

LORAIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Denzil St. Clair

2011 Lorain County Fair is history thankfully. I'm not sure as to the success as yet, but I know quite a few people who were very busy.

Remember to bring your signed entry tickets to the next meeting for our drawing. Up for grabs is \$150.00 dollars for those who entered the fair this year. Also, we have the honey tasters from the Fair and we will have a honey tasting competition from those samples and again, monetary awards will be given to the winners of this competition. If you have your score cards from the Fair and want them discussed or explained, we will also take time for that as

well.

This month we will have an open forum discussion about your beekeeping practices, fall prep, medication, the president or any other topic you wish discussed. Come prepared with your questions, ideas, thoughts and we will discuss these thoughts.

Keep in mind this year, LCBA will be conducting a survey about your practices, race, condition of your bees going into winter, disease, mites, number of colonies, location; rural or residential, near a farm or farm land, total number of frames of honey going into winter, new package or established colony, etc,

etc, etc. We want as much detailed information as possible about your bees going into winter. We will again collect information in the spring and this information will be shared with anyone interested. This survey will be conducted until we determine it is of no use or we are able to see patterns that may be helpful. Also it is expected to take some years to see anything of use, so be patient. I will bring a sample survey to the next meeting for discussion and input; the survey will be passed out and made available for use on the LCBA web site and at QRC.

SEPTEMBER 2011
Volume 8, Issue 87

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



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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Find us on Face Book. Search for Lorain Beekeepers

2011 BUZZZZ CALENDAR

- September 9 - Open Forum
- September 24 - Newsletter deadline
- September 28 - Executive meeting
- October 1-2 – Country Harvest of Antiques & Crafts-LCBA has booth
- October 14 - NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET & AUCTION OCTOBER 15th
- October 15 - **Annual Fall Banquet & Auction**

FIND US ON FACE BOOK - Search for Lorain Beekeepers

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For submissions to THE BUZZZZ....
For the SEPTEMBER issue are due
NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER
24TH.

**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 Meet-
ing is held the last
Wednesday of every
month unless holidays
change the schedule.

The meetings are held
at the Henrietta Town-
ship 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 re-
ceive by mail, \$20.00 per year if you re-
ceive by e-mail.** Those receiving by e-
mail can pick up a hard copy at the meet-
ing. 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 & member-
ship dues current to receive your newslet-
ter in a timely manner.

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

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FAIR 2011 A HUGE SUCCESS

I apologize for lack of substance in this issue, but as you know, we have been extremely busy with fair planning, and executing of it.

Well, with another year at Lorain County Fair under our belts, we thought we should have some of the photos taken for it in here for you to see. We had some great help in organizing and putting it together this year. Their creativity and talents are amazing. Walter Seamon put some new covering in front of our lights in the honey sales booth. I know there is a technical name for it, but after a long week and weekend finishing up fair, my thinking is a little slow this morning. If you take a close look, you can

see in the center a bright yellow between the honey shelf and the upper shelf. It says Lorain County Beekeepers Association 1919. It was put on the lighting cover. Thank you Walter.

A sign for the sales booth was made by Pam and Ed Schlichenmayer. Honey Hut was perfect for our tropical theme. They also made the Bees of Paradise sign. Very talented and both looked great displayed.

For decorating the sales booth, plants were loaned to us from Dean's Green House from West Lake. Debbie Dean is an LCBA member, and also The Enchanted Florist, from LaGrange, who donated Birds of Paradise Flowers in vases for display. All

very beautiful and tropical, and again, thank you for helping our theme look fantastic. Sure looked like you were in the tropics. You can see a lot of the plants in the picture on lower left under sign.

Our bee was on guard atop the bee barn all week saying hello to all who came.

Hard to believe that another year has come and gone already. And again, a huge thanks to all those that took part in any portion of preparing and accomplishing another fabulous, beautiful theme. We were told by many that it was the best yet. I think we hear that every year, so we must be doing things right.



TAINTED CHINESE HONEY

Millions of pounds of tainted Chinese honey are likely making their way onto U.S. store shelves, according to an [investigation](#) by Food Safety News (FSN). The online daily news site reports that Chinese honey makers are laundering their products through other Asian nations, including India, Vietnam and Malaysia, in order to smuggle it into the U.S.

The ploy is a way to get around paying the steep tariffs — up to \$1.20 per pound — that the U.S. has imposed on cheap Chinese honey, FSN's Andrew Schneider [reports](#). The scheme is being aided by American importers and lax enforcement by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA):

Experts interviewed by Food Safety News say some of the largest and most long-established U.S. honey packers are knowingly buying mislabeled, transshipped or possibly altered honey so they can sell it cheaper than those companies who demand safety, quality and rigorously inspected honey.

"It's no secret that the honey smuggling is being driven by money, the desire to save a couple of pennies a pound," said Richard Adee, who is the Washington Legislative Chairman of the American Honey Producers Association.

