

Maryland State Beekeepers' Association Winter Meeting
February 18, 2012
Howard County Fairgrounds
West Friendship, MD

8:30 am	Refreshments, Coffee, Donuts, etc.	
9:30 am	Opening and Welcome	Dr. Wayne Esaias, President
9:45 am	Maryland Apiary Inspector's Report	Jerry Fischer, Maryland State Inspector
10:00 am	The Bee Informed Partnership: Beekeeper Survey Says What Works and What Doesn't	Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp, University of Maryland
11:00 am	HoneybeeNet Update	Dr. Wayne Esaias University of Maryland
11:30 am	Practical Experience in Local Queen Rearing	Paul Dill, Past-President , MSBA
12:00 pm	Lunch	
1:30 pm	The Maryland Honey Standard for Free State Consumers and Beekeepers	Delegate Kathy Afzali, District 4A, Frederick County Maryland House of Delegates
2:00 pm	Recent Advances in Honeybee Research	Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp, University of Maryland
3:00 pm	Ask Expert Beekeepers Your Anonymous Questions	Panel Discussion
3:30 pm	Adjourn	Dr. Wayne Esaias, President

Directions:

Via I-70: Get off I-70 at Exit 80 (Rt. 32 Exit); go south on MD Rt. 32 for 1/8 mile to first traffic light; turn right (west) onto Rt. 144; turn right at crest of hill onto Fairgrounds Road; turn into second entrance; meeting is in the Dining Hall, second building on left

Via Rt. 32: Stay on Rt. 32 to West Friendship; turn west (left, if coming from the south) onto Rt. 144, at the traffic light within sight of I-70; turn right at crest of hill onto Fairgrounds Road; turn into second entrance; meeting is in the Dining Hall, second building on left

From Eastern Shore & Annapolis Area: From Rt. 50, just west of Annapolis, take I-97 North toward Baltimore; exit onto Rt. 32 toward Columbia; follow directions above, via Rt. 32

From NE MD: Proceed to Baltimore Beltway (I- 695); take I-70 west toward Frederick; follow directions above, via I-70 Lunch / Refreshments at the Winter Meeting:

Refreshments:

MSBA will provide Coffee and Donuts, Sodas and Water as refreshments during the winter meeting.

There will be an opportunity to order a Subway sandwich on a cash-only basis for those who register before 10:00 AM for this meeting. Members/attendees are welcome to order upon registration or are advised to bring their own lunch or to make plans to dine at a local establishment.

MSBA WINTER MEETING WEATHER POLICY

In the event of a major winter storm, please listen to WBAL (AM 1090) or WTOP (FM 103.5) for announcements. If a Snow Emergency Plan is in effect for Howard County, the meeting is cancelled.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER AND COMPLETE A MEMBER SURVEY

We are interested in hearing your requests for future meeting and advanced beekeeping instruction topics, and will have a survey which we'd like members to complete at Winter Meeting registration.

MSBA Winter Meeting 2012 Speakers

It is our very good fortune that **Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp** joined the University of Maryland as Assistant Research Scientist in 2011, and is reaching out energetically to work with Free State Beekeepers. His research focus here is on pollinator health, and honey bee health specifically, with particular attention to using an epidemiological approach to understanding and (importantly) improving honey bee health. This approach is multi-faceted, requiring understanding both the etiology of individual bee diseases and the large scale monitoring of colony health.



Some of the areas his lab is addressing include:

- Identifying determinates of disease in honey bee colonies
- Identifying and promoting management systems which promote colony health
- Broad scale monitoring of pollinator health

He is encouraging UMD students to pursue these themes in their M.S. and Ph.D. studies.

Dr. vanEngelsdorp started keeping bees after taking an undergraduate course in beekeeping at the University of Guelph, Canada. Once 'stung,' he pursued a master's degree in apiculture, and recently completed his Ph.D. He has since worked for the Canadian Government, at Cornell University, where he helped develop their master beekeeping program, as the Acting State Apiarist for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and as an acting supporter of projects supporting beekeeping in developing countries. As one of the founding members of the Colony Collapse working group he spends considerable time investigating and speaking about this latest threat to honey bee populations. You can get a preview of his energetic approach by taking a look at his speech to the TED community at www.ted.com/talks/dennis_vanengelsdorp_a_plea_for_bees.html



Del. Kathy Afzali (R) has represented District 4a in the Maryland House of Delegates since January 2011. Del. Afzali has been active since last year in pursuing a Standard of Identity for Honey, a bill which the MSBA and Maryland Farm Bureau are joining her in supporting this year. Del. Afzali was instrumental in helping our members to interact and forge relationships with their Annapolis representatives this winter, and is a member of the House Ways and



Means Committee and its election law subcommittee, as well as a member of the Women Legislators of Maryland.

Dr. Wayne Esaias is current MSBA President, EAS Master Beekeeper, and emeritus NASA research scientist, where he founded the HoneyBeeNet Project, using honey bees as tiny data collectors to understand how climate change is affecting pollination. HoneyBeeNet compares bee data from across North America to satellite imagery in order to get the big-picture of how our warming climate is affecting both plants and pollinators. He recently joined UMD as an Adjunct Professor of Entomology.

Mr. Paul Dill is the immediate past-President of the MSBA (with many other previous board positions), current president of the Eastern Shore Beekeepers, and former president of the Delaware State Beekeepers. Paul was once a cross-country truck driver riding through Ohio who was intrigued at the sight of bee boxes along the road. One day, he pulled off to talk to a beekeeper and found himself getting the equipment, along with his first package of bees, on his way home. Paul has kept bees commercially for decades, and stresses the importance of developing local queen stocks, nucs, and sustainable genetics for beekeepers at all levels of experience.