

THE BEE HERDER

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

February 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, February 18, 2008
7:00 PM

Speaker: Joe Latshaw
Queen rearing, evaluating stock and making splits/increases

Joe will be speaking at the February meeting on queen rearing, evaluating stock and making splits/increases. Joe Latshaw is the owner of Latshaw Apiaries and recently completed his doctorate degree at Arizona State University. He has been working with bees for over 20 years beginning at age eight. Joe's graduate work focused on the study of behavioral genetics and learning in honey bees. Latshaw Apiaries provides an opportunity for Joe to work on applied genetics and to improve the instrumental insemination technique through equipment design and production. Joe designed a simplified, award-winning instrumental insemination device in 1998 and continuously searches for ways to improve and simplify the technique. Latshaw Apiaries distributes instrumentally inseminated breeder queens to beekeepers across the United States who then raise naturally mated daughters for production purposes. In addition, Joe has assumed the role of the 2008 state coordinator for the Ohio Queen Project (OQP). The OQP provides an opportunity to develop a regional stock improvement program and offer queen rearing training for local beekeepers.

The club bee yard needs help !! Our beeyard needs more boxes on their hives, but our bees really like those cool and pretty ones that our members like to decorate. So we are having our Second Beeyard Box Decorating Contest. The club will be purchasing 15 medium boxes for this purpose and will bring them to the February meeting for distribution. Only one entry per family. Paint your box and bring it back to the March meeting for voting. Winner gets a one-year subscription to Bee Culture Magazine. If you want to enter, you must call Bruce Schneider to get your name on the list for a box 330-278-2260. Get out your creative ideas and get your brushes wet!

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.



Cleveland Botanical Garden "Bugged Out" Exhibit



The Cleveland Botanical Gardens is holding their annual "Bugged Out" exhibit on March 15-31, 2008. Gwen and Aaron Rosenberg have in the past couple years been their volunteer speakers in the honey bee area, but this year they are unable to participate. The Gardens is looking for someone to take their place on the weekend of March 29-30, 2008. You are allowed to sell your honey if you participate although it's mostly an educational exhibit. If you are interested in this position, please contact Gwen or Aaron at 330-676-1602 and they will provide you with the contact information.



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SECRETARY'S REPORT

by: Gwen Rosenberg
January 21, 2008



Medina County Beekeepers Meeting Minutes

This meeting of the Medina County beekeepers was called to order slightly later than usual on account of the Assistant to the Secretary. His nonconformist schedule of mealtime and lavatory breaks prevented the Secretary from reporting to duty by the regular meeting time. This ugly episode serves as an excellent example of why nepotism in all its forms should be banned from this club. Therefore, I propose that all future appointees of Assistants to the Secretary meet a minimum age requirement of 6 months or possess the ability to independently eat cheerios. Persons seeking to fill the office of Assistant to the Secretary who do not meet the minimum age requirement or fulfill the cheerio eating prerequisite shall be considered only for the position of Assistant to the Secretary-in-training until such time that he or she can fulfill one or both requirements. Unfortunately, for young Mr. Rosenberg this motion will mean a demotion from his original post to that of Assistant to the Secretary-in-training.

On a much more positive note, Bernie Bihn was officially honored with a lifetime membership to the Bee club and was awarded a plaque acknowledging his contribution to our club and to the advancement of beekeeping in general. Thanks so much Bernie, Congratulations! After the award he shook hands with members, and entertained photographers requests for photos with he and the current president and our youngest club member also named Bernie.

The Treasurer's report was a whopper of a light and number display that had all the wizardry of a July 4th fireworks spectacular. The entire back wall of the meeting room glowed with numbers and columns that were made all the more brilliant because these numbers had all recently been audited by two club directors. Thanks Mike for passing the audit with a gold star. The report was accepted by the club and we all think you should be in charge of all those numbers forever.

Dues are due so pay up, or risk bad beekeeping karma from freezing all your bees this winter.

