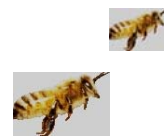


THE BUZZZZZ



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

MAY 2007

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 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
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



OK, so I was wrong. It did get worse. To the long list of bee woes I mentioned last month (diseases, no honey, etc.), now we can add the coldest April in over 100 years. And the bottom just happened to fall out of the temperature the day after the bee packages arrived. It certainly made for an interesting April. I got the call Monday, April 2, that the packages were coming in and made it down Tuesday night to pickup my three packages. After helping get the packages unloaded and distributed I was still able to get home and dump my packages that night. Knowing the temperature was going to plummet and stay that way for a while I was anxious to get them in that night while it was still warm. I made it, but it was the first time I had ever dumped packages in the dark. Also it was the first time I ever got stung dumping packages. In my haste to get them in I didn't consider that in the dark bees don't fly (much) but they do crawl. The usual swirling bees that accompany a dumped package were crawling around on the ground. I hadn't taken the time to close up my pants legs, usually don't when I dump bees, and of course the crawling bees found their way up my pants legs. That was a thrill. NOTE: When dumping packages in the dark tape your pants legs. I got the packages in on drawn comb with some frames of honey, some pollen, put a pollen patty on the top bars and a bucket feeder on top of the inner cover, closed them up and prayed. I was able to check them a week later when it warmed briefly into the fifties and found two queens released and one dead in the cage. Fortunately I was able to replace her with another after a hurried trip to Queen Right. Put the new queen in closed them up and prayed some more. When I finally got back to them after two weeks I wasn't sure what I would find. Lo, and behold, three hives with laying queens, two with capped brood and one with brood almost ready to cap. I think they are going to make it. With some good weather and a little luck I think they'll be OKAY. It's just got to get better, right?

L.C.B.A. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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John Person	(330) 648-0208	jperson@iglide.net
Stephanie Person	(330) 648-0208	



May 5 - Field Day - 10:00 A.M.

May 11- Regular Meeting - Jim Tew - Coming to America-History of Beekeeping

June 8 - Jim Fischer - Using CO2 to control wax moths

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 beekeeping.



If you borrow them, be sure to return them in at the next meeting so others can also view & enjoy them.

FIELD DAY

Field Day is around the corner. This is the biggest event held by LCBA every year. We are still in need of some volunteers. Someone is needed to help show people where to park, candle dipping area, and other various duties. Please jump in and be a volunteer. If you would be willing to volunteer, please call Bob Hooker or Denzil St. Clair or be at Denzil's on Field Day, May 5th at 8:00 a.m. to help prepare. Some preparation will also be done on the Friday prior to Field Day. Picnic tables need set up and the food area needs to be prepared.

If attending, don't forget to bring a covered dish and also a dessert if possible to share with others. We are always short on potato dishes. Casseroles of any kind will be fine. LCBA will provide the meat and drinks.



Various methods of queen rearing will be discussed and demonstrated. It should be a very interesting experience.

Field Day is always a huge event, even when the weather isn't that great. All of our new beekeepers will be there and we want to present them with a good learning experience and also great fellowship from our association.

Field Day flyer is available on the web site and in the April BUZZZZ

See you on Field Day. Plan on a great time.

STORING YOUR HONEY

I have put this in for three years now because it is so important. Especially for the new beekeepers. When extracting honey, you are always looking for something to store it in till you are ready to bottle it. Some go to the first bucket they see in their garage. It might have had drywall compound in it, pool chemicals, driveway tar, who knows. You would be surprised what I've been told someone has put their honey in and I've seen honey in.

Whatever is stored in plastic, leaches into the plastic. Those chemicals could then leach back into your honey. Never use buckets or containers that have had chemicals in them.

You should always use a food grade plastic bucket. Your bee supply place usually has them for sale, or check with your local grocer. The bakery department sometimes has ones that have had donut filling or pudding in them available for a fair price. A whole lot safer and more sanitary than the others.

Here's hoping for a lot more honey than last year.

Valerie



There is usually a guessing game every year at Tri-County. This year it was a hive strapped together and people were to guess the weight.

CATCH THE BUZZ (Bee Culture)

Funding Request to Study CCD, Pollinators

“Washington, DC - U.S. Representative Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) this week introduced H.R. 1709, the Pollinator Protection Act, legislation authorizing over \$75 million in funding for sustained research of the accelerated mysterious loss of honey bee colonies throughout the nation. The Pollinator Protection Act aims to combat the phenomenon known as *Colony Collapse Disorder*, which currently threatens more than one-third of all crops grown in the United States.

