**Klaas Martens**—has been farming conventionally for twenty years before transitioning to organic in 1994. He often works with Cornell University on organic research covering a wide spectrum of organic crops. Along with his family, they farm 2,000 acres organically and own a 50 cow organic dairy herd. Along with corn and soybeans, they grow many specialty crops, including kidney, pinto, black turtle and edamame beans. Small grains include buckwheat, einkorn, spelt, oats, barley, wheat, triticale, Austrian winter peas, yellow and green peas, and for the first time this year, they are growing lentils. He along with his wife Mary own Lakeview Organic Grains, which Mary operates.

**Kirk Webster**—is the owner and operator of Champlain Valley Bees & Queens in Middlebury, Vermont. He produces Russian Queens and nucs, as well as honey, and his apiary has been treatment-free since 2002. Kirk uses the natural processes active in nature to maintain his hives without treatment for mites and other pests or pathogens. This humble farmer of bees, with his chemical-free operation, is inspiring a new generation of beekeepers to work with the natural processes of our planet’s environment rather than fight against it.

**Our Mission is to:**

Care about humans and humus: encourage working the land for future generations; and support community life and stewardship that is prosperous and enduring.

**We do this by:**

- Promoting growing practices that conserve, renew, and improve our soils; to provide healthy food for the well-being of families, communities, and all inhabitants that share our farms and land.
- Advocating a way of farming that offers products for the markets that are nutritious, wholesome, and delicious.
- Building a local agriculture with practices that benefit our rural and urban communities.