



THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER

March 2014
Volume No. 3

The Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeeper's Association

News 'n Views...

Welcome to the 110th year anniversary. The Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association had its beginning at a meeting in Williamsport, Pa. on April 12, 1904. 50 years later, in 1954, the PA Honey Queen program was begun. 2014 also marks 60 years for that program.

I am getting anxious as we close out February. With some of the most extended cold periods we can seem to remember, the common question is 'how are the bees doing with the cold?' Good question. With timely quick warm-weather checks, we know we're not out of the woods yet. I recall a heavy snow in May 2004.

I have not been able to get to every hive during the brief warm-ups, but I've been surprised to find most look pretty good. Some are monsters. I won't even suggest a prediction as that would be a sure jinx... not that I'm superstitious. I'm just good at guessing wrong.

The Western PA Beekeeping Seminar, Feb 14-15th, was very well attended. Last report was about 450 attendees. Featured speakers were Randy Oliver (northern California) and Mike Palmer (Vermont), from far extents of our United States. Although seasons and weather can be wildly different, there are management lessons that apply everywhere. Both presenters openly shared what they do and how they do it. It all makes perfect sense while sitting in the audience. But can I remember that in a few months when I'm by myself?

There are probably the two points that stood out to me from both gentlemen.

First point is we must know our mite levels. It's great to be hands-off and let our bees be 'natural', but the question of mite load is still at play. Maybe you have a decent control, but what about your neighbor? Mites manage to hitch rides and carry disease and viruses along with them. We can't be sure other problems we encounter are not a gift from those little pests. The treatments of choice seemed to be formic (MiteAway) and thymol (Apiguard, ApiLife VAR), as well as resistant stock.

The second point I took away was nutrition. Even if it's the honey we leave on the hive, is it enough? As I become a bit greedy to sell lots of surplus honey, I must be disciplined not to compromise the bee's needs. Just like ourselves, if we find ourselves not eating right. Or by not eating nutritionally good food, we are more likely to become ill or weaken our immune system, so we are susceptible to pathogens.

A salute to Beaver Valley, Burgh Bees and other beekeepers of western Pennsylvania that put together a great two days. I remember attending that event in the early 90's, when it was held in the basement of a church in Zelienople. When it grew to a capacity limit of 100 for too many years, the event eventually moved. It has had several homes before the Sheraton in Mars. A lot of work for this success.

Last year we tossed around the concept of Mentor Inspectors with the Department of Agriculture. Even in the best of times, our state budget doesn't give us too many inspectors. We are fairly certain we will retain 7 inspectors for this season. One inspector assigned for each agricultural region in the state. As registered beekeepers have increased over the last few years, it is still a challenge to meet bi-annual inspections. Enter the 'Mentor Inspector'. This would be a voluntary position, but certified by the state. Sometimes a fellow beekeeper asks if we could take a look at their hive or help them out. A Mentor Inspector can fill out a simple report while assisting. If anything serious or questionable might show up, the Mentor would notify the Dept. of Ag requesting a follow-up of a regular inspector.

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Why should we do this? Many PA state inspections are operated by their own commodity or industry. An example is milk inspectors. The company that buys the milk provides them. The cost is on the industry and not the state. The state would like beekeepers to do the same. However, the majority of PA beekeepers are independent, and sideliners. Honey doesn't go to a central wholesaler and back out for sale. There's no revenue stream to fund our own inspectors. We still have quite a bargain with a registration fee of \$10 bi-annually. This does not begin cover time and travel of state inspectors. Showing our voluntary commitment to this agricultural commodity will continue to give us a bartering position. So much of what we do is already voluntary. In the first years of hive inspections, the PA State Beekeepers did it themselves. The state took over the program a few years later. So, this concept is not new. This program is not intended to replace state inspectors, only supplement, assist and provide eyes in the field.

A successful Mentor Inspection pilot program was coordinated with the PA State Apiarist and conducted by 2 C's and a Bee last season. This pilot has helped find the Do's and Don'ts as an unofficial group. We would like to expand the program this year. Anyone interested in becoming a Mentor Inspector, please contact Karen Roccasecca, State Apiarist, 717-346-9567 or email kroccasecc@pa.gov. This is still very preliminary until we have a field of volunteers.

Thanks to the many volunteers that provided articles for the Special Edition newsletter that featured the 2014 Farm Show and ABF convention.

