



# HONEY GUIDES

The Newsletter of the  
Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association

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

January 2023

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING INFORMATION

The PPBA meets from 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm on the third Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October. We are looking for a permanent location for our meeting but in the meantime, please be aware that the meeting locations may change from meeting to meeting.



The January 2023 meeting will be at the Gold Hills Police Station, 955 West Moreno Avenue in Colorado Springs, in their Community Room, just inside the entry Doors of the building.

The first half hour (6:30-7:00) of the PPBA General Membership meetings is reserved for socializing and general questions with mentors and other PPBA members. The formal portion of the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 pm and will include association business and the presentations for that meeting. There will be time for questions during or after the formal portion of the meeting, but those questions should be limited to the topics being discussed.

### Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 7pm: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our January guest speaker will be Dr. Nicholas Naeger from Washington State University, who is conducting research on fungi and bees. Dr. Naeger has studied genes, neurons, hormones, viruses, the immune system, gut microbes, evolutionary biology, and more, all with the honeybee. His undergrad work includes Molecular Genetics and Entomology (at Ohio State), where he did insemination breeding with New World Carniolans. Dr. Naeger's current research focuses on the interaction between honeybee nutrition, diseases and bee immune systems, as well as development of fungal based products that can be added to sugar syrup to make it more like natural nectars.

*Note – we will be attempting to bring Dr. Naeger into our meeting via Zoom – we may or may not be successful! Be prepared for a local guest speaker substitute!*

## 2023 MEETING AND EVENT DATES



Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
Mar 18 – 19	PPBA Bee School
Apr 20 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Splits Seminar
June	Bee Yard Visit
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
August	Bee Yard Visit
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN – DUES ARE DUE!

**PPBA MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2023!** PPBA annual dues are \$15.00 per family (non-prorated, payable by cash or check by March 31st each year). Please send Sandy your dues by mailing them to her at the address on the last page of this newsletter. If you have any question as to whether your dues are due, contact Sandy.

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## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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It is time for our annual elections, which are scheduled to be held at the January General Membership Meeting.

The offices to be voted on are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Board Members. If you are interested in running for an office in PPBA, please contact Sandy Halby, PPBA Secretary, at [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net) or call 719-528-5483 by 8pm on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

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## HELP OUT PPBA – VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

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**We need volunteers to help with the following PPBA activities and projects!**

**MENTORING!!** *We need mentors!* If you've been a beekeeper for a while and would like to be a mentor, contact Sandy to update the roster and get hooked up with a beekeeper who may need some help!

**PPBA Meeting Program Assistance.** Would you be interested in getting guest speakers for our General Membership Meetings? We need a program coordinator! If you have ideas and are willing to contact professional beekeepers (writers, speakers and researchers) and assist in arranging dates (and transportation and lodging, if necessary), please contact Mike Halby (719-528-5483 or [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net))



**PPBA Guest Speakers.** PPBA gets lots of requests for guest speakers at schools, service organizations and local expos or events. Most speaker requests are just for a one-hour long presentation on beekeeping. If you could speak about beekeeping to a school or group, please contact Sandy at 719-528-5483 or e-mail [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net).

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## WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

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**HOSTING BEEHIVES!** If you want to put a hive on someone's property – we have people who want bees but don't want to be the beekeeper! Some are in town (Colorado Springs) and some are east. Contact Sandy at [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net) for more info!



**PPBA ON FACEBOOK!** PPBA is on Facebook! If you're a Facebooker – search Pikes Peak Beekeepers and we should pop up. If not, contact Sandy at [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net) for a direct link. This is a not closed group and you do NOT have to be a member of PPBA to belong to this FB group. Membership is limited, however, to beekeepers, interest in beekeeping and Front Range.

