



The Buzz

September 2014

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 September 20 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. Bring a snack to share if you want.

The program for the evening:

- Treasurer's report - Dan Rubino
- Membership Report - Dan Rubino
- Guest Speaker: Lee Heine (Dadant)
- The 2015 Board of Directors will be nominated
- Chores of the Month
- White Board Q&A

Survey Says

Members attending the April 2014 general meeting were asked to complete a survey to share some of their beekeeping methods and winter hive mortality rates. Below are some of the results:

- 33 CDBA members participated in the survey with 269 total years of beekeeping experience.
- 70% of hives owned by survey participants perished over winter (266 out of 380 hives perished)
- 27 out of 33 use 10 frame langstroth equipment exclusively
- 27 out of 33 use screened bottom boards
- 16 out of 33 do not monitor for varroa
- 16 out of 33 wrap their hives in winter
- 14 out of 33 treated their hives chemically for varroa in 2013

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CDBA Banquet - October 18th

The CDBA Banquet is coming up in lieu of the October meeting. The date is the normal meeting night on October 18th but the time is moved up. Serving will start at 6:30 p.m. so plan to arrive by 6:00 p.m. to get a good seat. Sticky name tags will be ready for all guests with a reservation. The name tag will be coded to let the servers know what you ordered as there is a vegetarian option on the catered menu. All mail in reservations must reach us before October 11. There will be no "pay at the door" option. Reservations are open to friends and family of CDBA members also, and forms will be available at the September meeting. Featured guest speaker will be Trevor Qualls. A brief bio for Mr. Qualls is on the reservation form. The banquet reservation form can be downloaded here.

<http://cookdupagebeekeepers.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/CDBA-2014-Banquet-Reservation-rev-B.pdf>

Chores of the Month

The second honey flow to help build the colony up begins in late August and continues into September. With the arrival of fall and the coming of winter, it's time to:

- Remove the last of your honey supers for extraction. Be sure that your hive has proper stores for the upcoming winter and early spring by making sure 60 – 80 pounds of honey are available. You may need to leave a super in place if the lower hive bodies are not filled.
- Finish up your honey extraction and store the supers for winter. You can put the "wet" supers back on the hive on top of the inner cover and let the bees "dry" them up for a day or two. (Put the telescoping cover on top to avoid robbing.) (They might not get it done in one day). Then freeze the frames for 24 hours if you can to kill wax moth eggs and any larvae that may be ready to hatch. Store the frames in open air until winter. Wax moths can't handle light and air. (Never store comb frames in a warm, dark place) After the average temperature drops below freezing, no worries.
- For colonies light on honey stores, begin feeding sugar syrup. The fall mixture is a 2:1 ratio of sugar to syrup (5 lbs of sugar to 1 quart of water).
- Inspect for diseases, mites and the quality of your queen. If necessary or planned, re-queen in early September.
- If you are chemically treating your bees you can begin in September to medicate them through feeding and/or other methods.
- Review the over wintering hive bodies and supers and move frames of capped honey towards the edges and bring in the partially filled frames to the center to allow the bees better access at filling them up. **CAUTION** *Be sure you don't interrupt the brood pattern.*
- Combine weak colonies that do not appear to have enough honey or bees to survive the winter.
- If you are planning on moving your hives before winter, now is the time to do it, so they are in place before the bees begin to cluster.

Keep marketing your honey. September is one of the largest honey marketing months and a large amount of honey is sold at Farmer's Markets and fall festivals.



The Science of Honey

Illinois Science Council's "**Chemistry for Adults**" is back with a delightfully delicious offering - Chemistry of Honey - as part of the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum "Nature on Tap" night. This sweet program will delight and enlighten you with what bees actually do to make honey, how it's harvested and other fun facts.

Dr. Shelby Hatch of Northwestern University will lead you in experiments in the extraordinary chemical properties of honey and its many varieties as you do hands-on experiments exploring the wonders of this golden goodness. Balloons, beakers and pH may be involved, and perhaps refractometers, but there will definitely be tastes to tantalize your tongue. Plus, there will be a trivia quiz with prizes! Don't you want to know . . .

- Why doesn't honey "go bad" even if you leave it in the cabinet for months or years?
- What are the different viscosities of honey? Does it affect taste?
- Does the amount of water in honey matter?
- What about honey's antibiotic properties?
- What the heck is the "osmotic effect" of honey and what is Mānuka honey?

Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2012 6:30 - 8:00pm

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

2430 N. Cannon Dr., Chicago

Tickets are **\$35** which includes admission to the Museum and all Nature on Tap activities and exhibits! Food and craft beers will be available for purchase, the Butterfly Haven will be open until 9pm, and the Museum's living invertebrate specialist, Allen Lawrance, will be offering honey tastings. No science prerequisites necessary. (You could have flunked high school chemistry and will still love our "class"! [Click](#) for more information.



