

THE BEE HERDER

A publication of the Medina Co. Beekeeper's Assn.

Check out our new website

www.medinabeekeepers.com

August 2006

Meeting Monday, August 21, 2006 5:00 PM - Dark
Annual Family Picnic & Pot Luck Dinner

The next meeting of the Medina Co. Beekeeper's Association will be held on Monday, August 21st 2006 in the pavilion at Buckeye Woods Park , (on the corner of State Rt. 162 and Deerview Lane) (SR 162 is also called Wedgewood Rd) from 5-ish until dark. The club will provide burgers, bratwurst, and soft drinks, plates and utensils. Please bring a side dish or dessert. Spouses, families, and pets welcome. Pets have to be kept on a leash. If you like to fish, bring your fishing gear and bait. There is a nice pond and our picnic permit covers any necessary fishing licenses. We plan to have games like bean bag toss, horseshoes, croquet, and bocci ball (and prizes !). If you are planning to attend, we need you to e-mail Peggy Garnes by Sunday at garnescp@cs.com or leave a message at 330-723-6265 and let her know how many will be attending so she can buy enough burgers and brats. Thanks. Pray for no rain and it probably would also be a good idea to bring a couple lawn chairs and insect repellent. See you there ! You can copy and paste this web address below into your internet browser to go directly to mapquest directions to the park, or, request your own mapquest map by typing in the park address of: **6364 Deerview Lane, Medina, OH 44256-8008**

[://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?address=6364%20Deerview%20Ln&city=Medina&state=OH&zipcode=44256%2d8008&country=US&title=%3cb%3e6364%20Deerview%20Ln%3c%2fb%3e%3cbr%20%2f%3e%20Medina%2c%20OH%2044256%2d8008%2c%20%20US&cid=Ifm amlink2&name=](http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?address=6364%20Deerview%20Ln&city=Medina&state=OH&zipcode=44256%2d8008&country=US&title=%3cb%3e6364%20Deerview%20Ln%3c%2fb%3e%3cbr%20%2f%3e%20Medina%2c%20OH%2044256%2d8008%2c%20%20US&cid=Ifm amlink2&name=)

Fair Wrap-Up

We would like to thank all those who were able to participate in the county fair this year. It turned out to be a hot... hot ...hot week. Did I mention it was hot? Thanks for being so faithful and showing up for your shifts (and thank you Bonnie for calling to remind everyone).

It turned out to be a slow start with the high humidity and temperatures at the start of the week, but as usual it picked up and got crazy for the Friday night and Saturday shifts when the weather cooled. For those of you who were out of town or unable to work, we missed your smiling faces and your knowledge that you share. For those of you who were first-timers, didn't we tell you that you would have a good time? It is very fun and satisfying to teach the public about local varieties of honey and the birds and the bees. We got quite a few individuals sign up that showed interest in the Beginning Beekeeping Class to be held in March. The clean-up job that we did at the July meeting was fabulous and the booth still looked good at the start of the fair. Mike has done a stunning history and analysis of sales and earnings for the past several years (see

Treasurers Report). Our new additions to the booth included a new turntable for the observation hive designed by Chuck Garnes, a plexiglass cover for the extractor so you can see inside designed by Mike Rossander, a new paint job and child's step on the extractor designed by Judy & Matt Fox, oodles and oodles of greenery provided by Peggy Garnes, the new candle rolling area expertly supervised by Jane Dew, and the new extraction demo area run every night by Tom Jefferies. Check out the web site for photos !!

Treasurer's Report

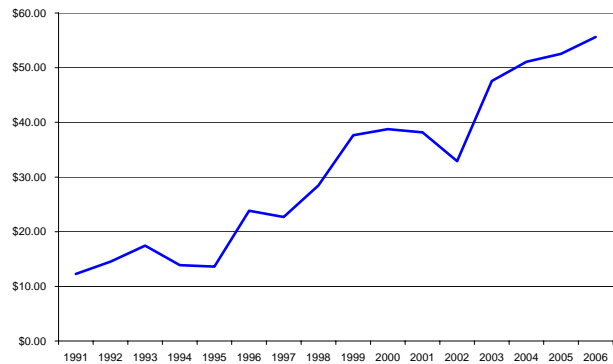
Thanks to everyone who helped make the Fair great. Twelve people brought honey and other products to the Fair to sell. It was a lot of fun and I think we taught some people about bees and honey.

Sales were better than expected given the weather and the attendance at the Fair. Our sales this year worked out to about \$55½ per 1000 people attending the Fair. That's up from about \$52½ last year. In part, this was due to our price increase. The Executive Committee raised prices on honey by an average of 15% to bring our prices more into line with retail prices for premium local honey.

