

# THE BUZZZZZ



**LORAIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**  
**L.C.B.A. MISSION STATEMENT**  
**TO PROMOTE BEEKEEPING THROUGH EDUCATION, COOPERATION, OR ANY OTHER EFFICIENT MEANS**

MAY 2008

[www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)

## **FYI**

LCBA meetings are held the second Friday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at:  
First United Methodist Church  
45 S. Professor St. Oberlin, OH

Membership dues are \$20.00 per year and includes all immediate family members. Memberships run per calendar year, January to December. Membership expiration date is on your mailing label. Send dues to the Treasurer : Dave Williams - 11923 Green Road Wakeman, Ohio 44889

### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

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

**DEADLINE** For Submissions to THE BUZZZZZ ..... for the JUNE issue, are due **NO LATER THAN MAY 25th.** **Items not received by that date will go in the next months issue.**

Please send all articles, ads, and /or notes, to Valerie Weiss at 6080 Section Line Rd. New London Ohio 44851 or E-mail: [buzzzzeditor@verizon.net](mailto:buzzzzeditor@verizon.net)

Please ***do not*** include layout or extra characters, (bold, italic, indents, etc.) as they must be removed during editing process.

**Note: Submissions are subject to Executive Committee approval.**

## **“NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT”**

**BOB HOOKER**



They say you should "Be careful what you wish for, you may get it." Well, we have been wishing for the weather to warm up and the bees to get going, and they have. This is of course a good thing, but it sure keeps you hopping when they do. Actually its not so much the bees as everything else we have going on. The bees, at least mine, are doing fine. They are hard at work raising brood and getting in good shape for the honey flow. Now if the weather will continue to cooperate and we can avoid any late frosts, we should be off to a great year.

While you tend your bees and get them supered up for the honey flow, remember that the next few weeks offer some great opportunities for getting together with other beekeepers and learning more about bees. Our Field Day is coming up in a few days, May 3, and our regular club meeting will be the next Friday, May 9. Our speaker for the club meeting will be Brian Neuman from Newton Falls, Ohio. Our breakout session that night will feature John Schick with a presentation on processing wax. The Western Reserve Field Day, May 24, in Medina will feature Jennifer Berry, from the University of Georgia, Joe Latshaw, and Jim Bobb, from Pennsylvania. And queen classes are coming up in May in Newton Falls and in June, here in Lorain County. Hope to see you at some of these events.



### **L.C.B.A. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

**2008**

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# BUZZING AHEAD in 2008!!! Mark Your Calendars

**MAY 3- FIELD DAY**

**MAY 9- Regular meeting**

**JUNE 13 - Regular meeting**

 **Don't forget about LCBA Video & Book library. You can contact Jim Toole for the Book library and what is available. Bill Vittori brings the Video library with him to the monthly meetings. See what they have that might help you in your bee-keeping. If you borrow them, be sure to return them at the next meeting so others can also view & enjoy them.**



## RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER SOONER

How would you like to receive the newsletter before it even gets to the printer to be printed? You can do that by getting it through e-mail. With the cost of postage steadily increasing, LCBA will have to increase membership dues to \$25.00 beginning in 2009 to help cover the cost of postage increases. Postage will increase for the second time within a year on May 12th. With the cost of fuel constantly rising, it will probably continue to affect postage rates. However, if you receive it by e-mail you can keep your dues at the same amount of \$20.00 in 2009. If you receive by e-mail, you won't receive by mail. If you want to receive it both ways, it will be at the increased rate of \$25.00. If you want to help LCBA save now and receive it by e-mail, send an e-mail to The BUZZZZ editor, Valerie, e-mail address is, buzzzzeditor@verizon.net You can also give Valerie your e-mail at a meeting, but make sure it is legible print. 2009 is many months away, but we wanted to let you be aware now so that you had plenty of time to make a decision on how you would like to receive your newsletter.

