

THE BEE HERDER

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

January 2008

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.
www.medinabeekeepers.com

Next Meeting : Monday, January 21, 2008
7:00 PM

Speaker: Kim Flottum
Beekeeping Math, The Numbers Game All Beekeepers Play

This month our speaker will be our own Kim Flottum talking about: "Beekeeping Math, The Numbers Game All Beekeepers Play". You'll have to come to the meeting to hear what this is all about. Plus, he'll talk about mid-winter management, feeding and the like. Bring your bee questions, problems and ideas on what type of programs and speakers you would like to see this year. Peggy Garnes has been hard at work coming up with new and exciting things but would like to hear from you and what speakers you would like to see. If you have a special beekeeping talent that you wish to share with the association, we would love to have you as our monthly feature.

Shirts are in !! If you worked your 3 or 4 shifts at the fair last year and were eligible to get a club shirt, they are finished and ready for pick-up at the meeting. They turned out great, and be sure to thank Peggy for her hard work coordinating this and finding a place that does great embroidery. We're sure you will all be pleased with how they turned out.

The Christmas party was very fun as usual. Thanks a million to Judy Fox for playing "Santa" and providing everyone in attendance with a bee related gift. It's pretty amazing the variety of bee items that are out there. Some very cute, very creative and some very crazy ! If you missed the party, we missed you too. Also a huge thanks goes out to Peggy Garnes for coordinating this event and providing the main course of ham and turkey, and thanks to all the members who brought such awesome fare.

Our annual Beginner Beekeeper's Workshop is being planned for Feb 9 & 16, 2008 (see details later in this newsletter). Any current paid members can attend this class for free but you will not receive the information packet or book. You may sign up at the meeting.

Medina County is currently without a County Bee Inspector. This is part-time work and is paid a flat rate plus mileage. If you are looking for work and have the time, this could be the perfect job for you. See Kim at the meeting for more information.

We are starting to compile the 2008 swarm list for the county. If you wish to be on the list, please e-mail Kim@Beeculture.com or Mike_Rossander@yahoo.com. We need to know your name, phone number, and which part of the county you cover.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

by: Kathy Summers
November 19, 2007



Medina County Beekeepers Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order @ 7:08 p.m.

Terry Bradley handed out raffle tickets.

Our secretary Gwen was not present, so Kathy Summers took the notes for the meeting.

Motion made and seconded to accept Secretary's minutes as printed in the newsletter. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report as printed in the last newsletter. Motion made and seconded to accept treasurer's report. Motion carried with one abstention, Bruce Schneider.

There was a brief discussion about raising dues. The consensus was no.

The Christmas dinner sign-up sheets were posted. The dinner will be December 17 at the regular meeting room, 7:00 p.m. Judy Fox has accumulated gifts to give away to each person who attends.

Election – Bruce McAuliffe presented names for the offices and asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. The ballot was as follows:

President: Kim Flottum

Vice President: Peggy Games

Treasurer: Mike Rossander

Secretary: Gwen Rosenberg

Trustee: Mike Stefan

There was a motion and a second to close nominations and motion passed. The secretary cast one ballot for the new officers.

Beeyard Report: Kim received a call that one of our hives had tipped over in the Medina County beeyard. He went over to straighten it up, discovering that the hive stand it was sitting on had rotted. Our President said it was the first documented case of "Colony Collapse Disorder" in Medina. He was approached by a neighbor who said he didn't know who to call.

Medina County Library Observation Hive: The grand opening will be January 12 for the new library. The library has said they will hold a special tour for any Medina County beekeepers that want to attend prior to that date. They will notify us when Draper's is building the hive and it should be in place, minus the bees for the grand opening. The entrance will still need to be constructed once the hive is in place and we can get exact measurements.

New Business: Kim has located a company that is making a new Honey Candy that may take the place of what we have been using. He passed out samples.

Tony Armeni introduced our speaker for the evening, Dave Duncan who talked about "Bee and Pest Removal."