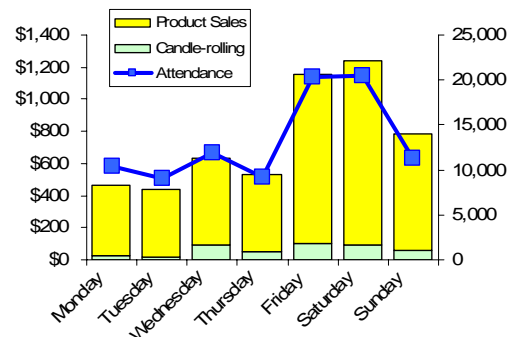
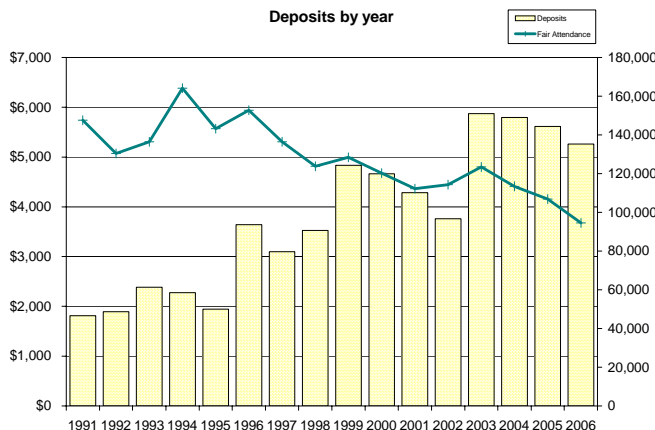
Of the products brought to market, 99% of the comb and chunk honey sold by the end of the Fair. 60% of creamed honeys and 45% of the lotions and lip balms sold as well but only 29% of the candles brought in were sold. Several customers asked where they would be able to buy the candles come holiday season but were not ready to buy in mid-summer. The candy and honey stix were, as always, an excellent sale. In the extracted honey, we sold 75% of honeys brought for sale. More people brought smaller sized bears and jars this year and the smaller sizes tended to sell out sooner. We sold 80 lbs of the club's honey straight from the extraction demonstrations. Candle-rolling was up this year despite the lower attendance but it was off-set by the decision not to do face-painting. (The Fair Board asked us to give up the face-painting because it was competing with too many other vendors at the Fair.)

Unfortunately, the hot weather early in the week and then the rain on Thursday really kept people away. Overall attendance at the Fair was down 12% from last year. This continues the general downward trend in attendance at the Fair. The daily variation in our deposits from sales track almost exactly with the daily attendance figures from the Fair.

Sales per 1000 people



Deposits by year



Our preliminary numbers for the Fair are:

INCOME	
Sales, honey	3,339.46
Sales, candles	203.31
Sales, lotions etc	186.48
Sales, candy	964.70
Sales, candle-rolling	<u>402.47</u>
Sub-total, Sales	5096.42
Cost of sales, honey	(2,466.00)
Cost of sales, candles	(176.40)
Cost of sales, lotions etc	(161.80)
Cost of sales, candy	<u>(533.05)</u>
Sub-total, member earnings	<u>(3,337.25)</u>
Net INCOME	1,758.77
EXPENSES	
Queen bee	16.00
Charity	100.00
Fees	122.00
Meals & Entertn	74.20
Supplies	150.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>462.80</u>
OVERALL TOTAL	1,295.97

Our financials up through July (which includes some Fair costs and the deposits from Monday night) are:

	July 2006	YTD
INCOME		
Sales	466.75	562.75
Education Fees	0.00	1065.00
Member Dues	0.00	630.00
Other Income	0.00	458.00
TOTAL INCOME	<u>466.75</u>	<u>2,715.75</u>
EXPENSES		
Advertising	0.00	10.00
Bees	16.00	161.00
Charity	0.00	100.00
Education	0.00	820.00
Fees	50.00	50.00
Insurance	0.00	531.00
Meals & Entertn	74.21	109.21
Miscellaneous	0.00	30.00
Newsletter	40.30	482.60
Speaker Honorarium	0.00	240.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>180.51</u>	<u>2,533.81</u>
OVERALL TOTAL	286.24	181.94

Balance as of 31 July 2006: \$1444

Notes:

- Sales are reduced by two factors.
 - Our published prices included sales tax where appropriate. The Sales numbers above are adjusted to take the sales tax out. We accrued \$86.63 to pay Ohio Sales Tax. This amount will be payable in January 2007.
 - Our sales were also adjusted for shrinkage. This year, we had a \$121.10 discrepancy between the actual deposits and the reported sales based on inventory counts. That shrinkage could have been due to mistakes making change for customers, errors in an inventory count, shoplifting, etc. The total discrepancy works out to only 2.3% of total sales and is probably not unusual given our situation.
- Cost of Sales are the earnings returned to the members who brought the products in for sale
- The queen bee was for the observation hive. The charitable donation was to support the Fair Board by sponsoring one of their carts. The fees were primarily entrance fees for members who were working the booth. Meals & Entertainment was the pizza from the July meeting when we cleaned out the building. Supplies included bags, tasting spoons, etc.

