to dislodge parasites into a deep pan. The pan is then rinsed and the debris is collected in a strainer cloth which is placed in an alcohol bottle. These samples are mailed to the USDA Honey Bee Research Bee Laboratory in Beltsville MD for analysis. They will be analyzed for viruses, parasitic mites and Nosema disease. The voluntary apiary owners will be notified confidentially of their results, but anyone can go to the internet and view reports as they are posted. To view the USDA-APHIS web site go to: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/honey\\_bees/survey.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/honey_bees/survey.shtml)

Beekeepers will have 2 new pesticides for Varroa mite control this season. Nod Apiaries has a new product called MiteAway II Quick Strips (MAQS). For more information visit their web site at:

<http://www.miteaway.com/>

BetaTec has its first product for controlling Varroa called HopGuard. WVDA Apiary staff, along with Regulatory & Environmental Affairs Division (READ), Pesticide Regulatory Program staff moved quickly to acquire a section 18 exemption permit to allow WV beekeepers to purchase this product. For more information visit their web site at:

<http://www.betatechopproducts.com/products/varroa-mite-control>

HopGuard and MAQS can be used while honey supers are in place and the colony is making honey. Be sure to read and follow the labels when using any pesticide. If your beekeeping organization decides to purchase for its group, to distribute, any pesticide they should contact WVDA-READ at 304-558-2209, as there are certain labeling laws that must be followed when doing this.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WVBA 2012 SPRING MEETING**– April 13, 2012 at the Harrison County Recreation Complex/4-H Center

**EASTERN APICULTURE SOCIETY (EAS) MEETING** – 2012 EAS Conference to be held at University of Vermont and hosted by Vermont Beekeepers. The theme will be “*Bees and Beyond*”.  
**August 13-17, 2012 Burlington, Vt**  
[www.easternapiculture.org](http://www.easternapiculture.org)

**31<sup>st</sup> WV HONEY FESTIVAL** –  
August 27-28, 2011  
City Park, Parkersburg, WV

**WVBA FALL MEETING** – Jennifer Berry invited speaker. September 23-24, 2011, Jackson’s Mill

### **WVBA 2011 BOARD MEETINGS**

November 5, 2011  
Western Steer, Weston

## **2011 FALL MEETING HONEY AND BAKE SHOW**

**There will be a \$25 AWARD for the Best of Show in baking this year at the fall meeting. This is to encourage more participation in the bake show. You must enter in at least 2 different baking categories.**

The Honey and Bake Show rules are posted on the WVBA website [WVbeekeepers.org](http://WVbeekeepers.org). All entries must be submitted by a current dues paying member of the WV Beekeepers Association. Only one entry in each class may be made per membership. Show participants must register and attend at least one day of the Fall Meeting.

Entries should not be labeled in any fashion. The exhibitor must choose which classes to place entries in. Judges may adjust classes at their discretion. Entries can only be made during the hours published. Entries must be left intact and on display until released by the show chairman. Honey and

beeswax should be from current production season. A winning bakery recipe cannot be resubmitted for three year

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Membership through a local association is \$6 per year or \$60 for lifetime. If you do not wish to join a local association, membership for At Large members is \$7 per year or \$70 for lifetime.

Local Association treasurer's and At Large members please send your dues along with the members name, address, phone number and e-mail address to:

Susan Perkins  
747 Opekiska Ridge Rd.  
Fairmont, WV 26554

### **WV BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR (2012)**

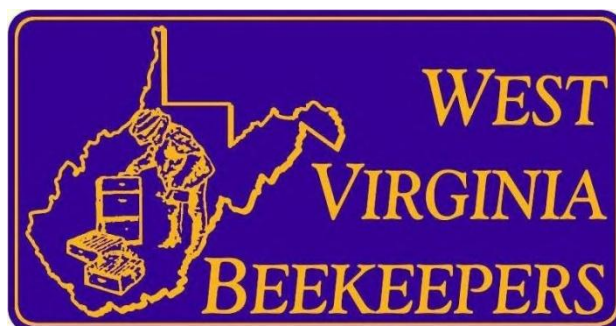
This honor will be voted at the Fall General meeting on Saturday, September 24th. Nominations must be in writing and received by the Secretary, Nancy Postlethwait, by Friday, 9/16/10 (See address information on Newsletter top front page). Each local association is encouraged to present a candidate.

