

THE BEE HERDER

A Publication of the Medina County Beekeeper's Association
www.medinabeekeepers.com

November 2007

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm every third Monday at A. I. Root meeting room at 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio (at the end of the West Liberty Commons Bldg). Check the website for any changes to our regular schedule.

Next Meeting Monday, November 19, 2007

7:00 PM

*Speaker: Dave Duncan – Bee and Wasp Removal
Election of Officers
Annual Honey Production Reporting*

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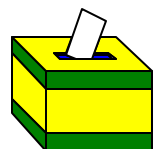
This month we will enjoy an entertaining and informative talk from long-time beekeeper Dave Duncan from Crestline, Ohio. Dave is an active beekeeper and is interested in numerous aspects of this trade. Along with his honey, he also makes beeswax candles, lotions, soaps, and lip balms. He has also become very involved in bee, wasp and hornet removal. Dave has many informative and entertaining stories to share. Don't miss this very informative talk. Refreshments will be served.

Notes – notes- don't forget your notes !

This month's meeting will also be the annual honey production meeting, where we look at honey production across Medina County. Bring your records and your notes and we'll discuss this past season, what went wrong, what went right, and why, and what you can do next year to do better. Bring notes of: ...production for overwintered hives, for packages and for splits if at all possible. Colonies that died over winter, colonies that died during the summer. And bring a list of problems you had during the season...BRING QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR OPERATION THIS YEAR AND WE WILL GET THEM ANSWERED! We'll also take a look at the weather, mites, and the rest, and try to come up with a plan for next year. If you have any proposals for next year's programs, bring them too.

November also brings elections for the officers for the year 2007. Thank you to the nominating committee headed by Bruce McAuliffe for bringing us the following slate of officers. You can still nominate someone for an office before the next meeting with the nominee's consent by calling Bruce at 330-239-2523.

President:	Kim Flottum
Vice-President:	Peggy Garnes
Secretary:	Gwen Rosenberg
Treasurer:	Mike Rossander
Director:	Mike Stefan



Secretary's Report

By: Gwen Rosenberg



Medina County Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2007

The voices of 1,000 angels accompanied by a heavenly orchestra heralded the arrival of the club's newest little cherub. The clouds parted and unto the club Bernard Rosenberg made his presence known by wailing all through the club business. All those in his presence were in awe of this divine little creature and a renewed faith in beekeeping swept over the club like a tidal wave of optimism and joy. The secretary also notes that Bernard's mother was looking fabulous. Unfortunately in a bizarre hospital room mix-up the arriving stork mistook last month's meeting minutes for a dirty diaper and after depositing his precious cargo into awaiting arms, he then flew into the afternoon sun with September's meeting minutes.

In money news, Mike posted his financial report in the newsletter and there was some friendly discussion of fair money.

Stuart reported that the fair board was positively thrilled with the honey gift basket we donated to the pig roast and that it was auctioned for \$70.00. Next year's fair will host The Elephant Encounter again behind our building providing ample opportunity for club members to enhance their home compost piles with exotic poop. Bring your own bucket and shovel. Finally, last year's fair attendance for those of you wanting to know was 107,000 for the week.

Kim Flottum passed out small containers of fondant in an experiment to see which style of fondant feeder worked best. The overriding opinion was that bees would prefer their candy in a milk chocolate cherry cordial, but Kim insisted that the experiment adhere to the scientific method he learned about in beekeeper researcher school.

The nominating committee (Bruce) reported that this year had a record turnout for candidates, but sadly most were either deported, arrested for fraud, sickened from eating a bucket of fondant or so badly misrepresented in campaign ads by their competitors that they withdrew from the contest. So, the ballot this year- conveniently enough has only one person running for each office.

President- Kim

VP - Peggy

Treasurer- Mike

Secretary - Gwen and beautiful perfect gift from the heavens- Bernard

Trustee - Mike

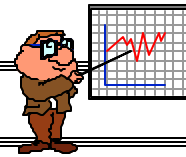
The election is next month so any practical jokers who want to secretly nominate their friends to watch them squirm at the next meeting and come up with lame reasons to try and convince everyone that they are to busy for such a time commitment should call Bruce at (330) 239-2523.

Nancy and Buzz tag-teamed the club with a one-two knock out of a talk on bees and wax. Thanks guys.

Finally, super magic baby, Bernard, and his fabulous mother will not be at the next meeting because Bernard is being Christened to avoid an eternity in limbo which everybody knows doesn't exist anymore- but he's not taking any chances.

Treasurer's Report

By: Mike Rossander



Not much to report since last month.

Financials through the end of October:

At the November meeting, we will be collecting the annual harvest report. Please bring your notes on your harvest for the year. For those new to the club, we generally ask how many full hives you had during the year, how many packages/swarms you started this year and how much honey to collected (per hive) in each category. We split the county up into four quadrants and look for trends in each of the major parts of the county.

