

# HERE'S WHAT'S BUZZIN'



Pemi-Baker Beekeeper's Association, 1062 River Road, Plymouth, NH 03264  
Web site address: [www.pemibakerba.org](http://www.pemibakerba.org)

## Fall 2011 NHBA Meeting

By M. E. Godville

The fall NHBA meeting was held at Wasserman Park in Merrimack this year – hosted by the Merrimack Beekeepers' Association. The main speaker was **Heather Mattila, PhD**. She is Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Biological Sciences at Wellesley College where she teaches Introductory Biology and Animal Behavior. Heather also teaches Social Insect Biology. Her research focuses on the role that intra-colonial genetic diversity plays in the organization of communication and division of labor in the honey bee colonies. She will give 2 lectures to the membership: One on how genetic diversity in colonies improves foraging productivity of colonies. The other will focus on her research on communication in colonies, specifically in swarms.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Fall 2011 NHBA Meeting	1
Updates from the NH Beekeepers Assn.	1
Informational Websites	2
Club Member's Recipes	2
PBBA Monthly Meeting Summaries	3
Interview with Ben Chadwick	3
Club Officer's Contact Information	4



## Updates from NH Beekeepers' Association

By M. E. Godville

Nominations for the 2012 *Beekeeper of the Year* award are due by February 6, 2012 – please send them to Mary–Ellen Godville, 1090 River Road, Plymouth, NH or [megrg74@yahoo.com](mailto:megrg74@yahoo.com) .

February 3–4 is the **NH Farm and Forest Exhibition** at the Center of NH Radisson Hotel in Manchester, NH. There are volunteers needed to help with set up and staffing of the NHBA booth. Please contact Wendy Booth @ [info@hivehealthy.com](mailto:info@hivehealthy.com) or 679–1971.

The **Spring 2012 NHBA Meeting** will be held on March 24 at the Bow Community Center in Bow, NH. The guest speakers will be Erin Forbes and Carol Cotrill from the Maine State Beekeepers' Assn. They are both Master beekeepers – Erin will talk about Swarm management and her SARE grant which compared nucs to packages. Carol will do a demo on making products from the hive like lip balms, etc. There will be the annual raffle with many beautiful, educational and just plain fun items. The 2012 Beekeeper of the Year award will be given out during this meeting.

Please see *NHBA Updates* on page 4

## Informational Websites

NH Beekeepers' Association

[www.nhbeekeepers.org](http://www.nhbeekeepers.org)

USDA Bee Research

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/>

The National Honey Board

<http://www.honey.com>

Eastern Apicultural Society

<http://www.easternapiculture.org>

Randy Oliver

<http://scientificbeekeeping.com>

Brushy Mountain

<http://www.brushymountainbeefarm.com/>

Other NH Club Webpages:

Pawtuckaway Beekeepers:

[www.PawtuckawayBeekeepers.org](http://www.PawtuckawayBeekeepers.org)

Capital Beekeepers Assn.: [www.capitalareabeekeepers.org](http://www.capitalareabeekeepers.org)

Merrimack Beekeepers: [www.mvbee.org](http://www.mvbee.org)

Kearsarge Beekeepers: [www.kbanh.org](http://www.kbanh.org)

Sea Coast Beekeepers: [www.seacoastbeekeepers.com](http://www.seacoastbeekeepers.com)

Monadnock Beekeepers: [www.monadnockbeekeepers.com](http://www.monadnockbeekeepers.com)

NH State Dept. of Agriculture

[https://www.nh.gov/agric/divisions/plant\\_industry/documents/BeeApplication.pdf](https://www.nh.gov/agric/divisions/plant_industry/documents/BeeApplication.pdf)



*PBBA Members at 2011 Muster Field Farm workshop*

## CLUB MEMBERS' FAVORITE RECIPES

Featured Recipe by: Mel Fisk

### **MEL'S HONEY GRANOLA**

Preheat oven to 325°F - Have a large cake pan (at least 9X13) or large roasting pan ready (ungreased)

In a *large* stove pot (stainless steel, glass, etc.) combine:

½ C mild oil (safflower, canola, NOT Olive oil)

½ C ran honey

Pinch salt

1 tsp. vanilla extract (optional)

While liquids are heating, combine in large bowl—stir dry ingredients to mix well after measuring:

2 C wheat flakes

2 C barley flakes

5 C rolled oats (may need 2–3 more cups)

¾ C coarsely chopped raw almonds

¾ C coarsely chopped raw pecans

½ C raw pumpkin seeds

½ C raw sunflower seeds

Add grains/nut/seed mix to pan on stove – keep heat on low. Stir well to coat all ingredients. Bake on middle rack in oven 15–20 minutes. Remove pan and stir mix. Cook 12–15 minutes more. Repeat these steps until granola is toasty, golden brown. **\*\*Tip:** Be sure to bring ingredients from edges (cooks faster) to center of pan and mix bottom to top. Cool on rack – stirring occasionally. Cool completely before storing in fairly air-tight container.

This recipe begs for experimentation, individualism, substitutions, additions, subtractions according to your and your family's preferences: flax seeds, sesame seeds, peanuts, cashews, rye flakes are other options. Leave out what you don't like and add what you do like!

Adjust baking/stirring time intervals according to cereal quantity/pan size. The larger the pan, the shorter the toasting time for this great snack! ENJOY!!



*Great grains!*

## Interview with Ben Chadwick

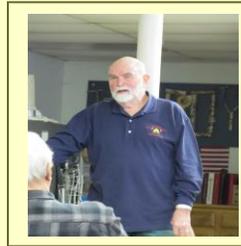
By Wendy Booth, Pres. NHBA

### NHBA Info – from fall 2011 Newsletter

I read this article in the fall newsletter written by Wendy Booth that had some very valuable information from our State Apiary Inspector. I wanted to share this article...

