



THE BEE LINE

Founded 1908
Issued Quarterly

Volume XXIX, No. 106

December 2003

President's Message

by Barry Thompson

After two years of leading one of the more successful beekeeping organizations in the country, what can one say? My sincere thanks, of course, to those who have made two enjoyable and productive years possible - as members of the MSBA at large, as key participants in the varied activities of the organization, as one of those who serve as county vice presidents, as directors, or as one of the other positions on the executive committee. Your president, perhaps more than anyone else, recognizes the importance

of the support afforded him or her by the large amounts of time and effort expended by the members of the "MSBA team." Each of you has made my term a pleasure.

The fall meeting program was outstanding don't you agree? Speakers Seeley, Capaldi and Towne demonstrated how much has been discovered about bee behavior - and how much there still is left to learn about how our little friends successfully relate to the world around them. The high quality of the presentations is evidence of the energy David Smith has put into arranging our programs and a benchmark for future meetings.

David Morris and his MSBA experts once again capably organized and judged the Honey and Honey Cookery Show. For years, David has made the show a highpoint of the year - a real success by dint of his attention to detail and to the skilled individuals he assembles to judge the entries. We owe David our appreciation for the outstanding job that he does! Show your appreciation and support for MSBA by submitting an entry, or more entries, for the show next year. Results of this year's show are announced elsewhere in this newsletter.

It was my distinct pleasure to award, on behalf of the association, two annual awards for 2003. Bill Troup - beekeeper, teacher, state inspector and past EAS director - is the Free State Beekeeper of the Year. Recognition well deserved by this man of many talents and indefatigable effort! Presented for the first time, the George W. Imirie, Jr. Award for Education in Beekeeping went to Steve McDaniel. Steve is well-known for his short courses and educational presentations - as well as his beautiful and most informative photographic images. Congratulations, Steve! The number of Marylanders considered for these two awards makes it obvious that Bill and Steve are "la crème de la crème" within our group.

David Smith and the new Board of Directors will continue the tradition of excellence in MSBA, I am certain. Join me in wishing them well. And don't forget to submit your 2004 dues and the registration form that accompanies this BeeLine.



MSBA WINTER MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2004

***Howard County Fairgrounds
Friendship, MD***

***Program information
Inside***

News from the Apiary Inspection Office

By Jerry E. Fischer, Office of Apiary Inspection, Maryland Department of Agriculture

Apiary Inspection Statistics: The year 2003 closes with the number of registered beekeepers at 992, with 9,337 colonies in 1,335 apiaries. With approx. 340 beekeepers not re-registered. Apiary Inspectors have examined 3,450 colonies in 581 apiaries during the year. 1714 colonies were moved out, then back in state, for pollination contracts, with 37 of these as Nuc's being provided by Md. producers. 553 colonies were moved into state from non Maryland beekeepers.

American Foul Brood, the emphasis of inspection, was found in 42 colonies, in 23 apiaries. This is a 1.2% of inspected colonies. Lets remain very vigilant beekeepers, with good management, working with your inspector to keep this low percentage.

For Apiary Inspection request service, contact: Jerry Fischer, State Apiary Inspector, Maryland Department of Agriculture. Phone# 410-841-5920

Colony Conditions: As the majority of inspection ended the 15th of October, it is reported that most colonies are strong in cluster size, but very light on winter stores. A colony needs approx. 60 pounds of stores to survive the winter. Check to see if feeding is necessary. Feeding a 2:1 sugar:water syrup is recommended.

Prepare your colonies for winter by, (the above) providing wind break, tilting forward on hive stand, mouse guard, and hopefully (complete) surveyed and treated to lower mite infestation.

Varroa & Tracheal Mites: Tracheal mites in Maryland was very low during the year. The inspection service did not perform many surveys and reports from beekeepers indicated that the levels was low. Colony loss this year had little to do with tracheal mites (our winter losses was starvation).

