



THE BEELINE

Founded 1908

Volume XXXIV, No. 128

February 2010

MSBA Winter Meeting

Feb 20, 2010

Howard County Fairgrounds

See program information

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President's Message

by Paul Dill

Welcome to a new decade! Over the past twenty years, we have seen many changes with our bees -- and no two years, let alone two decades, have been the same.

We all have stories from these unusual times. I remember one Spring that I went out to make splits, not bothering to check for the location of the queens, because I thought I would just give the hives with no eggs the new queens that were due to arrive from the South in a few days. Well, days turned into weeks, waiting for those Southern queens to be ready for the earlier and earlier Maryland Spring. By the time the queens arrived, I had eggs in every hive. Now I had to start over, searching for the queens in the hives, and making new splits for my new Southern queens.

One year it seemed like the fittest, liveliest bees were living with the highest mite loads, then there was no nectar flow to speak of.

By August there was no brood, by September the bees were starving. With no winter bees, there would be no bees to build up good strong hives the following Spring.

In 2007, my hives built up slowly. In 2008, I had bees, bees and more bees and I could not add supers fast enough. In 2009, in the same bee yard, all the bees were dead.

Sometimes the challenge of keeping bees is not running to do all the things we have to do, but trying to guess how all the changes from year to year change our job as beekeepers.

What can you do to make this all work? I have been raising queens over the past few years. Several of us started as a small group raising more than we needed, taking the best of our best and mating them in areas with drones in the wild. I'd like to see more us join the group of beekeepers who try to raise a few queens. It is not too hard: You need to keep a spare queen on hand, maybe in a spare nuc box. If you have a hive go queenless, you already have a local queen ready to take her place! The queen gives you a good option in a pinch, and her local background makes her more likely to do a good job here in Maryland.

Presidents Message, cont fm p1:

Another story: sometimes you might consider giving a queen a second chance. I once had a hive that ended the season with just two frames of bees. I had another that went queenless. The best, traditional advice which all of us have received is that we should take our losses in the Fall: "don't combine week hives." But I put those two hives together, and when they were combined they produced more honey than four other hives in the same yard. Every beekeeper has to decide what risks and what losses they are willing to take, but what a pleasant surprise when one pays off!

Sometimes in uncertain times, it pays to experiment a little, and to make some room to try new things.

But sometimes it seems like old lessons DO apply. If the moon controls the tides, sometimes it seems like it might have something to do with our bees as well! Our fathers and grandfathers planted the garden by the signs of the moon. If that is true (and make a note of this prediction), someone here should get a call or have a swarm about April 8 of this year. Last year, my first swarm call came later. In 2008, it came earlier, in late March.

Finally, there is one very reliable bit of buzz I can share with you: there is a new doctor in town! Dr. Deborah Delaney has recently succeeded the much-admired Dr. Dewey Caron on the University of Delaware's Faculty of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology. Dr. Delaney studied under Dr. David Tarry in North Carolina, and brings the latest information and great outreach skills to her new post. She has graciously agreed to come speak with us at our February 20th Winter Meeting at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Please join us and help the Maryland State Beekeepers Association welcome her to our part of the world.

###

From the Treasurer :

Please check your MSBA membership "thru date" indicated on your mailing label or included in the email announcing the E-Version link to the on-line Beeline.

If your dues are not current, please pay your \$10 annual dues at the February 20 meeting or mail to the MSBA Treasurer, Robert Crouse, 1606 Dogwood Ln., Bel Air, MD 21015.

Note: Please, *indicate what your checks are for* (i.e. 2010 dues); especially if you are sending more than the annual dues, otherwise excess funds not specified may be considered donations to MSBA.

Mark your calendars:**COMING EVENTS*****MSBA Winter Meeting:***

Feb. 20, 2010 Howard County Fairgrounds,
West Friendship, Md

**Winter Meeting
Weather Policy**

In the event of a major winter storm listen to WBAL (AM 1090) or WTOP (AM 1500) for announcements. If a Snow Emergency Plan is in effect for Howard County, then the meeting is cancelled.

###

***Upcoming Local/ National /
International Meetings:***

EAS 2010 August 2-6, 2010
Boone, North Carolina

###



MSBA President, Steve Mc Daniel, presents The Free State Beekeeper Citizenship award to David & Adele Morris for their outstanding contributions to Maryland Beekeeping, at the MSBA Annual Meeting in November.

NEWS FROM THE APIARY INSPECTORS OFFICE PLANT PROTECTION & WEED MANAGEMENT APIARY INSPECTION

Phone: 410-841-5920 Cell: 410-562-3464 Fax: 410-841-5835

REGISTRATION: Law states that we re-registers honey bee colonies every year. Registration forms were sent out Dec. 5th 2009 for the year 2010. If you have not returned the form, **PLEASE** complete and return as soon as possible. Up-dating the registration helps the inspection program to place priorities and provide assistance to maintain healthy colonies. **Also**, on the back is a form for swarm lures. This form must be received in order to mail the requested lures the last week of March.

We need local beekeepers help to maintain healthy colonies. With the number of beekeepers and colonies, we can (sorry) only inspect approx. 1/3 to 1/2 of the apiaries in the state each year. It is recommended that you inspect (brood) and survey (mites) your colonies several times during the year. Contact the inspection office if you detect anything other than healthy brood. Some people has said that they cannot detect the different diseases. If you cannot detect the different diseases, learn what healthy brood looks like. If it is not healthy, **contact your local inspector.**

BEEKEEPING SHORT COURSE: Local associations that are providing a short course this year, please contact the inspection office (number above) with the contact information so we may assist the many calls received inquiring about beekeeping.

PACKAGE BEES: Beekeepers will be receiving queens and package of bees to replace their winter losses or increase apiaries. The apiary inspection service recommends you to consider the location from where these units come from. Do not order or receive bees from an area that is designated as AHB. There are several local suppliers that are taking orders and receiving packages from certified EHB dealers. There are several Nuc producers in the state, that you can order from.

KLINKER: The AFB detection dog, has proven a benefit to the department in many ways this year. She has alerted on finds that were not found by normal inspection, and inspected in conditions where it was not possible by other means. She will be working during the cold winter months, to give us early warning to problem areas.

