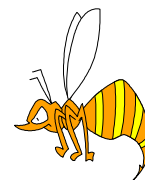


THE BEE HERDER

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

October 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, October 20, 2008
7:00 PM

**Taking Care of the Bees that Take Care of the Bees that Go Into Winter
And the latest information on Colony Collapse Disorder CCD**

Since we were unable to have our September meeting due to the power outage from Hurricane Ike, we will be keeping the same agenda as planned then to make sure you have the information needed to get your bees ready for winter.

We're going to cover several topics this month, but all are aimed at keeping your bees alive until next spring. The whole basis of this is....Take Care Of The Bees That Take Care Of The Bees That Go Into Winter. We'll look at sampling for varroa and evaluating techniques and estimating populations and measuring thresholds and then applying treatments; we'll talk about nosema, the old and the new and what to do about them; races of bees will be considered, too, and what they are doing, and what you should expect; we'll talk about feeding and how much food to have; and of course all the regular things.... the other diseases, equipment needed and the like. Come to the October meeting and get ready for winter...it's a lot closer than you think. Speakers will be our experienced members who successfully overwinter in northeast Ohio. There will be plenty of time for a Q & A so our brand new beekeepers and our old timers can get in a question or two so they are comfortable with their first winter, or their tenth. This month we will also be raffling off a bottling pail with gate valve and three graduated nylon filters.

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In Memoriam

Bernard W. Bihn

We are sad to let go of another wonderful beekeeper, friend, and life member of the Medina Co. Beekeepers. He was an active member of our organization and enjoyed working the honey booth at the fair every year. His warm smile and kind heart will be greatly missed. Bernie passed away Oct. 8, 2008, at Hospice at The Inn at Medina. He was a lifelong resident of Medina County who worked for the former Elm Farm Dairy delivering milk to family homes from 1956 to 1975 and later worked for Do It Best of Medina from 1975 until 1998. Besides beekeeping, he enjoyed raising flower and vegetable gardens, bird watching and photography. He served in the Army during the Korean War. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Medina County, 797 N. Court St., Medina, 44256; or the St. Martin Church Building Fund.

SECRETARY'S REPORT By: Gwen Rosenberg

Medina County Beekeepers
Executive Officers Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2008



The officers of the Medina County Beekeepers gathered under a full moon tonight to discuss club business and cast spells on the hives of our enemies. But first we had some lingering club financial stuff to review with Mike, who preferred to keep the spell casting to a minimum because it tended to distract from his presentation. The fair news is good! Great even! Buzz and the I motioned to pay off the IRS the \$50 we may or may not owe them because it'll be another 1,000 years and endless work on Mike's behalf to determine who owes who what. The club will have to decide if we want to keep rolling candles at the fair because this is not really a popular station for club volunteers. Also, for next year we will uniformly require all honey sellers to provide one bottle of honey (we provide bottle) for free samples and the club will purchase any subsequent bottles. The club will pay for any breakage too.

Bee Yard- Beware the call of the beekeeping club or you may be drawn in under the spell of the club to become a bee yard boss or Vice President. Minions will be sent forth from all over Medina County to lure unsuspecting beekeepers into these two jobs. Only club members holding officer positions are safe from nomination. Scary and yet so rewarding. You...do..want....to...volunteer.....say...yes....to...the...club

We discussed donating a refrigerator to the Root Co. because we could use it, and they could use it and they let us use the building and bee yard for free. Then we thought that maybe a projection screen would be a better donation, then we got to drinking the hard cider and we thought maybe a kegerator was an even better idea.

Kim is making me write about what kind of refreshment-y related theme the club should have each month. So, I turned him into a toad and next meeting I'll be making my famous "Toad Surprise"

Christmas party plans are under way- we were thinking that getting the whole sha-bang catered would be fun and tasty. Kim had a menu and we discussed the club paying for a portion of the cost of the food, drinks and desserts. Bat stew, anyone?

Website Woes - Mike says the website has been frozen

for two months because his boss, the guy who lets us use the server space for free has been busy doing web site stuff of his own, the nerve! Mike says he could host our site on his family server space for cheap so we all talked about this for a while, then Mike said he needed a volunteer to run the site and we all got real quiet and looked down and the floor and tried not to make eye contact until we changed the topic to ...

Speakers! Got any ideas- let us know.

Beginners Class will start Feb. 23rd and go each Monday until Apr. 20th. Do you know any beginners? Sign 'em up!

Gwen's Rockin' Refreshments Column

What's the point of a meeting of any sort without the promise of a snack reward at the end of the PowerPoint? The beeclub could use some talented (or even untalented) bakers or skilled snackers to put a little something on the snack table to encourage members to linger for a bit and complain about bee behavior and the weather. So let me suggest that in celebration of the fall harvest with the abundance of apples and pumpkins we take a moment to stuff them into the oven until done.



