



SEMBA NEWS

Vol. 13 No. 4

Newsletter of the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers' Association

April 2003

Upcoming Events

April 27

The Fascinating World of Bees and Beekeeping with Roger Sutherland. 1 p.m. Matthai Botanical Gardens (register at 734-998-7061); \$15 public, \$5 for garden members

May 5

Schoolcraft Bee Club meeting, 7:30 p.m. Schoolcraft College, Lower Waterman Center



Schoolcraft Bee Club Meeting

The Schoolcraft Bee Club will meet on May 5th (Note: this has been rescheduled from May 6th as noted in the MBA calendar), at 7:30 p.m. in the Schoolcraft College Lower Waterman Center. Program notes: All members are encouraged to attend this meeting to demonstrate or tell how you strain your honey after extraction. Learn the difference between filtering and straining. A short video will review a few straining techniques. Following this section, SEMBA Life Member, Fritz Sanders will present his program entitled "Sketches of Beekeeping in Germany" about his recent travels to his homeland in Germany where he took slides of subjects pertaining to beekeeping as well as views of the countryside. If there is adequate time, a demonstration of skeps and other hives used eons ago will be shown. Refreshments are welcome. *Roger Sutherland*



Membership Information

Beginning in January 2003, SEMBA membership costs are \$10.00 for an individual, \$15.00 for a family; \$100.00 for an individual life membership, and \$150.00 for a family membership. If your address label indicates **A03**, your membership is now due. Enclosed is a renewal slip for your convenience. Please make check payable and mail to the address shown on the form. SEMBA membership provides a 25% discount to subscriptions to *Bee Culture*, *American Bee Journal* or the *Speedy Bee*. When you pay your SEMBA membership dues the treasurer will send you a subscription form, with the next SEMBA Newsletter.



New SEMBA Newsletter Editor

It is a pleasure to announce that Susanne Sadik will be editing the SEMBA newsletter beginning with the May 2003 issue. (Our current newsletter editor, Sara Rutter, is leaving Michigan to assume a position as librarian with the University of Hawai'i.)

At the recent bee school, when it was announced that our association was looking for a newsletter editor, Susanne thought that the editorship would be an interesting assignment. She volunteered, but wanted to learn more about the



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position, and a meeting was arranged. On March 27th, Susanne, Sara Rutter and Roger and Mary Sutherland met to discuss the details of writing, printing, and coordinating the mailing.

Miss Sadik grew up in Redford, Michigan and after high school, attended and graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, with a degree in English -- minors in environmental science and journalism. Since then, she has held a variety of jobs with Ford Motor and other companies in the Detroit area. Prior to her present position as supervisor of the Job Bank at General Motors Hydramatic Division, she had a very interesting job in Milan where she worked for "Species Survival Center". There she enjoyed the work with animals until a python bit her on the chin. At that point, she thought work in industry might be more stable.

Perhaps we should be thanking Win Harless, beekeeper and SEMBA life member for encouraging Susanne to start bee keeping; Win works with Susanne at GM. However, her initial interest in bees probably began early in life, because her grandfather was a beekeeper in the Atlanta (Michigan) area.

Last year, Susanne completed the SEMBA bee class and will be taking it again this year because she is starting six colonies of her own. She had been managing the bees at UM-Dearborn, but unfortunately someone vandalized those colonies so they all died this winter.

We certainly are pleased that the SEMBA Newsletter will continue without interruption. Since the newsletter is an important means of communication, all SEMBA members are encouraged to help Susanne, in her new challenge, by contributing articles and ideas. She can be reached at 248-476-4991 or e-mailed at souxsieq2@msn.com.



Have You Visited the SEMBA Web Site?

The SEMBA website, designed by web master Alan Pagliere, has been up and running several months. It contains a treasure-trove of information that will help beekeepers in a number of ways. If you know of a beekeeper who might be interested in our association simply refer

that individual to the SEMBA website, <http://www.sembabees.org>

The following information is available at the click of the mouse:

- Advantages of SEMBA membership
- SEMBA membership information
- Back issues of the SEMBA newsletters
- Michigan State Fair Honey Show information
- SEMBA beekeeping videos available for loan to members
- SEMBA-owned beekeeping books available for loan
- Beekeeping web sites for MSU, EAS, Heartland Apiculture Society
- Items for rent from SEMBA
- Current SEMBA membership list (available only to SEMBA members)
- Current SEMBA e-mail addresses (available only to SEMBA members)
- Educational programs--Annual Bee School and Bee Class information
- Contact people

Visit the website and let any of the officers or the webmaster know if there are other things that should be included on the web site.