Varroa mites are and will remain our major problem. Levels were low this year as indicated from the surveys taken by inspectors. Beekeepers also reported low levels. We are seeing a lot of indication that beekeepers are using more methods of IPM and self surveys for Varroa. Shows the information is getting out, and the beekeeper is taking it to the field. It is known that Apistan (fluvalinate) is not effective, with Check Mite+ (Coumaphos) being the only alternative. The MDA had received a Special Exemption 18 for API LIFE VAR, on Oct 26th 2003. This was to late for use this calendar year. It will be renewed for use in 2004. As you apply for this control in the coming year, please read and apply this control only as recommended by label.

Small Hive Beetle: The small hive beetle has not been a major problem to the Maryland beekeeper. There has been several incidents where SHB has shown up and reported to the inspection service. We have worked with the beekeeper in assisting the eradication of the beetle. SHB's have been seen in colonies but little report on seeing larvae. These colonies were treated with SHB traps and GradStar the ground by inspectors to prevent reproduction. If during your routine manipulations, you detect SHB contact the Apiary Inspection Office.

ETO - Fumigation of Bee Equip: The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) will be sterilizing equipment in the fumigation chamber with Ethylene Oxide (ETO), during the winter months. Beekeepers with diseased colonies identified by MDA apiary inspectors have been notified. If you have purchased used equip. or with unknown origin, it is recommended to have it sterilized.

If this service is needed, contact: Jerry Fischer, State Apiary Inspector for scheduling.

The charges for fumigation are as follows:

\$80.00 Full load (Approx. 15 deeps w/frames, tops, bottoms, inner cover)

\$4.00 Deep hive body with or without frames

\$3.00 Supers with or without frames

\$1.50 Tops, bottoms, inner covers, etc.

Payment is due at time of service.

Inspection Enhancement Fund: 145 individuals or Associations had contributed \$3996.00 to the fund. These contributions are greatly appreciated, for 100% goes to the contractual inspectors salaries. Only because of this contribution can we continue the inspection program that we have had in the past.

Maryland Department of Agriculture – Open House: The MDA will host it's 16th annual open house on Saturday, March 20th from 9:00am to 3:00pm, 2004. The annual open house will include exhibits, demonstrations and tours from all the sections of MDA. There will be something for everyone. Apiary Section will have an Observation Hive and Extracting Demonstrations through out the day. The MSBA will have a display of Equip. and Information Station in exhibit hall. If you can volunteer to help at one of the beekeeping events, contact Jerry Fischer (410-841-5920) or Barry Thompson (301-947-4652).



SEASON'S MESSAGE

By Nancy Troup

As the weather changes to winter and the Christmas lights go up all over the state, our bees slow to a sleepy pace. Hopefully all of us were able to get enough feed and medication on them to keep them healthy till spring. Now is the time when we can only longingly look outside at our hives and hope we did the best for the bees. But now is the time for "Other beework".

Mainly, education of the beekeeper and repairing equipment. Ask Santa for a "bee book" this Christmas. If you don't receive the journals, consider a subscription for your list. If you do receive them and they have been piling up, now is the time to sit and read through them to learn all the new techniques and options available to us as "beekeepers". Consider taking or assisting in your local bee groups "short course". There are many in the state starting in late winter. And don't forget to send in your registration to the State while you are addressing your Christmas cards. To all of you, we at the Troup home, Bill, Thorne and myself, wish you Happy Holidays and may 2004 provide you with many joys, among them healthy bees and full supers.



Mark your calendars:

COMING EVENTS

The following events were announced at the MSBA Board meeting. Locations and details to be announced. Please note that the dates may be tentative and subject to confirmation of location approvals:

MSBA WINTER MEETING
Sat. - 21 FEB 2004
Howard Co. Fairgrounds,
Friendship, MD



Upcoming National Meetings:

61st Annual ABF Convention
Set for Jacksonville, Florida
Jan. 14-17, 2004
info@ABFnet.org

Apimondia Conference on Tropical
Beekeeping: Research and development
for pollination and conservation

San José - Costa-Rica
22 - 25 February 2004

<http://www.apiservices.com/apimondia/index.us.htm>

EAS 2004 Short Course & Conference
August 9-13, 2004
Seven Springs, PA



Winter Meeting

Lunch / Refreshments

Refreshments will be provided during Breaks at the Winter Meeting.

