



## 2011 Club Officers

### President

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### Vice President

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### Reminder

- The Seacoast Beekeeper's Association newsletter is always looking for items to add. If you would like something advertised, or would like something bee related, do not hesitate to contact Christopher Somma.

## President's Corner— MEETING TOPIC "Our worst beekeeping mistakes that taught us

Dear SBA Members:

**Be prepared to come and help our new beekeepers know that *none of us* got this right the first (or second, or third) time.**

Well they're off! As I write this we are in the midst of one of the most spectacular dandelion blooms I can remember. This is a great year for bees and beekeepers and a lousy year for people who want their lawn to look like suburban artificial turf. No tears will be shed in this household!

The peaches and pears are blossoming in southern NH and the apples are soon to follow. Maybe this will be a good honey year? We never know but we are off to a good start.

Our Vice President, Amy Antonucci, has been instrumental in getting the movie "Queen of the Sun: What are the Bees Telling Us?" closer to home. It came to Concord last month but now is coming to **The Portsmouth Music Hall** on

**May 25 at 7:00 pm.** Here is a description from the website:

*A profound, alternative look at the global bee crisis from Taggart Siegel, director of THE REAL DIRT ON FARMER JOHN. Taking us on a journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the mysterious world of the beehive, this engaging and ultimately uplifting film weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk and Vandana Shiva. Together they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.*

Along with other SBA members, I saw it last month and the movie is visually stunning, full of great information and somewhat provocative. So I encourage any of you who missed it to join me in heading over to the beautiful city of Portsmouth!

Thinking ahead, although I have threatened this before, I am going back to school in the



fall and will definitely be stepping down as President after this calendar year. (Although starting in 2012, Amy Antonucci and I are willing to run Beeschool). I got together with the other officers and we made a list of what our jobs actually entail. I am listing these in hopes that some of you will step forward this coming November and consider a leadership role. How about a President who is good at delegating jobs? (Never one of my strong suits.) How about a Co-Presidency where the jobs are shared? Let's think out of the box so that our club can remain strong and a friendly place to share our ideas about beekeeping.

*Amy Robinson*

## Secretary's Notes

I hope that everyone's spring if off to a nice start. As a recap to your last meeting, Richard Baumier gave an excellent presentation on the chronology of beekeeping in the United States as well as the differences in the races of bees. Those of you who missed the meeting missed a wealth of information, but no worries! Over the next few months I will be adding part of Richard's presentation to the newsletter for all to see. Props to Richard for not missing a beat when we lost power! Hopefully that doesn't happen next week!

*Christopher*

# May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	<b>19</b>	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Schedule of Events

- **May 19, 2011** Monthly meeting, Jeremiah Smith Grange Hall, Lee, New Hampshire
- **June 16 2011** Monthly meeting, Jeremiah Smith Grange Hall, Lee, New Hampshire
- **July 21, 2011** Monthly meeting, Jeremiah Smith Grange Hall, Lee, New Hampshire



## Seacoast Beekeeper's Association

c/o Christopher Somma  
P.O. Box 111  
Farmington, New Hampshire 03835



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### *SEACOAST BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION 2011 MEMBERSHIP FORM*

ANNUAL DUES (\$12.00)

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Seacoast Beekeeper's Association, and bring completed form to our next monthly meeting

## Officer's Duties

### President's Responsibilities:

- 1) Preside over monthly meetings: Make people feel welcome. Encourage new beekeepers. Run "Bee Talk" at meetings and encourage discussion. Make sure raffle tickets are sold. Run business meeting. Take responsibility for welfare of the Grange (lock up, turn off lights and fans, take home garbage).
- 3) Write column for monthly newsletter.
- 4) Communicate with the Bradys (Grange caretakers) about any changes in meeting time.
- 5) Organize firewood delivery, stacking and payment, preferably in the summer.
- 6) Organize and Deliver the NHPTV auction basket.
- 7) Encourage Beeschool to happen (but don't try to be President and run Beeschool).
- 8) Make sure Treasurer pays the rent.
- 9) Organize scheduling of Farm to School project (Wendy Booth is doing it this year.)
- 10) Respond to emails and telephone calls from the public.

### Vice President's duties:

- 1) Fill in for President when he/she cannot attend meeting (see above duties.)
- 2) Generally support the club and its endeavors. (Amy Antonnuci ran Beeschool last year and has agreed to do it this year as well, although this is not officially the duty of the VP.)

### Secretary Duties:

- 1) Take minutes of meeting or find someone else to do it.
- 2) Create and send a newsletter each month prior to the meeting.
- 3) Maintain a data base with member's updated info.

### Treasurer Duties:

- 1) Collect money from membership dues, raffles, etc.
- 2) Reimburse expenses to members who have purchased club related items.
- 3) Pay rent, insurance, etc. when due.
- 4) Coordinate with Secretary re: dues paying members.
- 5) Coordinate with Paul Gamelin to audit the books each year.

*I hope some of you will read this and say, "I can do that!!!". Our election will not be until November, but if you are interested in running for President, contact Bev Chadwick on the Nominating Committee.*

*Best, Amy Robinson*

# **A CHRONOLOGY OF BEEKEEPING IN THE AMERICAS**

RICHARD BEAUMIER APRIL, 2011

1600'S- prior Stingless bees present in central and south America

1622 First honeybees land in colony of Virginia from England

1630 Massachusetts receives first bees from Europe

## IN FOLLOWING YEARS, BEES WERE PRESENT IN THESE STATES:

1644 Connecticut

1670 Long Island New York

1698 Pennsylvania

1730 North Carolina

1743 Georgia

1770 Mississippi

1773 Alabama

1780 Kentucky

1788 Ohio

1820 Illinois

1800's Widely distributed from Atlantic Ocean to Mississippi River

1809 Alaska (maybe)

1830 California

1850's Eastern states shipped bees to California

1622 – 1852 Evolution of hives. Skep to Box hives to Langstroth hive

1857 Wax comb foundation available

1865 Centrifugal honey extractor invented

1800's into

1900's Bees, predominately from original dark northern European stock

1860 Italian queens imported

1860's Moses Quinby, (NY) first commercial beekeeper in US

1800's–1922 Queens imported from: Egypt, Cyprus, the Holy Land, Syria, Hungary, and Tunisia. Carniolan and Caucasian bees also imported.

1875 – 1915 1/3 of honey produced was 'section honey'

1922 Law passed prohibiting further imports of honey bees

1861 Queens produced in Massachusetts: Offered for sale

1889 Doolittle (New York) developed a comprehensive system for queen rearing

1886	Queens first sent through the mail
1906	<u>The Pure Food Law</u> passed, giving consumer's confidence in the purity of extracted honey
1920's	Honey packing plants developed rapidly
1957	Estimated 1,200 professional beekeepers operated 1,400,000 colonies in the US
1950's-1960's	4 million bee colonies in the US
1977	Direct sale of artificially inseminated queens
2002	Russian bees imported for evaluation, eventual sale.
2006 +/-	Packages of bees imported from Australia
2008	Decline to less than 2.5 million colonies in the US

**Reference sources:**

USDA SPONSORED RESEARCH: [usda/history-of-beekeeping-in-the-united-states](http://usda/history-of-beekeeping-in-the-united-states) internet

Wikipedia – L> L. Langstroth

ABJ Aug 2002 P591 Russian bees