



Newsletter

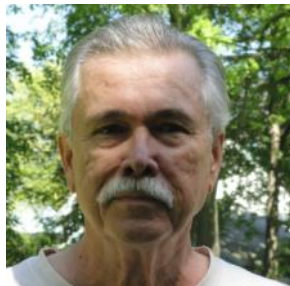
Vol. 3, 2nd Quarter Summer Issue 2011

Ed Lafferty, RIBA's Highly Successful Beekeeper

By Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban
cfluehr@ric.edu

I began by asking Ed how he got into beekeeping. "A friend had bees and asked if I would keep his bees in my yard about 8 or 9 years ago. So he put the bees in my yard and he never came back. I just watched them and did not do anything and they died that winter. The following spring the bees were getting robbed and I thought the bees came back. That's how I got interested not the honey, I don't even like honey. I just became fascinated by the study of bees."

"The next year there was a swarm and my friend came and captured it and put them in that hive. Jim Lawson came to inspect the hive and that got me started. The



Ed Lafferty RIBA vice-president

second year I took a RIBA beekeeping course with Betty. I added three more hives to the captured swarm and that year from those four hives I got 640 pounds of honey. That's probably a record (the hives were in his back yard in the Fruit Hill section of North Providence). I bottled and sold it and Celeste became my partner and

took over the bottling, sales of what we named "Fruit Hill Apiaries." I have no idea why that was such a great year and I haven't had such a good year since."

"After this a friend asked me if I would put hives on his property in Smithfield and I decided to get more hives, and that got me started placing them on other properties because our back yard is so too close to neighbors. Now I have 23 hives placed in Johnston, North Providence, Smithfield, East Greenwich, Providence, and Cranston. On average we harvest about 50-60 lbs per hive and Celeste makes lip balm, hand cream, from the wax as well as bottling and selling the honey." Fruit Hill Apiaries sells their honey at farmers markets in northern Rhode Island and in some local stores. Ed retired

Why Bees Buzz? Talk by Dr. Elizabeth Capaldi Evans



At the annual April RIBA dinner April 10, 2011, (cont'd on page 5)

Rhode Island native, (Warwick, Pilgrim High School) Elizabeth Capaldi Evans, author of *Why Bees Buzz, Fascinating Answers to Questions about Bees* (with Carol A. Butler, Rutgers University Press, 2010) and Associate Professor of Biology at Bucknell University was the speaker at RIBA's annual April 10th meeting

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Summer 2011 Issue

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- Jason Kerr, Webmaster, Newsletter, jkerr@serendiporama.com
- Celeste Nadworny, Librarian; fruithillapiaries@verizon.net
- Jim Lawson, Bee Inspector, (401) -222-2781

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Send you name, address and phone number and \$15 annual membership dues to:

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Make the check payable to, "RIBA".

Include your email address if you prefer to receive information electronically, or by post at your home address.



Lou Chasse's Weekend Workshops

Second Saturday of each month at 2:00 PM
420 Congdon Hill Road
Saunderstown, RI
Phone: 295-0888

SPRING PHOTO ENTRIES

Send your photos for the next issue to cfluehr@ric.edu



*Sanne Kure –Jensen Bees on crocuses , above
Scott Langlois, bee on comb, below*



WANTED, HONEY JUDGES

Jason Kerr requests assistance from RIBA volunteers

This is your opportunity to learn about the qualities of honey that make it competitive. Learn about color, presentation, moisture content, and the many subtle tastes of honey.

CONTACT JASON AT:

jkerr@serendiporama.com

Ed Lafferty Interview (cont'd p. 3)

in 2004 and expanded his number of hives.

Highly effective Hive Management

Ed has not lost a single hive in five years. "Nothing I do is a secret but I do it, on a regular basis. It could be referred to as an obsession. I bought a camper thinking I would be traveling which I haven't used in two years, because the bees keep me preoccupied, I bought a boat, stored it in my garage but now I have so many supers and bee junk the boat had to go."