Congratulations to our new 2014 PA Honey Queen, Kaylee Kilgore. Kaylee was selected and crowned during the Western Pa Beekeeping Seminar.

A congrats also goes out to our 2013 PA Honey Queen, Elena Hoffman. She is now the 2014 American Honey Princess, promoting our industry across the United States. Follow her on Facebook and [Buzzing Across America](#).

*Charlie Vorisek
President PSBA*

Mail vs. Email

The Pennsylvania State Beekeeper's Association is sending out the newsletter via email instead of through the USPS to those members who are interested. If you would like to receive "The Pennsylvania Beekeeper" by email, please contact Yvonne Crimbring at pabee1@frontier.com and include your name, mailing address, phone number along with current email address stating that you'd like to receive the PSBA newsletter via email.



The 2014 PA Honey Queen, Kaylee Kilgore, left, was crowned at the Western PA Beekeeping Seminar by 2014 American Honey Princess Elena Hoffman.

2014 PA Honey Queen Selected

By Rachel Bryson

Hello everyone. It's been an exciting start to 2014 for the Honey Queen program. If you recall, we kicked off our 60th year of the program without a Honey Queen. However, the Queen program committee worked diligently and is proud to announce that Kaylee Kilgore was selected as the 2014 Pennsylvania Honey Queen during the Western PA Beekeeping Seminar in Pittsburgh. Kaylee, 19, originally from Maine, is the daughter of Cindy and Bruce Kilgore. She attended the Milton Hershey School and is now a first year student at Lehigh University. Kaylee has volunteered with the Girl Scouts and tutoring prison inmates.

The year is already shaping up to be filled with great promotions for the beekeeping industry and Kaylee is looking forward to representing the PSBA this year as the 2014 PA Honey Queen. Look for more information on Kaylee in the next newsletter and make sure to follow all her adventures this year on the PA Honey Queen Program Facebook page. If you have an event you would like Kaylee to attend, contact Rachel Bryson at honeyqueen@pastatebeekeepers.org.

IF THE READER WHOSE MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES 1/15 and receives the newsletter at 28 Kelmar Ave., Frazer, PA will send his/her name and an account of his/her beekeeping operation to the editor at 2565 Southside Road, Canton, PA 17724 by April 20, he/she will receive a years free subscription to either *Gleaning in Bee Culture*, *American Bee Journal*, or *The Small Beekeepers Journal*. When you respond, please specify your choice of magazine.



2013 Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Apiary Inspection Program Highlights

There are more than 3,200 registered beekeepers in PA.

These beekeepers own nearly 40,000 colonies in nearly 5,000 yards.

Approximately 84% of the beekeepers manage 10 or fewer colonies.

There were 392 newly registered beekeepers in 2013.

We were fortunate to have seven Apiary Inspectors from the end of April until the end of October.

American Foulbrood Testing

◦ There were 15 positive cases of American Foulbrood.

Four live colonies were resistant to Terramycin and Tylan was suggested.

- One live colony's results were inconclusive.
- Suspicious samples were taken by apiary inspectors and sent to Harrisburg, then to USDA in Beltsville, MD, for testing.
- Results are sent to beekeeper with treatment options.

Best Management Practices Good for Beekeepers, Local Government

- ☞ Pennsylvania's Apiary Advisory Board created a list of Voluntary Best Management Practices (BMP).
- ☞ Several Pennsylvania beekeepers will be at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors annual conference in April. The BMPs help beekeepers and township officials when developing local ordinances.

Permit Activity and Notes

- ☞ There were 53 permits issued to Pennsylvania beekeepers to raise and sell queens and nucs within the state in 2013. In 2012 there were only 12 issued.
- ☞ Anyone wishing to sell or give away queens or nucs in Pennsylvania needs this permit. There is no change for the permit. Beekeepers are inspected twice a year and are issued the permit if bees are healthy.
- ☞ There were 43 export permits issued in 2013 (26 in 2012). These permits are necessary for beekeepers wishing to sell, move, or take honey bees and/or used equipment into other states. We inspect a percentage of the bees moving and issue a "Certificate of Inspection" to the other state. There is no additional cost for this service.
(We do appreciate some advance notice though!)