Dick Miller Doing Well

Dick Miller, long-time SEMBA member, former SEMBA President and Michigan State Fair SEMBA beekeeping booth coordinator for many years, is now home from the hospital after undergoing surgery. In mid March he was rushed to Harper Hospital to have internal arterial repair performed.

Dick stated to me in a recent visit to his home "I really appreciate all of the cards, telephone calls received over the past weeks from SEMBA members" He also wanted to publicly thank Ed Nowak for volunteering to look after his colonies while he is recuperating.

We all know Dick is being well cared for by his wife Barbara plus children and we all wish Dick Miller a speedy recovery.
Roger Sutherland



Submissions to SEMBA News

Send your submissions electronically to Susanne at souxsieq2@msn.com, or

phone 248-476-4991.



SEMBA Buddy System Continues to Grow

The "buddy system" is designed to pair a novice beekeeper with an experienced beekeeper (or mentor) living relatively close by. The experienced beekeeper would be able to answer questions by phone or e-mail or might make an on-site visit to help with some problem. Each pair would develop their own plan of cooperation. The mentor list now includes:

- Paul Mazur – Flint and Mt. Pleasant area
- Roger Reuter – Waterford area
- Clayton Scholz – Northville area
- Mike Siarkowski – Howell area
- Win Harless – Plymouth-Canton area
- Roger Sutherland – Ann Arbor area

In addition to the above named mentors, Earl and Carol Hoffman, Ed Nowak and Keith Lazar have been working with beginning beekeepers in the hands-on beekeeping class for several years.

If I have missed anyone who has volunteered to be a mentor, please call me so I may add your name to the list. If you are interested in becoming involved in the "buddy system" or need more information, please e-mail Roger Sutherland, rsuther@hotmail.com or call him at 734-668-8568. A contact would be made with you before assigning a buddy.



Heartland Apicultural Society Convention

The Heartland Apicultural Society Convention will be held July 10-12, 2003, at Midway College in Midway, Kentucky. For registration information, events, and maps, see <http://www.heartlandbees.com/>.



EAS Conference

The Eastern Apicultural Society conference will be held August 4-8 2003 at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. See <http://www.easternapiculture.org/programs/2003> for more information. A link is also on the SEMBA webpage, <http://www.sembabees.org> under *other*

links.



Current Research on *Apis mellifera*

1. Beekman M, Oldroyd BP, Myerscough MR. Sticking to their choice - honey bee subfamilies abandon declining food sources at a slow but uniform rate. *Ecological Entomology* 2003 APR;28(2):233-238.
2. Fassbinder C, Grodnitzky J, Coats J. Monoterpenoids as possible control agents for *Varroa destructor*. *Journal of Apicultural Research* 2002 ;41(3-4):83-88.
3. Harbo JR, Harris JW. An evaluation of commercially produced queens that have the SMR trait. *American Bee Journal* 2003 MAR;143(3):213-216.
4. Myerscough MR. Dancing for a decision: a matrix model for nest-site choice by honeybees. *PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON SERIES B-BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES* 2003 MAR 22;270(1515):577-582.
5. Perez-Castro EE, May-Itza WD, Quezada-Euan JJG. Thirty years after: a survey on the distribution and expansion of Africanized honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) in Peru. *Journal of Apicultural Research* 2002 ;41(3-4):69-73.
6. Rodriguez PP. More about food grade mineral oil (FGMO) for mite control. *American Bee Journal* 2003 MAR;143(3):207-209.



SEMBA Bargain Corner

For Sale:

Michigan Beekeeping calendars, \$5.00 plus shipping cost of \$1.50. Contact Mary Sutherland, 734-668-8568, e-mail rsuther@hotmail.com.

New wooden ware, assortment of honey bottles, 4-frame stainless steel motorized extractor, 25 frame galvanized motorized extractor, observation hive, and much more. Desire to sell as package. **Call Charles Bode at 586-725-8163.**

12 frame motorized extractor with stand. **Michael Kielbasa 810-329-3754.**

NEW 1 & 5 Gal. buckets w/ lids, New medium and deep supers and frames available. **Keith Lazar, (248) 815-5522 or Home (248) 626-2483**

Wanted to Buy:

Brood Boxes Wanted, Jason Newkirk would like to buy 1000 brood boxes. Contact at newk78@hotmail.com.

Note: ads in the Bargain Corner are free to SEMBA members. To place an ad contact Susanne at souxsieq2@msn.com, or phone 248-476-4991 or Roger Sutherland rsuther@hotmail.com.



Southeastern Michigan
Beekeepers' Association
Organized April 1, 1934



Oakland Beekeepers' Club



Schoolcraft Beekeepers' Club



SEMBA Membership
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