

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSN.

April 2021

NEIBA.info

April 30th is the last day to renew your membership, otherwise you will be dropped from membership. Dues are \$15.00/ yr. Renewal Form, page 5. Renew Now!! If you have questions, contact Dean Gerber.

What's new this Month!

Meeting date is April 15th at Classic Café, Meeting 7:00 PM. Swarm catching, Swarm trapping. Meeting will be automatically canceled if Covid occupancy less than 100. Check web site.

From the President's Desk on Page 2

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Make plans for the "Annual Field Day" May 15th. Jerry Hayes will be a guest speaker, page 4.

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Indiana State bee inspector, Kathleen Prough. kprough@dnr.IN.gov.

She is willing to come and inspect hives whenever contacted.



From the desk of the president

Dr. Chris LaSalle

April 2021 Presidential Minute

Spring looks to be coming earlier this year. I remember last year it snowing in mid-April. I want to thank all involved in the beginning and advanced bee schools. It was again a real success and the evaluations were very positive.

Remember that we will continue to have a trunk sale 30 minutes prior to the meeting. Bring any items that you are interested in selling.

Field Day is May 15 and so far Jerry Hayes from Bee Culture and Barb Bloetscher from Ohio. Thank you Duane Rekeweg for arranging them to speak. Jerry has spoken at our Harvest Banquet and was been involved with The American Bee Journal question and answer section. Barb is in charge of the apiary inspection program for Ohio. This should make for a very interesting and educational Field day. This is one of the best times to see experienced beekeepers go through a hive and show you what to look for. This is also a great time to get questions answered in a hands-on way. Make sure to bring your bee suit. Hopefully we will have a cost for the meal. You can sign up for field day at the April meeting. Please sign up if you are interested so we can get an accurate count for lunch.

There is a program put on by the Bee Informed Partnership. It is called the Sentinel Apiary Program. The goal of the Sentinel Apiary Program is to become an early warning system to alert beekeepers of potential problems due to increases in Varroa/Nosema (or changes in hive weight with the addition of a hive scale). This idea is the creation of a citizen science journey to better colony health and cooperative colony management. For details please check out this web site....

<https://beeinformed.org/citizen-science/sentinel-apiaries/>

It is a little expensive. For monitoring of 4 colonies it costs \$325. 12 colonies cost \$750. This idea is to send in bees and to take notes on colony health. This may be something that the club can sponsor, but I just found out about the program last week and the sign up needs to be done by April 23. This is something that the officers and directors need to talk about for the future. If there is any interest please let me know at the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

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Secretaries Report by Valorie Campbell

Meeting Notes March 18th, 2021

Chris LaSalle opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge of allegiance. He asked that members stay after the meeting for help positioning chairs for the beginners class held on Sat. March 20th.

Dean Gerber gave the financial report. Checking-\$993.70, savings-\$6226.41. Total \$7,210.24.

A silent auction was held with the winning bids being given after the meeting. (All auction items were donated.)

Tracy Richardville provided empty burlap bags to club members from a coffee shop located in downtown Fort Wayne.

Chris LaSalle provided the presentation for beginner's night. Glenn Hile provided an observation hive and his equipment for mite vaporizing. Harry Jones provided his flow hive for inspection. Mike Miller provided his array of hive feeders for the new and old beekeepers.

NEED A MENTOR, IF NOT, BEE A MENTOR

As you can see, we have many good new members and they will all need someone to help them when they have questions or just that helping hand. It would be great if you would pick one of the new members that live near you, introduce yourself and help them.

New members

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Gabe & Amanda Atz | Albion |
| Robert Brelsford | Portland |
| Sam Brelsford | Portland |
| Michelle Burch | Columbia City |
| Rhonda Burch | Ft. Wayne |
| Bob Eash | Hudson |
| Deryl Fairchild | Roanoke |
| Eric Faulkner | Ft. Wayne |
| Kurt Franceus | Roanoke |
| Scott Hartman | New Haven |
| Thomas Hartman | Ft. Wayne |
| Josh Hartup | New Haven |
| Todd Hunnicutt | Ft. Wayne |
| Jeff Justice | Coldwater, MI |
| Nicholas Kelly | Ft. Wayne |
| Josh Korte | Ft. Wayne |
| Kamala Krishnan | Ft. Wayne |
| Jeff McDermott | Ft. Wayne |
| Brandi McGeath | Decatur |
| Jerry Nusbaum | Corunna |
| Jacob & Laura Oswalt | Bluffton |
| Dana Reed | Ft. Wayne |
| David Reimschisel, Jr. | Leo |
| Jacob Rennd | Ft. Wayne |
| Toby Reynolds | Tipton |
| Cindy Rhodes | Ft. Wayne |
| Kay Rohrer | Portland |
| Matt Smith | Ft. Wayne |
| Susan Wigent | Ligonier |
| Craig Wise | Grabill |
| Drew Wise | Grabill |

INSTALLING PACKAGE BEES

Q In the past, I have poured or shaken the bees into the frames that held the queen cage. In an attempt to leave dead bees behind, and especially any small hive beetles. I am thinking of placing the queen cage as usual, except leaving the package bee box level with, but a couple inches away from the hive, thereby leaving all the undesirables behind. Do you think that would work assuming the weather cooperates?

A I think I have a better option for you. I quit shaking packagers directly into empty hives because of drift problems I was having. When shaking multiple packages in the same yard, I lost a lot of bees to drift, with some new colonies getting abnormally strong and others being comparatively weak. So, my team and I started installing packages another way to solve that problem, and I think the way we do it will help address what you are referencing.

