

# THE BEE HERDER

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

## June 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, June 16, 2008  
7:00 PM**

***Agenda: Creamed Honey, Lip Balm, Soap Making, Cut Comb, Plant Swap and report from Bee Inspector***

This month we will feature several station teaching tables where you can learn how to make various hive products just in time for the fair. Peggy Garnes will be showing how she makes her cut comb honey, Victoria Ciotta will show you how she makes her flavored creamed honey and lip balm, Nancy Riopelle will show you her organic version of lip balm, Christina Hoffman will demo her creamed honey with essential oils added, and finally Jamie Morehead will talk briefly about making soap. Also, we will have our plant swap again this year. If you have a great perennial you would like to swap, please label it with the variety and plant info so the recipient will know what they are incorporating into their garden. Bring one, take one. And finally, our Medina County Bee Inspector Richard Sprague will be here to talk a little bit about what he does and how it all works...There is no official person signed up for refreshments this month so please bring a refreshment or snack to share. Hope to see you there!

*From the President....*

The Medina County Beekeepers Observation hive is up and running at the community library. They've done an incredible job of making the children's section bee friendly, and insect friendly, and the hive is a dream. Buzz and I installed it in late May and as of now it seems to be doing fine. It gets a lot of attention from everybody who visits the library and is their top attraction they tell me. It is the culmination of 2-1/2 years planning, working with the Library Board, the architect and the staff, and it's finally up and running.

Kathy Summers is scheduled to do a couple of honey bee talks there, one on June 19 at 6:30 PM, one on July 16, at 7:00 PM. These are geared to adults and kids and are fairly basic. I'll begin a series of talks right at the observation hive every Tuesday night entitled Listen To The Bees, where folks can come and ask questions, we'll be doing some exercises on brood rearing, honey collection, blooming plants, the queen, workers, drones and like that...it'll last a half hour or so, so if you're in the neighborhood stop by and lend a hand on answering questions.

Medina Beekeepers also donated over \$400 worth of beekeeping and honey bee biology books, paid for from the observation hive endowment we have, so now the library has one of the best up-to-date collections there is, so if you don't already, check out what they have now to catch up on your reading...

Be sure to attend the meeting this month for both the sessions on making beehive products...lip balm, creamed honey, soap and the like, but also for a quick Q & A on what's going on in your beeyard. It's been a crazy spring, and what's next is important to making a good honey crop. So come early with lost of questions, and maybe some answers, and we'll try and get them all answered. See you on Monday, June 16, at 7:00 PM.

Kim

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT

By: Gwen Rosenberg



Medina County Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2008

Tears flowed and club members tossed rice as Kim and Kathy joyfully announced their recent nuptials to a crowded room. The bride wore a sheer backless Vera Wang gown and carried a bouquet of endangered amazonian wild orchids. Kim was striking in a classic black Armani tux. The guest list was a who's who in beekeeping and rumor has it that the cake was a towering rum soaked genoise dripping with artisanal spring tree honey. In lieu of gifts, the happy couple requested that guests contribute to the Medina church in which they were married or to the Medina County Library observation hive fund. The generosity of the beekeeping bridal party resulted in a \$700 contribution to the honeybees in the library. Fresh from their honeymoon in Fiji, the two lovebirds were all smiles and couldn't take their eyes of each other. Congratulations Kim and Kathy!

In other beekeeping news, Mike reports that we have a new roster, the swarm list is on the web page, and that newbies looking for a little friendly advice regarding hives or swarm catching would be well advised to offer generous mentoring type-beekeepers beer in exchange for the favor. As an aside, I do have some experience in the whole "beer market economy" and feel that a word or two here may help those with less experience trading beer for information. The general unspoken etiquette is that you offer the rough equivalent of a case of cheap beer (miller, bud etc.) or a 12-pack of more pricey beer for a trip to apiary for hive examination or a tutorial on swarm catching. Each subsequent trip after the first should allow you (the newbie) an opportunity to be more helpful to the mentor and therefore, need only be traded for the purchase of "a cold one" at a nearby establishment. Now should the mentor give you a swarm it is advised that you consider the adage "swarm in May is worth a mound of hay," in today's dollars that's a 12-pack thoroughly chilled.

Last month, the secretary was accepting the Noble Prize in economics for her research on beer market economies and was unable to attend the meeting-besides we didn't even discuss club business so there were no minutes to approve or discuss.

This Saturday is the Western Reserve Bee Club Meeting hosted by the MCBA. Peggy has an amazing menu planned and there is a great lineup of speakers so come for the speakers and stay for lunch.

Larry Arbogast reports that he has a deal on a '04 Dodge Dakota for any beekeeper looking to upgrade his or her bee truck. This baby has only 28,000 miles on it from grandma going back and forth to church. Call Larry for details it won't last long.

Lastly, the club raffled off a ross round super which disappointingly was not won by the secretary. Peggy is incorruptible.

