

THE BEE HERDER

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

Check out our new website

www.medinabeekeepers.com

September 2006

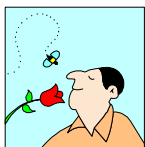
Next Meeting Monday

September 18, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Roy Hendrickson

Topic: Wintering your Hives



FALL FOILAGE TOUR

October 14 & 15, 2006



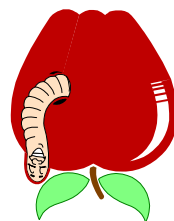
Victoria Ciotta has arranged for the beekeepers association to set up our honey display at the Log Cabin Shop for the Fall Foliage Tour. It is located at 8010 Lafayette Rd. (Rte 42) in Lodi. It is south of Spencer Lake Rd. but north of Rte 224. The Fall Foliage Tour is October 14 & 15 from 12 noon until 6:00 pm. Victoria will make arrangements to set up on Friday afternoon. Come on out and help us educate the public about bees and beekeeping. We will have an observation hive, weather permitting. We will also be able to sell our honey, candles, etc. like at the fair. MCBA will get 20% of the proceeds like at the fair. She will have a sign up sheet at the meeting or let her know by phone 330-278-2260. Shifts will be 12-3 and 3-6 both days. The more people who sign up to educate/sell, the less shifts you will have to work.

“Cool” Refreshments Column

The theme for refreshments this month is going to be a fallfest of apples, cinnamon, nuts and honey. All contributions are welcomed and appreciated. Any questions please call Peggy Garnes at 330-723-6265.

Thanks, Peggy

September: Tim & Ruth Casada
October: *your name here*
November: *your name here*
December: Holiday gathering



The next meeting of the Medina Co. Beekeeper's Assn. will be held on Monday, September 18, 2006 at 7:00 pm in our meeting room at the A. I. Root Co., 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio (at the end of the West Liberty Commons Building). Refreshments will be served.

Roy Hendrickson will be speaking at our next meeting. The topic will be on wintering. He has 30 plus years experience in beekeeping. In the height of his honey production years he was managing 300 plus hives. Along with raising Queens and nuc's he has now cut back to managing 70-80 hives and writes articles for Bee Culture and that "other magazine". Roy has been here before and covered a variety of subjects. He is knowledgeable and experienced, and one of the few remaining commercial operations in this part of the state. He has written several articles for Bee Culture magazine on topics ranging from moving colonies to comb honey production. Don't miss this informative talk and discussion following.

Secretary's Report

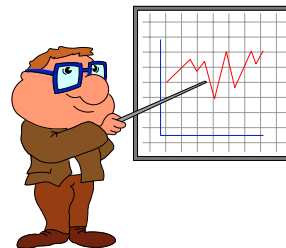


Since the July meeting was fair set-up at the fairgrounds, and the August meeting was a picnic, there are no official meeting minutes to report.



Treasurer's Report

By: Mike Rossander



Having closed the books from the Fair, there's not much new to report. We presented checks for honey sold at the Picnic. If you sold at the Fair but weren't at the Picnic, please see me at the September meeting. If you won't be able to attend the meeting, please contact me directly so we can get the check to you. Thanks again to everyone who helped make the Fair a success.

Our final numbers for the Fair are:

INCOME	
Sales, honey	3,339.46
Sales, candles	203.31
Sales, lotions etc.	186.48
Sales, candy	1,003.89
Sales, candle-rolling	<u>402.47</u>
Sub-total, Sales	5,135.61
Cost of sales, honey	(2,466.40)
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>(3,337.65)</u>
Net INCOME	1,797.96
EXPENSES	
Queen bee	16.00
Charity	100.00
Fees	122.00
Meals & Entertn	74.20
Supplies	150.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	462.80
OVERALL TOTAL	1,335.16

Our financials up through August are:

	August 2006	YTD
INCOME		
Sales	4,668.86	5,231.61
Cost of Sales	(3,337.65)	(3,337.65)
Education Fees	0.00	1,065.00
Member Dues	0.00	630.00
Other Income	0.00	458.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,331.21	4,046.96
EXPENSES		
Advertising	0.00	10.00
Bees	0.00	161.00
Charity	0.00	100.00
Education	0.00	820.00
Fees	122.00	172.00
Insurance	0.00	531.00
Meals & Entertn	66.13	175.34
Miscellaneous	0.00	30.00
Newsletter	40.30	522.90
Speaker Honorarium	0.00	240.00
Supplies	150.60	150.60
TOTAL EXPENSES	379.04	2,912.84
OVERALL TOTAL	952.17	1,134.12