A lunch menu will again be available providing sandwiches & lunch items for purchase. MSBA is negotiating with a local vendor to provide this service. Please be sure to ask about this service immediately upon your arrival to the meeting as there will be a mid-morning cut-off for ordering.



MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Winter Meeting, February 21, 2004; Howard County Fairgrounds

- 9:30 - **Welcome and President's Report; Treasurer's Report
Secretary's Report**
- 9:45 - **Report by MDA Inspector** - Jerry Fischer
- 10:15 - **The Basics of Hive Evaluation; From Colony Strength to Queen Quality**
- Dr. Rick Fell
- 11:00 - **BREAK**
- 11:15 - **Queens - and everything you wanted to know** - Dr. Marla Spivak,
- 12:00 - **LUNCH**
- 1:00 - **Honey Bee Pheromones; Why They Are Important** - Dr. Rick Fell
- 1:45 - **Breeding Bees for Resistance to Diseases and Mites** - Dr. Marla Spivak
- 2:30 - **BREAK**
- 2:45 - **Questions for the experts** - Dr. Fell; Dr. Spivak; plus the MSBA Master
Beekeepers
- 3:30 - **The Secret Lives of Bees** - Steve McDaniel
- 4:15 - Closing remarks by President; Adjourn

Report on the 67th annual MSBA Honey Show

Our Annual Honey Show was an excellent success. We had entries in nearly every class with a total of 141 entries. Our only shortcoming was in the Youth Division. I believe beekeepers forget that children under 18 have a set of specific Youth Division classes for Honey and Beeswax, Crafts, and Cooking. To keep beekeeping alive in Maryland we need to engender interest in young people. You never know when the thrill, joy, and pleasure of beekeeping may surface again.

Special thanks for the excellent volunteer work by our judges. They volunteered their time and expertise, missed a lot of the meeting, and did a terrific job of judging.

Jim Baker of Williamsport,
Ann Harman, Flint Hill, Va.,
Cybil Preston of Jarrettsville,
Bart Smith of Crownsville, and
Bill Troup of Williamsport.

Very special thanks to Nancy Troup for her handling of the entries and totaling the forms, and making sure all the scores were recorded.

Finally, thank you to Garey Wilmsen for his seven years as Treasurer, paying the winners their prize money as they claimed their entries.

The Association, as always, seeks improvement. Any suggestions for improving the honey show will be accepted and considered.

Competition is the name of the game. The entries were numerous and of high quality. Some individuals have done some outstanding work. Who has the best is the entry in the show? Which club made the best showing with the most blue ribbons? Here are the results. David Simmons should be congratulated, again, for his excellent beeswax. John Libera had some excellent wax craft entries. Steve McDaniel showed us once again what an outstanding photographer he is. And Ted Moran carried the day with his scrumptious pie. Individually recognized winners are: Div. I -Honey & Beeswax, David Simmons for a block of beeswax.

Div. II – Arts & Crafts, Steve McDaniel for photography

Div. IV Cooking, Ted Moran for a pumpkin pie (recipe below).

John Lindner Best In Show award went to Ted Moran's Pumpkin Pie.

I. Barton Smith Best Club Showing award –
Hagerstown Valley Apian Society

The first prize winners for each class are:

