



A Spread of Fringed Rue grows in the green space between May's Farmers Market and The capital plaza.

*The Official Newsletter of the Capitl City Beekeepers*

## First Market Booth of 2019

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May 11th was the first CCBA booth at The Franklin County Farmer's Market. In addition to four members having honey to sell there were many opportunities to show folks what a capped frame of honey looks like and explain the extraction process using the on hand hive-body. The sales were steady and the public interaction was great!



Wes Henry offered his pure beeswax candles, votive and T-lite sizes, with the last of his 2018 honey.



Marsh Bezold and Kathy Stephanski had honey also to sell represented the CCBA and talked with folks about our art.

# The Capital Bee

## Grafting Update

In last month's "Capital Bee", we read that Jack Kuhn hosted a grafting workshop for club members at his home in rural Franklin County. I recently solicited and received a text message with an update on his success- Five were successfully reared and returned from their mating-flights.

**"No apiarist – no matter how few bees he may keep– should consider he has done his duty by his "pets" until he has learned how to rear Queens."**

*G.M. Doolittle,  
"Scientific Queen-  
Rearing"*

# CCBA Members Afield



## Mike Swatzyna's Swarm Trap Success

Member Mike Swatzyna had success catching a swarm in a trap near elkhorn Creek earlier this month. The queen was found (left) and already had brood also. He used an "EZ Nuc" box (below) to catch the "free" colony and added it to his growing Apiary.



## Large Swarm Hived

This large swarm was hived by Members Ken and Kay Daniels and Dan Ramey. The FB post (left) has Kay posing with the swarm before "shaking the bees in a the cardboard box". Then they were able to take the swarm and deposit them into a new hive body. Ken commented that it was their first of the year and that they have in the past been collecting about two a year.

## Bee School Grant and KSBA Communication

## The Capital Bee

*Kentucky State Beekeepers Association*  
 PO Box 232  
 Smiths Grove, Ky 42171  
[treasurer@ksbabeekkeeping.org](mailto:treasurer@ksbabeekkeeping.org)



**Please share the following information with your fellow  
beekeepers and association members.**

You will find enclosed the KSBA honey bee school grant support check for your 2019 school. We currently pay the statewide schools a grant of \$3 per attendee to help with the staging of beekeeping education. Under our constitution and by-laws, this support is allowed for all schools as long as, at a minimum, the officers of the local association(s) staging the school are current dues-paying members of the KSBA. This requirement is necessary due to the fact that the grant funding comes solely from membership dues. In order to ensure future school grants, we ask that you inform your local association members of this and encourage them to join the KSBA. As always, any dues paid for the \$15 annual membership in the KSBA through the local association allows the local association to keep \$2 of the \$15 dues and forward \$13 plus the member's information, name, address, email, etc to the KSBA at the above address. We do not share any of our member's information. Not only do the annual memberships support bee schools across Kentucky, KSBA members are allowed to attend the KSBA schools and meetings free of charge.

We have recently introduced a new statewide program titled **Certified Kentucky Honey Producer**. This program is to assure the people of Kentucky who purchase our honey, they are getting genuine local Kentucky honey produced and bottled in Kentucky, harvested from resident Kentucky honey bees and sold by Kentucky Beekeepers/honey producers. This program is an attempt to separate the hard working local beekeepers and their honey sales from cheap honey imported from sources out of state and sold fraudulently as Kentucky honey. We refer to this practice as "Honey Laundering". Our program is divided into membership categories established according to the member's annual honey production in pounds produced. The annual membership fee in the Certified Kentucky Honey Producer program includes automatic membership enrollment in the KSBA and the first 100 labels are included with the fee. Sales of the registered labels are at cost when more are needed. The prices of additional labels are \$7.00 per 1000 or \$4.00 per 500 plus shipping and handling charges of \$5.00 per order. Labels may also be picked up at designated spots yet to be determined. A sample application with guidelines is included with this letter.

The support of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture for the KSBA and our new program has been strong. They have provided advisors that have helped us from the beginning including guidance in securing a two-year grant for this program. The

## Bee School Grant and KSBA Communication

## The Capital Bee

grant of \$128,000+ has many provisions all designed to help Kentucky beekeepers. We are currently seeking applications for a part time program/grant administrator. Some of the proposed uses of the money are:

- Providing funds for members across the state to set up kiosks and displays at local stores to promote their honey along with banners, brochures and local advertising.

