Journal of the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America, Inc.

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EAS 2024 Conference

CELEBRATING *THINK LIKE A BEE*

Master Beekeepers

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Featured Article

INTERVIEW WITH DR. DEWEY CARON

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THE EAS JOURNAL, FALL 2024

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A MESSAGE
from the Chair

I hope you and your bees are all doing well. EAS 2024 was a great conference, and I want to thank all who volunteered to help make it a success.

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill

EAS runs on Volunteers. Please watch you email for a Time and Talent survey in the next few weeks, we will be asking all of our members to let us know if they are interested in volunteering in some capacity.

I want to thank David Elkner and The New Jersey Beekeepers Association for stepping up to hold the EAS 2025 conference. Many of our core volunteers and speakers come from New Jersey. I am sure it is going to be an interesting and fun conference.

We are currently researching venues that might be able to hold the conference. We will let you know as soon as the dates are settled on.

We are asking our members to consider holding the 2026 or 2027 Conference in their home states. Both years are open so please ask your Director about putting in a bid soon.

Wishing you a glorious and peaceful Fall.

Sincerely,

Lou Naylor



FAREWELL from the Outgoing President

Two years planning the 2024 EAS Conference week was well worth the effort. The planning team knew Turf Valley Resort would be a special location when we asked them about bringing hives onto the grounds and they responded with excitement and enthusiasm. I hope you felt their welcoming spirit while you were there. The Maryland State Beekeepers Association hosted the Sunday Welcome reception, and the show officially got on the road.

Short Course and Conference attendees were greeted with six tracks to choose from, in addition to the Apiary and the newly introduced Deep Dive. Six tracks of classes requires a lot of speakers and we had more than 80! The Deep Dive was popular and several attendees commented that they would like to see this format again. As a special welcome, Howard County Beekeepers Association hosted an outdoor picnic on Monday for 225 people, providing and serving salad, vegetables, desert and drinks at nearby Larriland Farms. Wood Camp Farms (and apiary) provided a roast pig. Many thanks to our speakers and hosts.

Master Beekeeping testing on Tuesday and Wednesday resulted in five new Master Beekeepers. Many thanks to the Master Beekeeper exam staff and apiary examiners. Kudos to the new Master Beekeepers!

The main conference began Wednesday morning with a welcome from the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. Kevin Atticks, who spoke knowledgably about the importance of honey bees to Maryland agriculture.

The Life Members lunch attendees were treated to an amazing lecture, "Bees on Ancient Coins", by Michael Markowitz, an author of many articles on ancient coins. Honey bees were so highly regarded as symbols of hard work and prosperity that they were among the earliest animals depicted on coins.

The Bee Wranglers and Apiary participants were fortunate to have a break in this year's record-breaking summer heat. But rain moved in after the Master Beekeeper testing was completed and the hives were moved out Wednesday night, curtailing activities. Many thanks to the Maryland Honey Company and beekeepers who helped move the hives in and out of the apiary.

Like a hive, our Society works on the division of labor and the work of many hands. Beyond the time spent by the planning committee members, conference volunteers worked many hundreds of hours to help make the week go smoothly. Our most sincere thanks to those many volunteers.

Congratulations to New Jersey for offering to host EAS 2025. We all look forward to seeing everyone there next year.

Sincerely,



David Morris

Outgoing EAS President

WELCOME from the Incoming President

Hello Everyone ! New Jersey is well into the planning process for the EAS 2025 conference to bee held in New Jersey!

The theme "Beeing in The Garden State" is the first step to planning a GREAT event for all attendees. When NJ last hosted in 2016 it was held at the Stockton University located in the southern part of the state . We are still working with several excellent venues and a final decision is very close. Many New Jersey Beekeepers are working hard to make this conference as memorable as all the previous ones have been. Stay tuned for updates....



Dave Elkner

EAS 2025 President *Incoming EAS President*










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CONFERENCE REVIEW

Celebrating *Think like a Bee* at EAS 2024

Dr. Linda A. Mizer, Vice-Chair, EAS

Turf Valley Resort warmly welcomed EAS 2024 and made every effort to make us feel "at home" - they made and put up banners, extra signage and paraphernalia throughout the resort. The staff were friendly and courteous, the facilities excellent and the food options were outstanding. All the indoor events were housed under one roof providing easy access to the vendors, honey show, plenary sessions, classrooms and banquet events and the apiary site was immediately adjacent to the resort.









Photos by Linda Mizer

The advance crew arrived on Saturday, prepared the conference bags and set up the registrations area in preparation for Sunday.

Sunday

Registration moved smoothly and folks settled into their resort hotel rooms. An evening Welcome Social was well attended and reunited many friends while welcoming new comers.

WELCOME: (from top left to bottom right)

- Turf ValleyResort went out of their way to make us feel welcome with signage.
- Doris Morgan with Saranna and David Elkner assist attendees at the conference check-in.
- George Cowan and Robin Stafford register entries to the Honey Exchange.
- Guests enjoying the Sunday Welcome Social.

Photos on opposite page (top left to bottom right) by Xianzhong Wang, Russel Spranger, Mark Gingrich, Karla Eisen, Danielle Downey, Lou Naylor, Mark Gingrich, Xianzhong Wang, Linda Mizer, Mark Gingrich, Linda Mizer, and Petrusia Kotlar.



Monday

After an offering of Zumba and a great buffet breakfast, the short course had a full schedule of bee biology with a microscopy component, honey bee biology, queen rearing and an extended coursework called a "Deep Dive" into bee biology.

Honey tasting basics and honey show judging were offered along with wax rendering and candle making. Pest management, colony management, equipment needs and hive assessment in the lecture room and apiary. The vendors set up and were eager to show us the latest in bee equipment and treatments.

Yoga provided a great opportunity to relax and unwind from all that brain activity. The evening offered a "Dine Around Town" experience with EAS Hosts while the Master Bee Keeper volunteers met for comradery and plans for the testing of Master Beekeeper applicant at the conference.

Top and bottom photo by Linda Mizer. Middle photo by Mark Gingrich











Tuesday

Queen rearing continued as did pests and diseases assessment, bee club growth, hive manipulations in the Apiary and Deep Dives into Varroa Biology and legal mite treatments and making splits and increasing your yard. Additional offerings included expanding from a Backyard to Sideliner operator and keeping an observation hive.

The Master Bee Keeper certification testing commenced today with the written exam! Larriland Farm in Woodbine hosted a picnic and BBQ with sponsorship from the Howard County Beekeepers Association – a great evening of socializing and great food!

Photo credit from top left to bottom right: Linda Mizer, Linda Mizer, MaryAnn Welsh, Mark Gingrich



Wednesday

The main conference opened with a warm welcome from the Maryland State Department of Agriculture Secretary, Dr. Kevin Atticks. The Master Bee Keeper certification testing continued with the laboratory exam and field testing! Plenary sessions continued in the morning and these sessions were recorded and will be posted on the EAS website in the near future.

The afternoon included lectures on honey bee physiology, honey bee viruses, disease trends, USDA and regional beekeeping programs and bee keeping gadgets. Apitherapy programming featured plants for medical grade honey, unique products of the hive and propolis.

A display of "almost every device under the beekeeping sun open house" that provided a great challenge to determine what you recognized and familiarize yourself with many other items you had never seen before!

The Bee Olympics were a great challenge and success offering events not seen in our previous EAS Olympics such as nectar gathering, queen location in a nucleus colony, hive tool "tossing" and assembly of a Jester Bee corrugated nucleus box! Great audience support and a group photo afterwards. A BBQ dinner in the Grand Ballroom rounded off the day.

Photo credit from top left to bottom right: Karla Eisen, Linda Mizer, Bill Glover, Mark Gingrich, Mark Gingrich, Bill Glover

























Thursday

Plenary sessions today included a presentation from the James I. Hambleton Memorial Award winner, Dr. Margarita Lòpez-Uribe. Tours of the USDA Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville were given in both the morning and afternoon.

The Life Member Luncheon was entertained with a great presentation by Mike Markowitz on "Honey Bees on Ancient Coins". The afternoon sessions included information on urban beekeeping, accessible bee keeping, photography and the ecology of beekeeping.

The evening brought a rousing live auction, somewhat interrupted by a false fire alarm, and a dinner buffet featuring Maryland themed foods and the Honey Show awards were presented.

LIVE AUCTION: The 2024 Conference held three auctions as fund raisers. The proceeds were:

Virtual auction	$511
Live auction	$11,900
Silent Auction	$3,134

Photo credit from top left to bottom right: CiCi Sweeny, Adam Hickman, Deborah Klughers, Mark Gingrich, Linda Mizer, Linda Mizer





Friday

The Master Beekeepers held their annual meeting and the plenary highlighted Dr. Debbie Delaney, the 2024 Roger A. Morse Outstanding Teaching/Extension Service/Regulatory Award winner. The annual meeting rounded off the morning with an announcement that the 2025 EAS Conference will be held in New Jersey – details to follow . The afternoon sessions included discussions of small hive beetles, European Foul Brood, colony microbes, the veterinary feed directive, tools and tips for beekeeping and setting up a home microscopy workshop. The evening banquet celebrated the five new Master Beekeepers who were certified this year and the announcement of the 2024 Charles and Evelyn Divelbiss Education Award recipient, Kent Williams.

PAINTED HIVES: Painted Hives were auctioned and brought in funds which will be distributed to the groups that painted the hives.

Groups include Girl Scout Troop 007, Girl Scout Troop 220, Girl Scout Troop 1096, Girl Scout Troop 3112, Howard County 4-H campers and staff, Birds of a Feather 4-H club, Blue Ribbon 4-H Club, Cloverettes 4-H club, Cloverlife 4-H Club, Paws and Claws 4-H Club, Pioneers 4-H Club, Sunny Day 4-H Club, Hereford High School Future Farmers of America, Blossoms and Berries Beehive of Tantasqua Regional High School Interact Club, Holland Church youth of Holland, Massachusettes, Association of Southern Maryland Beekeepers, Cindi Hildreth (Ashbury Child Development Center), Warren Carter,Judy Van Namen, Mary Eubak

Photo credit from top left to bottom right: Russel Sprangel, Marian Iannuzzi, Bill Glover, Jim Lifton, Phil Frank







ATTENDEES BY STATE/PROVINCE AND BY COUNTRY: Beekeepers from 37 states attended EAS 2024 along with participants from 4 other countries!

State/Province	#
Alabama	2
Alaska	1
Arizona	1
Arkansas	1
California	2
Colorado	0
Connecticut	10
Delaware	11
Dist. of Columbia	14
Florida	1
Georgia	1
Hawaii	0
Idaho	0
Illinois	2
Indiana	2
Iowa	0
Kansas	2
Kentucky	10
Louisiana	0
Maine	12
Maryland	234
Massachusetts	33
Michigan	4
Minnesota	0
Mississippi	0
Missouri	3
Montana	1
Nebraska	0
Nevada	0
New Hampshire	5
New Jersey	33
New Mexico	1
New York	30
North Carolina	21
North Dakota	0
Ohio	1
Oklahoma	0
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	45
Puerto Rico	0
Rhode Island	7
South Carolina	6
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	2
Texas	4
Utah	1
Vermont	2
Virginia	57
Washington	0
West Virginia	3
Wisconsin	0
Wyoming	0
Total	**567**

Country:	#
United States	567
Canada	2
Australia	1
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	1
Total	**572**

Conference Vendors

Not only do we want to thank the people, businesses and organizations for their support of the 2024 program, but also show our appreciation for the value of the products and information that they brought to the experience. Their participation enriched our knowledge of the services and products that are currently available.



