

NORTHEAST INDIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSN

MAY 2020

NEIBA.COM

Cancelations:

Heartland Apicultural Society (H A S) is canceled for this year

Eastern Apicultural Society (E A S)

Western Apicultural Society (W A S) are also canceled.

We welcome the new members, listed on page 3

If you have not renewed your membership for 2020, it is not too late to be a member and receive the benefits of membership. Dues are only \$15.00.

Invite a New Beekeeper to join NEIBA. Share this newsletter and membership form with a friend and invite them to our next meeting!

Membership Form: Northeast Indiana Beekeeper's Association

If you are renewing your membership and your information has not changed, just fill in your name. Please check one:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please check one:

☐ I am renewing membership

☐ I am a new member

Dues are only \$15 per year.

Make checks payable to NEIBA.

Newsletter Delivery Preference:

☐ Email ☐ Paper ☐ Both ☐ I

Mail to: Dean Gerber, 1127 S 700 W-1

Bluffton, IN 46714



From the desk of the president

Chris LaSalle

I hope that everyone has been able to stay safe and sound. We are definitely in unprecedented times. I also hope that your bees are doing well. Everything is blooming and beautiful. I am concerned that more cold weather is on the way. Most of my hives have made it through winter. One of my favorite hives is not doing so well, however. This was a hive I was thinking of raising queens out of as it was just boiling over with bees. Just this week I went through the hive, did not see the queen, or any capped brood. I did see eggs, but they were being laid in a poor pattern. Some cell have more than one egg in them. This is not a good sign. It looks like I have a laying worker. There were several supercedure cells in the hive. One cell had a perfect emerge. But with the lousy weather, I don't think my new queen got mated and back to the hive. I will check it again in a few weeks. I must have injured the queen during an earlier inspection or they tried to swarm too early. Will keep you informed on this one.

Good news!! We will be having field day. We will be moving field day to May 30. This is, of course, if the governor does not change the congregation rules. I will ask that you bring your own chair to sit on and wear a mask indoors. We will do our best at social distancing. If you have a fever or live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, then please stay home. Terry will be providing a lunch that will be COVID friendly. The cost of the lunch will be \$10. Please email Dean Gerber (our treasurer) if you plan on attending as soon as you can. We need a head count for lunch. His email is digerber@adamswells.com. This is much appreciated. I really hope for a good turnout as James Ringswald has a wonderful itinerary. Also, Duane Rekeweg has offered to teach the beginning bee class at Field Day. We had to cancel the beginning bee school for COVID. As we have not been able to have our March or April meetings, this will be an incredible learning experience. I hope the membership takes advantage of this opportunity. Much effort is being made to make this possible despite the pandemic. Please be respectful of others and wear a mask and keep your distance from each other.

Thanks and stay safe

Chris LaSalle

NEIBA Officers 2020

President:

Chris LaSalle
Fort Wayne
260-615-3647
clasalle@orthone.com

Vice President:

Doug Cheek
Auburn
Eyeslookingdown2000@gmail.com

Secretary:

Valorie Campbell
Fort Wayne
260-585-4409
Billvallcampbell@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Dean Gerber
Bluffton
260-565-3773
Digerber@Adamswells.com

Directors:

Mike Miller
Fort Wayne
260-467-0640
Beeman41747@gmail.com

James Ringswald
Fort Wayne
260-466-4999
Ringswald@aol.com

Glenn Hile
Fort Wayne
260-485-5675
hilreal@frontier.com

Dave Myers
Fort Wayne
260-750-3673
dmyers@utilitymc.com

Editor

David McKinley
Spencerville
260-760-2720
Mckinleydavid27@yahoo.com

Hello David, 4/2/2020

My name is Jerry, We live in the Waterloo area. Just a little info. We lost 3 hives out of 7 this year. I was checking our hives and notice they are bring in pollen already today 4/2/2020. The bees look strong and heathy and there are a lot of bees flying. Its sunny and 52 degrees.

* * * *

We welcome our new members;

Kristin Bingamon	Ft. Wayne
Richard Hall	Woodburn
Jeff Thompson	Roanoke
George Bennett	Albion
Joe & Danielle Buescher	Ft. Wayne
Chris Merriman	Kendallville
Lacy Watson	Ft. Wayne
Stephanie Goad	Ft. Wayne
John Kurtz	Leo
Rick Hurley	Warsaw
Melanie Rice	Markle
William Rice	Markle
Louis Krock, Jr.	Garrett
Amy Downs	Ft. Wayne
Melinda Richey	Ft. Wayne
Linda Lozo	Ft. Wayne

Honey recipe from the brochure of the 2020

American Honey Princess

Honeyed Pecans

¼ cup HONEY
1 cup pecan halves
1 Tbsp. sugar
¼ tsp. kosher salt
Pinch of ground red pepper

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Microwave honey in a small bowl for 20 seconds. Stir in pecan halves. Coat a parchment paper-lined jelly-roll pan with cooking spray; spread pecans in a single layer on pan. Combine sugar, salt, and a pinch of ground red pepper; sprinkle over pecans. Bake 15 minutes or until toasted, stirring after 8 minutes. Cool completely; break into pieces.