“‘This is a problem that not many people know about, but we all need to be concerned about,’ said Representative Hastings today. “If we want our grandchildren to have food to eat that was grown in this nation, then something needs to be done about Colony Collapse Disorder. Otherwise, most citizens won't be able to afford the scarce agricultural products that will be produced in our nation without honey bee pollination.”

“Honey bees contribute well over \$15 billion in added value to American agriculture. Researchers and farmers warn that if Colony Collapse Disorder continues, then its current impact on honey bee colony numbers and America's food security could be significantly destabilized.

“The Pollinator Protection Act authorizes \$5.25 million over three years for Colony Collapse Disorder research; \$50 million over five years for U.S. Department of Agriculture research grants to investigate specific causes of Colony Collapse Disorder and develop other research on the factors contributing to the general decline of pollinators in North America; and \$20 million to ensure that USDA has the necessary staff and facilities to conduct this essential research.

"Bees are critical players in our ecosystem. They enhance our way of life, whether we realize it or not," Representative Hastings noted. "If we do not act now, Colony Collapse Disorder will have a **stinging** impact on America's agriculture industry and our standard of living."

If you see something like this come summer, don't fret to much. It can get pretty hot in the hive in those hot summer temperatures. The bees need to cool off just like we do, so they hang out in front.

Now this isn't to say they couldn't be doing something else, like swarming. Keep an eye and learn your bees and the signs of swarming and how to prevent swarming.



Mann Lake was one of the vendor's at Tri County in March. They are also a big support for LCBA beginner Beekeeping Classes.



John Person was just the right person to do the third session of the Beginner Beekeeping classes. John is Lorain County Bee Inspector and the class was on bee diseases.

President, Bob Hooker, finished up the class touching on all the subjects in the previous classes and throwing in some new stuff.



In a recent addition of Bon Appetit magazine I came across this recipe and thought this would be a nice recipe to enter in the fair in the granola class.

I have included some additional information that accompanied the recipe.

This recipe was submitted to Bon Appetit by Abbe Cheek, Columbus, Ohio.

She wrote, "the breakfast granola at The Inn at Thorn Hill, N.H. was the best I have ever tasted!"

Walnut Almond Granola

The granola is made with less oil than most milk and yogurt are used as an accompaniment. Makes 10-12 servings

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons almond extract
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 5 cups bran flakes cereal
- 2 1/4 cups Old fashioned oats
- 1 3/4 cups sliced almonds
- 1 3/4 cups walnuts coarsely chopped
- 1 1/3 cups flaked coconut
- 1 1/2 cups golden raisins

Preheat oven to 325°. Mix first 4 ingredients and cinnamon, if desired, in a small saucepan. Stir over medium heat just until warm. Mix cereal and next 4 ingredients in a large bowl. Pour warm honey mixture over and toss to coat.

Divide granola mixture between 2 rimmed baking sheets, spreading evenly. Bake until golden brown, stirring every 5 minutes, about 25 minutes total. Sprinkle raisins over and cool completely.

Can be made a week ahead. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

And then, enter and win first place at the Lorain County Fair.....Just a funny!



Submitted by Sheila St. Clair



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2007 7:00 p.m. Henrietta Twp. Hall

Executive Members Present: Bob Hooker, Dave Williams, Valerie Weiss, Bill Vittori and Chris Lyons. **Members Present:** Denzil St. Clair, Sheila St. Clair, Don Lyons, Carolyn Bishop and Amber Bishop.

Meeting opened with the treasurer's report. The club is \$715 ahead this year.

Bee classes went very well and new members seem impressed with the PowerPoint presentations. As always, new members felt overwhelmed with all the information taught and some ideas were tossed around for future classes.

Packaged Bees due for pick-up possibly April 4.

There has been some thought as to helping Cuyahoga county start a Beekeepers Association.

OSBA interested in advertising in The BUZZZZ and requested rates and some additional information for which Valerie will be sending to Dawn at OSBA.

Some new ideas were tossed around for advertising LCBA such as having Gary Stromberg show up at packaged bee day pick-up as a follow up to recently aired footage at Queen Right Colonies in March. LCBA to advertise National Pollinators week which would bring knowledge to the public regarding the importance of honeybees. Also some possible advertising in post offices and libraries. The Cookbook is still a work in progress.