### FIELD DAY EXPERIENCE

This newsletter is being completed on Tuesday, April 29th. Field Day will take place this weekend. Many won't receive this until after Field Day takes place unless you go on line. Hopefully many of you attended. Please take a few minutes and drop me an e-mail to let me know your experience at Field Day, especially our new beekeepers. We would love to hear about how it went for you, what you learned and any thoughts that you might have. Plus, it helps me fill the pages for all to read. Thanks, Valerie

### THE BUZZZZ - DISCLAIMER

The BUZZZZ places For Sale items as a courtesy to paid members of LCBA and paid ads for non members. In purchasing used equipment the spread of disease is possible as taught in classes held by LCBA. Anything purchased through these ads cannot be guaranteed to be disease free. The BUZZZZ and LCBA will not be responsible for any problems incurred from purchasing items placed for advertising in The BUZZZZ. Any items purchased through these ads are at the purchasers own risk. The BUZZZZ & LCBA

Check out the link below to Ohio Department of Agriculture, Apiary section. You will find a lot of information, links and forms such as, Colony Collapse Disorder, Small Hive Beetle Information, Apiary Inspection Law & Rules, Apiary Fact Sheets, Ohio Apiary Inspection Summary, Ohio Info Bee Newsletter, Apiary Resources, Apiary Forms

<http://www.ohioagriculture.gov:80/plant/curr/ap/plnt-ap-index.stm>

## MAY THEME - CAKE BAKING CONTEST

Hailing all cake lovers! May is cake month at LCBA! Come one, come all and feast your eyes and stomach on the wonderful cakes made by our members.

May is a contest month and there will be three categories -

1. MOST BEAUTIFUL CAKE
2. BEST TASTING CAKE
3. YOUNGEST BAKER OF A CAKE

And yes, prizes will be awarded.

So get those recipe books out, dust off the aprons, and remember honey must be used as an ingredient somewhere in the recipe.

BRING YOUR RECIPE WITH THE CAKE for the judges to read.

Copies for LCBA members would be greatly appreciated. We all love recipes! Bring your camera too. In the past, the cakes have been beautiful!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Connie Williams



### The BUZZZZ Advertising Fees

Members can place a maximum of four lines such as the ads above (approximately 3/4 inch by 3/4 quarter inch) for free on a one time basis. If the same ads are placed for more than a month, there will be a fee for placing the ads. There will also be a fee if ads are larger than the size listed above. Rates for ads are as follows:

**Full page ad as separate insert in newsletter (customer provided)** \$25.00 monthly/\$30.00 if double sided. **The printer also charges a fee of \$30 to place in newsletter before folding.**

#### Ads as a page on newsletter

Provided by customer-No set up fee charged

Full page-\$25.00 Monthly

1/2 page ad-\$18.00

1/4 page ad-\$12.00

1/8 page ad-\$10.00

Provided by LCBA-

Full page ad- \$25.00 monthly/\$15.00 setup fee

1/2 page ad- \$18.00 monthly/\$12.00 setup fee

1/4 page ad- \$12.00 monthly/\$10.00 setup fee

1/8 page ad- \$10.00 monthly/\$5.00 setup fee

Ads for members larger than four lines listed above or placed for more than one month, will be based on above rates.

**If any questions, call or e-mail newsletter editor. Number & e-mail listed on front page.**

## MAY IS FAIR TABLE MONTH

The May meeting starts the beginning of the Fair table being set up with information on the 2008 Lorain County Fair and LCBA's Bee Barn at the fair grounds.

It will have information for those participating in the honey/wax sales booth along with other fair information for members to have access to.

There has been some changes made this year in the Fair Rules. Changes are necessary to make things flow smoothly and to be able to get things accomplished that are needed to make a successful fair year.

If you are planning to be a participant in the Honey Sales booth this year, be sure to get a copy of the revised fair rules at the May or upcoming meetings prior to fair. It is the seller's responsibility to familiarize themselves and abide by the rules.

