

The "BEELINE" LONG ISLAND BEEKEEPERS CLUB, INC.

Keeping Bees on Long Island Since 1949



May 2020

Volume 29: Edition 5



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Hospitality: Nancy Hall and Volunteers on rotating basis
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Webmaster: George Schramm, 631-580-4572
Librarians: Ed Mirasol 631-979-0249
Club Photographer: Phyllis Stein
Visit the club web site at:
www.LongIslandBeekeepers.Org

Next Meeting: May 24, 2020
OPEN HIVE EDUCATION CLASSES

Board Meeting: May 12, 2020 Virtual Board Meeting via Webex at 7 PM, each board member sheltering at home.

MASTER BEEKEEPERS LIST

Moira Alexander, Smithtown.....631-265-8249
Peter Bizzoso, Manorville631-874-4750
Rich Blohm, Huntington631-271-7812
Steve Chen*, Holbrook.....646-625-9910
Carl Flatow, Oceanside.....516-510-6227
Walter Goldschmidts, Lloyd Harbor.301-613-0001
Chris Kelly, Mattituck.....631-275-5786
Deborah Klughers, EastHampto.....631-377-1943
Ray Lackey
Joan Mahoney, N.Babylon.....631-667-5339
Grace Mehl, Smithtown.....631-724-5053
Fred Munzer, Dix Hills631-243-3512
Max Riedener, West Islip.....631-669-5632
Marianne Sangesland, Smithtown.....631-680-5895
Miguel Valentin, Ronkonkoma631-588-6102
Wayne Vitale, Setauket.....631-675-0302
Neal Wechsler, Lindenhurst.....631-957-7136

***EAS and Cornell Master Beekeepers Program**
Master Beekeepers are certified beekeepers who have a detailed knowledge of honey bee biology, expertise in the proper practices of beekeeping, and can present this information to the beekeeping and non-beekeeping public in a detailed, accurate, clear and authoritative manner.

Master Beekeepers provide education and assistance to beginning beekeepers and serve in other capacities in the community as experts in beekeeping. The Master Beekeeper program was developed by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University. The program has been expanded by the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America to other areas.

You can learn more about the Master Beekeeper Program by visiting the Eastern Apicultural Society website: <http://www.easternapiculture.org/master-beekeepers/certification.html>

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President's Message:

Hope to see you soon. Don

From the Editor's Desk

Conni Still



Hi Beekeepers, Are you all well? I am still staying home and finally took one safe ride down to the bay to see something beside my four walls. It was choppy but the salt air felt so nice. I look forward to the day when we can begin to be open again.

The strange thing is a game I have been playing on my iPad called Differences. It's two sets of pictures and you have to find the differences in each group. There must have been fifty sets of beekeeping pictures the last few weeks. All different types of hives and flora and bees and hive suits. I had lots of fun!

Current paid members 221, welcome four new members this month Carl Wiggin, Alison Hansson, Matthew Sweeney, and

Edward Indelicato. Still waiting for the rest of you to renew. Thanks to those who did.

**STAY SAFE and WASH YOUR HANDS
and WEAR YOUR MASKS!**

DUES FOR 2020 ARE PAST DUE!

Annual dues are \$35.. PLEASE send a check payable to LIBC to Conni Still at 82 Stephen Road, Bayport, NY 11705, go to the club website Longislandbeekeepers.org and use PAYPAL,

Any member who does not pay their dues will not receive future newsletters nor have free advertising in future newsletters, Also please **update** your copy for your ads. Send your information to Moira Alexander at ramoi@aol.com and put LIBC classified ads in the subject line.

Good Afternoon Beekeepers,

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and healthy during these trying times. In addition, I hope your beehives are thriving and your bees are building up for our first substantial nectar flow.....

In January, as the Program's Director I discussed that we would use the May meeting date as an opportunity for beekeepers to get in-hive education. This meeting will allow you to listen and observe as bee educators open hives and talk you through their step by step inspections. They will use this educational session to discuss what is happening and why. They will share their possible management decisions that might be used in the future for those hives as the season progresses...