SMALL HIVE BEETLE: The small hive beetle has been found and more than likely established in 19 counties of the state. Treating or trapping to control the beetle infestation is recommended as the beetle larva will cause a problem with

the nectar (honey) rendering it unusable for human consumption.

INSPECTION ENHANCEMENT FUND: The inspection office expresses their THANKS for the contributions towards the enhancement fund. This fund assists to maintain the salaries of the apiary inspectors that is needed to provide the service to Maryland beekeepers.

WISHING EVERYONE A PROSPEROUS YEAR IN 2010.

###

MSBA Winter Meeting:

Feb. 20, 2010

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

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:

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

There are no plans to provide a lunch service for this meeting, therefore, members / attendees must bring their own lunch or eat lunch at a local establishment.

Maryland State Beekeepers' Association

Winter Meeting: "Maryland Beekeeping By Any Means Necessary"

Saturday, February 20, 2010
Howard County Fairgrounds
West Friendship, Maryland

The MSBA Winter Meeting is open to the public.

8:30am	Refreshments, Coffee, Donuts, etc.	
9:30am	Opening and Welcome	Paul Dill President
9:45	Md. Apiary Inspector's Report	Jerry Fischer Md. State Inspector
10:00	The Genetic Heritage and Characterization of U.S. Honey Bee Populations: Part I: Managed	Dr. Debbie Delaney Associate Professor University of Delaware Dept of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology
11:00	Special Langstroth Anniversary Presentation Langstroth's Maryland Roots	Marc Hoffman, Montgomery County Beekeepers & Matt Redman, Eastern Shore Beekeepers
12:00	Lunch (On your own/at local restaurants)	
1:15	Getting Started With Osmia	Nancy Troup Master Beekeeper Washington County
1:45	Top Bar Hives in the Mid Atlantic: What Your Newbies Need to Know	Steve Collings Frederick County Beekeepers Association
2:30	The Genetic Heritage and Characterization of U.S. Honey Bee Populations: Part II: Non-Managed	Dr. Debbie Delaney Associate Professor University of Delaware Dept of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology
3:30	Panel: Queen Rearing in Maryland Today	Scott Seccomb, Leigh Walton, Bob Greenwell, Paul Dill
4:30	Adjourn	Paul Dill President

Better Choices to Help the Bees

A group of independent beekeepers are creating a public education project that would support honeybees by urging homeowners to use bee-friendly, non-toxic treatments on their lawn and gardens, to create bee friendly gardens and to take actions that support local beekeepers. This information is targeted toward educating homeowners who want to help the bees but don't know what to do.

This spring is an important opportunity to translate the widespread concern for CCD and honeybee plight into positive actions individuals can take in their own backyards. Never has public awareness been so high; we can either use this momentum or lose it.

We invite individuals and organizations to combine efforts with us. Share your knowledge and resources to help us create a PR response to the crisis and opportunity. Our plan is to:

- Create and disseminate press releases, contact the media to run stories and interviews;
- Produce a printed hand-out to guide personal choices;
- Build a public relations campaign using expert speakers for radio interviews and presentations to organizations;
- Use the web and social marketing to disseminate the information, in addition to traditional media.

You can help us:

- Identify content so we can minimize "re-creating the wheel";
- Review our content to make sure we have our facts right and are hitting the most important points;
- Identify non toxic alternatives for consumers, including sources and suppliers;
- Provide names of possible speakers for radio interviews;
- Suggest other organizations and individuals who might be helpful resources;
- Identify organizations who may want a speaker on the topic of helping honeybees.

The working group, so far, are third-year beekeepers and friends, with skill-sets for the research, writing, graphic design, media public relations, and use of social marketing/web dissemination. There are many of you with greater knowledge and experience, who could help refine our message. We would greatly appreciate your assistance—please help us help the honeybees!

Contact Bonnie Raindrop 410-404-3808 bonnieraindrop@gmail.com or Beth Passavant 410-444-9644 epassavant@mindspring.com if you would like to help this campaign. Resource materials can be mailed to Beth Passavant, 2805 Forest View Ave., Apt. B-3, Baltimore, MD 21214. Many thanks!

###

Used Beekeeping Equipment for Sale:

Charles County:

Downsizing our bee keeping hobby. Enough equipment (bottom boards, deeps, supers, inner covers, outer covers, frames, & feeding buckets) for at least 10 complete hives. Have been properly stored indoors. Prefer to sell as one lot.....E-mail or call 301-653-5142 301-653-5142 Greg & Kendall Clark

Washington County:

C.O. Smith, Boonsboro, MD has 2,000 shallow honey supers w/ frames & comb for sale will sell between \$5-6 ea in quantity. Call (301) 739-8528.

Kent County:

Due to a car accident several years ago I am no longer able to keep bees and am offering my collection for sale. Most is used. Some is new. I was at 30 hives before the accident and purchased the equipment to go to 50. Everything is assembled and in good shape. All is langstroth with deep for brood and shallow for honey supers including 10 frames and foundation for each super. I also have 4 living hives and a 24 frame electric honey extractor for sale.

Steven Townshend Kennedyville MD (410)708-4916
blackeye152@yahoo.com



Charlie Brandts receives *The Bee Ambassador Award* for excellence in fostering favorable attitudes toward beekeeping.

2009 Annual Report

By Steve McDaniel, Past President

Delivered at the General Meeting, Nov. 21, 2009

The state of the association is strong and active, but we face a crossroads that will determine the future of our century-old group. Our membership reached a new high of over 600 last year, and our treasury, with over \$20,000 and a balanced budget, is strong. Our income was down dramatically, but we managed to cut expenses sharply, too.

Over my two years as President, I have tried to bump up MSBA's activity level, with some success. We have returned to a four-meeting-a-year schedule, as we had for many years before the advent of the mites caused declines in the number of colonies and beekeepers in Maryland. As attendance dropped in the 1990's, we cut back to three meetings, but this year, attendance has been fantastic, with standing-room-only crowds at two meetings and a good turnout at the third, in September. Entries at our Honey Show were up this year, and our excellent programs have attracted more attendees, but something else is also going on.

