



The Buzz

May 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, May 21, 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 to share.

Bee Informed Partnership 2015-16 Loss Survey Results

Click on the link below for the results from the Bee Informed 2015-16 loss survey:

<https://beeinformed.org/2016/05/10/nations-beekeepers-lost-44-percent-of-bees-in-2015-16/>

HIGHLIGHTS:

Monthly Meeting Update	1
Bee Informed Survey Results	1
June Picnic	1
Chores of the Month	2
Article Excerpt: Ortho Products	2
Plant a Bee Garden	3
Recipe: Mango Salsa	3
Mark your Calendar	3
Upcoming General Meetings	4

June Picnic RSVP

The CDBA annual June picnic is **Saturday, June 18** from 11am-3pm at Churchill Woods Forest Preserve in Glen Ellyn. The CDBA will provide the entrees, picnic-ware and ice. Members are asked to bring salads (Last name A-M) or desserts (Last Name N-Z). We need an accurate head-count so if you haven't RSVP'd yet, please do so by emailing: jen.colandrea@yahoo.com. See you there!



Chores of the Month

May begins with one of the most important holiday to the bees, May Day: A chance to celebrate the workers of the world. This month is the beginning of the major nectar and pollen time in our area.

In our area it's time to:

- Make sure your bees have enough room and are kept busy. For a new hive, monitor how much comb has been drawn out in the hive bodies and add another body as they "run out of room." If necessary, move some of the undrawn frames in a space or two to allow the bees to draw comb there. Be careful that you do not compromise the brood pattern. It may also be the time to reverse the hive bodies if you haven't done this already.
- For an older hive, it may be time to review the frames and see if you need to swap out some older pollen filled frames for new ones. This gives the bees an opportunity to be busy, as well as increase some of the space in the hive and improve circulation.
- Be prepared to "super up." If medicating, remember that FOUR (4) weeks need to pass from the last medication treatment until the super can be added to the hive. For new beekeepers, think of adding the super once 8 frames have been drawn out in the last hive body of the core hive area (the yearly living space for your bees).
- Review the strength of your hive. By mid-May it will be time to remove the entrance reducer and allow the bees free access in and out. They are going to be busy and you don't want to slow down the movement of honey and pollen in and out of the hive.
- Monitor the hive for queen cups and cells. It's especially important to watch for Swarm Cells. These cells usually are found at the bottom of the frame and are an indication that the hive may be too crowded and ready to swarm.
- If feeding your hive, keep an eye on the volume. We're approaching a time when natural nectar will take over and the need for feed drops diminishes. Remove the feeder if they are not taking any nourishment.



Ortho nixes neonicotinoids in bee-friendly move

A garden-care company owned by Scotts MiracleGro will phase out neonicotinoids in eight products by 2021, in hopes of saving declining bumblebee and honeybee populations.

As scientists continue to warn about the serious harms bees face from chemicals contained in many commonly-used pesticides, garden-care company Ortho is taking a decisive step. The company announced Tuesday that it will phase out the use of chemicals known as neonicotinoids by 2021 in eight of its pesticide products. Ortho will stop using neonicotinoids in three products for roses, trees, and shrubs by next year and modify other products later, said Tim Martin, vice president and general manager of Ortho, reported [the Associated Press](#). The lawn-care company is a division of the Ohio-based Scotts Miracle-Gro.

In 2014, beekeepers reported losing about 40 percent of their honeybee colonies across the country, a highly significant decline given that honeybees pollinate about [80 percent of crops that use insect pollination](#), including favorites from cantaloupes and kiwis to pumpkins. When the neonicotinoid-bearing pesticides are sprayed on some crops – such as cotton or citrus – and spread to pollen or nectar, the bees can [develop an addictive craving for the substances](#), similar to a human addiction to nicotine.

As they keep coming back for more, the chemicals can damage bees' central nervous systems, ultimately [impacting their ability to pollinate flowers](#), one study found last month. Click here for the full article:

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2016/0412/Protecting-bees-Ortho-nixes-neonicotinoids-in-bee-friendly-move-video>

Plant a Bee Garden

Early: Blueberry, Cotoneaster, Crabapple, Cranberry, Crocus, Foxglove, Heliotrope, Hazelnut, Heather, Primrose, Willow

Mid-Season: Blackberry, Cat mint, Catnip, Chives, Dahlia, Hyssop, Lavender, Raspberry, Sunflower, Yarrow

Late: Aster, Beggar's Tricks, Borage, Coneflower, Cornflower, Cosmos, Goldenrod, Pumpkin, Sedum, Squash

Click below for native plants of the Great Lakes region:

http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/GreatLakesPlantList_web.pdf



