

The Capital Bee

The Official Newsletter for The Capital City Beekeepers, January 2018



The CCBA apiary on the snow-whited grounds of the Franklin County Extension office this mid January. Temperatures have plunged into subzero range but with the proper management the colonies are wintering well.

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Capital Bee News

2018 Bluegrass Bee School Planning Continues

Planning for the 2018 Bluegrass Bee School continued by members of both The Bluegrass Beekeepers and Capital City Beekeepers. The group met at the Franklin County Extension Office on the cold January night to discuss and plan details i.e. speakers, vendors, lunch, etc. for the annual all day event. As before, the school will be conducted on the grounds of Kentucky State University. March 10th, is the set date with the doors opening to registration at 8:00 a.m. Those wanting to attend can save some money by preregistering by [clicking here and downloading the preregistration form](#) and sending it with your check to the mailing address on the form. All paid fees, whether preregistered or at the door include lunch. Members of the associations are encouraged to volunteer with various tasks throughout the day. At the January meeting of CCBA we will be soliciting that help and with that your paid 10.00 fee for your lunch as a volunteer you're able to take advantage of the sessions/ classes in your "off time"-able to take advantage of the school, save some money, and help in making it a success too! The next planning session will be January 29th, 7:00 p.m. at the [Fayette County Extension office, 1140 Red Mile Pl., Lexington, KY](#). The meeting is open to all members who would like to help.

2018 Bee Friendly Frankfort, Members Gather to Work on School Hive Painting and Auction

As 2017 was quickly coming to a close, some worker bees of CCBA met at Dadant's in preparation of events for the coming new year. Members Walter Simpson, Alan Alsip, Dan Ramey, George Fowler, Jan Rafert, and Ken Daniels, gathered to assemble and prime the wooden ware for the School's Hive

Painting and Auction. The hives complete with top covers and bottom boards, are painted by local schools and



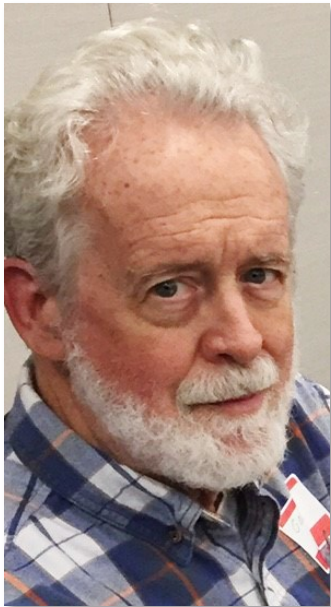
CCBA Members gather topside at Dadant's to nail together and prime hives for school painting and auction.

auctioned at the upcoming Bluegrass Bee School. This event with many others is a big part of the week preceding the Bee School in Frankfort and as many know as Bee Friendly Frankfort week. Other events include a beehive hairdo contest, the bee jam, local business focusing on the use of honey in their cuisine and beverages, and activities for children with apiarian themes at such places in the past as Broadway Clays and Completely Kentucky. The CCBA takes the lead in these events and a great part in hosting the American Beekeeping Federation Honey Queen or Princess which meets with a broad range of folks from legislators, and media outlets, to local schools from high school to elementary ages students. The schools participating in the painting and auction this year are Peaks Mill Elementary, Collins Lane Elementary, Good Shepherd, and Elkhorn and Bondurant Middle schools. The hives have been delivered and students are already working on these bee yard master pieces. A big thanks to all the members who've helped and to Andrew Fogg, Manager of Dadant's Frankfort Branch.

Capital Bee News

Fowler named 2018 KSBA Legislative Agent

Editors Note: KSBA representation in Frankfort is one of the many member benefits of KSBA. Your dues can be paid at the CCBA monthly meeting and CCBA receives two dollars for doing so.



George Fowler of Frankfort's Capital City Beekeepers Association (CCBA) is the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association (KSBA) legislative agent for the 2018 lawmaking session in progress.

One of Fowler's first actions will be to work with Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) to include KSBA items in baskets KFB will present legislators on March 7, "Food Check-Out Day" at the Capitol.

Fowler graduated from St. Meinrad (Indiana) College in 1969, and served six years in the U.S. Navy, as a nuclear reactor operator and a supply officer. After then graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Law, Fowler joined the staff of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, rising to chief staff attorney. He also served as clerk of the court for four years. Retiring from law in 2007, George took up beekeeping and joined CCB.

No current pending legislation directly affecting bees and beekeeping is up for consideration yet in this session, but Fowler will nevertheless stay visible near elected representatives in the state government halls to represent the viewpoints of Kentucky beekeepers.



George Fowler and Ken Daniels, at Frankfort's Farmer's Market Frankfort, KY

Jim Trammel

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2018 Memberships

Farmer's Market booth, 5% discount at Frankfort's Dadant's, networking with other beekeepers, small group mentoring, and more. Annual membership begins January and is good

Membership with the CCBA has its benefits such as, able to sell at Frankfort

for the entire year. You can pay your annual dues at the next monthly meeting or can send your fees and application (if a new member) by mail to Jan Rafert, CCBA Secretary, 1662 Talmage Mayo Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330. You can also join the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association as well. If you do it helps CCBA. We receive two dollars of the KSBA fee for collecting it. The [CCBA application](#) and [KSBA Applications](#) can be downloaded from the CCBA and KSBA websites.



LENDING AN EAR

2017 was a challenging year for many and I lump myself in that bucket of 'keeps. Indeed it was a challenge for this hobbyist to get a mere forty pounds from two hives- the only two that didn't swarm or from which splits had to be made to try and keep them from doing so. The bright spot was I did double my colonies and in November, at the time when the last of the golden rod and asters sway spent-brown in the unkempt places, I put my first patties on and felt a respite. Quickly though and with the arctic New Years, I found myself missing the bees and a bit o' proverbial cabin-fever.

Beekeeping you find, is an art for the senses. Consider a kaleidoscope of pollen, scent of virgin wax, tacky propolis, the first taste of summer surplus, but it is a bright Saturday and with temps bearable or not, I must know if all's well by the last of the five we have. At least in the season of the long shadows I can lend an ear to the cold deep and listen, harken to the dull hum of the warming cluster within. Perhaps closing my eyes helps. I do... and linger... and allow it, the cure for my present malady, to soothe the wintered soul. I helps us to know the challenge made us the wiser and have a greater hope for the first yellow buttons of a Kentucky spring to come. - *Wes*

Dates to Remember

CCBA January meeting

6:00 p.m. January, 23rd, 2018

Franklin County Extension Office

101 Lakeview Ct., Frankfort

Beekeeping 101

Kelley Beekeeping

February 3rd, 2018

Clarkson, KY

“Introduction to Beekeeping”

Hosted by Northern Kentucky Beekeeping Association

Feb 17th, 2018,

Burlington, KY

Bluegrass Bee School

March 10th, 2018

Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY