



The Official Newsletter for The Capital City Beekeepers Association

Final Farmer's Market
Honey Booth
2020 Holiday Market

It was a brisk December morning but the market started a couple hours later than normal at 10 a.m. It was the 2020 Holiday Market and the final CCBA Honey booth for the season. It has been a most unusual and difficult season with the restrictions and guidelines for coping with the covid-19 virus. Concerning the selling of honey, it has been most

difficult without the "honey tasting". As we know, the "try before you buy" slogan was one that we could not use this year and the customer had to just take our for it as it pertained to the difference of each beekeeper's offerings and as the season and honeys changed from Spring to Fall. [Continued on page 3](#)



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*As is the custom of the Capital City Beekeepers, there will be no regularly scheduled meeting in December. Our next regular monthly meeting will be January 26th, 2021. As to the venue, it is TBD and announced via email, FB, and Website. Also, it was voted that **for paid members for 2020** there will be no collection for dues for 2021 as a courtesy to our members that we could not meet in person for the past ten months and our purse is healthy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!- Wes Henry- CCBA President*

The Improved CCBA Library

The Capital City Beekeeper's Library for members unfortunately has been inaccessible. Yet, CCBA Librarian George Fowler has been diligent in securing a way to store, protect, and make available the resources. The Association by vote in the last few months have by George's efforts, secured a sturdy roll around cart and covering and as of the last meeting, to purchase a personal collection of books that has swelled the offerings to members. The report is as follows:

CONCERNING THE CAPITAL CITY BEEKEEPERS LIBRARY

The Club has purchased about 40 books from Joel Schrader to add to our library. The librarian is working on an inventory and a system for making the books available to club members in our current situation. That should all be worked out in the first week in January.

When I picked up the books, Joel gave me two copies of British Bee Journals from 1883 for Wes's collection of beekeeping oddities. Since I have not been able to get them to Wes, I decided to steel some of the thunder and share the following items.

From the British Bee Journal (and Bee Keeper's Adviser) August 1, 1883

From the section headed "Editorials, Notices, &c":

HEPTAGONAL CELLS

Mr. H. Williams Hockin, of Truro, has had a singular experience of bees building their cells in a most heterodox fashion. The marked feature in the construction of the bee-cell is its hexagonal form; occasionally we note a pentagon, and sometimes an irregular, distorted heptagon; but in the piece of comb forwarded for examination to the Knightsbridge Show several inches of seven-sided cells had been built with the utmost geometrical accuracy. They were discovered in a skep, and having been permitted to see a sketch of the position of the comb in which they

were found, we attribute this irregularity to the singular manner in which the combs were arranged in the hive, causing the bees to depart from the ordinary rule and to assume the heptagonal, in preference to the hexagonal form.

From the section headed: "Correspondence":

EFFECTS OF BEE-STINGS

On July 16th, at 3 p.m., I took a heavy super off a very strong and pugnacious bar-hive famous for their stinging propensities, not having used any smoke. I transferred the super to a wheelbarrow prepared for the purpose, and took it about fifty yards away, followed and covered by an angry multitude. One of them stung me through the trousers. I placed the super under a tub, and prepared to put the hive to rights, when a most extraordinary sensation came over me. I felt as if stung all over – severe irritation all over my head and body, and what looked like nettle-rash suddenly appeared on my arms and wrists; my face swelled and got quite red, and I had an unpleasant sensation in the throat. I used a veil and double gloves, and have been stung before, but never experienced anything like this. The heat and irritation gradually subsided, and the nettle-rash (or whatever it was) suddenly disappeared at 7 p.m. Having now found out that they can sting through the trousers, I must put on some oilskin overalls for the future.

– Fitzroy Clayton (Colonel).

Final Farmer's Market Honey Booth
2020 Holiday Market
Cont.