- ☞ There were 12 Import Permits issued to beekeepers wishing to bring honey bee colonies and/or used equipment into Pennsylvania from other states. In 2012 there were 24. (The sending state inspects honey bee colonies and/or used equipment and issues a "Certificate of Inspection" to Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture.)

Good News!

- ☞ We expect to have seven Apiary Inspectors from April until June 30, 2014. Pending approval of a 2014-15 state budget that looks bright for agriculture, they will serve the rest of the season.
- ☞ 2 C's and a B offered a special program this year – the New Beekeeper Mentoring Program. Ken Hoover ran the program with a number of highly qualified beekeepers. They received formal training and have a complete understanding of what their jobs entail. They worked with their local apiary inspector Jim Blasko and me. We would like to see this program expand to other clubs. If your club is interested, please contact me.

Surveys

- ☞ More than 30 states participated in the 2013 National Honey Bee Survey, with 24 apiaries to be sampled between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. The survey has been scaled back to about 20 states for the July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015 survey. Pennsylvania has been fortunate to be selected to continue the participating in this worthwhile survey. If you have at least 8 colonies in one yard and are interested in participating let me know.
- ☞ **Please remember** to take the winter loss survey which will go online April 2014 on the beeinformed partnership website (<http://beeinformed.org/>).
 - **It is confidential, and the more beekeepers who participate the better and more accurate the survey.**
 - The link will be on the PA State Beekeepers' webpage and I will be sending it out to beekeepers via email addresses that I have on file.
- ☞ Ideas on what you would like or what would be helpful? (Remember that sometimes I am the only department staff who is able to work on this!)
- ☞ **Thank you for all your support and assistance.** I will try and do my best to help you all. Please keep in touch!

Karen Roccasecca, State Apiarist
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

717-346-9567

kroccasecc@pa.gov

Jeremy's Corner

In August 2013, Mary and I were in Alsace, France, for a family wedding and had the opportunity of a guided tour of the medieval center of the city of Colmar. It involved a small locomotive with four open carriages and attached to each seat was a headset. There were fourteen languages one could choose from, with English third to French and German. There was Chinese and Japanese but no Arabic or Balkan languages. It was a truly multi-ethnic group of passengers and Mary observed how everyone was dressed so similarly, the result no doubt of the outsourcing of the clothing industry to Asian factories where it is mass produced and then shipped back to the US, Europe, the Middle East, Asia...

In 1995 I found myself in a small rural store in Zimbabwe; it was the only store of its kind for many miles and stocked almost everything in a quaint yet orderly way, including a shelf of school bags above and behind the storekeeper, each with the logo of the Chicago Bulls imprinted on it. Michael Jordan in rural Zimbabwe, where very few houses had electricity, never mind television? To the school children it was an intriguing but meaningless design.

In the same year a BBC film crew was anxious to document the effect of the war in Rwanda on the gorilla population and, because of the turmoil in East Africa, it had to come from the west, which meant a week long trip by boat up the Congo river followed by several more days in canoes beyond the Stanley Falls. One night they stopped at a camp of pygmies in a quest to find guides who could lead them through the forests to the northern edge of the Mitambu Mountains in Kivu province where the great apes could be found. As the camera panned over the campfire in this remotest of areas, a woman came into the picture. It was difficult to assess her age because, being small of stature anyway, the T-shirt she was wearing swept to the ground. On the orange T, in large black letters, was inscribed "FREE OJ."

The theme running through these experiences is the unintended effects of globalization. As writers like Wendell Berry, Michael Pollen and Bill Cronon point out repeatedly, most of us have become very good at doing or producing one particular thing and at consuming everything else. Ironically, the further one gets from the actual product the greater the chance of economic success; one has to think only of the extravagant wages of many CEO's compared to those on the shop floor, even though ironically the latter probably has the practical skills to survive without the former, but not vice-versa.

It is painful that the millions of American workers laid off in the recent recession are desperately seeking re-training so that they can re-enter the job market. Their previous experience and expertise seem to have no value of their own.

And that initial expertise was the result of choices we made, often unwittingly, at a young age that determined much of the rest of our lives. I can recall vividly, in the 1960's, a wise man telling a group of assembled high school boys that about two thirds of the jobs that we would end up doing, as adults did not then exist. We scoffed, and yet today I would estimate that two thirds was a conservative estimate. I recall too the adage that if had been a computer in New York City in 1900 to consider what the city would look like in the year 2000, the answer might have been, "Six feet deep in horse manure."