Photo by Mark Gingrich

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American Honey Tasting Society, Aperture Apiary, AZ Hives North America LLC, Bearsville Bees, Danenhower Apiaries, Lorobbees.com, Vita Bee Health

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American Beekeeping Federation, Bee-ing Apis, DOEE, Mission Beelieve, Pollinator Stewardship Council

Sponsors and Donors of the 2024 EAS Conference

The three pillars of the EAS are education, research and an annual conference to highlight the most recent findings in bee biology and research. EAS would like to thank all the levels of Donors to the General Fund and those supporting the Research and Educational Funds. The sponsors provide direct support for the many and varied aspects of the conference itself. Without these sponsorships EAS would not be able to hold such successful annual conferences and afford to bring the high-level speakers we believe are essential to a vibrant exchange of information.

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Howard County Beekeepers Association
Maryland State Beekeepers Association

TUESDAY PICNIC
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LIFETIME MEMBER LUNCHEON
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THURSDAY DINNER & AUCTION
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Best of Show
Montgomery County Beekeepers Association

Black Jar
Montgomery County Beekeepers Association

Comb Honey Classes
Pioneer Plastics

2023 EAS Honey Show Report

Karla Eisen, Chair, EAS Honey Show Advisory Committee

The EAS Honey Show is a wonderful part of the EAS annual conference. This year Maryland Beekeepers took the charge to enter seriously, and 25 individual MD beekeepers entered the show, many winning Silver Plates or other ribbons. The number of entrants per State broke down as follows: AL (1), DC (2), DE (1), FL (1), MA (4), MD (25), ME (4), MO (1), NC (6), NH (1), NJ (5), NY (5), PA (5), SC (1), TN (1) and VA (7). While we are thrilled that approximately 65 people entered the show, we would like to see more participation. I encourage all of you to think about what you can enter next year!

Many thanks to everyone who entered the show, donated entries to the auction raising nearly $1000 and helped to run the show. Too many volunteers to name here, however we highlight a big thanks to the EAS Maryland Conference Honey Show Chair, Jim Fraser.



Photo by Mark Gingrich









Silver Awards

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Sponsored by Maryland State Beekeepers

Elaine Storm, Maryland

BEESWAX SILVER
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EXTRACTED HONEY SILVER
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BEST IN SHOW
Sponsored by Montgomery County Beekeepers Association

Elaine Storm, Maryland

GAMBER AWARD
Sponsored by Gamber Container, Inc.

H1 Light- Alice Parks, MD, Ann Zudekoff, VA; and Kristina Kinsman, NY

H2 Medium -Ann Zudekoff, VA, and Doug Galloway, NC

Photos top to bottom by Deborah Klughers, Mark Gingrich,Marian Iannuzzi, Mark Gingrich.

MASTER BEEKEEPERS

Meet the New 2024 EAS Master Beekeepers

Jon Zawislak, Chair, Master Beekeeper Certification Committee

Certification as an EAS Master Beekeeper indicates both a breadth and a depth of beekeeping knowledge, expertise and skill, as well as the ability to present ideas clearly and concisely, and educate others in the art and science of beekeeping. This certification is the crowning achievement of years of self-directed study and dedicated work with honey bees. Founded by Dr. Roger Morse at Cornell University in 1978, and administered by the EAS since 1981, ours remains the most highly respected program of its kind, and the oldest such program in North America.

EAS certification differs from many other programs in that, rather than a program of coursework with increasing levels of rank, the EAS model accepts candidates who have prepared on their own, and assesses their knowledge and abilities through a rigorous two-day exam process where they are tested in four areas: a comprehensive written exam, a laboratory practical, an oral interview, and a field exam with their hands in a hive of bees.

This year, at the EAS conference in Maryland, twenty-four candidates participated in the testing process. Of these, five individuals successfully completed the process and were awarded their EAS Master Beekeeper certificates. Since its inception by Dr. Morse 46 years ago, only 266 individuals have now achieved this designation.

Congratulations are certainly in order for these five! Certification is a crowning achievement, but not the end of their personal advancement. EAS Master Beekeepers are expected to continue learning and growing in their experience, and to serve as local experts and knowledgeable ambassadors of beekeeping in their own communities, educating and mentoring others in our craft. We hope to see them all return to EAS again in the future – likely much more relaxed – as speakers and volunteers, using their various skills to help to make the whole meeting a greater success.

I would also like to offer encouragement to our other candidates. It's no secret that many (if not most) candidates fail to pass all four exams on the first try. Anyone accepted into the program has up to five years in which to complete the process. Many past candidates have related that the process of testing itself has been very beneficial. We all have strengths and weaknesses, and participating in the exam process can objectively show us gaps in our own knowledge. Those who return to test again will often fare better, after another year of study and practice, with an emphasis in specific areas needing improvement. While the exam process is certainly arduous and intimidating, the feeling of accomplishment is proportionate once it has been completed. We encourage anyone who may be considering the process to read more about the program, its eligibility requirements, and the application process on the EAS website.

Photo by Mark Gingrich

Dr. Joshua Jakum



More than a decade ago, two emergency medicine colleagues invited Dr. Joshua Jakum and his children to harvest honey from their backyard apiary. Excited and nostalgic, he donned a bee suit once more. Driving home from the event, he realized that beekeeping offered an opportunity to connect his children with his own experiences.

Growing up on a hay farm in Bel Air, Maryland, Joshua kept bees with his father and recognized the positive impacts that farming, and working as a family, impressed upon him. After undergraduate studies at the University of Maryland, College Park, he attended medical school at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and his pediatric residency at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Missing the Southern heat and humidity, he settled in Warrenton, Virginia to plant his roots (and a small orchard) to practice rural pediatrics.

For Dr. Jakum, beekeeping allows him to intersect his many interests, including science, health & the outdoors. An avid teacher, he is a clinical instructor of medical students and lecturer on mental health access for pediatric patients. His wife claims that "sharing information is his love language!" Together they started a blog focused upon gardening, cooking, and community. With the last of their five children leaving for college in the Spring, Dr. Jakum is looking forward to his role as a Master Beekeeper and the opportunity to teach about pollinators and their importance to the environment, agriculture and community health.

CiCi Sweeney



CiCi Sweeny runs around 40 colonies in Grove City, PA, specializing in selling Northern Survivor Queens and nucs. CiCi is the President of Northwestern PA Beekeepers Association and is a member of four local clubs along with the PSBA and Eastern Apicultural Society. She is an active member of EPIQ, an educational program led by Dr. Robyn Underwood focused on the production and insemination of queens. CiCi instructs eight-hour 'Basic' and 'Beyond Basics' Beekeeping classes locally, and does extensive speaking in the community about beekeeping to local clubs, schools, and groups.

Phil Uptmor



Phil Uptmor grew up in South Texas next to a beekeeper and was always fascinated by honey bees. He moved to central North Carolina in 2004 with his job and family and took a beekeeping class from his local association in 2015. Starting out with two packages, Phil quickly became hooked on beekeeping and expanded his apiary over the next few years and currently manages up to 35 colonies, depending on the season.

Phil's job as a clinical product manager for a healthcare company has taken him to many countries and one of his favorite activities is looking at local pollinator habitats and pollinators. Another benefit to traveling abroad is trying the local honey.

Phil has been active in his local bee association since 2015 and has served as vice president and president. He has also helped teach and organize the bee schools for several years and helped get an online version of the bee school that was made available in 2020. During his term as president, Phil worked to improve the mentoring program and continues to mentor new beekeepers that attend bee school as well as participating in the Hives for Heroes mentoring program.

When not working bees or helping sell MRI systems, Phil can be found selling honey at various events and the local farmers market, helping with association field days and managing the teaching colonies, or playing trumpet in his church orchestra. He also enjoys attending beekeeping conferences with his wife Jennifer-EAS is the best, of course! Phil is currently the North Carolina State Beekeepers Chair for the NC Zoo and he completed the requirements for his NCSBA Master Beekeeper certification in 2022.



Photo by Mark Gingrich

Scott Withers



I began beekeeping as a shared endeavor with my twelve-year-old daughter. Together, we participated in a beginner beekeeping class at The Honey Exchange in Portland, ME, during the winter of 2016-17. We started with two hives: one from a package and one from a nucleus colony. While my daughter has since moved on to new horizons, the hobby captured my fancy and has grown into what some might call an obsession.

My wife and I now run a small local bee-based business called LunaBee, where we sell honey and other products from the hive. This venture has allowed us to share our passion for beekeeping with our community.

I am a member of both the Maine State Beekeepers Association and the Cumberland County Beekeepers Association. My passion for citizen science research motivates me to explore new methods, validate their potential benefits, and implement the findings locally to enhance beekeeping results. I recently had the opportunity to meet and work with beekeepers from southern Herzegovina. The experience was exceptional and I cannot wait to find ways to share it with others. I look forward to collaborating with other beekeepers in Maine and beyond to further enhance our collective knowledge and skills.

When I am not busy at work or tending to the bees, I enjoy road cycling and spending quality time with friends and family. These activities provide a perfect balance to my beekeeping pursuits and help me stay connected with the people I care about most.

Anna Wysocki



Anna Wysocki is an avid gardener, and has always been keenly aware of the importance of pollinators. She became particularly enamored with honey bees after observing swarms of bees land on a tree in her yard two years in a row. This experience prompted her to take a local beekeeping class, and when another swarm appeared the following year, she captured it for her own. Anna follows in the traditions of her great grandfather, who kept bees in her native Poland and used their hive products to create folk remedies, another tradition she continues. Since 2009 Anna's own apiary has expanded. She also manages colonies for other people, relocates swarms and removes feral colonies from homes and structures. She credits the process of preparing for the EAS Master Beekeeper exam with improving her own scientific knowledge of bees and their management, as well as sharpening her communication skills. Anna lives in Cordova, Maryland, where she has been an active member of multiple beekeeping clubs, serving them in numerous capacities, and continues helping to educate and mentor new beekeepers.





After many years of service, Dr. Debbie Delaney steps down from her position of Master Beekeeper Advisor. She is succeeded in this role by Dr. David Peck.