The Secretary's report was generally agreed to be a touching and poignant reminder of all the fun we had last month. It was quietly accepted as a beautiful memoir of one woman's brave attendance at a bee club Christmas party on a cold night in December 2007.

Shirts are in did you get one? If not, work the fair!

The beginner bee class is Feb. 9^h and 16th. It's free for members (but no book for you) and \$45 for individuals or \$50 for a family.

Calling all Inspector wannabes! Become a bee inspector and live the fast pace life of our county's number one bee cop. It pays @ \$4,000 plus mileage so contact Kim for your opportunity of a lifetime.

Bruce has been in the beeyard and we're going to have a box decorating contest!! Don't you bother entering because I'm going to win the prize of a year's subscription to Bee Culture. Yeah, you heard me that prize is all mine, baby. Ain't nobody gonna decorate a box like the box I'm gonna style. Please sign up to get your box at the next meeting. Bring it back in March and we'll judge it in April. (That's when I plan on winning)

The club needs people to sign up for refreshments and Peggy could use some meeting topic ideas.

There are plenty more meetings if you're not getting enough of our meetings. Try Wooster on March 1st or the Western Reserve Meeting May 24th from 9 to 2. We are going to sponsor that meeting right here with great speakers, great food and our very own bees so plan to come. Also, if PA appeals to you then hit the Penn State meeting Feb. 15-16.

Kim passed out candy, honey sticks, fondant and bee feed for us to try. Then he talked all about bees and numbers and numbers of bees and so forth. Thanks Kim.

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 ☺

2008 Western Reserve Beekeepers Field Day

Hosted by the Medina Beekeepers Association and AI Root

Saturday May 24th 8:30 – 2:30

A. I. Root in Medina will be the location of the Western Reserve Beekeeper's Field Day. Cost is \$20 for non-members of Western Reserve Beekeepers Association (\$20 Registration Includes \$5 WRBA Membership) or \$15 for current WRBA members. Pre-Registering by 5/19 guarantees FREE Hot Lunch, otherwise Walk-Ins are NOT guaranteed lunch. Pre-Register by Phone: 866-529-9233 or Mail to: Western Reserve Beekeepers, P.O. Box 1837, Hiram, OH 44234 or email: jamie@blueskybeesupply.com. Info at: www.westernreservebeekeepers.org

8:30 - 9:00 - Registration

9:00 - 9:15 - Introductions

9:15 - 10:00 - Jennifer Berry, Georgia State Apiarist - Small Cell & Natural Beekeeping

10:00 - 10:45 - Joe Latshaw, Ohio Queen Breeders - Ohio Queen Project

10:45 - 11:00 – VENDOR BREAK

11:00 - 11:45 - Jim Bobb, from Pennsylvania - Honey Plants

11:45 - 12:15 - Q & A

12:15 - 1:15 – LUNCH (Guaranteed if Registered by 5/19)

1:15 - 2:30 - Beeyard

Beeyard:

Colony 1 - Medina Beekeepers Beginners Course

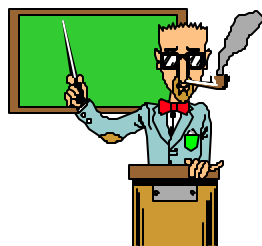
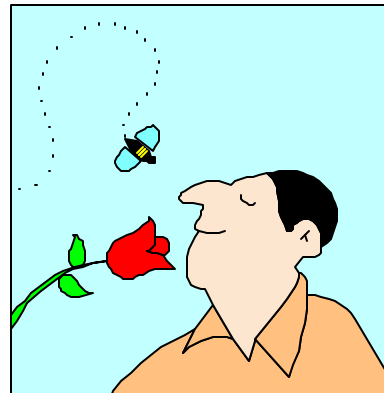
Colony 2 - Jennifer Berry on Pests/Disease Analysis

Colony 3 - Joe Latshaw on Queen Analysis and Breeding Topics

If Rain and No Beeyard:

1:15 - 2:00 - Jennifer Berry on Nutrition Research

2:00 - 2:30 - Joe Latshaw on Evaluating Queens



OSU and Tri-County Beekeepers Assn. 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.

