



The Buzz

October 2016

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

October Banquet Update

The Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association will hold our annual October banquet on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills, located on the northwest corner of Rte. 83 and 55th Street. **Doors open earlier than usual at 6:00pm and dinner is served at 6:30pm.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

October Banquet Reservations

Be sure to get your reservations in soon. We will feature a meat and vegetarian entrée choice and the cost is \$25 per person. You can fill out a reservation form online or print it from the link below:

<http://www.cookdupagebeekeepers.com/2016-cdba-banquet/>. If you submit your form online, you can pay via PayPal or a major credit card. If mailing it in, the return address is listed at the bottom of the form. **All reservations must be in by October 9.** There are no exceptions, as we have to provide a count to the caterer. Plan on joining us for this special event.

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October Speaker: Tim Wilbanks

Owner of the Kalona Honey Company, Tim is a fifth generation beekeeper. He grew up in Claxton, Georgia working in his family's commercial package and queen rearing business, The Wilbanks Apiaries, Inc. Tim is in the process of moving his family to a farm near Watertown, Wisconsin. Tim will be speaking to the Association about what it's been like growing up in a bee family and he'll share his insight into how the commercial and package bee industry has evolved.



Chores of the Month

The trees are beginning to change and cooler weather is on the way. By the end of the month the honey bees form their winter cluster. In our area it's time to:

- Mouse-proof your hives. Place the cleats or restricted hive entrances into place to keep the mice out of the hives.
- Look for signs of skunk activity. Bees are favorite sources of protein for skunks and they love to hang out in front of the hive at night and eat the bees as they come out to see what the fuss is. Placing carpet tack strips in front of the hive will deter the skunks, or a longer length of window screen will push the skunks back and give the bees a chance to get out and sting the skunk in the stomach.
- Continue feeding colonies for winter with the 2:1 sugar recipe. The bees will continue to feed as long as the daytime temperature remains warm.
- Combine weak hives to help them survive the winter. Smaller hives may not survive a cold winter if the cluster is not large enough to maintain the necessary temperature in the hive
- Allow for upper ventilation of the hive to help remove some of the humidity during the winter months.
- Determine if you are going to protect the colonies over the winter by wrapping them, covering them or using a wind break.



College of Lake County apiary 'a living laboratory'

With a field of native goldenrod behind him, Ed Popelka lifted two heavy sections of a tree stump near the horticulture building at the College of Lake County in Grayslake. Bernard Kondenar peered inside to see swarming bees and lots of honey. Kondenar, a student from Antioch, helped develop the apiary for a special project with help from Popelka, the college's resident beekeeper, who lives in Spring Grove and also works at CLC as a maintenance engineer.

At the apiary, students and the public can learn about different kinds of hives, managing bees and creating habitat for pollinators — not just honeybees, but bumblebees, butterflies and other insects. They also will learn about colony collapse disorder, which has been causing honeybee numbers to decline in North America for nearly a decade.

Different colony collapse disorder management techniques will be tested at various hives in the apiary, he said. Popelka also has a control group hive elsewhere on campus where he's hooking up a camera to observe what happens to a honeybee colony that will not be managed for collapse disorder.

"I want to see: Do they all leave at once? A few at a time? What happens to the queen?" he said.

Forty-four percent of honeybee colonies in America have collapsed in the past year, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council, which cites a certain type of pesticide called a neonic as the culprit.

Klick said he believes pesticides likely are a major contributor, and that's why they're not used in the area where the bees are and the plants they pollinate grow.

But she and Popelka as well as local Lake County beekeepers agree the issue is complicated and requires more study. That's one reason why beekeepers are working to overwinter their bees in the county, instead of ordering new ones from out of state each year, said Perry Plescia, president of the Lake County Beekeeper's Association.

Click here for the full article: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/news/ct-bee-aviary-college-of-lake-county-st-0919-20160916-story.html>

Mark your Calendar

- **10/7:** Scarecrow Fest, St. Charles
- **10/8:** Fall Festival, Cantigny
- **10/13-23:** Chicago Museum Week
- **10/15:** CDBA Annual October Banquet
- **10/20-23:** Night of 1000 Jack-o-Lanterns, Chicago Botanic Garden

Links:

- <http://scarecrowfest.com/>
- <http://www.cantigny.org/calendar?df=10%2F08%2F2016>
- <http://chicagomuseumweek.com/>
- <http://www.chicagobotanic.org/halloween>

CDBA Director Position Open

There is a Director position open on the board for 2017. If you are interested in contributing your time to the Club, working with a dedicated fun group of people, and playing an active role in the CDBA, please send an email to jen.colandrea@yahoo.com for consideration. The vote for the 2017 board will take place at the October banquet.

