



The New Mexico Beekeepers Association is a non-profit organization of private beekeepers, commercial beekeepers, persons interested in promoting the importance of the honey bee in the environment, and businesses related to the honey industry.

NMBKA Quarterly Newsletter

2012 Issue 1 (October)

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Featured Speaker

It's official, Tammy Horn has her plane ticket for Albuquerque to speak with us at our Annual Meeting. Yahoo!

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We Want YOU!



You can help make NM Beekeepers Association a fantastic success by contributing your valuable time and energy to serve on the Auditing Committee or Nominating Committee! Join us at the next NMBKA Board meeting, November 9th, at 6:00 p.m. (*Details on page 3.*)



Author and beekeeper Michael Bush shares his observations and insights about honeybee genetics, queen rearing, and lazy beekeeping with New Mexico beekeepers.

From the President – Les Crowder

Hello! I hope and pray you made some honey and had some fun with your bees this year. The honey flow was hit-and-miss in New Mexico. The spring was great in some of the cities, Albuquerque and Santa Fe notably, but the summer was hot and dry, and the bees seemed to struggle. As I am writing this now in mid September there was a good long rain that may yet revive a late nectar flow. But it is already freezing here in the northern mountains. Our bees are at least going into winter with good honey stores.

It is harder to keep bees these days. I started keeping bees in Bernalillo in the late 70s. It rained

more regularly in July and August then. I remember when Broom Dalea made honey on the west side of Albuquerque and Bernalillo every August, and at times the desert turned into a fragrant flower garden. It may happen again, but this year it didn't. There were no mites of any kind and very little disease in the 70s. Africanized bees were only a nightmarish dream in a bad movie called "The Swarm." (They derail trains, etc., but don't look it up unless you are really bored.) I am in awe of you new beekeepers who just keep trying in spite of the difficulties.

There have been some positive
(continued on page 3)

CALENDAR

November 2012

NMBKA Board meeting
Friday, Nov. 9, 6:00 p.m.
Carl Soderberg's home

December 2012

nothing currently scheduled

January 2013

NMBKA Annual Meeting
Friday, Jan. 25, 12:00 noon –
Saturday, Jan. 26, 3:00 p.m.
details coming soon



New Mexico Beekeepers Association

NMBKA

PO Box 7188
Albuquerque, NM 87194
email: informbka@gmail.com
web: www.nmbeekeepers.org

2012 Association Officers

President: Les Crowder
fortheloveofbees@kitcarson.net

Vice President: Joe Wesbrook
joethebeeguy@gmail.com

Sec./Treasurer: Jessie Brown
brownsdowntownbees@hotmail.com

Board:
Craig Noorlander
cnoorlander@q.com

Carl Soderberg
sodercj@live.com

Newsletter: Mike Kruchoski
mgr.llc@kruchoski.com

The Buzz Around New Mexico – Jessie Brown

NM Beekeepers Association Minutes

As of our Annual Meeting on Jan 27-28th, 2012, our hard working board is as follows:

Les Crowder – President
Joe Wesbrook – Vice-President
Jessie Brown – Sec./Treasurer
Carl Soderberg – Board
Craig Noorlander – Board

We're looking to form a Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee for next year. For more information on joining Committees, contact us at informbka@gmail.com.

We currently have a membership of 131, an increase of 22 families from 2011. In our treasury, we started out the year with \$5002.62 and now have \$4056.77. Our principal income comes from Membership Dues. Our loss is due to costs associated with our mid-year speaker, creation of our website, purchase of a movie, and organizational costs such as insurance and the Post Office Box.

In this year, we have created an interactive website with the help of Chantal Forster; it can now be found at www.nmbeekeepers.org. The new website lists events, has an area for discussion, and has the potential to become the hub for beekeeping groups around the State. It also provides many resources for beekeepers including Rules and Regulations for Beekeeping in NM, reading lists, hive plans, and plants for pollinators. The website also has a members services area where people in the community can find our members for swarm removal, cutouts, bee educators,

apitherapy, and honey.

We had a fun gathering for the Michael Bush event on July 7th, hosted by Joe Wesbrook. Michael Bush taught us quite a bit about genetics, queen rearing, and his techniques for 'Lazy Beekeeping.' Tess Grasswitz also joined us and gave an entertaining talk about Plants for Pollinators.

