

# NEKBA Bee FunDay Speakers

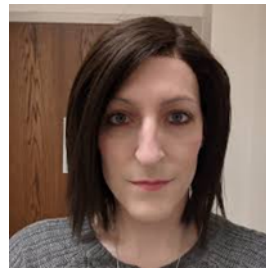
June 5, 2021



L-R: Jennifer Tsuruda, Jim Tew, Elina Niño, Judy Wu-Smart



Beth Conrey



Autumn Smart

**Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda:** Prior to her work at the University of Tennessee, Jennifer was the beekeeping specialist at Clemson University and is past president of the American Association of Professional Apiculturists. At the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, she teaches bee management and increased awareness of the importance of pollinators. Dr. Tsuruda has an amazing talent for taking fascinating photos and videos of honey bees, which she shares with her audience.

**Dr. Jim Tew:** Many know Jim Tew by his monthly column in *Bee Culture* magazine and by reading his book *Wisdom for Beekeepers*. In his writings and presentations Jim shares his decades of beekeeping experience mixed with home-spun humor. He can also be heard, with Kim Flottum, on their podcast *Honey Bee Obscura* at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/honey-bee-obscura-podcast/id1548213083>. To read more from Jim, visit [www.onetew.com](http://www.onetew.com).

**Dr. Elina Niño:** Dr. Niño is the California State Extension Apiculturist. She established the California Master Beekeeper Program in 2016. Ms. Niño operates the E.L. Niño Bee Lab at the University of California Davis and is also the facilities director of the Haagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven. Dr. Niño's research interests include understanding reproductive processes involved in queen bee mating to developing and evaluating new control methods to combat Varroa mites. She is a recent grant recipient which you can read about at <https://bit.ly/3ouna1F>. Elina is also featured in a 2019 PolliNation podcast where she discusses the Pollinating California Almonds

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/pollination/id1209328985?i=1000434396988> An article about Dr. Niño and her work at U.C. Davis can be read at <https://www.beeeculture.com/elina-nino/>

**Dr. Judy Wu-Smart:** Judy is the Extension and Research Entomologist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Entomology. Judy received her doctorate in Entomology from the University of MN under the direction of Dr. Marla Spivak. She is in the process of establishing a Master Beekeeper Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We appreciate her powerful presentations at past Fundays, especially Trouble Shooting a Hive and her explanation of Pests and Diseases. We are fortunate that she is returning.

**Beth Conrey:** Beth is the owner and operator of Bee Squared Apiaries, Berthoud, Colorado. She is a former president of the Colorado State Beekeepers Association. During her tenure as president, Beth recruited and organized area bee clubs across the state into a robust organization of successful beekeepers. She also helped found the People and Pollinators Network and serves on the board of directors of the Pollinator Stewardship Council. Visitors to her website, [www.bethsbees.com](http://www.bethsbees.com), can shop from a variety of products produced from the hive, including varietal honey, bee pollen, and candles. Beth was featured in the December 2020 issue of Bee Culture magazine, page 68. To read the article visit <https://www.beeeculture.com/category/2020/dec-2020/> Click on access the web edition. You will be able to view a virtual copy of the magazine.

**Dr. Autumn Smart:** Dr. Smart is a research assistant professor in the Entomology department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her research examines the impacts of external colony stressors on the health, productivity and survival of honey bees and colonies. She also teaches insect ecology and beekeeping at UNL.