

July 2018

The Capital Bee

The Official Newsletter for The Capital City Beekeepers Association



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by Wes Henry

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2018 Franklin County Fair

Entries were accepted Monday evening before and Tuesday morning of the 2018 Franklin County Fair. The fair was held July 17th-21st and entries for the CCBA sponsored Honey Division were more than any remembered. The display was full with seven in the Light Extracted Honey class alone and included three in Amber and one in the Dark. In the Light class Penny Henry won the blue, Cole Gilbert the red and Ken Daniels and Dan Ramey the white ribbon. In the Amber class Jack Kuhn was awarded the blue ribbon with George Fowler and Wes Henry winning the red and white respectively. Jack's entry of buckwheat honey in the Dark Honey class was decorated with a blue ribbon.

Five entries were received for the Black Jar with Marsha Bezold's entry winning the top prize in the class with a blue ribbon. The decision was grievous for Welsh honey judge Tana Peers, and ended with Wes Henry's entry decorated with the red and Pen-

ny Henry's in third, with the white for the class judged by taste alone.

The case included two capped honey frames beautiful displayed and offered

up for scrutiny by Jack Kuhn and Marsha Bezold. Marsha Bezold won out with blue and Jack's the red. However, Jack also won a blue for Chunk Comb and Cut Comb classes contributing enough points for Jack Kuhn to be awarded 2018 Grand Apiarist.

Jack Kuhn awarded 2018 Grand Apiarist



2018 Franklin County Fair



CCBA Fair
Committee
Chairman George
Fowler, working the
entries and awards
after judging.



Tana
judging
the Black
Jar class.



The Chunk Comb class
entries make for a
beautiful sight.

2018 Franklin County Fair



Left to right, Members Marsha Bezold, Jack Kuhn and Lynn Aubrey discuss the judging with Tana.

To the right, "...capped honey frames beautifully displayed..."

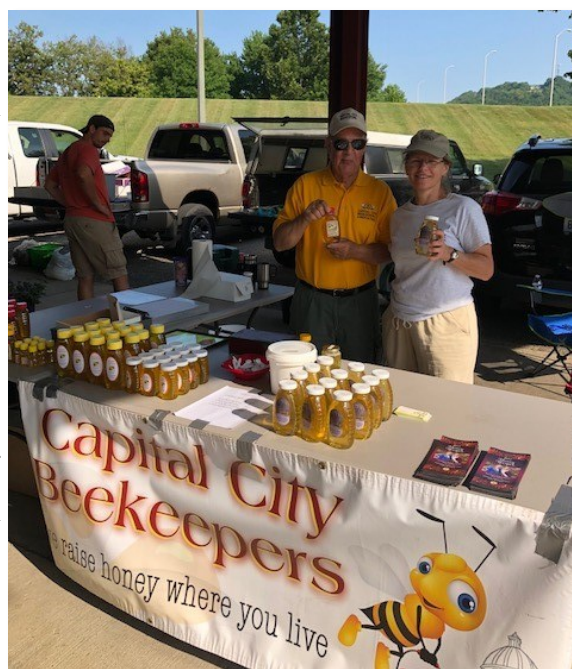
Below, six of the seven Light Extracted Honey entries on display Monday evening.



Capital Bee News

JULY'S FARMER'S MARKET

Four members offered their honey for sale at the Saturday morning CCBA Farmer's Market booth on the 14th of the month. Again, it was Kids Day and honey sticks were distributed to the kids. Members Marsh Bezold and Dan Ramey (right) pose for the camera at the opening of the day. As usual there were many buyers and interaction with the public concerning the art. As a reminder, the booth is available to all members and wax, candles, and other hive products can be offered for sale. The next booth is August 11th, 7:30-12 noon. Even if you don't have anything to sell come on down and enjoy the time with other members and the public.



Jack Kuhn volunteered

Association Extraction

to head up an association-wide extraction. The original plan was to meet at the Franklin County Extension office and utilize the club's equipment. Due to only two members RSVP-ing and to make setup and cleanup easier Jack volunteered to use his extractor and setup at his home in Peaks Mill. Allen James was one member to take advantage of the opportunity and harvested about 80 pounds of honey and hopes to use the cappings wax for other projects and products.



Member Allen James uncapping frames for extraction.

