

The Official Newsletter of The Capital City Beekeepers Association

The Capital Bee

January 2024

In This Issue

[Beekeepers Almanac](#)

[2024 School's Hive Painting Auction](#)

[Certified KY Honey Manager's Report](#)

[CCBA at North American Honey Bee Expo 2024](#)

[Annual Treasures report](#)

[November Minutes](#)

[CCBA Opportunities](#)

Painting hive bodies something other than the traditional white- a collage of colors- not only can help with drifting, but also combat the drab of the seemingly lifeless wintering apiary.

Beekeeper's Almanac

THE 'KEEP'S TO DO LIST

- ◆ Melt and clean wax (see below) collected from capping and any hive activities for use or sale.
- ◆ Good time for OA treatments while colonies are broodless.
- ◆ Check stores. Feed “winter patty’s” , sugar blocks, etc. Place on top bars
- ◆ Order Packages/ Nucs for spring installation, get equipment ready for installation.
- ◆ Renew CCBA annual membership as well Cert. KY Honey and KSBA.



WORD OF THE DAY
December 12, 2023

SINCE 1828

mentor

noun | MEN-tor

What It Means

A mentor is someone who teaches or gives help and advice to a less experienced and often younger person.

// They regarded the professor not only as a *mentor*, but as a good friend as well.

As members of CCBA mentoring is a top priority to members not only beginning in beekeeping but also to each other with varying experiences and knowledge. This is one of many wonderful advantages of association.

What's Old is New Again



Beekeeper, Entrepreneur, Inventor, Author, [A.I Root](#) is pictured here riding in his [Baker Electric car](#) near the s.w. corner of the Medina Square, 1916.



Cleaning Wax

Cleaning wax can be daunting, yet an old crock pot and a paint strainer make for a good “first pass”. Line pot with filter and then add wax and an inch of water. When melted, carefully lift the filter out. Pour the melted wax through multi-layered cheese cloth or women's nylon hosiery and into the first mold. Plastic ice cream pails work well as do any of a host of cleaned reusable containers. One or two more “meltings” and filtering are necessary to get your wax as clean as possible.

2024 School's Hive Painting And Auction

Nine CCBA members gathered to help with the assembly and priming of hive bodies for the annual School's Hive Painting and Silent Auction. Denise Boebinger is this year's director and has done a great job coordinating with schools and members to help with this important bees and beekeeping awareness and promoting program. Four schools/ organizations agreed to participate this year and the completed hives will be auctioned at the 2024 Bluegrass Beekeeping School in Frankfort, Kentucky March 9th.

Seventy percent of the proceeds go back to the participating schools/ organizations. This year's participants are Good Shepherd, Hearn Elementary, 4H- Bee Club, and Western Hills High School Art Class/Club. These beautifully painted hives are complete with frames and foundation giving them the ability to be used as a working hive- bees not included.



*The many hands of
CCBA members
make light work.*



*Denise Boebinger-
(Director) adding a
coat of primer.*



*Annette after glueing
nails down the finger
joints of the hive body.*

2024 School's Hive Painting And Auction continued



Sally assembling the top cover .



Ted putting the finishing touches on a deep hive body.



Mackenzie, Michael, and Annette doing their part to make this a success.



With all good work, good supervision is a must.



CKHP Manager's Message



Hey everyone! Just a few notes from the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA) that I wanted to pass along.

Earlier this month KSBA attended the North American Honey Bee Expo in Louisville that ran for three days. It was a wonderful event that saw well over 3,000 beekeepers from across the country and the world come together in one place. There were lectures that covered a wide range of topics, a honey show and a huge selection of vendors that offered everything from basic beekeeping supplies to customized items.

Five KSBA Board members along with myself and other volunteers worked over the three days to educate not only Kentucky beekeepers on the importance of our Certified Kentucky Honey program but other attendees from other states that wanted to know what our program was all about. We also got to collaborate with other industry leaders and stakeholders such as Project Apis M., The National Honey Board and Hive for Heroes.

