



The Buzz

April 2016

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

Meeting Update

The Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association will hold the next scheduled meeting on **Saturday, April 16, 2016** at Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills, located on the northwest corner of Rte. 83 and 55th Street. Doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting begins at 7:00pm. Please consider bringing a snack or beverage to share.

Member Survey

As a reminder, the member survey regarding colony loss and hive pests/management will be available until April 15. Log on and take the survey so we can learn more about local hives in our own neighborhoods. The results will be made available to all members.

2016 Membership Renewal

Membership renewals for 2016 are now due. If we do not receive your dues by April 30, we will assume you've decided not to renew and you'll be removed from our membership and mailing lists. You can pay online or at the April meeting. For more information, click below:

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

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Show and Tell: Bring Items to April Meeting

For our April meeting, we'll feature our own members in a **show and tell segment**. Bring your handy tools, inventions or useful processes you've discovered over the years to aid in hive management (or one you wouldn't recommend!) and show it off so other members might benefit from your ingenuity.

We will also feature an **installation demonstration**.



Chores of the Month

April is typically the month that new hives start in our area. The first package bees are delivered and installed mid to late month and the buzz of bees' wings fill the air. In our area it is time to:

- Finish the assembly and preparation of your hives, hive stands and other equipment
- For new beekeepers, download the form to register your bees with the Illinois Department of Agriculture ([click here](#))
- Mix up some bee food. Springtime is the "light" syrup time where 1 part sugar is mixed with one part water (a five pound bag of sugar to 2.5 quarts of water). Heat the mixture until it is clear. Cool and store in the refrigerator until needed
- Monitor pollen patty consumption. If necessary you may need to add another
- On a warm day, inspect your existing hives for strength and any diseases or mites
- Consider reversing the brood chambers to allow the bees to move up. The more space the bees think they have the less likely they are to swarm
- Review the procedure for installing your bees and prepare to install any packages you receive
- If you have ordered a package of bees by mail, be sure to let your post office know so they won't be surprised
- If treating with chemicals, be sure to complete your treatments 4 weeks before the first serious nectar flow begins. DO NOT add supers before the four weeks have passed
- Review your in hive frames to remove any that are damaged or have an excess amount of pollen. You may even want to replace a few frames of drawn comb to provide more room and ventilation for your overwintered bees



Too Many of the Birds, Bees, and Butterflies That Pollinate Crops Face Extinction

There are an estimated 2.74 million honeybee colonies kept by beekeepers in the United States. It's a number that, for much of the last decade, has been the subject of much consternation each spring, [when researchers announce how many colonies were lost](#)—died off—over the past winter. The numbers have been high, and persistently so, with total annual losses hitting 45 percent in 2012–13, a particularly bad year. This has led to some new terms: *colony collapse disorder*, *pollinators*, and *neonicotinoids*, to name a few. With a third of fruit and vegetable crops depending on pollinators, bees regularly dying in droves, and pesticide use increasing, it can seem like honeybees are the only things keeping us fed—and that they might soon go away altogether.

The relationship among bees, other pollinators, and the food supply is indeed a vital one, but it is far more complex than pitting one bee—*Apis mellifera*, the European honeybee—against one class of pesticides, such as neonics. Take the new report released Monday by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (which functions much like a United Nations for biodiversity issues) looking at the plight of pollinators and how their decline puts the global food supply at risk.

One of the major takeaways from the study has nothing to do with honeybees but rather the 20,000 wild bee species found around the globe, which also contribute significantly to pollinating food crops. According to the report, more than 40 percent of invertebrate pollinators—wild bees and butterflies in particular—are facing extinction. Similarly, 16.5 percent of vertebrate pollinators (bats, birds, and the like) are threatened by extinction.

Click here for the full article: http://news.yahoo.com/too-many-birds-bees-butterflies-pollinate-crops-face-233800794.html;_ylt=A0LEVzTn8O5W3MgAvCdXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTByMjB0aG5zBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBH20aWQDBHNIYwNzYw--

Blackmore, Willy. "Too Many of the Birds, Bees, and Butterflies That Pollinate Crops Face Extinction." *TakePart.com*. TakePart, 29 Feb. 2016. Web. 20 Mar. 2016.

Dr. Lawrence DuBose Named Beekeeper of the Year

The CDBA would like to congratulate Dr. Lawrence DuBose of Carol Stream on winning the ISBA's Beekeeper of the Year Award. Dr. DuBose, a volunteer at Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Kline Creek Farm, has been working with honey bees for 82 years. Well done, Lawrence, we congratulate you!



