

Foundations of Biodynamic Beekeeping

with presenter Alex Tuchman
February 21, 2019- July 25, 2019

7-8:30pm ET, 6-7:30 CT, 4-5:30 PT

| Date | Course Title | Description / Topics Covered |
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| Thursday, February 21 | What is Biodynamic Beekeeping? | This introductory lecture will give the big picture overview of the attitude and perspective of biodynamic beekeeping and the practices involved. |
| Thursday, March 14 | Discussion 1 | Reading: <i>Bees</i> by R. Steiner; <u>Prelude Towards Saving the Honeybee</u> by G. Hauk; <u>Introduction</u> -Approaching the being of a hive -Bees and beekeeper relationship |
| Thursday, March 28 | Hive as an Organism | The natural creation and organization of workers, drones, queen, and wax comb within each hive is central to the understanding of a hive as an organism, each 'organ' playing a vitally important role in the health, vitality, and whole-ness of the colony. |
| Thursday, April 11 | Discussion 2 | Reading: <i>Bees</i> by R. Steiner; <u>Lecture 1 TSTHB</u> by G. Hauk; <u>Chapters 1-3</u> |
| Thursday, April 25 | Swarming and Natural Queens | This lecture will delve into the details of the breeding and reproduction of honeybees—sharing beekeeping practices that are based on enhancing the wisdom inherent in the bees' natural instincts. |
| Thursday, May 16 | Discussion 3 | Reading: <i>TSTHB</i> by G. Hauk; <u>Chapter 4</u> and review queen from pg. 39-47 |
| Thursday, May 30 | Spring and Summer Beekeeping | This lecture will start from an understanding of the life of the colony in the spring and summer months, and cover the important tasks of the beekeeper during this time. |
| Thursday, June 13 | Discussion 4 | Troubleshooting Problems—Scenarios and Group Work |
| Thursday, June 27 | Expansion and Contraction | The biggest change of the season, from expansion to contraction begins after the sun reaches its height on the summer solstice. This time of the year is most important for the beekeeper to properly manage the wax comb and set the hive in the right place |

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| | | to deal with the increased pest pressure and other health challenges that come in the height of summer. |
| Thursday, July 18 | Discussion 5 | Troubleshooting Problems—Scenarios and Group Work |
| Thursday, August 1 | Fall and Winter Beekeeping | This lecture will start from an understanding of the life of the colony in the fall and winter months, and cover the important tasks of the beekeeper from this time until April. |
| Thursday, August 15 | Discussion 6 | A final group discussion, collection/synthesis of what we learned, and give opportunity for last questions before we close the course |