Due to self-distancing and trying to keep our teachers and members safe we are going to limit the class size to 10 members. This will be a first come first serve signup situation. You are to contact the bee educator directly and they will provide you

with the time and location of the apiary education session...

Every member who attends must have a bee suit and in addition wear a mask ...You are also required to wear gloves to the session..

PLEASE when signing up.... leave the contact information that includes your NAME, EMAIL and PHONE NUMBER. The teacher will contact you with further information later in the week...

The following teacher have offered their time and hives for this educational event...

MOIRA
ALEXANDER SMITHTOWN
Ramoia@aol.com

GRACE
MEHL SMITHTOWN
gracemehl@aol.com

STEVE
CHEN HOLBROOK
stevechenbees@gmail.com

DONAL PETERSON GREAT
RIVER 3beesapiary@gmail.com

BILL
O'HERN GREENLAWN
ohoneybeefarm@gmail.com

ROY BAILLARD PECONIC HERB
FARM rbailar@optonline.net

Stay safe and please do not hesitate to reach out to a Board Member or a Master Beekeeper in our club with questions or concerns you might have about the bees in your apiary....

Moira Alexander

Hi Beeks!

Just a little clarification, each instructor beekeeper will set the time and date for their in hive experience. Some will be conducting their sessions on Saturday the 23rd and some will be conducting their sessions on Sunday the 24th. Once you contact them, they will let you know the time and day. Of course, it is all pending weather, which could change everything at the last minute. So, watch your emails. If you need more info, see yesterday's email.

Also, Fred Munzer had a call on a "Bee Tree" log in Commack. It is quite heavy and the owner said he would deliver it, if someone wants it. Please email Fred Munzer TONIGHT, MAY 15th, if you want it. His email is: munzer39@verizon.net. Thanks! And, remember the "In-hive" is first come, first serve. So, email the instructors as soon as possible.

Stay healthy and get outside! --Grace

LIBC Meeting Schedule for 2020

NOTE: The meetings are the fourth Sunday of the month at Sisters of St. Joseph Convent in Brentwood

May 24th - ! Hands On In Hive Education
7 Locations - Hive Locations and Teachers
in newsletter

June 28th - 3 - 5 Master beekeepers with topics to be discussed. Open meetings and possible Zoom connection. Peconic

July 26th – Master beekeepers with topics to be discussed. Open meetings and possible Zoom connection: Peconic

August 23rd TBD

September 27th TBD

October 25th TBD

November 22nd - Jamie Ellis The Incredible NUC TBD

December 6th or 13th Christmas Party...TBD

- 3 club... 2 frame extractors are available for \$10 rental for honey extraction.- call Moira or Rick-

All,

Moira and I went to Brentwood to check space and feeding on the 5 JJC hives there. We took a peek inside and were very surprised to find an abundance of DWV drones in one hive and a few in another. Carl and Rich did mite counts and found 0 mites just last week! But, Joan sent this link on an abstract about DWV in drones due to infected queens. Makes sense now. Here is the link. I am thinking one of those queens will have to be replaced. Hopefully the other hive was just drift. We got rid of all the ones we saw and humanely euthanized them! --Grace

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5016801/>



[Deformed wing virus can be transmitted during natural mating in honey bees and infect the queen](#)

S Deformed wing virus is an important contributor to honey bee colony losses. Frequently queen failure is reported as a cause for colony loss. Here we examine whether sexual

transmission during multiple matings of queens is a possible way of virus infection in queens.
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

CLASSIFIED ADS



Ads are complimentary for members of LIBC in good standing

CLASSIFIED ADS DO NOT CONSTITUTE ENDORSEMENT BY THE CLUB. THEY ARE PRINTED AND SHARED AS INFORMATION ONLY.

Do you have any club library books or videos to return? Please bring them back in a timely fashion so someone else can borrow them. Donations to our library gratefully accepted.