Photo by Mark Gingrich

HONEY BEE HEALTH COALITION

Honey Bee Health Coalition Update

By Dr. Tammy Horn Potter

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has partnered with leading U.S. and Canadian varroa researchers in a project funded by the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) titled, Developing and deploying novel tools to support varroa mite IPM for enhancing honey bee health for pollinating specialty crops. The sustainability of the pollination-dependent U.S. specialty crop industry, including almonds, blueberries, cranberries, strawberries, apples, cucurbits, melons, vegetable seed and others, depends on a predictable and healthy supply of honey bee colonies. Beekeepers must effectively manage parasitic varroa mite populations to maintain a sufficient number of strong healthy colonies to meet pollination needs. Beekeepers will be required to change the way mites are managed due to growing resistance to widely used miticides. This trans-disciplinary team will work with beekeepers to (1) Identify and disseminate cost-effective approaches to mite management using currently available methods and (2) Developing new chemical varroa controls, with new modes of action, combined with optimized use of existing chemical tools, to manage varroa resistance and integrate with existing mite management programs. This 4-year SCRI grant follows on previous grants to the team who have been testing promising compounds as we race against amitraz resistance.

FEATURED ARTICLES

Notes from the Lab: The Latest Bee Science Distilled

By Scott McArt as published in American Bee Journal, July 2023



Scott McArt, an Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health, helps run the Dyce Lab for Honey Bee Studies at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He is particularly interested in scientific research that can inform management decisions by beekeepers, growers and the public.

Email: shm33@cornell.edu | Lab website: blogs.cornell.edu/mcartlab
Pollinator Network: pollinator.cals.cornell.edu
Facebook: facebook.com/dycelab | Twitter: @McArtLab

EFB and AFB in the USA: Trends Between 2015 and 2022

I spend a lot of time worrying about *Melissococcus plutonius* and *Paenibacillus larvae*, the bacteria that cause European foulbrood (EFB) and American foulbrood (AFB) diseases, respectively. Both are rare compared to that insidious parasitic varroa mite, but they can cause major problems if they rear their heads in my apiaries.

I also teach veterinarians about these diseases because the 2017 Veterinary Feed Directive requires that beekeepers obtain antibiotic prescriptions from a veterinarian to treat EFB or AFB. So, we'd better have plenty of vets trained in honey bee biology and disease diagnosis/treatment!

But more broadly, the entire beekeeping industry needs to worry about EFB and AFB. Both diseases are highly contagious, and AFB in particular has had a devastating history in the USA. The reason this disease is called "American foulbrood" is because it was first described in the USA in 1907. In the 1920s, before effective monitoring programs and quarantine protocols were in place, AFB nearly wiped out the beekeeping industry in many areas, including several counties in upstate New York where the Dyce Lab currently exists (Morse, 1967).

Thankfully, we now have a vigilant network of state apiary inspectors throughout the USA who keep close tabs on EFB and AFB. We also have a national testing lab, the USDA ARS Beltsville Bee Disease Diagnostic Service Lab, which diagnoses these diseases and tests for antibiotic resistance. Thank you, state and federal government folks!

So, what's the current status of EFB and AFB in the USA? Which disease is more common? Are there regional hotspots? Have these diseases increased or decreased since 2015? And what about resistance to antibiotics? Are the two main antibiotics used to treat AFB still effective? These are the topics for the seventy-seventh *Notes from the Lab*, where I summarize ***"Occurrence and distribution of two bacterial brood diseases (American and European foulbrood) in US honey bee colonies and resistance to antibiotics from 2015 to 2022,"*** published in the ***Journal of Apicultural Research*** **[2024]** and written by Mohamed Alburaki and colleagues at the USDA ARS Bee Lab in Beltsville, MD.

For their study, Alburaki and colleagues summarized the data from all brood comb samples submitted to the USDA ARS Beltsville Bee Disease Diagnostic Service Lab for AFB and EFB analysis between 2015 and 2022. During this period, 4790 samples were sent to the lab from 49 states across the USA.

For each sample, swabs of symptomatic brood were taken (see Photo 1) and transferred to sterile tubes containing water to create brood cell suspensions. From these suspensions, two tests were conducted.

First, a drop of the suspension was placed on a microscope slide, dried, stained, and examined using a compound microscope at 1000x magnification. *Paenibacillus larvae* and *Melissococcus plutonius* were identified by spore and cell shape, respectively, and a few other characteristics.

Next, if the sample was positive for *P. larvae*, vegetative growth was cultivated on brain heart infusion medium in a sterile Petri dish. Antibiotic discs of either tetracycline (Terramycin) or tylosin (Tylan) were then placed in the center of the Petri dish and the dishes were incubated for 72 hours. Sensitivity of *P. larvae* to the antibiotics was determined by measuring the diameter of the inhibition zone within the culture. Percentage of *P. larvae* resistance to tetracycline was binned into three



Jay Evans

Photo 1 *USDA ARS Beltsville Bee Disease Diagnostic Service director, Mr. Samuel Abban, checks for suspected AFB in a comb sent to the facility in May 2024.*

categories according to previous literature: 1) < 30 mm inhibition (> 65% resistance) = resistant, 2) 30-50 mm inhibition (40-65% resistance) = intermediate resistance, and 3) > 50 mm inhibition (< 40% resistance) = susceptible. Percentage of *P. larvae* resistance to tylosin was binned into two categories because no previous literature exists on this topic: 1) > 50% resistance = resistant, or 2) < 50% resistance = susceptible.

So, what did they find? Were there seasonal trends in EFB or AFB infection? Yes. As can be seen in Figure 1, panel a, infection levels for both diseases were lowest in the winter, then increased in the spring and summer months, then decreased in the fall. Infection levels of EFB (orange bars) rose and fell about two months earlier than AFB (olive bars). EFB also had the highest levels of infection at its peak (~37% in June), which was nearly twice the level of AFB at its peak (~22% in July).

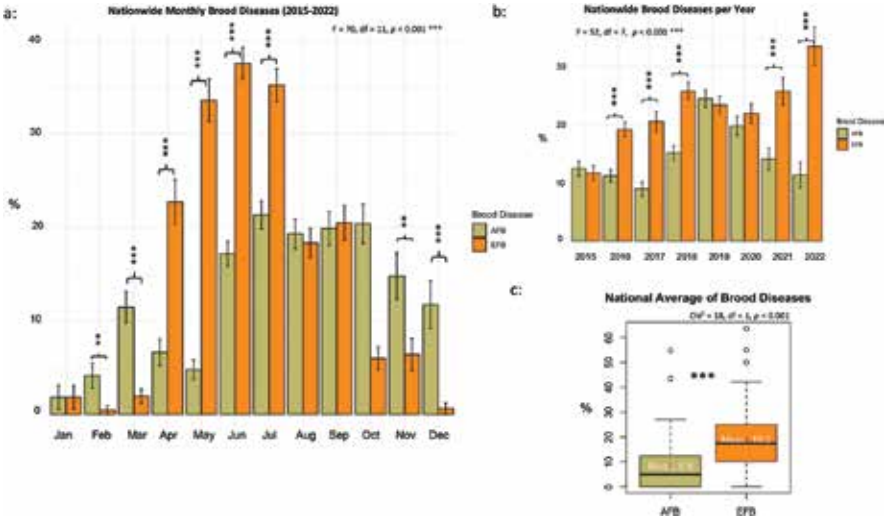


Fig. 1 *Average infection level of American foulbrood (AFB) and European foulbrood (EFB) displayed by month (a), year (b), and nationwide (c). ANOVA and post hoc Tukey HSD tests were conducted at three levels of significance: p < 0.05*, p < 0.01**, and p < 0.001***. Both EFB and AFB varied significantly (p < 0.001) by month, with EFB peaking earlier in the calendar year (panel a, orange bars) than AFB (panel a, olive bars). Only EFB varied significantly (p < 0.001) by year, with an increase in infection level between 2015-2022 (panel b). Overall, EFB had a higher national average infection level (19.2%) than AFB (8.6%; panel c). Error bars of the bar plots represent the standard error (SE).*

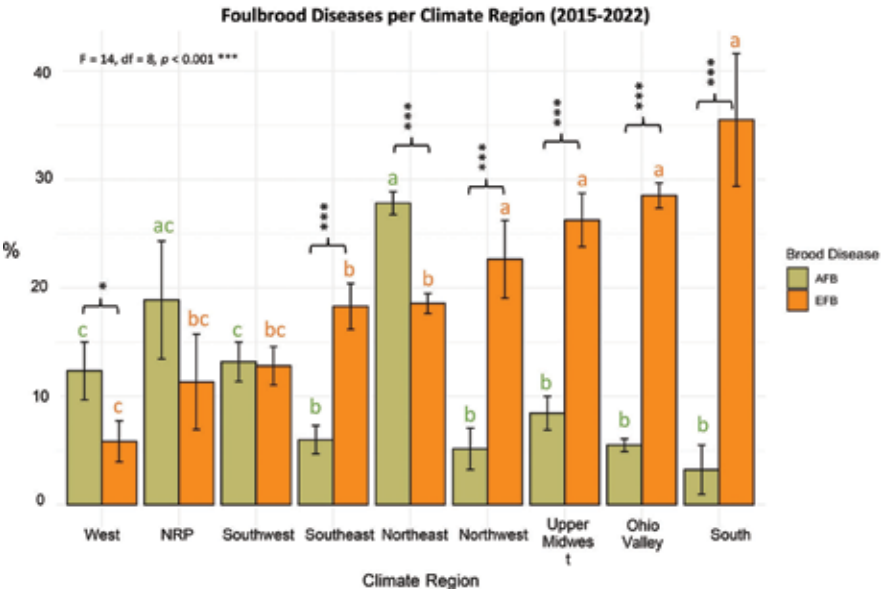


Fig. 2 *Overall brood disease (AFB and EFB) infections displayed by U.S. climate region. Bar plots with different alphabetic letters within each brood disease category are significantly different. Error bars represent the standard error (SE). ANOVA and post hoc Tukey HSD tests revealed significant (p < 0.001) brood disease variations among climate regions.*

How about yearly trends? Was there any evidence that infections increased or decreased between 2015 and 2022? Yes. As shown in Figure 1, panel b, there was a 3-fold increase in EFB infections between 2015 and 2022. The magnitude of AFB infections changed from year to year but there was no clear pattern through time.

Were there regional hotspots of EFB or AFB infection? Yes. The South (Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas) had the highest EFB infection levels but the lowest AFB infection levels (see Figure 2). Conversely, the Northeast (Connecticut, Washington DC, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont) had the highest AFB infection levels and intermediate EFB infection levels.

The highest EFB infection levels occurred in Delaware (63.6%) and the highest AFB infection levels occurred in my home state of New York (54.8%). It should be noted, however, that infection levels do not necessarily mean these states have major problems with EFB and AFB. Because of variation in how each state samples hives, the results could be attributed as much to differences in sampling protocols as prevalence in the field. In other words, Delaware and New York state apiculturists may simply be very good at finding EFB and AFB and ensuring samples are sent to Beltsville. Alternatively, Delaware and New York may indeed have elevated levels of EFB and AFB compared to other states. Or perhaps both of these things are true.