The Fair committee has decided on theme for this years fair: Honoring the Greatest Generation at Honey Junction.

Queen Right Colonies presented a bill for materials supplied for bee classes and field day. Supplies were 2 beginner beekeeping kits with bees for scholarship winners and 2 colonies of bees with 2 deeps to be raffled off at field day. A motion to pay was entered and all approved.

Field day is May 5. The guest speaker is Phil Craft who will discuss "Queen Rearing" in the morning. In the afternoon three methods will be demonstrated: Phil Craft – Jenter Method, Dave Williams – Miller Method, and Bob Hooker – Grafting. A fee to pay Mr. Craft was decided upon that was motioned and approved by all.

Pre-field day clean up is scheduled for Sunday April 29, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

Renting 100 chairs and 8 – 10 tables are being researched for cost. Porta potties have been ordered. Food will be discussed at April 25 executive meeting with members donating sides, desserts, condiments, etc.

Only NEW members to bring their NEW hive tools and smokers to field day.

Queen Right Colonies in need of purchasing more Beekeeping for Dummies books. They paid for getting them shipped in originally and will buy at cost. They will not sell Dummies books on Field Day. LCBA will sell.

April club meeting will be an open forum and swarming discussion.

Amber Bishop nominated to send out mass e-mailing of upcoming meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

LCBA General Meeting April 13, 2007 Oberlin First United Methodist Church

An appreciative Thank You goes out to Greg Bavs of White House Springs at 8100 West Ridge Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035 who donated four cases of bottled water to LCBA.

Bob opened the meeting by announcing there are 29 new members in LCBA now that the bee classes are done. A common reaction among the new members has been "what should we be doing now? Bob's response is "PRAYING". After the past season and the season so far this year, even the experienced beekeeper should be doing some praying.

Bob asked Bruce Hagar to come up front to thank him for donating a stack of Lorain County Maps to the Association. Bob also did his little interview with Bruce who has been keeping bees for about 10 years and currently has two hives. Bruce started into beekeeping because he likes HONEY and took the bee classes given by LCBA.

Bob informed the members about National Pollinators Week that is in June and how the Postal Service will be releasing a stamp in observance of Pollinators (bees in general). This should draw attention to the importance of the honeybee. Also, June 29, the postal service is giving beekeepers the opportunity to be in every county post office to share information with the public on the importance of honeybees. They are in need of volunteers to work in their local post office. If anyone is interested, see Bob for information.

The cookbook is still a work in progress. Most recipes are done but still in need of a binder for the book. The committee hopes to have the cookbooks ready by fair time.

This year's fair theme is "Honoring the Greatest Generation at Honey Junction". Sheila St. Clair's mom donated flag pins, which will be given to any patron who purchases items during fair week. There is also a possibility of giving a flag to veterans who visit the barn, in honor of their service.

May 5 is Field day. This year clean up will be Sunday, April 29 at 1:00 p.m. and set up will be Friday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. Karin Wishner has a sign up sheet for donation of items needed. The club will provide the meat and pop.

Bob called Valerie up front to honor her with new boots so she can check out her bee yard. Valerie was overjoyed to receive her name brand WalMart bags. If you do not understand the honor bestowed to Valerie check out the April BUZZZZ.

Dave Williams reminded members to register their apiary. When the time comes for the city and farmers to begin spraying they should notify beekeepers of the day. Dave also spoke a little on chilled brood and that it is a very important time to feed, feed, feed your bees. Bob also pointed out that registering your apiary helps you be considered a responsible beekeeper.

There was some discussion on the first shipment of packaged bees. How they are surviving, if they have been dumped, how they should be dumped, all due to the weather conditions at pick-up time. Many packages were still waiting to be dumped with several creative ways of storing until nicer weather. The real test will be how the hives survive in the next few months after this spring.

Bob would like to send out a questionnaire to members who ordered packages on how and when they were dumped and what happened to the packaged bees as a result of the spring weather. Then in August have a discussion on the results of the questionnaire.

Everyone was reminded that splits should be made during the time bees have the urge to swarm, which is usually May.

Submitted by Chris Lyons



You're never too young to be a beekeeper if you have the right equipment. Bonnie Pierson's granddaughter, Olivia, was assisting in feeding the bees. She has even helped grandma bottle the honey.