Here's a couple of suggestions for bakers and non-bakers. For those of you who prefer to be the snacker rather than the snackee toss some peeled sliced apples around in a bowl with cinnamon sugar and pile on to a prepared pie crust (the kind that is sold rolled up in the refrigerator section) that has been unrolled onto a cookie sheet. Fold the outside edges up about a third or quarter of the way and pleat the dough to keep it from flopping open. Sprinkle some more cinnamon sugar around and put it in a preheated oven set at 425 until it's bubbly and golden brown. Voila! Call it a rustic apple tart. Another variation, perhaps for the slightly more experienced in the bunch, is a apple tart made with frozen puff pastry dough. Roll it out fold over the edge and prick the center with a fork a few times. Toss on your apples, some sugar or what have you, and bake at 400 until nice and golden brown. Either prepared dough would make a great turnover too, by the way. Call them something "Frenchy" sounding and really wow us at the meeting.



The humble pumpkin on the other hand generally requires a bit more assistance in becoming really good eating. Here we're talking sugar, multiple spices, eggs and more to make something from this gourd. I don't have the room or the inclination to type out the recipes here but most cookbooks have ample directions for pumpkin breads, pies, cheesecakes, bar cookies and cakes. Heck even roasted pumpkin seeds are fun to nibble this time of year. Use your imagination and see what strikes your fancy- we'll all be grateful for your generosity and happy to sample your sweets while griping about the weather.



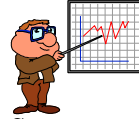


December Holiday Party



This year we will have our Holiday party catered from Old Schoolhouse Catering at our A.I. Root meeting room. It will be held on our regular meeting date of Monday, December 15th at 6:30 pm. The cost will be \$10 per person and payable in advance. You can pay at the October or November meeting or mail your check to Mike Rossander, 1871 Settlers Reserve Way, Westlake, OH 44145. Menu details will be discussed at the meeting. We will be bringing in a speaker (TBA) to enlighten and entertain us this year. Hope you are all able to make it.

Treasurer's Report By: Mike Rossander



There's always less to report on when we have to cancel a meeting. Sorry not to see you all in September. The lights are back on after the storm so I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again in October. It seems like a long time since we've had a 'regular' meeting.

By the time you get this newsletter, the Fall Foliage Tour will be done. The weather report looks very promising. I hope it goes well for everyone who participates and you sell a lot of honey. We'll try to have an updated report at the October meeting.

MCBA Financials through the end of September (excluding the library fund) are:

	Sept 2008	YTD
INCOME		
Sales	0.00	8,449.41
Cost of Sales	0.00	(5,571.99)
Education Fees	0.00	955.00
Member Dues	0.00	1,260.00
Other Income	0.00	535.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	5,627.42
EXPENSES		
Advertising	0.00	150.00
Bees	0.00	204.00
Charity	0.00	300.00
Education	0.00	400.00
Equipment	0.00	344.29
Fees	0.00	120.00
Gifts given	0.00	35.00
Insurance	0.00	500.00
Licenses and Permits	0.00	5.00
Meals & Entertn	0.00	143.16
Miscellaneous	0.00	89.16
Newsletter	0.00	336.57
Repairs	0.00	126.15
Speaker Honorarium	0.00	225.00
Supplies	0.00	241.84
TOTAL EXPENSES	0.00	3,220.17
OVERALL TOTAL	0.00	2,407.25

MCBA Balance as of 30 Sep 2008: \$5,524.45
less Sales Tax Payable: (30.94)

Library Fund financials thru September:

	Sep 2008	YTD
INCOME		
Gifts Received	0.00	1,730.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	1,730.00
EXPENSES		
Education	0.00	195.00
Repairs	0.00	208.49
TOTAL EXPENSES	0.00	403.49
OVERALL TOTAL	0.00	1,326.51

Library fund as of 30 Sep 2008:
\$1,326.51

MCBA notes:

- In the August report, there should have been a line item for Repairs in the amount of 126.15. This covered improvements to the Fair Booth. Apologies that it got overlooked in last month's report.

Library fund notes:

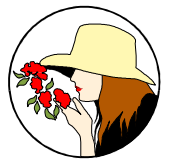
- none.

HELP WANTED (NEEDED) MCBA WEBMASTER

Mike needs help in maintaining the web site. He will train you and states that it is not hard, but you need to have a little time available to do it. Hope you can step up and help out the club with your computer talents. You don't need to be a computer expert or guru to do this. Mike will be able to get you up and running. Thanks for all your efforts and help.



Beekeeper's Beginners Class to start on February 23



The Medina County Beekeeper's will start their next beginner's beekeeping class on February 23. It will be a 9-week course to be held from 7-9 pm in Medina. Mark your calendars for this information packed class. The last 2 classes will consist of shaking out a package of bees into a hive and a field day where you can actually look into the hive and get some hands-on experience with these gentle creatures. 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 seasons, troubleshooting and solving problems, producing and harvesting honey and preparing colonies for winter. We'll provide the information on where to obtain bees and equipment, when to get them and how to install them in your equipment. For more information contact Kim Flottum, Medina Co President 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.

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

THE BEE HERDER

c/o 701 w. River Rd.

Valley City, OH 44280-9303

