



THE BUZZZZ



Lorain County Beekeepers Association



Volume 9, Issue 91

JANUARY 2012

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

Happy New Year 2012

I can't believe we are talking about a New Year already. We've had such mild temperatures so far. Today is December 28th and the last weather report said look for colder temperatures coming and staying in the next week. Not looking forward to that at all.

Plans are already in the works for things to go on in 2012. Beginner beekeeping classes are the first four Fridays in March. Beginner Beekeeping Scholarship forms went to OSU extension office for distribution. There are copies of the rules, details and entry form on the web site. If room allows there will be a copy of the entry form in this newsletter. If you don't find it in this newsletter though, you can find it on LCBA website for sure.

Even Field Day plans

are in the works. We have really moved the date out as a trial this year hoping to get better weather for a change. The date will be posted soon.

This front page is getting filled as time gets away from me. Today is the second day of January already. We went from very mild temperatures of forty and rain to what they are calling our first winter blast and the temperature currently being 28°. I think that is to be today's high. The lows are supposed to be in the teens. Of course areas east are getting hit a lot harder. The snow belt areas like Lake, Geauga and my hometown of Ashtabula county always get hit harder. The girls may be clustering a little tighter for the next couple of days.

With a New Year

comes membership renewal. A membership form is available on the back page. Please read all info carefully. There is some pertinent information in yellow under the membership form. It is best not to ask someone to turn your dues in for you. You can renew your membership at the next meeting or mail it to the treasurer at the address provided on the form. A check can serve as your receipt and a receipt is written for anyone using cash in case problems should arise.

Happy New Year to all. Here's hoping for a great beekeeping year. As always, take all mistakes for hugs and kisses. I did a lot of back and forth to get this completed so who knows what you might find.

Valerie

2012 BUZZZZ CALENDAR

January 13 - Regular Meeting/Vanishing Of The Bees
 January 23 - Newsletter Deadline
 January 25 - Executive meeting - Henrietta Twsp Hall
 February 10 - Regular Meeting/ Randell Westfall Pres. Of Tri County/ Spring Build up
 March 2 - Beginner Beekeeping Class 1
 March 9 - Beginner Beekeeping Class 2
 March 16 - Beginner Beekeeping Class 3
 March 23 - Beginner Beekeeping Class 4

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 or contact one of the executive members for meeting changes or cancellations due to bad weather.

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.

If you plan to attend, contact an executive to make sure the meeting is still taking place on scheduled date. As you well know, things can tend to change for various reasons. We've had to change due to the township trustees meeting on an unscheduled evening.

We encourage members to attend.



Spring won't be far behind though. Now is the time to be cleaning up and repairing your supers or frames and assembling equipment if needed. As we all know, life can get busy and time gets away from us. Before we know it the season will be ready and colonies building up if they survived the winter. Some colonies can build quickly.

Here's hoping for a warm and honey flowing Spring.

<i>L.C.B.A. 2011 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS</i>	<i>PHONE</i>	<i>E-MAIL</i>
President: Denzil St. Clair	(440) 647-2602	qrcltd@zoominternet.net
Vice Pres: Bill Vittori	(440) 323-4942	billv99@prodigy.net
Secretary: Marty Buck	(440) 775-0556	mbuck@oberlin.net
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State Apiary Inspector - Barbara Bloetscher	(614) 728-6373	apiary@agri.ohio.gov
Lorain County Inspector - Jim Toole	(440) 320-8659	legend31@centurytel.net



Dr. Heather Prior is an assistant Professor from Kings Collage in Alberta, Canada. She was on sabbatical as a visiting scholar to Ashland University. Dr. Prior worked with Dr. Mason Posner, professor of biology/toxicology on a collaborative research project to investigate the effects of oxidative stress on cataract formation in zebra fish and to teach basic development and sensory systems. In addition to her vision research, Dr. Prior conducts studies on prevention of bacterial infection in honeybees.

LCBA was fortunate to be able to have Dr. Prior speak briefly about the latter at December's Christmas Banquet. She has since returned to Canada.