Though sales may have been down for the season, we were able to still interact and speak to the local honey offerings and beekeeping in general and make some new friends, keep up with older ones and new members were welcomed as well. This month found president Wes Henry and incoming Vice-President Michael Wiley were in the booth with members Jack Kuhn, John Antenucci and Janet Osborne selling honey and



CCBA President Wes Henry at the Honey Booth

“laying up for winter” and took home honey by the quart with no hesitation.

Honey prices remained as in the past years, with the agreement of the Association to be fixed in the booth at \$12.00 a pound, \$7.00 for 8 ounce jars, \$18.00 for pints (1 1/2 lbs.) and \$35.00 for quarts. Prices for any other sizes and specialties were at the discretion of the beekeeper.



John Antenucci's Lazy Dog Honey Table festively decorated (left) offers a variety of specialty honeys and candles.

hive products too at the Market.

Sales at the Holiday Honey Booth were steady with folks buying fall honey to have in their stores a variety. Also, some bought with admittedly the thought of



Jack Kuhn also offered his local honey at the Market.

Members can continue to sell honey at Wilson's Nursery by consignment in Frankfort.

Capital City Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes of 27 October 2020

NOTE: As with the last eight months, the program was viewed on the association's Facebook page and the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Program:

Beekeeper and CCBA member Michael Wiley presented the program for the evening from the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Office via Facebook. He demonstrated the making of sugar blocks and provided his own recipes, which will be distributed to the membership at a later date.

Meeting:

President Wes Henry called this month's meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at which time he thanked Michael Wiley for his informative and interesting program at 6 p.m.

Next Wes requested a motion of approval for the October meeting minutes, as they appeared in the recent newsletter. With no objections, the minutes were approved. The treasurer's report was then provided by George Fowler, who just happens to be the association's treasurer. The report included the receiving of the sellers' fees from the October Farmers Market, the expenditure of \$62.43 for a cover for the library cart, and yet another six cents (\$0.06) in interest for our Education Fund. George also promised an annual report for 2020 at our next meeting in January 2021. The treasurer's report was approved as there were no objections.

Activity Reports:

Swarm Report:

To no one's surprise, the secretary reported that there had not been even one swarm reported in the last month. Imagine that.

Farmers Market:

Last weekend's farmers market was the last for the 2020, according to Wes. they were able to sell enough honey to meet their seller fees. A Holiday Market is scheduled for December 12th, depending on restrictions. Once again members were reminded of the opportunity to sell their honey through Wilson Nurseries. Each seller must have a number; if a member doesn't have a number, Wilsons will assign one. Each seller is advised to keep his or her own inventory list. When honey is sold, Wilsons sends the proceeds to the association and then the treasurer sends a reimbursement check to the appropriate seller.

Kentucky State Beekeepers Assoc. (KSBA):

Wes reported that former state apiarist, Phil Craft, gave a presentation regarding the uses of oxalic acid in treating hives against Varroa mites, at KSBA's fall meeting on November 7th. The presentation was recorded and can be viewed by KSBA members on the association's website. KSBA has also announce the Beekeeper of the Year and the results of the officers' election for 2021. KSBA is also looking for volunteers to serve on their board of directors. If you are a KSBA member and interested in serving on the board, please contact the KSBA.

KSBA's Certified Kentucky Honey Program:

Capital City Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes of 27 October 2020

Cont.

Sarah Preston, CKHP manager, announced that the program is now using K-card for accepting CKHP membership fees. She also reminded program members to her information for their honey, if they have not yet done so.

Library Report:

Librarian George Fowler showed our new, sturdy book cart and its impressive, monogrammed cover with CCBA logo. The cart will be available to members when we return to live meetings. In the meantime, members should contact George if there is a book that they wish to check out.

Beekeeper Scholarship Committee:

Wes requested news regarding the committee's progress, but so far there is none. This situation will indeed be remedied.

Old Business:

CCBA Election of Officers

As there was only a single nomination for each position, the "election" results are as follows:

President – Wes Henry

Vice-President – Michael Wiley, Jr.