This division of labor makes us despair of ever changing the way we live. It is easy to feel that change can only come from outside, perhaps proactively from a higher authority like government or reactively after some kind of disaster, because we no longer feel we can ourselves effect significant change.

Part of the frustration is that in this new outsource economy it is difficult to know how things are grown or made, and to relate to those who grow and make them. Beekeeping, like gardening, cannot be outsourced. Putting aside queens and drones, who together make up about 3% of a colony, bees are not specialists. Each worker bee undertakes a series of tasks during her brief life, starting with cleaning the cell from which she emerged and ending as a forager. Each one gets to experience almost all of the functions of a hive, and yet no bee can survive alone.

Many of us are finding relief from this feeling of dependence on people and events outside of themselves by turning to activities, which show that we can still self-provide, we can still create, manage and control a mini eco-system. Gardening is one such activity; beekeeping is another. As Al Summers said in an interview with Boulder's Daily Camera newspaper, "Bees are a portal to a much wider view of the environment. Much as I like bees, and they do have a nostalgic appeal, that's not my dominant reason for beekeeping. It's my style of being environmentally responsible."

Being attentive to the needs of the bees leads to greater appreciation for the intricate work and interactions that makes life possible, an awareness of the complexity of the many systems involved in producing say, an apple for the table or water from the faucets in Charleston, WV. This in turn changes our relationship to the environment, both immediate and wide spread, and renews our appreciation for the people who provide what we accept unthinkingly as the necessities of life.

Jeremy Barnes

Previous copies of Jeremy's Corner can be found at honeybeewhisperer.simplesite.com

Upcoming Dates To Remember



Deadline for the February issue of *The Pennsylvania Beekeeper* is **March 25th**.

Capital Area Beekeepers

Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. at the Wildwood Park, Harrisburg, Tom Jones will speak on the topic "Twelve Months of Beekeeping".

Susquehanna Beekeepers of NEPA

Monday, March 14, 7:00 p.m. at the Claverack Bldg., Montrose. Topic: Powerpoint Presentation on bee diseases. Contact James Wood at 570-934-1166 for additional information.

Advanced Beekeepers Class – Beekeeping 201

Saturday, March 15, 8:30 a.m. at the Penn State Extension of Allegheny County Pittsburgh. "What to Expect in Your Second Year and Beyond. To register:

<http://burghbees.com/?product=beekeeping-201>

Chester County Beekeepers Seminar

Saturday, March 15, 9:00 a.m. at the Merion Science Center at West Chester University, West Chester. This seminar will include sessions for beginners and advanced beekeepers. Visit the Association's website www.ChescoBees.org for more information.

Southern Adirondack Beekeepers Seminar

Saturday, March 15, at the HVCC TEC-SMART Extension Bldg., Malta, NY. Speakers include, Dr. Jerry Hayes, Dr. Thomas Seeley and Michael Smith. For more information, contact Anne Frey at 518-895-8744 or email annef@capital.net

Beekeepers of the Susquehanna Valley

Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 p.m. at the Union County Government Center, Lewisburg. For more information, email: info@thebeeyard.org or visit www.thebeeyard.org

Lancaster County Beekeepers

Tuesday, March 18, 6:00 p.m. at the North Museum of Science and Natural History, Lancaster. Contact Jim Pinkerton at jim@gatheringplacemj.com for more information.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Thursday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. at the Lehigh County Ag Center, Allentown. Panel Discussion: General beekeeping questions. Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 or email sjfinke@msn.com for more information.

Tri-County Meeting (Capital Area, Lancaster, York)

Friday, March 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Purcell Friendship Hall, Hershey. Dr. Deb Delaney, University of Delaware, will speak on "Why Genetics Are Important". Contact honeybeewhisperer@gmail.com for more information.

York County Beekeepers

Thursday, March 27, 7:00 p.m. in the Ruhl Community Room, Penn State York Campus. Contact honeybeewhisperer@gmail.com for more information.

North East PA Beekeepers

Wednesday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. at 32 Comm St.,

Honesdale. Contact Charles Kinbar at 570-497-6402, email: purepahoney@gmail.com for more information.

Lycoming County Beekeepers

Tuesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. at the Montoursville Borough Hall, Montoursville. Discussion on winter losses. Bring your questions and ideas. Contact Aaron Kolb at 570-323-8670 for more information.