"Early in the spring I do my count, and keep a record book (actually kept by Celeste) and inspect for winter losses. I check all the hives once a week throughout the summer. I open up the top deep and pull out the frames once a week. I don't need to find the queens as long as I find fresh eggs and brood. I only feed a little in the spring, just to stimulate 1:1 syrup and I use quart freezer bags. (1 quart sugar water in 32 oz. quart bag, poke a few holes or slit with a razor and lay it flat with a shim). For the strong hives I make splits if it looks as though they may be ready to swarm. I pull the old queen, three frames of brood and make nucs. For the weak hives I make nucs which I keep in my home yard and if I need to requeen I just use the nuc. This year I pulled seven queens thus far because my bees come through the winter so strong there is a tendency to swarm, this year only two this far." Ed also does swarm capture and is listed on the RIBA website. "I use screened bottom boards and powdered sugar beginning in late May or early June. "

Drone comb

Ed uses drone combs and says you have to be on time, every time. He places one frame of drone comb in the # 3 or #8 frames, in the upper chamber. "When you see drawn comb, start looking for eggs, as soon as there are eggs, go to the bee calendar and 20 days ahead you pull the comb when capped. Remove the frame, freeze the drone comb for a couple of days, return to room temperature and put back in the hives; the bees will clean it out and the cycle starts again. But as soon as you see fresh eggs, start the cycle again. Each hive is different so there is no standard, so the best management practice is to keep checking, maybe 4-5 times a week. I pur-

ED LAFFERTY'S TIPS ON LOWERING ANNUAL HIVE LOSSES

chase drone comb from any supplier. It all depends on your level of interest and time because it is time consuming." According to Ed the use of drone comb in all of his hives greatly reduces mite count and thus reduces losses but it is not the only secret to the success. He does the last mite count in July and he removes the drone comb in August and does not replace until the spring. And this is one of the first things he does in April.

On August 1st Ed treats all hives with Apiguard a 28 day treatment. He has pulled all of his honey by then and the supers go back on for the month of September. "This way I lose some honey but keep my bees. By treating in August I have good strong colonies of healthy bees for over wintering. I don't like to treat at all but until they discover how to breed a better bee this is the only the way to keep the bees alive. If someone doesn't want to treat their bees will die and mine will live so who has a better chance of coming up with a solution? I used formic acid for a while but felt it was too harsh to use in August and it is too late to use in September because that is when I am trying to raise the fat bees for the winter. With Apiguard I don't think there are lingering effects to harm the fall honey flow. I do take a smaller honey crop in the fall." Ed's biggest honey crop is in the spring. Besides this he leaves about 60 lbs of honey per hive for over wintering. And if necessary, he feeds. Ed doesn't buy packages, only queens.

There is a new formic acid product that Ed is going to try on five hives this year, Quick Strips which is supposed to be the new "silver bullet." "So we'll see, it can be used twice a year, one in spring and one in late summer. I like the idea of using the spring treatment (sets the queen back but will help with the swarms in spring), it is a 5 day treatment and they don't have to be removed." Ed likes to keep experimenting with new methods and treatments."

"I don't expect all beekeepers to go to the length I go to; after all I am ob-

essed, but if you want your bees to live you have to control the mites. I hear so many people say my bees were fine in December and in February they were dead, They say it was a tough winter, too cold, but in the back of my mind I am screaming NO IT IS THE MITES! You have to control the mite population." "For over wintering I am concerned about condensation moisture, so I run a shim with a piece of homosote attached and it absorbs the water and prevents it from getting the bees wet. Homosote also gives them a water source so that they can liquefy crystallized honey in then hive. In Winter you can see the bees sucking the moisture out of the homosote, and there are no chemicals involved in making homosote." He says there is no need to wrap in RI, and he checks his hives on warm days once a month during the winter.

Breeding queens in RI

"You can't breed a better bee in RI, because the bee population here is so dense that queens will mate with the southern drones prevalent in the area from southern packages that dominate here, so your can't breed locally. The drone source in RI is southern—you need an artificial environment—in more remote areas you can create your own isolation area. In Maine and New Hampshire they can breed and predict with greater accuracy who the virgin queens are mating with. Breeders in Northern New England still have not come up with a bee that is mite resistant. So in the long run, we remain dependent on southern bees and this is not going to change any time soon. Thus far hive beetles can't establish themselves due to our harsh winters. The main thing is the mite count." Ed uses the alcohol wash, powdered sugar, screened bottom boards (counts one every couple of weeks or one a month). "If you lose hive don't be fatalistic but find out why the hive died, lack of food, moisture, much can be avoided but not everything, but most things that kill the bees can be remedied."

