

# THE BEE HERDER

A Publication of the Medina County Beekeeper's Association  
[www.medinabeekeepers.com](http://www.medinabeekeepers.com)

May 2009

## Next Meeting: May 18, 2009 7:00 PM Speaker: Dave Duncan and Annual Plant Swap



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](http://www.medinabeekeepers.com)

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### President's Message:

I've just heard from the Apiary Inspectors Of America that winter losses across the U.S. this past season were not as bad as the past few years, but still...."unsustainable", as they put it. Unofficially, I'm hearing that the losses are not, for the most part, due to colony collapse disorder, but rather, and simply, a difficult winter in much of the country. That sounds familiar here, too.

If your colonies are still looking weak, the recent weather certainly hasn't helped, and waiting for a honey flow in the midst of cool weather and rain may be a mistake. If at all possible, get some food on them...1:1 sugar syrup with Honey B Healthy, or the other feeding stimulants and if you use it...some fumigillin, maybe a pollen substitute patty, too, to get them going. If your colonies are average or better watch now for swarm cells...I'm finding them in mine already...and the locust flow should be coming on soon...there's buds already so we know it's in the works. Don't lose that wonderful honey crop because your colony swarmed.

For packages...watch and learn. Keep the feed on if you didn't have honey to add. Especially if you put them on foundation. This weather hasn't been all that cooperative as far as foraging is concerned and they'll need all the help you can give them. Feed, feed, feed, feed, feed. Even if they are bringing in nectar and quit eating for a bit, remember that a package is hand to mouth until it's fully established.

Dave Duncan is our speaker...and Swarm Control is the topic. I've been at this racket for nearly 30 years and in all that time, we still don't have it down to a science. But Dave is close. And he's got a good program. If swarming is on your agenda...or better, if swarm prevention and control is what you want this year...come and hear Dave...You won't be disappointed.

See you Monday night.

[Kim@BeeCulture.com](mailto:Kim@BeeCulture.com)

## Plant Swap – Plant Swap – Plant Swap



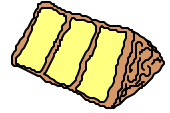
We will have our plant swap again this year. If you have a great perennial you would like to swap, please label it with the variety and plant info so the recipient will know what they are incorporating into their garden. Don't bring them into the meeting room. Place them on the curb in the parking lot and enjoy your new garden plants.

Bring one – Take one. Bring two – Take two.



## Refreshments:

Last month the club provided our snacks. **It's our turn this month!** Please bring something to share with the group. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be provided. Thanks !!



### Medina County Beekeepers Meeting Minutes - April 20, 2009 By: Gwen Rosenberg



Our grand plans for a bee yard adventure turned into a soggy afternoon inside the Root building. Luckily for us, John Grafton was there to tell us all about what we would have been looking at had our hives 1. been alive or 2. been dry enough to dump bees into. Thanks, John.

Buzz generously volunteered to demonstrate the finer points of bee installation at his place for anyone interested. Buzz also suspiciously had many, many pounds of powdered sugar available for sale. He claims the sugary stuff fell off a truck somewhere. No one else in the club reported finding vast quantities of powdered sugar, corn syrup or brown sugar anywhere, but that's not to doubt Buzz's claims. It's totally plausible that someone would happen upon a few dozen pounds of powdered sugar...really, there's probably a good chance the secretary will happen upon some many gallons of sorghum on her way to work tomorrow.

The treasurer reports that the club is flush with money, and he'd like nothing better than a flood of spending requests at the next meeting. He also passed around a membership roster that we are supposed to check for our name and address and such. If you didn't find your name on the roster than you either aren't a member anymore, or you are the secretary and you forgot to pay your dues, but you're planning to do so very, very soon. And you just want a break already for cryin' out loud.

The minutes from last month's meeting were a brilliant specimen of contemporary American meeting minutes, and have been preserved in the library of congress for future generations to admire and draw inspiration.

On July 18, the Medina Library is going to have some sort of bee event, which should be called a "Beevent". It's going to include a bee tent, honey tasting, and an informative talk by Jeanne Schell. Please feel free to come and participate

Special thanks to Kathy Summers who, in a room full of know-it-alls, was the only one who could fix the computer(s) so that John could give his talk, and try his darneest to teach us all something.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

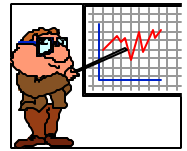
Dues for 2009 are \$20 for individual or family. Make checks payable to **Medina Co. Beekeepers Assn.** and send to care of:

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

**Future Speakers:**

Dr. Jim Tew will be our featured speaker on June 15th. I had originally asked him to speak on the subject of Ohio beekeeping, what's happening now in Ohio, what can we expect to be happening in the coming years and perhaps the overall status of Ohio beekeepers and Ohio beekeeping in general. Ellen Harnish, Dave Duncan's counterpart from their business "Beeology" will be our featured speaker on September 21st. Ellen will be talking to us about her beautiful encaustic painting. Check out their awesome website at [www.beeology.com](http://www.beeology.com) Mark your calendars for both of these dates, they will be exciting.

Larry Arbogast,  
V-P Program Chair



**Treasurer's Report By: Mike Rossander**

Nothing special to report this month. We're investing more in speakers than we had by this time last year but it's a planned expense for the year. Hope your bees are doing well.

**MCBA Financials** through April:

	Apr 2009	YTD
<b>INCOME</b>		
Education Fees	0.00	1,370.00
Member Dues	160.00	1,220.00
Other Income	22.00	67.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>182.00</b>	<b>2,657.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising	0.00	232.00
Bank Charge	0.57	1.02
Charity	0.00	150.00
Education	0.00	500.00
Meals & Entertn	35.00	170.61
Newsletter	65.86	184.16
Refreshments	65.40	134.41
Speaker Honorarium	150.00	737.25
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>316.82</b>	<b>2,109.35</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>(134.82)</b>	<b>547.65</b>

**Library Fund** financials thru April:

	Apr 2009	YTD
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Library fund as of 30 Apr 2009:  
\$1,125.29

MCBA footnotes:

- Other Income shows the proceeds from the sugar bags donated by the Riopelles

Library fund footnotes:

- There were no Library fund expenses in April.

MCBA Balance as of 30 Apr 2009: \$4,924.46  
less Sales Tax Payable: 0.00

## PACKAGE BEES FOR SALE

#3 Italian \$71 Packages for sale  
Delivery on May 21<sup>st</sup> or May 22<sup>nd</sup>



Call with your order asap. Need to know your order before the meeting date.

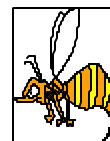
Tom Jefferies - Phone # 1-440-236-5994 (Best way )

Email: [tjeffhwb@aol.com](mailto:tjeffhwb@aol.com)

Snail mail 24564 Squire Road

Columbia Station, Ohio 44028

Or in person at a meeting



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