

THE BEE HERDER

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

December 2008

Holiday Banquet

December 15, 2008 6:30 PM

Speaker: Dr. Larry Connor

"Lighter Side of Beekeeping, Mad Beekeepers I Have Known"

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

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The December meeting of the Medina County Beekeepers is our annual Holiday Banquet. We are very pleased to announce that we have booked Dr. Larry Connor as our speaker and entertainer. Be sure to sign up for the Holiday Banquet with all the great food, and listen to Larry Connor talk about the "Lighter Side of Beekeeping, Mad Beekeepers I Have Known". When not writing or lecturing on beekeeping, Larry is an accomplished stage actor and entertainer...a side we don't often see. At our banquet, he combines his two skills for an entertaining evening looking at strange and whacky beekeepers...don't miss it. There will be door prizes too!

We will have a very elegant meal prepared by Old Schoolhouse Catering at our regular meeting place and time, the 15th of Dec. The menu consists of Baked Chicken and Roast Beef, Red Skin Potatoes and rice pilaf, Green beans almondine, broccoli with cheese sauce, and a dessert. Coffee and other drinks will be supplied by the club. All this for only \$10/person (adults) (that's half price because the club is picking up the other half) (children under 10 are free).

There is still time to sign up and attend this fun filled evening by calling or e-mailing Mike Rossander at 440-899-0367 or Mike_Rossander@yahoo.com.

Thank you for our new officers that were voted in at the November meeting. Please support the board with your ideas for meeting agendas and what speakers you would like to have and talk to the group.

President:	Kim Flottum
Vice-President:	Larry Arbogast
Secretary:	Gwen Rosenberg
Treasurer:	Mike Rossander
Director:	Bruce McAuliffe

**Medina County Beekeepers
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2008**

By: Gwen Rosenberg



A rowdy bunch of beekeepers were on hand at tonight's meeting. The air was full of excitement because tonight was our annual completely unscientific calculation of the club's honey yields for the year. But before all the calculating and numbering and such, there was some important club business to address.

The treasurer's report was resoundingly accepted by all the beekeepers and Mike was swept into the air by the appreciative throng.

The secretary's report on the other hand was approved only after maT Fox pointed out sum glaring typographical errors. The secretary promised to nevrerr commit andother typo again adn asked all present to forgive her. There was some lingerin grumblinhg but most members agreed to give her another chance so long as she didnt make no more mistakes.

Ring in the holiday season with the Medina County Beekeepers!! The ghost of A.I. Root rattled the chains he forged in life at our dear club president, and Kim woke up the next morning and got the party catered. For only \$10 you can party like it's 2008. The kids eat free so you can even afford to bring Tiny Tim. Ghosts of Christmas also eat free.



BEGINNERS CLASS. BEGINNERS CLASS.



BEGINNERS CLASS.

Don't forget to sign up for the beginner's class starting Feb 23, 2009. If you want we ENCOURAGE you to attend our Dec and Jan and Feb meetings just to get a feel for our club and what you can expect from us. There's no charge and you can even partake of the goodies that Gwen is arranging. Meeting dates are Dec 15 (let us know if you are coming and want to partake of our Christmas meal), Jan 19, and Feb 16, all at the A.I. Root Company meeting room, 623 W. Liberty Street, Medina. Look for the sign on the sidewalk on the south side of the street.

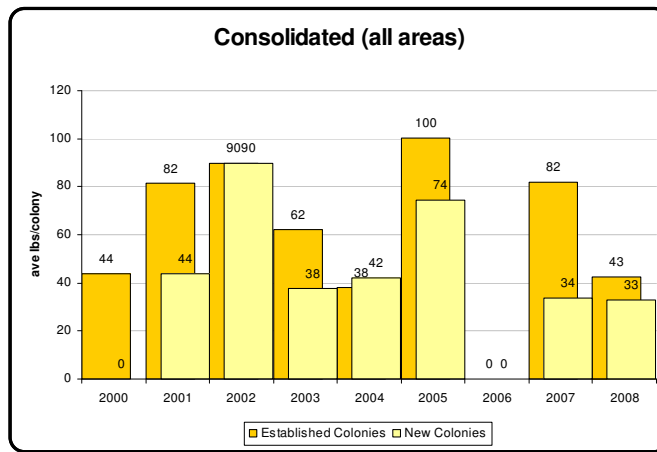
The class will begin on Monday night, Feb 23, 2009, and run for 9 consecutive Monday nights from 7 PM until 9 PM, finishing on April 20, 2009. We'll get you familiar with the equipment you'll need early on so you can get it and introduce you to all the places to get bees so you can get those ordered in time. Our classes will cover the equipment you'll need and why, honey bee biology, spring, summer, fall and winter management, what are the important honey plants you should know, harvesting and processing your honey crop and a whole lot more on how to successfully keep honey bees. Official registration will be at the first meeting, but pre-registration notification is strongly, very strongly encouraged so we know you are coming, and how many will be with you so we can have enough packets prepared. Reserve your spot as soon as you can. Registration this year is \$50.00 for an individual, and \$60 for a family. A single packet will be given to an individual or a family, but consists of The BackYard Beekeeper, An Absolute Beginner's Guide to Keeping Bees in Your Yard and Garden, magazines, catalogs and additional information to aid you in getting started. To pre-register, contact Kim Flottum at Kim@BeeCulture.com, or call 330.725.6677 days, or 330.722.2021 evenings.

