



HONEY GUIDES

The Newsletter of the
Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association

www.pikespeakbeekeepers.org

April 2024

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 first half hour (6:30-7:00) of the PPBA General Membership meetings is reserved for socializing and general questions. 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, April 18th, 6:30pm: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The April 2024 meeting will be in the Fellowship Hall of the Saints Constantine and Helen Church (Holy Theophany Orthodox Church on Google Maps) at 2770 N Chestnut St, Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

The speaker at our January meeting will be fellow beekeeper Mike Daetwyler, who will be talking about mite control. Bruno Mattedi will also discuss beekeeping in bear country.

2024 MEETING AND EVENT DATES

2024

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| April 18 th | General Membership Meeting |
| July 18 th | General Membership Meeting |
| October 17 th | General Membership Meeting |

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN – DUES ARE DUE!

PPBA MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2024! PPBA annual dues are \$15.00 per family (non-prorated, payable by cash or check by March 31st each year). If you missed the January meeting, or you are new, please mail the membership form (attached) and a check for \$15 to PPBA, PO Box 75771, Colorado Springs, CO 80970-5771. You can also pay and fill out the form at the next meeting. If you have questions or would like to check your membership and payment status, please email PikesPeakBeekeepers@gmail.com.

HELP OUT PPBA – VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

MENTORING! If you've been a beekeeper for a while and would like to be a mentor, contact PikesPeakBeekeepers@gmail.com to update the roster and get hooked up with a beekeeper who may need some help!

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 email PikesPeakBeekeepers@gmail.com

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

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 out east of Colorado Springs. Contact PikesPeakBeekeepers@gmail.com for more info!



PPBA ON FACEBOOK! Join the "Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association" group on Facebook! You do not have to be a member of PPBA to join, but membership is limited 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 is now 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. We also have two hardcopies in the PPBA library for check-out. [CO-IHM-Book-for-Print-2020.pdf \(colostate.edu\)](#)



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://ColoradoParks.com/GameDamage) for information about filing a claim.

DRIFTWATCH: "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, 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 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 send it to PikesPeakBeekeepers@gmail.com so we can include it on our website. .

PPBA OFFICERS

| Office | Name | Tele Number | E-mail |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| President | Mike Daetwyler | 719-594-4990 | DaetwylerFamily@gmail.com |
| Vice President | Dave Stang | 719-520-5942 | dstang@centurylink.net |
| Past President | Bruno Mattedi | 719-687-8792 | brunom95_8@msn.com |
| Secretary | Anna Muthig | | pikespeakbeekeepers@gmail.com |

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|------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Treasurer | Ione Friedly | 719-332-2884 | drjandifriedly@sprintmail.com |
| Board Members | Adrian May | | |
| | Barb Harper (elected 2022; serves 2022 – 2024) | 719-201-3577 | flyinbarb@aol.com |
| | Andrew Hoskins | | |
| 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 | lrf@fieldsofnaturalhoney.com |
| Meeting Programs | Rob Dalzell | 719-332-8176 | rdalzell55@gmail.com |
| Library | Samantha Stang | 719-520-5942 | sstang@centurylink.net |

BEES ON THE INTERNET



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

Colorado State Beekeepers Assn (CSBA): www.coloradobeekeepers.org

Colorado Professional Beekeeping Association (CPBA): www.coloradoprobeekeeping.org

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

The Honey Locator: 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.beeculture.com and Bee Journal magazine is: 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

And general information for beekeepers is: www.beesource.com

BEES IN THE NEWS

March 3, 2024: [Climate change is making it tough on bees, butterflies, and other pollinators; now the state may try to protect them](#)

March 24, 2024: [Lafayette beekeepers take great care of bees, local environment](#)

April 12, 2024: [The Striped Workers Keeping Colorado Wonderful](#)

Pollinator Week June 17-23, 2024: [Pollinator Week | Pollinator.org](http://Pollinator.org)