



# The Buzz

Nov 2013

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

## November Monthly Meeting

We resume our normal membership meeting on November 23rd with a slightly different meeting format. The meeting will start with brief updates on club business (treasury report, membership, bookstore, etc.) we will then break the room into three different groups....each group focusing on different topic :

1. Queen Rearing – hosted by Jim Lindau and Joe Slowinski
2. Honey Warmer and Wax Melter – hosted by John Hansen and Mike Rusnak
3. General Beekeeping Discussion and Q&A – Hosted by Pete Solteze and Matt Schmidt

The intent of the new format is to provide the club membership with opportunities to share best practices pertaining to bees, equipment, hive products, etc.

### Meeting agenda:

- Refreshments served – 7PM. Bring some finger food to share if you like. (The kitchen is still under construction, so please do not bring anything that needs to be heated.)
- Main meeting – 7:15PM
  - Treasury and Membership Reports
  - Bookstore Report
  - White Board Q&A
- Break Out Sessions
- Wrap up – 8:55PM

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## And the Winners Are....

All members (and guests) attending the October banquet were entered into a raffle conducted at the meeting for a free one-year membership to the American Bee Federation. Two prizes were awarded. This first winner was none other than our guest speaker, Michael Bush. The second AFB membership winner was Gene Lindner. Congratulations!

## Got Honey?

Don't forget - Members can be listed on the Local Honey Providers page of the CDDBA web at no charge. If you would like to be listed, please contact Joe Slowinski (jslo722@msn.com) or through the CDDBA [Contact Us](#) page.



# From the Bookstore

NOW IS THE TIME TO STOCK UP ON BOOKS TO FUEL YOUR BEEKEEPING ADDICTION OVER THE WINTER MONTHS!

If you into queen rearing, creating good local bee stocks, and/or increasing the quantity and quality of your colonies (or if you were recently inspired by Michael Bush at the banquet to consider raising your own queens), then Lawrence Connor's books on the topic would be great additions to your winter reading. Check out these titles by Dr. Connor:

1. **Queen Rearing Essentials**
2. **Increase Essentials**
3. **Bee Sex Essentials.**

Lawrence earned 3 degrees in entomology from Michigan State University in the 1970's and was hired by Dadant and Sons in 1976 to run a new bee breeding program. He is a top expert and his books are clearly written, easy to read, and affordable.

I am very pleased to hand over the bookstore to Omar Kamara for 2014. He will be working the bookstore with me at the November meeting. So come over and browse, meet Omar, let us know what good books you have read and recommend for the bookstore, and stock up before the snow really flies! - Patrice

PLEASE RETURN ANY AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL YOU HAVE BORROWED SO WE WILL HAVE OUR COMPLETE INVENTORY MOVING INTO THE NEW YEAR.

Thanks!

## Chris Lutheran Donation

On behalf of Chris Lutheran Church, I wish to thank you for your generous donation of \$365.00 that the Cook Dupage Beekeepers made to our church to help complete our kitchen renovation project.

We have enjoyed the relationship that we have established with your organization, from partnering with Bill and Dot Buckley a few years ago at Heifer Fest, to being educated about the importance (and intelligence) of bees through your presentation at our Fellowship of Seniors, and most recently, Ed Borsuk donating honey from his bees for our home-made communion bread each Sunday. I hope that we are able to continue this relationship far into the future.

Again, thank you for your generous donation. We are hopeful that our kitchen will be back in working order very soon.

Prayerfully,  
Rev. John C. Hildner  
Pastor

If you are interested in doing something with your wax (selling it to commercial ventures or creating products for personal use or to sell), check out these titles:

1. **Beeswax: Production, Harvesting, Processing and Products** ... great information on preparing and selling your wax to commercial interests.
2. **Beeswax Crafting** ... loaded with applications for Beeswax from Candles to art (Batik and Encaustic painting) to Cosmetics and household products. Includes 'how to's'

### **CDBA Executive Board:**

<b>President</b> John Hansen	<b>Director (2015)</b> Matt Schmitz
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<b>Vice President</b> Open	<b>Director (2014)</b> Marge Trocki
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<b>Treasurer</b> Dan Rubino	<b>Director (2013)</b> Tony Gedritis
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**Secretary**  
Marilyn Ellison

### **Committee Chairs:**

<b>Membership</b> Dan Rubino	<b>Historian</b> Maureen Kilmer
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<b>Education</b> Patrice Beal	<b>Hostess</b> Sharon Tworek
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<b>Webmaster</b> Joe Slowinski	<b>Sergeant at Arms</b> Ed Borsuk
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**Newsletter Editor**  
Joe Slowinski



## Chores of the Month

November is a shoulder month, a time to prepare for the coming winter. It's a mix of warm and cool days where the last leaves have fallen and perhaps the first flakes of snow.



