



L.C.B.A. MISSION STATEMENT:
TO PROMOTE BEEKEEPING THROUGH EDUCATION, COOPERATION, OR ANY OTHER EFFICIENT MEANS

Hello everyone. We hope you and yours had a wonderful and blessed Christmas. We burn coal to heat the house and I think I now have enough coal to make it through the winter thanks to Christmas. I would like to welcome John Schick as our new trustee. I know there are others that would like to become more involved in this great organization but are a little apprehensive due to unfamiliarity with the whole process, and maybe with each other. The best way for anyone to learn the method and take a more active role in LCBA is to start the New Year attending executive meetings which held the last Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome. You can find the location of these meetings

and times elsewhere in the BUZZZZ . With the New Year under way your executives always scramble to present LCBA with the best speakers and topics available and we would like your input. Is there a topic you would like addressed or a speaker you would like to hear? Let us know. I will be speaking this month about honeybee pheromones and how they work, effects on the colony, etc. Let's not forget beginner beekeeping classes starting in March. All members can attend these classes. With these classes comes Field Day in May. It falls the second Saturday in May and we will have Clarence Collison as our guest speaker. I strongly suggest you attend this event. There will be more information on Field Day at a later date, as de-

tails are still being worked out. We will see you at the January meeting. Have a Happy New Year.

LCBA President
Denzil St. Clair



DONATIONS TO LCBA
TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Lorain County Beekeepers Association is a 501c(3) organization. Any donations made to LCBA are tax deductible.

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Santa added a new Christmas Reindeer

BEST WISHES

Our best wishes go to Sheila St. Clair who fell on some ice and broke her leg. We wish her a quick recovery.

2011 BUZZZZ CALENDAR

- January 14 - Pheromones
- January 23 - Newsletter deadline
- January 26 - Executive Meeting - Henrietta Township Hall
- February 11 - Small Hive Beetles
- March - Beginner Beekeeping Classes - 4 Fridays in March



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For submissions to THE BUZZZZ....
For the FEBRUARY issue are due
NO LATER THAN JANUARY 23rd.

Items not received before that date will go in the next months issue.

Please send all articles, ads, and/or notes to:

e-mail- buzzzeditor@frontier.com
Please **do not** include layout or extra characters, (bold, italics, indents, etc.) as they may be removed during editing process.

All submissions are subject to approval.

LCBA Executive Meeting is held the last Wednesday of every month unless holidays change the schedule.

The meetings are held at the Henrietta Township Hall on Vermilion Rd. in Oberlin at 7:00 p.m.

We encourage members to attend.

LOCATION & MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

LCBA meetings are held the second Friday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

The First Church

(United Church of Christ)

106 N. Main St. Oberlin, OH

Membership dues are **\$25.00 if you receive by mail**, \$20.00 per year if you receive by e-mail. Those receiving by e-mail can pick up a hard copy at the meeting. Membership includes all immediate family members. Memberships run per calendar year, January to December. Membership expiration date is December 31st of each year for mail or e-mail. You can renew your membership on the web site www.loraincountybeekeepers.com with Pay Pal or

**Send dues to the Treasurer:
Dave Williams
11923 Green Rd. Wakeman, OH 44889**

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you have moved or your e-mail changes, please notify Dave at a meeting or by e-mail, dogpatch@centurytel.net You must keep information & membership dues current to receive your newsletter in a timely manner.

Check LCBA web site for meeting changes or cancellations due to bad weather.

L.C.B.A. 2011 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	PHONE	E-MAIL
President: Denzil St. Clair	(440) 647-2602	qrcltd@hughes.net
Vice Pres: Bill Vittori	(440) 323-4942	billy99@prodigy.net
Secretary: Vickie Eichof	(419) 566-0077	veichoff@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Dave Williams	(440) 965-4170	dogpatch@centurytel.net
Trustee: Valerie Weiss	(419) 929-1110	buzzzeditor@verizon.net
Trustee: John Schick	(419) 668-8947	schick13@acnornwalk.com
Trustee: Jim Toole	(440) 986-2589	legend31@centurytel.net
Education Coordinator:		
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BUZZZZ Editor: Valerie Weiss	(419) 929-1110	buzzzeditor@frontier.com
Web Master: Jim Toole	(440) 986-2589	legend31@centurytel.net
Lorain County Apiary Inspector-Mark Weldon	(330) 421-1964	



Two of our Santa's at the December Pot Luck were Karin Wishner and her dad Anthony.



Lily, Connie and Eliza were some happy reindeer and Santa helpers. Lilly and Eliza are Denzil and Sheila's granddaughter's. Connie is our 2010 President, Dave William's wife and has been our hostess throughout the 2010 year and previous year.



