

LORAIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2011
Volume 8, Issue 82

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



www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Denzil St. Clair



Hello all. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new class members who are taking LCBA's beginner beekeeping classes which starts March 4th. You are going to enjoy this new adventure as beekeeping is a fascinating hobby with many twists and turns. Members can sit in on the classes the second year for free.

LCBA is privileged to host Clarence Collison this year at our 16th Annual Field Day, May 14th. This is a date to keep in mind as spring gradually creeps back north. More details will be forth coming as the date draws near.

As always we will have Bonnie Pierson address current beekeeping issues at this month's meeting March 11th.

We also plan to have a break out session for beekeepers not wanting to attend the beginner class. This session will consist of a necropsy of one, if not more, dead out colonies. If you have a dead out you want

looked at, just give me a call at 440-647-2602 and we will work it into the schedule. It is imperative that you understand why your colonies have passed on into Bee Happy Land. If not you may duplicate the same results in the future.

Denzil



Is it spring yet?

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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2011 BUZZZZ CALENDAR

- March 4 - Beginner Beekeeping Classes - Valerie Weiss - Introduction & Preliminaries
- March 5 - Tri-County Beekeepers Work Shop - Wooster
- March 11 - Beginner Beekeeping Classes - Jim Toole - Setting Up & Getting Started
- March 18 - Beginner Beekeeping Classes - Dave Williams – Bee Diseases & Pests
- March 25 - Beginner Beekeeping Classes - Denzil St. Clair - Overview, Planning and Hindsight
- March 26 - NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- March 30 - Executive Meeting - 7:00 P.M. Henrietta Twsp. Hall
- April 8 - Joe Kovaleski Guest Speaker- Package bee installation & spring management
- May 13 - Field Day prep, cookout and evening with Clarence Collison at QRC-LCBA MEMBERS ONLY
- May 14 - FIELD DAY - Key Note Speaker - Clarence Collison

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For submissions to THE BUZZZZ....
 For the APRIL issue are due
 NO LATER THAN MARCH 26th.
Items not received before that date will go in the next months issue.
 Please send all articles, ads, and/or notes to:
 e-mail- buzzzzeditor@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 Vermillion 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.

<i>L.C.B.A. 2011 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS</i>	<i>PHONE</i>	<i>E-MAIL</i>
President: Denzil St. Clair	(440) 647-2602	qrcltd@hughes.net
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SPRING-RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

It is February 16th as I am writing this. I'm hoping it reaches the fifties tomorrow as they are predicting. It has been such a long and cold spell that I want to see how many colonies are still living. Even though they may have plenty of food, if they can't get to it, they can starve.

Bonnie told everyone at the February meeting that they needed to get in and quickly move some frames of honey around to where the cluster is if it does warm up enough. There may be a small amount

of brood already, so they will stay in the area where the brood is to keep it warm. Moving frames of honey will bring the food closer to where they are. If they don't have enough honey left you will need to feed them. The warm days will give them some time to store the sugar syrup before it gets cold again. Keep in mind they can't use a front entrance feeder in these cold temperatures. A bucket feeder or inner feeder is the best right now.

It did make it to the fifties for three days straight. The tell

tale signs of the cleansing flights were all over the snow. Everywhere I looked was spots of brown. I was happy to see activity at all seven hives in the main home apiary. We have two other hives up near our barn and they weren't so lucky. They will have to be torn apart to find out. That will wait for my honey to do.

Hoping for a great spring for our bees.

Valerie

Ohio State University Extension & Tri-County Beekeepers' Association 33rd Annual Spring Beekeeping Workshop

Many of you may have already received this information if you have previously attended the workshop.

The dates are Friday and Saturday, March 4 & 5, 2011. As in the past, it will be held in Fisher Auditorium and the Shisler Center at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC). Located on 1680 Madison Ave (at State Route 302 east and State Route 83) just south of Woos-

ter. Last year there were over 900 people from Ohio and neighboring states participating in the workshop.

LCBA members, Dave & Connie Williams, Shelley & Bob Bodkin, and Bill Vittori & John Schick will be doing the Brood Nest – Kids sessions.