What about antibiotic resistance? Is there evidence of AFB resistance to tetracycline or tylosin? Yes. As can be seen in Figure 3, panels a and b, there's evidence of AFB resistance to tetracycline in every state that had a positive AFB sample. The lowest resistance to tetracycline was present in Alabama (14.3%) while the highest resistance was in New Jersey (80.9%). There was a distinct bimodal distribution of resistance (see Figure 3, panel

b) such that about 20% of AFB infections were highly resistant to tetracycline while the remaining 80% were mostly susceptible.

There was less evidence for AFB resistance to tylosin, a newer antibiotic, with nearly all infections being classified as susceptible. This said, there was variation in the degree of susceptibility and a handful of the 724 infections were classified as resistant.

What's the take-home message? First and foremost, we should all thank our state apiculturists and USDA ARS Bee Lab workers! They're keeping tabs on EFB and AFB so we don't repeat the unfortunate epidemics that occurred in the 1920s and earlier.

Beyond this, I think there are three main take-home messages. First, there's a clear seasonality to AFB and EFB infections. For EFB, you should check your colonies all the time, but especially in early summer. For AFB, check your colonies all the time, but especially throughout the entire summer.

Second, EFB appears to be on the rise in the USA. Infection levels tripled between 2015 and 2022. Let's please be vigilant, folks! It sure would be nice to see those numbers reversed during the next 8-year study. At the same time, AFB infection levels were relatively low and did not show a trend over time. That's good news.

But before we prematurely celebrate the defeat of AFB, please keep in mind there was clear evidence of antibiotic resistance. This is not good news since antibiotics are one of our major tools to combat EFB and AFB. We need to be careful about using antibiotics, since inappropriate use is precisely what leads to resistance. Only use antibiotics if you have a confirmed case of EFB or AFB, and use the antibiotics as prescribed by a veterinarian. If you need help getting in touch with a vet, try the Honey Bee Veterinary Consortium (**https://www.hbvc.org/**), which was set up for this exact purpose.

Or get in touch with your state apiculturist or local university extension agent. We're here to help, so please use us! All of us are thrilled to talk bees anytime, anywhere, because that's what we do … and somehow get paid for it, to boot!

Until next time, bee well and do good work.

Scott McArt

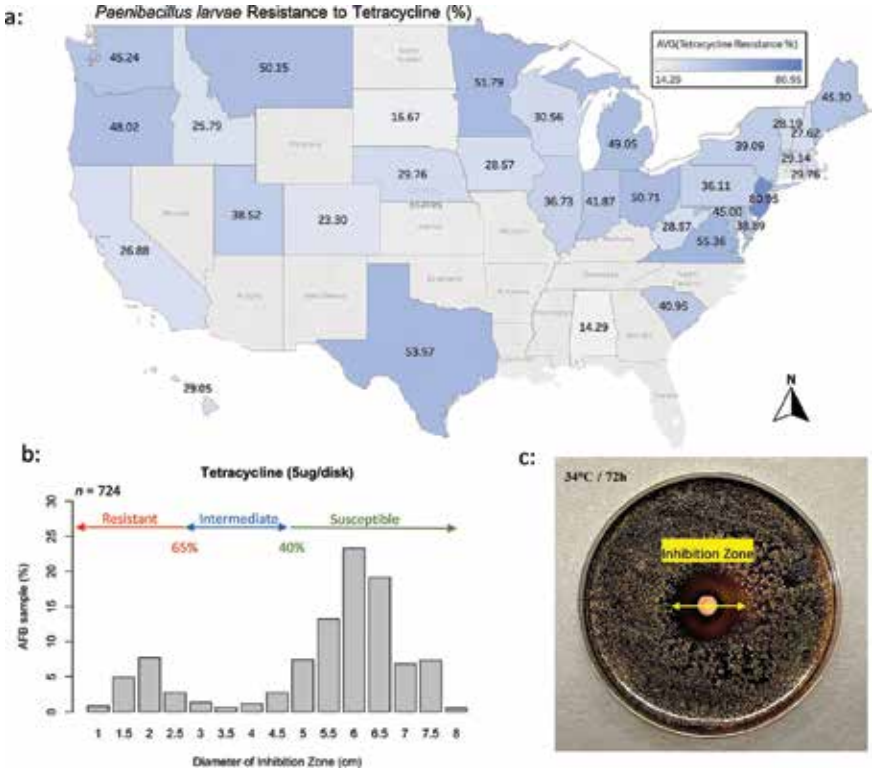


Fig. 3 *Overall average state resistance of AFB to tetracycline (a). Categorization of the cultured AFB samples (%) by expressed inhibition zones (cm) for tetracycline (b). Graphic display of P. larvae's colonies cultured in a Petri dish with the inhibition zone caused by tetracycline (c). Medium was subsequently stained with Iodine Tincture for better visualization.*

References:

Alburaki, M., S. K. Abban, J. D. Evans and Y. P. Chen. 2024. Occurrence and distribution of two bacterial brood diseases (American and European foulbrood) in US honey bee colonies and resistance to antibiotics from 2015 to 2022. *Journal of Apicultural Research*. 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1080/00218839.2024.2329854

Morse, R. A. 1967. A Short History of the Empire State Honey Producers' Association. Office of Apiculture, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, 150 pp.







An Interview with Dr. Dewey Caron

"My first 57 Years at EAS and counting"

Recorded February 29, 2024

Written by Doug Halloway, EAS Historian

At the 2023 EAS Conference at Ithaca, NY, Dewey Caron and I visited and spoke of his granting an interview to share his vast experiences as an EAS Member. He gladly agreed. I investigated the history of his membership so that reasonable and somewhat informed questions could be prepared. Questions were compiled over the next several months and the interview was scheduled. Here it is.

Thank you, Dewey, for doing this. I appreciate you taking the time to share your insights and perspective from your 57 years as a member of the Eastern Apicultural Society. It's hard to imagine someone not being familiar with your many services to the beekeeping community and affiliations, but I'll provide a few just for an introduction.

You are an Emeritus Professor of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, an Affiliate Professor with the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University, served as Entomology Chair at both the University of Maryland and the University of Delaware, and received a professional appointment at Cornell University. You have served as EAS director for both Maryland and Delaware, President of EAS in 1986, EAS Chairman of the board for nine years from 1990 to 1999, advisor to the EAS Master Beekeeper Certification Program, Short Course Chairman in 2017, and Program Chair in 2017. There are more of your appointments that I haven't mentioned, but that should provide a foundation for anyone that's not familiar with you. I also wanted to mention your contribution to the Western Apicultural Society, the Honey Bee Health Coalition, and, of course, those 10 plus books that you have written or co-written.

Dewey and Doug had a prolonged meeting and Dewey answered so many questions about his life and time with EAS. A full accounting of this interview may be found on the EAS Website at *easternapiculture.org*.

Dewey's recollections are summarized, perhaps best, in the last question Doug asked him - **What has your association with EAS meant to you personally and to your career?**

> *It has meant so much to me, and I guess that's why I have so freely participated. I was very fortunate with my administrations at Maryland and Delaware. Of course, I was part of those administrations as department chair myself, but I was very fortunate that my administrators, particularly those on the extension portion, recognized the value of EAS and recognized the value not only to the relatively few individuals in those states, Maryland, and Delaware, but to the overall education and training of beekeepers in the region.*

And so, I was so very fortunate through my professional positions beginning in 1970, that I had administrators that supported my activities with EAS. So that was part of it, particularly when I was so busy as EAS Chairman of the Board, I had the support of my administration at Delaware when I spent a lot of hours with EAS rather than doing something in Delaware. And yet they supported me extensively and monetarily as well.

On the personal side, of course, it has been all the friendships that I've developed and carried on over the years. The people that I've called upon to do a task or in the broader sense, people that were asked to do a task for EAS, busy people that just did it and did it so well and so willingly and so expertly. It is a well-oiled machine. And even when some sticky wheel doesn't get the right grease, it still somehow works for that conference, for that year or for overall what EAS is trying to do.

> "... I was very fortunate that my administrators, particularly those on the extension portion, recognized the value of EAS and recognized the value not only to the relatively few individuals in those states, Maryland, and Delaware, but to the overall education and training of beekeepers in the region."

So, it has been an evolution and a journey for me. I don't know what the secret is that makes EAS such a unique and special meeting to me personally that I want to keep coming back. And I hope that I still have a few more years in which I'm able to travel and able to remember some people's names and say, hey you or hi bud or whatever, that I'll have the ability physically and mentally to continue to come back so that maybe I can celebrate 60 years.

And we'll see after that, but at least I'd like to look forward to a 60th year anniversary with EAS. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to say some of these things and take this trip back down memory lane with you. I thought you had some fantastic questions.




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GRANTS & AWARDS

Call For Nominations

The **JAMES I HAMBLETON MEMORIAL AWARD** was established by the Eastern Apicultural Society of North America to recognize research excellence in apiculture.

The **ROGER A. MORSE OUTSTANDING TEACHING/EXTENSION SERVICE/REGULATORY AWARD SUPPORTED BY ANITA WEISS FOUNDATION** is given annually to recognize an individual in teaching/extension and/or regulatory activity in the field of apiculture. Nominations for this award are welcome from any person in the field of apiculture. Self-nominations are acceptable. Nominations shall consist of a letter documenting the achievement of excellence in any or all the areas of teaching/extension and/or regulatory activities in apiculture. Some indication of the appointment responsibilities should be included. In addition, a suitable CV or resume documenting the activities of the nominee must be submitted.



Dr. Margarita López-Utile, 2024 James I. Hambleton Memorial Award Winner



Dr. Debbie Delaney, 2024 Roger A. Morse Outstanding Teaching/ Extension Service/ Regulatory Award winner

The **EAS STUDENT APICULTURE AWARD** was established to recognize students studying apiculture at the undergraduate or graduate level in a recognized college or university in the United States or Canada. Each award nomination must include a biographical sketch of the nominee, a list of his/her publications, specific identification of the research work on which the nomination is based, and an evaluation and appraisal of the accomplishment of the nominee, especially of work in the last five-year period for Hambleton Award nominees (or a shorter period for Student nominees). A minimum of one letter of recommendation, in addition to the nomination letter, in support of the nomination are also required; additional support letters are welcome.

Nominations are now being accepted for all three awards. The awards for 2025 will be presented at the Awards Banquet that will be held on/about Friday, August 1 at the annual conference of the Eastern Apicultural Society in New Jersey.

Nominations and letters of recommendation should be emailed to: Awardnomination@easternapiculture.org and received no later than February 1st, 2025.

Resubmissions from a previous year should be updated if necessary, and a new cover letter should be attached which should indicate that this is a resubmission and relevant data is already in EAS possession.

EAS STUDENT APICULTURE AWARD WINNERS FROM THE PAST 5 YEARS

2019	Lauren Rusert, North Carolina State University
2020	Cameron Jack, University of Florida
2021	Abigail Chapman, University of British Columbia
2022	Alvaro De La Mora, University of Guelph
2023	no award (no applicants)
2024	no award (no applicants)

Divelbiss Award

2024 WINNER: KENT WILLIAMS

The EAS Charles and Evelyn Divelbiss Beekeeper of the year award is given to a person or couple who, over a period of years, has educated the non-beekeeping public as well as beekeepers in the importance of honeybees.