Colony collapse disorder has resulted in increased favorable attention to honey bees by the media and a renewed awareness and appreciation for pollinators. This surge in interest has brought us many new beekeepers, as short course enrollment around the state has mushroomed. Local associations are finding rooms full of hopeful beekeepers at their classes.

MSBA has increased its outreach to the general public via its Honey Festival, our only public event, which we started last year at Brookside Gardens in Montgomery County to celebrate our Centennial year. We held another one this year at a new location, Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge in Laurel, Prince George's County. Both festivals were rated a big success, getting the word out about the importance and gentleness of honey bees to thousands of people.

Earlier this year, we started a number of new committees, working on Legislative Affairs, a Maryland Honey Standard, Membership, a Master Beekeeper program, and others. While some have performed admirably, most have not been successful.

Maybe it's the state of the economy, but it has been very difficult to get people to volunteer this year. Maybe it was the absence of MSBA information in the annual MDA registration mailing, a result of state government cutbacks, but over 150 members failed to pay their dues this year. These two problems, if not turned around immediately, mean serious trouble for MSBA.

Everyone is busy these days, and MSBA officers are no exception. It seems harder to make a living than ever, money is tight, and giving is down. Giving time as a volunteer has been especially hard hit, but many of us still do it, often at considerable sacrifice, because it is important. MSBA cannot exist without volunteers, because our officers are not paid. It is especially important for all the officers and members to pitch in so no one is overwhelmed. As in a beehive, great things can be accomplished with many willing hands.

Unfortunately, too few volunteers pitched in this year, and some just quit, making it difficult to operate the association with the degree of excellence I had hoped for.

Our Vice President and Program Chairman ceased responding to phone calls and e-mails last spring and finally resigned officially in August without explanation. After many attempts to find a replacement, I did the program myself for the rest of the year. Those committees of which he was chair did not function. There were other committees I had planned to get started but did not have the time to get them organized.

One was the Events Committee, in charge of the Honey Festival and the MDA Open House. No one would chair the committee or the festival, so I did it myself. God bless those who volunteered to help, especially Scott Seccomb and his crew from BUMBA, without whom there would not have been a festival at all. They brought a screen tent (which BUMBA purchased for the event), a beehive, a honey extractor and associated gear, and a mock apiary, then did many demonstrations, the Bee Rodeo, and gave two talks. They were amazing, but we needed more participants. I have to thank Alex Flanagan, too, for doing a fantastic job demonstrating how she makes her beautiful artistic flowers out of beeswax, even giving away many free flowers to children. On the other hand, one couple, who offered to bring the observation hive and help with the candle-making demonstration, just failed to show up or return calls, without any explanation, so we did without them. Very few members even came to the festival.

Now is the time to turn this situation around. If you have an interest in MSBA, take an office and work at it. We have many county VP's who do nothing at all, never showing up for meetings, never replying to Board e-mails, never helping with any events. We can replace them with new, enthusiastic people. If you have only been a beekeeper for a few years, or one year, this is your chance to make a mark. Volunteer to be a county VP or other officer or to help with next year's festival or one of our committees. According to our Constitution, you do not have to reside in a county to represent it—our 2nd VP's are regional reps, not local ones. If you take an office, promise yourself that you will come to the board meetings, where ideas are hatched and things get done. Volunteer to make MSBA a great bee association! And

PLEASE pay your dues so we can pay our bills!

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as your president these past two years. Thank you for the opportunity. It's been fun—most of the time, anyway!

Stephen McDaniel

###

Zoning Troubles for Maryland Beekeepers

Effort to Ban Beekeeping in Howard County! Beekeepers Defend Their Hobby!!

By David Morris, Maryland EAS Director

Maryland beekeepers Dan and Jeri Hemerlein keep bees on their 3.5 acre property in Columbia, a planned community developed by the Rouse Company in the earlier 70's. Columbia is not an incorporated city in Maryland; governance comes from the Columbia Association and the community councils of the ten villages of Columbia. The town has tight covenants that permit the communities to control house color, choice of storm door, even the color of your living room shades. However, the Hemerlein's property is surrounded by , but is not part of, Columbia, so the village surrounding them cannot control their activities.

In 2007 a complaint was filed against the Hemerleins for violating the Howard County zoning regulations requiring a 200' setback for all structures housing agricultural animals; bees are defined in the zoning laws as an agricultural animal. A one acre lot is a little over 200'x200', so to keep bees more than 200' from the neighbors would required well over an acre of property; that is an expensive requirement in Howard County. Unfortunately for the Hemerleins, the lay of their land limits where they can site their hives, a large part of the property is dense woods, more is wet lowland. The hives were 145' from one house and 65' from another. Importantly, the complaint was about a technical violation, not about a dangerous nuisance.

When the Hemerleins informed fellow members of the Howard County Beekeepers Association (HCBA) of the complaint, and the setback requirement, everyone realized that this regulation, if enforced, would ban nearly all Howard County beekeepers from keeping bees. The club needed to respond or else loose a much enjoyed and very beneficial hobby.

HCBA president, Allen Hayes, and Dr. Wayne Esaias, both EAS Master Beekeepers, took the lead and began to address the problem in three ways. Since the complaint was lodged when in the hives were in cluster, they persuaded the zoning officials that moving the hives during the winter could cause injury or death of the hives. With this short reprieve they began to look for support from the county officials and the Maryland State Beekeepers Association; Dan Hemerlein is a MSBA Regional Vice-President. Two sympathetic members of the county council were found, Greg Fox and Mary Kay Sigaty. They recommended that a petition be filed to modify the zoning regulations to be more amenable to small-scale beekeeping. Finally, Dr. Esaias, researched and wrote a "Maryland Best Management Practices" (BMP) document for small-scale beekeepers which could be adopted by MSBA. (Members of EAS probably know Wayne best from his talks on using the honey bee to monitor climate change, a project that has received support from NASA.) The Md. Dept of Agriculture already has a BMP document, but it is better suited for commercial beekeepers providing pollination services, not for small-scale, backyard, beekeeping. Wayne has created a document which balances beekeeper responsibility and public acceptance of hives in the neighborhood.