Pre-registration: \$35.00 per person. Tri-County Beekeepers Association members pre-registration: \$30.00 per person, Children - 17 yrs and below:

\$5.00 per person. Walk-in day of workshop registration: \$45.00 per person. No refunds will be given.

For more information you can check their web site at <http://www.honeybeelab.com/2011/01/24/2011-spring-beekeeping-workshop-wooster-ohio/>

http://www.gcbeekeepers.com/Documents/11_PRegistration_Packet.pdf

LCBA Executive Meeting January 26, 2011

Executive members present: Denzil St. Clair, Bill Vittori, Dave Williams, Jim Toole, John Schick, Vickie Eichof, Valerie Weiss.

Members present: Bob Bodkin, Bruce Sampsell.

Points of Discussion:

Topics for future meetings: Dave will

contact Tammy Horn about speaking; Vickie will contact Dr. James Tew for names of those who might do a "Honey Bee Plants" presentation for March. Joe Kovalski, Master Beekeeper, charges \$100.00 plus \$.50 per mile, we would like to schedule him for a meeting (April). John Schick will cover "Fall Wrap-Up" at the July meeting.

May Meeting: Dr. Collison will be offered the guest apartment at Queen Right Colonies for his stay in Ohio. Vickie made a motion, seconded by Jim Toole, to hold a May meeting. After set-up for Field Day is complete we will have a cookout/get together with members and Dr. Collison. Motion passed.

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Continued from page.....3

Field Day Advertisement: Motion by Jim Toole, seconded by Bill Vittori, to share costs with GCBA for a full page ad (each club having 1/2 page ad) in Bee Culture Magazine to advertise our respective Field Day events. The ad will run for two months. Motion passed.

Field Day Raffles: Dave made a motion, seconded by Bill to not have an extractor raffle this year. Motion passed. We will raffle two colonies of bees, one Italian and one Carniolan. Field Day we will have a Chinese auction, Valerie will ask in the newsletter for donations from members; Jim will draw up a list of items

LCBA will provide.

2011 Beekeeping Classes: We will have copies of the class itinerary and No Consent forms for all new beekeepers. *Beekeeping for Dummies* will be available for \$20.00 at class. Dave will check on storage space for our class material and availability of rooms at First Church for classes.

Scholarship: We will provide one knocked-down beginner's kit with a two pound package of bees to each scholarship winner.

Bee Day at Metropark: We will liaise with Lorain County Metroparks (Jones) to set a Bee Day date (Herb Day in

April).

Field Day, 2012: We are looking at the feasibility of holding Field Day at a public venue and charging admission. Oberlin College and the old skating rink are two possibilities.

OSBA/Ohio Queens: OSBA is promoting Ohio queens. We would like to do a race evaluation at 2012 Field Day, first and second place (five colonies each race) from our trials against Stahlman/Latshaw Ohio queens.

Submitted by Vickie Eichof
Recording Secretary

FEBRUARY REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Bonnie Pierson started the evening off with what everyone should be looking for and what to do if it warms up by moving frames of honey close to the cluster. The queen may already be laying to get the season started and they won't leave the brood.

Dave Williams was our speaker for the evening on how bad Small Hive Beetles have become in this area. He spoke of all the damage they do, sometimes being worse than wax moth. Slides were shown of what they look like, what their larvae looks like. Dave passed around a

dead one and some other things for members to view. He also showed a map of all the states that have them and there weren't to many not affected.

Small Hive Beetles were first confirmed in 1998, but had been found back in 1996. They are believed to have come in on a fruit shipment from Africa.

We had a visitor in from Florida and he spoke of how bad they are in Florida as well.

Lots of questions were asked by members about things that can be done to get rid of them. There are

beetle traps available and a few other suggestions that haven't been tested were mentioned.

Jeanine Ramsey was our hostess for the evening. The Food Theme was "My Favorite Thing". There were rice crispy treats, cookies, and other items for members to enjoy after the meeting ended.

March 4th begins Beginner Beekeeping classes. Current members are welcome to come.