This years' recipient is a commercial beekeeper and an EAS Master Beekeeper who has served as a past EAS president. Every year he holds a four-day beekeeping school on his property in which he, along with other people, teach beekeeping to the general public. He is recognized as an encyclopedia of bee knowledge and is a mentor to many. He has given beekeeping talks on all aspects of beekeeping from the community level to national stages. He has been perennially nominated for this award and this year we are thrilled to announce his recognition.



Please join me in congratulating Kent Williams, recipient of the 2024 Divelbiss Award.

Mann Lake EAS Youth Scholar

The Mann Lake EAS Scholarship was established in 2014 by the EAS Master Beekeepers for the purpose of providing a worthy young beekeeper the opportunity to attend an EAS conference. It is made possible by the generosity of Mann Lake, Ltd., which has committed to funding the scholarship.

The scholarship provides not only registration fees for the conference, but also covers the cost of travel and room and board, up to $1,000, for a student between the ages of 18 and 25 (30 if a veteran.)

Applications are due April 30, 2025. Further information and the application form may be found on the EAS Website, https://easternapiculture.org/programs/master-beekeepers/master-beekeepers-scholarship/.



2024 WINNER: KATIE CULBERT

Thank you EAS for awarding me the Mann Lake EAS Youth Scholarship! I had an extremely productive time in Ellicott City, Maryland meeting fellow beekeepers and informative experts. I learned about the latest advances in beekeeping through the valuable plenary sessions, interactive workshops, and enlightening panel discussions. I also took advantage of unique opportunities such as meeting the scientists and observing the inner workings of the USDA bee laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland.

I was humbled when EAS organizers asked me to present my latest research, currently published in Harvard's Journal of Emerging Investigators, entitled, Nature's Reset: The Effect of Native and Invasive Plant Forage on Honey Bee Nutrition and Survival, at a workshop session.

My experience at EAS serves as a reminder of the hardworking and amazing beekeepers who make up the EAS constituents. The faculty speakers inspire me with their breadth of knowledge and approachability. I am equally encouraged by the level of welcome and support I received from the conference attendees. EAS truly fosters a unique spirit of community by creating connections, encouraging cooperation, and promoting communication.

As I begin my undergraduate studies at Harvard this fall, I will remain forever grateful to EAS and Mann Lake for my enlightening experience. I am both motivated and determined to continue my research studies. Thank you and see you next year in my home state of New Jersey!

Kaitlyn (Katie) Culbert
Harvard University, Class of 2028
njhoneyqueen@gmail.com

EAS Foundation for Honey Bee Research

Call for Proposals, 2025

The EAS Foundation for Honey Bee Research is a competitive grant program developed from donations received from beekeepers and others interested in funding research on topical problems in honey bees.

Proposals are solicited annually with award amounts to be determined the spring before the EAS annual meeting. Requests for "seed money" to provide investigators the opportunity to collect preliminary data or as "add on" funds to combine with other funding sources to continue present research will also be considered. Requests for support for student projects (undergraduate summer employees/ graduate student) or for equipment/ supplies for distinct research projects are given highest priority. We welcome separate discrete project proposals and requests that identify pieces of ongoing research programs where additional funds can accomplish an objective of a larger program. Grant funds may be used for supplies, equipment, salaries, travel necessary for data collection or other research tasks, or other appropriate uses by the recipient. As a nonprofit organization, the EAS Foundation does not pay overhead on funded research grants.

The total amount to be awarded in 2025 is $30,000. The awards will be announced at the EAS 2024 Conference but available by April 1, 2025. The principle investigator may be invited to present their findings at the 2026 EAS Annual Conference; travel and lodging costs associated with presenting will be covered by EAS; and we will publicize the award to aid in solicitation of additional funds for subsequent years. An article for the EAS Journal summarizing the research and results must be submitted by September 1, 2026.

Deadline for application is February 1, 2025. Additional submission details can be found at www.easternapiculture.org/honey-bee-research, and further inquiries can be directed to HoneyBeeResearch@easternapiculture.org.

Proposal Submission Criteria

1. Proposals are welcome from any individuals conducting research on honey bees. The role the investigator will perform if awarded the funds should be clearly stated.

2. Proposal should briefly outline the objective and a plan of work, to be completed within one year of funding, and a justification for the proposed work. If intended as "seed money," the proposal should clearly state how the funds will enable the investigator to secure additional funding for project continuation. Proposals should not exceed five written pages in total length (double-spaced) excluding title page, budget, and résumé. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

3. Proposal must indicate how results will be disseminated if grant is funded. Investigators must present their work through the EAS journal (in summary form) and to a future EAS annual meeting, if possible, but other funds should be used for this. An acknowledgment of EAS support should be included in any presentations or publications resulting from the research.

4. The proposal should be arranged in the following format:

   a. cover page to include title, name, address, e-mail, and telephone of investigators(s) and title/ affiliation of investigator
   b. justification
   c. objective(s)
   d. project description
   e. plan of work/timetable
   f. budget
   g. short (half page) résumé of each participant
   h. name of principal investigator to appear on every page of proposal (very important)

5. Electronic copy of the proposal should be submitted by February 1, 2025 to the email account, HoneyBeeResearch@easternapiculture.org

Proposal Review Process

EAS will review each proposal with a three-person proposal review board. One person is a member of the Board of Directors while the remaining two are researchers (the Board member may be a researcher). None of the panel will have a direct connection to any research project for which a proposal has been submitted. In cases of conflict that panel member will be excused from voting.

Evaluation of proposals will be made on the following criteria: scientific merit, relevance of the proposed project to beekeeping, reasonableness of the budget proposal to the actual work to be performed, potential for securing or adding to funding from other sources, and finally, interest of proposed research to EAS members. All funds must be expended during the year of the grant and an accounting of expenditures made available to the EAS treasurer by the end of the year of the grant.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

Beeing in the Garden State of NJ









Save the Date

EAS is excited to announce that the 2025 EAS Conference will be held in Cherry Hill, NJ from July 27th to August 1st.

Cherry Hill is a township within Camden County and as a suburb of Philadelphia, the township is part of South Jersey and the Delaware Vally region.

The Doubletree in Cherry Hill, NJ will provide an excellent site for the conference. The hotel offers comfortable rooms, excellent vendor space, rooms for breakout sessions and a beautiful dining area to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner options. Free parking under a solar panel roof, free wi-fi access throughout the hotel, a fitness center and pool are amenities that we can all enjoy.

Full Short Course and Conference Schedules are under development, with a focus on supporting and providing for bee nutrition and overall health.

Details on accommodations, the conference schedule and registration will be upcoming in the journal and website.

We are very excited for the opportunity to gather again and swarm over to the many local attractions that present themselves in this region.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Lou Naylor,
Chair, EAS

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EAS BUSINESS

EAS 2024 Board of Directors Meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Those in attendance were: Lou Naylor, Chairman; Linda Mizer, Vice Chairman/Journal; David Morris, President; Rich Wieske, Vice President; Doris Morgan, Secretary; Fred Smith, Treasurer; Mary Duane, President Emeritus; Erin Evans, Chairman Emeritus; Adam Hickman, Alabama; Bill Hesbach, Connecticut; Pam Hepp, Delaware; David Hocutt, Indiana; Leonard Davis, Kentucky; Janet Anker, Maine; Carin Zinter, Massachusetts; Dorinda Priebe, New Hampshire; John Gaut, New Jersey; Burton Beasley, North Carolina; Mark Gingrich, Pennsylvania; Nancy Simpson, South Carolina; Anne Fraser, Virginia; Sam Golston, West Virginia; Greg Gentry, Membership; Debby Delaney, MB Advisor; Doug Galloway, Historian; Tammy Horn Potter, Honey Bee Health Coalition; Karla Eisen, Honey Show Committee; David Priebe, Master Beekeepers; Austin Mattison, Guest; Natalie Comeau, Guest; Jacky Hildreth, Treasurer Emeritus; David Peck, Guest; Jon Zawislak, MB Certification.

Those not in attendance were: Ernesto Rodriguez, Washington D.C.; Brutz English, Georgia; Clyde Strang, Maryland; Michael Sautter, Michigan; Mark Fiegl, New York; Jeannie Saum, Ohio; Thomas Nolan, Ontario; Erik Brown, Tech Team/Wild Apricot; Jim Gross, Life Membership

STATES/PROVINCES IN GOOD STANDING:
Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont (Vacant), Virginia, West Virginia

STATES/PREOVINCES WITH EXPIRED DUES:
Florida (Vacant), Georgia; Illinois (Vacant), Louisiana (Vacant), Mississippi (Vacant), Ohio, Wisconsin (Vacant), Quebec (Vacant)

ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTOR'S:

Natalie Ann Comeau – Ontario
Greg Gentry – Tennessee
Austin Mattison – Rhode Island

Nancy Simpson made a motion to accept the new Director's with Erin Evans seconding the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Doris Morgan

The October 15, 2023 minutes were emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting. There were no corrections. Mary Duane made a motion to accept the minutes as is. David Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Fred Smith
The Profit & Loss Previous Years Comparison and the Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison were both emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting. Fred asked if anyone had any questions? He stated that the finances look pretty good, last year we had a lot of new memberships from Massachusetts. Massachusetts made money and our investments are way up this year. Nancy Simpson had a question. On the Balance sheet under Liabilities she was wondering why there were a lot of zero's. Fred said that we didn't have any receivables or any deposit of funds. Jacky Hildreth spoke up and said there were no liabilities left in 2023 as we paid all of our bills so there was nothing outstanding.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Lou Naylor
Lou welcomed everyone and especially the new Board members. David Peck was invited to the meeting, you will hear more about him in a few minutes. A couple of the states, including New Jersey, have recently held membership drives at their state meetings. Lou feels this has been pretty successful and she would like to encourage all Directors that when they are having a state meeting to have a membership drive. Part of the membership drive is promoting the EAS Conference in Maryland. She would like to encourage everyone to think about hosting the EAS Conference in 2026 or even 2027. We have this year (2024) and next year (2025) covered but nothing after that. She hopes someone will step up by the next Board of Director's meeting at the EAS Conference in August. Dave Priebe sent her a question that he received from one of the Master Beekeepers about other conferences. The question was as to why we aren't as big as NAHBE. It's huge with about 2000 people. Lou stated there are all kinds of conferences. Many people do not want to sit in a room with 1000 other people and have to watch the speaker by video, and there is no personal interaction with the speakers. Lou would not like to see EAS become like that. People enjoy the intimacy we have. Lou also likes that we focus on research and funding research. She appreciates the Master Beekeeping program very much and all the little things we do that make it fun to come to a conference and that she hopes we will continue on that path. Lou would like the Master Beekeepers to consider raising the cost to take the test to become a Master Beekeeper. This year we are paying a flat fee for the conference rooms but in other years depending on where the EAS Conference is held, we have to pay for each room we use and the cost is continually rising. She asked them to please talk among themselves and see if that is reasonable. When she looked at what other people are charging for their MB programs, we are a super bargain. Karla Eisen said to keep in mind that the MB candidates do have to pay for the entire Conference even though they don't get to go to all of it since they are testing for several days but she does support increasing the cost. Dave Morris stated that when they looked into using the University of Maryland for the EAS Conference, they were charging so much an hour for every room that would be used and more for the equipment needed, whereas