The big showdown came on Nov. 5, 2009, at the public hearing of the Howard County Planning Board, for zoning regulation petition ZRA-117. The petition, written by council members Fox and Sigaty and the Howard County Beekeepers Assoc., sought to reduce the setback for honey bee hives from 200' to 25', or 10' if a fence or hedge is placed in front of the hives. It also required a water supply for the bees in the yard, and that the beekeeper agree to comply with the (still to be adopted) MSBA BMP document.

Over 100 beekeepers showed up to support the petition while only four people came to speak against. Council members Fox and Sigaty were the first to address the Planning Board explaining their support for the beekeepers as an activity that has a low profile, greatly benefits the environment, and is the cause of few complaints. HCBA President Allen Hayes and MSBA President Steve McDaniel spoke about the benefits beekeepers provide to the community including fresh local honey for those who feel it helps alleviate allergies, capturing swarms, classroom presentations, supporting activities in nature centers, and other benefits. Dr. Wayne Esaias, explained that HCBA members are providing data for his NASA climate research using hives in Howard County. Apiary Inspector Jerry Fischer provided information that there are 84 registered beekeepers in the county. This was an important fact to note because with 84 registered beekeepers (prob-

ably down 50% from earlier highs), this was the first complaint ever brought to the Board. Maryland beekeepers also take pride in our proximity to the “White House Bees” and that they are maintained by an MSBA member; so, it might be said that if bee hives can grace the White House, it should be good enough for Howard County! (Did you see the hive on the cover of “Bee Culture”?)

The opponents spoke about their fear of bees flying in their yards. One person had researched a cooperative extension web page on beekeeping, had cataloged every negative behavior he could find, and then quoted the text out of context. For example, he read warnings that lawn mowers could cause bees to attack the mower operator, so he was concerned that anyone who mowed their lawn in the neighborhood would be stung. Beekeepers know that that warning refers to mowing immediately around hives. A second read a warning “to move slowly around the bees”. Neglecting to say is advice for beekeepers inspecting open hives, it was portrayed as a threat to children running in the neighborhood. Another scoffed at the reference to the White House bees, stating that “the White House has a bit more room than the yards in Columbia”.

My wife, Adele, and I came prepared to speak, but the large turnout kept us from exercising that option. We had prepared written testimony, so when the hearing was closed at 11:15 PM, we left a copy with the clerk. At the conclusion of the hearing the Board asked Mr. Fox and Ms. Sigaty to prepare final language for the petition, any rebuttal to comments made by opponents, and to provide this to the Board in early January. Our four pages of rebuttal addressed the outrageous claims of danger and deliberate misrepresentations portrayed by the opponents, including pointing out that the hive at the White House is on the south lawn where press conferences are held with foreign heads of state, helicopters land, and annual Easter egg hunts are conducted.

When rebutting opponents of beekeeping, try to reframe their statements of fear into more benign and familiar situations. To those who claim children will not be safe playing in the yard, or fear guests will be in danger, one should point out that beekeepers, too, are parents and have friends who visit. Would anyone continue a hobby that was so overtly dangerous to their friends and family? No! To claims it is dangerous to operate power equipment around hives, point out the beekeepers with well tended yards. A reasonable explanation or counterpoint usually can be made with some careful thought, because, as we know, beekeeping is not the dangerous activity that it is portrayed as

by those who hold fearful and unreasonable positions.

The beekeepers of Howard County are only asking that the zoning regulations be modified to permit the continuance of an existing activity which has been so benign that it went unnoticed until this time. If the current regulations are maintained and enforced, it will be impossible to keep bees throughout most of the county.

A final hearing will be held in early February. No testimony will be taken at the hearing. It will be the opportunity for the Board members to state their opinions and vote on the petition.

###



Toni Burnham receives the George Imirie Award for excellence in beekeeping education.



MSBA members listened intently to presentations and participated in lively discussions at the Annual Meeting in November

Honey Fits Right In With Food Channel's Predictions

From Meister Publishing

According to the Food Channel's top 10 list of food trends for 2010, "back to basics" is in, meaning a focus on home-cooked meals made from basic, healthy ingredients.

The Food Channel's foodies say it "isn't about retro, or comfort food, or even cost -- it's about determining the essentials and stocking your pantry accordingly." They also anticipate consumers will shop more frequently in order to purchase the freshest ingredients while minimizing waste.

Food vetting is another emerging trend, the Food Channel says, including issues like Fair Trade and organics. Sustainability will remain front and center, too, with consumers adopting sustainable practices such as eating locally sourced and seasonal foods, as well as purchasing products in sustainable packaging.

Another trend will be "food with benefits," meaning functional foods high in nutrients, which ties into another anticipated trend: bartering for consumables. Farmers markets and CSAs will continue to grow in popularity, and the Food Channel analysts even predict food swaps -- eg a box of tomatoes in exchange for babysitting.

This message brought to you by **Bee Culture**, The Magazine Of American Beekeeping.

###

The Penn State Center for Pollinator Research is sponsoring the first International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy on July 24-28, 2010.

Pollinators are essential for both plants and animals in agriculture and natural ecosystems, but there have been dramatic declines in pollinator populations world-wide. Pollinator decline has not only alarmed the scientific community, but gained prominence in the popular press, raising the public's awareness about threats to our ecosystem. The causes for pollinator decline are complex, and it is thought that a combination of many stressors are responsible, including pests, pathogens, environmental toxins, and disruptions in landscape ecology resulting in reduced nutrition and habitat. Addressing these issues will require multidisciplinary research approaches, the development of novel management and

conservation practices and a strong commitment to disseminate the results of these studies to students, the public, and policymakers. As part of its commitment to address pollinator health and conservation, Penn State has recently established a [Center for Pollinator Research](#), comprising 26 independent research, extension and outreach groups across the university. One of the first goals of this Center is to bring together researchers, policymakers, and conservationists in an **international conference on pollinator biology, health and policy**, to begin to bridge the gaps in our knowledge that are necessary to address this complex issue.