Balance as of 31 Aug 2006: \$2,443.96
less Sales Tax Payable: 47.54

Notes:

- Financial results from the Fair are final. There were two significant changes from last month's preliminary numbers
 - There was a bookkeeping error that undercounted our shrinkage. This year, we had a \$121.10 discrepancy between the actual deposits and the reported sales based on inventory counts. This could have been due to mistakes making change for customers, errors in an inventory count, shoplifting, etc. The total discrepancy works out to 2.3% of total sales.
 - I found a tax accountant who was willing to give us some advice in trade. We have tentatively reclassified the honey stix as non-taxable reducing our total sales tax accrual to \$47.54. The sales tax will be payable to the State of Ohio in January 2007.
- Cost of Sales are the earnings returned to the members who brought the products in for sale
- \$50 of the Fees in August were in preparation for the Fall Foliage Tour. The remainder were entry fees for staff manning the booth at the Fair.
- Meals & Entertainment covered the food and drinks for the annual picnic
- Supplies were all for the Fair and included bottles for the club's honey, bags for customers and other miscellaneous expenses.

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

For everyone who was wolfing down Margie Rossander's bakery at the picnic,
here is her secret family recipe:

Cinnamon Cheesecake Bars

2 tubes crescent rolls at room temperature

Filling:

2 blocks of cream cheese

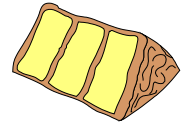
1 cup sugar

1 tsp. vanilla

Topping:

1 stick butter, melted

¼ cup sugar plus 1 tsp. cinnamon



Line 9 x 13 pan with foil (makes removing bars much easier). Place 1 tube of crescent rolls on bottom and pinch seams together. Spread with well-mixed cream cheese mixture. Top with 2nd tube of crescent rolls and pinch seams. Pour butter over top crust and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool prior to removing foil, return to baking pan then slice into bars.

That is the original recipe. I lessen the calories with reduced fat cream cheese, 1/3 less sugar and 1/3 less butter.



Thinking of Winter

By: Kim Flottum, Editor Bee Culture Magazine

About Labor Day is when our honey bees begin thinking of winter. It's when nights become longer, evening temperatures cool, flowers become scarce and the queen's thousand-a-day egg laying slows. This leaves unused space in the nursery, located in the bottom box or two of a beehive, but this space is not wasted. It is quickly filled with honey and pollen to feed our bees all winter and into the spring.

These are the preparations needed for that long down time bees must endure each year. Everything they do is aimed at reducing their population to a healthy minimum in the fall, and storing enough food in just the right place in their nest to last all winter. They must not only save enough for themselves, but enough to feed a population of thousands as colony numbers begin to grow in late January, when the queen's egg laying activity increases. This is long before spring flowers bloom, however, and even then few plants bloom before March. Having enough stored food available before nature's pantry opens in the spring is critical for every colony.

So almost every autumn, right on schedule to fill that empty space there is a late-season nectar flow from Asters and Goldenrod. You can see these marvelous plants from now until there's a hard freeze in mid to late November. Asters tend to grow in farm fields that were recently used – maybe last year or the year before, or on any recently disturbed land. Many varieties grow around northeast Ohio but two are dominant - the common White or Ice Aster, and the not-quite-so-common purple New England Aster. Beekeepers believe that aster honey isn't as good as other wildflower honey – it tends toward dark and bitter – and so leave it for the bees, who love it for winter snacks.

Meanwhile, large stands of Goldenrod grow on land that hasn't been recently disturbed. Of the several varieties found here two are most common. One has a feather or plume-like flower and the other is definitely flat topped. Most years they produce a good crop of moderately strong honey – often likened to butterscotch and, when there is a surplus, sought after by honey connoisseurs. Unique to Goldenrods is that as bees reduce the moisture from its nectar, a strong, distinct odor of malt escapes. If you know beer making you would recognize the smell. New beekeepers are often alarmed when they first experience this as it is the only time of year that it occurs.

As autumn progresses the bees stuff the bottom boxes of their hive almost full of these treasures, leaving less and less room for the queen to lay eggs, and gradually the population dwindles. Beekeepers will sometimes help, moving honey around in the hive so it is positioned just so, so the winter bees will not have to travel far to reach their daily rations. But as they do, they open the needed space for the queen to produce again when spring returns.

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