The Buzz

Newsletter for the Cook Dupage Beekeepers Association
An Affiliate of Illinois State Beekeepers Association

Monthly Meeting
The Cook DuPage Beekeepers will hold their monthly meeting on the evening of February 21 at Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills, located on the northwest corner of Rt. 83 and 55th Street. The doors open at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7 pm. Please come early and chat with fellow beekeeping friends. Snacks to share are welcome.

Members Pete Soltesz, John Hansen, and Thad Smith will discuss pests and maladies of the beehive. The focus will be on varroa mite monitoring and identification of viruses the mites vector throughout the beehive. Viruses recently identified in northern Illinois including Acute Bee Paralysis Virus, Deformed Wing Virus, and Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus will be discussed.

The program for the evening:
• Call to order
• Treasurer’s Financial Report
• Secretary’s report on correspondence
• Report of Committees
• Introduction of New Members and Guests
• Varroa Mites and Hive Malady presentation

Welcome Our New Members
The Cook Dupage Beekeepers Association would like to welcome its newest members. Welcome aboard!
Bill Piva  
Rebecca Hegarty  
David Hegarty  
Heidi Sila  
Lee Sila  
Raymond Lippert

Bee Package Raffle
The club will be raffling a package of bees in both the February and March meetings. Get to the meeting early and pick up that winning ticket!

Committee Members Wanted
We are looking for volunteers to help plan programs and events for 2015. Take advantage of this opportunity to meet some new beekeepers by getting involved with various club activities. Visit the Committee volunteer table at the November meeting to sign up.

Volunteer a little, or volunteer a lot!

Membership Renewal
Don’t forget to renew your membership for 2015 at the February meeting if you haven’t done so already. New members are welcome to register too. See the website for more information.

http://cookdupagebeekeepers.com/about-us/how-to-join/

Please note: Magazine subscription rates on the registration form have changed for 2015.
Chores of the Month

February brings the hint of spring, with the reality of winter. During warmer years, the first maple and willow pollen may appear. The queen has been laying eggs and the hive is building brood, using up the stored honey supplies quicker to keep the brood warm.

In our area it is time to:

- Order your packages and queens for the upcoming season, replacing winter loss and/or expanding your beekeeping operation.
- Monitor the colonies food stores. The weight of the hive will provide some ideas on how much food is available inside. Feed those colonies low on stores with sugar, fondant, or place a candy board on the hive to help the bees through the remains of winter.
- Feed pollen cakes and patties to help build up the food stores and keep the hive strong.
- Check for activity in the hive (look to see if the bees are taking cleansing flights during the warmer days, or listen to the hive to see if there’s a buzz going on inside). Remember a grouping of dead bees on the outside is a good sign that there is life on the inside. If you do lose a hive see what may have caused their demise.
- Help the bees with their housekeeping by clearing the dead bees on the bottom board out with a coat hanger or some other device (be sure to put the entrance reduce back on, you don’t want any mice getting in at this point.

Advanced Beekeeping 1-Day Workshop – Cook County Farm Bureau

The Advanced Beekeepers’ Workshop is designed for beekeepers with at least one full season of beekeeping under their belt. Select topics covered in detail include: small scale queen rearing techniques, recognition of Pests, Predators, Parasites and Disease, organic treatments, seasonal best practices, spring start-up, fall and wintering best practices, honey flow, swarm prevention, collection, and extractions. A round –table discussion will be covered in detail, and class participation is recommended. It is a 6 hour program running, Saturday, February 21, 2014. Class is located at the Cook County Farm Bureau. Register for the class by calling the Cook County Farm Bureau office at 708-354-3276 or by emailing membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org.

Price: CCFB /CDBA member fee is $40 and non-member fee is $70
Date: February 21, 2015
Time: 8:30am – 3:30 pm

Check Out The CDBA Bookstore

Omar is loading up the bookstore for those beekeepers craving more information. Below is a list of some new titles available for purchase:

- Better Beekeeping
- Queen Rearing Essentials
- Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture
- Sweetened Naturally with honey, Low Fat Recipes
- Beekeepers Handbook
- Health and The Honey Bee
- Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping
- The Beekeeper’s Lament- How one man ...
- Increase Essential (2nd edition)
- Comb Honey Production
- Hive Management
- Healing Power of Honey
- Top-Bar Beekeeping: Organic Practices for Honey Bee Health
- Best 100 Juices for Kids
- Health From The Hive
- Bee-Sentials: A Field Guide
- Bees Wax: Production, Harvesting, Processing and products
- Beeswax Crafting
- Bee Sex Essentials
- Honey Bee Hobbyist (Hobby Farm)
Mark Your Calendars

February 21\textsuperscript{st}: CDBA Membership Meeting, 7:00pm, Christ Lutheran Church, Clarendon Hills.

March 1\textsuperscript{st}: Monthly Mentoring Meet up, 8:00am Hinsdale McDonalds

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2015 CDBA Executive Board

\begin{tabular}{ll}
\textbf{President} & Pete Soltesz \\
\textbf{Vice President} & John Hansen \\
\textbf{Secretary} & Thad Smith \\
\textbf{Treasurer} & Dan Rubino \\
\textbf{Directors (2017)} & Kim Kulton \\
& Jennifer Colandrea \\
\textbf{Director (2016)} & Mark Jusko \\
\textbf{Director (2015)} & Matt Schmitz \\
\textbf{Membership} & Jacquie Schuelke \\
\textbf{Education} & Omar Kamara \\
\textbf{Historian} & Maureen Kilmer \\
\textbf{Newsletter Editor} & Joe Slowinski \\
\textbf{Sergeant at Arms} & Ed Borsuk \\
\textbf{Hosts} & Mary Duchinsky \\
& Tony Duchinsky \\
& Gary McMahon \\
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CDBA Monthly Meeting Sat. February 21, 2014
Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills
Address: 60 - 55th Street. This is the northwest corner of Rt. 83 and 55th Street.

Link to map on Google Maps