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Hello Fellow Beekeepers,

In 2014, while president of the Virginia State Beekeepers Association, I received an email from the Hampton Convention and Visitor’s Bureau titled, “We Want Bees”. Thinking it might be a request to place bees in a commercial setting, I opened the email to discover an invitation to consider Hampton for a beekeeping conference. At the time, Virginia was also considering an offer to host EAS 2018. Coincidence?

After an exhaustive search of the state, the EAS site search committee concluded that the Hampton Roads Convention Center would best fit our needs. And Hampton would get their bees. Synchronicity?

Now, on behalf of Virginia beekeepers, I am extending to you an invitation to join us in Hampton for the 2018 Eastern Apicultural Society’s Short Course and Conference on August 13-17, 2018. Destiny?

You will only know if you accept the invitation!

We in Virginia have been working hard on the conference to ensure we have much for not only you the beekeeper, but also for your family should they accompany you. Please consider taking a few vacation days to join us for a summer holiday full of beekeeper camaraderie in an area known for its historical, cultural, and recreational attractions.

For you the beekeeper: Over 60 speakers addressing introductory to advanced topics including Bees as Business, Queen Rearing, Electronic Hive Monitoring, and Excellence in Honey and Hive Products. Hear from beekeeping’s best and brightest researchers as they share their recent discoveries, some not yet published. This year’s apiary will include both Langstroth and Top Bar Hives for demonstration purposes. Presentations are open to all attendees, no matter your experience level.

For your family: A full-day field trip to Jamestown to include a guided tour of the recreated Jamestown settlement and glassworks plus an additional tour of the Jamestown archeological dig. Or a partial day at the Virginia Air and Space Museum with over 30 historic aircraft, a hands-on space exploration gallery and unique space flight artifacts including a three billion year old moon rock, the Apollo 12 Command Module and the Orion PA-1 Test Vehicle.

Family and friends are welcome to participate in all the EAS social events. Enjoy an evening sampling craft beer featuring honey from onsite hives at St. George’s Brewery. Or screen the beautiful film, Queen of the Sun, which explores the interdependency of plants, bees, and animals on our planet. Perhaps a Beekeeper Beach Bash with a cookout is more your speed? Anyone with a ticket can spend the day of the event on the beach or poolside at the Tiki bar enjoying all that the Paradise Ocean Club has to offer.

Hopefully, this brief description of what we have planned has piqued your curiosity. Or perhaps started a discussion of how your family could enjoy a summer vacation in Hampton while you attend Bee Camp aka EAS 2018. Please keep checking the EAS website as we add more information about EAS 2018 and I hope to see you in August, “Where It All Began”!

Sincerely,

Pam Fisher
2018 EAS President
Virginia State Beekeepers Association Past President
Chesapeake, Virginia
HONEY BEE HEALTH COALITION PROJECTS

By Dewey Caron (WAS Representative) and Tammy Horn Potter (EAS representative)

Since the early seventeenth century, land use in the United States has defied conventional stewardship patterns. For instance, lawns are now the nation’s number one crop, around 50,000 square miles. (Mark Bittman, “Lawns in Gardens,” NY Times Jan. 29, 2013. https://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/29/lawns-into-gardens/). Soybean and corn acreages, an estimated 84 million acres each, are the two most common cultivated crops with wheat third, at 60 million acres.

The Honey Bee Health Coalition to which EAS is a member, has initiated several new initiatives designed to help beekeepers negotiate the ever-changing challenges of their bee’s foraging landscape. Three specific new projects are: the Bee Integrated Demonstration Project; a Soybean Best Practices manual and with, multiple partners, matching funding for a Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) grant, to seek development of one or more miticides for varroa. (www.honeybeehealthcoaliton.org),

BEE INTEGRATED DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

(information provided by Julie Shapiro< Keystone)

The Bee Integrated Demonstration Project brings together beekeepers and producers to show how a suite of best practices can be jointly implemented to support honey bee health. The multi-year project, launched in 2017, includes establishing pollinator forage, managing Varroa, utilizing best practices for crop pesticides, and fostering communication and collaboration. Specifically it pairs beekeepers and producers in North Dakota to utilize Best Management Practices (BMPs) for both pollinators and growers.

Training and resources for the 3-year project includes coordination with the Bee and Butterfly Habitat Fund, US Geological Survey, Bee Informed Partnership, Conservation Technology Information Center, and other partners. An annual report of year one results will be available later this spring/summer on the HBHC website (www.honeybeecoalition.org). Early indicators suggest that this integrated, collaborative approach can provide a successful model for supporting bee health.

For the 2018 season, the Bee Integrated project will double the number of beekeeper-farmer pairs, in order to provide enough pilot sites to generate outcomes data, learnings, case studies, and participant ‘champions’ to prove and promote the concept across the nation by 2020. More information at website https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/bee-integrated-demonstration-project/

SOYBEAN BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

As many beekeepers know, soybeans can be an attractive source of pollen and nectar under certain circumstances. The Honey Bee Health Coalition has helped in the development of a Soybean Best Management Manual as a tool for beekeepers—the first of its kind for soybeans — to support honey bee health and to help protect pollinators in and around soybean fields.

“These lands around soybeans are vital for honey bee
and other native pollinator forage,” said Chris Hiatt, vice president of the American Honey Producers Association. “These best management practices will elevate this issue and lead to better communication and safer in-field practices for bees and pollinating insects. We need to keep bees safer.”

The manual was prepared by a team of extension agents, agronomists, entomologists, beekeepers, soybean growers, and crop consultants. The best management practices include strategies to identify potential impacts of soybean agricultural practices on bees at each stage of soybean production and suggests strategies to mitigate negative impacts. See the manual at: https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/soybmps/. NOTE: HBHC has also initiated a new Bee Health BMP effort, similar in scope to the Tools for Varroa Management guide.

**FOUNDATION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH GRANT**

Field evidence suggests something new will be needed soon to replace amitraz (Apivar) as mites are developing resistance to this synthetic pesticide, the only one currently available. Toward this end, the Honey Bee Health Coalition announced that it, along with 12 researchers in 3 countries, has secured a $475,000 grant from Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research. The monies will facilitate the testing of chemical compounds that could help beekeepers more effectively treat Varroa mite (Varroa destructor) infestations. Total funding amounts to more than $1 million. Related studies will investigate how mites develop resistance to such treatment.

Specifically the project will support the identification, with subsequent lab and field testing over the next three years, of “orphaned” chemical compounds that have known acaricidal (miticidal) activity but have not been specifically tested for effectiveness against Varroa mites. Many of these compounds are trapped in “a bottleneck,” where the costs of testing and commercializing them are too steep, effectively leaving them on the shelf.

Laboratory and field studies will be conducted at facilities in Alabama, Georgia, Maryland and Ohio, as well as in Alberta, Canada. In laboratories in Nebraska and Spain, scientists will also be using advanced methods to work out an understanding of the molecular mechanisms by which Varroa mites develop resistance to various chemical controls.

“Varroa mites pose serious challenges to bees and hives. This grant will provide critical support for the development and testing of new chemicals that could help beekeepers better manage Varroa mite infestations,” said Principle Investigator Steven Cook, Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS, Beltsville Bee Research Lab. “We look forward to sharing the results of these efforts and support beekeepers’ efforts to implement integrated pest management strategies.”

The FFAR grant is one of 16 recently awarded, totaling over $7 million dollars, all of it equally matched by recipient funds. Dr. Dave Tarpy, NCSU, Dr. Margaret Couvillon of VA Tech, Dr. Goeff Williams of Auburn and the Penn State Pollinating Insects lab of Dr. Christina Gorzinger were recipients of other FFAR grants. Oregon State secured two grants.

The Irish have a saying, “It won’t be as long as it’s been.” For the past ten years, beekeepers have been facing an onslaught of challenges. Some of them, such as increasing cultivated grain production acreage, generally not of great benefit to foraging bees, will only increase. Although Varroa mites can be dealt with beekeepers need additional resources to dovetail with tools such as the Varroa Guide. Reducing pesticide damage will require other efforts and additional resources to reduce this perennial negative for bee colonies and pollinator populations. Membership in EAS helps support the Honey Bee Health Coalition through their representatives’ membership time, expertise and leadership and also by sharing and distributing the free resources that this Coalition has developed.

To learn more visit: https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/ https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/newvarroacid
I’m pleased to report that 2018 Honey Show is on a solid footing. We’ve increased participation at a healthy pace for the last two years, but we are only a shade of our former selves! In the years prior to 2012 at EAS in Burlington, VT the EAS Honey show was dwindling to the point that some questioned its continued existence. Michael Palmer changed all that with Silver Awards galore in Vermont. That year, Virginia Webb came all the way up from Georgia and collected an impressive number of awards.

I’ve recently reviewed some of the historical reports about EAS in Virginia. In 1987 EAS was held at Virginia Tech. The EAS Honey Show report from 1987 reported 249 entries, submitted by 75 entrants. It was an “old school show”. This was back in the print advertising era, prior to computers, the internet, cell phones and social media. The thing is, those folks entering the honey show were used to large fair exhibiting and used the EAS forum to provide a venue for recognition for their products and of their craft. The magic words of today are “local” and “artisanal”. These terms sell a lot of goods, not the least of which are honey and hive products. Even just a cell phone photograph of your product with a winning ribbon is noteworthy in the sales arena. I can’t tell you how many sales I have made, at premium prices, by introducing our products to clients alongside our Silver Award.

We owe a large debt of gratitude to our Honey Show Silver Award Sponsors. 10 of the 11 Sponsors are continuing a tradition of sponsorship. Of special note are Kelley Beekeeping, Bee Culture Magazine, and American Bee Journal/Dadant. These firms were Silver Award Sponsors in 1987!

Due to great interest, this year EAS 2018 will feature an all-day track in the Short Course entitled, “Excellence in Honey and Hive Products”. Among the presenters will be Michal Palmer, from Vermont. I call him the king of cut comb honey. Michael Young, Mbe, from Northern Ireland, an award-winning mead maker, will join us. Michael has won everything worth winning at the largest and most prestigious honey show in the world, The British National. Bob Wellemeyer, from Virginia, is another presenter and a noted, long time Honey Show Judge and former president of EAS. Mark Fiegl, from New York, has won more Silver Awards at EAS in the last two years than most of us could aspire to win in a lifetime. He specializes in cut comb and extracted honey. These gentlemen will also form the core of our Honey Show Judging Team and will be joined by another eight eminently qualified judges to bring this year’s Honey Show to you by the break on Thursday morning. This will be made possible by a Honey Show Team of, no less, than 15 volunteers.

You may review the 2018 Honey Show Rules published on the EAS website for category and class information.
You may find the Honey Show Entry Form on the EAS Home Page. Printing and completing it, at your leisure, and submitting the form with your entry will enable you to avoid long lines on the day entries are received.

The Master Beekeepers of EAS have consistently supported the Honey Show as they have consistently placed a large number of entries into the show or served as judges. They realize that when one takes the time to participate in the Honey Show, they have set foot onto the road of excellence of honey and hive products. I recommend that ALL EAS members consider following their lead! Enter your best and remember that even a 6th place ribbon has a deep meaning. All are encouraged to attend the 2018 EAS Honey Show!