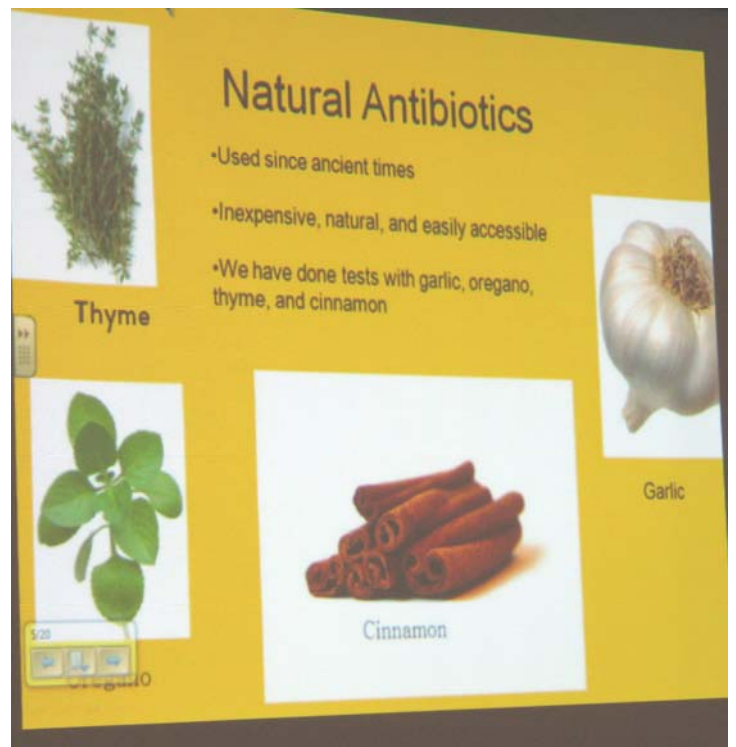
She spoke of different experiments they had done with herbs on honeybees to see what the effects would be on AFB as a means of pesticide free treatments. Some of the herbs tested were garlic, thyme, cinnamon & oregano.

It was one of the best talks LCBA has had.



Bonnie Pierson took this great picture of the Harker brothers at the Christmas meeting/party. Sheila again provided a great game for everyone. As you entered you were given a sticky with a word on it and a couple of bee escapes. Throughout the evening people tried to get you to say your word. If you did,

they took your bee escape. At the end of the meeting the person or persons who had the most bee escapes received a prize. Those that had only one or two gave theirs to the boys and helped them win. It was a fun evening and the boys of course, loved winning.



THE BIRDS AND THE BEES AND THE GMOS

Thursday, 27 October 2011 12:06

Translation: Laura Carlsen, CIP Americas Program

<http://www.cipamericas.org/archives/5589>

Honey produced by thousands of Mexican beekeepers is at serious risk of contamination from genetically modified soybeans. Producers have called for a new model of social production.

On International Food Day, national and local organizations held a forum with beekeepers and researchers in Mexico's scenic Yucatan Peninsula.

The subject: the threat to honey production posed by genetically modified soybeans in the region.

The National Union of Regional Autonomous Peasant Organizations (UNORCA by its Spanish initials) and Greenpeace Mexico sponsored the forum.

Throughout Mexico, cultivation of genetically modified (GM) crops has been taking over more and more land. The government has authorized cultivation of GM corn, cotton, wheat and soybeans, putting harvests of these crops at risk of contamination and affecting other crops related to the basic diet of millions of Mexicans.

The products that reach our table are at great risk of containing GMOs. This means that in addition to health risks for consumers, these crops can no longer be sold on markets that require GM-free certification.

The National Agricultural Sanitation, Safety and Quality Service (Senasica), gave Monsanto permission to begin a pilot project with GM soy on 30,000 hectares, threatening the production and marketing of honey in the Yucatan peninsula. Beekeeping employs more than 16,000 peasant producers who make honey that has become a favorite on the European market for its flavor, floral origin and quality, notes Pablo Duarte Sanchez, a leader of UNORCA in Yucatán.

The debate over GM crops is becoming a major issue in Mexican society. It confronts the economic interests of transnational corpora-

tions with the responsibility and precaution demanded by consumers to protect their health, biodiversity and the environment. Recently and surprisingly, beekeepers entered this debate, as the probable victims of GM crops, according to Federico Berron, an agricultural businessman, and Abelardo Balam Chi, a professor of apiculture.

Europeans Demand GM-Free Honey

Mexico is the sixth largest producer and third largest exporter of honey in the world. The main market for the product of more than 40,000 beekeepers is the European Union. But this enviable position is being threatened by nearby crops of GM corn and soybeans.

