



The Buzz

September 2015

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 19th 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 7:00 pm. Please come early and chat with fellow beekeeping friends and bring a snack to share if you wish.

The program for the evening:

- Treasurer & Membership report
- General updates and announcements from President Pete Soltesz
- The 2016 Board of Directors will be elected
- What's the Buzz Q&A: A new feature where members ask questions and a pre-selected panel provides answers
- Wipe board questions answered
- Chores of the Month

Bee and Pollinator Research in the Midwest

On August 2, groundbreaking took place at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus on a Bee and Pollinator Research Lab to be built this fall. The 10,500 square foot facility will be built near a horticulture demonstration garden and will allow for habitat research of bees and native pollinators. It will also provide a location for the apiary, labs and honey extraction. To read more about this facility, click here:

<https://beeinformed.org/2015/08/the-new-bee-and-pollinator-research-lab-breaks-ground-at-the-university-of-minnesota/>

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CDBA Banquet - October 17th

The CDBA Banquet will be held in lieu of the October meeting. The date is our normal meeting night on October 17th but the time is moved up. Serving will start at 6:30 p.m. so plan on arriving by 6:00 p.m. to get a good seat. Sticky name tags will be provided to guests with a reservation. The name tag will be coded to let the servers know what you ordered. All mail-in reservations must be received by October 9th. There will be no "pay at the door" option. Reservations are open to friends and family of CDBA members and forms will be available at the September meeting. Featured guest speaker will be Krispn Given. A brief bio for Krispn can be found on the reservation form. The banquet reservation form can be downloaded here: <http://cookdupagebeekeepers.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/CDBA-2015-Banquet-Reservation-090415.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.



Interested in Selling Honey at a Farmer's Market This Autumn? The Year to Join or Start a Farmer's Market

Bee Culture Magazine recently featured an article about the importance of farmers markets in today's society and provided information on how to become more involved. With the season for selling honey upon us, you might consider getting involved in a local farmers market. You'll find an excerpt from the article below and you can click [here](#) for the full article.

Farmers markets are now such an important part of our society that in 2014 the U.S. Postal Service issued a stamp commemorating them. Perhaps you have thought about joining a farmers market to sell your honey along with beeswax candles and ornaments. Or are you considering starting one on your small farm not only with your honey but also the neighbors' excess tomatoes, zucchini and other vegetables and fruits? Let's consider these two choices. Then you can decide which is best for you and your hive products.

In the beginning you will not have any idea of the size containers of honey your customers prefer. Those who cook with honey and those with family might prefer a two-pound container. Those who use honey in only their tea or for a cough may want a smaller one. A small label explaining crystallization and how to liquefy honey is very helpful. Some may believe crystallized honey has spoiled. Don't hesitate to educate your customers about honey.

Your labels must be legal. Sometimes inspectors do come through farmers markets and may or may not look at your labels. To check the requirements you can visit the National Honey Board website at www.honey.com and put the word 'labels' in the search box. Generally states follow those but to be safe, check with your state's Department of Agriculture. Although you may wish to use the word 'natural' on your label there is no official definition of that word.



Congratulations to the Cook Dupage Beekeepers Association for taking first place at the state fair honey competition in the following categories:
Display of White Comb Honey, Not less than 12 sections
Finely Crystallized Honey
Frame of Honey for Extracting

For a complete list of winners, click below:
[2015 Competition Results](#)



The Dupage County Fair was a success this year! We sold quite a bit of honey to support the Club and talked to many people about all things bees. Thank you to the

volunteers who helped keep the CDBA booth running.

Morton Arboretum – Honey Bee Days

September 17-21. 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 12: Beyond Basics Beekeeping Class, Garfield Park

September 17: Honey Inspired Dinner, Morton Arboretum

September 20 – 21: Morton Arboretum Honey Days

October 10: Beginning Beekeeping Class, Garfield Park

October 17: CDBA Banquet



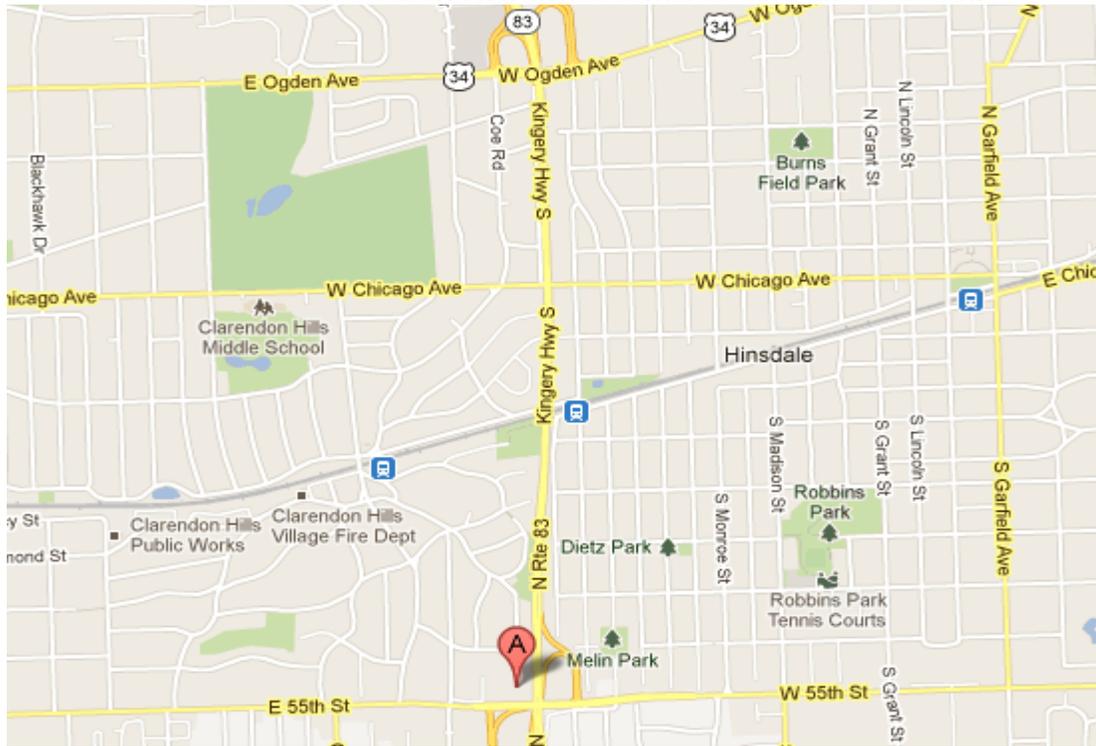
CDBA Executive Board

President	Peter Soltesz
Vice President	John Hansen
Secretary	Jennifer Colandrea
Treasurer	Jacque Schuelke
Director (2015)	Matt Schmitz
Director (2017)	Kim Kulton
Director (2017)	Thad Smith

Committee Chairs

Membership	Jacque Schuelke
Webmaster	Joe Slowinski
Newsletter Editors	K. Kulton/J. Colandrea
Sergeant At Arms	Ed Borsuk
Hosts	Tony Duchinsky
	Mary Duchinsky
	Gary McMahan

CDBA Monthly Meeting Saturday, September 19, 2015
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](#)