FRIDAY EVENING -- February 29, 2008

7:00 -- 8:00 PM Location: OSU/OARDC Fisher Auditorium Honey Bee Nutrition - Is It Adequate? Dr. James E. Tew, OSU Extension Specialist or "How to Make an Award Winning Candle" Joe & Suzan Kovaleski, TCBA Vice President and Secretary

8:00 - 9:00 PM Location: OSU/OARDC Administration Building - Basement Level OSU Beekeeping Museum Open House with Mr. Dave Heilman, Ohio Honey Farms & Mr. Jim Thompson, OSBA Historian

SATURDAY - February 30, 2008

8:00 - 9:00 AM -- **Registration**

(all contest entries must be turned in to their appropriate place by 9:00 a.m.)
(Hot beverages and Troyer's Amish Donuts and Sweet Rolls provided.)

9:15 - 10:15 AM **Keynote Session** "Sick Bees -- A View from Three States "

- MR. JOHN GRAFTON, Apiary Supervisor, Ohio Dept. of Agriculture
- MR. DENNIS BARCLIFT, Apiary Specialist, Alabama Dept. of Agriculture & Industries
- MR. ED LEVI, Apiary Specialist, Arkansas Dept. of Agriculture

10:15 - 10:45 AM - **BREAK**

10:45 - 11:45 AM -- Workshop Session 1:

Managing Varroa Mites -- Mr. Ed Levi, Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Sensible Management of Colonies--Dr. James E. Tew, Ohio State University Extension
Labeling Laws, Legal Issues, Insurance for Beekeepers--Mr. Kim Flottum, AI Root Co.
What's Cooking in the Kitchen--Deb Geiser, Exec Sous Chef, Chartwells Rest, Ohio Wesleyan Univ.
BASIC BEEKEEPING - Parts of a Hive--. Ruben M. Miller, Miller Apiaries
The Brood Nest - Kids' Session - The Lorain County Beekeepers

11:45 AM -- 1:00 PM --- LUNCH

1:00 - 2:00 PM -- Workshop Session 2:

Small Hive Beetles --Mr. Dennis Barclift, Alabama Dept. of Agriculture and Industries
Colony Collapse Disorder and Your Bees--Mr. John Grafton, Ohio Dept. of Agriculture
Ohio State Beekeepers' Association Queen Project--Dr. Joe Latshaw, Latshaw Apiaries
Making & Marketing Creamed Honey--Mr. David Heilman, Ohio Honey Farms
BASIC BEEKEEPING -Getting Started--Mr. Anthony Simpson, Simpson Bee Supply
The Brood Nest -- Kids' Session --Lorain County Beekeepers

2:00 - 2:30 - BREAK

2:30 - 3:30 PM -- Workshop Session 3:

Managing Brood Diseases--Mr.Dennis Barclift & Mr. Ed Levi
Sensible Management of Bee Colonies--Dr. James E. Tew
Colony Collapse Disorder and Your Bees--Mr. John Grafton
Gardening for Your Honey Bees--Ms. Janet, Foxhead Farms Greenhouse
BASIC BEEKEEPING - Your Calendar Year--Mr. Denzil St. Clair, Queen Right Colonies
The Brood Nest -- Kids' Session--Lorain County Beekeepers

3:45 - 4:15 PM "What's On Your Mind (Question & Answer Session)
If you want you can mail or e-mail your question(s) to ferrell.6@osu.edu)

4:15 - 4:45 PM
Baking and Guessing Contest Winners; Educational Raffle Winner, Closing Comments

4:45 - 6:00 PM OSU Honey Bee Museum Open House @ OARDC Administration Building
Host: Mr. Dave Heilman & Mr. Jim Thompson