The Tribunal of Justice of the European Union prohibited the commercialization of honey that contains pollen from unauthorized GM seed (Monsanto corn 810).

The birds and the bees and the GMOs

Thursday, 27 October 2011 12:06

"Two situations arise as a result of the decision by the Tribunal: if it involves pollen from GM plants not authorized for food purposes, the honey simply cannot be marketed (principle of zero tolerance); if it involves pollen from GM plants authorized for food purposes, the honey can be marketed, with a label reading Contains Genetically Modified Ingredients when its content exceeds 0.9 percent. However, marketing honey with this label is practically impossible since the huge majority of European consumers reject GM foods," warned UNORCA advisor, Ernesto Ladron de Guevara

Since the Tribunal's decision that honey and derived food products that contain pollen derived from GMOs are GM food products and cannot be sold with previous authorization, the main honey marketers in the region have begun to receive warnings from their buyers regarding the need to guarantee that the honey produced in the region is free of pollen from GM plants.

Federal Government Responsibility

In the Yucatan Peninsula, which is extremely flat, there is no way to avoid pollen from GM plantations contaminating the surrounding plantations. Delegates from federal agencies in-

cluded have remained silent on this serious situation, since government agencies FIRCO and FIRA finance and subsidize GM crops, in violation of the policy of "sustainable development" that the federal government supposedly promotes.

"The authorization of GM crops is incongruent with the programs that the federal government has been promoting since the previous administration to guarantee food safety in the honey produced in the region. These programs obliged social and private sector producers to invest heavily in the construction of new plants and the adoption of state of the art practices of honey production and processing. Both federal and state governments have also spent money to support the construction of infrastructure in plants, beekeeping equipment, research, training and technical advising to the many actors who participate in this system of production," commented Jorge Tomás Vera, economist and apiculture consultant.

The local delegation of Sagarpa justifies the cultivation of GM crops by arguing that they are the best alternative faced with drought in the area. This opinion goes against the opinions of other experts in the region who consider that other alternatives that could be offered by regional research centers have not been explored. Participants in the forum urged local beekeepers, their organizations, peasant farmers and civil society to oppose this project by the Secretary of Agriculture and the federal government.

Call to Restore the Moratorium on GM Cultivation "Open-field experimentation in our country only seeks to prove resistance to insects and herbicides. They don't care about the gene flow that poses an imminent risk of contamination to our native corn and to our honey production, harming producers and consumers since these organisms have not been correctly evaluated and effects on human health have not been ruled out.

It's urgent that federal authorities reinstate the moratorium on GMOs, as was recommended by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier De Schutter," Aleira

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES AND THE GMOS

CONTINUED

Lara, of Greenpeace Mexico.

Given the widespread cultivation of commercial GM soybeans in Mexico, and the breadth of demanded GM corn sown in experimental plots or illegal fields, the probability of discovering pollen from GM plants in the honey is very high, impeding export of the product. It's hard to predict the frequency of the situation—it could be uncommon but without a doubt there will be cases that will affect the economy and the image of Mexican honey, said Mauricio Macossay Vallado of the University of Chapingo.

Miguel Angel Ricci, Argentine researcher, architect and social ecologist, explained the damages caused to agriculture and other economic activities in the Argentine countryside and that this is what could happen in Mexico if the problem of GM production is not dealt with firmly and decisively. He recommended not sowing GM crops and improving original and traditional farming practices by linking them to the agroecology principles that are being tried out throughout the world to guarantee healthy foods that are environmentally friendly.

The adoption of GM crops represents a severe threat to food sovereignty. The seed and its GMO content are property of private companies, not of peasant farmers. More than for technological productive advantages, the expansion of GMOs has taken place because it is a business that benefits transnational corporations and the high-level government bureaucracy of the agricultural and financial sectors (Sec. Of Agriculture, the Rural Financial Agency, FIRA, FIRCO, and BANCA). Civil society must confront this situation by taking action and making its demands and interests known, the participants concluded.

GMOs and the Right to Food Forum participants analyzed the recent constitutional reform that recognizes the right to food as a fundamental right that guarantees that the entire population has access to healthy and sufficient food it requires.