Treasurer's Report By: Mike Rossander

Thank you to everyone who brought their reports to last month's meeting. Overall, the harvest is down sharply from an average of 82 established colony to an average of 43. from new colonies was flat at about 33 lbs per. was mostly attributed to weather. There were major changes in the available forage in

Regionally, we saw the best production in the quadrant of the county. While there was some production compared to last year, the reported change is probably not statistically significant. This region continues to be the most consistently strong region where our members keep bees. The southern half of the county showed sharp declines with the southwest quadrant dropping from 62 to 15 lbs per established colony and the southeast dropping from 107 to 40.

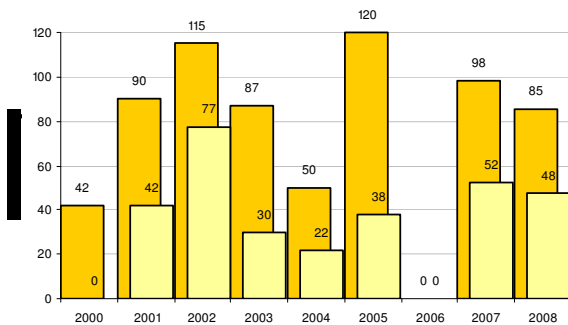
As with the chart above, the dark orange columns in the background represent over-wintered colonies. The lighter columns in the foreground show the average production of packages, splits and other new colonies. (Reminder: The 2006 columns are blank because we lost data in the computer crash last year, not because production was zero.)



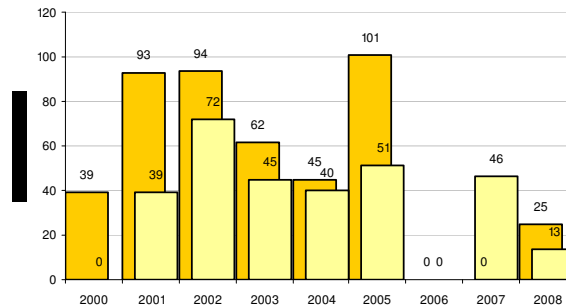
honey harvest reported lbs per Production The change no reports of county.

northwest decline in

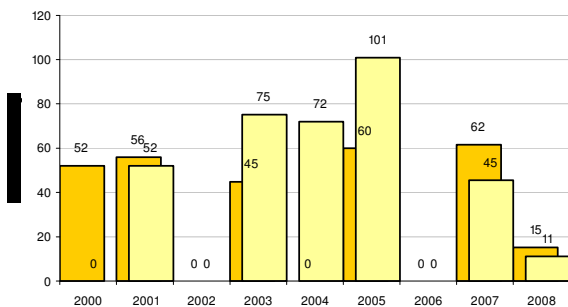
NW Medina



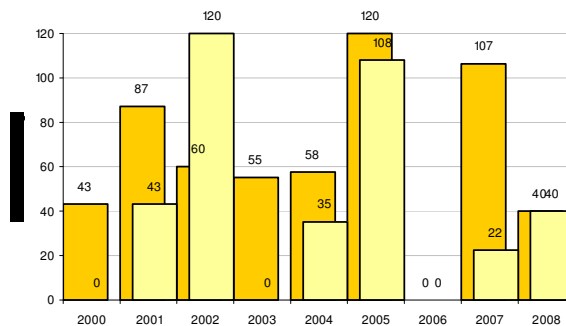
NE Medina



SW Medina



SE Medina



Reminder: If you have not already RSVP'd for the Holiday Dinner, **please contact me as soon as possible** so we can get the order in for the right amount of food. I look forward to seeing you all there.

MCBA Financials through November (excluding the library fund) are:

	Nov 2008	YTD
INCOME		
Sales	0.00	9,470.69
Cost of Sales	0.00	(6,340.02)
Education Fees	0.00	955.00
Member Dues	0.00	1,260.00
Other Income	0.00	535.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	5,880.67
EXPENSES		
Advertising	0.00	150.00
Bees	0.00	204.00
Charity	0.00	300.00
Education	0.00	400.00
Equipment	0.00	582.29
Fees	0.00	170.00
Gifts given	0.00	534.90
Insurance	0.00	500.00
Licenses and Permits	0.00	5.00
Meals & Entertn	(300.00)	(156.84)
Miscellaneous	0.00	89.16
Newsletter	43.72	469.19
Repairs	0.00	126.15
Speaker Honorarium	50.00	275.00
Supplies	0.00	241.84
TOTAL EXPENSES	(206.28)	3,890.69
OVERALL TOTAL	206.28	1,989.98
MCBA Balance as of 30 Nov 2008:		\$5,116.65
less Sales Tax Payable:		(40.41)

Library Fund financials thru November:

	Nov 2008	YTD
INCOME		
Gifts Received	0.00	1,730.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	1,730.00
EXPENSES		
Education	0.00	195.00
Equipment	0.00	176.96
Repairs	0.00	232.75
TOTAL EXPENSES	0.00	604.71
OVERALL TOTAL	0.00	1,125.29

Library fund as of 20 Nov 2008: **\$1,125.29**

MCBA footnotes:

- The negative number in Meals & Entertainment represents the prepayments for the Holiday Dinner received as of the 30th.

Library fund footnotes:

- In last month's report, the subtotal line for year-to-date Total Expenses incorrectly showed the subtotal from the prior month. This month's report shows the correct YTD sub-totals.

The Bee Herder

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