THE THREE CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR’S HONEY SHOW RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS

1. Entries shall be registered at the EAS Honey Show in the Hampton Roads Convention Center on Tuesday from 3:00-6:00 PM and on Wednesday from 8:00-11:00 AM.

2. Please note that the current Photography class eligibility, Judging Categories, and Judging Criteria are currently under review by a sub-committee of the Honey Show Committee. The Committee will submit recommendations to the EAS Board of Directors for inclusion in future Honey Shows. Should the recommendations be approved, they will be published on the EAS website and in the EAS Summer Journal.

3. Comb Honey classifications have been revised to:
   - H6 Three circular sections of comb honey
   - H7 Three packages of cut-comb honey, 4” square
Are You Ready to Take the Exam?

By Landi Simone, EAS Master Beekeeper
Chair, Master Beekeeper Certification Committee

EAS’s Master Beekeeper program, conceived by Roger Morse at Cornell in 1975 and taken over by EAS in 1981, is the oldest and most respected of all such programs in the U.S. and possibly, the world. Unlike many programs, it is not a course of study with steady progression from apprentice to journeyman to master. Rather, we recognize that beekeepers come at their knowledge by many different avenues. Some of us take classes, often at a college level. Some of us prefer to work with a mentor. Some of us attend meetings or read voraciously. And some of us simply spend many, many quiet (or not so quiet!) hours immersed in our bees – observing and learning. Most of us become experienced and knowledgeable by a combination of these methods. However we do it, there comes a time when we want to test our mettle as beekeepers. That testing happens at the EAS annual conference.

The examination process is rigorous, consisting of four parts and taking place over a two day period. There are written, laboratory, oral and field components to the testing, and high marks are required in all four areas. The EAS website has some excellent guidelines on tried-and-true ways to best prepare for each testing segment, and we update the information frequently. Historically, only about a quarter to a third of candidates tested pass each year.

So why would you want to subject yourself to such a difficult and nerve-wracking experience? The answer is different for every person. Some of us just really like a challenge. Many of us want to be the best beekeepers we can possibly be, and view the exam as an avenue to learning what it is we do not know so we can expand our knowledge in these areas. But the majority of those who take the exam do so because they want to do what EAS Master Beekeepers have always done: teach others about the extraordinary insect that is our obsession. Ultimately, the title, “Master Beekeeper” is a teaching certification. It means that one is genuinely qualified to teach others - be they reporters, legislators, members of the public, or other beekeepers - about honey bees and beekeeping. This is our mission and our passion. Master Beekeepers are educators.

If you think you might be ready, study the qualification requirements for candidacy on the EAS website and be sure to let us know your intentions by the July 1 deadline.

This year we welcome a new Master Beekeeper Director: Stephen Repasky of Pittsburg, PA, will be taking over for...
me in representing the Master Beekeepers at EAS and helping to guide our activities for the next four years. We are also excited to have Dr. Debbie Delaney of the University of Delaware on board as our new Academic Advisor. Dr. Dewey Caron is turning the reins over to Dr. Delaney - not surprising in view of his many, many commitments: to EAS, on the west coast, and in South America. We will miss Dewey, but can think of no one better qualified to take over the job than Debbie!

I’m looking forward to seeing all of you in Virginia!

2018 Master Beekeeper Certification Exam

The Master Beekeeper Certification Committee would like to invite qualified EAS members to apply for this year’s certification exam. Persons interested in applying should have a minimum of 5 years as a serious beekeeper in some aspect of apiary management such as a very dedicated hobbyist, a commercial beekeeper, working for a commercial beekeeper or as an apiary inspector. Anyone wishing to take the Master Beekeeper Certification Exam should submit an application and recommendation by email to mbcertification@easternapiculture.org or by mail to Carol Cottrill, EAS Secretary, 60 Rolling Hill Drive, Naples ME 04055. The application and Recommendation forms can be downloaded from the EAS website or requested from the Certification Committee. **The deadline for application is July 1st.** More information about the Master Beekeeper Certification application process and the exam can be found on the website (www.easternapiculture.org) by hovering over Master Beekeepers and then clicking on Certification.

This year’s schedule at the conference will include an open Q & A session on Monday afternoon, August 13, 2018. The written and oral exams will take place on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 and the laboratory and field exams on Wednesday, August 15, 2018. Oral and field exams are arranged at a specified time; you will be provided the time of your exam – they take about an hour of your time. The Written Exam (Tuesday) and Lab Exam (Wednesday) start at 8:30 and you will have 4 hours to complete your exam. Corrected exams will be available on Friday. Successful candidates are announced at the banquet Friday evening with certificates and MB pins distributed at that time.

The Master Beekeeper Certification Committee will be happy to answer questions; our email address is mbcertification@easternapiculture.org.
For the second time, the EAS Foundation awarded two different research project grants in 2017. The award total, $13,000, was the highest funding level dispensed to date. Once again, as in the previous year, the committee found the grant applications very competitive and their decision a difficult one.

1ST GRANT AWARD - FORAGE AND FECUNDITY: DOES APIARY LOCATION AFFECT QUEEN QUALITY AND BROOD PRODUCTION?

Graduate student Ashley St. Clair and her major professor Dr. Amy Toth of Iowa State University were granted $10,000 for their project. This is the first time an EAS research grant has gone to Iowa State.

The project focuses on a deceptively simple question that has proven hard to define i.e. “Why are beekeepers experiencing high queen losses?” Graduate student Ashley St. Clair, of Iowa State, hypothesizes that a major factor affecting queen quality is poor nutrition, as a result of limited availability of forage in agriculturally-dominated landscapes. Work in their bee lab has demonstrated that colonies that normally lose weight in August in Iowa can be “rescued” by movement from high agricultural areas to non-agricultural sites (prairies) where there is a mixture of native grasses and flowering forbs.

The queens whose colonies were transplanted to prairies showed visibly higher egg-laying rates and better brood patterns after only 8 days, whereas queens in colonies that remained next to soybean fields surrounded by other crops commonly had lower egg-laying rates. Since a queen’s health relies heavily on how the workers feed and respond to her, it stands to reason that if worker health is affected by a paucity of diverse forage, then queen-tending and queen attention/feeding by workers may be reduced in such circumstances, leading to negative effects on queen health.

The EAS grant will provide an opportunity to test the hypothesis that locations of high forage quantity and quality improves queen health and, ultimately, colony success. Unfortunately the EAS money arrived too late in the 2017 season to allow the work to start, so the project was granted a one-year, no-cost extension to allow testing of the hypothesis in 2018.

The research protocol calls for measurement of queen performances in a field setting and then lab dissection of the queens in colonies kept in agricultural areas and those from colonies kept in non-agricultural sites adjacent to prairies. Each experimental set will have 20 colonies kept in 4 apiaries. Colonies will be established from packages, all from the same source and standardized. The questions being asked and how the project will measure each will include:

1. Is there improved nutritional health? Queens will be sacrificed and total lipid and protein content of fat bodies determined.
2. Is there higher ovary activation? This, and the nutritional health assessment, will be performed in the lab after the field measurements are taken by sacrificing queens and measuring ovariole number.
3. Is there a difference in egg-laying rate? Egg and brood development will be monitored in the field. It is expected that the prairie colonies will sustain a significantly higher level of egg-laying.
4. Will queens at the prairie sites have more consistent brood patterns?
5. Finally, can a higher worker retinue response (measured by workers antennating, licking, grooming, and feeding their queen) be demonstrated by field assay? Once again there should be a statistically difference with better attention to colony queens at prairie sites.
2ND GRANT AWARD – INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AGAINST VARROA MITES

Is *Sratiolaelaps scimitus* a promising tool? The award of $3000, less than requested, was granted to graduate student Sabrina Rondeau and her advisors Drs. Valérie Fournier and Pierre Giovenazzo from Université Laval in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. In their solicitation to EAS, the applicants pointed out that there are currently no natural enemies identified that specifically attack varroa mites. One generalist predator, the predatory mite *Sratiolaelaps scimitus*, has been postulated as a possible biological control option.

These mites occur naturally in soils, are native to North America and available commercially, used in greenhouses on western flower thrips and fungus gnats, and more recently to control pest arthropods. This Master’s research project will assess the risk of predation on honey bee eggs and brood by *S. scimitus*, and zero in on the potential of *S. scimitus* to attack and feed upon phoretic varroa mites plus evaluate the effectiveness of the predatory mite in controlling Varroa densities as an autumn treatment.

The EAS $3000 funds allow for additional investigations into the predator-prey interactions of the mite. Pollinator Protection has awarded a $10,000 grant for the basic study.

A major field experiment was planned for the fall of 2017. About 6200 mites (250 ml) were to be introduced into one of the 3 groups of 7 bee colonies, standardized with the same queen stock for the experiment, following a fall treatment with Thymovar® (essential oil thymol). The overall objective is to verify whether the introduction of the predatory mite *Sratiolaelaps scimitus* into the hives in November could effectively replace the last oxalic acid treatment in the context of integrated pest management against varroa mites. The persistence of the mites was to be followed this spring 2018, along with colony survival and strength.
By Justin Luna, 2017 Scholarship Recipient

Five years ago, I was faced with a situation that I couldn’t handle, so I took refuge in the bee yard. Since then it’s become more than an escape, it’s a second home and a way of life. At EAS I’ve met many people who call beekeeping a second home and each person has their own story for how they got there. This is what makes EAS and the beekeeping community so unique. We each have a story to share. It could bee about the time we did something silly, a technique we learned and are eager to share, or just an interesting tool that could help out a younger beekeeper. Often these tales are heard around the lunch table and if we haven’t had the pleasure of sharing lunch, or a conversation, my name is Justin; an 18-year-old beekeeper out of New York. I work with my mentor and bee partner to care for 30 hives, most of which are in my backyard! This year I am the lucky recipient of the EAS Mann Lake Master Beekeeper Scholarship, which is aimed at enabling young beekeepers to attend EAS by funding their travel and conference expenses. I cannot conjure the words to describe my gratitude — I feel as if I’ve been given the sweetest pot of honey by the kindest people, and for that I am forever grateful!

There are many at EAS that have shaped my beekeeping career. This year I had the pleasure of hearing Mike Palmer speak. Although my mentor, bee partner and I practice many sustainable beekeeping techniques he mentioned, there was one in particular that we hadn’t utilized yet: using brood from mating nucs in production and sister colonies to boost hive strength. A crucial step that we were missing. While there I spoke to my mentor on how we can implement this technique to maintain our 0% death loss and increase our hive population in the year to come. Another wonderfully eccentric speaker was Allen Hayes who debuted his ingenious creations that can assist in the bee yard and beekeeping. A favorite of mine was a lid with a honey gate for bottling from bucket to bucket. An initially mundane sounding invention, however I created one of my own upon returning home and couldn’t bee happier!

The vendors were staffed by truly wonderful people who offered a myriad of products, such as probiotics and hand-built bottom boards found nowhere else. I encourage anyone who attends to EAS to look through the vendors and take a peek at all of the intelligent folks who are utilizing modern technology to create wonderful tools and inventions that you might not have thought of.