- **Requirements state that the candidate must:** Own and / or currently manage or maintain honeybee colonies.
- Have an adequate working knowledge of honeybee diseases and their diagnoses and control.
- Have an adequate working knowledge of honeybee management with respect to swarm control, honey production, division, queen rearing, etc.
- Be a member and play an active role in State and local beekeeping association functions.
- Be active in local beekeeping education and honey promotion.

The nominee's spouse is encouraged to be included.

### **WEST VIRGINIA BEEKEEPERS 2012 SPRING MEETING**

The North Central West Virginia Beekeepers Association is hosting the 2012 West Virginia State Beekeepers Association Spring Meeting. The full day meeting will be on April 14 at the Harrison County Recreation Complex/4-H Center about 2 miles south of Clarksburg on US Route 19 South. The West Virginia Queen Producers Cooperative, under the guidance of Dan O'Hanlon will have Randy Oliver, from California, as one guest speaker. Two other guest speakers will be Deborah A. Delaney, Ph.D. Assistant Professor from the University of Delaware in the Entomology and Wildlife Ecology Department and Grant F.C. Gillard, from Missouri, the author of "A Ton of Honey, Managing your Hives for Maximum Production", speaker pending.



**License plates are still available for \$5 from your local association and the WVBA Treasurer.**

### **GENERAL MEETING OF THE WVBA MEMBERSHIP:**

The general membership meeting will occur at the Fall Meeting at 9:30 AM on Saturday. Make plans to attend as the membership elects the Beekeeper of the Year, association officers and votes on any business that needs brought before the membership. A change in the constitution requires a membership vote and the following recommendation from the executive board will be brought to the general membership at the fall meeting.

**Voting Rights at Board Meetings** – A need to clarify who has voting rights at the Board meetings brought about a motion to present an amendment

before the general meeting since it would require a change to Article IV Section 1 of the Constitution to include Webmaster, Photographer, HAS and MAAREC representative. The Article now reads “Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, at-large members, one member selected by each of the associated organizations, the immediate past president of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association, the State Apiarist, the EAS Director and the Director of the West Virginia Master Beekeeper Program.”

To be amended to :

**“Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, at-large members, one member selected by each of the associated organizations, the immediate past president of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association, the State Apiarist, the EAS Director, and the Director of the West Virginia Master Beekeeper Program, Webmaster, Photographer, HAS and MAAREC representatives.”**

**Master Beekeeper Testing** will be offered Friday morning, September 23, at 9AM prior to the fall meeting. The Master Beekeeper Program offers three levels of certification, Apprentice, Certified and Master. Check out the state website for information or contact Janet at info below. If you are interested in testing during the fall meeting contact Janet Clayton by September 19 at [honeylady60@yahoo.com](mailto:honeylady60@yahoo.com) or 304-457-5332 or drop a postcard to Rt 2 Box 595, Philippi, WV 2641

<b>International Queen marking Color Code:</b>	
<b>Color:</b>	<b>For Year Ending In:</b>
White(or gray)	1 or 6
Yellow	2 or 7
Red	3 or 8
Green	4 or 9
Blue	5 or 0

## **The Honey or The Sting**

To be remembered - By Otis Shaver

I was born in a small 4-room cottage - no running water – only outside plumbing on my Grandfather’s 95-acre farm in December following the depression in Oct 1929. My mother was a Christian housewife & my father farmed & worked public works. It was here in the barnyard I first learned about the honeybee in the summer of 1938, barefoot, school being out till fall, I was going through the barn yard to feed the chickens, the pretty small white flowers, with pink tips (Dutch Clover) everywhere - I made a mistake stepping on a few honey bees on the way, WOW such pain from a small insect, I had a reaction and my foot swelled so badly I hardly could walk for a few days.

I vowed to be more careful & kill as many as possible in the future. My Grandfather had given me an old leather pocketbook, which I used as a killer of bees. While they were gathering nectar I would open the purse, cover the bee & squeeze it to death leaving the stingers inside, emptying the smashed bee on the ground. There were two pockets almost full of stingers. When my Mom found my purse and all the stingers, I was given a Bible lesson (the golden rule) on my backside. They are God’s creatures and have a purpose.