Turf Valley was one flat fee for the entire place. Dave Priebe agrees with Lou and it is something that he has thought about for a while. He said that something we might want to do is include in the cost an EAS Life Membership. If we want to do this for next year, we need to do it early so it can be put on the web site. Nancy Simpson would like to see us collect some data about other MB programs before we just jump and increase our prices. Lou said the numbers should be easy to get. Erin Evans stated that the pricing should be recommended by the examining committee, and she agrees that the price of testing has not gone up in many years. She wanted to remind everyone that certifying Master Beekeepers is one of our three core mission elements. If it comes down to a matter of price, that is something we wouldn't ever want to let go of because it became too expensive. We have managed our finances over the last ten years miraculously well so that our whole organization is profitable. She thinks if we raise MB fees, we would want to at minimum set some kind of scholarship floor in the event we had a candidate who had some kind of hardship and couldn't pay the higher fees. She is sure the MB committee can sort out all the issues and come up with a recommendation.
Lou stated that when we were going to hold the EAS Conference in Ithaca one of the things we looked at was "For the Good of the Hive". Their goal is to do a couple thousand murals of bees around the world. We were hoping to help sponsor a mural on the side of Dyce Labs during the conference but Dyce Labs was going to undergo renovation and it wasn't possible at that time. Now, everything is approved and they have all their funds lined up for the renovation. They have now come back and asked if we are still willing to help fund the painting of the mural. It will be an educational mural. The price is typically $40,000 but Matt (the artist) may be willing to give some consideration on the price but keep in mind that he still needs to make a living. Because of the historic location and that it's educational, he asked if we would be willing to contribute towards the cost. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to donate $10,000 towards the painting of the mural. She is asking the Board of Directors to approve that same amount. Dave Priebe asked if Lou would repeat where the mural would be. Lou stated on the side of the Dyce Lab at Cornel University. Erin Evans said that all of the murals are anatomically correct. There is one at the Zoo in Washington, D.C. Dorinda Priebe stated that they have one of these murals in New Hampshire. Erin said that Dyce Labs would be the ones selecting the mural concept, we would just be supporting them. Lou said that part of the fee includes giving a talk and Matt would be willing to do that for EAS. Anne Fraser asked if there was anyone else lined up for the balance of the money? Is the mural going to happen if we make the contribution? Lou said she believes it will happen. Linda Mizer made a motion for EAS to make a $10,000 donation for the placement of the mural on the Dyce Lab facility in Ithaca, NY. Erin Evans seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: David Morris
The program team has done a lot of work. They have the program entirely filled out with a great set of speakers. They have received about half of the speaker acceptance letters back. They reviewed the vendor registration form and it's about ready to go, it's in Erik Brown's hands right now being looked over and put on Wild Apricot. We are looking at

attendee registration this week, we have a draft but it still needs finalizing. They have spent a lot of time talking about the sponsorship levels. Previously the platinum level was $6,000 and there have not been any takers at that level so they are decreasing the amount to $5,000. The gold level has been raised to $3500 from $3000, the silver level has been increased to $2500 from $1500. All of these provide additional value to the vendors. For a single booth they are charging $650 and for a double booth they are charging $1000. They are also looking for sponsors for lunches, events and activities and bus trips. Dave asked Lou what the situation was on the bag sponsorship. Lou stated that last year it was Maxant and they are hoping they will sponsor again. Tom has not been able to talk with the owner yet to confirm that, as he has been out of the country. Lou asked David if they have a backup sponsor idea. The bags are already printed on one side with the Maryland logo and the sponsors name will go on the other side. The bags are a $5,000 sponsorship. Lou and Linda have worked out the menus for the conference and it will be part of the registration form. Dave had an interview today with a writer for the Baltimore Magazine. She is doing an article on urban beekeeping. Nancy Simpson had a question: "A vendor has asked her who can they talk to if they have any questions?" Dave stated that there is a vender email address on the website that they can send questions to. David Hocutt asked if there was a projected date for registration to go live. Lou stated "as soon as possible". The hotels are open for booking now, just go on line to register. They are expecting more rooms to open up shortly at Turf Valley, get your name on the waiting list if you want one. Adam Hickman asked if there was a spot on the website that has information on the pricing and the sponsorship? Dave stated that they have just worked through that and it is now in Erik Browns hands to put on the web site. Anyone who has signed up as a potential vendor will get notification once the registration is ready.

FUTURE SITES:

2025 Michigan – Rich Wieske

They are starting their first planning meeting tomorrow night. They have had speaker committee meetings and have done some research for hotels and some graphic design work. They are really looking forward to having EAS come to Michigan and they have a great crew.

COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Greg Gentry

We currently have 2200 active members and 771 life members. Our two newest members are from Kentucky.

Dorinda stated that many years ago memberships were offered to the states to use in their raffles, her state officers have asked her if this is still a thing. Lou stated that this would not be permitted because of the Constitution.

AWARDS;

Hambleton Award – This award is being presented to Dr. Margarita López-Uribe, she is an Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology Center of Pollination Research in Pennsylvania. She was nominated by Dewey Caron.

Roger A. Morse Award – This award is being presented to Dr. Deborah Delaney, she is an Associate Professor at the University of Delaware Department of Entomology and Wildlife. She was nominated by Dewey Caron also.

Both of these had recommendations by David Tarpy and have been informed of winning. They will be coming to the conference as keynote speakers and will be giving other lectures as well.

Student Award: No nominations were submitted for the second year in a row.

Divelbiss – Submissions are still open for this, deadline is April 30th, 2024.

Honey Bee Research Award:

Dr. Adam Pachl for "The effects of geography, forage sources and seasonality on microbial communities in honey bees" for the amount of $10,915.

Dr. Simone-Finstrom for "Propolis reduces EFB and Varroa infestation in honey bees used for blueberry pollination" for the amount of $10,000.

Shelly E. Hoover for "The study of Non-invasive evaluation of honey bee queen quality" for the amount of $2,736.62.

Erin Evans spoke up saying she is on the HBR award committee. This year there were thirteen applicants, and of those six or seven were incredibly fundable. She would like the Directors to go back to their State organizations and their local clubs to raise the possibility of funding of projects that EAS doesn't award or to send the money to EAS to fund the projects. Many of the State and local organizations are just sitting on large amounts of money that could be utilized to fund Honey Bee Research. If the clubs do fund the money, they could then have the person that they supported come speak at their meetings.

FINANCE – Fred Smith

We are getting our books together for the auditor and we'll be sending them out next week. We need to start working on getting a finance committee together. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being on that committee, please send Fred and email or text.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE – Doug Galloway

All the 2023 records accumulated by or provided to the Historian have been sorted and uploaded to the appropriate folders in the EAS Archives.

There are 3 banker boxes of books either donated or retrieved from the 2023 Conference. An excel summary of those will be provided to the Silent/Live Auction Administrator and as directed, the books brought to the Conference in Maryland.

The Boxes received from Jacky Hildreth in Massachusetts included Financial and Insurance records he accumulated form 2015-2019, old accounting firm Financial Reports from 1987 – 2014, several tax returns and the Original Delaware Documents of Incorporation for EAS. Additional items included, old EAS Journals, a 1988 Short Course Manual and an Ontario Beekeeping Manual from past Treasurer Don Chirnside. Lastly, two tubs of mostly copies of

documents, corresponds, bills and contracts that appear to have been accumulated by Past Chairman, Kim Flottum. Review and sorting of all the above is underway, with all appropriate documents to be retained and added to the EAS Archive.
Recorded at the 2023 U Mass EAS Conferences, Betty Mencucci's Power Point Slide presentation of her and her mother's wonderful EAS photo record since 1988 has been transcribed. Both the transcript and her Audio along with the slides will be added to the EAS Archives.
An interview with Dr. Dewey Caron was completed on February 29, 2024. An hour and a half interview was recorded. The transcript will be organized into a possible article for the EAS Journal. The video, after editing, will be available for viewing if there is any interest. One working title of the interview is "My 57 Years at EAS and Counting", the other is "It's all about the People". This very informative interview along with the transcript will be added to the EAS Archives.
Dewey suggested a couple other candidates that your Historian might interview if there is BOD interest.
In editing the documents for auction, I found that several books are on the rare book list. One of them is in the price range of $400 - $700 dollars. He feels that these books should have a minimum put on them when they are offered on the auction. If these books are offered at a conference and no one bids on them, he feels we could sell them to a book seller.
Nancy Simpson asked if the Directors still had access to Box.com? Doug stated that it has been the objective to get the archives so that members can access them, the progress of getting the archives in a form that can be viewed and not disturbed has been a challenge for our Tech. Committee to work through. We talk several times a year about this but right now the answer is no.

HONEY BEE HEALTH COALITION – Tammy Horn-Potter
Honey Bee Health Coalition is having its Spring meeting in Blacksburg Virginia, at Virginia Tech., May 22-24, 2024. She would like to go as she would like to work on a Best Management plan for the Spotted Lantern Fly. Kentucky is being bombarded from the north and the south with them. She would like to compile what other states have learned and what bee keepers can do to help minimize the spread if possible. Spotted Lanternfly affects over 103 plants and there still is no predator against them. There are no funds from the USDA. She has been asked to share at the EAS Conference in Maryland and will have more that she can share with EAS at that point in time.

HONEY SHOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Karla Eisen
We have very few changes this year to the Honey Show rules. The major change is in the black jar class. They will not be scoring the black jars anymore, it will be just pass/fail. This year they are going to add in the black jars but this will not be every year. The second change is in the creamed honey class as there was a lot of confusion. There is going to only be two jar styles approved. The Gambler award is back and it's slightly different. It is only going to be for light and amber honey. They have added an addendum, thank you to the

South Carolina beekeepers. It is a visual addendum that shows the classic, the queen line, the tall GCI and the squat jars. Chris Beck, who is the Honey Show chair for Michigan has joined the committee and Karla strongly stressed the importance of having him come to EAS this year. Jim Fraser and Chris Delaney both found being at EAS the year before invaluable. Anyone who wants to be a Honey Show volunteer needs to get in touch with Jim Fraser or Karla. Jim Fraser is going to have a webinar in early July on Honey Show prep. There is going to be a Honey Show steward class for anyone who wants to be a steward at the show. This is a requirement. Lou would like to put a question back on registration asking if you are going to enter the Honey Show. This would make it easy to get in contact with those people.

