

# A Gathering of Beekeepers

## A Day with Dr. Tom Seeley

Presented by the Northern Illinois Beekeeper Association

September 9, 2017



Put the date of Saturday, September 9 on your calendar. There will be a gathering of beekeepers organized by the Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association in the Leucht Conference Center at McHenry County College. This special meeting will begin at 10:00 am with a presentation by Dr. Thomas Seeley followed by a lunch break and a second presentation by Dr. Seeley.

Dr. Seeley is the head of the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University. More than his academic credentials he is a passionate beekeeper. His two presentations will discuss the work of his two most recent books – *Honeybee Democracy* and *Following the Wild Bees*.

Dr. Seeley's research has looked to answer the questions many beekeeper have when they meet the workings of a honeybee colony. How can 50,000 insects work so well as a unit? How can a swarm of bees work together and agree on a new home? How do the bees communicate? The more time we spend with the bees the more we find their social behavior and decision making amazing. For 40 years, Dr. Seeley has worked to understand this phenomena and he will share his insights with us.

Following a lunch break Dr. Seeley will discuss his adventures in "beelining" - the topic of his book *Following the Wild Bees*. Dr. Seeley's talented use of his bee box has allowed him to follow the wild bees as they return to their native home. As part of his research he charted the decline and return of the wild bees in the Arnot Forest of New York State. He seeks to understand the seeming ability of the bees of the forest and varroa mites to coexist - a subject of interest to all beekeepers.

If you would like to read more about the amazing Dr. Seeley, it can be found here -

<http://nbb.cornell.edu/thomas-seeley>

Or a character sketch done in Bee Culture Magazine –

<http://www.beeculture.com/tom-seeley/>

There is no charge for this exciting day. This event is presented by NIBA. Please take advantage of it and bring a beekeeping friend. The lunch is on your own. Brown bag it or

Culvers and McDonalds are close to the College. If you own a copy of one of Dr. Seeley's books he will be happy to autograph it. If you would like to own one, Between the Lines, the book shop in Woodstock, will have copies of both books for sale at a discount on that day.

More information is available at [NIBAINfo.org](http://NIBAINfo.org). Come and spend a fascinating day with Tom Seeley.

NIBA is pleased to be able to present this special gathering.

McHenry County College is located at 8900 Route 14 in Crystal Lake, IL 60012.