Summer Monthly Meeting Schedule

June 12th meeting 1PM; Lobster bake, hosted at the Faella farm, Peace Dale, RI; registration and directions at RIBA website: www.ribeekeeper.org

July 10 meeting, 2PM at Pat and Alyce Pedder's, Chepachet, RI

August 14 meeting, 2PM at Janet Colardo's, Johnston, RI

Check RIBA website for more details as the dates approach

After the summer meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Rocky Hill Grange at 2:00 unless announced otherwise.

Check the website for meeting notices: www.ribeekeeper.org

Directions to Rocky Hill Grange, 1340 S. County Trail (Rt. 2), East Greenwich: I-95 North or South, Exit 8/RI 25/Quaker Ln. (8 from south, 8A from north. Merge on to Rt 2 south, go thru light at division St, Grange is on left after shopping center



Lafferty, cont'd from page 3

Ed is our new vice president, “working with Jeff we have the same goals, education, try to build a better mentoring program, want meetings to be informative, and positive (constructive), and building an ‘esprit de corps’, a greater sense of collectively working together to help one another.”



LESSONS FROM BEES

Bees are great engineers. They create a working system of circulation, moisture control, and air flow. If possible, they bore vents in the top and bottom of the hive. They fan their wings to move the air around. They also keep their home dry by fanning. They create heat by shivering. Otherwise, the hive would become damp, close, hot, or cold, causing disease.

Lesson: You don’t have to go to college to understand thermodynamics.

On hot nights bees hang out. They drape over the hive entrance and crawl up the front. They rest from their work. They buzz in contentment. They catch the balmy breeze of a hot summer’s night.

Lesson: After a hard day’s work it is good to relax.

(Howard Scott, 2002)

Elizabeth Capaldi Evans Talk

held at the Pines in North Smithfield. She made an engaging and entertaining presentation on her latest research into the multiple threats posed for the bees and beekeepers in contemporary American beekeeping.

Dr. Capaldi Evans talk was as practical and interesting as is her book that contains chapters such as “Bee Basics, Bee Bodies, Bee Behavior, Bee Love, Bee at work.” Like most bee researchers she is concerned with colony collapse and the overall dwindling of the bee population for years. As with other researchers she agrees that there is no single cause for the disorder, neither a new insecticide nor a new virus. But it is because those factors are interacting with other factors to affect the overall health of the honey bee. The problem is primarily for beekeepers with large numbers of hives and much less so for small scale beekeepers. Colony collapse is a major cause of overwintering mortality when as many as 50% of colonies do not survive. Colony collapse is diagnosed by adult workers abandoning the hive in less than a week, or in some cases the bees being found dead in the hive. She noted that other historic massive die-offs have occurred in 1869 and in 1915 when it was referred to as “Disappearing Disease.” It also occurred in 1963-65 when it was called “Spring Dwindling, Fall Collapse, and Autumn Collapse.” However, these early outbreaks were localized and the causes never determined, but beekeeping recovered. Other die-offs occurred in 1975, 1995, 2004 and 2005, but the large losses from 2006 on along the East Coast and then spreading throughout the country and in Canada and Europe have led to the current designation of CCD. The first imports of bees since 1922 were allowed in 2007 (from Australia) to compensate for the losses. (cont’d on page 6)

2011 Annual Meeting Elects RIBA Officers

At the 2011 annual meeting in April, the following members were elected to office for the upcoming year:

- President:** Jeff McGuire
- Vice-president:** Ed Lafferty
- Secretary:** Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban
- Treasurer:** Tony Digiulio
- Member at Large:** Kit Mayers

Please support your local Beekeeping Association by offering to help out with the activities of RIBA

SOME PRODUCTS USING BEE DESIGNS



Shoe polish and energy bar, (send your favorite)

Late Spring Early Summer Honey Report

James Praski

James.Praski@ams.usda.gov

• Thanks to Jim for his interesting honey reports that appear as a regular feature of the RIBA Newsletter. Jim would like to hear from you with your observations and any information regarding your hives.