**WATCH WHERE YOU ARE GETTING YOUR BEES AND QUEENS FROM!!** PPBA members - just a reminder: please use caution when ordering queens and bees ... please ensure they are NOT from the southern tier of states (including Texas, southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Florida). There have been reports of "hot" queens (Africanized) coming out of those states. As one queen producer states on their website: "Inter-breeding with feral Africanized bees does undoubtedly continue but we take measures to minimize their influence." They try to make sure their mating yards are primarily "safe" drones, but as you can imagine, there's no guarantee that Africanized drones are not present and are not mating with their queens. We want to prevent importing any Africanized bees into Colorado. **Be sure you know where your bee supplier is getting those bees from!!**



**INTEGRATED HIVE MANAGEMENT FOR COLORADO BEEKEEPERS.** This booklet is published by Colorado State University and just become available on-line! The sub-title is "Strategies for Identifying and Mitigating Pests and Diseases Affecting Colorado's Honey Bees" and it covers everything from mice to mites! Check it out on this link. BTW - We also have two hardcopies in the PPBA library for check-out. Here's the direct link to the updated version of the booklet: [CO-IHM-Book-for-Print-2020.pdf \(colostate.edu\)](http://colostate.edu/CO-IHM-Book-for-Print-2020.pdf)



**BEAR DAMAGE!!** If you have bear or wildlife damage to your hive, contact the Colorado Division of Wildlife at [Colorado Parks & Wildlife - Game Damage \(state.co.us\)](http://Colorado Parks & Wildlife - Game Damage (state.co.us)) for information about filing a claim.

**DRIFTWATCH:** FYI, there's a website out there called Driftwatch.org. According to their website: "DriftWatch™ is a tool for identifying specialty crop sites and to further enhance communications between producers of specialty crops and pesticide applicators that promote awareness and stewardship activities to help prevent and manage drift effects that sometimes occur from spray operations." You can register your beehive location and they will notify you before any pesticides are applied (in rural areas; not intended for sites less than ½ acre).

**EXTRACTOR RENTAL:** To rent one of the PPBA extractors (we have three manual extractors and most of the other extractor equipment you'll need), visit [www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org](http://www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org), select the "Extractor Rental Info" tab and follow the instructions there. **Remember, the extractor and equipment will be clean when you pick it up and it will need to be cleaned prior to return or you will forfeit your deposit.** Hot water and soap at the coin operated car wash is the quickest and easiest method for initial cleaning. Then, thoroughly rinse with clean water at home. There's also a link on the website to a video about cleaning the extractor.



**PPBA WEB SITE!!** Please visit [www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org](http://www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org) to see our website. The web-site features meeting information and calendar, newsletters, and beekeeping links. There's also a page for members to advertise "For Sale" or "Wanted" beekeeping equipment and beekeeping items. If you have a favorite beekeeping link, please let Mike or Sandy know about it so they can include a link from our website.




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**PPBA OFFICERS**

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Office	Name	Tele Number Area Code (719)	E-mail
President	Mike Halby	719-528-5483	mandshalby@comcast.net
Vice President	vacant		
Past President	Bruno Mattedi	719-687-8792	brunom95_8@msn.com
Secretary	Sandy Halby	719-528-5483	mandshalby@comcast.net
Treasurer	Sandy Halby	719-528-5483	mandshalby@comcast.net
Board Members	David Stang (elected 2020; serves 2020-2022)	719-520-5942	dstang@centurylink.net
	Vacant (will serve thru the end of 2023)		
	Barb Harper (elected 2022; serves 2022-2024)	719-201-3577	flyinbarb@aol.com
Extractor Rental	Tim Urbany	719-963-8892 719-360-2495	tjudtb@gmail.com
Bee School Coordinator	Randy Ott	719-598-2560	randall@ott-us.com
Webmasters	Mike & Sandy Halby	719-528-5483	mandshalby@comcast.net
Swarm Coord	Lazarus Fields	765-425-1940	lff@fieldsofnaturalhoney.com
Meeting Programs	Vacant		
Library	Samantha Stang	719-520-5942	sstang@centurylink.net
County Fair	vacant		