I hope you all had a great fall harvest to report. I took off some honey a few weeks ago. Not as much as I would have liked (it never is) but it is very tasty.

See you all at the meeting.

Notes:

- \$85 to Education is the fee for converting some of our beekeeping videos to DVD format.
- \$10 to Miscellaneous represents the cost of fondant handed out for use in the club's experiment on container sizes.

	Oct 2007	YTD
INCOME		
Sales	0.00	6,981.15
Cost of Sales	0.00	(4,997.03)
Education Fees	0.00	765.00
Member Dues	0.00	1,140.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	3,889.12
EXPENSES		
Bank Charge	0.00	10.00
Bees	0.00	120.00
Education	85.00	405.00
Fees	0.00	175.00
Insurance	0.00	500.00
Meals & Entertainment	0.00	131.14
Miscellaneous	10.00	109.58
Newsletter	34.09	357.88
Refreshments	0.00	10.00
Speaker Honorarium	0.00	225.00
Supplies	0.00	253.23
TOTAL EXPENSES	129.09	2,296.83
OVERALL TOTAL	(129.09)	1,592.29

Balance as of 31 Oct 2007: \$3,833.37
less Sales Tax Payable: (55.65)



December Holiday Party



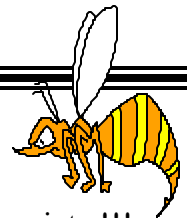
This year we will have our Holiday party as a pot-luck dinner at our A.I. Root meeting room. It will be held on our regular meeting date of Monday, December 17th at 6:30 pm. Peggy Garnes has a sign up sheet for you to list how many will be attending and what you wish to bring, ie. hot side, appetizer, salad, dessert, etc. The club will provide the main meat course. We will also have some sort of gift exchange again and hopefully a fun speaker. Call Peggy if you wish to come to the party and are unable to sign up at the meeting. We will have more details at the meeting.

"Cool Refreshments" Column

November is Thanksgiving and "harvest time" so that is going to be our theme for refreshments this month. Let's see how creative we can get. I'm thinking cranberries and turkey. Thanks a million for all the wonderful desserts and snacks that have been showing up for our meetings. It's wonderful to see all your enthusiasm and culinary skills. All contributions are welcomed and appreciated. Any questions please call Peggy Garnes at 330-723-6265.



BEE YARD UPDATE:



Them girls are all tucked away for zee vinter!!!
Come to the November meeting for more updates...and thanks to the person who fixed the gate.

Bruce Schneider

Our Member Clara Petkac was the winner Spring Workshop Essay contest for her age group 10-17 at the Tri-County Workshop last March. For her prize she received a copy of "The ABC & XYZ of Bee Culture" signed by Kim Flottum. Great job Clara ! We are very proud of you !!



Winner – Clara Petkac – Age 11

My name is Clara. I like to write letters. I am in the 5th grade. I have 2 hives of bees. I am in a family of six. I have 1 brother, 2 sisters, a Mom and a Dad. We all live in one house in Ohio. It was my birthday on February 25th, so I was extra excited for the bee workshop. First it was a long wait in the car. I didn't expect it to take so long to get there. Finally we arrived at the bee workshop. My Mom paid the fee. A man handed me a yellow folder and a name tag. As soon as we got settled we went to a talk called "Hive Beetles".

At the talk the main man talked about what hive beetles look like, what they do, what they eat, and how they act. My favorite part was when he talked about how bees form something called the jail. I thought it was cool. After the talk my family went to the lunch room. I ate one powdered donut. My mother thought that it was a big event for me and my sisters Lucy and Elizabeth, so we went to the kids class.

At the first kids class they showed us a movie. I thought it was cute and so did my mom. We also learned some great fast facts. We learned all sorts of things like bee parts, bee jobs, and bee history. Next after the kids class we met at the car. When everybody was ready we drove to lunch. I ate spaghetti. I love pasta, noodles and spaghetti. After a soothing lunch we drove back, and were ready for the seconds kids class.

We quietly crept into the room because it already started. We were late. When I sat down in front of me was bee body parts. We were making a bee. I think my bee was the smartest one there. Making a bee was not quick, but it did take up a lot of time! Then there was 10 min. left when everyone was done with their bee. Just enough for juice and crackers and one quick bee game.

20 minutes later it was time for the 3rd kids class. When all of the kids had settled down they showed us a bee power point. It was all about bees. After that she taught us how to make a candy queen bee and all the stages. It was fun and delicious, but the fun ended there, all the classes were over.

Back at the lunch room we all met. No one was lost. We went looking for supplies to buy. My brother bought some tools like the hive tool. To remember this fun day we bought a welcome sign with bees on it and 2 car magnets, which say "American Beekeepers" and "I Love Honey Bees". Just as my family was leaving I looked at the door prizes and one said "Clara" on it! I told my mom, and after all I won 3 jars with lids. I had so much fun here. For sure I am coming next year. Love, Clara the Beekeeper

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