In New England, weather for the month of March meant some very cold temperatures which were lower than normal, exhibiting daytime temperatures in the high 20's and low 30's whereby mostly freezing temperatures overnight combined with high winds creating a low wind chill effect. Precipitation in the form of heavy snow falls occurred in Northern New England as opposed to heavy rain fall and with a wintery mix in the southern regions. The resulting high moisture levels should provide conditions for abundant pollen and nectar sources. Early spring ornamentals such as pussy willow, hazelnut catkins, skunk cabbage, poison ivy, swamp red maple, winter aconite as well as snow drops (*galanthus nivalis*), snowflakes (*leucojum vernum*), add to the spring build up flora. Bees have been returning to their hives with their pollen sacks brimming with orange, yellow and cream colored pollen from crocus, daffodils, and witch hazel. There is pollen being brought in but most keepers have started feeding light sugar syrup, and light cane syrup to stimulate egg laying and to increase early populations as we look ahead to apple and fruit pollination in April/May. March is a critical month for feeding. Continuing cold temperatures required beekeepers to feed only solids such as protein patties, fondant, sugar

candy, or dry granulated sugar around the opening of the inner cover. The cluster will adjust itself around more stores and will participate in cleansing flights on the milder temperature days.

Keepers in Southern New England are proceeding to feed 1:1 ratio sugar water and high fructose syrup in order to stimulate brood rearing with over winter hives. Seasoned keepers feed with caution because swarm control is a major tenet of successful beekeeping. In this regard, colonies that show ample capped honey cells might just need light feeding or none at all depending on hive activity and/or floral sources that are blooming around your area. Swarm prevention is helped along when, in the brood chambers, open space is provided for the queen by not over feeding thus over storing syrup. Additionally, care should be taken when feeding so as not to overdo it and push the queen into laying more brood than the bees can cover, in the event of major cold weather occurring and creating chilled brood conditions. March losses are not uncommon because bees are aging and the colonies stores have dwindled. As our long winter finally broke and warmer temperatures proceeded keepers had the ability to inspect their hives.

Early reports were encouraging, as we are hearing that many beekeepers have strong colonies coming out of another long, cold winter. Deep snow was a help as it provided insulation for hives. Many keepers, both hobbyists and commercial, have expressed a frustration about over wintering because purportedly, their bees going into winter were strong and had plenty of food but experienced losses at 25% after checking. temperatures proceeded keepers had the ability to inspect their hives.

May Report

New England weather for the month of May was wet and cooler than normal. The weather exhibited a pattern of cooler, unstable temperatures with a mixture of some mild to warm days and some cool to cold temperature days. Precipitation for the month was above normal with all regions reporting high moisture levels that helped push earlier than normal ornamental and floral sources for pollen and nectar such as dandelion (*taraxacum officinale*) as well as ornamental Japanese or blood good red maple and crab apple. Reportedly some keepers have addressed fruit grower needs especially apples, by setting up



beehives no later than the 2nd week of May. This year pollination fees are set at \$75.00 to \$100.00 mostly \$80.00 per hive with 4- hives per pallet and a 1- pallet minimum. Pollination hives have been deployed to apples, blueberries and other earlier crops but were cut short by continual rain and cool temperatures. Hopefully growers had enough pollination to set a crop. There were no reported strong frost conditions so that is a positive over last year. Many keepers early on had observed pollen frenzies at the front porches of their hives, mostly cream colored and orange pollens as activity was intense. Some keepers are reporting that carpenter ants seem to be a problem around hives showing prolific pollen gathering. The rainy weather the last two weeks of the month slowed plant growth and farm plantings. So there have been few blossoms to pollinate