"These big packers are still using imported honey of uncertain safety that they know is illegal because they know their chances of getting caught are slim," Adee said. What's wrong with honey from China? For one thing, it may contain lead, a toxin that accumulates in the body and can cause neurological damage, particularly in young children. The lead contamination has been traced back to the thousands of small beekeeping operations in China that use unlined,

lead-soldered drums to collect and store honey before transferring it to processors. Further, FSN reports, Chinese honey may contain tiny amounts of an antibiotic known as chloramphenicol, which was used in the early 2000s to thwart a bacterial epidemic that was killing tens of millions of bees. The FDA has banned the presence of the drug in food; even in small amounts, it can cause a severe or fatal reaction in about 1 out of 30,000 people. Much of the honey made in China isn't honey at all, Schneider reports:

Another favorite con among Chinese brokers was to mix sugar water, malt sweeteners, corn or rice syrup, jaggery, barley malt sweetener or other additives with a bit of actual honey. In recent years, many shippers have eliminated the honey completely and just use thickened, colored, natural or chemical sweeteners labeled as honey.

The European Union has banned honey coming from India, which is considered a major laundering site for honey originating in China, but the U.S. is still importing it. FSN points to shipping data from Aug. 12 tracking the route of some 688,000 pounds of honey from the Chinese port of Nansha in Guangzhou, China, to Little Bee Honey, an exporter in India, over the previous month. Within the previous week, shipping documents showed that six shipments of honey, with the same identification numbers as honey shipped from China, had gone from Little Bee to

Los Angeles.

To get a sense of how where the honey on the U.S. market originates, Schneider offers some statistics:

- The U.S. consumes about 400 million lbs. of honey a year, about 1.3 lbs. a person
- U.S. beekeepers can supply only about 48% of demand; the rest is imported
- Of the 208 million lbs. of honey imported by the U.S. over the past 18 months, 48 million lbs. came from trusted suppliers in Latin America and Canada, while 123 million lbs., or nearly 60% of what was imported, came from Asia, including 45 million lbs. from India alone

"This should be a red flag to FDA and the federal investigators. India doesn't have anywhere near the capacity — enough bees — to produce 45 million pounds of honey. It has to come from China," Adee, a past president of the American Honey Producers Association, [told](#) FSN.

The full FSN investigation is worth reading; find it [here](#).

Meredith Melnick is a reporter at TIME. Find her on Twitter at [@MeredithCM](#). You can also continue the discussion on TIME's [Facebook page](#) and on Twitter at [@TIME](#).

Read more: <http://health-land.time.com/2011/08/22/tainted-chinese-honey-may-be-on-u-s-store-shelves/>
[#ixzz1W25NYiEa](#)



During fair we always get lots of questions and also requests. Here are two requests we had. If anyone can or wants to help them out, the info is below.

Interested in a hive for pollinating. Doesn't say if he wants someone to put one on and leave or wants one just during pollination time. Couldn't read his writing, but he mentioned something else. His name is Rusty and phone number is 440-225-2819 and he lives in Wellington.

Another is he wants bees removed from a tree when it gets cut down. His name is Nicholas, lives in LaGrange and phone is 440-355-5600.

Don't forget to bring your scorecards to the September meeting to discuss and also don't forget your entry tickets if you got them signed on the back.

Don't forget to bring your entry tickets used at fair gets you a chance to win some cash. \$75.00 first, \$50.00 second, and \$25.00 third. We can all use a little cash. You must be a paid member to put your entry tickets in.

We kept all the taster bottles and those will be judged for best tasting and a possibility to win cash for that also. \$20.00 for 1st, 15.00 for 2nd, 10.00 for 3rd, 5.00 for 4th.

Another annual item displayed during fair is this hive. I recently found out that one of our Face Book friends, Chuck Grimmatt, did this and donated it about fifteen years ago. It's still hanging in there Chuck.

Perennial Lawn Care and Landscaping owned by Douglas Hammond and based out of Oberlin, did this beautiful display of flowers that bees visit just outside the bee barn at the fair.



JULY EXEC MEETING - FAIRGROUNDS

The exec meeting was held at the fairgrounds to discuss finalization of this year's fair theme of "Bees of Paradise." Also a landscaper, PLC Landcare from Oberlin, who volunteered to do a floral display, joined the meeting to show a drawing of his display that would be just outside the barn.

On Face Book we have friends from Turkey, France, and a whole lot of new locations.

A request for a patch came and we do have some left we believe, but have not been able to locate where they are. If anyone knows, please contact us.

Due to no contact from our secretary after several attempts to contact her, Sheila contacted our judge

for fair and got everything set up for her. A copy of the fair book, etc. was sent to her.

Decision to have open forum for September meeting was made. People will be given a brief amount of time for their topic.

A survey was discussed to possibly have out in the near future to help with why there are such large winter losses each year for our members. Ways to get to members that don't attend meetings and also to get it back from them were discussed. Gary Standen mentioned a way to use a Google program to possibly help with that.

Fair committee will meet Saturday the 20th to do the decorating. Balance will be completed Sunday.

Meeting for August was discussed and food for those coming to help clean, etc.

