

The Capital Bee

The Official Newsletter of The Capital City Beekeepers Association

July 2023

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"Sunny Honey"

The differing colors can be easily seen as the bright morning sun shines softly through the recently extracted and bottled local spring honeys of CBBA members before the opening of the July honey booth.

Beekeeper's Almanac

THE 'KEEP'S TO DO LIST

- ◆ Extract capped honey or test moisture on uncapped honey before extraction.
- ◆ Prepare and properly store “cleaned” surplus honey comb to prevent moth and mouse damage.
- ◆ Do mite washes and apply correct miticide for environmental conditions (see label).
- ◆ Continue to manage nucs/ splits- move to or add hive body or make room. Remember, nucs will swarm!
- ◆ As dry times come in summer and with “The Dearth” be ready to feed colonies light on stores.



A DIY Mite-Wash Kit

One of the most useful and important disciplines in beekeeping is have everything ready before you open the hive. Having a basic and most useful mite wash kit at the ready and easy to transport is one of those things to have. Everything can be packed securely (See below) and easily transported in the small tub (Fig. 1) also used to collect the shaken bees from the frame. Paper towels (Fig.2) are used to wipe clean items, especially the wash container (Fig.3) between washes. Rubbing alcohol (Fig. 4) or “non-sudsing” soap such as windshield



washing fluid, can be used. The 1/2 cup measure is use to scoop the measured amount of bees (approx. 300 bees) from the tub to be quickly dumped into the wash container for “washing”. The mini strainer (Fig.6) with a paper towel can filter mites and debris to reuse alcohol or soap. The funnel (Fig. 7) allows recycled liquid to be returned to the wash container or the original bottle without mess or loss. [See mite-wash method here](#)

July's CCBA Farmer's Market Honey Booth

Four members offered honey for sale at the July Farmer's Market Honey booth. Pictured left to right, was Kay Daniels, Dan Ramey, George Fowler, and Wes Henry (not pictured). Unfortunately, time ran short and we were not able to display the observation hive. Hopes are to be able to do so in August. Sales went well and conversation with folks as always, was good. Next Booth will be August 12th. Any member is encouraged to be there, selling or not.



June's Program Part 2: Mite Wash

The June meeting ended in the apiary with a mite wash performed on both colonies. President Wes Henry instructed using an alcohol mite wash. One colony was below the 3% threshold while the other was well above with 6% and action was taken by Jack Kuhn the next day. Another wash is set for July's meeting to measure efficacy.



Above: The colony with 6% (19 mites per 300 bees– 1/2 cup) mite count is show here.

Right: Members prepare for the mite wash. The contents of the kit seen lower right of the picture is [detailed in the Beekeeper's Almanac](#).



Above: Members Annette Riddle and Bill Furlong inspect one of the washes. Members participated as they learned and inspected. There's nothing like "hands on" training and experience that the association affords.

Note: Both queens were found so there was no danger of killing the queen which was a great relief.

2023 Franklin County Fair Results

The 2023 Franklin County Fair started July 18, 2023 at Lakeview Park. Beekeepers from the surrounding area were excited to bring in entries to show in the Honey Division at this year's fair. Many entries were received and enjoyed by Fair goers during the week. Entries included honey, items made from honey and beeswax, photography, and needlework. The entries were judged by Welsh Honey Judge Tana Peers. Ribbons were awarded to beekeepers on their entries.– Submitted by, Lynn Morris, CCBA Fair Liaison

Honey Division Results are as Follows:

Bottled Honey Light: First Place (multiple) George Fowler, Chris Kenley, Jack Kuhn, Lynn Morris. Second Place Michael Wiley. Third Place (multiple) Denise Boebinger, Annette Riddle.

Bottled Honey Amber: First Place Michael Wiley. Second Place Lynn Morris. Third Place George Fowler.

Bottled Honey Dark: First Place George Fowler. Second Place Jack Kuhn.

Painted Black Jar: First Place (multiple) Chris Kenley, Annette Riddle, Michael Wiley. Second Place (multiple) Denise Boebinger, George Fowler, Molly Mangan. Third Place Jack Kuhn, Hudson Mangan, Lynn Morris.

Chunk Comb Honey: First Place (multiple) Chris Kenley, Jack Kuhn.

Cut Comb Honey: First Place Jack Kuhn. Second Place George Fowler.

Mead: First Place Michael Wiley.

Melomels: First Place Michael Wiley.

Honey Frame: First Place George Fowler. Second Place Chris Kenley. Third Place Jack Kuhn.

Wax Block: Second Place Jack Kuhn.

