

**Maryland State Beekeepers' Association Fall Meeting  
November 15, 2014**

**Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis**

8:00 am	Refreshments, Coffee, Donuts, etc.	
9:00 am	Opening and Welcome	Toni Burnham, President
9:15 am	Maryland Apiary Inspector's Report	Cybil Preston, Maryland State Inspector
9:30 am	UMD Sentinel Hive Project	Kristen Traynor, University of Maryland, and Karen Rennich, BeeInformed Partnership
9:45 am	Varroa Mites: What We Think We Know So Far	Jerry Hayes, Monsanto & ABJ Columnist
10:30 am	Beekeeping Regions of Maryland: The Mountain Region	Jerome "Hop" Cassidy, MD Bee Inspector
11:15 am	Running A Bee Business	Patrick Ferrer, Dadant and Sons
12:00 noon	Lunch	
1:30 pm	Monsanto's Commitment to Honey Bee Health	Jerry Hayes, Monsanto & ABJ Columnist
2:15 pm	MSBA Elections & Treasurer's Report	Paul Dill, Past President Bob Crouse, Treasurer
2:45 pm	George Imirie Education & Freestate Beekeeper Citizenship Awards Presentations, MSBA Honey Show Results	Toni Burnham, President George Wilson, Judge
3:00 pm	Ask Expert Beekeepers Your Anonymous Questions	Panel Discussion
4:00 pm	Adjourn	Toni Burnham, President

**Directions to the Maryland Department of Agriculture**

Take Route 50 towards Annapolis. Take Exit 22 (Route 665) to Riva Road. Follow the exit in the direction of Riva Road South.

Continue 4/10 miles to Harry S Truman Parkway and turn right at the light.

Go straight 1.2 miles to 50 Harry S Truman Parkway; the Maryland Department of Agriculture building is on the right. Look for yellow "BEE MTG" signs and the cows at the entrance to the drive. Take the second entrance. You may park in the lot.

Enter at the front of the building; meeting is one floor down in the auditorium.



**Photo: The cows at the entry to MDA are dressed to impress guests such as the Maryland State Beekeepers!**

## Fall 2014 Meeting to Feature Jerry Hayes of BeeLogics

Jerry Hayes is the Commercial Director of BeeLogics, a bee health company focusing on RNAi-based products



founded in 2007 and acquired by Monsanto in 2011. Jerry has been involved with bees, beekeeping, and honeybee research for over 30 years.

In his own words: "I started out in life as a high school teacher. After about a year, I decided that was not as fun and rewarding as I had hoped. I worked in private industry for a while. I

worked with a person who had been a beekeeper in Wisconsin with his brother. Like most people I always knew about honey bees on the periphery of life but didn't think that there were actually people who did this. Short story is I turned into the typical new beekeeper and read and learned as much as I could and put a couple of colonies in my backyard. I have a very patient wife and I went back to school."

He studied with Dr. Jim Tew at Ohio State, then working at the USDA/ARS Bee Breeding and Stock Lab, then Dadant. From 2004-2012, Jerry was the Chief of the Apiary Inspection Section of the Florida Department of Agriculture. Florida has approximately 300,000 honey bee colonies and more than 2500 registered beekeepers, ranging from backyard enthusiasts to commercial migratory beekeepers.

Now with BeeLogics, Jerry says, "I now have the opportunity to be at Monsanto and work with a technology that uses a normal natural process called RNA to see if it can be adapted to control honey bee parasites and pathogens safely, sanely and efficaciously. My personal goal is to be able to be a part of a team that uses this new technology to bring non-chemical Varroa control and the control of the Varroa / virus complex to a suffering and challenged industry. Honey bees are the foundation of pollinator-dependent agriculture and a healthy environment."

A family emergency kept us from hearing from him in the Spring, so we are especially honored to have Mr. **Jerome "Hop" Cassidy**, MDA Bee inspector and long-time beekeeper come down from the mountain this autumn and tell us what keeping bees is like in West-

ern Maryland. I believe you will be surprised! Hop is a frequent public speaker who may, by now, have spoken at every library, school, and state park west of Montgomery County (and a few there, too). Hop currently runs 10 to 15 hives, but also supports a number of beekeepers and a youth beekeeper program. He is a past County VP for MSBA and is currently acting president of the Appalachian Beekeepers Association.



Patrick Ferrer, Sales Manager of Dadant in Chatham, VA, will join us to give an idea of what it is like on the other side of the beekeeping business: working for one of the main suppliers and supporters of both sideline and large scale commercial apiculture in North America! Dadant & Sons, Incl, has been involved in beekeeping, apiculture supplies, and hive products for over 180 years, and publishes the *American Bee Journal*, established in 1861.

Patrick is new to the career of beekeeping, though his cousin keeps bees: he started out in research work in the area of fisheries in North Carolina, Idaho, and Alaska. In college he gained a lot of public speaking experience as well as presentations to local governments about watershed issues. He enjoys spending time with his fiancée Colleen and dog, Duke."