Ways to display hand creams, soaps, lip balms, candles, etc. where people can see has been a problem every year. Thoughts were thrown out on ways to display those items to help increase sales. St. Clair's said they have a glass display case that may be able to be used that would sit on the counter and access would be from the back. It was decided on to try that this year.

Minutes submitted in absence of secretary by Valerie Weiss

AUGUST 12, 2011 Regular meeting night

In the absence of president Deniz St. Clair, Valerie Weiss opened the meeting with notes about work dates and needs for the fair.

Kudos to all the hard-working people who helped make fair happen again this year:

Ed and Pam Schlichenmayer for all the hours they spent designing and building signs and other things for *Bees of Paradise*

Walter Seamon for fixing the lighting in the sales booth

Debbie from Dean's Greenhouse for the use of 72 tropical plants

The landscapers for a great display in front of the building

Everyone who came out for the

August meeting work session

Fair week workers and clean-up crew

Many thanks to each and every one of you!

Dave Williams announced that the September meeting will be an open forum. Do you have a unique story, invention, or beekeeping trick that you'd like to share? Perhaps pictures, video, or simple show 'n' tell...whatever you've got, we'd like to hear it and see it! No reservations necessary; just plan your offering at about 10 minutes or less and bring it to the meeting on September 9.

It's time to think elections. No,

not U.S. elections. LCBA elections! The office of president is open for 2012 and other positions as well. Please consider serving this coming year.

Lots of swarms are happening right now. John Schick had the unique opportunity of removing one from a woman's van as she shopped at the mall in Sandusky, and he made the news! Great publicity, John! LCBA now has a Face Book account. Search for them by *Lorain Beekeepers*.

Submitted by Chantal DeYoe

ON TO OCTOBER-FESTIVAL & BANQUET

Just because I know how crazy life can get, I thought I better put in now and then again in the October newsletter a few things to take note of.

First is the yearly Antique Festival of the Arts in Birmingham and LCBA sets up a tent there every year. We usually have about five or six people that sell in it and it is the same as fair, whatever you sell, twenty percent goes to LCBA. Prices will be same as they were at the fair. Whoever sells usually puts in a few hours either or both of the days, which this year will be Saturday, October 1st & Sunday October 2nd. Saturdays hours are 9:30 to 4:30 and Sundays hours are 11:00 to 4:30. One person can actually handle the booth, but there has always been two just in case. If you are interested in selling, sheets will be available at the September meeting. Bill Vittori is in charge of things this year and will have sheets at the September meeting for your intent to sell. The tent is set up on Friday evening prior, which would make it September 30 and then everyone gets there early Saturday to get the tables set up and products in place and some minor decorating done before opening at 9:30. Tear down is when it ends Sunday afternoon.

Next on the agenda is our annual Fall Banquet and Auction. One of our best and most fun times of the year, especially the auction.



There will be no Friday meeting in October due to the banquet. The banquet will be held at the same location the Festival is. Social time begins at 6:00 P.M. with dinner around 6:30. The banquet will take place at the **Birmingham Community Center, behind Birmingham Methodist Church, 15018 South Street, Birmingham.**

Meat and beverages will be provided by LCBA. Members are asked to bring covered dishes and desserts. Suggestions are a variety of potato dishes, pasta dishes, salads, vegetables, etc. for main dishes and desserts are any baked goods, pies, pudding or desserts of your choosing. Members are usually hungry and will eat all the great cooking other members bring in.

Over the years we've had some interesting items for auction. Chickens, turkeys, pumpkins, Christmas items, homemade breads, gift baskets, home canned items, a homemade honey warmer,

hand crafted items. So think creative and see what you have or can make, or do an IOU for some time to help a new beekeeper, etc. and come and join the fun. Just be sure that they all are good quality items. Proceeds will benefit LCBA building fund.

Note the date on your calendar. You won't want to miss it. It is one of the best times of the year, especially the auction portion. I look forward to this every year. My cheeks usually hurt from laughing so much. The auction has always been a member favorite. Our comedic auctioneer and assistants make a very entertaining evening. We will see you there for a great evening of friendship, food and fun.

Please RSVP by October 1st, or as soon as possible so we have a number count for meat and drinks. By e-mail, buzzzzeditor@frontier.com or phone, 419-929-1110 or any of the other execs listed on page 2.

LCBA members, the Ramsey's, waiting to pick up their honey entry at close of fair barn Sunday.





Carmen Conrad judged entries for the second year at the Lorain County Fair this year. She is assisted by her husband Barry. Thank you Carmen and Barry.



Just chillin at the fair is Ina Campbell (Sheila's mom) and member, Bruce Sampsell. Sometimes people watching and seeing and hearing how they react in the bee barn, is some great entertainment.



Denzil St. Clair and Bonnie Pierson look like they are in a serious conversation.

Lillian Griffin right, is also just chillin in front of the LCBA association booth and watching all who go by. Wearing a sweater on one of the cool mornings we had, she may have been trying to feel some of the tropics behind her.