As voted and approved at the Annual Meeting, we purchased the movie "The Strange Disappearance of Bees," which has been viewed at several beekeeping functions around NM. NMBKA hosted a movie afternoon at Albuquerque's Guild Cinema on August 11th. Popcorn, local honey samples, and an inspirational talk by Les Crowder made a wonderful afternoon.

Right now, we are busy working on our 501c3 designation and have just voted in some carefully crafted bylaws created by Carl Soderberg. We anticipate spending next year working on our incorporation. We are also gearing up for our Annual Meeting on January 25-26th, 2013. This is an event not to be missed!

There are so many people to thank this year. Thank you to Ken Hays for 15 fantastic years of service. We are sad to see you step down but truly appreciate your commitment. A big buzzing thank you to all our members for your support!

Jessie Brown
Secretary/Treasurer NMBKA

Featured Speaker for the Annual Meeting

The NMBKA is proud to announce that the featured speaker for the annual meeting January 25 and 26, 2013, will be Tammy Horn, author of *Bees in America: How the Honey Bee Shaped a Nation* and *Beeconomy: What Women and Bees Can Teach Us about Local*

Trade and the Global Market, both published by the University of Kentucky Press.

Horn is the director of Coal Country Beeworks, a project that reclaims surface-mine sites with pollinator habitats in eastern Kentucky. She is a beekeeper.

Volunteers Sought

The New Mexico Beekeepers Association Board needs your help. We have two committees to form with your help: the Auditing Committee and the Nominating Committee. The Auditing Committee is a safeguard whose duty shall be the oversight of the financial records of the Association, reporting to the annual meeting that the finances are

in order. The Nominating Committee shall be to obtain nominations for Officers and Members at Large. Anyone interested in either committee is invited to attend the next board meeting, which is November 9th, 2012, at 6:00 pm and is scheduled to be at Carl Soderberg's home. If you are interested please call Craig Noorlander at 281-7851.

From the President *(continued from page 1)*

changes to make up for the new difficulties. In our cities we now have groups that actively promote beekeeping. It was great attending the ABQ Beeks meeting and seeing so many beekeepers gathered. We may be busy and feel antisocial at times, but if we are not too proud we can often learn from new ideas that new beekeepers come up with. Having bees for 40 years means I have a lot of experience, but it also means I have some false assumptions that are cast in some thick, old concrete. A new beekeeper might notice something I have not noticed, and if I can listen I could break up that old concrete and become a more aware and better beekeeper.

Some of the plants in the new, low-water-use landscaping are

great for bees as well. Russian Sage seems to hum with bees all summer; Chitalpa trees bloom for a long time. Look for seeds to gather from Sophora Japonica, a small tree (legume) with gummy bear-like bean pods and white blossoms in July in Albuquerque. Plant some yourself and give some to your friends and neighbors. The Golden Rain tree is great for bees and a beautiful tree for our city lots. It can also be planted from the numerous round black seeds that fall out of the lantern shaped seed pods in the fall. In Santa Fe there are some beautiful, tall Linden trees that hum with bees during the bloom. Trees make cool shade and can get to deep water. They yield many flowers over a square yard of land. They sequester CO₂ and give us a peaceful place

A Word to Vendors

Vending is a privilege available to all members of the Association. Becoming a vendor carries with it the responsibility for maintaining the values and integrity of the organization in all transactions with its members. The Association asks each vendor to consider contacts as peers in need of support or assistance and as persons sharing a common interest in quality beekeeping. Keep all considerations transparent and open to conversation in the desire to assure good relations. Use the privilege well.

to sit and think, to meditate and pray. Look for valuable information from Tree New Mexico (www.treenm.com) and the Arbor Society (www.arborday.com), then consider how you might help.

One thing I am still hoping to add to the website is a list of organic or non-toxic suggestions (with convenient links) to help people who have insect pest problems. We are very intelligent creatures, but we need to prove that we can couple our intelligence with wisdom. We need to find ways to solve problems without polluting our air, water, and soil with poisons that create new problems. I am sure we can do it!