As always, we will have the sign up sheet for members to volunteer their time to sell honey in the LCBA honey/wax booth and children's candle making area and face painting areas. We are also looking for members willing to do a demonstration of cooking, making bee related products, etc. as a demonstration. If you have a talent in making things and are willing to do a demonstration at the fair grounds during fair week, please let demonstration coordinator, Bill Vittori know at an upcoming meeting or contact him by e-mail.



## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes March 26, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m. Henrietta Township Hall**

Executive Members Present: Bob Hooker, Bill Vittori, Valerie Weiss, Don Lyons, Dave Williams and Chris Lyons. Members Present: Jim Toole

The meeting opened with Dave's report. The biggest expenses paid out for the month were cook-book, 501C3 fee, Hartford Insurance and Fair fee. The bee classes brought in \$1050.00 with 30 new members.

There were no scholarship nominees for this year's beekeeping classes. For next year's agenda item, members will need to rethink the beekeeping classes regarding reorganizing the class itinerary.

There was mention that maybe books could still be purchased for this year's class members. Valerie has a number of books available and Bob will purchase a few more to have enough to give out to class members and to have on hand. Bill motioned first with a second motion from Dave to purchase additional books and all executive members approved.

There will be a couple changes to Dave's itinerary for speaking to the last class. He will add a section on dumping packaged bees along with his bee biology and overview.

There was some discussion on the Fair and a date was set for April 9, 7:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Oberlin to further discuss rule changes, porch design, work hours, attendance roster and more.

Field Day was discussed and Karin Wishner will again this year be in charge of the meal table. The club estimates that there will be approximately 200 in attendance and will purchase the meat. Denzil will make a decision on who will be evaluating the hives.

Dave has received a letter from Hartford Insurance regarding the change in the limit of terrorism coverage.

Bob brought up the topic of the possibility of the Ohio Department of Agriculture canceling the Apiary program and there was discussion on the possible plans to help deter this from happening. Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.

*Submitted by: Chris Lyons*

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## **HAAGEN- DAZS HELPS RAISE MONEY FOR BEE RESEARCH**

It has been a busy month and I was late getting to the newsletter, so I did a search on line for Honeybee articles and found this as one of the things that came up, so I clicked on it. [www.helpthehoneybees.com](http://www.helpthehoneybees.com) It is a site created by Haagen Dazs Ice Cream. It is interactive with a little animation. A skep type menu comes down and separates and you can click on different pages which will roll you into them. If you have young ones who use the computer they will get a big kick out of this site. You can make the bee roll across the field by dragging the mouse. Other pages you click on has the bees flying through the air holding little flags that say different things.

Haagen-Dazs explains the honeybee crisis and shows bee dependent flavors of ice cream. They are trying to raise awareness of the honeybee issue. They have made a new flavor, Vanilla Honey Bee. Any time someone buys this special flavor or any of their other honeybee dependent flavors, they will donate money to help in the research to Pennsylvania State University and also to University of California Davis.

They have a bee store with tee shirts running from \$13.99 to \$22.99 saying different things about saving the bees. When a tee shirt is purchased, some money goes toward the research.

I think you will enjoy this site. Take a look at it. There is also a lot of other information there about honeybees and articles that can be clicked on. Nice to know Haagen-Dazs cares and is aware how important the honeybee is.

Before this newsletter was finished, Dave Williams sent me the same web site link. Small world.

## LCBA General Monthly Meeting April 11, 2008 First United Methodist Church, Oberlin

Meeting began at 7:00 with President Bob Hooker making announcements of 50/50 raffle, new design Bottom Board raffle.

Announcements regarding upcoming Field Day and clean up schedule for Field day were made with requests also for food needed for the day. Karin Wishner had a sheet available to sign for those willing to bring dishes for that day.

Bob Hooker passed around a survey for members to fill out on colonies that survived winter, colonies lost through winter and those going to add to their apiary this season.

Connie Williams told members that the food theme for May would be a cake contest. (January issue of the BUZZZZ, which can be obtained on the LCBA web site, has all the upcoming months food themes.)