Honey-White

- 1st Jeanne Schell
- 2nd Buzz Riopelle
- 3rd Joe Fugate

Honey-Light Amber

- 1st Christina Hoffman
- 2nd Peggy Garnes
- 3rd Sharon Hasek

Honey-Dark Amber

- 1st Joe Fugate
- 2nd Mike Jurkowski
- 3rd Mike Juszczuk

Creamed Honey

- 1st Victoria Ciotta
- 2nd Sharon Hasek
- 3rd Julie Kall

Chunk Honey

- 1st Christina Hoffman

Comb Honey

- 1st Bruce McAuliffe

Cut Comb Honey

- 1st Peggy Garnes
- 2nd Christina Hoffman

Wax-5 lbs.

- 1st Christina Hoffman
- 2nd Buzz Riopelle
- 3rd Bruce McAuliffe

Molded Beeswax Figures

- 1st Victoria Ciotta
- 2nd Buzz Riopelle

Beeswax Figurine

- 1st Victoria Ciotta
- 2nd Buzz Riopelle

Candles Molded 2 pairs

- 1st Michael Juszczuk-BEST OF SHOW
- 2nd Pete Goik
- 3rd Victoria Ciotta

Candles Dipped

- 1st Victoria Ciotta
- 2nd Buzz Riopelle
- 3rd Julie Kall

Honey Cookies

- 1st Vicki Columbus
- 2ND Valerie Potts
- 3rd Tracie Hanzel

Honey Cake

- 1st Gary Stormer
- 2nd Vickie Columbus
- 3rd Deborah Roniek

Honey Yeast Bread

- 1st Kathleen Schmidt
- 2nd Sarah Parsons
- 3rd Peggy Garnes

**Congratulations
to the
2006 Fair Winners !!**



**APPLICATION MEDINA CO.
BEEKEEPER'S ASSN.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Number of Colonies _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail address _____

Do you wish to receive your newsletter via e-mail
only? Yes or No _____

\$10 for individual or family. Make checks
payable to Medina Co. Beekeeper's Assn. and send
to: Mike Rossander, 1871 Settlers Reserve Way,
Westlake, OH 44145

2006 OFFICERS and OTHER VIP'S:

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Treas: Mike Rossander 440-899-0367

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Apisman@aol.com

Naturalist's Almanac for August

From the Cleveland Metroparks Emerald Necklace Newsletter

Wildflowers: Evening primrose unfolds its pale yellow petals at sunset to be pollinated by night flying insects. Marsh mallow colors browning wetlands, and ironweed begins to offer its dark blue flowers to frantic bees gathering of the last of the season's pollen. New England aster, perhaps the most attractive of the fall asters, begins to bloom this week and continues through September. Its purple flowers with bright yellow centers set it apart from all others. Windstem, a seven-foot-tall, ragged, yellow flower, begins to bloom in open fields and low wet places. When it has "set seed", the seeds contain a two-pronged spear. The seeds latch onto an animal host and travel far away from the parent plant. Poison ivy and deadly nightshade set fruit this week. Chickadees, not affected by the oils, eagerly search for the white poison ivy berries as they ripen. Bottle gentian, an extremely rare and protected plant, begins to bloom at protected places near water.

Flowering Shrubs: Staghorn sumac has set its ripened fuzzy red fruits. First People and the pioneers that followed steeped a lemony tea rich in Vitamin C from the fruits. Today, robins, thrashers and other seed-eating birds take advantage of the bounty.

Birds: Juvenile hummingbirds and their parents begin to appear at local feeders as the young finally leave their thimble-sized nest. Small flocks of American woodcocks begin to migrate towards America's southland. Green-wing teal and hooded merganser ducks begin to pass through northeastern Ohio and move south as well. Nighthawks form "staging" flocks to prepare for their autumn migration. By Labor Day, most nighthawks will be gone from our skies. Migrants include Cape May, Tennessee, magnolia and blackburnian warblers, on their way to the tropics.

Mammals: Coyotes and red foxes shift their diet to fresh fruits and insects as the richness of the season comes forth. Do field mice breathe a sigh of relief?

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