I left the conference with both a sadness that I must wait another year, but an overwhelming eagerness to put these newfound techniques, products, and knowledge to use. From only a few days since the conference came to an end, I’ve been hard at work ensuring that the information learned at Delaware guarantees a successful year. I believe that every beekeeper should attend EAS at least once, there is no experience like it. If you can, apply for the scholarship, there’s nothing to lose! I wish everyone luck in the coming year and look forward to buzzing about at Virginia 2018!
Divelbiss Award: 2018 Nominations Open

At each annual conference, the Eastern Apicultural Society presents the Charles and Evelyn Divelbiss Education Award. This award is presented to that person or couple who has - over a period of years - reached out to the non-beekeeping public to explain the value of honey bees in our lives.

The nominee does not need to be from your own state or province. You may wish to announce this request for nominations at beekeeping meetings and in their newsletters. Feel free to contact officers of state and local organizations to request their suggestions for possible candidates and letters of support.

The nomination process is easy. Write a letter outlining how the candidate has reached the general public over the years. Groups, such as 4-H clubs, Girl and Boy Scout organizations, school groups, community organizations, Lions Clubs, and garden clubs, as well as media interviews and exhibits at county and state fairs, qualify as non-beekeeping public.

Although the main criteria is edification of the general public, the letter may also include activities that teach Short Courses and other instructional work toward educating beekeepers and prospective beekeepers. The nominee does not need to be a member of EAS (but the Society would be delighted if the recipient would join).

The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2018. Nominations and letters of support should be emailed to Secretary@easternapiculture.org.

Previous Divelbiss Award Recipients

1988  Al Delicata ME
1989  No award
1990  Charles Mraz VT
1991  Bob Haas NC
1992  Paul Montaux Canada
1993  Stafford Brown MA
1994  Cliff Sunflower PA
1995  George & Doris Payne DE
1996  Robert Hughes NJ
1997  Jerry Caldwell DE
1998  George Imire MD
1999  Dewey Caron DE
2000  Robert Cole NC
2001  Francis Bowen CT
2002  Richard Johnson NY
2003  Tony Jadczak ME
2004  Dan Conlon MA
2005  Sherry Ferell & Dave Heilman OH
2006  Ed Holcombe TN
2007  Robert Mitchell DE
2008  Bill Troup MD
2009  Richard Crawford NY
2010  Ann Harman VA
2011  Billy Davis VA
2012  Bill Mares VT
2013  Becky & Ted Jones CT
2014  Virginia Stephens Webb GA
2015  Sam Hall NY
2016  Tim Schuler NJ
2017  Ray Walker DE
2017  Alex Zomchek OH
Mann Lake Eastern Apicultural Society Master Beekeeper Scholarship Application

This scholarship, sponsored by Mann Lake Ltd. and created and administered by the EAS Master Beekeepers, was established to encourage a worthy young individual to pursue an interest in honey bees and beekeeping. The Scholarship will provide financial assistance for the selected candidate to attend an annual EAS conference. In addition to the waiver of registration fees by EAS for the short course and the main conference, the Scholarship will provide up to $1,000 to the successful candidate to offset other conference expenses such as travel and lodging.

The candidate may be any young person between the ages of 18 and 25 who is a full-time student, or is not a full-time student but is currently employed by a commercial or sideliner beekeeper and plans to pursue a career in apiculture. If the candidate is a veteran of any branch of the U. S. armed forces, the age limit is 30. The candidate must have been keeping bees for a minimum of one year by the time the conference for which the scholarship is requested begins and although they may have a beekeeping mentor, they must be primarily responsible for the care of their bees. The candidate must also have participated in a local short course in beekeeping.

Qualified candidates must complete an application form (available on the EAS website) and must provide letters of recommendation from at least two experienced beekeepers, preferably a mentor and another beekeeping individual familiar with the candidate’s experience and qualifications. Candidates must also write an essay of no less than two, and no more than three, double-spaced typewritten pages describing their reasons for wanting to attend the EAS conference. The essay should also outline the candidate’s ambitions with respect to beekeeping, including both short and long-term plans.

Applications must be received by the Chairperson of the Mann Lake Scholarship Committee by April 30, 2018. Additional information and the application form can be found on the EAS website: http://www.easternapiculture.org/master-beekeepers/youth-scholarship.html. Questions can be sent to the scholarship committee at: MannLakeScholarship@EasternApiculture.org or to Brenda Kiessling, 10610 Hunters Valley Rd., Vienna, VA 22181.

MANNER OF AWARD OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

- EAS will waive the scholarship recipient’s registration fees for both the short course and the main conference.
- Conference expenses such as standard on-site lodging and meals (including special social events, BBQs, and Friday night banquet, etc.) will be paid from the scholarship fund on behalf of the successful candidate.
- The scholarship will provide a budget for travel expenses up to $500, which may include airfare or mileage reimbursement. Travel expenses below $500 will be reimbursed at actual expense incurred.
- Travel expenses to and from the conference will be paid to the candidate following submission of receipts for travel such as airline vouchers, or mileage. Travel expenses will not be paid in advance, but will be reimbursed as soon as possible following receipt of documentation.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- The candidate may be any young person between the ages of 18 and 25 who is a full-time student, or is not a full-time student but is currently employed by a commercial or sideliner beekeeper and plans to pursue a career in apiculture. If the candidate is a veteran of any branch of the U. S. armed forces, the age limit is 30.
- The candidate must have been keeping bees for a minimum of one year by the time the conference for which the scholarship is requested begins.
- The candidate may have a beekeeping mentor, who can be a parent or other experienced adult, but must be primarily responsible for the care of his or her bees.
- The candidate must have participated in a local short course in beekeeping.
**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

- Qualified candidates must complete an application form providing their basic contact information, brief beekeeping experience and education, and other relevant data.
- Candidates must provide letters of recommendation from at least two experienced beekeepers, preferably a mentor and another beekeeping individual familiar with the candidate's experience and qualifications. If possible, this individual should be a Master Beekeeper, state apiarist, educator or research/extension specialist in the home state of the candidate. These letters of recommendation should be sent directly by the person providing the recommendation to the Master Beekeeper Scholarship Committee.
- Candidates must write an essay of no less than two, and no more than three, double-spaced typewritten pages describing their reasons for wanting to attend the EAS conference. The essay should also outline the candidate's ambitions with respect to beekeeping, including both short and long-term plans.
- Applications must be received by the Chairperson of the Master Beekeeper Scholarship Committee by April 30 of the year in which the applicant plans to attend the EAS conference.
- Persons who are not U.S. Citizens are eligible for this scholarship. Individual applicants are responsible to determine their need for a visa, and their ability to obtain a visa by the end of May in the appropriate year. EAS conference dates vary slightly from year to year, and thus applicants are advised to confirm the dates of the meeting and all travel.

**AWARD CRITERIA**

- Preference will be given to candidates who, in the judgment of the Scholarship Committee, are serious in their commitment to apiculture. For example, a serious candidate may be planning to pursue a career as a commercial beekeeper, an entomologist, a researcher in apiculture, a queen breeder, or similar profession. A dedicated hobbyist may also win the scholarship, but preference will be given to candidates planning to pursue a career in apiculture.
- The candidate must be an EAS member.
- The candidate must be of good character, responsible, hard-working and honest. It is expected that, while attending the conference, the successful candidate will behave in a responsible and respectful manner.
- Following the conference, the scholarship recipient will prepare an article for the EAS Journal, of at least one column in length, or as indicated by the Journal Editor, describing his or her experiences at the EAS conference. The article should include photographs and discuss how attending EAS has influenced the recipient's beekeeping knowledge and post-conference experiences. The article should be submitted no later than six months following the end of the conference.
Mann Lake Eastern Apicultural Society Master Beekeeper Scholarship Application

Applicant Name: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ____________ Zip Code: ________________
Date of Birth: ____________________________ Citizenship: U.S. Canada
Email: ______________________________________
Home Phone: ____________________________ Mobile phone: __________________

How and when did you get started keeping bees? ____________________________________________
Tell us about your beekeeping experience (How many colonies do you have? Where you keep them?)
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Have you ever attended any beekeeping classes on basic or advanced topics? Please describe:
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Applicants should provide at least two letters of recommendation from experienced beekeepers that they know. These letters should preferably be written by a mentor and another beekeeping individual familiar with the applicant’s experience and qualifications. If possible, these recommendations should be provided by a Master Beekeeper, state apriarist, educator or research/extension specialist in the applicant’s home state. Individuals providing recommendations should send their letters directly to the Scholarship Committee at MannLakeScholarship@EasternApiculture.org or by mail to the address at the bottom of this page. These letters must be received no later than April 30.

Please list the individuals providing letters of recommendation on your behalf:

1. Name: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________
   Relationship to applicant: ____________________________ Experience in beekeeping: ______
2. Name: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________
   Relationship to applicant: ____________________________ Experience in beekeeping: ______

Please attach to this application an essay of two to three pages in length, typed and double-spaced, that describes your reasons for wanting to attend the EAS conference. You should also explain what your plans and goals are for future beekeeping activities, both in the short and long term.

____________________________________ ____________________________
Applicant’s Signature Date

Submit this completed application, with your essay, to MannLakeScholarship@EasternApiculture.org or by mail to Brenda Kiessling, 10610 Hunters Valley Rd., Vienna, VA 22181.
Where it all Began
by Dewey M. Caron

EAS 2018 theme is “Where it all Began”. And indeed it did ALL begin in Virginia. The best record we have of the earliest introduction of honey bees to North America is a shipment of bees from England in November, 1621 to a VA colony, arriving in March 1622, within 15 years of initial coloniziation of Virginia.

And in Colonial Jamestown you can see skeps today. On some days, VA beekeepers talk to tourists about bees and beekeeping.

This first record of bees in the Americas can be found in the “Records of the Virginia Company of London” dated December 5, 1621, from the Council of the Virginia Company of London to the Governor & Council in VA. This letter describes the content of a shipping manifest: “Wee haue by this Shipp and the Discouerie sent you diurs [diverse] sortes of seedes, and fruit trees, as also Pidgeons, Connies, Peacockes Maistiues [Mastiffs], and Beehives, as you shall by the invoice pceiue [perceive]; the preservation & encrease whereof we respond vnto you…”

Of course, the VA colonialists were just catching up with their European counterparts. Beekeeping, one of the oldest forms of food production, dates as far back as 13,000 BC. Humans were initially hunters/gatherers of wild (feral) bee colonies, in Africa where the honey bee is thought to have originated, and in Europe where it spread. Honey hunting of wild nests included destructive harvesting of bee nests for their honey, beeswax and brood.

Some cultures continue such traditions today, such as the harvesting of Apis dorsata nests in the mountains of Nepal (see video Kulung culture (Nepal) Honey Hunters from National Geographic https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2017/07/honey-hunters-bees-climbing-nepal/and the native honey hunters of the Sundarban mangroves of India/Bangladesh. Mike Burgett, in interview by M.E.A. McNeil, Dec. 2014 Bee Culture describes the dangers to the Sundarban honey hunters. http://www.beeculture.com/mike-burgett-interview/

Exactly when humans beings began locating bees closer to their residences is not well documented. Most early farmers kept a variety of livestock and grew crops. Keeping bees was only part of their husbandry/agriculture. Generally the beginning of “domestication” of honey bees by Middle Eastern cultures is cited as perhaps 10,000 years ago. Bees were kept in skeps, clay pots or gums in Europe. In forested areas, many beekeepers kept their bees where they found them, in actual trees, the tree hive.