Submitted by: Valerie Weiss for Vickie Eichof

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES-FEBRUARY 24, 2011

Meeting was held at Henrietta Township Hall, Oberlin at 7:00 pm. Execs in attendance were Denzil St. Clair, Dave William, Valerie Weiss, and Bill Vittori. Members in attendance were Sheila St. Clair and Bruce Sampsell.

First topic of discussion was finalizing speakers for a few of the months in 2011.

Next was Chantal checking into

a grant through Lorain Medina Rural Electric. She did get some information and said more discussion needed to be done, but Chantal was unable to make it to the meeting to discuss it further. Someone needs to write up the grant.

Discussion of classes coming up in March was a big topic. Students from Lorain County Joint Vocational School will attend LCBA classes. Registration

possibilities to make things flow smoother, catalog tables and other topics regarding classes and people who would help with this. It was suggested we have the fifty- fifty at each of the classes and have a Chinese auction which involved a deep hive kit. Bruce volunteered to handle all raffles, 50/50, Chinese Raffle, etc. Too hard for those handling the registration to

FEBRUARY EXECUTIVE MINUTES-CONTINUED

take care of that also, especially the first night with all the registration of people coming in for the class.

Pam Schlichenmayer, Chantal and Dave will do the main registration. John Schick and Bill Vittori will also help.

QRC paid for flyers to advertise Clarence Collison at a cost of \$111.48. In turn LCBA will place QRC's advertisement in the March and April BUZZZZ.

New DVD's were ordered to update the LCBA video library. Others will possibly be copied from VHS to DVD's since VHS is not used much anymore. They are titles that were not available to purchase new in DVD form. A few places were checked for pricing for copying, but are quite high so Bill and Bruce are going to research

more place and options. LCBA will also implement charging a refundable deposit of five dollars for those borrowing the DVD's. Many VHS tapes were never returned.

Valerie will work on a more itinerary detailed Field Day Flyer with start times, breakout sessions, highlights, etc. to place on the web site and also hand out. We always try to have more than just beekeeping things for those tagging along with beekeepers and not involved in it.

Shelley Bodkin made the suggestion that we make up a gift basket for Clarence Collison, Field Day Key Note Speaker, and his wife. They will stay in the in-law sweet at the St. Clair's. Friday prior to Field Day we will have an evening with Clarence cooking hot dogs and socializing. It will be for members only or by special invitation. Set up for Field Day

will take place that evening also. People are needed to help place people in the parking area properly to help utilize the space better. Experiments in feeding bees sugar syrup one to one and two to one ratios will be done for this year's Field Day. How they draw out frames is one thing they will be checking for.

Meeting adjourned: 9:00

Submitted by: Valerie Weiss for Vickie Eichof



TREASURERS REPORT

Balance Sheet - As of 2/22/2011
As of 2/22/2011 (Cash Basis)
Account 2/22/2011 Balance

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts
Lorain National Savings 24,396.87
New Lorain National Checking 4,164.18
PayPal 133.80
Petty Cash Fund 157.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts 28,851.85

TOTAL ASSETS 28,851.85

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES- Building

Fund 8598.02
EQUITY 28,851.85

TOTAL EQUITY 28,851.85

Cash Flow - YTD 1/1/2011 through 2/22/2011

INFLOWS

Uncategorized 3,559.25
Classes
Other Classes 150.00
TOTAL Classes 150.00
Donations 500.00
Membership
Email, '11 703.52
Post, '11 450.00
TOTAL Membership 1,153.52
Raffles
50 50 Raffle 18.00
TOTAL Raffles 18.00
Sales LCBA Honey 4.00

TOTAL INFLOWS 5,384.77

OUTFLOWS

Events
County Fair -85.00
TOTAL Events -85.00
Food 27.30
Insurance 500.00
Newsletter 178.53
Postage 44.00
Supplies 56.99
TOTAL OUTFLOWS 721.82

OVERALL TOTAL 4,662.95

Submitted by: Dave Williams



ABF ALERT: Groups Recommend That the Environmental Protection Agency Take Significant Actions to Protect Bees From Pesticides

Conservation and Beekeeping Groups Cautiously Optimistic About Pesticide Conference

PENSACOLA, Fla. (January 24, 2011) – Last week representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the pesticide industry met with university researchers, conservationists and beekeeping groups in Florida to discuss the way that pesticide risks to bees are evaluated. The conference, which was organized by the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), is considered by U.S. government agencies and industry-watchers to be the first step in evaluating whether current guidelines on measuring pesticide toxicity are effective.