In an email sent out earlier this month from the Kentucky State

2018 Hive Count Form

Beekeeper's Association (KSBA), State apiarist Tammy horn Potter is asking for Kentucky's beekeeper's help completing the task of collecting information of beekeeping in the state. The official communication states this information is "for administrative and economic reasons". The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) is tasked with collecting "information on beekeepers and hives within the Commonwealth in accordance with state law. To do this, the KDA needs an inventory of beekeepers and hive counts by county." This a volunteer survey and "your help is greatly appreciated in this manner", writes Tammy. Please email, fax, or mail [this form to the address/number listed below.](#)

Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky State Apiarist

KY Department of Agriculture

109 Corporate Drive Complex

Frankfort, KY 40601

502.229.2950 (work cell—preferred number)

502.573.0282 (general KDA office number)

502.564.7852 (FAX)

tammy.potter@ky.gov

Arch Hockensmith as most folks, wore many hats, especially that of a friend, a neighbor, and fellow church member to name a few, especially to my father; but Arch was also a beekeeper here in Franklin County. It's been twenty years since the bees were to be "told", and a recent conversation with his daughter confirmed what I had not thought of for quite some time.

"Didn't your Dad keep bees?" I asked in response to a comment on a video I had posted on my Facebook page.

"Yes, he had hives all over," replied Teresa, "he had some in Bald Knob, Gregory Woods, and Georgetown. He loved his bees."

I sensed her enthusiasm to tell me more as she added to her recollection with a story worth sharing, again. As I have said many times, "It's more than just honey", and Arch apparently knew that too. As most mortals the ills of age catch up and he so suffered sore joints— arthritis. And though he may not have known to call it so, apitherapy was apparently real and a great help to Arch's ails.

"If his hands or his knees would start hurting," she recounted, "he would take the protective gear off and let them sting him and by the next afternoon he could move his hands and knees without any pain."

Of course not all physicians chalked it up to the bee venom. However, the story she recounted didn't stop there, but continued with Arch's attempt to convince the medical community, bearing the burden of proof in himself.

She recalls that, "He had a heart doctor that was a friend of his and said that was crazy. One day I drove him and Daddy over to a couple of his hives and Daddy could hardly move his hands,

More Than Honey

A Beekeeper Remembered

by Wes Henry



they hurt and were so swollen. He said he made the bees mad so they would sting him. I'm not sure about making them mad, but they did sting him. The next day I took Daddy by the doctor's office. The doctor came out and Daddy started moving his fingers and hands up and down and started to dance across the room."

Knowing Arch and his jovial way I can see it in my own mind's eye. I laughed when I read of it.

"The look on the doctors face was so funny. He confessed, "You really are feeling better . You could barely walk yesterday and couldn't move your hands.""

"I told you", said Arch, "when this happens I let the bees sting me."

"When Daddy passed away...", I could feel the emotion as she concluded, "I took one of the smokers he used but had refinished and gave it to the doctor. He said, "if I had not seen with my own eyes- the bees stinging him and he couldn't move, then could- I would not have believed it. I will never forget that.""

"Every time I see bee hives, I always think of Daddy doing that."

~WH

CCBA

June Meeting Minutes

The evening began with a program regarding Social Media Basics by Brett Wolff of the University of Kentucky. Mr. Wolff's presentation was quite interesting and informative, especially for club members who market honey or other bee products. He emphasized that 2/3 of your marketing strategy on social media should be about you and the production of your product and 1/3 on the product itself.

Business Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by President Henry at 8:06 p.m. He asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes as found in the May newsletter. The motion was made by Allan Alsip, seconded by Don Ashley and approved by the members present.

Treasurer George Fowler gave the treasurer's report, which included a beginning balance of \$3,289.77, receipts of \$283.06 and expenditures of \$242.75, left a Current Available Balance of \$3,330.08. A motion to approve the report was made by Don Ashley, seconded by Allan Alsip and approved.

Old Business:

Committee reports, including Swarm Catcher, Farmers Market, County Fair and the Kentucky State Beekeepers Assoc.'s Summer Board Meeting.

The only item that the secretary had to report was that yesterday the State Apiarist, Tammy Potter requested a copy of our swarm catchers list, which was emailed to her. Today the secretary received a return email that Tammy had already used the list when she received news of a swarm in the Frankfort area.