Thus the history of human beekeeping involves keeping bees in small cavities. Bees in small cavities are more likely to frequently cast swarms. Today we use the phrase ‘keep the bees out of the trees’ to signify control of swarming. When we maintain our bees in modern movable frame hives, we practice swarm control, to keep swarming bees from alarming neighbours and to keep bees out of the trees. But swarming, basic bee reproduction of their colony family unit, remains an integral part of what makes a bee a bee.

The initial bees carried to Virginia were thought to have been housed in bee skeps. They were kept below decks, with the other livestock, or packed into large oaken barrels with hay and packing materials. By all accounts these early introductions into Virginia were...
very successful and honey bees became an important part of colonial life. Seventeenth century colonists used honey as a common article of food — it supplied a sugar source for cooking, for sweetening bitter foods and to preserve fruit and meat. Many farmers had hives under the eaves of their outbuildings.

Virginia became a large exporter of beeswax within 100 years of the first introductions. According to accounts (Frank Fulgrum, History of Beekeeping in Virginia in Beekeeping, VA Extension Bulletin), “there were many wild swarms in the woods, the honeycombs, which were concealed in the hollows of trees, becoming very frequently the booty of the colonial bee hunters.”

In 1729, Governor William Gooch was asked about the natural produce of Virginia by the Board of Trade in London. He replied that beeswax was one of the colonies natural products of value. According to Governor Gooch’s report almost every ship sailing from Virginia to the West Indies or Portugal/Spain carried with it a supply of beeswax. The beeswax was used in connection with the making of wine barrels and other containers in those countries.

The total amount of beeswax exported from Virginia in 1730 (just over one hundred years since the first import of honey bees to North America) was 156 quintals, equal to 156,000 kilograms, or about 343,900 pounds (Lizabeth Pryor, 1983. Honey, Maple Sugar and Other Farm Produced Sweeteners in the Colonial Chesapeake. Accokeek, Maryland: The National Colonial Farm Research Report.)

Andrew Beers (A Short History of Bees. In Two Parts. 1803. Romyen’s Johnstown Calendar: or the Montgomery County Almanac for...1804. Johnstown NY: Romyen, 1804:29) claimed that the average managed hive yielded 20 pounds of honey and 2 pounds of wax. If this is correct then there had to be 172,000 hives harvested that year, just for export purposes. There would have been many more hives harvested for domestic use. See also Brenda Keller article in Honey Bees Across America http://www.orsba.org/download/Honey%20Bees%20Across%20America.html.

Quite remarkably, swarming bees occupying tree hollows became so common that Thomas Jefferson too mentioned bees and the purchase of beeswax. But his most famous remark, in his Notes to the State of Virginia, 1781, was “The Indians therefore call them the white man’s fly, and consider their approach as indicating the approach of the settlements of the whites”.

Many of our nation’s founding fathers kept bees at their VA homes. George Washington was introduced to beekeeping at his home place in Westmoreland County. As an adult, President Washington kept bees at Mount Vernon. A local bee association continues the tradition of keeping bee skeps at Mt. Vernon. Thomas Jefferson, first Secretary of State and later 3rd president, kept bees at Monticello out near the poultry houses (and privies).

Jefferson was a scholar, inventor, and horticulturist. He had an extensive garden plot and actively worked to develop new strains of plants and crops. He was among the first to understand the role that honey bees played in the pollination of fruits and vegetables. I could not find any record of James Madison, 4th US President keeping bees at his residence in Montpelier, one valley over from Jefferson’s farm. Thomas Jefferson called Madison the “best farmer in America” so it is likely that he too had bees. James Monroe, the 5th US President, seldom resided at Oak Hill (now part of the University of Virginia), and his plantation reportedly never was profitable; there is no record that he had bees but it is quite possible that he did.

By the 1800’s skeps and log gums were slowly being replaced by hive boxes with fixed combs. Nearly every farm had bees to provide honey for consumption and pollination of crops. With Reverend Langstroth’s development of the movable comb hive (1851), German Johannes Mehring’s refinement of comb foundation (1857), plus the honey extractor (von Hruschka 1864/1865 – see article by Wyatt Mangum in Sept 2016 ABJ), it became easier to keep honey bees at the convenience of the beekeeper. Prior to this, bees were often “kept” in the tree cavities where they were found. Individuals obtained their honey and beeswax via destruct harvest.
Original man-made bee hives were small, often with no bottom. The original Langstroth hive had a “garbage pit” built into an incline beneath the hive. With some studies it was found that if European (Italian) bees were kept in larger boxes they would produce more honey. German bees in Europe and those still found in the more remote areas of VA and the Appalachians remained in smaller boxes. Along with management systems recommending a 2nd brood box for Italian bees, cell size of commercial foundations was increased to produce bigger bees.

Although illegal by most state laws, today beekeepers still keep bees in bee trees. Skeps are considered the icon of a bee hive and we have a skep for demonstration purposes at the Bee Lab at Oregon State University. Visitors to EAS August 13-18 at Hampton Roads Convention Center will include a field trip to Jamestown. Look for the skep!

An Invitation To Beekeepers

by Ann W. Harman

Welcome to the Commonwealth of Virginia for your 2018 EAS Short Course and Conference! Virginia stretches from the Atlantic Ocean in the east through the Blue Ridge and Appalachian mountains in the west. Its northern urban area touches the capital city of Washington, D.C. Honey bees can be found everywhere—from urban backyards to the hives in the rolling farmland with crops, cattle and horses, and in the mountain forests.

Virginia beekeepers are mostly small-scale ones hoping for a good honey crop to sell at farmers’ markets. Sideliners are found scattered around the state. Crop pollination is important in many areas. The Virginia State Beekeepers Association is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Active local associations are found in all areas. New beekeepers are appearing each year, usually from classes given by the various local associations.

The most common honey of Virginia would be the local “wildflower.” However a few specialty honeys are in much demand. The principal one is Sourwood from the small understory trees of the southern mountains. Beekeepers living near the sourwood tree area plan to move their bees into the forests for the June-July bloom. The linden, or basswood, trees are found in the northern mountains where the crop can be quite large. Perhaps in the Honey Exchange this year at EAS you will be able to obtain samples of both of these specialty honeys.

A word of warning—buy your sourwood honey from a real beekeeper! Although Virginia is also famous for its peanuts, the bees are not interested in that crop. But you will want to visit the peanut shops and buy some Virginia-grown peanuts. You will be surprised at the number of flavored peanuts you can buy.

EAS has been held in Virginia three times before this year. The first visit, in 1976, was at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VT) in Blacksburg. At that time you arrived on Thursday for the conference held on Friday and all day Saturday. Of the 423 people attending, 64 were Virginians. Each year some come from far-away countries. This year beekeepers from South Africa and Australia were present.

Virginia Tech also hosted the 1987 EAS Conference but by this time the overall program was larger. A Short Course was held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with the Conference overlapping Wednesday and following into Thursday and Friday. Master Beekeeper exams were now part of the conference. This time 76
Virginians came out of 457 total attendance. Three people from the UK crossed the ocean to join the U.S. beekeepers at EAS.

In 1996 EAS went into the beautiful Shenandoah Valley to James Madison University (JMU) in Harrisonburg. The Short Course had expanded to three tracks. The Conference itself was still on Wednesday through Friday. The Master Beekeeper exams were also given there. Although 425 came to JMU, no information is available on how many were from Virginia or from another country.

In the intervening years, EAS has “traveled” north and south. In 2018 you can consider the Short Course and Conference to be held in the middle, in one of the mid-Atlantic states. It’s a nice place for bees—and a very nice place to visit. As you visit the historic homes and sites such as Jamestown and Williamsburg be sure to ask about honey bees—both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had hives since the honey and especially the beeswax was important in the lives of the settlers.

The bees probably did not arrive on the first ship. The settlers must have been very surprised to find no honey bees. The native bees, small bees still here today, took care of pollinating the native vegetables, fruits and berries.

But there was no beeswax for making candles to light the dark huts or to waterproof boots or for lubrication. Word was probably sent back to England that honey bees were needed.

Can you imagine the settlers crossing the ocean on slow, small ships. The bees in their skeps were probably in the hold, along with livestock. The bees survived the journey and landed in Virginia. Swarming was a necessary part of beekeeping in those days to increase the beekeeper’s number of colonies or replacement after destruct harvest. Swarms that escaped would have found a useful hollow tree for their new home. Slowly the honey bee became established as part of the New World fauna. Today the honey bee is essential in the U.S. economy for the pollination of crops.

Beekeepers gather each year at EAS to hear bee scientists present their research on improving bee health. Beekeepers will be teaching their arts and crafts. Everyone will be sharing information along with swarm stories. Take a step backward in time and a leap forward at EAS in 2018.
Virginia is celebrating 100 years of the Virginia State Beekeepers Association, and along that journey, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech, VT), and Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) have played a supporting role through education, research, and Extension. Many of the local beekeepers associations throughout Virginia were started through VCE, as well as some beginner beekeeping courses and countless workshops. Now, as VSBA is poised to look ahead to the next 100 years, both VT and VCE hope to continue their support in the economic and personal health of the Commonwealth through the strategic hiring of new faculty with interests in pollinators generally and bees specifically. These faculty have hit the ground running.

Dr. James Wilson (Author) is the new Extension Apiculturist, a newly created position with VT and VCE. James is working in support of, and in collaboration with, researchers at VT, as well as Extension agents, beekeeper associations, commercial agriculture production groups and other stakeholders throughout the state. Dr. Aaron Gross is the new Assistant Professor of Insect Toxicology and Physiology with expertise in resistance management of both varroa mites and small hive beetles, among other research foci. Drs. Wilson and Gross have successfully been awarded two research grants to explore these topics. Through the Southern Integrated Pest Management Center grant: “Surveillance and Characterization of Varroa Mite Acaricide Resistance in Virginia”, Wilson and Gross will be working with local collaborators this year across Virginia to monitor for, and characterize, resistance if encountered. Additionally, through the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SSARE) Program on-farm grant “Sustainable Varroa Mite Management in Honey Bee Queen Production”, they will look closer at the impact that queen rearing may have on varroa mite management in Southwest Virginia. Through both of these grants, they hope to characterize the current state of varroa management tools and set the stage for future efforts to combat this pest.

Virginia Tech is not only focusing on very applied aspects and challenges to honey bees. Additionally, we are also looking to basic bee biology and landscape-scale ecology to address larger challenges. Dr. Roger Schürch, new Research Assistant Professor of Behavior, Ecology, and Evolution in Social Insects, was awarded a grant through Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT) at VT to develop novel techniques to interpret where honey bees collect food in the landscape. His goal is to enable real-time and large-scale monitoring of bee foraging for land managers and farmers.