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Recommended for Endangered List – Read more by clicking [here](#)



How to Wrap Your Hive for Winter with David Burns of Long Lane Honey Bee Farms

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Cog7eRBP9A>

Pumpkin Muffins with Honey



Ingredients:

- 2 cups - all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 teaspoons - ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon - baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon - salt
- 1/2 cup - chopped walnuts
- 1 cup - solid-pack pumpkin
- 1 cup - honey
- 1/4 cup - vegetable oil
- 2 - eggs, at room temperature, slightly beaten
- 1/4 cup - low-fat buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon - vanilla extract

Directions:

In a large bowl, stir together flour, cinnamon, baking soda and salt. Stir in walnuts. In a separate bowl, blend pumpkin, honey, oil, eggs, buttermilk and vanilla until smooth. Pour pumpkin mixture over dry ingredients. Stir just until mixed. Spoon batter into paper lined muffin cups, filling each to just below the rim. Bake at 350°F for about 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center of muffins comes out clean. Let pan cool on rack for 5 minutes. Remove muffins from pan and let cool on rack completely. Frost with Cream Cheese Frosting, if desired. Cream Cheese Frosting: In a small bowl, with electric mixer, beat 8 ounces cream cheese (softened to room temperature) with 1/3 cup honey, until fluffy.

Frosting is optional on these muffins. Without it, they are ideal for breakfast; with it, they become a sweet afternoon snack.

For information on replacing sugar with honey for Autumn Canning, click [here](#)

CDBA Executive Board

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Vice President	John Hansen
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Treasurer	John Hayse
Director (2017)	Kim Kulton
Director (2016)	Bill Whitney
Director (TBD)	Vacant

Committee Chairs

Membership	John Hayse
Webmaster	Neil Sexton
Newsletter Editors	K.Kulton/J.Colandrea
Sergeant At Arms	Ed Borsuk
Education	Omar Kamara
Hosts	Mary & Tony Duchinsky

Upcoming Meeting:

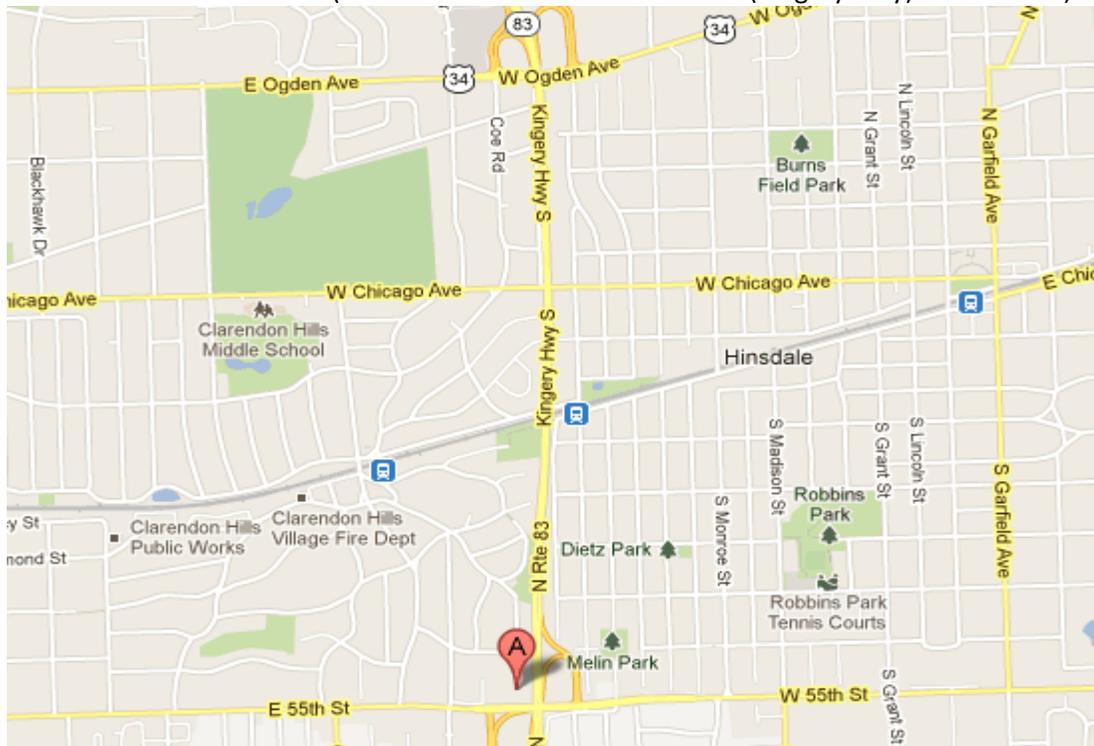
November 19th

Speaker: **Greg Fischer**, Head Beekeeper of Morton Arboretum and President of Wild Blossom Meadery and Winery. Note: November is the last meeting of the year

CDBA October Banquet, October 15, 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](#)

