Join the Massachusetts Beekeepers Association today

Membership includes the following benefits:

- 4 newsletters a year
- 2 meetings a year, with speakers (researchers, academics, practitioners) from around the country
- Free registration for meetings (lunch is a separate cost)
- Annual honey competition (honey and products from the hive)
- Advertise your services or products on our website

Annual dues: $15 for individuals
                $20 for families
                $25 for organizations

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I prefer my newsletter (check one):
By mail _____   By email as pdf _____

Checks payable to: MBA

Send to: MBA Memberships

          PO Box 234

           Halifax, MA 02338

"**Magically** created by bees out of the nectar of flowers,; food for gods, saints, peasants, and kings, honey has occupied a central place in culinary and cultural history for thousands of years."

-Stephanie Rosenbaum, Honey: from flower to table

Catch the Buzz....

Honey has been found in Egyptian tombs and honey harvesters have been depicted in cave drawings. Honey bee colonies were brought to America as early as 1621 to sustain early settlers. Today beekeeping is valued at more than $18 billion, pollinating almond, blueberry and cranberry crops (to name a few) across the country.

Hive products include more than honey. Harvest beeswax, propolis and pollen, in addition to honey, for health- and beauty-related products.

Beekeeping provides local pollination to gardens, orchards and farms in your neighborhood. Every third mouthful of food has been pollinated by honey bees and almost 80% of the world's food supply is pollinated by insects, including honey bees.

Did you know?

- There are more than **300 floral sources** for honey in the U.S., including clover, alfalfa, buckwheat, and orange blossom. Honey's color and flavor vary with its nectar source.

- The number of flowers honey bees must tap to make 1 pound of honey is **2 million**.

- The number of flowers a honey bee visits in one collection trip is **50-100**.

- The known time bees have been producing honey from flowering plants is **10-20 million years**.

- The distance a hive of bees must fly to gather nectar to produce 1 pound of honey is more than **55,000 miles**.

- The average amount of honey a worker bee makes in her lifetime is **1/12 teaspoon**.

- The speed at which a honey bee flies is about **15 miles per hour**.

- The per-capita honey consumption in the U.S. is **1.31 pounds**.

- The estimate number of beekeepers in the U.S. is more than **211,000**.

- The number of honey-producing colonies of bees in the U.S. is **3 million**.

- The number of migratory colonies on the road for pollination is **2 million**.

-National Honey Board

The **Massachusetts Beekeepers Association** represents over **1200 beekeepers** across the state ranging from hobbyists with 1-2 hives to commercial beekeepers with several hundred hives.

MassBee has representatives serving on the Eastern Apicultural Society Board, the National Honey board, and Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom. Our representatives to these organizations are the voice of beekeeping in Massachusetts.

Why should I join MassBee?
- Annual meetings: Spring and Fall annual meetings bring in diverse speakers (top names in honeybee research, national/regional practitioners and academics, and our own very knowledgeable members) to discuss beekeeping trends, pests & diseases, and what works locally.
- Annual Fall honey show. Bring your honey and products of the hive and compete against your fellow beekeepers in an impressive display of entries.
- Massachusetts Beekeeper of the Year Trophy. Do you have a mentor or someone in your local bee club who goes above and beyond helping beekeepers and educating the public? Nominate them! The Beekeeper of the Year trophy is awarded each spring.
- Advertise! Let free advertising on our website, www.massbee.org, work for you. Members can post products for sale and services (pollination, bee removal, speaking, etc).
  See the Membership form on the next page…