BEE QUOTE OF THE DAY

Albert Einstein, quoted in Germany's Der Spiegel, once said, "if the bee disappeared off the surface of the globe, then man would only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man."

This quote was sent to Denzil by member, Brian Adams.

With all that has been happening with honeybees of late, hopefully people are learning the importance of honeybees as pollinators.

I can't imagine not having honey to eat.

We try to put some of the essays that were entered for the Beekeeping Scholarship Program. The following essay is by one of our winners. The age group was 9-13.

WHY I WANT TO BE A BEEKEEPER

By Travis Cring - Age 9

I want to be a beekeeper so I can teach others about bees. First, I will teach the Boy Scouts how much honey I can collect in a week. I will tell them how often bees produce honey. I will share with my Boy Scout troop stuff I learn from the Beekeeping Class. Second, I will teach my sisters how often bees lay eggs. I will tell them how we can't live without bees. I will tell them how long honeybees live. Third, I will teach my home-school group why it's important for us to have honeybees. I will share with them how bees help our flower garden produce more flowers.

I want to be a beekeeper because it sounds like fun. It sounds like fun to collect sweet honey. It seems cool to watch bees eat pollen. I would enjoy making candles out of beeswax, too. It sounds fun because my Great Grandpa Cring used to keep honeybees. My Great Grandma Cring said, "Your Great Grandpa Cring is probably in heaven saying, go for it Travis!" My Great Grandma has shared lots of stories of bees with me. It would be sweet to keep bees.

I would like to be a beekeeper so I can eat and sell the honey. I could put honey on my cereal and eat it. I could put it on my toast. I would like to sell honey to my next door neighbors. I can also sell it to my family. I could even sell honey to the people at my church. Then I would take the money and buy a lot more bees!

I want to be a beekeeper so I can take and exhibit to the fair. I could teach lots of other people about beekeeping by using my poster-board exhibit. I would have facts about bees on my poster-board. I would draw step-by-step pictures to show how bees make honey. I could bring in an old beehive to the fair. I could bring a vase of flowers, a model of a bee, and empty beehive and a jar of honey so people will know what you need to make honey. Then, I could enjoy the fair by walking around and eating elephant ears!

I want to be a beekeeper so I can help bees keep living. I could plant Wonder of Staffa Aster and other flowers so the bees can find more pollen. I could plant some cantaloupe in my family's garden. We could buy cucumber seeds and also plant them in our garden. The bees could eat more pollen off of the flowers on these vines. All will help the bees keep living.

In summary, I have five reasons to be a beekeeper. First, I can teach others about bees. Second, beekeeping sounds like fun. Third, I want to be a beekeeper so I can eat and sell honey. Fourth, I can take an exhibit to the fair. Fifth, I want to help bees by being a beekeeper.

OSBA is forming a Queen Breeding Project within Ohio

This is a several Phased project beginning with queen rearing classes around the state.

The OSBA Queen Rearing Class for the counties which make up the "Western Reserve" will be held May 18th, 20th, and 30th at 2:00 p.m. at "Dew-Bee Honey Farm" 3524 Ravenna Warren Rd. Newton Falls Ohio 44444.

Class size is limited to 20 participants. In order to fairly represent all of the Counties in the Western Reserve, we would like to have 2 participants from each county attend the class.

Breeder Stock from Sue Cobey and Joe Latshaw has been donated for the project and class participants will be grafting and raising queens from this stock. All grafting supplies and lesson material will be supplied. Participants will need to bring a nucleus colony with bees on the last day of class to bring home ripe queen cells.

For more information please contact:

Brian Neuman

3524 Ravenna Warren Rd.

Newton Falls Ohio 44444

330-872-7841

beedude@earthlink.net

www.trumbullcountybeekeepers.org

1/1/2007 Through 4/23/2007

Income Categories:

Savings Interest 9.28
 Beekeeping for Dummies 20.00
 Bee Classes : Books 20.00
 Auction : Bee Package 100.50
 50/50 Raffle 210.25
 Honey Judging Class 515.00
 Bee Classes - Unassigned 980.00
 Membership : Dues 1,400.00
Total Income Categories 3,255.03

Expense Categories :