The next year walking to my Grandmother’s home I heard several bees buzzing overhead, I was afraid but curiosity prevailed. I looked up and saw several large honeybees that seemed to be fighting (I know now they were drones & a queen mating) I could hear a popping sound and the large bees dropping to the ground dying. WOW what a sight to behold, now I was perplexed! This was the beginning of my entry into the fascinating world of beekeeping.

## FALL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

**Lodging at Jackson's Mill** is available in **Cottage** (older cabin style buildings) at \$47/per night

- Private rooms with private bath accommodates 1 or 2 persons at a single cost (2 - twin beds)
- Suitable for handicapped or persons with mobility problems (ground floor entry)

Or **Lodge** (modern motel style building) at \$69/per night

- Private room with private bath accommodates 1, 2, 3 or 4 persons at a single cost (2 - double beds)
- Rooms are ½ floor up or down from ground level

**Camper Site** \$20/per night

**Other Lodging** at area hotels available, but you must make your own reservations.

**Meals:** To compute cost for meals. Enter the number of persons for each meal desired and multiply the total number of meals in the category (breakfast, lunch or dinner) by base cost for that meal.

ITEM	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	COST
Cottage @ \$47/night		xxxx	
Lodge @ \$69/night		xxxx	
Camper Site @ \$20/night		xxxx	
Breakfast @ \$6/meal	xxxx		
Lunch @ \$7/meal	xxxx		
Dinner @ \$9/meal		xxxx	
		<b>Sub-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

Total for lodging and meals		\$
Surcharge for non-member of WVBA \$5/per person	#	
Registration – 12 yrs old & younger FREE	#	
Registration – 13 to 17 yrs old (½ price), 2 days, \$15/person	#	
Registration – 13 to 17 yrs old (½ price), 1 day, \$7.50/person	#	
Registration – 2 days, \$30/person	#	
Registration – 1 day, \$15/person	#	
<b>TOTAL ATTENDING AND COST</b>		<b>\$</b>

\_\_\_\_\_ I plan to attend the greeting card breakout session on Saturday

**\*REGISTRATION SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE WVBA TREASURER NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 7.\***

Make check payable to WVBA and send registration to: WVBA TREASURER, Susan Perkins

747 Opekiska Ridge Road

Fairmont, WV 26554

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL ASSOCIATION \_\_\_\_\_

## Telling the Bees

**NOTE:** A remarkable custom, brought from the Old Country, formerly prevailed in the rural districts of New England. On the death of a member of the family, the bees were at once informed of the event, and their hives dressed in mourning. This ceremonial was supposed to be necessary to prevent the swarms from leaving their hives and seeking a new home.

Here is the place; right over the hill  
Runs the path I took;  
You can see the gap in the old wall still.  
And the stepping-stones in the shallow brook.

There is the house, with the gate red-barred,  
And the poplars tall;  
And the barn's brown length, and the cattle-yard,  
And the white horns tossing above the wall.

There are the beehives ranged in the sun;  
And down by the brink  
Of the brook are her poor flowers, weed-o'errun,  
Pansy and daffodil, rose and pink.

A year has gone, as the tortoise goes,  
Heavy and slow;  
And the same rose blows, and the same sun glows,  
And the same brook sings of a year ago.

There's the same sweet clover-smell in the breeze;  
And the June sun warm  
Tangles his wings of fire in the trees,  
Setting, as then, over Fernside farm.

I mind me how with a lover's care  
From my Sunday coat  
I brushed off the burs, and smoothed my hair,  
And cooled at the brookside my brow and throat.

Since we parted, a month had passed,---  
To love, a year;  
Down through the beeches I looked at last  
On the little red gate and the well sweep near

I can see it all now,---the slantwise rain  
Of light through the leaves,  
The sundown's blaze on her window—pane,  
The bloom of her roses under the eaves.

Just the same as a month before,--  
The house and the trees,  
The barn's brown gable, the vine by the door,--  
Nothing changed but the hives of bees.

Before them, under the garden wall,  
Forward and back,  
Went drearily singing the chore-girl small,  
Draping each hive with a shred of black.

Trembling, I listened; the summer sun  
Had the chill of snow;  
For I knew she was telling the bees of one  
Gone on the journey we all must go!

