



The Buzz

February 2017

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

Membership Renewals

The Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association is now accepting membership renewals for 2017. If you'd like to renew online, click [here](#). Renewal forms will also be available at our February meeting. Plan on arriving early if you'd like to renew before the meeting.

2017 Package Bee Orders

Package bees and unmarked queens are available through CDBA in 2017. The bees will arrive in the Chicago area in two shipments:

- 2lb package: April 7 to 17 (\$110 per package)
- 3lb package: April 27 to May 7 (\$125 per package)
- Unmarked Queens: April 27 to May 7 (\$40 per queen)

Click [here](#) for more information or to place an order.

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February Meeting Update

The first CDBA general meeting of 2017 will be held **Saturday, February 18** at Christ Lutheran Church of Clarendon Hills located on the northwest corner of Rte. 83 and 55th Street. The doors open at 6:30p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00p.m. Please consider bringing a snack to share with fellow friends. We look forward to sharing a new bee keeping season together.



Chores of the Month

February is still wintery-cold but the days are already getting longer. The bees keep their winter cluster intact, except on the occasional sunny day in the 50s and above when the bees can fly for a much needed cleansing flight. The queen begins to lay eggs and brood rearing begins in the largest, healthiest hives.

In our area it is time to:

- Brush snow away from the front entrance.
- Periodically remove your mouse guard and swipe your hive tool across the bottom of the hive to remove dead bees.
- Gently lift the back of the hive and judge the weight. If feeding is necessary and you haven't already, consider adding a candy board.
- Clean unused frames and hive bodies. Construct or order new wooden ware and paint and repair existing equipment. Plan on having equipment ready for March.
- If you're buying nucs, queens or package bees, order by January. Packages sell out quickly. Consider ordering your new package or queen through CDBA!
- On a warm day, check food supply by quickly opening the hive. Does your candy board need replacing? Do you need to add another pollen patty?
- Brush up on your spring plan and pay your dues to CDBA for 2017



Scientists at UW-Stout discover new honeybee disease

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Stout have discovered new bacteria that could play a role in the death of honeybees during winter months.

While studying the blood of honeybees, UW-Stout biology professor Jim Burritt and his students came across something unusual. It was a bacterium no one seemed to have heard of. With help of experts at UW-Madison, Burritt realized it was a new species that may contribute to hives dying in the winter.

"And especially when we started finding it in neighboring counties and even in neighboring states, we just thought this really deserves a closer look," Burritt said.

The professor and his team collected more than 3,000 samples of honeybee blood from hives across Wisconsin and Minnesota. The bacterium they named *Serratia marcescens* strain *sicaria*, or Ss1 for short, showed up in nearly half of all samples.

In samples from sick hives the bacterium showed up 73 percent of the time. Burritt said his results indicate Ss1 may have something to do with hives dying in the winter, but more research is needed to prove that.

"It seems an easy connection to us because we found the bacterium in bees that were sick and they were bees that were dying during the winter," he said. "But it's really another thing to be able to say that this infection causes failure of hives during winter."

Burritt and his students also discovered parasitic mites living in honeybee hives carry the Ss1 bacterium as well.

Kremer, Rich. "Scientists at UW-Stout discover new honeybee disease." *Wisconsin State Farmer*. Part of the USA Today Network, 16 Jan. 2017. Web. 17 Jan. 2017.

Mark your Calendar

- **1/28:** Getting Started in Beekeeping, Cook County Farm Bureau
- **2/2-3/9:** Beginning Beekeeping, Lyman Woods, Downers Grove
- **2/4:** Backyard Chicken Basics, Lyman Woods
- **2/12:** Beginning Beekeeping, Garfield Park
- **Feb/March:** Multiple classes at Chicago Honey CoOp
- **Feb/March:** Classes listed on ISBA website

Links:

- [Launching the Adventure: Everything you need to know to get started in beekeeping](#)
- [Lyman Woods Beginning Beekeeping](#)
- [Lyman Woods Backyard Chicken Basics](#)
- [Garfield Park Beginning Beekeeping](#)
- [Chicago Honey CoOp](#)
- [Classes listed on ISBA website](#)

Register your Hives with the IL Dept of Agriculture

In compliance with the Illinois Bees and Apiaries Act, every person keeping bees must register with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. There is no charge for registration. Click [here](#) for the form.

Book Review: New to Beekeeping? Looking for a Good Read?