Planned symposia include Behavioral Ecology, Disease Ecology, Impacts of Environmental Toxins, Conservation and Ecological Applications of Native Pollinators, Coordinated International Efforts on Pollinator Decline, and Policy and Public Outreach. Furthermore, the Xerces Society will be hosting a Pollinator Conservation Short Course in conjunction with the conference.

Conference registration is expected to open on February 1, 2010; additional information will be posted on this website.

For more information about the Conference or the Center for Pollinator Research, please contact Dr. Christina Grozinger, Director of the Center for Pollinator Research, at cmgrozinger@psu.edu

For more information about the Xerces Short Course, please contact Eric Mader, National Pollinator Outreach Coordinator, eric@xerces.org

###

Accounting Background?

MSBA is looking for a member willing to assist in performing an audit of MSBA accounts.

If you have an appropriate background and are willing to assist the Association in this audit. Please contact Bob Crouse, Treasurer (410) 638-0105

MSBA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

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 Queen Anne's: John Moyer (410) 923-0190
 Somerset: George Dreyer (410) 623-2221
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ALLEGANY MOUNTAIN BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
 President: Walter Shreve Telephone: (301) 724-7975
 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
 President: Loyd Luna Telephone: (410) 757-5797
 APPALACHIAN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
 President: Jerome Cassidy Telephone: (301) 334-8631
 ASSOC. OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND BEEKEEPERS
 President: Tomas Williams (301) 884-5230
 BOWIE-UPPER MARLBORO BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
 President: Scott Seccom Telephone (301)-868-2086
 CARROLL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
 President: Patrick McGregor Telephone (410) 239-0957
 CENTRAL MARYLAND BEEKEEPERS ASSOC.
 President: David Papke Telephone: 717-246-2339
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 President Allen Hayes Telephone (410) 489-2835
 HAGERSTOWN VALLEY APIAN SOCIETY
 President: Carl Kahkonen Telephone: (240) 217-4083
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOC
 President: Jim Fraser (ph. (301) 518-9678
 SUSQUEHANNA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
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John D. Moyer (410) 923-0190

THE BEELINE

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



Address corrections requested

Will there be a shortage of vegetable seeds for gardeners in 2010? [Source: freep.com](http://freep.com)

It is possible, says Barbara Melera, owner of the oldest seed house in the country, D. Landreth Seeds of New Freedom, Pa.

"In 2009, we had the worst growing season in 50 years," she said. Rain and disease destroyed crops and with them, the seeds for next year's garden.

"Onion sets. And a cucumber seed shortage," she predicted. "We are being told that the cucumber harvest was catastrophic, attacked late in the season by woolly mildew. There was fruit, but no viable seeds inside.

"We are being told that many, many varieties simply won't be available."

Likewise, Europe had a terrible harvest this year, and Europeans purchased much of their produce from the United States, taking with it, the seeds.

And, as further proof that we are in a global marketplace, Europeans and Australians have taken a fancy to eating sprouts.

"When you grow vegetables just to get the sprouts, nothing gets to fruit. And they are consuming gigantic quantities of seeds just for the purpose of sprouts," Melera said.

Word of possible shortages must be leaking out, Melera said, because retailers are telling her they had their best December in years.

It is certainly true that vegetable gardeners are ordering seeds earlier and earlier, but Melera said she thinks it is more likely that gardeners are acting out of fear of shortages.

This message brought to you by **Bee Culture**, The Magazine Of American Beekeeping, published by the A.I. Root Company.

About the E version of the BEELINE:

MSBA members receive the electronic version of the Beeline by providing their email address to the MSBA Treasurer. The electronic version of the Beeline will be posted to the website and the membership will be sent an email announcing the link to the newsletter. The on-line newsletter is in PDF format which can be read on-line /downloaded as desired.

Members without email addresses will continue to receive the mailed version.

Links to recent past editions of the Beeline are posted to the website.

The Beeline encourages news and articles submitted for publication that would be of interest to the general membership of MSBA.

Articles submitted from members and from local clubs may be included in the Beeline Electronic version, if there is not enough space in our 10-12 page mailed version. MSBA members may submit small classified ads for personal beekeeping items to be placed on a space available basis. Members submitting ads for their businesses must submit WORD formatted ads, 1 page or less. Business ads will be placed in the electronic version of the Beeline.

Submissions to the Beeline are made to the Editor:

jmoyer28@comcast.net

Past President's Message

By Steve McDaniel

The November meeting was, shall we say, "interesting," as in that ancient Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times." By all accounts, the meeting was a great success, but it did not start off that way.

The night before the meeting, our primary speaker called me to say she had car trouble and couldn't make it. Talk about a nightmare! She was scheduled for two hour-long talks, a pretty big hole to fill. Another speaker also canceled a few days before, so there wasn't a whole lot of program left. Elections were also scheduled, but despite the best efforts of the Nominating Committee, many offices, including that of President, had no nominees. I seriously considered just calling in sick!

So what happened? Did we just call it a day and quit early and go home? NO! You, the members of MSBA, stepped up to the plate and hit a home run. In place of the first talk, I suggested a discussion on "What Works and What Doesn't," picked a topic, and opened the floor to your experiences and opinions.

Nearly everyone, it seemed, had something to say and appreciated the opportunity to pass on their experiences. The first item we discussed, screen bottom boards (Pettis boards), were pretty much used and loved by everybody, though some cautioned us about certain manufacturers who use the wrong screen with too big a mesh (1/4" instead of 1/8" openings), which leads to robbing.

Sparks flew on the second topic, plastic frames and foundation. Some loved them, some hated them, and some said unkind things about those of us who are so lazy as to use them. What fun! The discussion was so active, we ran over our time.

FYI, I use the one-piece Pierco frames and paint them with melted beeswax. I had colonies drawing out beautiful comb on them in the middle of October this year! Of course, I was feeding 1:1 sugar syrup, too.

Billy Davis, a Master Beekeeper from Loudoun County, Virginia, accompanied Pat Haskell, from Fairfax County, to help with her talk on teaching beekeeping. They have organized classes in nine different clubs in Virginia, which together had over 400 students this year! Billy just happened to have a talk on Raising Queens on his computer, so he filled in for one of our absent speakers. Both Pat and Billy gave superb talks, very well-organized and informative.