After Dave's talk we discussed county honey production. Mike Rossander calculated the figures in excel as we went.

There were 31 in attendance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

by: Gwen Rosenberg
December 17, 2007



Medina County Beekeepers Meeting Minutes

Ohhhhhhboy! What a holiday party we beekeepers threw for ourselves- Hot Dog! No there were no actual hot dogs there because Peggy put on a fabulous spread with the assistance of all the members who brought sides and desserts. There was noodles, salads, chili, homemade breads, and all manner of sweet delights- even a fancy punch!

Judy Fox played Santa to all the beekeepers by distributing gifts to everyone. No kidding, she spent the last TWO years collecting bee related items at garage sales, flea markets, and unsuspecting neighbors backyards, and wrapped about 100 of these items for a gift exchange that we all enjoyed immensely - Thanks Judy!

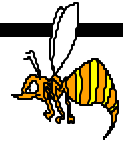
The highlight of the evening was the club's decision to honor Bernie Bihn by voting unanimously to make him a lifetime member of the Medina County Beekeepers. Bernie is a tremendous asset to our club, a friend to new members, and a valuable voice of experience to us all. He selflessly shares swarms, even in the spring, and is a contributing factor to the success of our club. Congratulations to you Bernie and thank you!

We all stumbled out of the party merrier, with full bellies and gifts in hand. The new year offers the promise of more bee meetings, more honey sweetened snacks and lots more conversation about bees and keeping them. Happy New Year!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUES **ARE DUE!!**

It seems like we just did this, but it is a new year already. Enclosed for your convenience is a membership renewal application. Keep up with the latest in beekeeping and keep your membership active!! If you are still receiving your newsletter via U.S. Mail and your complimentary e-mail version or web site retrieval is working well for you, please consider getting it via computer all year. Thanks to all of you who have signed up for this. The association was able to save a lot of money last year, enabling us to save our funds for speakers and education efforts. Please renew your dues using the application enclosed in this newsletter and check off e-mail if you can! Thanks ☺

Medina County Beginner Beekeeper's Workshop



Feb 9 & 16, 2008

The Medina County Beekeepers will sponsor their regular Beginning Beekeeper's Workshop on two consecutive Saturdays - February 9th and 16th 2008. The classes will be held from 9 AM until 3 PM both days.

These classes are for anyone interested in starting out in beekeeping, or for any beekeeper looking for a refresher course.

Content covers where to put your bees, good neighbor considerations, the equipment you will need, managing your colonies through the season, troubleshooting and solving problems, producing and harvesting honey and preparing colonies for winter.

We'll provide information on where to obtain bees and equipment, when to get them and how to install them in your equipment.

Cost to attend the class is \$45.00 per person, or \$50.00 per family (no limit on family size). Materials include an excellent instructional book, catalogs, magazines and other handout material. Families receive a single information packet. This fee also includes annual membership dues in the Medina County Beekeeper's Association - a \$20.00 value.

Classes will be held at the A. I. Root Company meeting room at 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio. Doors open at 8:30 AM, and classes end right at 3:00 PM. Payment can be made at the first session, but pre-registration is required so we have enough materials prepared.

For more information contact Kim Flottum, Medina County President days at 330.725.6677 ext. 3214, or evenings at 330.722.2021.

There is some limit to space so please register early so we can prepare.

Saturday, March 1, 2008 30th Annual Beekeeping Workshop

Ohio State University Extension and Tri-County Beekeepers Association of Northeastern Ohio will hold their 30th Annual Beekeeping Workshop on Saturday, March 1, 2008, at The Ohio State University, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC). OARDC is located on State Route 83 south of US 30 in Wooster, Ohio. This is the largest one-day workshop in the United States. More information on topics and keynote speakers will be in the next edition of this newsletter.