Molded Wax Item: First Place George Fowler. Second Place Annette Riddle.

Wax Candle: First Place George Fowler. Second Place Lynn Morris. Third Place Jack Kuhn.

Photography: First Place Lynn Morris, Annette Riddle.

Needlework: First Place Lynn Morris.

Miscellaneous Bee Item (Junior Age): First Place Georgia Mangan. Second Place Hudson Mangan. Third Place Molly Mangan. Honorable Mention Noah Miller.

Miscellaneous Bee Item (Intermediate Age): First Place Tyson Miller.

2023 Grand Apiarist: George Fowler
2023 Best of Show: Jack Kuhn

Capital City Beekeepers Association - Treasurer's Report

As prepared July 21, 2023 for the July 25 meeting

General

Beginning Balance (June 22, 2023)	\$2288.45
Receipts	
Farmers Mkt sellers fees (July)	\$30.00
Sale of honey straws	<u>\$8.75</u>
Total Receipts	\$38.75
Expenditures	
Stipend for County Fair Judge	<u>\$75.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$75.00
Currant Available Balance	\$2252.20

Checking Account: \$2202.20

Cash change fund \$50.00

Notes:

Wilson check for June totaled 325.00 for three participating members.

The Wilson check for July has not yet been received.

The treasurer maintains a \$50.00 cash change fund for use at meetings and events.

Educational Funds (Saving)

Beginning Balance (June22, 2023)	\$908.54
Receipts	
Interest (6/30)	<u>\$0.11</u>
Total Receipts	\$0.11
Expenditures	
No expenditures this period	
Total Expenditures	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$908.65

Submitted by George
Fowler,
CCBA Treasurer

Capital City Beekeepers Association Minutes

June 27th, 2023

*Our June meeting had 13 members and 1 guest, Tana Peers.

* Our meeting began with Tana, who will be judging our honey competition at the Franklin Co. Fair. Tana is a certified Welsh Honey Judge, gave a presentation on how to prepare honey for showing and what she will be looking for in her judging. She also spoke on some of the more interesting properties of honey, what is involved in being a judge and some of the other honey related things you can enter in the fair. As always, her presentation was fun and informative!

*The business portion of the meeting began at 6:55pm. A draped hive was set up in memory of Alan Alsip who passed away on June 8. *Tell the Bees...*

*Minutes were approved with Ted O’Canna motioning and Chris Kenley 2nding

*Dadant: Honey container pricing with additional discount for CCBA members is now in effect. You need to let Dadant know that you are a member.

*George Fowler gave the treasurer’s report. Our club is now selling honey straws at the Farmer’s Market. Kids will still get a free one and a coloring book. Sales from honey straws significantly off set cost of purchasing coloring books and free honey straws for kids. Kay Daniels motioned to accept treasurer’s report, Lynne Morris 2nd. Report accepted.

*The Frankfort Farmer’s Market Bee Club Booth is the 2nd Saturday of the month. Kay Daniels was sole seller for June and sold out. Future dates are July 8 (passed), August 12, September 9. Set up is 7:30am and market goes till noon.

*Susan Weisenberger, on behalf of the Woodford Co. Master Gardeners invited us on June 17 to set up an informational booth at the Woodford Co Farmer’s Market. The observation hive was a big hit and our booth was well attended.

*Franklin Co. Fair: Lynn Morris gave update on volunteer needs for the county fair. The club decided to do a free honey basket raffle to promote local honey with the drawing on last day fair, Saturday. Donations of honey were also given to Tana as a thank you for judging.

*State Fair-our club is again working the honey booth at the State Fair on Tuesday August 22nd in the morning. We will meet 7am in the Frankfort Walmart parking lot. Our club gets a proceed of the sales the booth makes on the day we work. As of June meeting we had 8 people who volunteered to work. If anyone would like to work the booth please let us know ASAP.

*Meeting adjourned and club went into bee yard for a mite wash demo.

*NO AUGUST MEETING (because State Fair is same day). Next meeting after State Fair is then Tuesday, September 26

Submitted by Marsha Bezold, Secretary

CCBA Opportunities

Regular July CCBA Meeting

July 25th, 2023

Program 6 pm, Business Mtg. 7 pm

Franklin County Extension Office

101 Lakeview Ct., Frankfort, KY

CCBA Honey Booth

Franklin County Farmer's Market

August 12th, 2023, 8:30-12

404 Wilkinson Blvd., Frankfort, KY

Setup @ 7:45

Kentucky State Fair

Ky. State Fair Grounds, Louisville, KY

Honey Booth work Day

August 22nd, 2023

Meet at Walmart Parking lot 7:15