Then I said to myself, "My Mary weeps  
For the dead to-day:  
Haply her blind grandsire sleeps  
The fret and pain of his age away"

But her dog whined low; on the doorway sill,  
With his cane to his chin,  
The old man sat; and the chore-girl still  
Sung to the bees stealing out and in.

And the song she was singing ever since  
In my ear sound on:--  
"Stay at home, pretty bees, fly not hence!  
Mistress Mary is dead and gone!"

John G. Whittier

## WV Beekeepers Association

Fall Meeting September 23-24, 2011  
Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp

### Friday September 23

12:00 – 1:00 Registration, Honey Show Entries, Honey Swap Entries  
 1:00 – 1:20 President's Welcome  
 1:20 – 1:50 State of the State by Department of Agriculture  
 1:50 – 2:50 Small Cell Study by Jennifer Berry  
 2:50 – 3:05 BREAK  
 3:05 – 4:05 Retrieving Bees from Trees and Houses by Gene Goff  
 4:05 – 5:05 Lessons from the Don Myers Project by Bob Hooker  
 5:05 – 5:30 BREAK and FREE TIME, Honey Show Entries, Honey Vendors Open  
 5:30 – 6:30 SUPPER  
 7:00 – ? Social: Hopefully we will be screening the film "Queen of the Sun" which delves into the global bee crisis.

### Saturday September 24

7:30 – 8:30 BREAKFAST  
 8:30 – 9:30 Africanized Bees, the Latest Threat to the Southeast by Jennifer Berry  
 9:30 – 10:30 Awards, WVBA Business Meeting  
 10:30 – 10:55 BREAK (EEC Building) Vendors & Honey Show Viewing  
 10:55 – 11:55 Break Out Session I  
 11:55 – 1:15 LUNCH (Serving 12:15 – 1:15)  
 1:20 – 2:20 Break Out Session II  
 2:20 – 2:35 BREAK  
 2:35 – 3:35 Which is Worst, the Pest or the Cure by Jennifer Berry  
 3:35 – 4:00 Auction  
 4:00 Closing

### Break Out Session I

\_\_\_\_ Uses of bee pollen by Lloyd Postlethwait and Chuck Cienowski  
 \_\_\_\_ In the Hive for Fall Management by Wade Stiltner and Dept of Ag Staff

### Break Out Session II

\_\_\_\_ In the Hive for Winter Management by Paul Poling and Dept of Ag Staff  
 \_\_\_\_ The latest buzz in Greeting Cards by Kathy Hamrick (Please note on registration form if plan to participate so that enough materials can be provided). Each participant will make 3 greeting cards.  
 \_\_\_\_ Pollen Trapping by Lloyd Postlethwait and Chuck Cienowski

## Jackson's Mill—Meeting Location and Directions

Jackson's Mill is a special-mission campus of West Virginia University – owned and operated by the WVU Extension Service – Jackson's Mill represents the historic home of 4-H camping in the United States as site of the first statewide 4-H camp in the nation; today, Jackson's Mill continues to serve thousands of 4-H'ers each summer and throughout the year. For more information on our meeting location visit:

<http://jacksonsmill.ext.wvu.edu/>

**Traveling South on I-79:** Taking Exit 105, turn right toward Jane Lew, and travel approximately 1/2 mile to the intersection of Route 19. Turn left and follow Route 19 South for approximately 7 miles to Jackson's Mill Road. (The Hickory House Restaurant is a landmark.) Turn right onto Jackson's Mill Road and go approximately 2.5 miles. After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

**Traveling North on I-79:** Using Exit 99, turn left toward Weston onto Route 33 West and travel approximately 2 miles. At the fourth traffic light, turn right onto Route 19 North. Follow Route 19 North for approximately 4 miles to Jackson's Mill Road. (The Hickory House Restaurant is a landmark.) Turn left onto Jackson's Mill Road and travel approximately 2.5 miles. After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

**Traveling West on Route 33:** Continue straight on Route 33 through the Interstate 79 interchange. At the fourth traffic light (approximately 2 miles), turn right onto Route 19 North. Follow Route 19 North for approximately 4 miles to Jackson's Mill Road. (The Hickory House Restaurant is a landmark.) Turn left onto Jackson's Mill Road and travel approximately 2.5 miles. After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

**Traveling East on Route 33:** Take Route 33 into Weston, then follow signs for Route 19 North. After approximately 4 miles, (the Hickory House Restaurant is a landmark), turn left onto Jackson's Mill Road and travel approximately 2.5 miles. After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

### Additional Accommodations:

A block of six rooms has been reserved at the **Super 8 Weston** since lodging is limited at the Jackson's Mill facility. Reservations must be made by September 10 or the rooms will be released. The Super 8 is located at the Market Place Mall just off exit 99 on Interstate 79 near Weston. Contact information is 100 Market Place Mall, Weston, WV 26452 US (304) 269-1086.