There are upcoming queen rearing classes to take place, Brian Neuman is teaching in Newton Falls, Ohio, May 29, 31 & June 9<sup>th</sup> for OSBA, Bob Hooker will be offering classes here in Oberlin, Lorain County, June 12, - 6:30 & 14 - 1:00, & June 23 - 6:30, contact Bob for more info.

OSBA will be receiving grants to fund a project to establish 130 new beekeepers in 13 counties in southeastern Ohio in 2009. The purpose for this project is not only to encourage new beekeepers, it is an economic development program funded in part by grants from the Governor's Office on Appalachia. OSBA and the USDA hope this might prove to be a pilot project to be used throughout Appalachia.

Ohio Apiary Division may be gone after June this year. Ohio Dept. Of Agriculture is looking to eliminate it, which means John Grafton would lose his job. Steps from local organizations are being done to keep it from happening.

This completed most of the announcements and things members may want to know about. Break out sessions were done by Connie Williams on growing herbs, drying herbs and making herb infused honey, and Denzil St. Clair spoke on new beekeeping products on the market.

Meeting adjourned about 9:15.

*Submitted by: Valerie Weiss (for Chris Lyons)*

## BEE CHASER

I started chasing bees when I was about 12. Back then it was easy finding bee trees. Later, in high school I read several books on bee keeping and tried a lot of the tricks in those books to locate bee trees. One trick was to put a bee in a jar for a while then let it out and follow him after he makes his orientation circles. Try it-Good Luck! In any event, I got my two friends (Tim and Sam) interested in the idea that if we could locate such a tree, we could have all the free honey we want. In one of those books, an old timer stated that once a bee tree was cut and dropped to the forest floor, the bees are so stunned, the honey can be collected without much effort and little, if no argument from the bees. Our search continued on for several years.

We finally came upon just such a tree while squirrel hunting in Sandusky. Sam had located a tall tree just teeming with honeybees. We had hit the jackpot! Taking an axe from the cabin, we headed for the tree making plans on what to do with our gallons of honey, which was only 30 ft. away. The tree turned out to be a small 14" cherry. It had been dead a number of years and now resembled a crooked telephone pole sitting amongst large sugar maples. We started in with the axe. After about 10 swings the bees were on to us. They knew something was amiss and they sent emissaries down to ask us to cease and desist operations. I sent Sam back to the cabin for matches and paper. Once we had a good smokey fire going we were able to start chopping again. The smoke in our eyes coming from the fire around the tree base was a fair trade as opposed to stings. It took us about an hour to chop through, but with one last push, she came down.



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One of the packages waiting to be shipped out or picked up by their beekeepers, patiently waits on top of other packages. Some stragglers have gathered on the outside looking for a place to fit in. These were two pound packages that came in later than normal, but at least made it here. Bad weather delayed the shipments. Many are patiently waiting for their three pound packages to arrive and at final writing of this newsletter, have still not arrived.



Sheila St. Clair from QRC prepares packages that are being shipped to their beekeepers. A lot of traveling for these gals. All beekeepers are anxiously awaiting their ordered bees. New beekeepers that took classes are especially anxious to get them and ready to put into motion all that they've learned. These pictures were taken at QRC while helping out those coming to pick up packages.



A stack of package bees here waiting to be picked up. There was a lot of buzzing going on this day.



Daryl Baker prepares a package to be shipped out. Many live a little too far away and can't pick them up, so they go out in the mail. Hard to believe they can be shipped through the post office.

BEE CHASER– Continued from page....5

When I say came down, I mean came down hard. We had taken flight, but we could plainly hear that tree crash to the floor. Surely this was a bee stunner of a hit. As we retraced our steps back to the scene, we became acutely aware of what sounded a lot like a Harrier Jet that had landed in the woods. The occasional scouts coming through the bush indicated that clearly, some bees were not stunned. The hum became a howl as we reached a clearing. About the tree, in flight, were roughly 50,000 bees in a clear rage.