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farm plantings. So there have been few blossoms to pollinate and most orchards currently are not getting the needed pollination. This is that noted time of the year known as the fruit bloom on the beekeepers calendar. In this regard, bee activity has slowed and they have been bringing small amounts of pollen and nectar and thus not enough to sustain brood rearing hence creating a need for supplemental feedings. Rainy weather held back brood development. Regionally, the major portion of spring nectar flow emanates from chestnut and black locust bloom to which most of the black locust got washed away earlier than usual. In full bloom are sources such as apples (*malus spp.*), apricots (*prunus armeniaca*), plum (*prunus spp.*), pears (*pyrus communis*), red currant (*riber rubrum*), wild plum (*prunus Americana*), pin cherry (*prunus pennsylvanica*), choke cherry (*prunus virginiana*), and blueberry. Bees are actively collecting from other pollen and nectar sources such as greater celandine, dogwood, honeysuckle, numerous clovers, mostly sweet clover, lilac, mustard, glossy buckthorn, hawkweed, mint, chive, black cherry, wild flowers and other flowering ornamental trees and shrubs.

Reportedly, the high moisture levels are creating higher floral nectar levels than in previous years, therefore as soon as New England gets consistent, warm

temperatures and sunshine, beekeepers are anticipating a good honey flow year. Reportedly, bees have been doing fairly well but need foraging time. Continual rain also delayed queen rearing as mating flights require sun and temperatures at minimally 75 degrees F. Purportedly, many hives have good brood that has been hatching during this wet weather and the congestion is likely to stimulate the swarming impulse as swarms are expected to be prolific when we catch the next series of warm sunny days. Reportedly, hives experiencing superseded queens usually show offspring bees of a different coloring. Already reports of swarm activity are very high and problematic for those who did not make splits and put off supering because rain had dampened most beekeeping activity. Reportedly, health wise, and generally speaking, over wintered hives are doing extremely well with lots of brood building up with full foundation expansion and plenty of forging/worker bees. Nuc production is normal however; queen performance is spotty probably due to the cold, wet weather. Colonies are reportedly in good condition with very little pest problems. Purportedly, the main disease problems regionally have been chalkbrood and nosema. It has been difficult to determine what type of nosema is present for many keepers. Weather does not seem to be a determining factor. Nucs and hives that have been slow to build



Beekeeping in Fayoum Oasis, Egypt by Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban

and have been detected to have undersized or weak queens and in some cases queen less. In New England, keepers have been using apiguard and formic acid to fight against varroa/tracheal mites and chalkbrood. Additionally, they have been using Fumidil-B for treatment of nosema and Terramycin for American foul brood. Additionally, stored equipment such as extracted honey supers and frames need paradichlorobenzene to combat wax moth. Keepers report that bees are primed for comb building and expansion at this time of the year especially regarding reversing hive bodies. Comb renewal is part of ensuring a healthy environment for the bees as it removes possible contamination from the hive and relieves that particular stress on the bees. At this point in time, honey production is down as compared to previous years as honey producers are not getting a surplus as a result of cold, wet weather. Mid May through the end of June is a major honey producing period for the Northeast and we have lost several weeks of production due to the wet weather. Keepers are hoping June is sunny hence, giving bees a chance to catch up. Demand for local honey has been strong. Prices quoted for 1 lb bottle units were steady at \$6.00-\$9.00 mostly \$8.50 occasionally higher inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations prices were steady with wholesale 5 gallon units at \$150-\$200 mostly \$175 occasionally lower for both light and dark, raw and natural honey depending on the variety and quality.

In January my husband and I were touring Egypt with family and were returning to Cairo for a memorable performance of the opera "Aida" when we passed through the huge Fayoum Oasis, famed as a 'breadbasket' since ancient times. Passing through the lush farms of the oasis, I asked about local beekeepers and we were taken late in the afternoon to the fields of a local farmer and beekeeper. As our stop was brief, I was only able to ask some basic questions in Arabic about local conditions for Egyptian beekeepers. I observed that only Langstroth hives were in use, mainly of local construction and likely introduced by the British during the colonial era that only ended in 1952. However, Eva Crane, the greatest authority on international beekeeping (*The world history of Beekeeping and Honey Hunting, 2004*), noted that that in 1964 85% of hives in this region of lower