Dr. Maggie Couvillon, the new Assistant Professor of Pollinator Biology and Ecology, has brought her expertise in the honey bee dance language to Virginia. Through her Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) grant “Bioindicators for a sustainable future: dancing honey bees communicate habitats’ ability to feed pollinators”, she will be working with Dr. Roger Schürch, Dr. Megan O’Rourke, Department of Horticulture, and Dr. Sally Taylor, Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center, and in collaboration with Dr. James Wilson. Dr. Couvillon will lead the effort to develop better management practices for improving food availability and enhancing the health of honey bees and other bee pollinators. This work will take place throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and is one part of a larger $7 million grant to help combat pollinator population declines. Hear more about Dr. Couvillon’s work at her talk at EAS 2018 in Hampton, Virginia.

VT and VCE are excited to celebrate both our great position to promote apiculture and pollinator health in Virginia and 100 fantastic years of Virginia State Beekeepers Association. See you in Hampton!
Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) Annual Short Course & Summer Conference
“Where it all Beegan” - An Overview

Karla Eisen, Program Chair

EAS 2018 will once again be filled with dynamic speakers and sessions; some familiar faces and many new ones. We have endeavored to provide a palpable Southern influence and a taste of international diversity in the program this year. As keynote speakers we welcome Dr. Jamie Ellis and Dr. Juliana Rangel, along with Randy Oliver and two special guests from “over the pond” Michael Young, MBE and Celia Davis, NDB. The keynote ballroom stage will also be graced by Virginia’s own Dr. Wyatt Mangum who promises a rare and exciting historical talk complete with photos and possibly display items of Beekeeping before Bee Space! The Roger Morse awardee this year is Jon Zawislak, a familiar and dynamic EAS favorite. Dr. Olav Rueppell, originally from Germany and now at the University of North Carolina will speak as the J. Hambleton awardee, given in recognition of research excellence in apiculture.

There will be six, yes count them six tracks in the conference plus apiary sessions. We hope to minimize overflowing rooms with the amount of workshop offerings. A sample of conference session themes include breeding queens for varroa resistance, an afternoon highlighting the work at Virginia Tech (did you know that Dr. Rick Fell organized one of the first master beekeeping exams for Roger Morse?), and beekeeping internationally including stingless bees in the Amazon, the Manuka honey story in New Zealand, and raising local queens in the UK. Select specialty workshops include ten years of keeping the White House bees with Charlie Brandts, issues in urban beekeeping, and teaching bees to children to name a few. We are fortunate to have workshop presentations by many stellar women in beekeeping also holding PhD’s including Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda of South Carolina, Dr. Kirstin Traynor, Dr. Debbie Delaney, Dr. Lilia DeGuzman and Dr. Maggie Covuillon. Sam Ramsey will do double duty as a speaker and entertainment at the Friday night banquet, Kim Flottom will make a return appearance along with our friend Mike Palmer, and all of the keynote speakers will also present several afternoon workshop sessions throughout the conference. Apiary sessions include finding queens, testing for hygienic behavior, testing for varroa, managing small hive beetle, and top bar hives.

The two day EAS short course precedes the main conference. There are several specialty tracks highlighted in this journal including Electronic Colony Monitoring on Monday (organized by Dr. Frank Linton), Bees as Business (organized by Freddy Proni), and Excellence in Honey and Hive Products. EAS is fortunate to host the Russian Queen Breeders Association for their annual meeting on Monday and several members agreed to stick around to run the queen rearing track on Tuesday (organized by Dan Conlon). A beginner and intermediate track coordinated by Keith Tignor, the Virginia State Apiarist and Virginia Tech’s Extension Apiculturist Dr. James Wilson will be offered on both days in the short course as well as many apiary sessions. At last count, the Short Course includes ten EAS Master Beekeepers (including the EAS Chairwoman!), two more who obtained Master Beekeeper Certifications from GA and Montana, five State Apiarists or Bee Inspectors, and several PhD’s. All I can say is WOW!

I have been humbled and honored to serve at the Program Chair for EAS. It’s a time when you learn once again who your friends truly are and to cash in nearly every card in your deck. Sometimes you wonder if you will have anything left to trade at all afterwards! I am profoundly grateful to all who are participating in this educational endeavor. It’s a labor of love, but I hear it is all worth it. I look forward to sharing a tremendous program with all of you later this summer.
Electronic Hive Monitoring Short Course

A Full Day Short Course Program

**MONDAY, AUGUST 13**
**8 IN HAMPTON, VIRGINIA**

The current high rate of colony loss, 30%-40% annually, presents beekeepers with a conundrum. More-frequent inspections might reduce these losses by revealing small problems before they become big ones, but every inspection disturbs the bees, and unnecessary inspections may themselves contribute to colony losses. Still, for many backyard beekeepers, the issue is not too many inspections but too few. How can beekeepers be alerted to small problems before they become big ones – avoiding either too many inspections or too few?

The solutions presented in this workshop all involve inserting sensors into hives to monitor colony health and productivity remotely. Like the many sensors in your automobile, sensors in your colonies can keep you informed of your colonies’ well-being and alert you to problems early-on.

**SENSOR TYPES**

- **Weight:** bees and honey (totals, rates of change), swarming, robbing
- **Temperature:** brood volume, winter cluster volume, queen quality
- **Audio:** flight, fanning, stress (parasites, diseases, queenless)
- **Video:** flight, pollen, swarms, predators, & entrance activity
- **Odor:** pheromones, diseases, nectar sources, pollutants...
- **Other:** CO2, humidity, electrical charge, vibration, Infra-red light, weather, hive location/damage/theft...

**PRESENTERS INCLUDE (subject to change):**

- Rafael Cabrera SolutionBee
- Joseph Cazier Appalachian State, Boone NC
- Huw Evans Arnia
- Jeff Groff Shepherd U, Shepherdstown WV
- William Meikle USDA, Tucson, AZ
- Rich Morris, Theo Hartmann Broodminder
- Kelton Temby EyesOnHives
- Paul Vonk hivetool.org
- James Wilkes Hive Tracks
- Andrew Wootton RMIT U, Melbourne Australia

Also, a number of organizations and individuals will have posters or demos of their colony monitoring technologies set up around the periphery of the hall where this track will take place. Colony monitoring products will be for sale during the main conference, August 15-17, 2018.

The EAS Short Course and Conference Registration is expected to open later this Spring - watch: http://easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2018.html

Frank Linton, Chair, Electronic Hive Monitoring Track. fnlinton@gmail.com
Excellence in Honey & Hive Products

A Full Day Short Course Program

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

The Virginia based ApiSolutions Consortium, a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization, recently received a crop specialty grant from VDACS/USDA entitled “Enhancing Quality and Marketing of Honey & Products of the Hive”. The project aims to provide training, education and other supportive resources to Virginia beekeepers in order to improve their knowledge, skills and abilities in techniques in the production, processing, packaging, and marketing of honey and hive products as a high quality, profitable and valuable specialty crop safe from pathogens or adulteration. One of the project’s major educational events is a day long track on Excellence in Honey and Hive Product Preparation at the Eastern Apicultural Society’s (EAS) 2018 annual summer short course OPEN TO ALL attending EAS.

The track is Tuesday, August 14th and includes the following topics and presenters (subject to change):

- Pursuing Excellence in the Craft- Why We Do It
  George H. Wilson III & Michael Palmer
- Brief History of Honey Shows – The UK & the USA
  Michael Young, MBE
- Preparing Extracted Honey
  Mark Fiegl
- Comb Honey Production
  Michael Palmer
- Candles & Wax Tips and Tricks
  Bob Wellemeyer
- Judging Mead Basics
  George H. Wilson III & Michael Young, MBE
- Open Discussion Forum
  Michael Young, Michael Palmer, & K. Eisen

For information on the presenters, speaker bios are currently being uploaded to the EAS website http://easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2018/2018-speakers-preview.html

Future project tasks include development of a website with educational resources, and production of an educational brochure on preparation of honey and hive products. The project aspires to be self-sustaining by utilizing knowledge transfer and train-the-trainer approaches. For more information including interest in volunteering with any aspect of the project (current needs are data collection during EAS event, logo and website) contact George H. Wilson at (703) 314-2404 or via email at ApiSolutionsBee@gmail.com.
Russian Honeybee Breeders Association Short Course

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14
IN HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) welcomes the Russian Honeybee Breeders Association (RHBA) for an all-day Short Course Program

Members of RHBA will present a series of presentations and workshops at this year’s Eastern Apiculture Society (EAS) annual summer conference in Virginia. RHBA has, since its incorporation on November 1, 2007, worked to improve Varroa mite tolerance of the Russian honeybee, while maintaining our breeding stock through propagation and selective breeding. We have been successful in achieving our mission goals and continue to use a queen breeding model first set up by the Baton Rouge ARS-USDA Bee Lab. Our breeding program is working, and we continue to see improvement as members refine the RHBA queen breeding procedures. We have learned a great deal in ten years and will be sharing many of these techniques and observations with EAS members.

RHBA members will provide specific information regarding the history, breeding program, and management of the Russian honeybee. We will also be presenting general information to help participants rear queens. Although our focus will be on smaller apiaries, RHBA members represent operations of several hundred to more than ten thousand colonies. RHBA members also represent diverse demographics including states with long winters and extremely hot summers. In other words, we represent a wide variety of management, environmental, and beekeeping scenarios. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding Russian bees and queen rearing from beekeepers with years of practical experience.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- History & Structure of the RHBA Breeding Program
- Selecting for Improvement
- Mating Yards
- The Queen Rearing Process
- Management of Russian Bees
- Comparison of Russian and Italian bees.

Several members will also be available in the bee yard to talk about and demonstrate grafting, and starter / finisher colonies.