Many of our members donned antlers or Santa hats brought in by Sheila and Denzil. Many are deep in thought on unscrambling words that Sheila had scrambled for a little festive fun. Some were pretty tough.



More Santa's and reindeer. Outgoing Treasurer Chantal DeYoe and her son. Current and continuing V.P. President Bill Vittori standing at the sign in table.



RESPONSE TO BEE INSPECTION ARTICLE

December 12, 2010

Lorain County Beekeepers Assoc.
Members & Mr. Denzil St. Clair:

First, I want to thank Denzil St. Clair for bringing the topic of bee inspectors and bee inspection to the forefront. I think the beekeeping public needs much more information on the subject. I neither agree with nor disagree with what Denzil has stated in his LCBA article unless I state so in this letter.

I have been a bee inspector for 3 years for part of Medina County. My instruction consisted of one day with John Grafton in May 2008. I continue to learn as new situations arise, especially about the inspection system nationwide, more on this below. In 2008, Ohio had two full time state inspectors. The state of Ohio now has one part time inspector. I didn't think two were enough in 2008.

A little about myself: I first popped the cover off a bee hive to look inside when I was about five years old. This unsupervised inspection resulted in 35 to 40 bee stings and a trip to the ER of the local hospital. My poor mother was stung rescuing me. I stayed away from bees for awhile after that. My dad continued to keep bees and around 11 or 12 years of age I kept bees with dad for several years. After a few years we both became busier and cut back to two to four hives till he retired and had more time and had over 40 hives. I started taking over from dad 6 years ago. I occasionally helped him care for his 40 hives.

As a bee inspector I am paid for the hives I inspect. I am only paid for the time I work and mileage. I use my own vehicle. Mr. Weldon stopped inspecting hives in Medina County because he wasn't being paid for supplies and equipment. Medina County Bee inspectors will never receive a pension. I have been a registered nurse for over 25 years and am paid much better than bee inspectors. I could work more as a nurse. I believe bee inspectors do help keep some diseases suppressed and foul brood would be much worse without inspectors after several years.

Denzil St. Clair mentions "pollinators from outside the state". I will share several stories I am familiar with. In

late spring 2010, I contacted a bee keeper from South Dakota to discuss his comments in Bee Culture Magazine. His wife gave me his cell no. and stated he was tending his bees in Texas. When I contacted him, he stated to me that in Texas he filled out the bee inspection paperwork on his bees and mailed it in to the state. In 2008 I talked to a Florida beekeeper. He had sent 2 semi loads of bees to Almond Groves that spring (California). He was looking for bee pasture in Ohio for them in June. I found through means I won't disclose where he had put 32 hives in the summer of 2010 in Medina County. I contacted the state to see if paperwork was filed. Yes it was, but not at this site. Barbara talked to Florida officials. Florida stated their inspection of his hives consisted of visually (actually opening and looking) inspecting 5% of the hives! One in 20 hives actually looked at. So we inspected more of the 480 hives on a semi truck than the state of Florida did. How much better are your packages checked from those states?

How are the bee packages you buy inspected? I know the paperwork is sent with the bees, but how much good is it? Many studies I have read about talk about the role of viruses. I don't know of any state routinely inspecting for viruses. I feel this is a gaping hole in the inspection system. I complained about what I was inspecting to the state this summer. I told them how sick the bees were but, I wasn't finding foul brood (tests also confirmed negative) and very few mites. I thought many bees had viruses and bees aren't tested for them. The state said of course no bees are routinely tested for viruses; it would cost 300 to 400 dollars (best guess) per test. Many of these hives were packages or in apiaries with packages. In November 2010 Michael Palmer spoke at the Medina beekeepers meeting. He has 700 hives in Vermont. He took his bees south some years ago to get an early start in the spring. He had slides of the worst Chalk Brood I have ever seen. It took him 2 to 3 years to get his bees back to the shape they were in before he moved them. Tom Jefferies told me that several years ago a semi load of bees was parked on RT. 82 near him.

Checking his hives later, he noticed his first Hive Beetles. He stated that others in the area found Hive Beetle around the same time. Fortunately it was late summer and winter ended this infestation.

We know that the Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus was spread in Almond groves to US bees from bees legally brought in from Australia. This virus was then brought to you by migratory beekeepers, packages, or queens. Studies routinely mention at least 3 or 4 viruses harming bees. We also know Nosema Ceranae was in bees in this country for 20 years before it was identified from Nosema Apis (the less severe type).