If you are new to beekeeping, you've likely noticed that every beekeeper will tell you a different way to do things, as will every book you read. I found when I started beekeeping that a simple but thoughtful and well laid out book helped as a great reference. Keep in mind, that books are a great help but hands on mentoring with a well-seasoned beekeeper along with classes and help from friends at regular bee club meetings rounded out the picture for me. Consider picking up a copy of Alethea Morrison's **Homegrown Honey Bees: An Absolute Beginners Guide to Beekeeping Your First Year, from Hiving to Honey Harvest**. I found it to be helpful because it was step by step, month by month oriented and the pictures were fantastic references when I was confused about what was going on in my hive. The author's writing is forthright and down to earth. Consider picking up a copy or winning one at our CDBA February give-away during the general meeting on February 18. – Jennifer Colandrea

Baked Sticky Honey Chicken



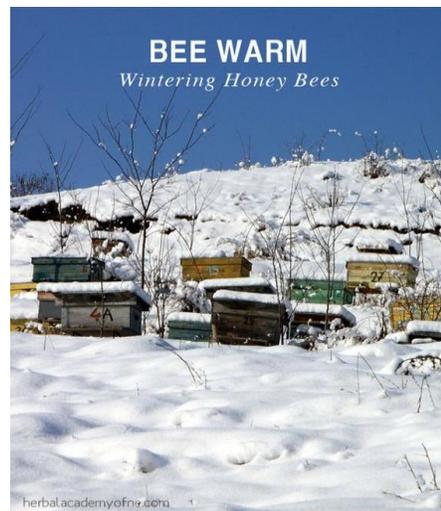
Prep Time: 55 mins/10 pieces

Ingredients:

Nonstick cooking spray
One 3-lb chicken, cut into 10 pieces
Kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper
¼ cup honey
¼ cup Dijon mustard
½ stick melted butter
Juice of one lemon

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil and spray with nonstick spray.
Sprinkle the chicken on both sides with salt and pepper.
Combine the honey, mustard, melted butter and lemon juice in a large bowl.
Toss the chicken through the mixture and place skin-side up on the prepared baking sheet.
Sprinkle with more salt and pepper.
Bake until the chicken is fully cooked and an instant-read thermometer reads 165 degrees F, about 40 minutes.



CDBA Executive Board

President	Peter Soltesz
Vice President	John Hansen
Secretary	Jennifer Colandrea
Treasurer	John Hayse
Director (2017)	Kim Kulton
Director (2017)	Bill Whitney
Director (TBD)	Vacant

Committee Chairs

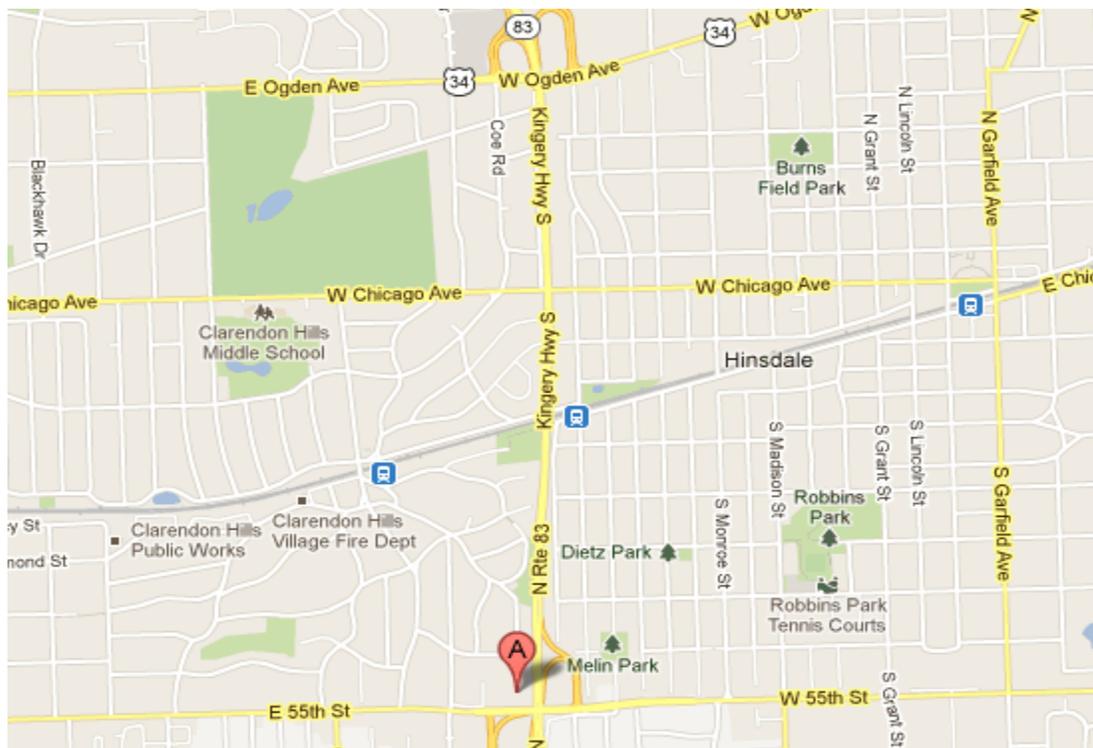
Membership	John Hayse
Webmaster	Neil Sexton
Newsletter Editors	K.Kulton/J.Colandrea
Sergeant At Arms	Ed Borsuk
Education	Omar Kamara
Hosts	Mary&Tony Duchinsky

Upcoming Meeting:

CDBA February Meeting, Saturday, February 18, 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](#)