Egypt were still the traditional, conical hives made of sun-dried mud,

Spring pollination begins early in February and March and overwintering does not present too many challenges due to its mild nature and short duration. Our host was keen to open some of his hives and demonstrate how gentle were his bees, and indeed they exhibited little defensive behavior. Italian queens are sometimes introduced but only to supplement natural increase. The purchase of packages of bees is unknown. As the Fayoum is not far from Cairo, the Nile Delta megalopolis near to the Mediterranean, I asked about colony collapse disorder which was un-



Langstroth Hives in Fayoum apiary

known to the local beekeeper I met and interviewed in Northern Sudan in 2010. However, in the Fayoum, colony collapse is a known foreign disorder, but as yet it is only feared and has not made its appearance. The yield per hive is modest at about 60-80 pounds per hive and, surprisingly given the fertile oasis, there is only one honey flow in the spring.

(cont'd on

p. 8)



Beekeeping in Egypt

(cont'd from p. 7)



“Nasubiti,” ancient Egyptian hieroglyph symbolizing the king and the northern region of the state

Like many other creatures in the natural world, bees had great symbolism in ancient Egypt. The bee was a symbol of lower Egypt (the north) where cultivation was most intense and it became a symbol of kingship. The humble *nasubiti*, the consummate worker, provided the Semitic language root for slave ‘*abata*’ that continues to this day in Arabic & Hebrew. Look for a feature in a future newsletter on bees and beekeeping in ancient Egypt.

QUOTES FROM HENRY DAVID THOREAU ON BEEKEEPING

The keeping of bees is like the direction of sunbeams.

There are certain pursuits which, if not wholly poetic and true, do not least suggest a nobler and finer relation to nature than we know. The keeping of bees for instance.

(Thanks to my neighbor in Pawtuxet Village, Timothy Rivonus, for the latter quote.)

Capaldi Evans Talk at Annual Dinner (from p. 1)

Capaldi Evans stresses the importance of adequate nutrition to keep colonies in a healthy state so that their natural immune responses can be activated in the stressful environment of the virus that is transmitted by mites from colony to colony. Bees are now in an immune compromised state and while the research is important so also are the practices of local beekeepers to maintain healthy hives, and promote environmental education that is bee friendly. Also by buying food produced in local environments. The American diet is dependent on insect pollination and crops like tomatoes, apples, oranges, almonds, cherries, pears, and blueberries are all completely dependent on the actions of bee pollinators.

Bees likely do not sting out of anger, an anthropomorphic idea that bees exhibit human behavior, but out of a sense of disturbance or imminent danger to the stability of the nest. The risk is highest at the nest rather than on flowers or in fields, most will not sting without some trigger and dire consequences for the bee who does not survive. However, a honey bee can sting another insect and retract the stinger safely, but it only breaks up in soft flesh making it possible to only a person once. Bee venom itself is a complex chemical cocktail called *melittin* which bursts blood vessels and damages tissues. The venom stimulates neurotransmitters in the brain that release histamines that produce the side effects of swelling, redness and itching. Natural remedies for bee stings include water and baking soda poultice or placing a slice of onion or potato.

The danger of insecticides is that sprayed pesticides are first distributed through the tissues of plants that can result in a toxic reaction which bees consume when they forage on the nectar and pollen in the flower. The resulting compromise in the bees’ immune system makes them more susceptible to varroa and tracheal mites, wax moths, bee lice and hive beetles.

The question and answer period was lively, as usual with RIBA members, and Dr. Capaldi Evans patiently signed the many copies of her books that sold at the April annual meeting.



WANTED STORY IDEAS, WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, GRAPHIC ARTISTS WANTED FOR THE RIBA NEWSLETTER

HAVE AN IDEA ABOUT A STORY FOR THE NEWSLETTER? OR A DESIRE TO MAKE A CREATIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE RIBA NEWSLETTER? HAVE A GOOD PHOTO TO SHARE?

PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR CAROLYN FLUEHR-LOBBAN AT: cfluehr@ric.edu



***EASTERN APICULTURE SOCIETY
(EAS) IN RHODE ISLAND***

JULY 25-29, 2011 CROWNE PLAZA,

WARWICK www.easri.org

RIBA's VOLUNTEERS IN PLACE FOR EAS

The corps of RIBA volunteers for the week long convention of the Eastern Apiculture Society meeting this July, coordinated by Jane Denison, have been meeting regularly. Other key RIBA participants include Everett Zurlinden, president-elect of EAS, Ed Lafferty RIBA vice-president and EAS representative, Jeff McGuire RIBA president, and Betty Mencucci, Celeste Nadworny, Ed Lafferty Bill Rose and others who are either volunteering during the week's activities or are offering workshops. RIBA volunteers will be identified by their yellow hats as local resource people. Please consider volunteering as a couple of hours donated time is all that is needed.

RIBA Members Volunteer

Betty Mencucci is responsible for all vendors, including a RIBA table coordinated by Celeste Nadworny at which RIBA hats and T-shirts will be for sale; Goody bags will be offered from RIBA; Haagen Daas will donate ice cream

2. Jeff McGuire, Kit Mayers, and Chris Faella will be helping Ken Warchol, MA Bee Inspector, as "Bee Wranglers" in the bee yard on the grounds of the Crowne Plaza.
3. Lynn Davignon and other RIBA members will act as moderators, volunteers needed
4. Bernie Bieder has volunteered to work the "Honey Show": featuring a honey exchange and judging—(1-3 lbs of your honey can be exchanged using chits for honey from all over the country)
5. Tours will be run by Shelly Arena: Providence, Newport for half days; consult the EAS website for more details

RIBA Members offering workshops:

1. Allen Dennison, MD, workshop "Healing wounds & repelling super bugs with honey" Friday July 29, 12:30-1:15PM
2. Betty Mencucci is leading a candle making workshop, Thursday, July 28, 3:45-4:30PM
3. Everett Zurlinden & Ed Lafferty are leading a workshop on moving bees, Friday July 29, 2:45-3:30PM, tba
2. Lynn Davignon is doing a workshop on Lip Balms, "Ce la bee," Friday July 29, 1:30-2:15PM
3. Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban is running a workshop "Making Ukrainian Eggs, Py-sanky" Thursday July 28 at 4:45-5:30PM and Friday July 29 at 1:30-2:15PM.

Volunteers are Still Needed for the following: Please contact Jane Denison at: jamd@aol.com or jane@eas.com

1. Need 4 people for registration Sunday
2. 32 Moderators: needed for all sessions to run on time, introduce the speaker
3. 2 people for honey exchange
4. 28 persons or registration desk
5. 12 moderators for workshops
6. 33 moderators for talks
7. Volunteers to contact the local media
8. Volunteers to help with Thursday night auction, coordinated by Celeste Nadworny & Christine Dwyer; donations are still welcomed

(cont'd on p. 10)

Costs: You must be an EAS member to attend the annual conference. You can join by going online to: Easternapiculture.org. The cost is \$25 to join the organization.

Registration for the week is \$350, short course \$225

Features: The “Ocean State Follies” will perform at the banquet Friday

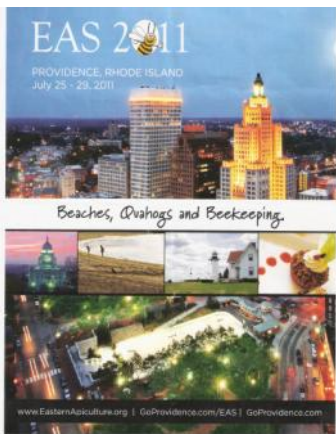
Main contact:
www.EasternApiculture.org;
www.easri.com

Here is what The EAS Journal and our local organizers have to say about the Rhode Island venue:

“Hello from the Ocean State! We have an incredible program this year, a beautiful hotel all on one level and a beeyard on the grounds. The list of speakers and assorted workshops are the best yet. Wednesday evening we will have a clambake as no trip to New England is complete without a lobster (or a chicken—our state bird). Vendors will be present as usual but something new has been added! A Friday morning local Farmer’s market with artisans and farmers selling their wares. So, you can Buy Local with the label “RI Grown, Take Some Home.”