If the school your kid goes to has a bad outbreak of the flu (virus) you keep your kid home for a few days so he or she and the rest of the family doesn't get sick. As a beekeeper, bee inspector, and health care professional, I can tell you the same thing works for bees. I see it everywhere I have bees and inspect bees. Other beekeepers tell me the same thing.

Some of my apiaries are semi-isolated some have up to 6 or more apiaries nearby. The death rate is half at the isolated apiaries what it is at the one with 6 plus apiaries within flying distance. I haven't bought any bees for 18 months. Some apiaries haven't had any purchased bees brought in for over 24 months. I haven't used hard chemicals for over 3 years. Essential oils helped some in 2008 and 2009. I used essential oils very little this fall. Most of my bees are healthy enough now. I don't need to doctor them anymore. I figure that it takes 3 years to get the disease out of sick bees if some survive. I believe my dad had a little foul brood in the 1990's in one apiary.

I have found very little foul brood this year. Both Medina County Bee Inspectors have found very few Varroa mites.

I was just informed that the state has applied for a grant to test our bees for diseases. Let's all hope we get money! As I stated before some of the tests are very expensive. This letter is already too long so, all for now.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Sprague,
Bee Inspector & Beekeeper

EXECUTIVE & MEETING MINUTES

LCBA Executive Meeting

October 27, 2010

Executive Members present: Dave Williams, Bill Vittori, Chantal DeYoe, Don Lyons, Jim Toole, Valerie Weiss and Vickie Eichof.

Members present: Shelia and Denzil St. Clair, Bruce Sampsell and Bob Bodkin. Bob Bodkin graciously invited us to meet at his home as there was construction continuing at the Township Hall. Dave called the meeting to order and Chantal distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report. Interest rates are low; we will take no action at this time to invest LCBA funds, but will continue to investigate.

Points of Discussion:

Birmingham Fair: Bad weather both days led to lower sales. Ideas on percentages due LCBA in these circumstances were explored.

Birmingham Banquet and Auction: Both a great success. The auction exceeded previous totals by \$200.00. We will

schedule an earlier start time next year. November meeting: Shelia will demonstrate wax rendering and preparation, Valerie will demonstrate the making of hand creams and lip balms. Nominations for elected positions will close at the end of the November meeting.

November Executive Meeting: We will meet Tuesday, November 23 at the Township Hall. (If a conflict with this date, we will meet elsewhere).

December meeting: Elections of officers will be held. There will be a White Elephant gift exchange. We will have LCBA honey (our own label – Thank you Jim Toole), shirts, cookbooks and patches for sale.

January meeting: Denzil will discuss pheromones. Hive beetles are a growing problem; we need to schedule this as a program topic.

Beekeeping Classes: We will look into the possibility of using Dana Stahlman's program for next year's classes. Denzil and Shelia will check price, we will de-

cide at the November meeting.

Field Day: We want to advertise - Chantal will design a flyer. We will notify all area bee clubs. Whether or not to have May meeting (Friday, May 13) is still under discussion.

Scholarship: We will work on promoting our scholarship program with a flyer and poster that can be posted at schools, youth meeting places, etc.

Tri County: It was decided that the best option for the Children's Classes would be to have one session with more teachers.

Jim Toole is looking into 2011 LCBA shirts.

Prices on selling LCBA honey was discussed and settled at \$6.00. Valerie Weiss made motion, seconded by Bill Vittori, to sell 8 oz. jars of LCBA honey for \$6.00. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Submitted by Vickie Eichof
Recording Secretary

November 12, 2010 Regular Meeting
First Church, Oberlin

President Dave Williams opened the meeting by again thanking everyone for their generosity at Annual Fall Banquet & Auction. Auction receipts were a record \$1116.00.

Bonnie Pierson informed us the bees were still flying and there were still a few blooming flowers for them to visit. She said all the honey supers should be off and told some of the trials and tribulations of (and some solutions for) trying to extract honey in cooler temperatures. She discussed the importance of going into winter with healthy hives and closed saying it was time to start planning for next year.

There is a store in Avon that wants to sell local honey. If you are interested in marketing your honey through this retail outlet, contact Jim Toole.

Military veterans were recognized and

gathered for a photo. Shelia shared excerpts from a *Country Living* article written by Craig Springer, Remembering the Forgotten War. Marking the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, Mr. Springer shared some of his father's experiences in Korea, the foremost being "It was so cold."

Connie Williams thanked those who baked Honey Bread for this month's contest, the judges who volunteered their services, and then awarded prizes. First place went to Scarlet Vargo, second to Dave Williams and Carol Cornelius took third.