Do you have any bee related items to raffle at a meeting. All proceeds benefit the club and are greatly appreciated.



Hospitality Hosts needed on a rotating basis. See Nancy Hall for the Sign Up Sheet

Package Bees for Sale

Updated 02/10/20

Rich Blohm - 631-271-7812

beebiz44@gmail.com

Wally Blohm-(Queens County) 718- 380-0829

bee venom@verizon.net

Steve Chen - 646-625-9910

stevechenbees@gmail.com

Deb Klughers- 631-377-1943

debbie@bonacbees.com

Wayne Vitale- 516-680-3020

wayne@spycoastbeefarm.com

Nucleus Hives for Sale

(Maybe in deep or medium frames)

Updated 02/10/20

Rich Blohm - 631-271-7812

beebiz44@gmail.com

Joe Magnoli- 516-724-4468

earliestspringnucs@gmail.com

Brendan O'Regan 917-689-9854

authentichoneyofnewyork@gmail.com

Donal Peterson - 631-827-1810

3BeesApiary@gmail.com

Tom Tyrell - info@TomsHoneyAndBees.com

Wayne Vitale-516-680-3020

wayne@spycoastbeefarm.com

Dale Williams - 631-475-8315

<https://southbayapiaries.com>

Queens for Sale

Updated 02/10/20

Rich Blohm - 631-271-7812
Beebiz44@gmail.com
Steve Chen - 646-625-9910
stevechenbees@gmail.com
Joe Magnoli- 516-724-4468
earliestspringnuucs@gmail.com
Donal Peterson - 631-827-1810
3BeesApiary@gmail.com
Tom Tyrell - info@TomsHoneyAndBees.com

Plants for Sale

Updated 02/10/20
Sayville-Liz Marcellus 631-439-1487
ECMflowers@yahoo.com
Organic bee-loved trees, shrubs, & perennials
Patchogue – David Tifford 631-475-7118
jdttifford@optonline.net Organic bee friendly annuals and perennials.

Insurance/Beekeeping Liability

Updated 02/10/20
Farm Family – Vincent C Daley 631-277-7770
State Farm – Jim VonEiff 718-899-8985

Local Honey for Sale

Updated 02/10/20
Bronx
Brendan O'Regan 917-689-9854
authenticoneyofnewyork@gmail.com
Queens
Queens - Walter Blohm, 718-380-0829 –
bee venom@verizon.net

NYC

Nick Hoefly- 352-875-5642
nick@astorapiaries.com

Suffolk/Nassau

Amityville - Rich Meyer - 917-681-1706
rjmeyer1423@aol.com
Bay Shore - Donal Peterson - 631-827-1810
3BeesApiary@gmail.com
Brookhaven - Dale Williams - 631-475-8315
<https://southbayapiaries.com>
Calverton/Muttontown- Joe Magnoli- 516-724-4468
earliestspringnuucs@gmail.com
Huntington - Rich Blohm - 631-271-7812
beebiz44@gmail.com

Laurel- Tom Tyrell -
info@TomsHoneyAndBees.com
Nassau - Carl Flatlow - 516-510-6227
carlthebeekeeper@icloud.com
Rocky Point - John Hardecker - 631-744-9531
hardecker@aol.com
Smithtown - Moira Alexander - 631-265-8249
ramoi@aol.com
Stony Brook, Setauket, Old Field - Bill O'Hern - 631-938-6233
OHoneyBeeFarm@gmail.com
Setauket - Wayne Vitale 516-680-3020
wayne@spycoastbeefarm.com
Wading River- Roy Baillard- 631-375-0962
rbailiar@optonline.net
West Hills – Walter Scott – 631-549-2546
wscott380@gmail.com

Wedding Favors

Updated 2/10/20
Roy Baillard- 631-375-0962
rbailiar@optonline.net
Carl Flatow- 516-510-6227
carlthebeekeeper@icloud.com
Nick Hoefly- 352-875-5642
nick@astorapiaries.com
Joe Magnoli- 516-724-4468
earliestspringnuucs@gmail.com
Bill O'Hern 631-938-6233
OHoneyBeeFarm@gmail.com
Donal Peterson 631-827-1810 –
3beesapiary@gmail.com