Ed Lafferty and Everett Zurlinden, EAS Director & President

SUPPORT RIBA AT EAS



PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BEEKEEPING ORGANIZATION AND LEARN MORE FROM ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST PRESTIGIOUS BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATIONS IN THE US

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Honey Mint Carrots

(Here’s a summertime refreshing way to serve an old standby using honey with mint)

Cook and drain desired amount of fresh carrots. Add:

- 1/4 to 1/2 cup butter
- 2-4 teaspoons of chopped fresh mint from the garden
- 3-4 Tablespoons of your honey
- Heat mixture over low temperature until the carrots are glazed.
- Serve as a hot or cool side dish with lamb, beef, or grilled fish

(from *Joy with Honey*, Doris Mech, , 1979; available from our RIBA Library)

HONEY RECIPES



Sweet Potato Souffle

- 3 large sweet potatoes
- 1 cup honey
- 2 eggs beaten
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 stick butter
- 1/2 cup evaporated milk
- 2 tsps vanilla

Peel, cook and whip the sweet potatoes. In a mixer, add sugar, eggs, salt, butter, milk, & vanilla and mix well. Put into greased 1.5 quart casserole and bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes.

SERVE TO RAVE REVIEWS

The RIBA Quarterly Newsletter wants to improve education for beekeepers & public understanding of the importance of honey bees; send your ideas & suggestions to the editor: cfluehr@ric.edu (special thanks to Jason Kerr & Celeste Nadworny for help with RIBA mailings!)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeff McGuire
(jeff.mcguire@cox.net)

I would to thank everyone for having the confidence in me to choose me as your president. As I said at the election meeting my goals for our association are helping new beekeepers, keeping the meetings fun, and being efficient in the business that has to be done. I look forward to working with everyone in the association to reach these goals.

Do you remember your first year as a beekeeper? Looking into the hive, wondering what you got yourself into? Trying to match what you are seeing to what you learned in class. Did you have someone to call? Our newest beekeepers truly rely on the experienced member of the RI Beekeeper's Association. In fact, that is one of the main reasons our association exists. Currently there are only 8 members on the mentors list. Even second-year beekeeper can serve as a mentor. Don't be afraid to put your name on the list. Just being a close-by beekeeper willing to open your hive can be a great help to a new beekeeper. As my first year as president begins I ask you all to consider what you can do to help our membership thrive. Come to meetings, join the conversation. Let us know what you'd like to see for classes, workshops and special events.

Coming up in July, Rhode Island is hosting the Eastern Apiary Society's annual conference. This is an excellent opportunity for new and experienced beekeepers alike. You'll get to hear some great speakers and work with experts in the bee yards. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, contact any of the executive board members. We look forward to seeing you there.

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EDUCATE, AND HELP THE HONEY BEE

- Add bee friendly plants to your garden, such as bee balm, basil, cosmos, geranium, lavender, mint, poppy, rosemary, sunflower, verbena, zinnia. Apple, cherry, hawthorn, locust or willow trees.
- Limit your use of pesticides. Some will kill bees before they return to the hive, and others are introduced to the hive. If you do use them, do so in the late evening after honey bees have returned to their hives.
- Educate your neighbors and families about beekeeping and the importance of honey bees and other threatened pollinators.

LOCAL PURVEYORS OF BEES AND BEE-KEEPING SUPPLIES

Cottage Industry Apiary

Louis J. Chasse II,

31 years RI manufactured fine woodenware with a 2009 price

401- 295-0888

Roger Robitaille

D & R Honey Farm

Package Bees & Queens

Bee removal; Pollination

Custom made Observation Hives; Hive Boxes

Cell: 401-378-3578

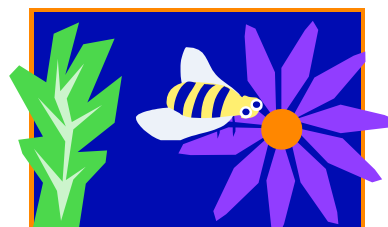
Email: bhivedr@aol.com

Beehavin' Apiaries Everett Zurlinden

Honey, Bees, Beekeeping supplies

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RI Beekeepers' Association

We're on the Web!

www.ribeekeeper.com

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Headline