One of the most important topics of conversation we were able to have with our fellow beekeepers was about the upcoming legislation proposed [by Kelly Armstrong \(R-ND\) for the Honey Identification Validation and Enforcement \(HIVE\) Act.](#) [\(click Here to read\)](#) I would encourage everyone to go read this important piece of legislation, because if passed, it would have a significant impact on the honey industry.

Moving forward, our calendar is quickly filling up with conferences and bee schools across the

state. For our next stop, we are headed back to Louisville on January 27, for the Louisville Beekeeping and Research Conference and then we move on to

Several beekeeping schools across the state from Western Kentucky to Eastern Kentucky. And of course, we will be at the Bluegrass Beekeepers / Capital City Beekeepers school.

"...attendees from other states ... wanted to know what our program was all about."

On a final note, I wanted to mention our 2023 end of year membership numbers. KSBA closed out the year with over 600 active members, of which 194 were Certified Kentucky Honey Producers, a growth of 215% over the previous year!

If anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Scott Moore
502.819.1537
manager@ckyhp.com



R. Scott Moore is the current Program Manager for the Certified Kentucky Honey Producers, the marketing brand of the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association. Coming to the position in February 2021, he manages grant funding from the Kentucky Agriculture Development Fund, creates marketing material for promotion, manages membership of 200 producers, and organizes marketing events for members connecting local consumers with local Kentucky honey. Scott also currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Jefferson County Farm Bureau where he educates and advocates for Kentucky beekeepers to other agricultural stakeholders and policy makers.

2024 North American Honey Bee Expo

Submitted by JACK KUHN

I happened on an opportunity to work the vendor booth of Happbee Acres Bee Supply which earned me a ticket into the North American Honey Bee Expo (NAHBE) January 4-6. This was an EPIC event, to say the least. I had the pleasure of seeing several KY beekeeper faces, new and old, and friends from our own CCBK that visited the booth and the show (too numerous to mention). A little backstory; the Hive Life Conference and trade show has been in Sevierville, TN the past three years. Last year, they meet their attendance cap of over 2,000. In discussions to move the show to expand it, there was a breakup of the planning partners and Kaymond Reynolds created and organized the NAHBE. This show exceeded his wildest expectations. It was well organized and people in attendance were happy and friendly to meet.



Members Mark Stutler and Jack at NAHBE.

smoker that is electric and uses a little cartridge for fuel? Or an automatic honey bottle filler heated honey dispenser for less than \$600? Sale prices on woodenware, and top feeders, and winter patties, and 3-D printed queen cages, and miniature bee hives, oh, my.



The "bottle filler" (right) at a great price



Above, Vendor floor, over 200 vendors, large and small



There were 3200 people in attendance and that was the cap for the venue, and almost 300 vendors and presenters. There were four concurrent presentations four times per day with rock star speakers. Each room was packed full of several hundred attendees each. There was an hour between each presentation

session, giving attendees ample time to visit vendor booths. The showroom of vendors was absolutely fabulous. I busted my budget the second day and spent more the last day on end of tradeshow bargains. There were many items I never knew I needed, and fantastic prices on most of the stuff. I was like a kid in a toy store. It was just good old fun to visit these vendors with piles of equipment and cool new gadgets. How about a