Program Chair – Jack Kuhn

Treasurer – George Fowler

Secretary – Jan Rafert

Bluegrass Beekeeping School – 2021:

Representatives of the Bluegrass Beekeeping Association and the CCBA were able to meet virtually and discuss next year's school. All agreed that the school would be held virtually, include classes for both first- and second-year beekeepers, that presentations would be either live or recorded and that a live, virtual question and answer period would be held for each class segment. John Jeffers of BBA has some suggestions regarding the virtual logistics. Ruth Jeffers will be getting back to the CCBA with those suggestions. Anyone interested in assisting with the bee school is encouraged to do so and will be greatly appreciated. Please contact our secretary of your interest.

Frankfort's Candlelight Tour:

Due to the ongoing Covid pandemic, the candlelight tour was cancelled at the eleventh hour. Wes expressed the association's gratitude to Michael at Gibby's restaurant for the approval of our use of their facilities as in previous years and for their long time and ongoing support to the CCBA.

New Business:

Beekeeper Library Opportunity:

Former member and dear friend, Joel Schrader has decided to sell his personal beekeeping library. He has forty-two books with thirty-eight titles that he wishes to sell for \$5 to \$20 per volume, or the entire collection for \$150. George made a motion that we purchase this collection. Lynn Morris seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Fortunately, we now have a new cart on which to store them. A brief discussion followed about what we should do with the duplicate volumes and a plan for checking out the books. These items will be addressed at a later time. Meanwhile, George will log in the new books and develop an inventory list that will be disseminated to the members.

Capital City Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes of 27 October 2020

Cont.

2021 Membership:

In light of the fact that over two-thirds of our meetings this year had to be held virtually, Wes suggested that we roll the dues paid for 2020 be applied to 2021. The motion to do so was made by Mary Charlton, seconded by Marsha Be-zold and approved by the members present. The secretary was directed to send an email to the membership informing them of this decision.

From the Floor:

George mentioned that Sarah Preston should receive all KSBA dues. KSBA member organizations will no longer collect the dues for KSBA.

Jim and Mary Charlton wanted to thank Wes for his valued assistance in revitalizing their hive, bringing it back from the brink. Wes acknowledged their gratitude and replied that is one of the great reasons why we are here.

Adjournment:

With all being said that needed to be said and knowing that George would make a motion and someone else would second it, Wes unilaterally decided to exercise his executive powers and adjourn this, the last CCBA meeting of 2020.*

With the meeting adjourned, all attending wished all the others happy holidays and a better new year, before going on with their lives.

As usual submitted by,

Jan W. Rafert
CCBA Secretary

* Once again, our inept secretary failed to note the exact time of adjournment. Those who truly want to know this information, please review the entire meeting on the CCBA webpage at capitalbees.weebly.com,

Capital City Beekeepers Association - Treasurer's Report

Prepared on December 16, 2020 (No meeting scheduled for December)

General

Beginning Balance (November 12, 2020) \$3074.30

Receipts

Farmers Market Sellers Fees (Dec) \$10.00

Dues (1 family) \$15.00

Interest on Checking Acct. (11/30) \$0.26

Total Receipts \$25.26

Expenditures

Purchase of Books for Library \$150.00

Total Expenditures \$150.00

Currant Available Balance \$2949.56

Checking Account: \$2899.56

Cash change fund \$50.00

Notes:

1. Wilson check for November = \$138.25 for 2 member/participants.
2. The treasurer maintains a \$50.00 cash change fund for use at meetings and events.

Educational Funds (Saving)

Beginning Balance \$479.29

Receipts

Interest on savings account (11/30) \$0.06

Total Receipts \$.06

Total Expenditures NONE

Ending Balance \$479.35

The Capital Bee

Opportunities

CCBA Regular Scheduled Meeting- January 26th, 2021

[Facebook Live Program on CCBA FB page, 6 p.m.](#)

Business Meeting via ZOOM, 7 p.m. Members sent sign-on information.

***Tentative, CCBA Winter Honey Booth
January 9th, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**[Franklin County Farmers Market,
Frankfort, KY](#)**