President Henry reported on the Farmer's Market on June 9th. He said that a lot of honey was sold, that samples were provided by those who are certified to do so, and that having an observation hive generated a lot of interest by the public, providing us the opportunity to interact with and educate them. The next Farmers Market will be held on June 14th for anyone interested in selling honey or volunteering to man the booth. We may have the observation hive again.

George Fowler reported on preparations for the Franklin County Fair. He said that he was making a motion for providing cash prizes, as mentioned in the May meeting, and Dadant gift certificates, at the County Fair. Andrew Fogg of Dadant said that they would provide a discount on the certificates, but didn't say how much of a discount. George said the total cost to the club would be \$150 minus the Dadant discount. Marsha Bezold seconded George's motion and the motion was passed. George reminded everyone who enters honey that they can drop it off on the evening of the 16th or the morning of the 17th until 11 a.m.

The final report, given by Ken Daniels, was a summary of the recent board meeting of the KSBA.

The first of three items addressed was the State Fair. The honey booth will not be where it has been in the past, but will still be in the West Wing in an adjacent room. KSBA provides honey for the breakfast and is asking for donations of 8 oz. bottles of honey. If you have honey to donate, bring your bottles to our next meeting on July 24th. Your labels on the bottles advertise your brand.

If you wish to have honey sold at the fair, you must be a member of KSBA. Prices will be the same as last year and last year the best sellers were 8 oz. bottles, followed by 1 lb. bottles.

The next item KSBA meeting was "Kentucky Certified Honey", KSBA's official marketing program. The "Kentucky Proud" program only requires that the honey is bottled in KY, but not necessarily produced here. To have your honey "Kentucky Certified" you must be a KSBA member and pay \$25. This program is a pilot program and in the development process. For the first year, KSBA is hoping to have twenty-five certified members. The draft rules can be found in our June newsletter and the rules will be finalized at KSBA's next meeting.

The final KSBA item is their next meeting, which will be on November 3rd, in Bullitt County. The meeting will be similar to our bee school. Additional information will be forthcoming.

New Business:

Jack Kuhn mentioned the possibility of having an Extraction Party, here at the Extension Office. Tentatively the party will be held in the afternoon of July 7th. Our club has a 20-frame extractor downstairs and Jack has a three frame, hand crank extractor. It was decided that an email survey will be sent to the members to find out how many members would come to the party. A 20-frame extractor may be a little too large, but the club received it through a grant. It was suggested that the club purchase a 6-frame extractor. A 6-frame, hand-crank is \$525 and one motorized is \$824 (not including the stand at \$65) at Dadant. The topic of purchasing another extractor was tabled for the present.

George Fowler mentioned that Thorn Hill Education (Learning) Center is interested in having our club represented at their "Spellapalooza" on August 10th, beginning at 6 p.m. We had a table there three years ago, but haven't had one the past two years. This is another excellent educational and honey selling opportunity for anyone interested. The cost for a table is \$10 and 15% of the honey sales stays with the center. This item as well was tabled until our July meeting.

Don Ashley said that Dr. Doug Howell, a chiropractor in Frankfort wants to buy local honey wholesale to sale to his patients, if anyone is interested. A brief discussion ensued regarding pricing. Our members' honey is sold for \$7 per lb. at Wilson's Nurseries on consignment. However, the price per pound wholesale is set by agreement between the two parties.

Upcoming Events: 14 July – Franklin County Farmers Market

17-24 July – Franklin County Fair

24 July – CCBA club meeting

17-21 Aug. – Kentucky State Fair

Finally, Jack Kuhn asked member Rick Evans would be willing to relate his experiences with Varroa mites, both good and bad, as the program for our next meeting. Rick graciously agreed.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 p.m. following a motion to adjourn, which was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan W. Rafert
CCBA Secretary

The Capital Bee Opportunities

July 24th, CCBA Monthly Meeting, 6 P.M.

[Franklin County Extension Office, 101 Lakeview Court,
Frankfort, KY](#)

August 10th, ["Spellapalooza"](#) honey sale

Thornhill Education Center, Frankfort, KY

August 11th, CCBA Farmer's Market Booth, 7-12 Noon

[Franklin County Farmer's Market
Frankfort, KY](#)

August 13-17th, [Eastern Apicultural Society 2018 Conference
Hampton, Virginia](#)

August 21st, CCBA workday at State Fair Honey Booth

[Kentucky State Fair Grounds,
Louisville, Ky.](#)