Come join us at our 30th Workshop. We hope you're able to attend on March 1, 2008. For more information call 330-263-3684 (if no answer, please leave message), fax: 330-263-3912, e-mail: ferrell.6@osu.edu, or write: Sherry Ferrell, OSU Honey Bee Lab, 1680 Madison Ave, Wooster, OH 44691. Information about the workshop, registration, lunch, directions, honey baked goods contest, and lodging is also on the website at: www.beelab.osu.edu

2008 MCBA Meeting Agendas

Feb 18 Joe Latshaw "Queens"
Mar 17 Pollen Substitutes
April 21 Bee Yard Demo
May 19 Infused Honey
June 16 Lip balm, soap, creamed honey



July 21 Fair Booth clean-up
Aug 18 Club picnic
Sept 15 Your idea here
Oct 20 Your idea here
Nov 17 Your idea here



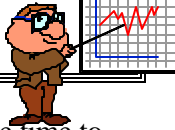
Cool Refreshments Column



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



Thanks to everyone who has already taken the time to renew their dues. If you haven't had the chance yet, please either send in your renewal using the form here in the newsletter or see me at the meeting.

Welcome all the new beekeepers who have joined through the Beginner Beekeeper class. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Special thanks to everyone who has been able to receive the newsletter electronically and help us save on postage and printing. That's still one of the single largest line items in our budget.

I will again have a copy of the membership roster at the meeting. If you didn't get a chance to confirm your address at the January meeting, please check it over in February.

Financials through the end of January:

	Jan 2008	YTD
INCOME		
Member Dues	500.00	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	500.00	500.00
EXPENSES		
Newsletter	39.28	39.28
TOTAL EXPENSES	39.28	39.28
OVERALL TOTAL	460.72	460.72

Balance as of 31 Jan 2008: \$3,546.98

Notes:

Sales Taxes were paid to the State in January to cover the non-food sales made by club members in July-December. We paid \$55.65 in tax on approximately \$6,900 in gross sales.

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 2008 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

Webmaster's Report

We are still taking sign-ups for the Swarm List. The list will be faxed to the local police and fire stations and posted online at <http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/Swarm.html>. If you're interested in having your name listed, please sign up at the meeting.

We now have a "recipes" page on the website. The contents are pretty thin so far but if you have a favorite recipe that you'd like to share, send it in and we'll get it posted.

<http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/Recipes.html>

Lots of upcoming events are listed in the Calendar. <http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/Calendar.html>

Registration forms for the 2008 Tri-County Beekeepers Association meeting in Wooster on Sat, 1 March are available online at

http://www.beelab.osu.edu/news/2008_TCBA_Participant.pdf

Reminder: The annual Apiary Registration with the state is coming due. Most established beekeepers have already received the form in the mail. The Ohio Department of Agriculture charges \$5.00 per apiary regardless of how many colonies you have at the location. If you haven't received the form yet, you can find it online at www.ohioagriculture.gov/pubs/divs/plnt/frms/ap/plnt-ap-4201-002.pdf



Congratulations to Bernie Bihn for being voted in as a Life Member for his years of service to our Association ! Thanks for all your help and advice!



Packaged Bees Driven from Georgia
Delivery April 21, 2008

QUEENS

Italian Queens \$15 each
Russian Hybrid Queens \$19 each

3 LB. PACKAGES

Italians \$71 each
Russian Hybrid Queens \$75 each

4 LB. PACKAGES

Italians \$80 each
Russian Hybrid Queens \$84 each

Early Bird Special:

\$3 off per package ordered and paid for by March 30, 2008

\$1 off per queen ordered and paid for by March 30, 2008

Call Tom Jefferies 440-236-5994
24564 Squires Road
Columbia Station, OH 44028
Tjeffhwb@aol.com
(or see me in person at the meeting)



Queen Right Colonies
Package Bee Prices for 2008

Now taking orders for:
New World Carniolan and Italian Packages

2 LB. PACKAGES \$62.00
3 LB. PACKAGES \$72.00

These are California packages and you actually received 2 and 3 pounds of bees with each package. We also have the largest showroom of bee supplies in Ohio.

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The Bee Herder

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