Class, Description, Winner

1, First time entry extracted honey, Pat & Carl Seimer

2, Extracted honey lt. amber thru amber, John & Emma Libera

3, Extracted honey light amber, John Seets

4, Extracted honey amber thru dark amber, John & Emma Libera

5, Extracted honey dark, John Seets

6, Extracted Honey water white thru extra light, Bill & Nancy Troup

7, Extracted honey light amber, Jody King

8, Extracted honey amber thru dark amber, David Simmons

9, Extracted honey dark, David Simmons

10, Comb honey- square, Steve & Angie McDaniel

11, Comb honey - round, Bill & Nancy Troup

12, Cut Comb, Bill & Nancy Troup

13, Chunk comb, Bill & Nancy Troup

14, Granulated honey, David Simmons

15, Honey frame, Bill & Nancy Troup

16, Beeswax block, David Simmons

17, Pollen, David Smith

18, Molded candles, John & Emma Libera

19, Dipped candles, Jeffrey Bradshaw

20, Rolled candles, Bill & Nancy Troup

21, Artistic beeswax, John & Emma Libera

22, Label, David Smith

23, President's Prize, John & Emma Libera

24, Photography, Steve & Angie McDaniel

25, Equipment, Jeffrey Bradshaw

29, Personal Gift, Jim & Ann Baker

30, Mailing gift pack, Christine Goldsmith

34, Cake, David Simmons

35, Cookies - drop, rolled, filled, etc., Bill & Nancy Troup

36, Cookies - bar or sheet, Cybil Preston

37, Pie, Ted Moran

38, Candy, Jim & Ann Baker

39, Yeast Bread non-sweet, Floyd & Ruth Thiel

40, Yeast Bread sweet, Floyd & Ruth Thiel

41, Quick Bread Sweet, Cybil Preston

- 42, Quick Bread Other, Floyd & Ruth Thiel
- 44, Condiments, Steve & Angie McDaniel
- 45, Any other cooking, Floyd & Ruth Thiel

A special comment about the pie recipe. The entry rules for MSBA's Honey Show were changed just one month before the show to require that honey be the sole sweetener (except for glazes, icings, powders, etc.) beginning in 2004. This recipe used brown sugar as the lesser sweetener; this is the last year sugar will be permitted as a sweetener.

Famous Pumpkin Pie - *by Ted Moran*

Serves : 12

Amount	Measure	Ingredient
1	cup	honey
1/2	cup	brown sugar
1	teaspoon	salt
2	teaspoons	cinnamon
1	teaspoon	ground ginger
1/2	teaspoon	ground cloves
4	large	eggs
1	can	pumpkin pie filling
2	cans	evaporated milk -- 12 oz each
2	whole	pie shells -- deep dish

Preparation Method:

Mix sugar, honey, cinnamon, ginger and cloves in a small bowl. Beat eggs in a large bowl. Stir in pumpkin and sugar/spice mix. Gradually stir in evaporated milk. Pour into the pie shells. Bake in preheated oven at 425 for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 and bake for 40-50 minutes more, or until a knife comes out clean. Cool on racks.

Nutritional analysis by recipe software provides the following information:

- 360 calories per slice (Calories from Fat: 102)
- Fat: 12 grams (saturate fat 4 grams)
- Protein: 6 grams
- Cholesterol: 79 mg
- Carbohydrates: 61 grams
- Sodium: 517 mg

About the Speakers for the Winter MSBA Meeting:

Featured Speakers:

Dr. Marla Spivak is an Associate Professor and Extension Entomologist in Apiculture in the Department of Entomology at the University of Minnesota. Her dedication to apiculture began in 1974 when she worked for commercial beekeeper Jerry Cole in New Mexico, and later for Paul Limbach in Colorado. In 1978 she completed a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Humboldt State University in California. She then became a research assistant for Steve Taber at the USDA Bee Research Center in Tucson, before traveling through much of South America. There she gained experience with Africanized bees by visiting and working for beekeepers along the way, especially near Machu Picchu in Peru. In 1980 she assisted Dr. Orley Taylor with research on Africanized bees in Venezuela and then entered graduate school under Dr. Taylor at the University of Kansas. Her current position is split between research, teaching and extension.

She is one of our leading researchers on the subject of QUEENS. Her presentation at our Winter Meeting is a "must hear" for serious beekeepers! Everything you wanted to hear about Queens, especially genetics and the Do's and Don'ts of Queen Introduction.

Dr. Rick Fell is the Professor of the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech. Dr. Fell was a key speaker at the Maryland/Virginia joint meeting last June and was well received by the beekeepers in attendance. His subjects cover important elements of proper care of a colony.



New MSBA Officers & Directors:

Congratulations to the following Officers and Directors elected at the November Annual Meeting for 2004:

Officers:

- President: David Smith
- 1st Vice President : Lloyd Snyder
- Secretary: Allen Hayes
- Treasurer : Christine Goldsmith

Directors:

- Jody King
- Nancy Troup
- Chuck Huselton

See the MSBA directory for a full listing of local Beekeeping officials.

