

The Capital Bee

November 2023



Take full advantage of the CCBA Library! With the down-time winter brings, a crackling fire, hot beverage, and a warm and comfortable chair, a good bee-read for the 'keep's hard to beat.

Beekeeper's Almanac

THE 'KEEP'S TO DO LIST

- ◆ As a late season cleanup on mites, treatment with OA (Oxolic Acid) works best now because the colonies are now mostly broodless. ([Jack Kuhn to do presentation on its use at November 28th meeting](#))
- ◆ Properly store “cleaned” surplus honey comb to prevent moth and but now especially, mouse damage.
- ◆ Check stores. Feed “winter patty’s”, sugar blocks, etc. Place on top bars
- ◆ Install mouse guards on the entrances. They love a warm dry place in winter with lots of food.



The Bee and Butterfly Fund is a organization where seeds are given to landowners with 2+ acres to help establish pollinator habitat. Until now, only 13 states have been able to take advantage of this. Kentucky has just been recently added. [Explore the website and information.](#) Thanks to Member Mark Stutler for bringing this to our attention.

What is small, black and yellow, and drops things?



A fumble bee.

A Quick and Easy Winter-Feed Recipe

An economical, useful, and easy recipe for winter feed for bees from Chris Palmer.

24/25 lbs. sugar
3tbs citric acid
1qt. apple cider vinegar

Smaller Batch for use 1-2 wintering colonies:

4 pounds of sugar
1 1/2 teaspoon - Citric acid
2/3 cup Apple Cider Vinegar

Mix to a snowball like consistency.

Add a sheet of newspaper over top bars, add 2" shim or empty super on top of hive box.

Put sugar feed onto newspaper and cover with lid. Bees will chew through the paper to get to the sugar (see Picture right).



Picture contributed by Chris Palmer.



CCBA Members Attend KSBA Fall Meeting

KSBA 2023 Fall meeting was held at the Hardin County Extension office in Elizabethtown, KY October 28th. CCBA had ten members present. Pictured left is R-L, Wes Henry, Susan Wiesenberger, Scott Moore, George Fowler, Gary and Patty Slucher, Ellen Melcher, Philip Patterson, Jessica Mays and Tammy Horn Potter (not pictured). Great talks and beekeeper fellowship abounded. KSBA Beekeeper of The Year went to Mike Mabry. Phil Craft was also named President for 2024 as well as members of the board.

Final Regular Honey Booth

The final regular Farmer's Market Honey booth for the year was November 11th. Three members attended- Dan Ramey (not pictured), Kay Daniels and George Fowler.

It was a busy time in downtown Frankfort with a Veterans Day parade and the Saturday of Candlelight Tradition. There was still a steady stream of shoppers and sales were nominal.

The Holiday Market will be December 9th. This is a great market for gift baskets of hive-products besides the usual honey in the jar offerings.



CCBA on the Road to Harrodsburg

In an email from Joan Morgan, President of Fort Harrod Beekeeping Club, CCBA members were invited come and attend a presentation by Bob Bennie on the topic of "Old Comb and Toxic Chemical Reactions in our Colonies". This was an eye-opening talk about the chemical reactions that occur between toxins in the wax with what we may use in the colonies such as miticides. Five members attended the October 30th meeting. L-R Wes Henry, Kenneth Sallee, Bob and Suzette Binnie, Philip Patterson, Annette Riddle, and Ellen Melcher.

Capital City Beekeepers Association - Treasurer's Report

Prepared November 17, 2023, for November 28 meeting

General

Beginning Balance (October 20, 2023) \$1955.99

Receipts

Farmers Mkt sellers' fees (Nov) \$20.00

Sale of honey straws \$1.00

Dues Renewal (6 Ind; 3 Fam) \$105.00

Check writing error \$0.25

Total Receipts \$126.25

Expenditures

Pot luck Door prizes \$33.92

Pot luck Meat Preparation \$244.75

Pot luck Table Supplies \$18.55

Pot luck Drinks \$37.06

Total Expenditures \$334.28

Currant Available Balance \$1747.96

Checking Account: \$1697.96

Cash change fund \$50.00

Notes:

Wilson check for September totaled \$257.50 for four participating members.

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

Educational Funds (Saving)

Beginning Balance (October 20, 2023) \$1046.89

Receipts

Interest (10/31) \$0.13

Total Receipts \$0.13

Expenditures

No expenditures this period

Total Expenditures \$0.00

Ending Balance \$1047.02

Submitted by George Fowler,

CCBA Treasurer

Capital City Beekeeper's Association

Minutes – October 24, 2023

-Our meeting began with the annual potluck. There were 47 in attendance. Thank you to John Antenucci for preparing the brisket and to all of our members who donated door prizes and food. Phil Craft was our guest speaker.

-The potluck began at 6pm and the business meeting began at 7:08pm.

-Motion to approve September minutes was made by Denise Boebinger and 2nd by Elen Melchner. Minutes were approved.

-Motion to approve September treasurer's report was made by Janet Osborne, 2nd by Kathy Stephanski. Report approved.

-2024 Officer Nominations: Election will be held at the November 28th meeting. All positions are open for nominations.

-Bluegrass Beekeeping School: [Planning is now in session for the 2024 school](#). Anyone who wants to be on planning committee is welcome. Please let Wes or Marsha know and we will get you plugged in. Planning meetings are generally on line. The Bee School will again be held at Kentucky State University in Frankfort on Saturday March 9th.

-Business Meeting adjourned (George Fowler motioned/Denise Boebinger 2nd) and followed by presentation by guest speaker Phil Craft.

The next meeting of CCBA is Nov. 28, 2023 (no December meeting)



Phil Craft was the keynote speaker at the 2023 Annual CCBA Potluck. His informative and entertaining presentation was on the subject of almond pollination in California.

Minutes submitted by Marsha Bezold, CCBA Secretary,

CCBA Opportunities

CCBA Monthly Meeting

November 28th, 2023

Program- 6 p.m. (Using OA– Jack Kuhn)

Business Meeting– 7 p.m.

Franklin County Extension Office

101 Lakeview Ct., Frankfort, KY

*No regular meeting in December

*Next meeting January 23rd, 2024

* Membership renewal for 2024 is being accepted.

Franklin County Farmer's Holiday Market

December 9th, 2023, 10-1:00 p.m.

404 Wilkinson Blvd., Frankfort, KY

Setup 9:15 a.m.



Bluegrass Beekeepers School Planning meeting

December 14th, 7 p.m.

Email with link will be sent.