I hope to see you at the convention January 25th and 26th.

Les Crowder

Bylaws of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association

Article 1 – Name

The name of the Association shall be the New Mexico Beekeepers Association.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association as a non-profit organization is to promote a standard of excellence in beekeeping; assist members and all others interested in bees with essential beekeeping skills; disseminate the latest beekeeping information; encourage new beekeepers; facilitate the exchange of bees, bee products, and beekeeping equipment; to provide those interested in bees the opportunity to share the ‘bee story’ on an occasional basis; and be an advocate for bees and beekeeping.

Article III - Membership

The New Mexico Beekeepers Association is a non-profit organization of private beekeepers, commercial beekeepers, persons interested in promoting the importance of the honey bee in the environment, and businesses related to the honey industry. Representing all regions of New Mexico, the Association maintains a close affiliation with the State of New Mexico’s Department of Agriculture. Membership in the Association is open to all interested persons upon payment of annual dues, regardless of race, religion, or national origin.

Honorary and Life memberships may be awarded to a member of the Association having given significant service to the organization.

Article IV – Association Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the association shall be during the month of January each year, at which members of the Board of Directors shall be elected, a financial statement of the Association received, budget for the upcoming year approved, and reports of officers and appointed committees provided to the members. The meeting may include a program(s) of general interest to members.

A called meeting of the Association will be held upon the request of five members made to the Board of Directors.

A quorum of all Association meetings shall be ten members.

An agenda of all Association meetings shall be available to the general membership at least ten days prior to the date of the noted meeting.

Article V – Board of Directors

A Board of Directors will plan programs, recommend the establishment of working committees, and the development of the Association in accord with its statement of purpose, and consider the general health of the organization.

The Board of Directors shall include; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Members at Large. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined into one position.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors will be held on the even months of the year and/or called by the President or two members

of the Board.

Vacancies in the Board may be filled by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors may act on business by electronic means between meetings.

Article VI – Duties of Officers

President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The President will create and provide the Secretary with agendas for all meetings.

Vice-President. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President upon request or absence of the President.

Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors, have charge and maintain records of all minutes, prepare documents of the Association, maintain the Association’s web site, and perform such other duties as may be required pertaining to correspondence and records of the Association.

Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect the annual dues from members of the Association, pay out such funds approved by the Association or its Board of Directors, and keep complete and accurate records of all monies received and expended. It shall be a standard procedure to present a financial report to the Association’s annual meeting.

VII - Terms of Office

Officers will serve a term of one year and may be reelected for
(continued on page 5)

Bylaws *(continued from page 4)*

three consecutive years.

Members at Large. Two members of the Association elected at the Annual Meeting shall become members at large serving a term of one year.

VIII– Committees

Committees may be created by action of the Association or the Board of Directors will plan programs, recommend the establishment of working committees and the development of the Association in accord with its statement of purpose, and consider the general health of the organization.

The work and life of each committee will be established at the time of its creation.

Auditing Committee: There shall be an Auditing Committee, appointed by the President, whose duty shall be to audit the financial records of the Association, reporting to the annual meeting.

Nominating Committee: There shall be a Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, whose duty shall be to obtain nominations for Officers and Members at Large.

Article IX – Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association shall be the calendar year.

Article X – Parliamentary Authority

All procedural questions not resolved by Articles of the Bylaws shall be determined in

accordance with the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order (Revised)*.

Article XI – Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by the Board of Directors, any member of the Association in good standing, or by a committee created for the purpose of bylaw review.

Any Amendment(s) to the Association's bylaws will take effect immediately upon passage at the Annual Meeting, or a meeting called for the specific purpose of bylaw change, unless otherwise provided for in that Amendment.

XI - Dissolution

Dissolution of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association may be accomplished by a majority vote of members present at the Annual Meeting, or a special meeting called for that purpose, only after the membership has received appropriate notice of the meeting.

Upon dissolution of the Association, the Association shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, dispose of all the assets of the organization, in such manner as feasible, to organizations or agencies organized and operated for purposes similar to the purpose of the Association.

Draft 4, September 9, 2012

Swap Meet

Along with a new location for the Annual Meeting on January 25-26, 2013, we'd like to announce an opportunity for our members to try to sell not only their honey, but other things as well. We'd like to start a swap meet. Here's what we're thinking about.