Candy for Your Bees:

Feeding Honey Bees

(From Fundamentals of Beekeeping)

Colonies found short of food stores before late March are difficult to manage. Feeding heavy sugar syrup at this time is not normally recommended, since it places an additional stress on the clustered bees. Inversion of the sucrose and handling excess water causes problems for honey bees. Too much moisture in the bee's diet causes dysentery. Three food sources that the beekeeper may consider at this time of year are combs of honey, dry sugar, or sugar candy. Never feed combs of honey unless you are absolutely sure they are free of disease, particularly American foulbrood. Dry granulated sugar may be poured around the hole of the inner cover or spread on a piece of paper above the frames. To take full advantage of the dry sugar, colonies must be strong, temperatures warm enough so the cluster can be broken, and adequate moisture must be available. This approach is not well suited to colonies that need food immediately to survive.

Probably the best approach to emergency feeding is to feed sugar candy made from the following recipe:

SUGAR CANDY

- 15 pounds sugar
- 3 pounds glucose or white corn syrup
- 4 cups water
- 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar

Dissolve the sugar in the water by stirring and boiling the mixture until the temperature of the syrup rises to 242°F. You must use a candy thermometer while bringing the syrup to 242°F. Let the syrup cool to 180° F, then beat until thick. Pour the candy into molds lined with wax paper. Place a cake of sugar on two small, 1/2 inch square strips of wood in an empty super above the cluster of bees. Cover the candy and the space around it with cloth or newspaper to keep it warm. Remove any remaining candy and feed syrup when the weather gets warm in March or April.

... ..

NUCLEUS COLONIES
for beginners, expansion or replacement

 **SPRING 2004**

With 4 frames and a new, laying, marked Queen

SPRING TREATED & MD INSPECTED
in your equipment

\$59.00 

CONTACT: BILL AND NANCY TROUP
Certified Master Beekeepers
Williamsport, Maryland
301-223-9662
e-mail: beestroup@erole.com

 **WE CARRY ALL YOUR BEEKEEPING NEEDS**

SUGAR AVAILABLE IN 100# BAGS

Queens available April 15, 2004

MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION

SNYDER'S APIARIES

(410)329-6671 or Email - LRSNYDER@EARTHLINK.NET

	1	5	10	11 & UP	
Hive Body [HB]	\$15.20	\$14.50	\$13.80	\$12.50	
Hive Body w/Frames	\$23.00	\$21.60	\$20.20		
Illinois Super [ILL]	\$10.95	\$10.45	\$9.95	\$9.00	
Illinois w/Frames	\$18.75	\$17.55	\$16.35		
Shallow Super [SHL]	\$10.85	\$10.35	\$9.85	\$8.90	
Shallow w/Frames	\$18.65	\$17.45	\$16.25		
Telecovers	\$17.00	Inner Covers \$7.75			
Bottom Boards	\$10.00	Top Feeders \$12.00			
Slatted Racks	\$12.00				
	1 - 10	50 - 99	100 - 499	500 & UP	
Hive Body Frames	\$0.79	\$0.72	\$0.65	0.63	
Illinois Frames	\$0.79	\$0.72	\$0.65	0.63	
Shallow Frames	\$0.79	\$0.72	\$0.65	0.63	
Pierco Snap-In	1-10	11-49	50 - 99	100 - 999	1000 - 2999
Hive Body Waxed	\$0.89	\$0.87	\$0.83	\$0.75	\$0.73
Illinois Waxed	\$0.71	\$0.69	\$0.68	\$0.64	\$0.62
Plus Wired, Duragilt & Comb Honey					

Shortly we will also have waxed Hive body & Illinois Pierco frames in stock.