Hive and Wax Products

Updated 02/10/20
Bee themed gifts/jewelry - Lorraine Leacock at the Beetique 516-459-0140
Lorraine@bluepointbee.com
Bee themed gifts/jewelry/wax- Nick Hoefly- 352-875-5642
nick@astorapiaries.com
Wax- Fred Munzer – 631-243-3512 –
munzer39@verizon.net
Candles-Bill O'Hern 631-938-6233
OHoneyBeeFarm@gmail.com
Wax- Donal Peterson 631-827-1810 –
3beesapiary@gmail.com
Wax/Pollen/Propolis – Tom Tyrell –
info@tomshoneyandbees.com
Wax/Pollen - Dale Williams 631-475-8315
<https://southbayapiaries.com>

Lip Balm, Creams Skin Care

Updated 02/10/20

Lip balms, cream skin care-Nick Hoefly- 352-875-5642 nick@astorapiaries.com

Lip balm-Bill O'Hern 631-938-6233

OHoneyBeeFarm@gmail.com

Lip balm/body care products-Wayne Vitale-516-680-3020 wayne@spycoastbeefarm.com

Equipment

Updated 03/16/2019

Ernest Herrington – dmherri@gmail.com

Custom Beekeeping wooden ware

Joe Magnoli- 516-724-4468

earliestspringnucs@gmail.com Wax dipped boxes

Fred Munzer – 631-243-3512 –

munzer39@verizon.net Glassware, frame spacers

Donal Peterson 631-827-1810 –

3beesapiary@gmail.com glass, woodenware, frames, smokers

Cliff Struhl <http://info@beesmartdesigns.com>

Hive stands, covers, robbing screens, Bottom Boards, Frame grippers, feeders

Dale Williams – 631-475-8315-

<https://southbayapiaries.com> Wooden ware and foundation

Patrick Gannon-718-757-1699

beekanzi@gmail.com "BeeSmart plastic hive stand for 8 frame hive

Used in very good condition

\$50.00 I will deliver

- [Bee-Line News](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [For Sale: Honey, Wax & Hive Products, Bees, Plants, Equipment and Insurance](#)
- [Problems with Bees? Honey Bee Swarm Collection & Removal](#)
- [Member Services](#)

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Swarms/Bee Removals

NYC

Nick Hoefly- 352-875-5642

nick@astorapiaries.com

Queens

Hillcrest: Walter Blohm**, 718-380-0829,

Licensed & Insured beevenom@verizon.net

Nassau County

Western Nassau North Shore: Richard Blohm**, 631-271-7812 beebiz44@gmail.com

Oceanside, South Shore Nassau, Garden City:

Carl Flatlow*, 516-510-6227

carlthebeekeeper@icloud.com

Merrick to Montauk-Joe Magnoli*-516-724-4468 earliestspringnucs@gmail.com

Al Gruenthaler*516-433-7035

alsbees@gmail.com

Suffolk County

Amityville: Richard Meyer*, 917-681-1706,

rjmeyer1423@aol.com

Babylon: Stephen Halliday, 631-922-0152,

dochalliday28@msn.com

Brookhaven: Dale Williams**, 631-475-8315,

southbayapiaries.com

Dix Hills/Deer Park: Fred Munzer, 631-243-

3512 munzer39@verizon.net

All Suffolk County: Donal Peterson**, 631-827-

1810 3beesapiary@gmail.com

Eastern Suffolk: Deborah Klughers-Bonac*,

631-377-1943 Debbie@bonacbees.com

Huntington and Western Suffolk North Shore:

Richard Blohm**, 631-271-7812

beebiz44@gmail.com

North Shore, Western Suffolk: Andrew

Hulley**, 631-561-9021 ajhulley1@gmail.com

All Suffolk County: Donal Peterson**, 631-827-

1810 3beesapiary@gmail.com

All Suffolk County: John Hardecker, 516-383-

1583

Miguel Valentin*: 516-313-6967,631-583-6102



Heart shaped swarm is the first solo swarm caught by Lorraine Leacock with help from husband Bill!