Our other open slot was used to discuss Best Management Practices, a document under consideration by the Board. We had a draft BMP drawn up by Wayne Esaias but had not debated it or acted on it. The topic came up

when Allen Hayes gave a brief summary of the problem in Howard County, where someone anonymously complained about a beekeeper not following a county ordinance. The law required a 200-foot setback of any structure used as a shelter for animals. It was so vaguely written that it could apply to a birdhouse! Strictly applied, as it was in this case, it would have effectively outlawed beekeeping in Howard County.

Two Howard County councilpersons have drafted a revised ordinance so that it excludes beehives, and the Planning Board is considering it. The revised ordinance references MSBA's Best Management Practices, a set of recommendations designed to keep bees from bothering neighbors. We figured we'd better vote on them before the ordinance goes into effect, so we discussed them at the meeting.

There were several requirements that members rightly considered too restrictive, and we had a lively discussion about fences, setbacks, and other limitations. We set up a committee which has revised the document to reflect many members' comments, and a final draft is due to be finished soon. When it is, we will post it on the website for further comments before the Board votes on it. We have to be very careful about this, even though it is only a set of recommendations. Once it becomes part of an ordinance, it will have the effect of a law, and we will have to live by it.

The auction was a great success, with lively bidding on nearly every item. We had a lot to auction, thanks to the family of Bob Subock, a Randallstown beekeeper who passed away about a year ago. We sold two extractors, a settling tank, seven cases of honey, jars, foundation, and much more. Another donor supplied bee suits and a refractometer. All told, we raised nearly \$1100 for MSBA! Our arrangement with the Subock family was to split the proceeds 50-50, but when they saw the enthusiasm and spirit of the buyers, they were so pleased to see that Bob's gear would be used and appreciated that they donated their share to MSBA. Many thanks to Bob, Jr., his sisters, and his mom for their tremendous generosity!

Then there was the election. With no slate of officers from the Nominating Committee, we had only a few nominees lined up, so we opened the floor to nominations. Many members volunteered to fill the open slots, and we now have a Board with many new, interested members who I hope will be active in helping to run MSBA. I'd like to thank all of them, especially Bob Crouse, who is replacing Jon Bealer as Treasurer, allowing him more time to tend to the website, Cheryl Evry, who is taking over as Secretary from David Morris, our new Vice-President Toni Burnham, and Paul Dill, our new President. We also have many new Regional Vice-Presidents (see the last page of the newsletter for the complete list). Please give them your full support as MSBA enters its second century.

###

Beekeeping Short Courses:

Hagerstown Valley Apian Society (HVAS)

Course Topics and Session Dates

February 6:

Introduction, History and Biology of the Honeybee

Beekeeping Equipment

Maintaining Healthy Bees

February 13:

Fall and Winter management

Spring and Summer management

Products of the hive;

Income Opportunities with Honeybees

Time: 8:45AM --- 3:00PM

Boonsboro Fire Hall,

5 St Paul Street,

Boonsboro, MD., 21713

There will be a lunch break and participants

are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch.

Snow makeup date is February 27,

April 17: Field day – Hands-on hive
experience with the bees

(Tentative Date)

The course fee is \$40.00 for registrations received by February 1, 2010, and \$45.00 at the door. Each registration fee will include two adults of the same household (and up to four children ages 10 to 18 assuming space is available), plus a one-year membership to HVAS, one copy of the textbook *Beekeeping Basics*, and bottled water. **FANTASTIC** Door Prize drawings for useful beekeeping items will be held each day.

For additional information please contact:

Mark & Sara Gibson (301) 371-0811

(hmarkg@mindspring.com)

Don Wheeler (703) 329-0642

(wheels@watermarkoffice.com)

John Britt (301) 842-4466 (john@britts.biz)

web site: www.scoutbee.org

Frederick County Beekeepers Association (FCBA)

Classes will be held each Saturday from 9-3 PM from January 16, 2010 through January 30, 2010. In addition to these three lecture days, there will also be a Saturday field day later in the Spring where we'll cover course ma-

terial with bees and hives. (Date and location TBD). Lecture classes will be located at the Frederick County Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702. We encourage you to bring a bag lunch and mingle with beekeepers and students between the morning and afternoon sessions. Beverages will be provided.

Cost of the course is \$35. This includes the book "Beekeeping Basics", from the Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research and Extension Consortium that covers the basics of beginning beekeeping, for our area. It also includes your 2010 membership to FCBA.

The lecture curriculum will be presented in bound booklets for note-taking, and there will be a guest speaker from the MDA Apiary Inspection Program for one lecture session. This course and FCBA general meetings (first Wednesday of each month) are a great place to meet and discuss bees and beekeeping with other local beekeepers. Check out the FCBA website at: www.ibiblio.org/bees/fcba

For additional information please contact:

Adam Finkelstein 301-662-4844 (adamf7@gmail.com)

Mary Riesch 301-271-2696 (MKRDesigns@aol.com)

Editors note: We regret that the published date for this Beeline precluded adequate notice for interested persons to sign up for these courses, however the information is provided in the event that there is a possibility to observe the field demonstrations or to note the contact persons for signing up for these courses next year. Also, there are other Short Courses announcements in this Beeline which may be an alternative; and the MAAREC website has information on on-line and extension beekeeping courses offered by Penn State and the University of Delaware

Honey Festival 2009

By Steve McDaniel

The sky was gray, and a light rain was falling on the second Saturday in October as we opened the second Maryland Honey Festival at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge. A brand-new screen tent, provided by Scott Seccomb and the Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association, sheltered a beehive on the lawn outside the entrance to the National Wildlife Visitors Center. A large van provided by the Laurel Volunteer Fire Company stood ready to provide food for hungry visitors.

Inside the lobby, two pots of wax were melting, supers of honey waited to be extracted, and tables displaying a vast array of honey, candles, books, and pictures tempted visitors to make a purchase. Informational displays explained “Why Bees Don’t Sting” and the interdependence of “Bees and Trees.” Beekeepers scurried about, making final preparations for the day.