Denzil St. Clair, Nomination Chairman, encouraged members to consider running for an elected office. Nominations close at the end of tonight's meeting.

Shelia and Denzil demonstrated rendering wax, explaining the different grades of wax with lots of tips for processing each grade. We learned how to mold

wax, and even got ideas for using the material that might have been thrown away after the processing. Members were invited to take different molded wax items.

Valerie Weiss shared her methods of making lip balms and hand creams, giving basic recipes and stressing that we should research and develop our own unique products. She shared problems that would be encountered and solutions to overcome them. Valerie gave us sources for ingredients and discussed labeling laws.

Names of military veterans were entered in a special drawing. LCBA thanks Bonnie Pierson, Aries Style Salon and Bee Culture Magazine for providing those prizes.

After the 50/50 drawing the meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Submitted by Vickie Eichof
Recording Secretary

LCBA Executive Meeting

November 23, 2010

Executive Members present: Dave Williams, Bill Vittori, Chantal De Yoe, Valerie Weiss and Vickie Eichof.

Members present: Shelia and Denzil St. Clair, Bruce Sampsell.

Dave called the meeting to order at 7:00. Chantal distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report.

Points of Discussion:

Building Fund: It was decided that the Building Fund would receive 100% of the Birmingham auction proceeds plus 20% of LCBA's net profits.

Elections: Ballots will show Denzil St. Clair, President; Bill Vittori, Vice President; Dave Williams, Treasurer; Vickie Eichof, Secretary; Walter Seamon, Ed Wransky and John Schick for Trustee. Dave will introduce those running for Trustee at the meeting and they will have the opportunity to address membership. Food Coordinator: Janine Ramsey and Terri Wransky will serve as our new coordinators.

December Meeting: We will have LCBA Honey, cookbooks, shirts and patches for sale at the December meeting. Chantal will be in charge of the gift exchange, Denzil and Shelia will take care of

games and entertainment. Supplies needed include drinks (pop, coffee and water) ice and tablecloths.

Meeting Topics: At the January meeting Denzil will discuss pheromones; Dave Williams will cover hive beetles in February.

2011 Bee Classes: We will continue to use *Beekeeping for Dummies* (cost at class - \$20.00) as we have not heard from Dana Stahlman. Class cost and content were discussed.

Financial: We will audit the financial records at the December Executive meeting. Chantal, though she can't serve as full time Treasurer, offered to assist as a

back-up as needed.

Scholarship: Details needed to be included in flyer (including value) were decided. Chantal is designing the flyer.

2011 Field Day: Chantal is designing flyer to promote Field Day. Shelia will check into a bee-cloak cut-out for pictures. Ideas for raffle items were discussed.

Bill Vittori, seconded by Valerie Weiss, made a motion to set 2011 beekeeping class cost at \$50.00. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Submitted by Vickie Eichof
Recording Secretary

December 10, 2010

First Church, Oberlin

In a festively decorated meeting room President Dave Williams welcomed everyone to the December meeting.

Denzil explained the hive tool game (don't put it down!) and Shelia distributed word scrambles (LONG words, all taken from Bee Culture Magazine).

Bonnie Pierson said nothing was going on with the bees but clearing snow and dead bees from the hive are ongoing winter chores. She discussed storing equipment, melting wax cappings and said now is the time to repair and paint equipment.

Dave Williams told us of a new book by Tom Seeley, *Honey Bee Democracy*, that explains the swarming process.

He then introduced candidates for 2011

officers and invited those running for Trustee to address membership. Members voted Denzil St. Clair for President; Bill Vittori, Vice President; Dave Williams, Treasurer; Vickie Eichof, Secretary; (all unopposed) and John Schick for Trustee. Congratulations!

Bill Vittori introduced the evening's entertainment - **Denzil and the Dronettes** (some members commented the Dronettes looked suspiciously like certain drones they knew). Denzil and the Dronettes danced and played (?) the sax while serenading Bill with the Marvettes' "Don't Mess with Bill". Members cheered and applauded and Mr. Vittori, rather red in the face, was presented with his very own copy of the song.

After everyone enjoyed the pot-luck sup-

per, Shelia awarded prizes for the word scramble game and door prizes.

Chantal asked those participating in the gift exchange to choose a gift from the table. Men and women formed circles and as Chantal read a story they passed the gifts to the left and right as they heard those words. Some people had trouble remembering their right from their left but everyone agreed it was lots of fun – and nobody ended up with the gift they had originally chosen!