Currently, the EPA only evaluates pesticide toxicity to honey bees, while bumble bees and other crop-pollinating bee species are given no consideration. Beekeeping groups have also questioned the validity of the existing honey bee hazard evaluation process in the U.S., and have pushed the agency to develop stricter standards in the wake of highly publicized bee deaths. Previous SETAC conferences have reviewed the pesticide risk standards to wildlife such as fish and birds, resulting in more stringent requirements on the part of manufacturers. This was the first SETAC conference focused specifically on bees.

"We are generally pleased with the increased intensity of pesticide screening that was discussed, as well as the inclusion of non-honey bee species in the testing process," said Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director at the Xerces Society

for Invertebrate Conservation, who attended the conference. "We hope that this will lead the EPA to adopt more thorough risk management strategies for pollinators."

Pollinators have been the focus of several conservation initiatives spearheaded by the Xerces Society and beekeeping groups in recent years, who point out that the ecological service bees, butterflies and other pollinators provide is necessary for the reproduction of more than 70 percent of the world's plants. This includes two-thirds of the world's crop species, whose fruits and seeds together provide over thirty percent of the foods that we consume. Dramatic declines of both wild and domesticated bees have resulted in a growing awareness of threats such as habitat loss, diseases and pesticide use.

"It is vitally important that the EPA better address the impact that these toxic substances have on honey bees and native bees," said Zac Browning of the American Beekeeping Federation, who also attended the conference. "Adoption of the final recommendations from this workshop, which are expected in the next several months, is a good first step. But much more will need to be done to truly protect these important pollinators."

In the U.S. alone, more than 1.2 billion pounds of pesticides are applied annually. Penn State researchers have identified traces of more than eighty different pesticide products in nearly all honey bee hives they examine, with several of

these compounds being implicated in bee deaths.

The Xerces Society and the American Beekeeping Federation recommend that the EPA:

- Adopt a strong risk assessment strategy for both honeybees and native bees based on the information developed at the conference.
- Conduct a robust review of neonicotinoid pesticides, which have been implicated in bee deaths.

Develop better labeling so that consumers can easily determine which pesticides are most toxic to bees and understand how to use the pesticides while limiting risk to pollinators.

ABOUT THE XERCES SOCIETY

The Xerces Society is a nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. Established in 1971, the Society is at the forefront of invertebrate protection worldwide, harnessing the knowledge of scientists and the enthusiasm of citizens to implement conservation programs. To learn more about our work or to donate to the Society, please visit www.xerces.org.

Contacts:

Mace Vaughan, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation:
503.232.6639, mace@xerces.org
Zac Browning, American Beekeeping Federation: 208.523.3692,
z_browning@msn.com



Dave shows pictures of small hive beetles and larvae and damage they can do to a beehive. A lot of members are having issues with the small hive beetle in Lorain and surrounding counties.



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STORE HOURS:

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(March 1 - Oct 31)

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Monday - Saturday

(Nov. 1 - Feb. 28)

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Closed Sundays)



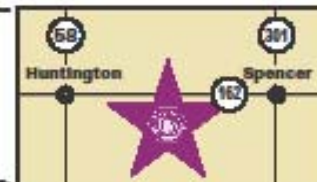
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MARCH FOOD THEM IS BREADS & SPREADS

We will have our new class members with us at this meeting/class on March 11th . Lets impress them with our current talented members cooking talents. How about homemade breads & spreads or honey sweetened jam or jellies, creamed honey etc. to put on it. I know everyone loves anything homemade. St. Patrick's Day falls in March too, so if you want to have something green, that is okay too. I know you are all creative so let them see some of what they can do with their honey when they are established beekeepers.

Don't forget you can always find recipes with honey at <http://www.honey.com/nhb/recipes/>
The National Honey Board web site.



Some of the goodies brought in by members to share for Valentine's weekend.
Thanks to Jeannine for setting up and also to anyone who brought snacks in.