Read more about Dr. DuBose here:

http://www.ilsba.com/uploads/1/0/6/4/10649295/dubose_article_ch_trib_1.3.16_ilsba.pdf

Mark your Calendar

Note: Many Classes below taught by CDBA Members

- **4/9:** Advanced Beekeeping, Cook County Farm Bureau
- **4/23:** Hands on Mentoring, Downers Grove Park District, Lyman Woods
- **5/14:** Busy Bees at Lyman Woods (Age 4-6)
- **5/21:** Hands on Mentoring, Downers Grove Park District, Lyman Woods
- **Spring 2016-** Beekeepers at work- Garfield Park Conservatory
- **6/11:** ISBA Annual Summer Meeting, Hoffman Estates

Links:

- <http://www.cookcfb.org/events/Beginning-Beekeeping-Course---Saturday--Sunday-261>
- <http://www.dgparks.org/calendar>
- <http://www.garfieldconservatory.org/programs/growing-and-green-living.html>
- <http://www.ilsba.com/summary-of-events.html>

Honey-Hot Buffalo Chicken Pizza



Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup + 2 Tablespoons - prepared tomato-based pizza sauce
- 1/4 cup - honey
- 1/2 teaspoon - hot pepper sauce, or to taste
- 1 cup - diced or shredded, cooked chicken breast
- 1 tube (10 oz.) - refrigerated pizza dough
- 1 Tablespoon - olive oil
- 3 oz. - blue cheese, finely crumbled (3/4 cup)
- 1/2 cup - finely diced celery

Directions:

Heat pizza sauce and honey; remove from heat. Stir in hot pepper sauce. Mix 2 Tablespoons sauce with chicken; reserve. Shape pizza dough according to package directions for thin-crust pizza. Brush pizza shell with 1 Tablespoon olive oil. Spread remaining 3/4 cup sauce over dough. Scatter reserved chicken over sauce. Bake at 500°F until lightly browned, about 10 minutes. Remove from oven. Sprinkle pizza with cheese, then celery. Cut pizza into 6 wedges.

Plant Milkweed this Season!



CDBA Executive Board

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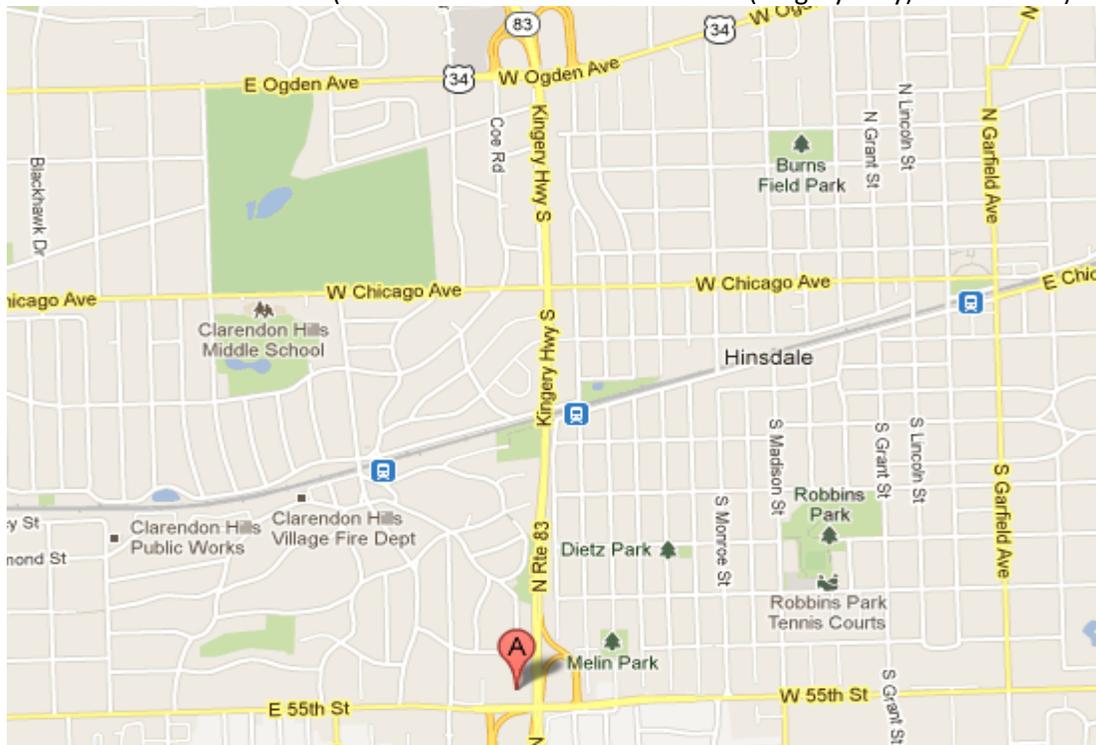
Upcoming Meetings:

- May 21st** Speaker: Dr. Frank Yurasek, Apitherapist. Topic: Reversing Parkinson, MS, Alzheimer's, and Lyme Disease with Bee Venom Acupuncture Self Treatment
- June 18th** Summer Picnic at Churchill Woods, Glen Ellyn
- July 16th** Speaker: Dr. Gil Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute and Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Chicago. Topic: A Sweet History: Honey, Bees, and Beekeeping in the Ancient World

CDBA Monthly Meeting, Saturday, April 16, 2016

Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills

Located at: 60 55th St. (At the northwest corner of Rte. 83(Kingery Hwy) and 55th St.)



[Link to map on Google Maps](#)