Contact Info:

Sherry Ferrell , Bee Lab Coordinator

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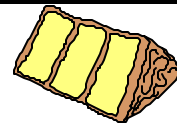
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Cool Refreshments Column



Thanks to all who have been able to contribute to the refreshments table each and every month. It is really appreciated and we are very grateful for your talents and generosity. We are in need of volunteers for this month. If you have the time, please bring something to share. There is no special cooking "theme" this month so anything goes! Thanks in advance....

Treasurer's Report

By: Mike Rossander

Well, it's end of year and time to look back at the budget. Overall, the club did much better than expected this past year. We expected to break even but ended up putting about \$900 in the bank over the course of the year. Special thanks to everyone who has been able to receive the newsletter via email. The savings in printing and postage were substantial (about \$300 for the year).

Some of the rest of the favorable variance was due to better than expected sales that came from the much higher attendance at the Fair this year. But that didn't really account for all that much (only about \$150) since most of the benefit of increased sales was passed back to the members.

The majority of the variance from our budget last year came from the deferral of purchases. For example, we budgeted for a new sign for the Fair building but couldn't get it ordered. We also budgeted for some replacement equipment for the bee yard that didn't get spent as expected. And we got a financial benefit (though a social loss) when the August picnic got rained out. The Board moved the unmade purchases into the 2008 budget so our plan for 2008 is about the same as our plan was for 2007.

The Directors will be auditing the club's financials over the next few weeks. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.

Note: As part of membership renewal (and to verify that we have the file rebuilt after our computer crash), please let me know if we have your address wrong or if you didn't get a newsletter.



Financials through the end of December:

	Dec 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
Clothing	396.70	396.70
Education	0.00	405.00
Fees	0.00	175.00
Gifts Given	37.82	72.82
Insurance	0.00	500.00
Meals & Entertainment	86.34	217.48
Miscellaneous	0.00	109.58
Newsletter	26.51	418.48
Refreshments	0.00	10.00
Speaker Honorarium	0.00	300.00
Supplies	0.00	253.23
TOTAL EXPENSES	547.37	2,988.29
OVERALL TOTAL	(547.37)	900.83

Balance as of 31 Dec 2007: \$3,141.91
less Sales Tax Payable: (55.65)

Notes:

- Clothing costs were for the shirts for working at the Fair. See the details in the rest of the newsletter.
- Judy & Matt Fox donated all the gifts for the holiday party. The club reimbursed them for the wrapping paper.

Sales Tax for July-Dec 2007 will be paid to the State of Ohio in Jan 2008

Membership Application or Renewal

Medina County Beekeepers Assn.

Name _____

Check here if this is a renewal and all information on the roster is correct. Otherwise, fill out the section below:

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Help MCBA keep costs low. Yes

Can you receive the newsletter by email only? No

(Optional) # of Colonies _____

Dues for 2007 are \$20 for individual or family. Make checks payable to **Medina Co. Beekeepers Assn.** and send to care of:

Mike Rossander, 1871 Settlers Reserve Way, Westlake, OH 44145

Honey proves a better option for childhood cough than OTCs

Wednesday, December 5, 2007 *(reprinted from the National Honey Board website honey.com)*

Hershey, Pa. — Now that the safety and effectiveness of children's cough medicines are in question, what can parents do to help their child deal with a troublesome cough?

A new study by a Penn State College of Medicine research team found that honey may offer parents an effective and safe alternative. The study found that a small dose of buckwheat honey given before bedtime provided better relief of nighttime cough and sleep difficulty in children than no treatment or dextromethorphan (DM), a cough suppressant found in many over-the-counter cold medications.

Honey did a better job reducing the severity, frequency and bothersome nature of nighttime cough from upper respiratory infection than DM or no treatment. Honey also showed a positive effect on the sleep quality of both the coughing child and the child's parents. DM was not significantly better at alleviating symptoms than no treatment.

These findings are especially notable since an FDA advisory board recently recommended that over-the-counter (OTC) cough and cold medicines not be given to children less than 6 years old because of their lack of effectiveness and potential for side effects.