**Recipe taken from the American Honey Queen
2019**

HONEY CUCUMBER SALAD

3 medium English cucumbers, thinly sliced
¼ cup HONEY
½ cup white balsamic (or white wine) vinegar
¼ cup water
½ red onion, slivered
1 Tbsp. fresh dill, chopped
Salt and pepper to taste

Place cucumbers in bowl and sprinkle with salt. Toss and set aside. In a small mixing bowl stir together honey, white balsamic vinegar, water, and slivered red onion. Pour mixture over the cucumber and toss. Allow the salad to marinate in the refrigerator for about one hour prior to serving.

Intermediate bee school is this weekend. If interested please email Mike Miller -- beeman41747@gmail.com



Richard Benard “Red” Skelton did not have bees as far as I know so you are asking WHY is he getting a page of print!

Red Skelton was born in Vincennes, Indiana on July 18, 1913 and was one of the many Hoosier comedians from Indiana. On January 14, 1969 he gave tribute to one of his teachers (Mr. Lasswell) who tried to explain the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance. I would like to print it for you as we give our pledge of allegiance at the beginning of each of our Northeast Indiana Beekeepers Association meetings.

I – me, an individual, a committee of one.

Pledge – dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

To the Flag – our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because our loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody’s job.

Of the United - that means that we have all come together.

States – individual communities that have united into 48 great states. 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that’s love for country.

Of America.

And to the Republic – a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands.

One nation – meaning, so blessed by God.

Indivisible – incapable of being divided.

With liberty – which is freedom and the right of power to live one’s own life without threats or fear or some sort of retaliation.

And justice – the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

For all – Which means it’s as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance – “under God.”

Wouldn’t it be a pity if someone said, “That’s a prayer” and that would be eliminated from schools, too?

I am having a lot of fun with this newsletter and I hope that I will never offend or irritate anyone by the articles that are printed in this newsletter. They are not necessarily the views of the Northeast Indiana Beekeepers Assn.

I try and have my ears open and less talking for ideas and information. Recently I was asked if I had any information on rhubarb leaves and Swiss chard leaves for the treatment of the Varroa mite/virus. Having nothing other than hearsay, I emailed Purdue University, Ohio State University, the University of Minnesota and Jerry Hayes. I received NO information except from Jerry. Following is his response.

As a first swing at this rhubarb leaves and Swiss chard have oxalic acid in them as a repellent to insect. If you have ever eaten rhubarb it was most like the stems and not the leaves. The reason for that is that a long time ago humans found that eating the leaves exposed them to health hazards from the oxalic acid which causes calcium to be removed from our bodies and calcium kidney stones to form. That is why in rhubarb pie its only stems which have less oxalic acid. Swiss chard has much, much less oxalic acid in the leaves and if you have a little in a salad every now and again it doesn't do much damage.

Some Polish beekeepers are putting rhubarb stems and leaves in beehives and as the bees tear these up to remove the trash they are supposed to be exposed to oxalic acid and Varroa is supposed to be controlled. I doubt it as the amount of oxalic acid in them is very low at 0.2% to 1.3%. If someone has sampled their bees and the Varroa count is above 3 mites per 100 bees this treatment will do nothing. But it won't hurt the colony if leaves are put in as the dose is so low. But, it will keep a lot of bees busy as they remove this 'junk trash' if you don't want them actually doing other valuable activities in the hive.

Lots of stupid stuff on the internet. I would go to actual science and the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC) website and Tools for Varroa Management Guide https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/HBHC-Guide_Varroa-Interactive-PDF.pdf and have your members memorize it.

Tell you what. If you put this in your Newsletter and my email address jerry@beeculture.com, lets trust your readers, that if they access the Tools for Varroa Management Guide and read it, I'll give them a free 1 year subscription to the digital version of Bee Culture.

Stay safe and well

Jerry Hayes

Bee Culture Magazine

330-725-6677 Ext.3214

625 W. Liberty St.

Medina, OH. 44256



My Bee Yard

Don Glick, Grabill, Indiana

I enjoy making and building things, especially if I can use material salvaged from dumpster diving. My bee yard reflects this.

A few years ago we had a brutal winter with lots of cold and wind. I made a make-shift fence of wires and plastic sheeting, and successfully wintered 4 out of 4 hives. Previously we had lost hives that I thought was due to the lack of a wind break. So that brutal winter made a believer out of me in regards to keeping the wind off the hives in winter.