Bills : Corporation Fee 25.00
 Supplies : Ink 29.00
 Web Site : Quarterly Fee 29.85
 Entertainment : Food 49.41
 Supplies : Postage 90.09
 Entertainment : Speaker fee 175.00
 Buzz Newsletter : Postage 186.81
 Education : Honey Judging 289.21
 County Fair : Entry Fee 350.00
 Scholarship : Prizes 442.00
 Bills : Insurance 500.00
 Buzz Newsletter : Printing 793.09
Total Expense Categories 2,959.46

Grand Total 295.57

Account Balances As of 4/23/2007

Assets:

Bank and Cash Accounts
 Lorain National Bank Checking 1,309.97
 Lorain National Bank Savings 12,554.03
 Petty Cash 144.62
 Total Bank and Cash Accounts 14,008.62
Total Assets 14,008.62

Liabilities

Other Liabilities
 Building Fund 4,675.51
 Total Other Liabilities 4,675.51
Total Liabilities 4,675.51

Net Worth 9,333.11



MEMBERS BEE LOSS POLL

At our regular meeting in April, Don Lyons suggested we take a poll on colony loss from those present. So he made up a sheet and it was passed throughout the members and numbers were put down on colonies going into winter and how many were lost coming out of winter.

The majority of LCBA members is of course, from Lorain County, but we also have members from many other counties such as, Huron, Ashland, Medina and Cuyahoga.

Colony totals from those counties going into winter were 369. Colony totals coming out of winter were 87. There was an approximate 76% loss just within our group.

The losses were attributed to being mostly winter related, starvation, and other various reasons. None were attributed to CCD.

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
 April 25, 2007 7:00 p.m. Henrietta Twp. Hall**

Executive Members Present: Bob Hooker, Dave Williams, Valerie Weiss, Bill Vittori, Jim Toole, Karin Wishner and Chris Lyons. Members Present: Denzil St. Clair, Bob Bodkins.

Meeting opened with the treasurer's report. Dave presented the members with a graph of the clubs worth over the period of 1/1/04 through 4/23/07. The club's net worth is currently \$9300.

Field Day is May 5, 2007. Clean up is scheduled for Sunday, April 29 at 1:00. Denzil presented a list of inventory items the club already has for field day and discussion of remaining main items needed was addressed. Side dishes and deserts will be donated by members attending field day. Any new ideas for set up or needed items for field day should be brought to clean-up day.

There was discussion on the queen rearing demonstrations that will be held at field day.

Karin is presenting a proposal for the OSBA meeting in the fall at a meeting on April 26. The fall meeting will be held at Columbia School.

The Cookbook committee is still having trouble finding a company that supplies a certain binder they have in mind for the cookbook. There are a few different options on printing and putting together the book if a binder is not found.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Chris Lyons

TEN-YEAR SUPER LIFE

Hive Painting tips sent in by Don Yates

- Corners – 1/8-inch min. radius – hand file & sand.
- Use good waterproof glue – Polyurethane i.e. Gorilla or Elmer's Ultimate Glue.
- Use glue & nails to assemble. After glue has dried, remove excess runs with a sander.
- Treat exterior surfaces – 4 sides & top & bottom with wood preservative. We use Cuprinol (Copper Naphthalate) diluted 1:3 in mineral spirits. Do not paint interiors. Bottom boards can be treated on all sides.
- Painting – Do Not Use Latex Paint. Even if you sand all edges, latex paint will only last 2 years max.
- Paint your boxes with a high quality oil base primer. (Home Depot)
- Paint your boxes with a high quality oil base paint. (Home Depot)
- Remember – Time is our most precious commodity. If you enjoy wasting time & money – paint your hives with latex paint. Latex paint is worthless when it peels & you cannot paint it again while on the hive, you will have a lot of sick and dead bees.
- We are experts on latex paint. We have a half-mile of pasture fence in front of our home. Our Amish neighbors originally painted it. They used a horse-pulled wagon & gasoline engine powered paint sprayer.
- They did not use primer and 95% of their paint has fallen off. Two years ago we repainted the entire fence (\$1,000). And most of our paint fell off because there were still sections without original primer. What happened was, that a crack in the paint would form along the top corners. This would allow moisture in and the entire top surface would be covered with a black mold, allowing the paint to just fall off. We now have to sand off all remaining paint and form a 1/8-inch radius as discussed above.
- This top radius on your brood boxes and supers provides a convenient place to put your hive tool. You can pry brood boxes apart without damaging the paint.

DON YATES