Some had started to reform up on branches where once the cherry had stood. I'm sure not even one bee was stunned by this. We stood in dismay wondering what to do when Tim picked up a hand full of small branches and charges the bees, yelling all the way. He made it through the bees and continued down through the woods screaming. We caught up with him and helped remove the countless stings about his neck and arms. After a real good laugh, we gave up. Needless to say, we never got our honey.

Note: Bees do not get stunned when their tree falls.



Editor's note:

This story was submitted by **Bill Disbrow**. What a great story. Almost made you feel like you were with them. If you have any stories like this, please write them up and send them to me. I would love to have more stories like this to put in the newsletter.



Be sure to watch for these if you have a good strong hive. This is a swarm cell. Some colonies come out of winter very strong and are ready to swarm in late April early May. This picture was 2007 at the end of April. We did have a long cold spell that month though.

### Monthly Treasurer's Report

Monthly Cash Flow 1/1/2008 Through 4/26/2008

#### Income :

50/50 Raffle - Unassigned 121.50  
 Advertisement : Newsletter 60.00  
 Auction : Misc. 87.00  
 Bank Verification 0.15  
 Bee Classes - Unassigned 1,105.00  
 Donations : Event Food 8.50  
 Donations : Individual 67.00  
 Membership : Dues 1,490.24  
 Savings Interest 8.35

**Total Income 2,947.74**

#### Expenses:

501C3 - Unassigned 750.00  
 Advertising : Advertising 36.00  
 Bills : Corporation Fee 50.00  
 Bills : Insurance 500.00  
 Buzz Newsletter : Postage 194.91  
 Buzz Newsletter : Printing 535.59  
 Charitable Donations - Unassigned 115.00  
 Cook Books 1,018.50  
 County Fair : Assoc. Entry 350.00  
 Entertainment : Food 59.23  
 Gift : Thank You 91.58  
 Prizes : Baking Contest 40.78  
 Supplies : Office 68.12  
 Supplies : Postage 9.60  
 Supplies : Tickets 15.81  
 Web Site : Quarterly Fee 29.85

**Total Expenses 3,864.97**

**Income less Expenses (917.23)**

#### Account Balances As of 4/26/2008

#### Assets:

Lorain National Bank Savings 13,688.26  
 Lorain National Bank Checking 1,230.92  
 Petty Cash 147.33

**Total Assets 15,066.51**

#### Liabilities:

Building Fund 4,897.56

**Total Liabilities 4,897.56**

**Net Worth 10,168.95**

Submitted by: Dave Williams



## Orange Honey Fortune Cookies

Makes 16 cookies

3/4 cup cake flour

2 tsp. cornstarch

1/8 tsp. fine sea salt

2 large egg whites, room temperature

1/3 cup orange blossom honey

1/8 tsp. pure orange oil (or 1/4 tsp. pure orange extract)

Honey proverbs (available online at [honey.com](http://honey.com))

Preheat oven to 400°F.

In a small bowl, combine flour, cornstarch and salt; set aside. In a medium bowl, whisk together egg whites, honey and orange oil until slightly frothy. Add flour mixture and whisk until smooth. Line a baking sheet with a baking mat or parchment paper. Using a 1 Tbsp. measuring spoon, place four (1 Tbsp.) portions on baking mat evenly divided. Using a small spatula or the back of a spoon, shape each portion into a 4-inch round. Bake at 400°F for 10 min. or until lightly browned. Remove from oven. Working quickly, use a small spatula to loosen cookies; place honey proverb on one side of each cookie. Fold in half, and then fold points toward each other. Place cookies in a small container or muffin pan to hold shapes until cooled. Repeat four times with remaining batter. Store in an airtight container for up to one week.

Serving options: Using small, brightly colored "Chinese take-out" boxes available at craft stores, stencil or paint honeybees and flowers on each container. Place two cookies inside each container. If desired, add guests' names to boxes for seating place cards or use as a party favor. The "honey proverbs" are also great for stimulating interesting conversation after dinner.

Recipe obtained on the National Honey Board web site.