After the 50/50 drawing Dave wished everyone a merry and safe holiday, the hive tool game was declared over and the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Vickie Eichof
Recording Secretary

L.C.B.A. Membership Form

PRINT LEGIBLY & CLEARLY

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

LCBA c/o Dave Williams 11923 Green Rd. Wakeman OH 44889
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Enclosed is \$25.00 for each year membership desired if receiving by mail, or \$20.00 if receiving by e-mail. You must include your e-mail above if you pay the \$20.00 amount or you won't be able to receive your newsletter.

Payment enclosed \$ _____ check / money order (circle one), payable to Lorain County Beekeepers Association or LCBA. Send to address in block. Membership can also be done on the web site through Pay Pal.

www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

The above person/family has applied for membership in the Lorain County Beekeepers Association. The adult members of the applicant family 18 yrs. Or older are requested to take part in the annual association election of officers as to conduct the regular business of the association. Youth members are welcome to join in on all other association activities. Memberships run on a calendar year basis (January 1 to December 31)

The above person acknowledges that their contact information will be added to the membership list. This list is a controlled item and will be used only for L.C.B.A. business and will not be used for any other purpose.

Treasurers Report

Profit and Loss Statement - YTD
 1/1/2010 through 12/20/2010 (Cash Basis)
 Category Description 1/1/2010- 12/20/2010

INCOME

Auction	1,144.50
Special Programs	75.00
Other Classes	1,575.00
Donations	2,532.60
Email, '10	1,160.00
Email, '11	260.00
Post, '10	600.00
Post, '11	75.00
50 50 Raffle	329.00
Extractor Raffle	835.00
Hive Body Raffle	654.00
Birmingham Fair	750.00
Books	134.00
Cookbooks	378.00
County Fair	14,154.42
Honey Sticks	42.40
Patches	30.00
Sign	79.00
T-Shirts	51.00
TOTAL INCOME	24,858.92

EXPENSES

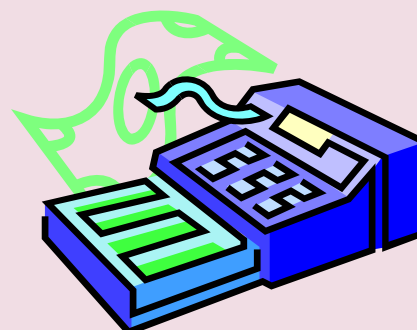
Advertising	150.00
Banquet	528.98
Birmingham Fair	760.30
County Fair	13,876.12
Extractor Raffle	400.00
Field Day	793.80
Food	274.53
Honey Sales	381.24
Insurance	500.00
Library	22.00
Meeting Hall	300.00
Memorial Contribution	75.00

Newsletter	2,170.50
Postage	282.57
Prizes	515.88
Scholarship	360.00
Signs	41.42
Speakers	225.00
Supplies	145.86
Web Site	224.35
TOTAL EXPENSES	22,027.55
OVERALL TOTAL	2,831.37

Balance Sheet - As of 12/20/2010
 As of 12/20/2010 (Cash Basis)

Account	12/20/2010 Balance
ASSETS	
Checking	3,354.98
Savings	16,712.62
PayPal	38.24
Petty Cash Fund	120.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	20,225.84
Building Fund	7,122.15
TOTAL ASSETS	27,347.99
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
EQUITY	27,347.99
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	27,347.99

Submitted by: Chantal DeYoe



Lorain County Beekeepers Association
2011 Educational Scholarship Competition

Calling All Youth!

Write An Essay on Why I Want To Be A Beekeeper And
You Could Win:

A Beginner's Beekeeping Kit

Four Beginner Beekeeping Classes

Membership to Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Your Very Own Personal Beekeeping Mentor!

a \$235 value!

It's everything you need to get started keeping bees!

Two categories: ages 9-13 and 14-18

Entry Requirements

- 500 word essay entitled Why I Want To Be A Beekeeper
- Entry form with the following:
 - Name
 - Age
 - Complete Address
 - Phone Number
 - Two References
- Include phone number
- State the person's relationship to you (teacher, neighbor, etc.)
 - Essayist and parent or guardian signature

Scholarship Winners Must

1. Attend all four beginner beekeeping class sessions in March
2. Complete an educational booth at the 2011 Lorain County Fair
3. Enter honey from their apiary for judging in the 2011 Lorain County Fair
4. Submit all materials to: LCBA Essay Contest, OSU Extension-Lorain County, 42110 Russia Road, Elyria, OH 44035 by Friday, February 18, 2011.

For Entry Form and Complete Details, Visit

www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

Members, Please pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in participating. Friends, family and co-workers is a great start.

Lorain County Beekeepers Association
c/o Weiss
6080 Section Line Rd. 21
New London OH 44851-9483