JOURNAL – Linda Mizer

The Journal is still three issues a year. We are continuing the trend of fewer people wanting a paper copy with printing and mailing costing more. The fall and winter issues and the Conference guide run about $10.00 each. The most expensive one is the Spring issue, as it has all the information about the upcoming Conference. Right now, we charge $20.00 for all three issues. Linda brought up at the Executive Committee meeting that it would be advisable to increase the cost to $30.00 per year. We would still lose money on the Spring Journal but not the Fall and Winter. We don't charge for the Conference program. Doug Galloway stated that if there is any leftover Program Guides from the Conference, he would like to have them so he can auction them off in the future. If a current member would like to order paper copies of the Journal, they can do that through the store in Wild Apricot. Erin Evans made a motion to raise the price of the Journal to $30.00 per year. Tammy Horn-Potter seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The price will be effective immediately.

MASTER BEEKEEPERS – Dave Priebe

Brenda Kiessling has received several applications for the Mann Lake Scholarship. The deadline is April 30th.

Dave said Brenda Kiessling asked him to ask "What is happening regarding the Ann Harmon Award?" They want to make sure they have answered all the Board's questions and that the Board has everything they need. They would like to do the presentation in August. They will have a slide show of Ann doing EAS things and maybe international things. This should last 1-2 minutes. They are offering a certificate and maybe another tangible award. They are asking the Board to waive the registration fee for the next EAS Conference that the awardee attends as part of the award. There was a lot of discussion about this award with a lot of questions raised such as: where the money for the award is coming from, the family only offered a small amount, a couple of thousand dollars, which won't last long. Should the award be a general memorial award recognizing anyone that has passed who was very involved and not just Ann? Another suggestion to honor Ann's memory could be to award funds to people who travel internationally to do bee research or mission work. Lou asked Dave Priebe to get back to Brenda and Dewey with what was said and Lou wants to set up a committee to further explore the award.

Jon Zawislak made the announcement that they have come up with a candidate to nominate to take Dr. Debbie Delaney's place as Master Beekeeper Advisor for the written and laboratory tests. It is Dr. David Peck. He is honored to be nominated for this role and to be able to serve in it. Linda Mizer made a motion that Dr. Peck is appointed as the new Master Beekeeper Advisor for the written and laboratory testing of the Master Beekeepers. William Hesbach seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Linda Mizer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Morris seconded the motion.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris Morgan EAS Secretary

EAS 2024 Board of Directors Meeting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024 | TURF VALLEY RESORT IN ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

Those in attendance were Lou Naylor, Chairman; Linda Mizer, Vice Chairman; David Morris, President; Doris Morgan, Secretary; Fred Smith, Treasurer; Mary Duane, President Emeritus & proxy for Carin Zinter, Massachusetts; Erin Evans, Chairman Emeritus; Adam Hickman, Alabama; Bill Hesbach, Connecticut; Pam Hepp, Delaware; David Hocutt, Indiana; Leonard Davis, Kentucky; Janet Anker, Maine; Clyde Strang, Maryland; Dorinda Priebe, New Hampshire; John Gaut, New Jersey; Mark Fiegl, New York; Austin Mattison, Rhode Island; Nancy Simpson, South Carolina; Greg Gentry, Tennessee; Virginia Webb, proxy for Brutz English, West Virginia; Natalie Ann Comeau, Ontario; Erik Brown, Tech team leader; Debbie Delaney, MB Advisor; Doug Galloway, Historian; Tammy Horn Potter, Honey Bee Health Coalition; Jim Gross, Life Membership; Karla Eisen, Honey show committee & proxy for Anne Fraser, Virginia; David Priebe, Master Beekeepers; and Jacky Hildreth.

Those not in attendance were Ernesto Rodriquez, Washington D.C.; Brutz English, Georgia; Carin Zinter, Massachusetts; Michael Sautter, Michigan; Burton Beasley, North Carolina; Jeannie Saum, Ohio; Mark Gingrich, Pennsylvania; Anne Fraser, Virginia; Sam Golston, West Virginia;

STATES/PROVINCES IN GOOD STANDING;
Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts (vacant), Michigan (vacant), New Hampshire (vacant), New Jersey, New York, North Carolina (vacant), Ontario, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island (vacant), South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont (vacant), Virginia, and West Virginia.

STATES/PROVINCES WITH EXPIRED DUES:
Florida (vacant), Illinois (vacant), Louisiana (vacant), Mississippi (vacant), Ohio, Quebec (vacant) and Wisconsin (vacant)

DIRECTOR'S WITH EXPIRING TERMS;
Kentucky – Leonard Davis, served one term will serve another term
Massachusetts – Carin Zinter, served one term, stepping down
Michigan – Michael Sautter, served one term, stepping down
New Hampshire – Dorinda Priebe served two terms, looking for a replacement
North Carolina – Burton Beasley served one term, stepping down
West Virginia – Sam Golston served one term, will serve another term
Wisconsin – No director

ELECTION OF RETURNING OFFICERS:

West Virginia – Sam Golston
Nancy Simpson made a motion to accept the returning Directors. Mary Duane seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.

ELECTION OF TREASURER:
David Morris made a motion to elect Fred Smith as treasurer for a four year term. Mary Duane seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.

SECRETARY'S REEPOERT: Doris Morgan
The minutes from the last BOD meeting were emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting. There were no corrections or additions. Nancy Simpson made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Leonard Davis seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Fred Smith
The Balance sheet previous year comparison and P & L previous years comparison were emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting.
We had a good year last year and this year so far with our investments. The grants have increased over last year, we gave away $23,600 so far this year. The amount was increased last year to $20,000. Fred believes that we could increase it even more this year. There were no questions. Nancy Simpson thanked Fred for answering any questions and for having the foresight to invest the early registration money for the hotel into a three month CD.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Lou Naylor
Lou would like to raise the research award grant to $25,000 and asked if there was any discussion on that. The amount right now is $20,000, we spent $23,000 this year. Erin Evans stated that the grant committee could very easily find people to award that amount to as they always receive applications far beyond what is allowed to be awarded and have to pick and choose where to spend the money. Karla Eisen brought up that Erin had suggested before that any state organization that is just sitting on a lot of money could either donate some to the Research fund or ask EAS for the names of some of the good applicants and fund them themselves. Mary Duane made a motion to raise the Honey Bee Research grant award amount to $30,000. Linda seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.
We have been so busy because this conference we had to purchase the hotel rooms and then sell them to our members. The only way we could meet our food budget was to agree ahead of time to contract to sell a certain amount of food so we had to include that in the hotel rooms and lunch with the conference fee. Overall people have been fine with that. They are working to keep the expenses down so that it is affordable to many people. The other news for this year is that we were planning to go to Michigan next year for the conference. Rich Wieske was going to be our President, a month ago we found out that Michigan was not going to be able to have the Conference as they did not have enough people to pull it off. We hope that they will come back and try again sometime. Because we did not have anywhere else to go, Lou asked New Jersey who typically has the most

amount of volunteers come, to take it on. David Elkner, the current president of New Jersey beekeepers has been asked to be the President for 2025. David Morris made a motion to accept David Elkner as President for 2025. John Gaut seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion.
David Elkner stated that he has worked with EAS since 2016, his wife works registration and he has been a room monitor. He will accept any help from the Past Presidents. New Jersey does not have a venue for the Conference at this time but they have reached out to seven places so far, they have heard back from three.
Thankfully the University in Michigan did not require a contract this early so there is no money owed.
At the last BOD meeting there was a question about an Ann Harmon committee to take a look at the proposal for starting an award in her memory. The question was raised as to why only Ann Harmon as there are other worthy people that should also be acknowledged. Lou has asked Erin Evans to chair that committee and work on exactly what we are going to do.
We are looking for people to host the 2026 and 2027 Conferences. There are Conference guide lines that Doris can email you.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: David Morris
David was very pleased to say "welcome to Maryland". It's been a long two years. I have had a great group of type A personalities to work with. We got the whole hotel here for less than one third of the price that the University of Maryland was going to charge us. Rooms with double beds, two people could share and split the cost. We were finally able to get a sales tax exemption just last week, that is a six percent savings. We had a ton of money come in for sponsorships. Maryland was enthused and excited to bring EAS here again after 24 years.

WEB SITE: Erik Brown
No report

WILD APRICOT: Erik Brown
Wild Apricot is good and we have the same subscription as we have had the last couple of years.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Greg Gentry
According to Wild Apricot we have 2272 active members. Membership looks good. Dorinda Priebe wanted to know if she could get a list of people that are EAS members in New Hampshire. Greg said that he could supply her with a list of names only. Dorinda responded that is all she wants so that she knows who to reach out to.

AWARDS:

Hambleton Award – Dr. Margarita López-Uribe
Roger A. Morse Award – Dr. Deborah Delaney
Student Award – There were no submissions for this.

Honey Bee Research Award –

Dr. Adam Pachl for "The effects of geography, forage sources and seasonality on microbial communities in honey bees" for $10,915.
Dr. Simone-Finstrom for "Propolis reduces EFB and Varroa infestation in honey bees used for Blueberry pollination" for $10,000.
Shelly E. Hoover for "The study of non-invasive evaluation of Honey Bee queen quality" for $2,736.62.

Divelbiss – To be announced on Friday night at the awards banquet.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Doug Galloway

The Zoom interview with Dewey Caron has been transcribed and organized into a lengthy article. It, along with pictures from EAS Archive and many donated by Dr. Caron, has been submitted to Linda Mizer, Journal Editor, for her consideration.
From the boxes and crates contributed by Jacky Hildreth at the 2023 EAS Conference, all have been reviewed and organized. Financial and Insurance records will be stored. Associated Financial statements have been digitized and retained in the Historians Archives. The two crates of documents from Kim Flottum's tenure as EAS Chairman, have been sorted and are ready to be digitized subject to BOD approval. Records Reduction, the company who previously digitized records for EAS, has agreed to digitize these new records. Cost should be about $200.00.
With the addition of pamphlets by Ann Harman and memorabilia donated by Barry Thompson, the number of banker boxes curated by the Historian and brought to this conference is (4). Included are (3) packages of historically relevant magazines and memorabilia prepared for offering at the Live Auction. Additionally, (4) books from the donation of David Smith, Church Hill, Md, have been separated out as Rare, Collectable or Vintage, to be presented at the Live Auction. Because of their value, a Reserve or minimum auction price has been set for each book. If the Reserve is not reached, the book will be retained and either sold via Rare Book sellers or offered again at the next EAS Live Auction.
As requested by Lou Naylor, an approximately 5-minute Power Point presentation including narration, was created in Remembrance of our recently past Chairmans, Kim Flottum and Jim Bobb. Two remarkable men who generously served beekeepers and EAS.
Karla Eisen stated that she and Doug are going to work together to create a database listing all the Honey Show award winners from the past years to put up on the web site. They at least will be put in the archives.

HONEY BEE HEALTH COALITION: Tammy Horn Potter

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has been in a little bit of a transition. One of the key coordinators has had some life issues so the HBHC spring meeting did not happen in person but was done by zoom. One of the things that the
HBHC is grappling with is that some of the key corporate members have reconsidered their support of the nonprofit. This means that the steering committee is maybe a tiered membership moving forward. Tammy is also in transition due to family issues and this is her notice to the EAS Board that she is stepping down as the HBHC representative. If anyone wants to serve on the HBHC as a representative, Tammy can give those names to

the Board. The HBHC has added some new members, one of the considerations is the American Foul Brood vaccine manufacturing. Lou asked that if anyone contacts Tammy about being the representative to please give her their names.