A light rain kept the morning crowds sparse—James Naurot did the first open-hive demonstration at 10:30 for one man holding an umbrella. The skies cleared later on, though, allowing good crowds to watch other demos and the Beekeepers Rodeo.

Congratulations to Janet Bardzik, an urban beekeeper from Baltimore, who won both the smoker-lighting contest and the bee-catching contest. We learned a lesson about fires in tents, though—Toni Burnham christened Scott’s new tent by burning a nice round hole in the screening. (Every screen tent needs a duct-tape patch, or it doesn’t look like it’s been used.) Next year, the smoker contest will be outside the tent!

Inside the Visitor Center, Tina Glorioso, Mary Wilder, and Beth Passavant took turns making beeswax candles and ornaments, while at the other wax pot, Alex Flanagan, of Monkton, held court making artistic flowers out of thin layers of beeswax. Leigh Walton gave mock apiary demonstrations in the courtyard outside, while other volunteers, including Rich Boger, Dave Loomis, Bob Stanhope, and many BUMBA members, showed large crowds how to extract honey.

At the honey sales table, my wife Angie organized the display and gave hundreds of tastes of honey, while our daughter, Ruth McDaniel Trilli, and our grandchildren Katie and Sammie pitched in. Sales were brisk all day, and MSBA’s share was sufficient to cover all of our costs for the festival, as well as providing a nice donation to the refuge. We needed more beekeepers to consign honey, though. We could only get two, despite the fact that we were paying \$6/lb. to the supplier out of our \$8 retail price. That may seem high, but we sold almost \$2500 worth in a few hours. Moral: don’t sell your honey cheap!

Dr. Jay Evans, a scientist from the Beltsville Bee Lab, gave a talk on CCD. Other talks on beginning beekeeping were given by Scott Seccomb, Nikki Thompson, and me. Attendance wasn’t as high as we hoped because of the weather, but all the speakers got good reviews from those who listened.

Nell Baldacchino, Director of the Visitor Center, had a crew of volunteers who helped with setup, takedown, parking, running electric cords, selling refreshments, and anything else that needed to be done. Nell herself got up on a ladder to help hang the MSBA banner. What a great group of people!

All in all, the festival went well, thanks in large part to the cadre of volunteers supplied by BUMBA. Scott Seccomb’s crew brought in much of the equipment and did many of the demonstrations, set up a beautiful BUMBA exhibit and manned it all day, and even gave two presentations. Many thanks to them and to all who helped make the festival a success!

###

Honey Festival Pictures: *by Steve McDaniel*



Janet Bardzik won the smoker-lighting contest & won the bee-catching contest, too!



Alex Flanagan demonstrates her technique for making flowers out of beeswax



kids loved the free tastes of cappings and fresh honey that Jerry Jones gave out



Angie McDaniel and Ruth McDaniel Trilli at the honey sales table



a fascinated crowd watched Janet Bardzik do an open-hive demonstration



Jerry Jones kept a whole troop of cub scouts enthralled at the honey extractor

**Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association
(BUMBA) 2010 Schedule:**

JAN 12, 2010	BOARD MEETING
FEB 1, 2010	MONTPELIER WOMEN'S GROUP 7:30PM VAL BOLGER
FEB 4, 2010	REG MEETING
FEB 20, 2010	MSBA MEETING, LEIGH AND SCOTT, QRP PANEL TALK TENTATIVE
FEB	RAY AT THE WILD ONION, BEE DEMO???
MARCH 4, 2010	COURSE 1, START REG, INTRO, BEHAVIOR, EQUIPMENT 7:00PM
MARCH	BEHNKE'S NURSERY BEE DEMO
MARCH DAY, ANNA	ALLISON FURGESON FARM
MARCH 11, 2010	COURSE 2, BIOLOGY, SPRING & SUMMER MGT 7:30PM
MARCH 18, 2010	COURSE 3, FALL & WINTER MANAGEMENT 7:30PM
MARCH 25, 2010	COURSE 4, CANDLE & SOAP MAKING Q&A 7:30PM
APRIL 1, 2010	COURSE 5, REG MEETING, ELECTIONS, BEE HEALTH 7:00 – 10.00
APRIL 3, 2010	?? FIELD DAY (TENTATIVE)
APRIL 4, 2010	MARYLAND DAY, UNIV OF MD, NIKKI
APRIL 8, 2010	COURSE 6, WRAP UP Q & A, MARKETING, GUEST SPEAKER
APRIL 17, 2010	BUMBA TRAINING PROGRAM FIELD DAY
APRIL 22, 2010	RYDERWOOD GREEN DAY, MONTGOMERY CO. 10 – 2PM
MAY	BLADENSBURG WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
JUNE 3, 2010	REGULAR MEETING
JUNE	GREENBELT FARMERS MARKET

AUGUST	EAS
AUGUST 5, 2010	REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER	MSBA MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2010	REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER	PATX WILDLIFE REFUGE CENTER
OCTOBER	BUMBA FALL INTRO COURSE
NOVEMBER	MSBA MEETING
NOVEMBER	WATKINS PARK, GREEN CRAFT FAIR, TRASH TO TREASURE DAY
NOVEMBER	THE BUZZ AT HARD BARGAIN FARM
DECEMBER 14, 2010	HOLIDAY PARTY 6:00PM
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Savor the Sweet Rewards of Beekeeping!

A FANTASTIC HOBBY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Educational & Fun!

Improve Your Garden Crops

Can Be Done Almost Anywhere

Learn About Nature's Seasons and Cycles

Enjoy your Own Home Harvested Honey!

Keep Bees for Fun & Profit in Your own Backyard!

Experienced beekeepers will answer your questions about Honeybees and beekeeping!

Learn How to handle Honeybees and not get stung!

How do Honeybees make honey?

Where do you get Honeybees and Equipment?

Why do Honeybees Swarm?

Why are Honeybees so important to one-third of the food we eat?

Experienced Beekeepers will benefit too!

Learn how to Make your own Queens and Colonies!

Brush up on Bee Biology & New Management

Make new Beekeeping Friends!

Tips!