NAHBE Honey Exhibit/Competition

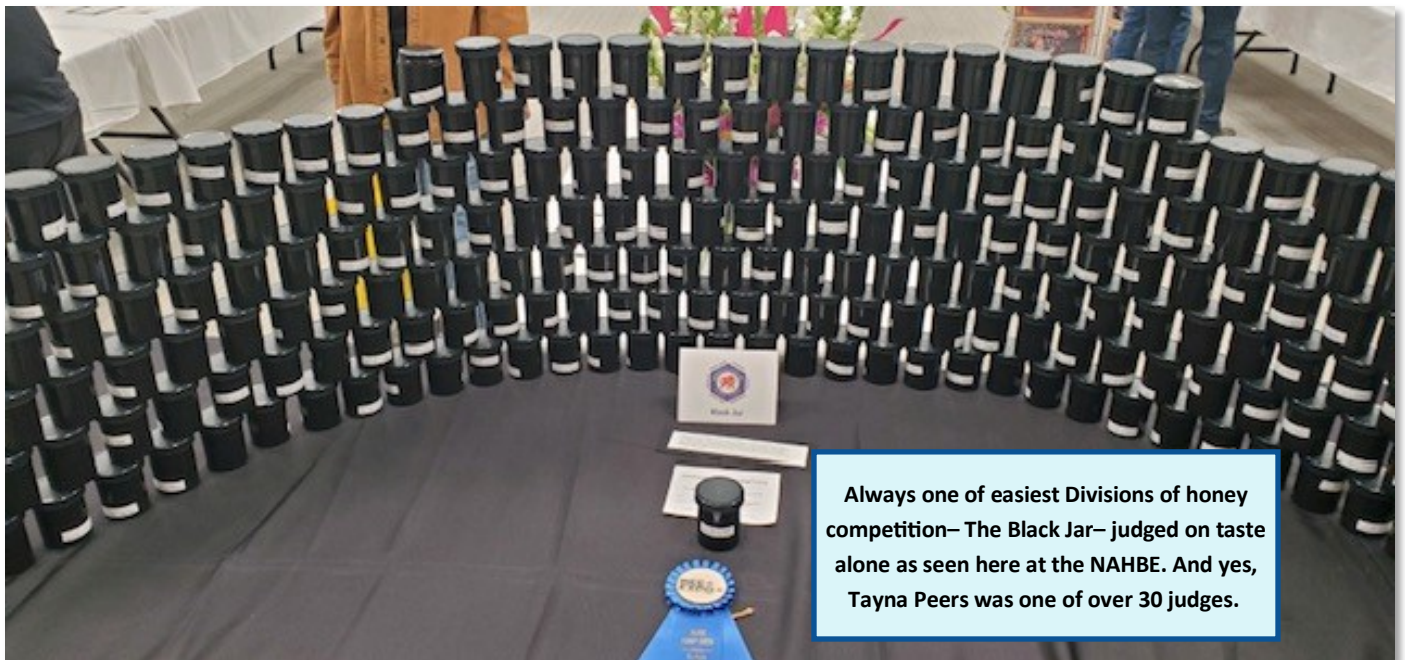
The honey show was unbelievable with 1161 honey exhibits including light, amber and dark amber honey, mead and whipped honey; 339 bee-related crafts from quilts, to wax to paintings, to baked goods. The black jar competition had a staggering 242 entries. Several of the top show winners were from Kentucky. I'll be ready to compete next year.

2024 North American Honey Bee Expo

All Pictures Submitted by JACK KUHN and MARK STUTLER



Many members of CCBA attended NAHBE including Jessica Mayes and Scott Moore (at left). Scott is holding one of the miniature hives Jack mentioned in his submission. Other members took advantage of “the deals” such as this load of hive body’s in Mark’s truck and unassembled frames (not pictured).



Always one of easiest Divisions of honey competition– The Black Jar– judged on taste alone as seen here at the NAHBE. And yes, Tayna Peers was one of over 30 judges.

Capital City Beekeepers Association

2023 Annual Treasurer's Report, 1 of 2

General:

Beginning Balance (January 1, 2023) \$2042.57

Receipts

Dues - 2023	\$485.00
Dues – 2024	\$215.00
Farmers Market Fees	\$170.00
Sales of shirts	\$85.00
Sales (Bumper stickers)	\$2.00
Sales (Honey Straws)	\$44.50
Donation	<u>\$45.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$1046.50

Expenditures

<u>Admin</u>	\$47.20
Checks	\$22.00
Stamps	\$25.20
<u>Farmers' Market Participation</u>	\$175.00
Application Fee	\$175.00
<u>County Fair Participation</u>	\$346.50
Donation to Fair Bd	\$100.00
Stipend for judge	\$75.00
Prize Premiums	\$150.00
Medalion	\$21.50
<u>October Pot Luck</u>	\$477.85
Meat & Cook Sup.	\$244.75
Drinks	\$37.06
Door Prizes	\$83.92
Misc Table Sup.	\$112.12
<u>Purchase of Honey Straws and Coloring Bks</u>	\$275.38
Total Expenditures	\$1321.93

Ending Balance (December 31, 2023) \$1767.14

Note 1: The Current General Balance is held:

Checking Account

\$1717.14

Cash Change Fund

\$50.00

Note 2: The sales checks from Wilson Nursery in 2023 totaled \$3194.50.