The forum concluded that the goal of solving the food crisis and achieving the right to food will be reached only through the social food

production to satisfy local demand, with the use of environmentally responsible technology. To produce first to eat rather than sell, and to eliminate imports, should be the guiding principles of a new model of food production and consumption.

For more information:

Angelica Simón, Greenpeace Mexico, Tel. 52-5550-687-9595 ext.115 y 521-553-225-1714, as

imon@greenpeace.org

Pablo Duarte Sanchez, UNORCA Yucatan, 521-999-575-9223, padusa55@yahoo.com.mx

Advanced Beekeeping Class – Going Commercial

Bee Culture Magazine and The Medina County Beekeepers present a half day Advanced Beekeeping Seminar on Sunday, March 18, 2012 from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the A. I. Root Meeting Room at 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina, OH 44256. This meeting room is on the South side of Liberty Street. Look for the Medina Beekeepers Sign. Refreshments will be provided.

Instructors

Kim Flottum, Editor of *Bee Culture* Magazine, and author of *BackYard Beekeeping*, *The Honey Handbook* and *Better Beekeeping*. Kim is Emeritus Chairman Of the Board and President of EAS, and Past President of The Ohio State Beekeepers and the Medina County Beekeepers.

Dr. Dewey Caron, Emeritus Professor in Apiculture from Delaware, and author of *Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping*, *The African Honey Bee in the Americas*, and *Observation Hives*. Dr. Caron is Emeritus Chairman Of The Board and President Of EAS, and Past President of WAS.

Dr. Larry Connor is President of WicWas Press, author of *Bee Sex Essentials*, *Increase Essentials* and *Queen Rearing Essentials*. He has published a host of other beekeeping books, organizes the Serious Sideline Course at the ABF meetings annually, and is a nationally known speaker on a variety of topics.

Topics include

Winter and spring management for maxi-

mum population for Midwest honey flows

Using uncapped queen cells, capped queen cells, virgins and whole queens, looking hard at summer splits for expansion and swarm control

Controlling Varroa... what works, what doesn't and why, efficiency in time and cost

Managing diseases and other pests efficiently

Producing and marketing Varietal and artisan honey

Fall and winter management for optimal overwintering success in the Midwest

Queen production is not a part of this class. Due to timing, live colony work is not part of the class. All instruction will be inside. Instructors will be using, primarily, powerpoint material, but some hands on may be available. This will be a full four hours of instruction. Please arrive early and be prepared to ask questions after the class is over. There is no limit to the number of students for this class.

Fee is \$60.00/person. A family of 2 \$85.00. Some instructional material will be provided, and the book *Better Beekeeping* is included. Advance notice or attendance is required, but payment will be made at the door the day of the meeting. For more information and to pre-register, contact Kim Flottum at Kim@BeeCulture.com, or 330.722.2021. Registration closes Friday, March 9, 2012.

Details and rules for the scholarship program can be found on LCBA website. There are forms available that can be printed out. Chantal DeYoe broke down the sheets so you can print off only what you want. Thanks to Chantal for keeping these available and up to date.

Lorain County Beekeepers Association
2012 Educational Scholarship Competition
 LCBA Essay Contest, OSU Extension-Lorain County, 42110 Russia Road, Elyria, OH 44035

ENTRY FORM

Your Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Age _____

****If I am selected as the recipient of this scholarship, I agree to attend all four class sessions and the hands-on Field Day, complete an educational booth at the 2012 Lorain County Fair, and enter my honey for judging in the 2012 Lorain County Fair.****

Signature _____ Date _____

Reference Number One

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Relationship to You _____

Reference Number Two

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Relationship to You _____

****As parent or guardian, I will support and encourage my child in this beekeeping project.****

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

TREASURERS REPORT

Submitted by: Dave Williams

FREE Bee Movie
in January

Income/Expense by Category

1/1/2011 through 12/24/2011 (Cash Basis)

Category Description 1/1/2011- 12/24/2011

INCOME

Uncategorized 4.00
Auction 594.50
Class Books 225.00
Classes
Other Classes 1,350.00
TOTAL Classes 1,350.00
County Fair Display Win 100.00
Donations 1,196.60
Interest 30.84
Membership
Email, '11 1,116.12
Email, '12 300.00
Post, '11 719.26
Post, '12 175.00
TOTAL Membership 2,310.38
Miscellaneous 121.90
Raffles
50 50 Raffle 259.50
Other Raffles 696.00
TOTAL Raffles 955.50
Sales
Birmingham Fair 624.00
Books 60.00
Cookbooks 60.00
County Fair 14,685.00
Sign 4.00
TOTAL Sales 15,433.00
Sales LCBA Honey 36.00
TOTAL INCOME 22,357.72