- Advertising across the state in various media outlets including working with the area Extension Offices and Farmers Markets.

- Setting up district and regional representatives of the KSBA. Kentucky is 450+ miles from west to east and the KSBA is striving to add districts and regions to help us grow. We would like to have KSBA supported meetings, field days, schools etc run by district and regional KSBA beekeepers who best know the needs of their respective areas. In order to set up and establish reps we need the input and help of the local associations. A lot of Kentucky beekeepers are members of more than one association. These multiple memberships are normally determined by convenience, accessibility, geography, driving distance, etc. We could take a map and divide up the state into regions but this would likely create areas that do not connect conveniently and possibly make it difficult for some beekeepers to attend the regional schools and workshops. So please, talk with your members to help us set this up. These regions would then be able to help beekeepers of their areas with the support of the KSBA with funding, speakers, etc Over the years we have heard the phrase "What has the KSBA done for me?" so now we are trying to use these funds to make the KSBA an active statewide organization that can help members directly. These regions and associated reps are paramount in making the Certified Kentucky Honey Producer program work as we will need area people that are honest, trustworthy beekeepers to certify the people in their area as legitimate Kentucky honey producers.

A beekeeper mentoring program will be implemented to help beginners learn from qualified mentors to help reduce the percentage of beekeepers who give up after a short and frustrating attempt at the wonderful art of beekeeping. This is another example of where we will need localized help. A part of this program will be issuing grants to help these beginners purchase equipment, woodenware, bees, etc. Before these funds would be distributed a beekeeper would first need to meet an educational requirement such as attending a district/regional workshop staged by the KSBA locals.

We have to meet certain criteria set by the KDA to be eligible for more funds in the future. Some of these criteria are a revamped web site, which is currently under construction and your input on how it should be developed is needed. An increase in our membership in both individual and local association participation is needed as well.

## Bee School Grant and KSBA Communication

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2018 was a full year of work and numerous meetings with the State in our attempt to make the KSBA beneficial to beekeepers across the Commonwealth from the Jackson Purchase to the Eastern Coal Fields. The current officers have volunteered many hours of their time in an attempt to get the KSBA on track and an equal of the surrounding states. Please join in and help keep the movement expanding. We would like to visit your area and discuss the many options we are proposing and use your ideas and input to make them a reality. We are including the contact info of our officers (please contact them and schedule a visit). Our dedicated and hard working state apiarist, Dr. Tammy Potter was a big factor in making these opportunities a reality and Kentucky beekeepers owe her a big thank you. Please let us know how to make this association yours. As the new website develops more detailed information about the Certified Kentucky Honey Producer program will be added and don't forget to let us know what you would like to see on the website.

Thank you;

**President: Chris Renfrow**  
**Olaton, KY 42381**  
**President@ksbabeekkeeping.org**

**Vice President: Mike Mabry**  
**502-552-9222 VicePresident@ksbabeekkeeping.org**

**Secretary: David Shockey**  
**270-307-8549**  
**Secretary@ksbabeekkeeping.org**

**Treasurer: John Benham**  
**PO Box 232**  
**Smiths Grove, KY 42171**  
**270-678-7924**  
**Treasurer@ksbabeekkeeping.org**

# The Capital Bee

## 2019 Franklin



## County Seed Sale

On the last Saturday in April CCBA had the opportunity to make a presence again at the 2019 Franklin County Master Gardner's Plant Sale at Lakeview Park. Many thanks to members Marsha Bezold and Cole Gilbert for setting up and maintaining the booth. Honey was sold and information about our art was available to all.



If you haven't remitted your 2019 dues, you may do so at the next meeting, March 26th, or mail with your information to:

Jan Rafert  
1662 Talmage Mayo Rd.  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

# Capital City Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes April, 2019

## Capital City Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes of 23 April, 2019

Prior to the business meeting, Jack Kuhn inspected the club's hives as well as making a split from one hive. The second hive did not have enough resources for a split. Interestingly, there was un-capped honey even though the locust bloom hasn't started yet.