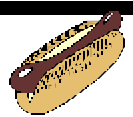
## 2008 MCBA Meeting Agendas

- June 16 Lip balm, soap, creamed honey, cut comb  
Refreshments: Your name here
- July 21 Fair Booth Clean-Up  
Refreshments: Pizza and Soda
- Aug 18 Club Picnic-Buckeye Woods  
Refreshments: Pot Luck
- Sept 15 TBA  
Refreshments: Kathy Summers
- Oct 20 TBA  
Refreshments: Pat Krepp
- Nov 17 TBA
- Dec 15 Holiday Party



### Annual MCBA Family Picnic & Pot Luck Dinner -- Save the Date

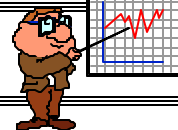
August 18, 2008 5:00 PM – Dark



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 (andprizes !).

# Treasurer's Report

By: Mike Rossander



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Library Fund. This fund was established to support the observation hive and educational activities at the new Medina Library. The fund's financial activity will be reported separately from the club's core finances.

Library Fund financials thru the end of May:

	May 2008	YTD
<b>INCOME</b>		
Gifts Received	730.00	730.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>730.00</b>	<b>730.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
none	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>730.00</b>	<b>730.00</b>

Library fund as of 31 May 2008:  
\$730.00

Library fund notes:

- There have been some expenses for the Library fund but they didn't get reimbursed until June. They will show in next month's report.

## Webmaster's Report

We are going to restart the "classified ads" on the webpage. If any member has something they either want to buy or sell, please email me and we'll get it posted in time for the next meeting.



## Holy Bloomin' Spring !!

Can you believe the luck we have had this year with the fabulous spring blossoms? I don't remember such a beautiful display in a long time. From the early flowering bulbs to the trees and shrubs laden with flowers, the bees must be very happy this year. We escaped the spring frost to the delight of all the bees and beekeepers. The black locust trees were just dripping with blossoms, and the linden/basswood trees are still flowering. Hopefully this will result in a spectacular honey crop. Despite all the problems we are having with our special little bees, it's been a great year to be a beekeeper.



## Western Reserve Meeting

Another success story! For those of you who were unable to attend during the busy Memorial Day weekend, the meeting was great. The featured speakers were very interesting and informative. Jennifer Berry explained the science of small cell beekeeping, and Jim Bobb gave a great presentation and lecture on honey plants for our area. Joe Latshaw explained the importance of breeding our own Ohio queens and discussed the Ohio Queen Project. The weather was wonderful which resulted in a great afternoon in the beeyard. Peggy Garne topped it all off with a fabulous lunch of hot roast beef with mashed potatoes, veggies, and desserts. Thanks to all the club members who were on hand to help out Peggy with the lunch, set up, clean up, and the members who volunteered to direct the guests into to the beeyard and also our beeyard volunteers. Many thanks to Jamie Morehead and Melanie Seal in organizing this great meeting and having it in our backyard. All this hard work and organization helped to show that Medina County is a great place to live. Thanks again.



MCBA Financials through the end of May:

	May 2008	YTD
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sales	0.00	121.50
Education Fees	0.00	910.00
Member Dues	100.00	1,220.00
Other Income	69.00	349.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>169.00</b>	<b>2600.50</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising	0.00	150.00
Bees	0.00	204.00
Charity	0.00	300.00
Education	0.00	400.00
Equipment	0.00	227.29
Gifts given	35.00	35.00
Insurance	500.00	500.00
Licenses & Permits	0.00	5.00
Meals & Entertn	0.00	40.06
Miscellaneous	0.00	51.50
Newsletter	36.40	212.49
Speaker Honorarium	75.00	225.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>646.40</b>	<b>2,350.34</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-477.40</b>	<b>250.16</b>

MCBA balance as of 31 May 2008: \$3,336.42

MCBA Notes:

- Other Income was from the raffle at the May meeting.
- The balance reported for 30 April was in error. The correct balance was \$3,813.82.



**Nucs for Sale...** A mentor of our director Mike Stefan has plenty of nucs for sale. If interested, his name is Mike Haas and his number is 440-352-2414 Ohio queens \$70.00.

The following is a list of beekeepers belonging to the Medina County Beekeepers Association who are willing to volunteer to capture and remove honeybee swarms. Please feel free to call these individuals should you require their assistance.

Name	Phone number(s)	Coverage
Bob Baker	(330) 336-7932	w/in 10 miles of Wadsworth
Bill Moinette	(330) 334-4322	Wadsworth & Guilford Twps
Michael Stefan	(440) 263-9038	Bedford to Willoughby
Bruce Schneider	(330) 278-2260	Medina, Summit & Cuyahoga Counties
David Spieth	(330) 723-7919	All Medina County
Tom Jefferies	(440) 236-5994	North Medina County
Bob Kall	(330) 7258870 (h) (330) 2410295 (c)	All Medina County
Peggy Garnes	(330) 723-6265(h) (330) 416-4148(c)	Lafayette Township
Clyde Sprague	(330) 225-5875	Hinkley, Brunswick & Granger
Richard Sprague	(330) 225-5875	All Medina County & southern Cuyahoga Co.
Stephen Williams	(330) 635-8719	All Medina County
Bob Weber	(440) 734-3868	All Cuyahoga County & northeast Lorain Co.
John Prentice	(330) 483-3109	Valley City, York, Litchfield
John Sente	(440) 845-4742	Parma
Craig Lane	(330) 239-1580	All Medina County
Tim Casada	(330) 242-1728	Litchfield, Liverpool, York, Chatham

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c/o 701 W. River Rd.  
Valley City, OH 44280