PACKAGE BEES & QUEENS

As in previous years we have available a limited supply of 3-pound packages of bees. The packages are made up with young high quality Italian bees. Packages received over the last 8 years when installed on foundation, with proper care, drew out two hive bodies of wax and with a good honey flow one to three shallow supers of honey were harvested from these colonies. The packages will be available for pickup on Saturday, April 3, 2004. A 3-pound package with an Italian queen is \$49.00 each or \$52.00 each with a Russian queen. Queens are also available for pickup the same day at \$12.00 each for an Italian queen or \$14.00 each for a Russian queen. There have been NO Small Hive Beetles reported in the area of my supplier.

Orders MUST BE PLACED by MARCH 22, 2004 for delivery Saturday, April 3, 2004.

We have lots of other beekeeping equipment in stock and available for pickup or shipment to you. So if you need any other beekeeping supplies give us a call or send us an E-mail and we can give prices or send you a more complete price list.

PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION

2004 MSBA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

President: David Smith (410) 556-6222
1ST Vice President: Lloyd Snyder (410) 329-6671
Secretary: Allen Hayes (410) 489-2835
Treasurer: Christine Goldsmith (410) 635-2867
MD EAS Director: Barry Thompson (301) 947-4652

Directors:

Jody King (410) 875-2332
Nancy Troup (301) 223-9662
Chuck Huselton

Past Presidents:

Barry Thompson (301) 947-4652
Dean Burroughs (410) 546-2910
David Simmons (410) 734-4188

COUNTY VICE PRESIDENTS:

Anne Arundel: Jon Clulow (410) 255-2676
Allegeny: Harry Mallow (301) 724-2191
Baltimore: Jerry Fischer (410) 682-3251
Baltimore City: Bob Crouse (410) 265-7999
Calvert: Bob Corey (301) 855-8431
Caroline: Paul Dill (800) 573-1713
Carroll: Steve McDaniel (410) 239-7496
Charles: Edward Clements (301) 934-8280
Cecil: Jeff Powell (410) 392-5985
Dorchester: Oliver Collins (410) 943-3448
Frederick: Ernie Miner (301) 898-9290
Garrett: Madonna Poole (301) 334-7670
Harford: Eric Nickerson (410) 877-0345
Howard: Wayne Esaias (301) 854-3180
Kent: Matt Redman (410) 778-2385
Montgomery: Bill Miller (301) 926-3590
Prince George's: David Morris (301) 725-6185
Queen Anne's: David Smith (410) 556-6222
Somerset: George Dreyer (410) 623-2221
St Mary's: Harry Dalton (301) 475-8224
Talbot: Winslow Womack (410) 745-9589
Washington: Jim Baker (301) 223-8681
Wicomico: Dean Burroughs (410) 546-2910
Worcester: Karole Schoepf (410) 957-3128
Washington D.C.: Stanley Nesheim (202) 244-8794

LOCAL BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATIONS:

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
President: Terry Feaster Telephone: (304) 726-4026

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
President: Jon Clulow Telephone: (410) 255-2676

APPALACHIAN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
President: Jerome Cassidy Telephone: (301) 334-8631

ASSOC. OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND BEEKEEPERS
President: Robert Cory Telephone: (301) 855-8431

BOWIE-UPPER MARLBORO BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
President: David Morris Telephone (301) 725-6185

CARROLL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
President: Bob Gerhardt Telephone: (410) 374-6425

CENTRAL MARYLAND BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
President: Gary Bush Telephone: (410) 667-6871

HOWARD COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
President Wayne Esaias Telephone (310) 854-3180

HAGERSTOWN VALLEY APIAN SOCIETY
President: Bill Troup III Telephone: (301) 223-9662

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC
President: George W. Imirie, Jr. Telephone: (301) 424-5709

SUSQUEHANNA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
President: Cybil Preston Telephone: (410) 836-6993

MDA OFFICE OF APIARY INSPECTION

Jerry Fischer (410) 682-3251

MSBA HOME PAGE:

<http://iaa.umd.edu/mdbee/mdbee.html>

David Morris (301) 725-6185

BEELINE EDITOR:

John D. Moyer (410) 923-0190

jmoyer28@comcast.net

THE BEELINE



John D. Moyer, Editor
713 Doages Dr
Millersville, MD 21108

Season's Greetings



Address corrections requested