Capital City Beekeepers Association

2023 Annual Treasurer's Report, 2 of 2

Educational Funds (Savings)

Beginning Balance (January 1, 2023) \$878.98

Receipts

Beginner Beekeeper School Fees	\$315.00
State Fair Participation	\$228.52
Interest	<u>\$1.42</u>

Total Receipts **\$544.94**

Expenditures

Beginner Beekeeper School Expenses	\$286.01
Purchase of Library Book	<u>\$90.63</u>

Total Expenditures **\$376.64**

Ending Balance (December 31, 2023) \$1047.28

Submitted by George Fowler,
CCBA Treasurer

-Capital City Beekeepers Association

Minutes-November 28, 2023

*Jack Kuhn opened up our club meeting with a demonstration on using oxalic acid vapor as a clean up for varroa mites in late fall/early winter. It was excellent and we all learned a lot!

*Business meeting began at 7:27pm. October minutes were approved, Denise Boebinger motioned and Dan Ramey 2nd.

*Treasurer's report was accepted with a small correction (twenty-five cents) verbally noted by George. He also reminded us that our 2024 dues are now being collected.

*November Farmer's Market: Was very slow in sales.

OLD BUSINESS

*2024 membership is \$10 individual/\$15 family

*2024 slate of officers was voted on. All officers remained the same: Wes Henry-President, Michael Wiley-Vice President, George Fowler-Treasurer, Marsha Bezold-Secretary

NEW BUSINESS

*2024 Bluegrass Beekeeper School, in conjunction with Bluegrass Beekeepers Association.

Scheduled at KSU on March 9th. David Peck from Better Bee Company will be our keynote speaker.

Anyone who is willing to volunteer, your help is essential!!! There is a large variety of needs.

Michael Wiley will be seeking volunteers to work the coffee/donut table.

*Thank you to Denise Boebinger and Mackenzie Preece for working on acquiring schools to paint the hives for our hive auction during Bluegrass Beekeepers School. 70% of the proceeds from the auction go back to each school's art department.

*A very big and special thanks to Chris at Dadant for donating the hive bodies for our hive auction. We appreciate your generosity!

*Ellen Melchner spoke of the need for beekeepers to send a letter to the Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner, Johnathan Shell in support of Dr. Tammy Horn Potter as our State Apiarist. The State Apiarist is a position that is appointed by the Kentucky Agricultural Commissioner. So when a new Agricultural Commissioner is elected, they have the right to keep the current State Apiarist or hire a new one. Tammy has been wonderful for our state and for us as individual beekeepers, if you would like to send a note (please be respectful) advocating for Dr. Potter to continue as State Apiarist please go to kyagr.com and send a message thru their website.

*Big Thank You to Kay Daniels for again bringing refreshments

* George Fowler motioned to adjourn, Eddie McNutt 2nd.

*Next meeting is January 23, 2024

Minutes submitted by Marsha
Bezold, CCBA Secretary,

CCBA Opportunities

CCBA Monthly Meeting

January 23rd, 2024

Program- 6 p.m. (Beekeeper Q and A, In the apiary with infrared camera)

Business Meeting– 7 p.m.

Franklin County Extension Office

101 Lakeview Ct., Frankfort, KY

*Membership renewal for 2024 is being accepted.

Louisville Beekeeping and Research Conference

by Apis Rescue

APIS  RESCUE

January 27th, 2024

University of Louisville Conference Center (old Shelby campus)

450 N Whittington PKWY Louisville KY