PRESENTERS INCLUDE (subject to change):

- Tom Rinderer PhD, USDA ARS
- Lilia De Guzman PhD, Research Entomologist, USDA ARS
- Bob Brachman, Cold Country Queens
- Dan Conlon, Warm Colors Apiary
- Steven Coy, Coy Bee Company
- Harry Fulton, Big Valley Bees
- Chris Hewitt, Richland Bees
- Austin Smith, Smith Honey Farm
# Morning Conference Schedule:
Virginia - Where it all Beegan

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE IN UPCOMING WEEKS

## 2018 EAS WEDNESDAY AM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Master Beekeeper</th>
<th>Honey Show</th>
<th>Vendors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-4:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Ballroom ABC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Conf. D</td>
<td>ROOM 201-202</td>
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<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15-9:00</td>
<td>Opening and Introductions (Indian Blessing, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lab Test 8:30-12:30</td>
<td>Drop Off Honey Show Entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td><strong>Randy Oliver</strong> <em>Adapting to Varroa &amp; Extended-Release Oxalic Acid Research Update</em></td>
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<td>Drop Off Honey Show Entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td><strong>Celia Davis, NDB</strong> <em>The Sex Life of Plants</em></td>
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<td>Field Exams start</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:30</td>
<td><strong>BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30-12:30</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Wyatt Mangum</strong> <em>Beekeeping before the Bee Space: An Early History of American Apiculture showing Period Hives and Equipment</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Closed for judging</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2018 EAS Thursday AM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Honey Show</th>
<th>Vendors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-4:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Ballroom ABC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Room 201-202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15-8:30</td>
<td>Introductions to the AM session and day</td>
<td></td>
<td>OPEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Jamie Ellis</strong> <em>Why are Our Bees Dying and What can we Do About it</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:30</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Juliana Rangel</strong> <em>Behavioral Ecology of Swarming</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>30 min break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:00</td>
<td><strong>Jon Zawislak (Roger Morse Award Winner)</strong> <em>Un-popular Science</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>EAS LIFE MEMBER LUNCH (Embassy Suites Ballroom)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Morning Conference Schedule:
Virginia - Where it all Beegan

Schedule may be subject to minor changes.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE IN UPCOMING WEEKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EAS 2018 FRIDAY AM</th>
<th>Subject to Change 03/15/2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Ballroom ABC</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 – 3:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15-8:30</td>
<td>Introductions to the AM session and day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30</td>
<td>Michael Young, MBE Honey Bees from the U.K to the U.S.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:30</td>
<td>Dr. Olav Rueppell (Hambleton Award Winner) UNCG’s Research in the Honey Bee - Virus - Varroa Triad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:15</td>
<td>Welcome to EAS 2019 Buddy May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-12:00</td>
<td>EAS Membership Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30</td>
<td>LUNCH Thirty Years of EAS Photo Slideshow Betty Mencucci (Tentatively in the ballroom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>PICK UP AT HONEY EXCHANGE IN THE VENDOR HALL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW EAS Sponsor Opportunities

We are thrilled to announce that EAS 2018 vendors, sponsors, and exhibitors will be in a dedicated 11,000 square foot ballroom along with the refreshments and honey exchange. This area is located adjacent to the keynote speaker ballrooms and on the same floor as the honey show and lunch area. EAS 2018 offers multiple sponsorship packages on a first come, first served, basis and includes opportunities to sponsor specific conference items such as lunches, breaks, and keynote speakers. As always, we welcome tailoring a custom sponsor package based on your ideas. The full sponsor/vendor prospectus is available on the EAS website at: http://easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2018/2018-vendor-sponsor-registration.html

Local beekeeping associations and other small businesses are encouraged to join in on the EAS Short Course and Conference Break Challenge. As of press time, we already have two Virginia beekeeping clubs participating as break sponsors! Sponsors will be recognized in the EAS program guide, on the EAS website and in slides during the conference. Thank you for your consideration and support!
EAS 2018 Conference Hotel Reservations

If you want to stay in the conference hotel, you are encouraged to make reservations sooner than later.

Please use the EAS links from the website so we get the room credit.


Also note the new roommate service available

Sign up and search for EAS 2018 at conferenceshare.co

Below is a roommate and ride sharing service that is available and free to EAS this year. Anyone interested will have to sign up with it at Conferenceshare.co

All EAS does is provide the link to the service. Know that there are real human beings behind this service. It was started by a group of graduate students who wanted a more affordable way to attend conferences so we should not be worried they are just mining for data from those who sign up.

If you are looking for roommates or ride shares with other conference attendees, you can use this new service to connect and facilitate sharing.

Sign up and search for EAS 2018 at conferenceshare.co

Virginia’s Own Dr. Wyatt Mangum - Top Bar Hives and Thermal Images

Top Bar Hives and Thermal Images featured at EAS 2018 with Dr. Wyatt Mangum of Virginia. Dr. Mangum will give several talks during the week at EAS 2018 and an apiary session on Top Bar Hives in the short course. In his presentation on using thermal cameras in the apiaries, he will show thermal (heat) images of frame hives, top-bar hives, winter clusters, and individual bees. From images of heat beekeepers will be able to see better ways to manage bees and to understand their lives. Seeing bees in heat images will help us become better beekeepers. A sample of the thermal images are provided by Dr. Wyatt A. Mangum. For more on Wyatt, see his website http://www.tbhsbywam.com/
St. George Brewery Tour

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

Popularized in myth for slaying a fire-breathing dragon, St. George was a 3rd century Roman soldier who stood up for good over evil and was put to death. The various legends surrounding his death inspired the crusading kings of 12th century England. At St. George Brewing Company, they have tapped that same inspiration to create award winning ales and lagers that proudly bear the cross of St George.

In operation since 1998, St. George Brewing Company is the oldest microbrewery in the Hampton Roads area. Their brews are geared toward traditional English and German style ales though occasionally they branch out, including a Honey Meade Lager that uses honey from their onsite apiary.

Film Screening

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

Please join us Wednesday evening for a free screening of Queen of the Sun

In 1923, Rudolf Steiner, an Austrian scientist, philosopher & social innovator, predicted that in 80 to 100 years, honey bees would collapse. For the first time, in an alarming inquiry into the insights behind Steiner’s prediction, Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us? investigates the causes behind the global bee crisis through the eyes of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers.

Queen of the Sun takes us on a journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and into the mysterious world of the beehive. The film unveils 10,000 years of beekeeping, illuminating the deep link between humans and bees and how that historic and sacred relationship has been almost lost due to highly mechanized industrial practices. We travel around the world to uncover the complex problems bees are facing such as malnutrition, pesticides, genetically modified crops, migratory beekeeping, parasites, pathogens and lack of genetic diversity.

In the meantime, bee advocates strive to renew a culture that takes its cues from the hive. They have recognized that the bees, themselves, are our guides and they have looked to the bees’ example of collaboration and community as the model for their own actions. Einstein was right: it is impossible to change
Beekeeping in North America began in the early 1600’s with the importation of honey bees by the English colonists at Jamestown, Virginia. EAS 2018 is excited to include a day trip to Historic Jamestown and Jamestown Settlement to explore the world of America’s first permanent English colony and the Powhatan Indian, English and West African cultures that converged in the 17th century.

At Historic Jamestown we will see the site of the original James Fort as our tour guide provides fascinating details about life in the Jamestown colony. We’ll visit the Archaearium which features artifacts from the archeological investigations by the Jamestown Rediscovery project. At the neighboring Jamestown Settlement we will explore the reconstructed James Fort, climb aboard full-sized replicas of the three ships that brought colonists to the New World, learn about Native American life in the Powhatan Indian village, and observe artisans demonstrate 17th century glassblowing techniques.

The tour is limited to the first 55 conference attendees who register for the tour.

Jamestown Field Trip

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Beekeeping in North America began in the early 1600’s with the importation of honey bees by the English colonists at Jamestown, Virginia. EAS 2018 is excited to include a day trip to Historic Jamestown and Jamestown Settlement to explore the world of America’s first permanent English colony and the Powhatan Indian, English and West African cultures that converged in the 17th century.

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The tour is limited to the first 55 conference attendees who register for the tour.

NOTABLE QUOTES FOR QUEEN OF THE SUN

“The feel-good advocacy movie of the year.”
- Box Office Magazine

“A remarkable documentary that’s also one of the most beautiful nature films I’ve seen.”
- Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

“Queen of the Sun is stunning...as soulful as it is scientific, as uplifting as it is alarming. Siegel sets himself and his film apart with exquisite cinematography and awe-inducing visual artistry.”
- Christine Champ, Film.com

“Entertaining, gorgeous and relevant... Taking us on a journey through a wood of confusion toward rays of hope... Queen of the Sun demonstrates anew Siegel’s rare eye and sensibility. The message here is vital and Siegel retains the gift of making you dream of making a difference.”
- Shawn Levy, The Oregonian
Nansemond Indians at their Summer Pow Wow

AUGUST 18-19

Join the Nansemond Indians at their Summer Pow Wow Aug. 18-19, 2018 following EAS.

All of the Commonwealth of Virginia used to be Virginia Indian territory estimated to go back as far as 12,000 years. Hampton, Virginia and the entire Tidewater area was home to many Native American Indian Tribes. While several Virginia Tribes have had State Recognition for some time, as of January 29, 2018, Virginia has seven federally recognized tribes, the Pamunkey Indian Tribe, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Upper Mattaponi, Rappahannock, Nansemond and Monacan.

The Nansemond Tribe’s Mattanock Town website describes that the Nansemond Indians originally lived along the Nansemond River and were part of the Algonquin empire ruled by Powhatan, the father of Pocahontas. When the English arrived in Virginia, the tribe had about 300 warriors and a total population of perhaps 1200 people. Chief Powhatan’s organization was not a confederacy, or alliance of equals. Colonial records corroborate John Smith on the subject: “The forme of their Common wealth is a monarchall governement, one as Emperour ruleth over many kings or governours” (Smith, “Map of Virginia,” Smith’s works 1986 ed., p. 173). Colonist William Strachey recorded the title by which the common folk addressed Powhatan: “his owne people sometymes call him . . . Mamanatowick, which . . . signifyes great Kinge” (Historie of Travell, 1953 ed., p. 56). He was the ruler, not the first among equals. Smith wrote that “when he listeth his will is a law and must bee obeyed: not only as a king but as halfe a God they esteeme him. He had inherited six tribal territories and then added to them, by conquest according to Smith. Once annexed, a territory’s leader took orders from Powhatan himself (and that is not a confederacy). The Nansemond had several towns. One group became Christianized with the marriage of John Bass to Elizabeth, daughter of the Nansemond Chief. This group remained on the Nansemond River and became English-style farmers, though they retained their love of hunting and fishing, still calling themselves “Nansemond.”

Join the Nansemond Indian Tribal Association at their annual summer Pow Wow following EAS on August 18-19, 2018 at Mattanock Town, 1001 Permbrok Lane, Suffolk, VA 23434.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NATIVE AMERICAN INDIANS IN VIRGINIA SEE THESE LINKS

Virginia Recognized Tribes: https://home.nps.gov/jame/learn/historyculture/virginia-indian-tribes.htm

2018 Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes: https://tinyurl.com/yb8vl475

Nansemond Indian Tribal Association: http://www.nansemond.org/

Mattanock Tock: http://www.mattanocktown.org/

Chair Erin MacGregor Forbes called the meeting to order at 5:12 pm.

**ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTORS**
The following nomination for director was presented by the Vermont state society:
- Michael Willard - Vermont

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**
*Attending via WebEx:* Erin MacGregor Forbes, Chairman; Linda Allen Mizer, Vice Chairman; Bob Bauer, Past President, DE; Pam Fisher, President; Buddy May, Vice President, SC; Jacky Hildreth, Treasurer; William Miller, AL; John Baker, CT; David Mendes, FL; Steve Repasky, Master Beekeepers; Peggy McLaughlin, ME; Mary Duane, MA; Dorinda Priebe, NH; Lou Naylor, NJ; Bob Talkiewicz, NY; Karla Eisen, VA; Dave Meldrum, Webmaster.

*Absent:* Carol Cottrill, Secretary; Jim Bobb, Chairman Emeritus; Linda Tillman, GA; Debbie Seib, IN; Tammy Horn Potter, KY; Randy Fair, LA; Tim McMahon, MD; Rich Weiske, MI; Doug Vinson, NC; Vincent Aloyo, PA; Jane Dennison, RI; Michael Coulter, TN; Michael Willard, VT; Charles Walter, WV; Robyn McCallum, Canadian Maritimes.

*Guest:* George Wilson, Honey Show.