NEW YORK STATE IPM PROGRAM



Asian Giant Hornets – A Concern for New York?

May 5, 2020 by Jody Gangloff-Kaufmann



Asian giant hornet, pinned. Photo by Allan Smith-Pardo, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

By now many Americans reading or watching the news have heard about “**murder hornets**” from Asia invading the American landscape. It is true that in many parts of East Asia, Japan in particular, a large hornet lives and feasts upon honey bees and other insects. This is the Asian giant hornet (AGH), or *Vespa mandarinia*, which is a relative of the European hornet (*Vespa crabro*) that we typically see in North America. The European hornet is an import to America that has naturalized, or become established here as if it was native. The Asian giant hornet has just arrived on North America’s west coast, by unknown means. Residents and beekeepers alike are hoping it doesn’t become naturalized in America.



Asian giant hornet, Photo by Allan Smith-Pardo, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

The Asian giant hornet is the world’s largest, measuring 1.6 to 2 inches long, with a particularly large yellow-orange head. It is a social insect, living in colonies built in soil burrows dug by rodents and other animals. While people may not often see Asian giant hornets, beekeepers will definitely notice their decimated colonies of honey bees. It takes a handful of Asian giant hornets to **slaughter an entire honey bee colony**, after which hornets feed on the larvae, pupae and honey inside the hive. Japanese honey bees, which are a different species of honey bee than what we raise in North America, can fight back against AGH by **surrounding and super-heating the wasp** in a ball of bee bodies. Our European honey bees do not have this defense behavior. If AGH becomes established in the US and Canada, the greatest threat will be to beekeepers and their honey bees.

The hazard to humans posed by the stings of AGH is real. The venom is toxic and with their long stingers, AGH can inject more venom into a wound than most other stinging insects. Stings lead to intense pain and

swelling, and can induce renal failure and anaphylaxis. Multiple stings can be deadly. But, these hornets do not come after humans and left alone, they mind their own business. The efforts to eradicate AGH from Washington State and Canada will be a priority aimed at avoiding their permanent establishment in the US. Unlike claims in some media outlets, it will likely take many years for this wasp to spread across the country on its own if we fail to eradicate it. Beekeepers will be on the front lines of detection.

There are several species of wasps in the US that are very commonly confused with AGH: Cicada Killer – *Sphecius speciosus* – a large, native, solitary wasp, does not readily sting or act aggressive toward humans, hunts cicadas, exclusively, digs burrows in the soil where eggs are laid upon the body of paralyzed cicadas. Common in suburban areas.



Cicada killer wasp, photo by Nancy Hinckle, bugwood.org

European Hornet – *Vespa crabro* – an introduced social species, colonies started by a single queen, colony builds and expands a tan paper ball nest typically in hollow trees and abandoned barns and structures. More common in rural areas. Not aggressive unless harassed.



European hornet pinned specimen, photo by Allan Smith-Pardo, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org



European hornet pinned specimen, photo by Allan Smith-Pardo, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

Baldfaced hornet – *Dolichovespula maculata* – Large black-and-white wasp, not a true hornet, colonies started by a single queen, nest is a grey paper ball usually high in trees or on the side of structures. Not aggressive unless harassed.



A baldfaced hornet resting, photo by Johnny N Dell, bugwood.org

Yellowjackets (many species) – *Vespula* sp. – Small yellow-and-black wasps that nest in large colonies in soil and other man-made cavities. Can be aggressive, especially in early fall.



A “ground hornet” or “widow yellowjacket”, photo by J.L. Gangloff-Kaufmann
Paper wasps – *Polistes* sp. – Slightly longer than yellowjackets, various colors, long legs,

umbrella comb nest with a few to a few dozen wasps. Not aggressive unless harassed.