HONEY SHOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Karla Eisen
This is the third year that they are using their new judging guidelines. This year for the first time the did a pretty comprehensive judge and entry steward orientation by zoom the other night. Karla feels it was a tremendous success. It was also an orientation of the history of the EAS Honey show and what it takes to put on a Honey show. This year they have nine judges, three judges' stewards, four entry stewards and three secretaries. Karla wanted to call out Ashby Jewelers, they donated over $800.00 by taking seventeen percent off the cost of the pewter plates, donating $460.00 of engraving and the tax exempt form helped. Karla wanted to thank all the sponsors including the Maryland State Beekeepers Association and the Montgomery County Beekeepers Association.
Karla is on an endless search for historic Honey show pictures, they can be either EAS or the American Honey show pictures.

JOURNAL: Linda Mizer
The Journals are getting more expensive to produce, there are many contributing factors to that. One is that there are fewer copies being printed and mailed as most people are getting them electronically. With fewer being mailed we fall into a different category and get charged more. The cost of receiving the Journal was increased this year which has been very helpful. The Fall and Winter Journals are usually about eight or nine dollars and the Spring one can be up to twelve dollars. One of our bills we were charged to mail one to Canada and it cost thirty dollars. Linda made a suggestion to put a note in the EAS store that we will not mail to Canada or internationally. Erik Brown suggested raising the price to fifty dollars for out of state mailings.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Jim Gross
Our total Life members is 805. The total bundled is 324. We are having at the Life members lunch a speaker who collect antique coins with bees on them. David Morris stated that he is a member of a coin club and has asked this person to speak. He is an amazing speaker.

MANN LAKE SCHOLARSHIP: Dave Priebe
The Mann Lake scholar for this year is Kaitlyn Colbert from New Jersey. A simple google search will show you some of her many accomplishments. Brenda Kiessling has been the chair of this Committee for nine years and is ready to step down. Lou has appointed a new chairperson who is Mary Duane. Mary has a long history of educating young people and is a Master Beekeeper. Lou feels she will do a great job.

MASTER BEEKEEPERS: Dave Priebe

This year we have twenty five candidates, twelve new and thirteen retakes. Seventeen are taking the written, seventeen are taking the lab, twenty three are taking the oral and nineteen the field exams.

OLD BUSINESS:
There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:
There was none.

Linda Mizer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with Pam Hepp seconding the motion.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris Morgan, Secretary



EAS 2024 Business Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 9, 2024 | TURF VALLEY RESORT, ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Doris Morgan
The minutes from the August 4th 2023 business meeting at UMASS Amherst, Amherst Massachusetts were published in the Fall 2023 Journal. Mary Duane made a motion to accept the minutes with Ann Fraser seconding the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Fred Smith
Last year we had an income of $53,000 so we invested more money. We just increased the Honey Bee Research Grant amount from $20,000 to $30,000. We are on line to make a profit from this year's Conference.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Lou Naylor
Resolutions:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. EAS thanks David Morris for his leadership as President

2. EAS thanks the MD State Beekeepers Association for hosting and sponsoring the 2024 Short Course and Conference.

3. EAS thanks the Turf Valley Resort for working with us to make this year's conference a success.

4. EAS would like to especially thank all of the vendors who came and contributed so much to our Conference.

5. EAS thanks all who served as committee chairs and organizers who worked to make the EAS 2024 meeting a huge success.

6. EAS thanks Erin Evans and Bridgett Wilson for keeping us moving at Zumba/yoga.

7. EAS thanks Dr. Kevin Atticks, the Secretary of MD Agriculture for opening remarks to the Conference.

8. EAS thanks the Community College of Baltimore County for the use of their Biology

9. EAS thanks Linda Mizer for producing this year's Conference Program.

10. EAS thanks Jason Hugh and Larriland Farm for hosting us at his farm.

11. EAS thanks Master Beekeeper Advisor Debbie Delaney, John Zawislak, David Burns, Dorinda and David Priebe, David Peck, and the many other Master Beekeeper volunteers who planned and carried out candidate testing.

12. EAS thanks James Frazer, Elaine and Allen Storm for providing honeybee colonies for use throughout the meeting.

13. EAS thanks Honey Show Chair, James Frazer and Karla Eisen, and all who acted as judges and assistants for their work on our Honey Show.

14. EAS thanks Don Hopkins and Jeff Eckel for their work in the apiary.

15. EAS thanks the MD planning Committee for their help with the promotional material.
16. EAS thanks Nathan Reed and Len Greig for organizing our field trips and tours.

17. EAS thanks the EAS Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Committees for helping to make our organization a continuing success.

18. EAS thanks all volunteers who gave their time to assist in any way needed to create a warm welcome to our members and guests.

19. EAS thanks all of the Speakers for their presentations and for working for the improvement of the Honeybee Industry.

20. EAS thanks all volunteers who provided transportation to the airports and wherever needed.

21. EAS thanks all of the newspapers, magazines, TV stations and web blogs that have continued to produce materials to bring awareness of honeybees and beekeeping to the public.

22. EAS thanks all of our Colony, Queen, Worker and Drone Level, Honeybee Research and Speaker & Education Fund donors.

23. EAS thanks all of our sponsors including the Howard County Beekeepers Association, the Maryland State Beekeepers Association, Larriland Farm, Frederick County Beekeepers Association, Thomas Babcock, Solution Bee and Lorob Bees, Honey Smith Bees, and Betterbee, and all refreshment break and Honey Show sponsors.

24. EAS thanks all who have so generously donated items to our successful auctions.

25. EAS thanks the Master Beekeepers who fulfill a core part of our mission.

26. EAS thanks all who have donated their time, talents and resources to make this EAS a great success.

27. EAS would like to especially thank all of the vendors who came and contributed so much to our Conference.

Lou Naylor introduced David Elkner who will be the President for 2025 for the EAS Conference to be held in New Jersey. Michigan was unable to host it next year and had to step down.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: David Morris

Maryland beekeepers welcome EAS to this year's conference at Turf Valley Resort. We believe we have an excellent program for the next five days. As you walk around, you can see that the entire program is under one roof. The only exception is the microscopy class which we have set up at the nearby Community College of Baltimore, Catonsville campus, just 30 minutes away. A bus will transport the students. You can see the Apiary is in place just outside the downstairs Terrace on the Green room and the Honey Show is being set up in neighboring room, the Ellicott Room. The large Grand Ballroom will provide two lecture halls for the Short Course attendees, a large lecture hall for the Conference Keynote speakers, and will hold our banquet dinners as well. The vendors will set up after noon on Monday and they are located directly behind the Registration area. We also have fully booked the Turf Valley Hotel.

The Treasurer and I applied for and received a Sales Tax exemption for EAS, because of our non-profit status. As a result, EAS will not pay the 6% taxes on rooms or meals we have contracted for with Turf Valley.

Welcome to Maryland and Turf Valley. We hope you have a wonderful week!

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: David Elkner

With having this just dropped on us a couple of weeks ago, we do not have a site yet but we have about 6 potential sites we are working on. As soon as we have a place locked in, we will let you know where it will be in New Jersey. One of the spots we are looking at is Stockton where it was held in 2016 but this week is already taken so we are looking at the week before this one.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards:

Hambleton Award: Dr. Margarita Lopez-Uribe

Roger A. Morse Award: Dr. Deborah Delaney

Student Award: For the second year in a row there were no submissions for this award.

Divelbiss: Will be announced at the banquet this evening.

Honey Bee Research Awards:

Adam Pachl: The effects of Geography, Forage Sources and Seasonality on Microbial Communities in Honey Bees for $10, 915.

Dr. Michael Simone-Finstrom: Propolis Reduces EFB and Varroa Infestation in Honey Bees Used for Blueberry Pollination for $10,000.

R. Shelley E. Hoover: Non-Invasive Evaluation of Honey Bee Queen Quality for $2,736.62.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Doug Galloway

Two crates of documents from Kim Flottum's tenure as EAS Chairman have been sorted and are ready to be digitized. Record's Reduction, the company who previously digitized records for EAS, has agreed to digitize these new records and the cost should be about $200.00.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Greg Gentry

This year for the Conference we have 573 attendees plus the vendors and speakers, so altogether we have over 600 people here.

HONEY SHOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Karla Eisen

The EAS Honey Show Advisory Committee met multiple times this year and included a representative from Michigan (Chris Beck). We will invite the NJ Chair as soon as they are identified. There were only minor changes to the show rules for 2024 and the show is enjoying increased consistency in part thanks to the judging guidelines developed a few years ago. For the first time a pre-EAS training was held by zoom for entry and judge's stewards the week before EAS which was a great success and will likely be repeated in the future. We thank Ashby Jewelers of Manassas, Virginia for providing nearly $850 worth of in kind donation for the pewter plates including a 17% discount in the purchase price and nearly $500 of engraving charges donated for free to EAS. The committee emphasized that It is critical to coordinate early in the planning of EAS 2025 so that adequate space, schedule and speakers can be coordinated to best support the honey show and last minute schedule conflicts avoided. Ideally some of the judges can double as workshop or conference speakers or other volunteers. Karla will be working with the EAS historian to document Honey Show information. Karla requests that anyone with historical EAS Honey Show information, photos, articles or materials please share them EAS Honey Show Advisory Committee Members- Jim Fraser, MD 2024 Conference Honey Show Chair, Christine Delaney MA 2023 Conference Honey Show Chair, Mark Fiegle, NY

2022 Conference Honey Show Chair, Mike Palmer, Bob Wellemeyer and Karla Eisen (Committee Chair).

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Jim Gross
We have 805 Life members with 53 of them being new. Of the fifty three, thirty three are attending the conference this week. The Life Member certificates will be given out at tonight's banquet.

JOURNAL: Linda Mizer
The Journal continues to be published three times a year: Fall, Winter and Spring. It is available at no additional cost to EAS members via the EAS Website. The increase in price to receive a printed copy of the Journal has helped defray the cost of production and delivery. It was suggested that delivery outside of the USA, other than to Canadian Provincial Directors, no longer be offered as a purchase option.

MANN LAKE SCHOLAR:
The Mann Lake Scholar this year is Katie Culbert from New Jersey.

MASTER BEEKEEPERS AND CERTIFICATION: Dave Priebe
We tested 24 candidates this year and passed 5. They will be awarded their certificates at the awards banquet this evening. Dave recognized and thanked Brenda Kiessling for her many years running the Mann Lake Scholarship committee. She is stepping down and Mary Duane will be taking her place.

There was no old or new business.

Ned Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Dave Priebe seconding the motion.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris Morgan, EAS Secretary

EAS Executive Committee, Directors, and Contacts

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Year indicates expiration of term as director.

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