*Proxies:* none

**STATES/PROVINCES IN GOOD STANDING**

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**
Approval of July 20, 2017 Board of Director Minutes (Distributed via email). Pam Fisher noted a correction: the academic advisor is Dr. Fell. Although a motion was made and seconded to approve the Secretary’s report there was not a quorum to vote approval.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** - Jacky Hildreth
Profit and loss reports and balance sheets were sent out by email. The 2017 conference made about $6,700. To date EAS is showing a loss of approximately $10,000.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** – Erin MacGregor Forbes
Erin reported that the organization and networking among members is going well. The organization is also sound financially. She wants to start grooming a new Chair as soon as possible as her term will be up in two years. She plans to be an active Past Chairman and to work on our endowment.

**PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2017)** - Robert Bauer
Bob thanked all the many volunteers who worked on the conference and was happy that the conference ended up in the black. He noted that volunteers who spend most of the conference working and unable to attend sessions need incentives. There need to be guidelines for these incentives. The President also needs to know what arrangements are made with speakers and what the costs will be.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2018) - Pam Fisher

Pam requested clarification on signing the contract for the beach bash and setting up a bank account to use. Jacky requested that most bills be run through the EAS Treasurer if time allows rather than using the local account. They have a short course coordinator now and are working on fund raising.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2019) – Buddy May

Buddy reported that they are just starting to get the required committee chairs established. He has had a lot of questions and is not sure who to ask for answers. He is documenting the process so that the next conference host will have more guidelines than are currently available.

SITES:
- **2018 VA** – Pam Fisher
- **2019 SC** – Buddy May
- **2020** – both Massachusetts (Dan Conlon) and Maine (Peggy McLaughlin) have expressed interest in hosting 2020
  - Dave Mendes also noted that the University of Florida is building a new honey Bee lab and Florida would be interested in hosting in Gainesville in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards
The current deadline of April 1 for award nominations for the Morse, Hambleton and Student awards does not give sufficient time to add the recipients to the conference program as speakers. It was proposed that the deadline be moved up to February first. This change needs to be published in the fall issue of the Journal which is currently ready to go out.

Membership – Lou Naylor
Total active membership is 1163 with 764 that need to renew and 692 lapsed members. Lou suggested that the September date should be changed to a rolling renewal date based on when dues are paid. Wild Apricot can send out renewal notices, so this would not be as difficult to do as in the past when all members were entered by hand.

Nominations
- States without directors: Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Vermont, Wisconsin, Ontario, Quebec

Historian
No one has volunteered.
Honey Bee Health Coalition – Tammy Horn Potter
Tammy’s report was distributed to the Directors. Those Directors present felt that the HBHC was doing a good job and we should continue to pay HBHC dues and Tammy’s expenses to attend the meetings.

Honey Bee Research
Jennifer Lund will continue as chair of this committee. The submission date should be changed to February first this year and possibly earlier at some point in the future.

Honey Show – George Wilson
George is recruiting staff for the Virginia honey Show. He will be unable to continue as Honey Show Chair after Virginia and would like to work with someone willing to take over. Buddy May is interested in working with him.

Journal – Linda Mizer
Linda needed to know if the deadlines for the 2018 award nominations and honey bee research proposals should be changed in the fall Journal. Erin told her to change them to February first.

Life Membership - Mary Duane
Mary is looking for a place to have Life Membership pins made; she will work with Erin on pricing and the number of pins to order. She will arrange a speaker for the Life Membership luncheon at the conference and Pam will make sure a room is available for lunch or Thursday or Friday.

Mann Lake EAS Scholarship
An application form is available on the website. Directors need to distribute information on the opportunity for a young beekeeper to attend EAS at no cost.

Policy & Procedures
Pam and Erin will work on a Volunteer Policy with input from Bob Bauer. Those doing conference registration need to know what is being offered to volunteers.

Publication & Promotion
Pam would like to see a written list of those places EAS uses for advertisement and their deadlines. EAS will do reciprocal ads with other groups such as HAS.

Site Committee
Buddy May has been working with the Hilton Hotel in Greenville SC. They have offered a total cost of $3,800. It is all on one floor, has room for about 50 hives, the airport is about 4 miles away and rooms would cost $129 with tax. Dewey Caron has seen the facility and agrees that it would work for the conference. Erin suggested a site visit in February or March, but Buddy stated that the contract expires on December 15th and will need to be signed by then. Erin asked him to see if the Hilton will give an extension into January. Bill Miller would like to be on the site committee.

Webmaster – Dave Meldrum
Keith Inglis has volunteered to be webmaster. Dave will continue to help him as technical advisor. Erin stated that the Webmaster should have a stipend equal to that paid to the Treasurer and
Secretary and it should be $3,000. Bob Talkiewicz made a motion to pay a stipend of $3,000 to the Treasurer, Secretary and Webmaster; Buddy May seconded. The motion was voted and passed unanimously.

**Vendors** – Bob Talkiewicz
Bob would like to have an apprentice or committee work with him. Pam has a volunteer with trade show experience for Virginia and Buddy has a volunteer for South Carolina.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Directors** – Erin Forbes
A bylaw change to add a Director for Washington D.C. had been discussed previously. Erin also wants to add at least four At-Large Directors. She feels that this would give others the ability to participate in EAS. After some discussion Karla Eisen made a motion to add a Director from Washington D.C. Jacky Hildreth seconded and the motion was voted on and passed unanimously. This proposed revision to the bylaws will be published in the spring journal and then voted on at the annual EAS Business Meeting in August.

**NEW BUSINESS**
Erin plans to have monthly Executive Committee meetings starting in December. Pam will have monthly Virginia Conference meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Cottrill, EAS Secretary
Eastern Apicultural Society of N.A,
Profit & Loss Previous Years Comparison

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<tr>
<th>Ordinary Income/Expense</th>
<th>Jan - Oct 17</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 16</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 15</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 14</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INTERIM</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Translation Adj</td>
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<td>Del. Comm. Foundation Income</td>
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<td>14,632.74</td>
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<td>Donations Income</td>
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<td>EAS Journal Ads</td>
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<td>Interest Income, Other</td>
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<td>Membership Dues</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>1,196.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>-10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>39,625.49</td>
<td>38,034.75</td>
<td>20,916.45</td>
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<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
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<td>38,034.75</td>
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<td>Board of Directors Meeting Exp.</td>
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<td>Chairman's Discretionary Fund</td>
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<td>Office Supplies</td>
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<td>Reproduction/Copies</td>
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<td>Staff Perdiem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone &amp; Internet Svc.</td>
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<td>1,434.00</td>
<td>1,764.00</td>
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<td>56,305.46</td>
<td>57,785.04</td>
<td>51,571.75</td>
<td>43,987.51</td>
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</table>
### Other Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1st Year 20XX</th>
<th>2nd Year 20XX</th>
<th>3rd Year 20XX</th>
<th>4th Year 20XX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference Accommodations</td>
<td>28,574.00</td>
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<td>16,309.03</td>
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<td>Conference Auction</td>
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<td>Conference Sponsorships</td>
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<td>Short Courses</td>
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<td>Souvenirs</td>
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### Other Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1st Year 20XX</th>
<th>2nd Year 20XX</th>
<th>3rd Year 20XX</th>
<th>4th Year 20XX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conf. Accommodations</td>
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### Net Other Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1st Year 20XX</th>
<th>2nd Year 20XX</th>
<th>3rd Year 20XX</th>
<th>4th Year 20XX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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## Eastern Apicultural Society of N. A.
### Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>Jan-Oct 2017</th>
<th>Dec 31, 16</th>
<th>Dec 31, 15</th>
<th>Dec 31, 14</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Checking/Savings</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>Undeposited Funds</td>
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<td><strong>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Current Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Other Current Liabilities</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
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<td>Ed Holcombe Distinguished Fund</td>
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<td>1,617.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
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<td>-8,441.46</td>
<td>9,293.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td>388,736.20</td>
<td>390,878.63</td>
<td>378,889.20</td>
<td>387,330.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</td>
<td>388,736.20</td>
<td>392,938.88</td>
<td>378,967.52</td>
<td>387,330.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chair Erin MacGregor Forbes called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTOR
The following nomination for director was presented by the Maryland state society and approved by the Board:
Patty Wong – Maryland

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
Attending via WebEx: Erin MacGregor Forbes, Chairman; Linda Allen Mizer, Vice Chairman; Bob Bauer, Past President, DE; Pam Fisher, President; Buddy May, Vice President, SC; Carol Cottrill, Secretary; William Miller, AL; John Baker, CT; David Mendes, FL; Tammy Horn Potter, KY; Peggy McLaughlin, ME; Mary Duane, MA; Patty Wong, MD; Steve Repasky, Master Beekeepers; Dorinda Priebe, NH; Lou Naylor, NJ; Bob Talkiewicz, NY; James Vinson, NC; Vincent Aloyo, PA; Michael Willard, VT; Karla Eisen, VA; Keith Inglin, Webmaster.

Absent: Jacky Hildreth, Treasurer; Jim Bobb, Chairman Emeritus; Linda Tillman, GA; Debbie Seib, IN; Randy Fair, LA; Rich Weiske, MI; Jane Dennison, RI; Michael Coulter, TN; Charles Walter, WV.

Proxies: none

STATES/PROVINCES IN GOOD STANDING
Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

SECRETARY’S REPORT- Carol Cottrill
John Baker made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2017 and November 12, 2017 Board of Director Meetings (Distributed via email), motion seconded by Bill Miller, voted and passed.

Karla Eisen made a motion to accept the proposed revision to the EAS Bylaws to add Washington D.C. as an association member (proposed revision distributed by email), motion seconded by Pam Fisher, voted and approved. The proposed revision will be published in the next EAS Journal and will be presented to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting in August.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Jacky Hildreth (absent)
Financial reports were distributed by email. Erin Forbes explained that last year’s conference ended up in the red, but that funds from EAS endowment growth were able to cover the loss. Erin noted that John Baker and Dan Conlon had served on the Finance Committee for several years and have asked to step down. Erin will be recruiting a new committee to review the financial
records. Use of an outside firm to do the review has been suggested. Until this can be done the 2018 review will be done by Peter Richardson who has financial experience.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Erin MacGregor Forbes
Conference planning for 2018 and 2019 is going well and the Site Committee (Erin, Linda Mizer, Jack Hildreth and Bob Bauer) will be going to Greensboro to see the site chosen on March 24th. Bill Miller would also like to be included on the committee.

Erin would like to pursue the idea of adding three At-Large Directors. She feels that some of the current Directors are not very active and that the pool of active volunteers is very limited. Some states have a lot of people that want to volunteer but can’t because they already have a Director. Being a Director is also a path to becoming Chairman. The structure of appointed committees and the role of non-board positions (webmaster, historian) were also discussed.
Adding At-Large Directors would require a change to both the EAS Constitution and Bylaws. Pam Fisher suggested a committee to discuss this and Erin will form a committee to look at what is needed to proceed with this idea.

PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2017) - Robert Bauer
Bob still has a lot of conference materials – office supplies and some Master Beekeeper testing supplies. The Master Beekeeper supplies will be given to Debbie Delaney. The office supplies will go to Virginia, Pam has someone willing to take the materials.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2018) - Pam Fisher
Pam reported that hotel reservations are open; information is on the website. A revised contract has been prepared to address some required changes to rooms for the conference. Karla has found a ride and room-sharing site if any attendees are interested. Speakers for the conference are pretty much set and the short course is filling out with nine Master Beekeepers participating. Meal planning is still holding up the registration process. Special events are progressing. There will be an all-day trip to Jamestown and the cost is $52. This includes the bus but does not include lunch; Pam asked if this price seemed reasonable.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (EAS 2019) – Buddy May
The Hilton Hotel in Greensboro, SC will be the site for the 2019 Conference July 15 – 19. Some of the Committee Chairs are already in place and a theme based on bee health and queen rearing/breeding is being developed. Everything will be held at one site. Rooms will cost $115 plus 13% tax. A $3,500 deposit is due on March 30, 2018. The extension agent from Clemson will do the apiary.

SITES:
- **2018 VA** – Pam Fisher
- **2019 SC** – Buddy May
- **2020** – Maine has submitted a formal proposal to host in 2020. Peggy McLaughlin reported the site would be the University of Maine in Orono the first week in August. Mary Duane indicated that Massachusetts is also interested in hosting but has not found a site or chosen dates yet. Currently there is no deadline for submitting a proposal; a procedure with a deadline needs to be developed.
Erin noted that Florida is possibly interested in 2021 and that Massachusetts could consider 2022 so that the conferences would alternate between northern and southern states. Peggy McLaughlin made a motion to accept Maine’s proposal, seconded by Carol Cottrill, voted and passed.

COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

Awards – Carol Cottrill
Moving the due dates for award/grant nominations was discussed at the November meeting, but a formal vote to change the dates for specific awards is needed. Linda Mizer made a motion to move the due date for Hambleton, Morse and Student Award nominations and Honey Bee Research proposals to February 1st, seconded by Tammy Potter, voted and passed. Carol requested that the Divelbiss due date also be revised. Steve Repasky made a motion to move the Divelbiss Award nomination due date to April 30th, seconded by Linda Mizer, voted and passed. The procedures for the Hambleton, Morse, Student and Divelbiss Awards and the Honey Bee Research Grant needed to be updated and revised to include date changes. Carol Cottrill worked with a group of past and present award/grant committee members to revise the procedures and copies of the revised procedures were distributed by email. Karla suggested a modification to the letter sent to the recipients of research grants to remove the information on the current year’s conference as they won’t be invited until the next year. John Baker made a motion to accept the procedures with this modification, Karla Eisen seconded the motion, voted and passed.

Finance – Jacky Hildreth (absent)
The reimbursement rate for speaker mileage was discussed. Currently the IRS business rate is used (not the not-for-profit rate); this can result in reimbursement that exceeds the amount of a plane ticket. Some organizations reimburse mileage up to a specific amount. A committee needs to discuss this and come up with a procedure for speaker travel.

Membership – Lou Naylor
The current membership form requests information that does not have a place to record it in Wild Apricot (membership in local association, number of hives). Establishing a rolling dues renewal date was discussed at the November 12th meeting; this change requires a change to Section 11.2 of the EAS Bylaws. Lou Naylor made a motion to proceed with developing the wording for the bylaws and present it to the Executive Committee for approval. Once approved by the Executive Committee, the proposed bylaw wording will be published in the EAS Journal, so the change can be voted on at the annual business meeting. Motion seconded by Linda Mizer, voted and passed. The change should be for individual dues, not State/Provincial Association and Corporate dues.

Notification of Association dues needs a better system. Each Director should send Lou the name and emails for the Association President and Treasurer, so they can be sent dues reminders.

Corporate Membership is listed on our membership form as $50, but the Policy and Procedure Manual does not list this fee. Linda Mizer made a motion to include this amount in the membership.
procedure, seconded by Lou Naylor, voted and passed. One person is the bundle administrator and they can have four people under them, like the system used for family membership.

Nomination Committee -
Director terms expiring August 2018. Those who have served only one term can be nominated for a second term. Nominations from the State/Provincial Associations need to be sent to the EAS Secretary before the August Annual Business Meeting.

- Connecticut
- Indiana
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- New York
- Vermont
- Canadian Maritimes

Honey Bee Health Coalition – Tammy Horn Potter
Tammy has information to put on the website and will do an article for the Journal but needs to know the deadline for the next issue. Since EAS is funding the meeting expenses she wants to be able to provide regular updates on the HBHC activities.

Honey Bee Research – Jennifer Lund
Winners have been chosen and letters sent.

Dennis vanEngelsdorp, University of Maryland: Naughty Neighbors: Tracking the movement of bees from colonies collapsing from high Varroa infestation between apiaries ($7,000).

Elmin Taric, DVM, University of Belgrade: The differences between honey bee brood pathogens colonies in traditional and modern (commercial) beekeeping colonies ($3,000).

Journal – Linda Mizer
The number and timing of Journal issues was discussed. Linda would like to have content ideas and submissions lined up based on the season. She needs to know what the deadlines are required for each issue so time-sensitive materials can get published. Availability of the conference schedule and registration form can be a problem as some items are not finalized until around April 1st. Quarterly Journals are possible if content is submitted.

The process for distributing the Journal electronically was discussed: a PDF is sent to the webmaster so that it can be put on the server and a link sent to the membership. The link is sent out using Wild Apricot and Keith Inglin does not have access to that program. Lou will give him access.

Life Membership - Mary Duane
Lunch for Life Members is scheduled for Thursday and Mary is working on getting a speaker. She asked Lou to send out invitation letters to all the Life Members; this was well received last year. The new sponsorship program has a request to sponsor the lunch; if a sponsor is found Life Members will not have to pay for the lunch. Mary is also working on getting more Life Member pins.
Mann Lake EAS Scholarship –
Brenda Kiessling requested a change of the due date for nominations to April 30th and the addition of instructions for non-US citizens (revised procedure distributed by email). Peggy McLaughlin made a motion to accept the changes as distributed, seconded by Carol Cottrill, voted and passed.

Policy & Procedures – Carol Cottrill
The current Policy and Procedure Manual needs to be reviewed and some sections revised. Any Conference Guidelines need to be removed from the P & P and updated so they are more useful to the Conference Committees. As Guidelines they can be revised as needed where Policy and Procedure changes need formal approval. A procedure for an Ad Hoc Committee to review and revise the Conference Guidelines was distributed by email. Carol Cottrill made a motion to approve this committee, seconded by Linda Mizer, voted and passed. Among the procedures that need to be developed is one for Wild Apricot as there is nothing currently available.

Webmaster – Keith Inglin
A procedure is needed for submission of website changes so that only changes that are approved are submitted. When changes are needed they need to be written so they are specific, rather than general. Information needs to be funneled through a limited number of people. Conference information should come from the President or their designee. Other EAS information for the website should be submitted through the Secretary.

Keith will investigate to see if the EAS website has the certificate for the secure/encrypted site https://easternapiculture.org.

The official name is the Eastern Apicultural Society. The website is easternapiculture.org and headings on the website and in Wild Apricot use "Eastern Apiculture Society." The address easternapicultural.org is available. We need to update all the references on the website and in the various manuals. Karla Eisen motioned to purchase all the forms of the domain names as suggested by webmaster Keith Inglin, seconded by Pam Fisher, voted and passed. Email addresses can stay as xx@easternapiculture.org for now.

NEW BUSINESS
Apimondia has requested that EAS help promote the conference in Montreal September 8 – 12, 2019. All agreed that we can cooperate with them in this effort.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Cottrill, EAS Secretary
Eastern Apicultural Society of N. A.

Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan-Dec 2017</th>
<th>Dec 31, 16</th>
<th>Dec 31, 15</th>
<th>Dec 31, 14</th>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking/Savings</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>392,938.88</td>
<td>378,967.52</td>
<td>387,330.66</td>
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**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

Current Liabilities

<p>| Accounts Payable       | 4,450.24     | 2,060.25   | 78.32      |            |
| Total Payable          | 4,450.24     | 2,060.25   | 78.32      |            |
| Other Current Liabilities |          |            | 0.00       |            |
| Total Other Current Liabilities |        |            |            |            |
| Total Current Liabilities | 4,450.24   | 2,060.25   | 78.32      | 0.00       |
| Total Liabilities      | 4,450.24     | 2,060.25   | 78.32      | 0.00       |</p>
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<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Unrestricted Net Assets</th>
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<th>Total Equity</th>
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<td>Translation Adjustment</td>
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</table>

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 407,090.24        | 392,938.88             | 378,967.52              | 387,330.66             | 407,090.24          |
## Eastern Apicultural Society of N.A.
### Profit & Loss Previous Years Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income/Expense</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 17</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 16</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 15</th>
<th>Jan - Dec 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERIM</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ordinary Income/Expense</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Translation Adj</td>
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<td>Del. Comm. Foundation Income</td>
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<td>Interest Income, Other</td>
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<td>317.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>1,196.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>69,689.38</td>
<td>38,034.75</td>
<td>20,916.45</td>
<td>37,873.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
<td>69,689.38</td>
<td>38,034.75</td>
<td>20,916.45</td>
<td>37,873.01</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
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### Other Income/Expense

#### Other Income

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<th>2017</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
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<td>34,880.00</td>
<td>16,309.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Sponsorships</td>
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<td>12,550.00</td>
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<td>Conference Vendor's Fees</td>
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#### Other Expense

<table>
<thead>
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<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
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<td>27,118.62</td>
<td>14,960.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rental, Conf.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>158.21</td>
<td>2,184.58</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange Gain/Loss</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5,534.19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>137.50</td>
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<td>Honey Show Expenses</td>
<td>857.18</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>6,038.87</td>
<td>2,443.00</td>
<td>5,568.82</td>
<td>3,306.83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raffle Ticket Winners</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>2,085.00</td>
<td>4,411.22</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speakers</td>
<td>12,026.22</td>
<td>10,335.67</td>
<td>16,028.68</td>
<td>15,640.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Expenses</td>
<td>2,645.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Exp.</td>
<td>691.46</td>
<td>2,250.00</td>
<td>2,114.54</td>
<td>144.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Expense</strong></td>
<td>191,280.71</td>
<td>167,718.66</td>
<td>115,717.6</td>
<td>87,215.01</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Other Income</strong></td>
<td>6,390.79</td>
<td>27,035.81</td>
<td>22,213.84</td>
<td>15,408.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,761.37</td>
<td>7,285.52</td>
<td>-8,441.46</td>
<td>9,293.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EAS Executive Committee, Directors, and Contacts

EAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Board
Erin MacGregor Forbes (2019)
188 Capisic Street
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chairman@easternapiculture.org

Vice Chairman of the Board
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607-227-4449
vicechairman@easternapiculture.org

President
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President Emeritus
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Chairman Emeritus
Jim Bobb
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Jacky B. Hildreth
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Year indicates expiration of term as director

Alabama
William Miller (2019)
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Vacant (2020)

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Vacant (2021)

Ontario
Vacant (2021)

Quebec
Vacant (2021)

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Vacant

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Eastern Apicultural Society
Carol Cottrill
EAS Secretary
60 Rolling Hill Drive
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