Introduce your family to the fascinating world of honeybees, their importance to our environment and our food supply. Bottle your own honey and prepare honey and beeswax gifts for friends and family. Learn how to make candles, soap and other Hive products! You don't have to become a beekeeper to learn about Honeybees!

Class begins March 4, 2010, Limited to 50 students, Sign Up Now!

Class Dates: Thursdays, 7:30 - 9:30 PM, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 April 1st (7:00PM) & 8th

HANDS ON Field Day: Saturday, April 17, 10:00 AM

****A Complete Hive with Honeybees will be Ruffled off! Door Prizes Nightly!****

Location: Watkins Park Nature Center, 301 Watkins Park Dr., Largo, Md. 1/2 mile south of Rt. 214 at the intersection with Route 193. Tel (301) 218-6702

Our thanks to the Watkins Park Nature Center staff for their assistance.

Cost includes course text, 1 year membership with newsletter and mentoring with experienced beekeepers: **Single \$30 Family \$35**

For details and registration, please contact:

David Morris 301-725-6185

beefriend@verizon.net

Scott Seccomb 301-868-2086

scott.seccomb@verizon.net

Come learn why the Honeybee is so important to our survival and the role they play in our daily lives!

Sponsored by the

Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association

and the Watkins Park Nature Center

Equipment will be available from

Free State Bees (301) 580-9313

Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com	Beekeeping Class (301) 725-6185 beefriend@verizon.net (301) 868-2086 scott.seccomb@verizon.net www.bumblebees.com
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Beekeeping Equipment Price/ Inventory Sheet

Steven R. Townshend 12176 Browntown
Road Kennedyville Maryland 21645 410-
708-4916 blackeye152@yahoo.com

Item	# For Sale	Condition	Price Each
Brood Supers 9" Assembled With FNF	26	Used	\$30.00
Honey Supers 5" Assembled With FNF	48	Used	\$30.00
Brood Supers " Assembled With FNF	30	New	\$40.00
Pollen Extractors Bottom Mount	6	N	\$55.00
Propolis Extractors	12	u	\$6.00
Jar Feeders	12	u	\$4.00
Top Feeders	6	n	\$15.00
Gallon Internal Feeders	12	u	\$3.00
Xtra Foundation	150	n	\$125.00
Cs. Checkmite	1cs	n	\$125.00
B12	bottle	n	\$30.00
Hot Knife	1	n	\$125.00
Smoker	2	u	\$50.00
Tools	5	u	\$5.00
Suit	1	u	\$60.00
Veils	2	u	\$15.00
Bottoms	50	u	\$10.00
Tops S/S	50	u	\$20.00
Tops All Wood	22	u	\$10.00
Inner Covers	50	u	\$8.00
Queen Excluders	50	u	\$5.00
Frame Nails	5#	n	5 All
Hive Nails	2#	n	5 All
crystal bug deterrent	5#	n	25 All
inner cover caps	24	n	\$2.00
24 frame electric honey extractor	1	u	\$600.00
live hives complete	4	u	\$300.00
Plastic Honey Jars Half Pint	300	n	\$0.25
Glass Jars	200	n	\$0.75
Primera Lx800 Label Printer	1	n	\$1,200.00

2009 Beekeepers Short Course For Baltimore and Carroll Counties

At the beautiful new **Irvine Nature Center** in Owings Mills

For beginning and intermediate beekeepers
and anyone interested in honey bees, taught by

Steve McDaniel,

Certified Master Beekeeper and Award-Winning Nature Photographer
Winner of Grand Champion award at the Maryland State Fair 2007 & 2008

President of the Maryland State Beekeepers Association

Wednesdays March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 7:30-9:30 pm

and Saturday April 11, 9:00 am until 2:00 pm (hands-on in the apiary)

Classroom and hands-on topics include:

Getting Started With Bees; Bee Equipment and Equipment Assembly; Honey Bee Biology; Dealing with Stings; Spring Management and Swarm Control; Package and Nuc Introduction; Bee Diseases; Fall and Winter Management; Honey Extracting; Collecting Swarms; Inspecting a Hive; Requeening— **Everything You Need to Have Thriving Bees From the Start!**

Fee \$40 single (includes course materials, textbook optional, extra)

\$50 family (two or more at the same address, one set of course materials)

Bee a Beekeeper-You Can Keep Bees Anywhere

Why Keep Bees? Many Marylanders keep bees as a hobby, because honey bees are fascinating to watch and learn about, and beekeeping is a great family activity. Honey bees make gardens and fruit trees more productive, and the luscious honey they produce is the best you'll ever taste.

Help nature and yourself—we need more bees!

For more information, contact Steve McDaniel at 410-239-7496 or e-mail at steve@mcdanielphotography.com, or call the nature center at 443-738-9224.
Irvine Nature Center members get a 10% discount.

Complete and return the application below by March 1. After deadline, call or e-mail to see if course is filled.

X -----

2009 Beekeepers Short Course Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Fee enclosed (checks payable to Irvine Nature Center) \$ _____ for _____ people attending

Send to Irvine Nature Center, 11201 Garrison Forest Rd., Owings Mills, MD 21117

Beekeeping

for profit, fun or growing your garden!

Beekeeping Basics

Beekeeping can be a profitable small business or a fascinating and environmentally sound hobby for the entire family— making your garden and fruit trees more productive

Offered in partnership with Carroll County Beekeepers Association

Learn about:

- Getting started with bees
- Equipment and equipment assembly
- Honey bee biology
- Spring management and swarming
- Diseases
- Fall/Winter management

A hands-on apiary lab session provides:

- Honey extraction demonstration
- Open hive observations
- Swarm collecting presentation
- Hive inspecting demonstration
- Requeening instruction—introducing a queen and package

Course #: SBA-563-A3

\$45 per family (MD Senior Adults: \$45)*

Wed., Mar. 3-24, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Sat, Mar. 27, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Hashawa apiary; (5 sessions)

Washington Road Campus, Rm. K100A

**Cost includes textbook and one-year membership in the Carroll County Beekeepers Association.*

Appropriate for children ages 10 and up accompanied by an adult.

To register, call Continuing Education & Training at
410-386-8100 or visit carrollcc.edu/cetcourses

CARROLL

Community College