



The Buzz

Feb 2014

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

Monthly Meeting

Welcome back! The Cook DuPage Beekeepers will hold their monthly meeting on the evening of Feb. 15 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 with refreshments served at 7pm. Meeting will start at 7:15pm. Please come early and chat with fellow beekeeping friends.

The program for the evening:

- Treasurer's report - Dan Rubino
- Membership Report - Dan Rubino
- Bookstore Report – Omar Kumara
- Speakers
- White Board Q&A

Former CDBA President, Mike Rusnak, will be speaking to the members about early spring hive management with a focus on feeding. As the bees come out of winter, it will be important to provide adequate food for them if they are running low on resources. Mike will also have many different feeders to look at and he will demonstrate their use.

The Cook County Farm Bureau will also be speaking about potential support the Farm Bureau can provide our club through mutual cooperation between our organizations.

Congratulations to CDBA member, Marge Trocki. The Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance has donated \$100 to the Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association in Marge's name for her *'excellent contributions to the educational beekeeping programs at Lyman Woods.'*



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Welcome Our New Members

The Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association would like to welcome its newest members. Welcome aboard!

Brooke Amble	Marcin Matelski
Tom Bozek	Donna Moeller
Kevin Carrier	Kevin O'Donnell
Paula Everett	Rory O'Donnell
Amram Everett	Brent Richardson
Guilbert Golz	Mark Sadler
Garry Grube	Neil Sexton
Dan Janecyk	Ruggero Stella
Gene Lindner	

Membership Renewal

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2014 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/>

The club will be selling individual Mann Lake pollen patties at the Feb meeting. Beekeepers with only a few hives can purchase individual patties instead of having to buy more than they need from a supplier.





Attend a Beekeeping Class

The Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association and Cook County Farm Bureau have joined together to help get you started down the right path in keeping bees. Over the course of 5 weeks, experienced beekeepers will provide direction and instruction on the history of beekeeping, beekeeping basics, setting up your hive, installing your bees, and maintaining your hive throughout the beekeeping season.

Course Dates: Classes begin Tuesday, February 18, 2014 for five consecutive Tuesdays (Feb. 18, 25, Mar. 4, 11, 18)

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Registration: Call Debbie at 708-354-3276 or email membershipdebbie@cookcfb.org

Cost: \$60 for Cook County Farm Bureau and Cook Dupage Beekeepers Association Members. \$90 for non-members.

Location:

Cook County Farm Bureau Meeting Room
6438 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525

Check out the CDBA website for other area classes

<http://cookdupagebeekeepers.com/2014-winter-beekeeping-classes>

Bookstore Report

New in the Bookstore: **Hive Management: A Seasonal Guide for Beekeepers** by Richard E. Bonney

"The beekeeper's year begins with a late winter hive inspection and ends with "putting the bees to bed" in the autumn. Richard Bonney believes that each beekeeping activity should be performed with an eye toward the overall well-being of the colony, as part of an integrated year-round program of hive management.

Long-term success in beekeeping can only be achieved by understanding the intimate lives, behaviors, and motivations of honey bees -- the factors which govern the life of each colony. Richard Bonney explains the reasons behind common practices that many beekeepers perform without really knowing why. He also stresses when to take timely actions that will prevent problems in future seasons."



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.

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.

Feed pollen cakes and patties to help build up the food stores and keep the hive strong.

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).



CDBA Executive Board

President	Pete Soltesz
Vice President	John Hansen
Treasurer	Dan Rubino
Director (2016)	Mark Jusko
Director (2015)	Matt Schmitz
Director (2014)	Marge Trocki

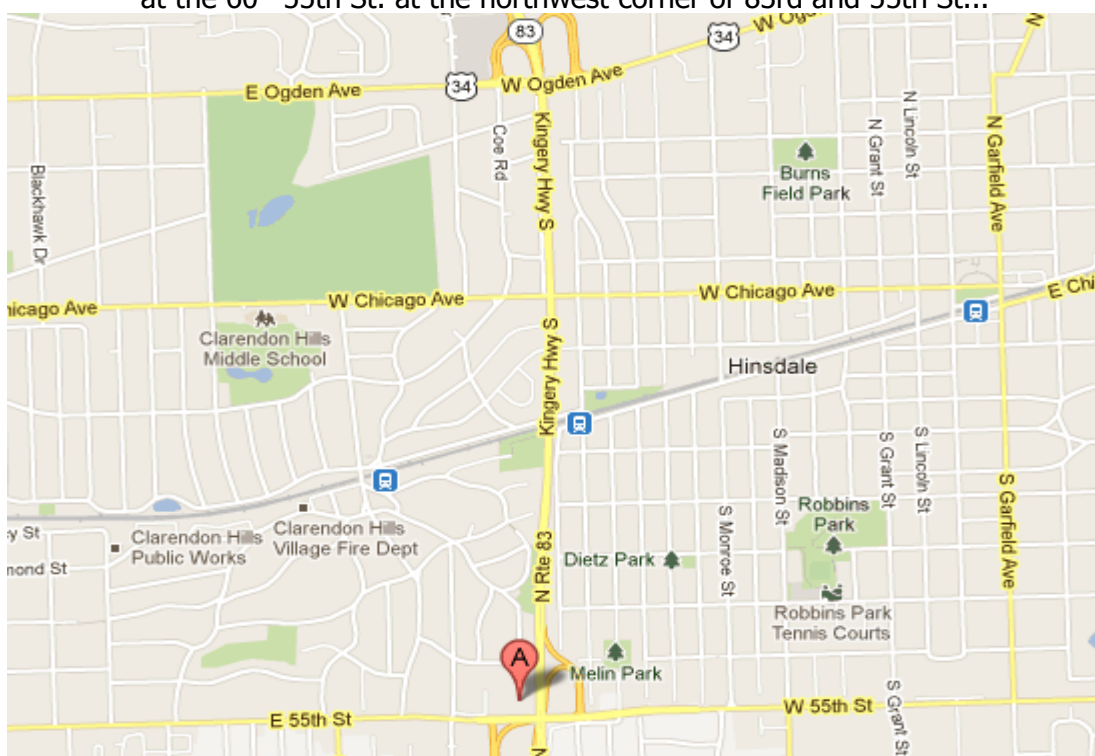
Committee Chairs

Membership	Dan Rubino
Education	Omar Kumara
Webmaster	Joe Slowinski
Historian	Maureen Kilmer
Newsletter Editor	Joe Slowinski
Sergeant at Arms	Ed Borsuk
Hosts	Mary Duchinsky Tony Duchinsky Gary McMann

CDBA Monthly Meeting Sat. Feb. 18, 2014

Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills

at the 60 –55th St. at the northwest corner of 83rd and 55th St...



[Link to map on Google Maps](#)