Monroe County Beekeepers

Wednesday, April 9, at the Monroe County Environmental Center. For more information, contact Bob Armstrong at 570-620-9421 or email RJArmstrong1@verizon.net

Chester County Beekeepers Seminar

Saturday, April 12, 9:00 a.m. at the Stroud Preserve, West Chester. Visit the Association's website www.ChescoBees.org for more information.

Beekeepers of the Susquehanna Valley

Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. at the Union County Government Center, Lewisburg. For more information, email: info@thebeeyard.org or visit www.thebeeyard.org

Lancaster County Beekeepers

Tuesday, April 15, 6:00 p.m. at the North Museum of Science and Natural History, Lancaster. Topics to include swarm prevention and making splits. Contact Jim Pinkerton at jim@gatheringplacemj.com for more information.

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Italian Package Bees and Queens for Sale:

Delivered to the Lehigh Valley

3 lb. Package w/Queen - \$96

Queens - \$23

Add \$3.50 for marked queens

Available for pickup on or about April 13

(Actual date may change due to weather)

See the order form at

www.lehighvalleybeekeepers.org

or contact

Bill Mondjack: 610-751-4483

billzbeez@mondjackapiaries.com

or

Steve Finke: 610-737-7676

steve@meadowviewbees.com

Upcoming Dates (Continued from Page 9)

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. at the Lehigh County Ag Center, Allentown. Panel Discussion: New Hive start-up. Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 or email sjfinke@msn.com for more information.

York County Beekeepers

Thursday, April 24, 7:00 p.m. in the Ruhl Community Room, Penn State York Campus. Contact honeybeewhisperer@gmail.com for more information.

Beaver Valley Area Beekeepers

Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. at the Beaver County Conservation Wetlands, Aliquippa. For more information, contact Pattie Zyroll at 412-848-3506, email: pattie.zyroll@elkem.com

PSBA Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 9, 2014 at the Wade Fisher Bee Farm, McVeytown. See ad below.

PSBA Annual Conference

Friday and Saturday, November 14 & 15, at the Country Cupboard/Best Western Inn, Lewisburg.

W.W.B.D. (What would Bill do?)

March 2014

By: *Bill Mondjack, Master Beekeeper, Lehigh Valley, PA.*

As one of our EAS Certified Master Beekeepers in Pennsylvania, I was asked by PSBA President Charles Vorisek if I would continue writing this column in the P.S.B.A. monthly newsletter. The idea being to answer questions that may arise from our members and to help fellow beekeepers become more proficient in their craft. I agreed to do so as long as I have questions to answer.

First let me say I am NOT a scientist; I am a beekeeper just like you. As all of us know, if you ask 3 beekeepers the same question you will most probably get 5 different answers, so I would like to approach this matter as a Q & A posting as I do with many of our members in the Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Assn., unless I decide to write about a timely issue.

If you have a question you would like to send in, please email it to me at: billzbeez@mondjackapiaries.com with the subject line being WWBD, and I will respond with my opinion as ‘*what I would do*’ if the problem or situation was mine.

Bill Mondjack, Master Beekeeper

Q: Received: Feb. 22, 2014

Hi Bill,

One question if you could answer. As I suspected my bees did not make it through the winter again. They made it until this last cold snap. I was wondering if it would be safe to consume the honey now as I treated for mites in Aug or Sept.

Thanks for your input Kevin.

A: Hi Kevin,

Winter losses are unpredictable. Sounds like you treated at a good time, my opinion is the earlier you treat for mites the better. Sometimes we experience a drought in the fall and without the stimulation of nectar coming into the hive some queens tend to shut down and won't raise a good amount of brood to produce the large cluster of young healthy bees needed to survive the winter. I have found that a colony can have plenty of honey stores but if the cluster is not of sufficient size and unable to move onto the required food source it may not survive an extreme cold period. There are a lot of variables involved in winter survival Kevin; I wish I knew them all.

As for your question about consuming the honey that is left on your deceased hive; that all depends on what you treated with. The instructions on your mite treatments inform you of the proper use of the product. The only treatment (to my knowledge) that can be applied with honey supers on the hive (*for human consumption*) is M.A.Q.S. (Mite-away Quick Strips®). If this were mine I would give the honey to a surviving colony or put it on a new start-up hive.