Congratulations to the Cook Dupage Beekeepers Association for taking first place at the state fair honey competition in the following categories:

- DISPLAY OF AMBER CUT-COMB
- DISPLAY OF AMBER EXTRACTED HONEY
- DISPLAY OF BEESWAX MOLDED IN COMMERCIAL SHAPES
- FRAME OF WHITE HONEY CUT-COMB OR PACKING
- WHITE COMB HONEY IN ROUND SECTION

For a full list of results, click the link below.

[Honey Competition Results](#)



The Dupage County Fair was a success once again. The honey cotton candy was a big hit with fair goers. Thank you to all

those volunteers that helped keep the CDBA booth running smoothly.

Morton Arboretum – Honey Bee Weekend

Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free with Arboretum admission. Honey Bee Days will include a host of activities celebrating the honeybee. Visitors can check out an expo of honey-related products to sample and purchase, meet honey and bee experts, and attend free, informal talks on bees, beekeeping, honey, pollinator-friendly plants, and more. The weekend will also feature fun activities for families and children.



Don't forget to check out the [classified ads on the CDBA website](#).

Some of our local members are selling woodenware and beekeeping accessories. Don't forget to buy local

and support your fellow Cook Dupage Beekeeping Association Members!

If you are a member and wish to list items on the classified page, use the [Contact Us](#) page to send your information.

Mark Your Calendars



September 20 – 21: Morton Arboretum Honey Days

September 30: Illinois Science Council: The Science of Honey

October 5: Monthly Mentoring Meetup, 8:00am Hinsdale McDonalds

October 18: CDBA Banquet



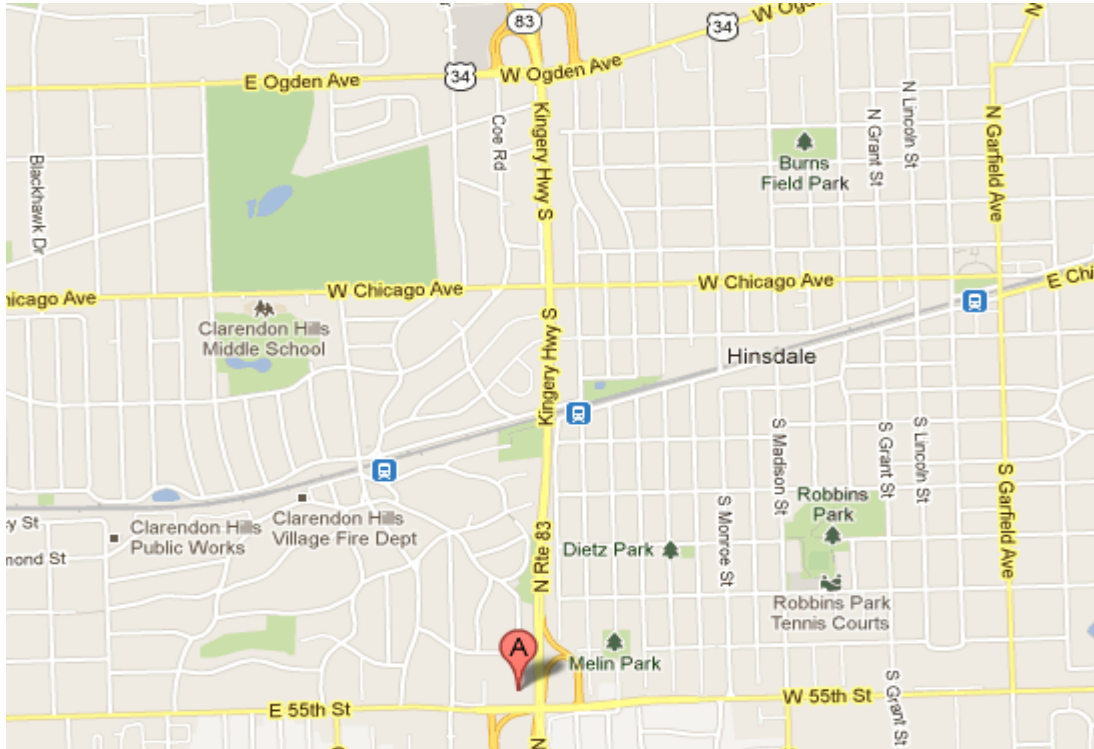
CDBA Executive Board

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

Committee Chairs

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

CDBA Monthly Meeting Sat. September 20, 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](#)