The results are published by Penn State College of Medicine researchers, led by Ian Paul, M.D., M.Sc., in this month's Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

In a previous study published in 2004, Paul and colleagues showed that neither DM nor diphenhydramine, another common component of cold medications, performed better than a placebo at reducing nighttime cough or improving sleep quality. However, honey has been used for centuries in some cultures to treat upper respiratory infection symptoms like cough, and is considered to be safe for children over 12 months old. Honey has well-established antioxidant and antimicrobial effects, which could explain its contributions to wound healing. Honey also soothes on contact, which may help explain its effect on cough as suggested by the World Health Organization.

In the latest study, the researchers enrolled 105 children between the ages of 2 and 18 at a single university-affiliated physician practice site. On the first night of the study, children received no treatment. Parents answered five questions about their child's cough and sleep quality as well as about their own sleep quality. On the second night, children received either honey, artificial honey-flavored DM or no treatment about a half hour prior to going to bed. Parents answered the same five questions the following morning.

The randomized study was partially double-blinded: Medical staff did not know what treatment each participating family received when distributing their sealed syringe-containing envelope. Parents of children who received honey or artificial honey-flavored DM in a measured syringe were blinded to their treatment group. Parents of children in the no treatment group received an empty syringe, and therefore were aware of their child's treatment group. Across the board, parents rated honey as significantly better than DM or no treatment for symptomatic relief of their child's nighttime cough and sleep difficulty. In a few cases, parents did report mild side effects with the honey treatment, such as hyperactivity.

"Our study adds to the growing literature questioning the use of DM in children, but it also offers a legitimate and safe alternative for physicians and parents," said Paul, a pediatrician, researcher and associate professor of pediatrics at Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Children's Hospital. "Additional studies should certainly be considered, but we hope that medical professionals will consider the positive potential of honey as a treatment given the lack of proven efficacy, expense, and potential for adverse effects associated with the use of DM." Potentially dangerous effects of DM in young children include dystonic reactions, severe involuntary muscle contractions and spasms. Further, DM is commonly used as a drug of abuse by adolescents.

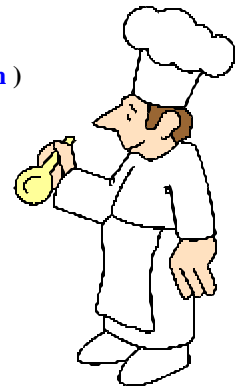
Cough is the reason for nearly three percent of all outpatient visits in the United States, more than any other symptom. It is particularly bothersome at night because it disrupts sleep. Consumers spend billions of dollars each year on OTC cough and cold medications despite little evidence that these drugs provide significant relief.

This study was funded by an unrestricted grant from the National Honey Board, an industry-funded agency of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Honey Garlic Pork Chops (from honey.com)

- Makes 4 servings -

Ingredients: ¼ C lemon juice
¼ C honey
2 T. soy sauce
1 T. dry sherry
2 cloves garlic minced
4 (4 oz) boneless center-cut pork chops, lean



Combine all ingredients except pork chops in small bowl. Place pork in shallow baking dish. Pour marinade over pork. Cover and refrigerate 4 hours or overnight. Remove port from marinade. Heat remaining marinade in small saucepan over medium heat to simmer. Broil port 4-6 inches from heat source 12 – 15 minutes, turning once during cooking and basting frequently with marinade. (May also be grilled).

Tips: This elegant yet simple recipe cuts the fat, not the flavor.
Versatile, wholesome honey adds its golden touch to this and every dish.

Nutritional Information:

*Calories: 248 Calories from Fat: 26% Carbohydrates: 20 g Cholesterol: 61 mg
Dietary Fiber: <1 g Fat Total: 7 g Protein: 25 g Sodium: 604 mg*

THE BEE HERDER

c/o 701 w. River Rd.

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*Have a honey
of a New Year!*