A European paper wasp sits on a paper comb nest. Photo by David Cappaert, bugwood.org

The Bottom Line: A few Asian giant hornets were discovered in Washington State in 2019. The greatest threat is to honey bees and beekeepers. Efforts to eradicate this wasp are underway. New York does not have Asian giant wasps and hopefully won't anytime soon.

Residents of the west coast should keep an eye out for Asian giant hornets and residents of Washington State are strongly encouraged to [submit reports of sightings](#) to the Washington State Department of Agriculture. If you live in New York and have questions about wasps or any stinging insects, you can contact [NYSIPM](#) or your [local Cornell Cooperative Extension](#) office for advice or to submit samples for identification.

Categories: [Agriculture](#), [All Things IPM](#), [Community](#), [Home Gardening](#), [invasive species](#) | *Tags:* [Asian Giant Hornet](#), [baldfaced hornet](#), [cicada killers](#), [Dolichovespula maculata](#), [European hornet](#), [identification](#), [invasive species](#), [IPM](#), [paper wasp](#), [Polistes sp.](#), [Sphecius speciosus](#), [stinging insect](#), [stinging insects](#), [Vespa crabro](#), [Vespa mandarinia](#), [Vespula sp.](#), [yellowjackets](#) | [Permalink](#)



Author: [Jody Gangloff-Kaufmann](#)
Urban entomologist



Date: Sun, 3 May 2020 06:00:52 - 0400

From: James Fischer
<james.fischer@GMAIL.COM>

Subject: Ann Harmon (Bee Culture magazine) Has Passed Away

I have no details, but I am reliably informed that Ann Harmon passed away on May 1, 2020.

She wrote for Bee Culture magazine since well before I first touched a hive tool. She was famous for her lecture/workshop/preaching/scolding on the subject of preparing show honey, and how EVERY jar one bottled should be "show quality". She judged countless honey shows, and spoke anywhere she was asked to go speak on a wide range of subjects.

She taught me how to properly calibrate a refractometer decades ago, and at every honey show, random people would ask to test a sample with their own refractometers, just to make sure that they got the same reading as Ann. She sold used beekeeping books with her partner in the business, Bob Cole, who passed away in Feb 2020. Helping her and Bob to wrangle the boxes of books from parking lot to vendor table was something that some of us arrived early to do. Ann's and George are both gone now, so the truth can be told -

she did most of the actual beekeeping for the iconic pleasantly curmudgeonly George Imrie, author of the "Pink Pages" newsletter, as George got older every year, and Ann did not perceptibly age for decades.

She also loved her horses dearly, and several times visited, curried, and cooed at my motley collection of rescued aging, ailing, and unwanted horses that wandered the pasture between my barn and my river. She was amazingly good with formerly abused horses, who were understandably shy of most strangers.

She would travel to far-flung places to teach beekeeping under the auspices of USAID and/or other international good-will efforts. She even once got caught in the middle of a dangerous situation, as she was in Nepal, traveling between areas that were held by the Maoist insurgency, and the government loyalists when the last King of Nepal made his final blunder of dissolving parliament, arresting top officials, putting the army into the streets to keep order, and cutting off all telecom with the outside world.

Her editor called me in a panic, as Ann would have been the best hostage one could hope for in such a situation - an American woman. She had not checked in with the US embassy to inform them of her travels in-country (always a good idea when traveling afar), but they still had satellite communications and short wave radios of course, so they were informed of her presence in the region, and a pair of Marines "made inquiries". She was never in any actual danger, the beekeepers were not about to let their rebel or loyalist affiliations get in the way of their bee workshops.

She was a good friend, liked by everyone, always entertaining at yet another

bee-meeting lunch or dinner, able to resume conversations interrupted months ago without seeming to notice the passage of time. I will miss her. The universe has a gap in it now, and it will not be filled. It is as if a shade of the color green sudden has disappeared, never to return. Yes, life goes on, but something very basic is missing that benefited all of us. A life very well spent.