We'd like to have five or six tables, each approximately 6-8 feet long, in the lobby of First Presbyterian Church, where the annual meeting will be held. We'd divide the tables into two portions, one half table per beekeeper, for a total of 10-12 beekeepers offering items related to beekeeping for sale. If you've got 500 frames too many and want to sell some, sign up for the swap meet. If you've got 500 pounds of honey you just don't know what to do with, sign up for the swap meet. Got a spare top bar hive taking up space in the garage? Sign up for the swap meet! I have about a dozen comb honey supers that have been aging gracefully in my beeyard for a couple of years, so, if I'm not too late, I'm going to sign up for the swap meet and try to sell or trade them. If you've got a service, or a book or books, or equipment, or wax or honey that you'd like to sell, sign up for the swap meet. You'll have more than a hundred beekeepers to present your stuff to.

We'd like to have the swap meet run throughout the meeting, Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. We obviously don't want you to have to man your portion of the table for the entire meeting; we'd like you to be able to attend some or all of the sessions as well. So we'll have a designated representative from the association manning the

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Swap Meet *(continued)*

swap meet, someone who can sell your item(s) for you, someone who can answer questions about your product or service while you're attending the meeting. We would also ask that you have a printed handout (with your contact information) available for attendees to take away, if we can't be helping two or three people at once. We ask that if you do participate in the swap meet that you only accept cash or checks. The association doesn't have the facility to handle credit cards (if you do, more power to you, but we can't guarantee wi-fi access for your computer or credit card processor). There is no charge to participate in the swap meet.

If you're interested in participating in the first NMBKA Swap Meet, send an email with your name, physical address, and telephone number, along with a description of the item or items you'd like to sell (or trade, if that's your interest) to Joe Wesbrook at joethebeeguy@gmail.com or NMBKA Board Member Carl Soderberg at sodercj@live.com. Please use the subject line SWAP MEET. We'll take the first 12 beekeepers who apply, and we'll name four alternates, so if one of the first 12 can't make it, or changes their mind, we'll give an opportunity to someone who can make it. We'll notify everyone in early January so you have time to get your stuff ready to sell. Remember, if you participate, you'll only have a half-table to present your stuff, and someone else is going to be on the other half of that table. Be kind. Deadline for Swap Meet space requests is December 31, 2012.



Both new and experienced beekeepers will learn something new during the annual open house at Hays Honey & Apple Farm.



Another great resource in Central New Mexico is the Albuquerque Beekeepers group (<http://abqbeeks.org>).

From the Editor

Someone once said, "Most writers do not enjoy writing; they enjoy having written." I'm tempted to say the same about editing. This is my first issue as your new editor. Although I've edited a fair number of small newsletters over the years, it's been a challenge to get this one out the door. Sorry. Hopefully the next issue will be

be both easier and more timely.

Your suggestions and contributions are most welcome. To help me out, I'd ask that you use Dropbox to send any articles. Please email or call me if you'd like more information about it.

Mike Kruchoski
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mgr.llc@kruchoski.com

Membership Form

Join us! **Dues are \$30 for the year for a family. \$15 for July-Dec.** Members receive perks like free admission to events, website listings and newsletters! If you wish to receive paper newsletters instead of email, it's an additional \$5 per year.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

All members can advertise on our website for free! If you wish to have your information added to the Bee Services section of our website, please fill in the following information and circle yes or no:

-Do you want to be listed for swarm capture? yes no

-Do you want to be listed as a bee educator? yes no

-Do you sell queens or bees? yes no

-Do you want to be listed for selling honey? yes no

Do you sell wax, pollen or propolis? _____

-Do you sell hive equipment? yes no

What kind of equipment do you sell? _____

How do you want to be listed in our bee services area?

Name: _____

Phone, Email or Website: _____

City or Area of the State you are located: _____

Please fill out the above information, include dues and mail to:

NMBKA
PO Box 7188
Albuquerque, NM 87194

Checks can be addressed to NM Beekeepers Association

If you have any questions, email the Board at: *informbka@gmail.com*

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NMBKA

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