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## BEES ON THE INTERNET

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Here's some links to websites that contain information or entertainment about bees, beekeeping, and honey. There are more links on our own webpage, [www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org](http://www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org)

Colorado State Beekeepers Assn (CSBA): [www.coloradobeekeepers.org](http://www.coloradobeekeepers.org)

Colorado Professional Beekeeping Association (CPBA): [www.coloradoprobeekeeping.org](http://www.coloradoprobeekeeping.org)

The National Honey Board: <http://www.honey.com>

The Honey Locator: [www.honeylocator.com](http://www.honeylocator.com). The Honey Locator is a service provided by the National Honey Board. It's a database-driven Web site which allows you to search for honey and honey suppliers in many different ways.

Bee Culture magazine is at [www.beeeculture.com](http://www.beeeculture.com) and Bee Journal magazine is: [www.dadant.com/journal](http://www.dadant.com/journal)

University of Minnesota Bee Lab: <https://www.beelab.umn.edu/> Dr. Marla Spivak and Gary Reuter have a great website, full of super links, on-line courses and information.

Randy Oliver's website is: [www.scientificbeekeeping.com](http://www.scientificbeekeeping.com)

And general information for beekeepers is: [www.beesource.com](http://www.beesource.com)

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## BEES IN THE NEWS

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Click on the blue link for the complete article.

Saturday, Jan 7, 2023, from CNN News: [USDA approves first-ever vaccine for honeybees | CNN](https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/07/us/usda-approves-vaccine-for-honeybees/index.html) The US Department of Agriculture has approved the first-ever vaccine for honeybees to prevent American Foulbrood, a fatal bacterial disease. Basically, the queen consumes vaccine-laden royal jelly, and the vaccine is deposited in her ovaries. Then her larvae are born with immunity to the disease.

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## PIKES PEAK BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual dues - \$15** (Please make check payable to: Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association.)

Mail to: Sandy Halby, PPBA Treasurer  
6066 Del Rey Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918-1758

Phone: 719-528-5483  
e-mail: [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net)





## Announcing the 2023 Beekeepers School

hosted by the

**Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association**

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

This two-day course covers all aspects of beekeeping in the Pikes Peak region. You will learn how to acquire bees and the necessary equipment to keep them. Bee biology and the skills to manage your bees through the four seasons, including disease management, will be covered. We will also demonstrate equipment assembly and honey extraction. All lectures are presented by local beekeepers with years of collective knowledge.

Whether you are interested in keeping your own colonies, or simply wanting to know more about these fascinating and necessary creatures and their wonderful product - honey - this easy-to-follow course will open a new door into the natural world for you.

When: March 18 - 19 (Class will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis)  
Class times: Saturday, 8:30am until 3:45pm and Sunday, 8:30am until approx 3:45pm

Where: Bear Creek Nature Center  
245 Bear Creek Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80922

Cost: \$65.00 per person via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-ppba-bee-school-tickets-502854660827>

(If you cannot use Eventbrite or have trouble with this link, please contact Sandy Halby directly.)

Includes the book First Lessons in Beekeeping (or equivalent)

- For first-time Bee School students only - an additional \$10 buys one year of PPBA membership; a savings of 33% over regular membership price.  
NOTE: Our membership is by FAMILY or ADDRESS - not individual! If you are a couple or family attending Bee School, please only purchase one membership!
- No children under 12 years old, please. Also, children 12-16 years old will be not allowed to attend Bee School unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Questions: Contact Mike or Sandy Halby: Phone 719-528-5483, 719-651-5207 or e-mail to: [mandshalby@comcast.net](mailto:mandshalby@comcast.net)

**Register early - there is limited seating!**

Note: PPBA reserves the right to cancel as necessary due to unavoidable circumstances, such as weather, Covid-19 restrictions, or facility unavailability. If circumstances arise and PPBA cancels Bee School, full class tuition (\$65 per person) will be refunded.