Bill

PSBA Summer Picnic

August 9th

Wade Fisher Bee Farm, McVeytown

A pig for roasting will be provided, and everyone is asked to bring a side and/or dessert to share.

Watch for additional information

FARM-Tastic Book Program

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's Women's Leadership does an agriculture book promotion each year. This year the State Women's Leadership Committee has chosen "The Beeman" a book by Laurie Krebs for the 2014 FARM-tastic Book Program. "The Beeman" will introduce honeybees to students (K-2). The book describes how bee keepers care for their bees, the different kinds of bees, and how bees help us pollinate. The story also covers how bees make honey. For more information on the book or the FARM-Tastic Book Program visit the website: http://www.pfb.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=719&Itemid=304

Nature Notes

Raise your hand if you still get excited by **snowflakes** falling toward the driveway. Male **Red-winged blackbirds** are back and singing “conk-a-ree” from tall, dry stalks in wetlands. When the females arrive later in flocks of their own, males will make display flights from up high, floating down with scarlet epaulettes fluffed. **Bluebirds** are burbling their songs and inspecting nest boxes. Before bird houses, they built nests in the rotted hollow tops of wooden fence posts and in unused woodpecker nest cavities. The introduction of **house sparrows** from England (New York City in 1852) turned loose an aggressive competitor for the bluebirds’ nest sites. While bluebird nest boxes may be occupied by bluebirds anywhere, they are more likely to host bluebirds if they are placed away from barns (away from house sparrows) and brushy areas (away from house wrens).



Male **woodpeckers** are drumming on anything that enhances sound. The drumming advertises their fitness for breeding. Charming from the woods; maddening from the wooden siding of the house. **Robins** are spread out on lawns, hunting worms and displaying for each other. Males have black heads and gray backs; females have gray heads and backs.

Wood ducks are back. Males are spiffy dressers, decked out in red, green, blue, purple, white, brown, and black. Drab females are identified by a white teardrop patch around each eye and by making a “weep, weep, weep” sound when they fly. Wood ducks are cavity nesters, something not unusual in ducks. Nature tries everything. What works works. What doesn’t work disappears.

Cooper’s hawks raid bird feeders for feathered meat. They nest in stands of evergreens. From a tree near the nest area, they may challenge birds or people with a loud “kek, kek, kek, kek, kek, kek, kek.”

Who does not like **daffodils**? Deer, that’s who. The plant contains a poison; maybe the deer are being smart for a change. Daffodils came to North America from Europe. **Forsythia** flowers before it leafs out. Google <nothing gold can stay> for a Robert Frost poem about forsythia.

Groundhogs, looking svelte and thin (not for long!), are foraging on road verges.

Mason bees hatch, mate, lay eggs, and forage to provision larvae at the height of crocus bloom. Mason bees nest in drinking straw-size holes in wood. Mason bees are solitary bees: no workers. Females do all the work.

In the evening sky, **Orion** with his belt of three bright stars is striding across the sky, followed by his hound, Canis Major (Big Dog). The bright star in Canis Major is **Sirius**. Orion’s belt is framed by four bright stars. Remember the names of Orion’s shoulders and knees with a mnemonic. Starting with Betelgeuse (upper left shoulder as we look at Orion) and moving clockwise: Orion drank some **Betelgeuse** (beetle-juice), which gave him **Bellatrix** (belly tricks), so he had to take some **Rigel** (Di-Gel) to be **Saiph**. (Thanks, Shane Hadden.)

We use pointer stars at the end of the bowl of the **Big Dipper** to find Polaris, the North Star. Now the Dipper is standing on its handle; the pointers lead us left to Polaris. Following the pointers to the right, up high in the southeast, leads us to **Regulus**, the dot at the bottom of a backwards question mark. The question mark is the fluffy head of **Leo the Lion**.

Jupiter is super bright, high in the sky between Orion and Castor and Pollux. **Venus** is the morning “star.”

By Tim Sterrett

Attention Counties: Please submit your 2014 list of officers and meeting dates to Yvonne as soon as possible. Her mailing address and email are listed on Page 8.

#3 Package Honey Bees

For Sale

Available Monday, April 7, 2014

\$90.00

Contact: J. Lee Miller
3180 Ridge Road Extension
Freedom, PA 15042

724-544-2900

jlmbeglad@gmail.com