Mark your Calendar

Note: Many Classes below taught by CDBA Members

- **5/14:** Busy Bees at Lyman Woods (Age 4-6)
- **5/21:** Hands on Mentoring, Downers Grove Park District, Lyman Woods
- **6/4:** Basic Chicken Keeping and Coop Building, Chicago Botanic Garden
- **6/11:** ISBA Annual Summer Meeting, Hoffman Estates
- **7/25 -7/29:** Junior Beekeepers Camp, Lyman Woods
- **9/12:** Beyond Basics Beekeeping, Garfield Park Conservatory

Links:

- <http://www.dgparks.org/calendar>
- <http://www.garfieldconservatory.org/programs/growing-and-green-living.html>
- <http://www.ilsba.com/summary-of-events.html>
- <http://www.chicagobotanic.org/>

DriftWatch.org

DriftWatch is a communication tool that enables crop producers, beekeepers, and pesticide applicators to work together to protect specialty crops and apiaries through use of a mapping system. Registration is free:

<https://driftwatch.org/>

Chipotle-Mango Salsa



Ingredients:

- 1¼ cups - mango, peeled and chopped
- 1/3 cup - red onion, chopped
- 1/3 cup - red bell pepper, chopped
- 1/3 cup - fresh lime juice
- 2 tablespoons - honey
- ¼ cup - fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 tablespoon - canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce, minced
- 1 teaspoon - Kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon - coarsely ground black pepper
- 2 - garlic cloves, minced

Directions:

Stir together all ingredients in a medium bowl. Cover and chill until ready to serve.

YIELD: 2 CUPS

PREP TIME: HANDS-ON 25 MIN.

American Bee Federation Free Membership 2016

The American Bee Federation is offering free memberships to new members for 2016. Click here to register:

<https://abfnet.site-ym.com/>

Bee Package Winner

Congratulations to John Rolowicz, winner of the April 3-lb bee package raffle. Enjoy your bees, John!

CDBA Executive Board

President	Peter Soltesz
Vice President	John Hansen
Secretary	Jennifer Colandrea
Treasurer	John Hayse
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Director (2016)	Bill Whitney
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Committee Chairs

Membership	John Hayse
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Sergeant At Arms	Ed Borsuk
Education	Omar Kamara
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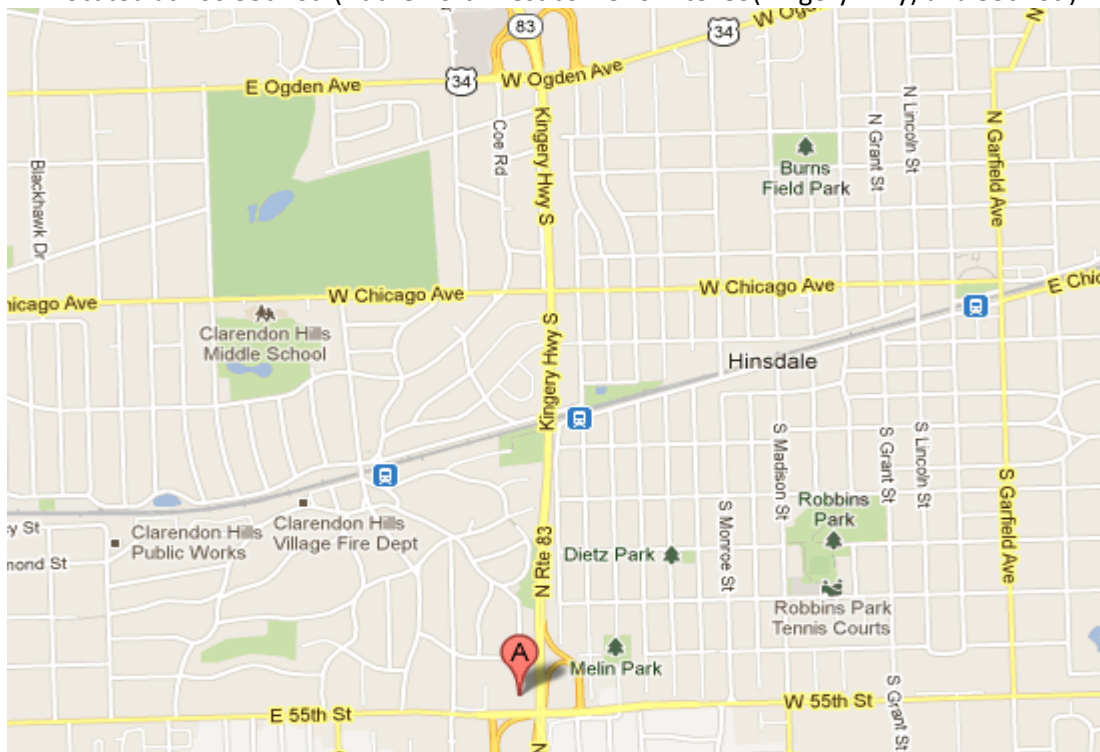
Upcoming Meetings:

June 18 th	Summer Picnic at Churchill Woods, Glen Ellyn from 11am-3pm
July 16 th	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, May, 21, 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](#)