### Other area hotels and contact info include:

#### Budget Inn

1214 US Hwy 19 S, Weston, WV 26452 US (304) 269-1975

#### Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Weston

215 Staunton Drive, Weston, WV 26452 US (877) 410-6681

#### Comfort Inn

2906 US Highway 33 East, Weston, WV 26452 US (304) 269-7000

## **WV Beekeepers Association**

Fall Meeting September 23-24, 2011

Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp

Registration and all activities will be in the **West Virginia Building** unless otherwise identified in the agenda. Additional locations we will be using include the **EEC Building** and an **apiary** set up next to the West Virginia Building. Follow the signs.

Our main speaker this year is **Jennifer Berry**, Apicultural Research Coordinator and Lab Manager at the University of Georgia. She's actively involved in all aspects of honey bee research and education for the state of Georgia. Her primary areas of research have been a queen breeding program and Integrated Pest Management work for varroa mite control. The breeding project is a long term program in which resistant stock is continually selected for as well as traits for honey production, brood production and gentleness. She was 2006 President of the Eastern Apicultural Society. She writes a monthly article for Bee Culture magazine.

**Bob Hooker**, who began keeping honey bees thirty years ago, operates Sunflower Homestead Apiaries in Harrison County, Ohio. With his wife Mary, they produce raw Ohio honey, beeswax candles and skin care products. Bob is past president of the Ohio State Beekeepers Association, the Lorain County (Ohio) Beekeepers Association and the Heartland Beekeepers Association and is currently president of Harrison County Beekeepers Association. In retirement Bob plans to expand his beekeeping operation and produce queen bees and nucs in addition to the products they currently produce.

In 2009 The Ohio State Beekeepers Association in cooperation with a number of private and public agencies conducted the Don Myers Eastern Ohio Apiculture Project. One hundred and twelve new beekeepers in a twelve county area of eastern Ohio were recruited, equipped and trained in beekeeping. Four years later over 95% of these persons are still active in beekeeping. Many have gone on to managing multiple hive operations and a number of them are currently serving as officers in their local beekeeping associations. Bob will describe how this successful project was carried out and share the lessons they learned in the process.

**Gene Goff**, Certified Beekeeper, member of the Marion and Monongalia County Beekeepers, and past Fall Meeting Chairman, will make a presentation on his many years of removing bees from trees and houses and will hopefully provide us with some valuable tips.

Saturday afternoon we will be having some **breakout session** in which you will be able to select the workshop you would like to attend. Hopefully we found something for most of you. Workshop presenters include: **Lloyd Postlethwait, Chuck Cienowski, Kathy Hamrick, Wade Stiltner, Paul Poling and other Department of Ag Staff.**

**Vendors** at the fall meeting will include Reid's Apiary, Dadant and the WV Honey Producers. You should have plenty of time to check out their wares during the Friday evening social and extended breaks. All will take prior order for deliver at the meeting.

### **Dadant (VA)**

Call 1-800-220-8325 to place your order. Orders need to be placed by September 16, 2011.

### **Reid's Apiary**

To place an order, call Bill or Margaret Reid by Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 740-643-2925.

### **WV Honey Producers**

To contact Bill: 304-269-7943 (store) 304-452-8505 (home) 304-517-8426 (cell).

## Free Advertisements

**Sister Bee** DVD by Laura Tyler will be available at cost at the Fall Meeting. The DVD is an overview of the experiences of six women new to the world of beekeeping. Photography and music are original and beautiful. Autographed DVD is \$25. Available from **Tom or Aretha Kees**.

### **Mountain State Honey Company**

If you need frames or boxes, we have some wooden ware in stock.

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You can find us at [www.mtnstatehoney.com](http://www.mtnstatehoney.com)

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CAN DELIVER AT FALL MEETING

**BOB AIKENS**

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