At 7:09 p.m. President Wes Henry called the meeting to order.

The first item of business was a call for a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting as found in newsletter. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer George Fowler presented the club's financial report. The club's current balance is \$2915.95. Checks were sent to the schools that participated in the hive paints for the Bluegrass Beekeeping School. A check for the amount of \$125 was given to the Farmers Market for our participation this year. The motion to accept the report was made, seconded and approved.

On behalf of the KY State Beekeepers Association, Sarah Preston announced her confirmation as manager of the Certified Honey Program and will be giving classes and presentations regarding the program. She also mentioned that when bottling honey not to use any filters with holes smaller than window screen, as they don't allow the pollen to pass through.



George Fowler mentioned that there will be two honey booths, instead of one, this year at the State Fair, so we will need more volunteers. In August we will need honey for the governor's breakfast. Dadant & Sons will provide the bear bottles.

### Committee Reports:

Swarm Committee – the secretary reported that a few swarms have been caught and many more are likely to occur soon.

Library Committee – George Fowler reported that the library still exists, is here and will gratefully accept bee related books.

Package Day – fifteen members volunteered for Dadant's package distribution on the 16<sup>th</sup>. This was the most volunteers that we have had in the recent past, for which we are grateful. With a larger number of volunteers, each volunteer is able to work a shorter shift.

# The Capital Bee

## CCBA Mem- bers in FRANK.



The feature article for June's Frank Magazine focuses on Backyard Beekeeping. CCBA members Kathy Stephanski, Bill Dickerson, and Wes Henry, as well as the recognition of The Capital City Beekeepers Association, are included in the article. Subscribers receive Frank Magazine but it can also be picked up in local Frankfort businesses. A list can be found on the Frank website <http://www.frankthemagazine.com/where-to-find-frank/>.

### **Old Business:**

At this year's Capital Area Extension Master Gardeners' plant sale, our club will have two tables. One will be for honey sales and the other for education. Therefore, we will need more volunteers. Marsha Bezold, Cole Gilbert and Michael Wiley Sr. will be selling honey.

Ken Daniels updated the club regarding shirt and cap sales and showed samples. There were two options for embroidered polo shirts. The first was lightweight material similar to that of T-shirts for \$22 each. The second was much heavier and cost is \$26. The club decided on the other. T-shirts are available in long and short sleeve, and in grey or yellow for \$15 each. Embroidered ball caps are also available for \$18. A sheet was passed around for the members to place orders. Items should be available at the May meeting.

### **New Business:**

Wes announced that the first Farmers Market will be on May 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 am. Members are welcome to sell honey and/or encouraged to help man the booth. A fee of \$10 is required to sell honey. The club approved keeping the prices for honey as the same as last year.



George Fowler mentioned that our club membership has reached 70 paid members as of now.

Jack Kuhn asked for suggestions for the May program. Ideas included: setting up for extraction, hive setups and placement, information regarding used equipment and open top hive feeders.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan W. Rafert  
CCBA Secretary

# The Capital Bee

## Dates To Remember:

Next CCBK Meeting-  
May 28th, 2019  
6 p.m., 103 Lakeview Dr., Frankfort, KY

Farmer's Market Booth June 6th,  
7:30-12 noon  
Franklin County Farmer's Market, Riverview Ct., Frankfort, KY

KSBA Local Association's Presidents Meeting,  
June 15th, Franklin County Extension office, 9-12 noon, 103 Lakeview Dr., Frankfort, KY

## Treasure's Report Submitted by George Fowler, Treasurer

### Capital City Beekeepers Association - Treasurer's Report April 24, 2019 to May 28, 2019

Beginning Balance		\$2820.67
Receipts		
Dues – CCBA – Individual (5 members)		\$50.00
CCBA – Family (3 families)		\$45.00
Interest on Checking Acct.(3/27)		\$0.28
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$95.28</b>
Expenditures		
None		
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Currant Available Balance</b>		<b>\$2915.95</b>
<b>Checking Account:</b>	<b>\$2865.95</b>	
<b>Cash change fund</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	

### Notes:

The April check from Wilson Nurseries totaled \$151.25. This was redistributed to two participating members.

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