At some point I salvaged a bunch of OSB and 3/8 inch plywood from some discarded "sets" from our church. A plan was hatched.

The major structure of my bee yard is a U shaped fence 6 feet tall. It has 12 foot long sides, and is 28 feet wide. The OSB and 3/8 inch plywood panels are held up by treated 4x4s on the corners and landscape timbers in between. I have 6 hive stands and a few extra blocks and bricks. The yard can hold several more stands if needed.

The hive stands are 8 concrete blocks for each hive. I wanted the stands to be tall enough that when skunks come to eat my bees they will have to stand up high enough that the bees can get to their soft underbellies and repel them. The blocks are also easy to move around to accommodate more or fewer hives. We ended the winter with two hives this year, so we are looking forward to splits and

swarms. (Our neighbor has many hives, and all the swarms that come to our swarm tree must obviously come from his hives, right?)

We have had the fence a few years now. We have had pretty good success overwintering hives when they were strong enough and heavy enough going into winter.

We tried various ways of controlling weeds around the hives. We used mulch, we used Roundup, and I don't remember what all. The thing we could not do was mow because there was just not enough room to get the mower around the hives. We did use a weed eater a time or two, but neither the bees nor I liked it much.

This year I decided to try yet another scheme. I raked out all the mulch, leaving bare ground. Then I put down a long piece of recycled rubber roofing membrane that is about 4 feet wide. I placed this about 3 feet from the back wall, with the idea that this would leave room to walk behind the hives.

I filled in between the roofing membrane and the back wall with landscape fabric, and put another couple of rows of landscape fabric in front of the hives out to the front edge of the bee yard. To perhaps discourage the lawn mower from eating the fabric at the front edge, I dug a small trench about 3 inches deep, stapled the front edge of the fabric into the bottom of the trench, then backfilled it. We'll see how this works real soon now.

I have a few concerns. Is the black fabric going to cause the hives to overheat? Is this really going to control the weeds, and for how long? Will the rubber membrane help keep the small hive beetles down? What other problems are going to arise that I never dreamed of? Time will tell.



Don't try this at home!!



Apis Enterprises

Bees • Equipment • Bottles • Labels •
Honey Processing

Now accepting package bee
pre-orders for spring.

Contact Chet for all your bottle
and custom label needs.
(260) 668-0950

www.apisenterprises.biz

NOW STOCKING BEEKEEPING
SUPPLIES

PATERSON DO-IT BEST

880 S.R. 930 EAST
NEW HAVEN IN 46774
260-493-2111



BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES



Hives & Maintenance,
Protective Apparel & Honey
Production

We are located only 5 min from I-469 & Maysville Rd.



15402 Doty Rd, New Haven, IN 46774
(260) 657-5461 www.mcfeeds.com

Milan Center
Feed & Grain Inc.

Follow Us On  #mcfeeds

**Beekeeping
Supplies in Stock!
We Rent Honey
Extractors**



JUERGENS
HARDWARE & RENTAL

Locally Owned & Family Operated. Family Owned & Operated with access to over 75,000 hard to find items.

2850 N. Jefferson St. - Huntington (260) 356-5214
Open Monday Thru Saturday 7am to 8pm

Wheeler's Bees



Abbey
Honey and
Beekeeping Supplies

Honey and

Beekeeping supplies

Buskirk Engineering

Store hours 8 AM – 5 PM

Monday thru Friday

By Appointment on Saturday

7721 E900 N

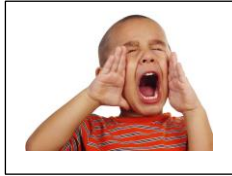
Ossian, IN 46777

Take St. Rd. 1 to 900 N in Ossian and go 4.25 miles east. The store is
on the south side of the road.

Classic Cafe
Catering and Event Center

YOUR PLACE OR OURS,
WHEN QUALITY & PRICE MATTER,
CALL THE CATERING COMPANY WITH CLASS!

SEATING FOR UP TO 450 GUESTS
260-458-2982 WWW.CLASSICCAFEINC.COM



HEAR YAH, HEAR YAH – ANNUAL FIELD DAY IS STILL ON!!!

NEIBA annual field day is still on but has been postponed to May 30, 2020. Three speakers are on schedule for that day and should be a great day. Field day will be at Buskirk Engineering, 7721 E 900 N, Os-sian, Indiana, and starting at 8:00 AM with coffee and doughnuts. Lunch will be ham & cheese sub served at 12 noon. Deadline for registration is May 25, 2020 to Dean Gerber 260-565-3773

Djgerber@Adamswells.com with a cost of \$10.00. It is requested that you bring your own chairs. **Do not attend if fever or exposed!**