In our area it is time to:

- Be sure to renew your annual Apiary Registration with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- Check that an entrance reducer is in place to help keep the small critters out of the hive. Mice love to over winter in a nice warm and snuggly hive.
- Apply winter protection, wrap the colony or use some other form of insulation for winter.
- Provide a windbreak for bees on North or West side of hives if they are open to the wind (a snow fence or some other protection).
- Check the stock of your accounts and settle up your account with the owner. Provide additional honey or holiday gift baskets for the upcoming season.
- Visit any landowners where you may have kept your hives and pay rent for the use of their property, a couple jars of honey usually does the job.
- If daytime temperatures remain warm, continue to feed your hives low on honey with a 2:1 sugar syrup.

## Speakers Wanted

The ISBA and CDBA Boards are looking for ways to improve communication and networking, not only among ISBA affiliated associations, but also to beekeepers visiting the CDBA and ISBA websites for information. Any CDBA members wanting to be included on a list of qualified presenters available for associations to access should submit the following information to Joe Slowinski, CDBA Webmaster, at [jslo722@msn.com](mailto:jslo722@msn.com).

- Name and location
- How far they are willing to travel
- Fees/reimbursements required, if any
- Topics and approximate length
- Short bio (2-3 sentences)



The Cook DuPage Beekeeper's Association  
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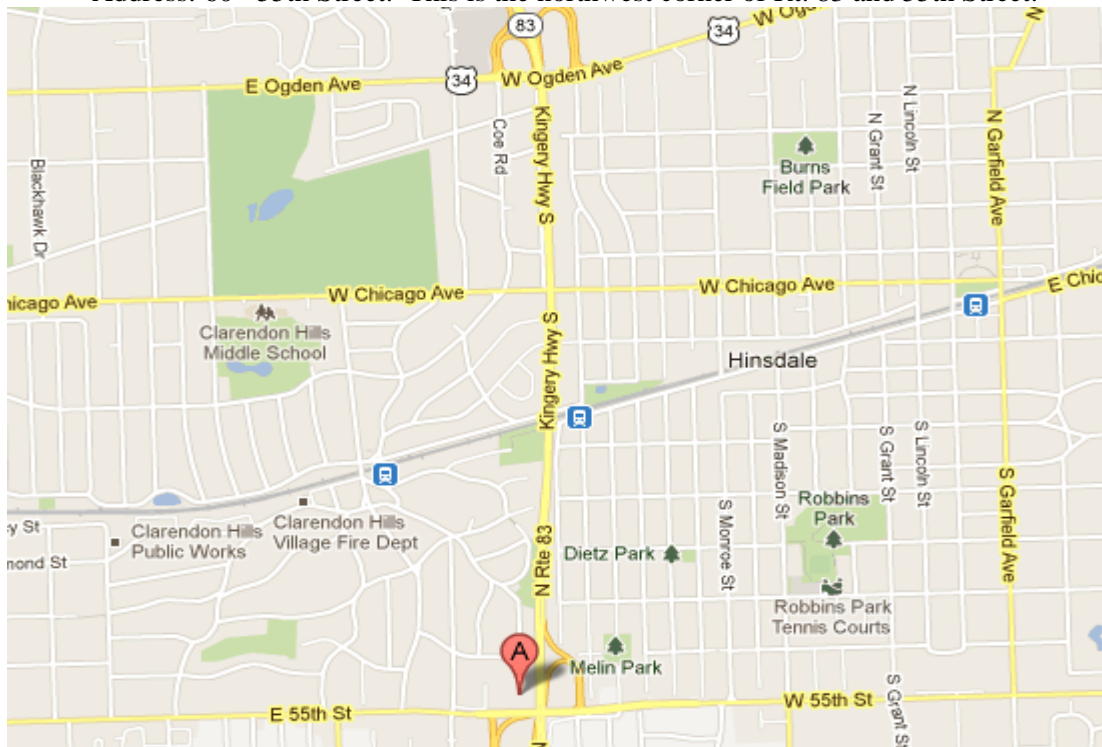
Next meeting November 23, 2013

## *First Class Mail*

### **CDBA Monthly Meeting Sat. Nov. 23, 2013**

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](#)