EAS 201 Biggest theme of EAS was Varroa Mite control. You must check and treat for mites for long term overwintering success. Suggest 6 mites per 1/2 cup bees (300 bees) as time to treat. Hives with near 15 mites will collapse.

- • Randy Oliver told of every queen they tested was infected with DWV (Deformed Wing Virus) but some can suppress the symptoms.
- • 10-15 day old bees convert pollen to royal jelly. They need lots of pollen for this to be successful.
- • Randy Oliver when wintering will not put hives to bed if there are bees in the top box. He will feed them until they are lower or feels they will not survive.
- • Worker bees use 2 pounds of pollen a week to rear



*Ben Chadwick teaching at the PBBA 2011 Bee School*

brood.

- • this spring, 6 weeks before nectar flow get pollen on hives.
- • Winter bees have longer hair than summer bees.
- • Feral colonies of Honey Bees have 13-15% drone comb.
- • Diana Samataro research project on microbes in colonies has found 13 different bacteria in Honey bees stomach. Be careful not to over feed Fumigillin can kill good bacteria.

Please see *Interview* on page 4

## PBBA Monthly Meeting Summaries and Updates

By David Boynton and Mary-Ellen Godville

**July** - Annie Woodhull spoke on her children's book on bees which was very interesting. She also autographed those books that were purchased after the presentation. She donated one to the PBBA library as well.

**August** — the summer workshop was again held at the Godville's apiary with Ben Chadwick inspecting the hives and giving a very informative session for all of those who attended. There were a number of the NHBA Executive members available for discussion with all who attended. There was a wonderful beef and turkey roast pot luck luncheon prepared and enjoyed by everyone.

**September** — The PBBA speakers were at the Rumney Old Home day; at the Audubon Society in Hebron; and The Loon Preservation Society in Moultonborough. Harley's Q&A brought out good discussions on hive ventilation; condensation problems; screen bottom boards in all year and mite issues. There was also a good discussion on swarms. Mary-Ellen brought a box of bees wax for candle making- they have 25+ boxes of wax which can be sold as is – but we also plan on having a candle making workshop this spring 2012

**October** — The Merrimack Beekeepers hosted the fall meeting. Gerard and Mary-Ellen went to the Maine State Beekeepers' Assn. meeting – main speakers were Dennis vanEnglesdorp, acting State Apiarist for PA who spoke on the *Morbidity and Mortality in the Bee Yard*; Mike Palmer from VT who spoke on raising northern queens and nucs; and Tony Jadczyk Maine Apiarist

spoke on Maine's bee population. VanEnglesdorp said the top lines of investigation were pathogens, pesticides and environmental stresses. Palmer stressed to keep good records. The PBBA 'Speakers Bureau' spoke at the Ashland Garden Club; Belknap Country School to Farm day in Gilford; and the NH Science Teachers Assn. conference at Church Landing. A survey was developed to gather over wintering information from members. It is an on line survey on our website.

**November** — Gerard and MEG reported back on the MBA state meeting – lots of good information from their speakers (mentioned earlier in this article). The club voted and approved to pay the Town of Bridgewater \$200 for use of the facilities and \$100 each year hereafter. Harley spoke about a new mite control option – mite zapper – kills the mites using an electronic drone frame. Check it out at [www.mitezapper.com](http://www.mitezapper.com). Warning that the bears are still out –keep your fences on and strong! Another topic was about genetically modified plant soy based pollen – which depletes the bee's thyroid and is no benefit to the bee at all. Try to buy heirloom plant if possible.

**December** — We held our holiday potluck gathering with many goodies to share while we watched an informational video on our field of interest. There was a reminder that a new year will begin in January and to be thinking about officers, topics of interest, speakers and the 2012 Bee School. Anyone interested in running for office is to contact the Nominating Committee. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

***NHBA Updates from page 1***

The 2012 NHBA Summer Workshop will be held at Muster Field Farm in Sutton, NH again on Saturday June 16. This year – the speakers will be members from the local NH clubs who wish to share their knowledge and experiences with everyone.

## 2012 PBBA Club Officers

***CONTACT INFORMATION***

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Summer Workshop at the Godville Apiaries with Ben Chadwick.

***Interview*** continued from page 3

Feed responsibly

- · 13 different fungi in Bee Bread; used for fermentation to break down the exterior of the pollen grains.
- · Field bees collect nectar, pollen, water and propolis. They also collect molds, yeasts, fungi to use in the making of Bee Bread a source of food for workers and drones.

Thank you to Ben Chadwick for taking the time to chat and bring us up to date on some of the latest work and research. Anyone can attend these great out of state meetings but it takes time and genuine interest in educating beekeepers to bring this information back to us. We appreciate it!

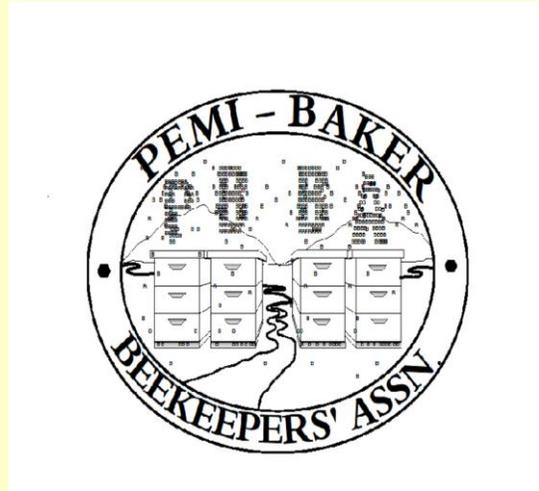
*Wendy Booth, Editor, NHBA Newsletter*

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Education on the Art of  
Beekeeping



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