EXPENSES

Bad Check Return 5.00
County Fair Honey Sticks 1,915.50
Events

Banquet 559.46
County Fair 2,058.29
Field Day
Other Events: Field Day 1,163.63
TOTAL Field Day 1,163.63
TOTAL Events 3,781.38
FICA 50.00
Food 298.28
Honey Sales 7,909.22
Honey Sales-Birmingham 499.20
Insurance 500.00
Meeting Hall 100.00
Memorial Contribution 75.00
Newsletter 2,154.15
Overpayment-return 50.00
PayPal Fees -0.28
Postage 184.80
Poster Sale 0.00
Prizes 250.00
Scholarship 447.55
Speakers 1,813.03
Supplies 438.93
Web Site 102.50
TOTAL EXPENSES 20,574.26

OVERALL TOTAL 1,783.46

Account Balances - As of 12/24/2011

Bank Accounts
Lorain National Savings 23,427.71
New Lorain National Checking 5,659.28
TOTAL Bank Accounts 29,086.99

Cash Accounts
PayPal 19.26
Petty Cash Fund 322.60
TOTAL Cash Accounts 341.86

OVERALL TOTAL 29,428.85

[http://
www.queenofthesun.com/](http://www.queenofthesun.com/)

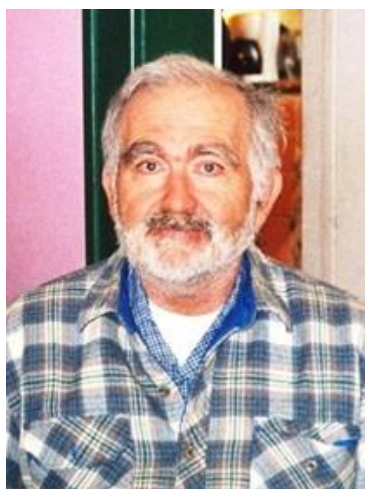
Queen of the Sun: What are the bees telling us.

I am offering a free screening of Queen of the Sun on Thursday Jan. 12 at 7 PM at Porter Public Library in Westlake, OH. The address is 27333 Center Ridge Road in Westlake, 440-871-2600 is their number. Mine is 440-336-3721. I hope that you can distribute this info to the group in time for the movie. I tried to post it on the website, but it's not showing up.

I have seen the movie and there are some outside of the box/not mainstream ideas presented in the movie and it would make for an interesting discussion to have many beekeepers attend.

Debbie Dean Espie
Dean's Greenhouse

Editor's note: Debbie donated the large plants for us to use at the Fair last summer. She is a Medina Beekeeper.



Bruce B. Bollinger (71) of Attica died early Sunday Morning, December 11, 2011 at his honey farm where he processed honey. Mr. Bollinger was born June 4, 1940 in Bucyrus to the late Harold L. and Margaret E. (Wertz) Bollinger. He was a graduate of Attica High School, Class of 1958 and was retired from Pioneer Industries. Mr. Bollinger was a beekeeper and farmer his whole life and enjoyed fishing, camping and spending time with his buddies at Burger King.

Bruce was well known in this area in the beekeeping circle.



L.C.B.A. Membership Form

LCBA c/o
Dave Williams
11923 Green Rd.
Wakeman OH 44889

PRINT LEGIBLY & CLEARLY

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

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.

Your current membership will expire December 31st. Memberships run January 1st through December 31st of each year. Please remember to keep your information current to be able to receive your newsletter promptly. Make sure all info is legible and correct. We have had newsletters returned as undeliverable by e-mail. We may have entered it incorrectly from illegible writing. If you do not receive your newsletter by the first week of the month, contact the newsletter editor. You can find contact information on page 2. Please be sure the amount is correct. If you pay \$20.00 and don't provide an e-mail you won't be able to receive your newsletter. To receive by mail it is \$25.00.

Lorain County Beekeepers Association
c/o Weiss
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New London OH 44851-9483