I am going to talk about this as if I am installing a package into a ten frame hive. I remove frames 1-5. I then place the queen cage between frames 6 and 7. After that, I mist the package lightly with water on both sides of the package. I then remove the lid of the package and set the entire package in the space created by removing frames 1-5. By placing the queen cage between 6 and 7, you have her right beside the package. I then put the lid back on the hive and, allow the bees to crawl out of the package at their own pace. I usually go back a day or two later to remove the almost empty package. Inevitably, a few bees stay in the package. When this happens, I shake what is left out of the package in front of the hive. You should not do this in cooler weather (in the 60s and below). Otherwise, the bees may self-release too slow and not cluster around the queen the first evening.

This does not help with your small hive beetle issue as they can self-release into the hive as well. They could go into the hive with the package a couple inches from the hive as well. Additionally, leaving the package outside comes with the added risk that the bees do not go into the hive as planned. Being only a few inches away from the hive can still lead them to fail to get into the hive.

There is not really a good option for keeping the beetles out, regardless of how you get the bees into the hive.

Copied from the Classroom by Jamie Ellis in the March issue of, American Bee Journal, with permission.

* * * * *

JUST FOUND OUT Jerry Hayes will be a speaker at the annual Field Day, May 15th.

For almost four decades, Jerry Hayes has worked across the USA apicultural industry to promote sustainable beekeeping. As head apiarist of the State of Florida inspection service when Colony Collapse Disorder struck, he was on the front line helping Floridian beekeepers and their 300,000 plus colonies. For three decades, he has also been well-known and respected amongst beekeepers for his informative and entertaining column, The Classroom, for the American Bee Journal, Classroom the book, VP of Vita Bee Health and now Editor of Bee Culture magazine. Jerry Hayes, Bee Culture Magazine, 330-725-6677 Ext.3214, 623 W. Liberty St., Medina, OH. 44256

Notes to include in April newsletter

**** Dues are Due Now!! All unpaid memberships will be dropped April 30th!

**** Intermediate Beekeeping Class was attended by 11 people. Nuc colony winner was John Greenley. Congratulations. Thanks for Mike Miller for organizing and putting on this event.

**** Our silent auction at the March meeting brought in \$593 (+ \$100 last fall). “Thanks” to Corine & Willa Kline of Monroeville, IN who donated the items auctioned off. Thanks also to those who purchased these items.

**** Beginning Bee School was attended by 37 students plus helpers. Thanks to Duane Rekeweg for organizing this event and Brian Smith for teaching it.

**** “Thanks” to Classic Café for hosting both Intermediate & Beginners Bee School. They served wonderful meals.

If you have a special topic or subject you would like to know more about when it comes to honey bees, then tell anyone on page 2 (NEIBA Officers & Directors) so we may have someone come and give a presentation on the subject.

Membership Form: Northeast Indiana Beekeeper's Association

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

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____ Zip+4 _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p>Newsletter Delivery Preference:</p> <p>___ Email ___ Paper ___ Both</p> | <p>Please check one:</p> <p>___ I am renewing my membership</p> <p>___ I am a new member</p> <p>Dues are only \$15 per year.</p> <p>Make all checks payable to NEIBA.</p> <p>Mail to: Dean Gerber, 2585 SW Church Rd. Bluffton, IN 46714</p> |
|--|--|



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The Beekeepers of Indiana State Fair

Hello again, it's looking more and more positive that Indiana will have a full and fun State Fair this year. I have heard back from some clubs and I am starting to fill the dates. I would like to have a great year at the fair and have all the local clubs participate and earn some money for your club. Below is the information I sent you last month. Please contact me and reserve a day for your club before they all fill up. Dates are awarded on a first come first serve basis.

Hello, it's that time of year again. It looks like they are planning on having the Indiana State Fair this year starting on august 6th and ending on august 22nd. I am contacting you because your contact information is what I have for your local bee club. I am currently taking reservations from clubs to claim a day. I would expect the booth requirements to be less this year (smaller crew). I am waiting for additional information from the fair board about any changes that will be required to maintain a safe fair and I will forward them as soon as I have them.

As is the past each club will receive an equal share of the profits for each day worked. Its been lots of fun for clubs. If you have a small club and would like to partner with another club and split the share of the profits for that day it works for us. So please ask for a day as in the past they will go fast. Also now is the time to prepare for selling your honey and hive products as well. That information will be in the next newsletter.

If you have any question please contact me.

Thank You

Robert Duffy

TBoI State Fair Committee Chairman

beekeeperin@aol.com

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Images from 2021 Beginners Bee School



May Field Day is set for Sat. May 15th at Buskirk Engineering/Wheeler's Bees. 7224 E 900 N, Ossian, IN 46777

As we had to reschedule speakers a couple different times last year and find last minute replacement speakers due to Covid and having to move our date back, we have been waiting and watching to see how things look before getting too far ahead of ourselves and then having to re-do everything again like last year. Right now, things are looking very good for our scheduled May 15th Field Day!

We are having pretty much the standard AWESOME Field Day Agenda... Starting at 8:40 am at Wheeler's Bees in Ossian with FREE donuts, pastries, coffee, and juice and a chance to visit with fellow club members before the first speaker is scheduled at 9:00 am. Duane is scheduling a speaker or two, one from Ohio and possibly our state bee inspector, but I haven't received a confirmation of either... yet... (no worries, we will not disappoint!), and then we will also have our bee yard live hive demonstrations with Tony and Duane and friends after the morning speaker(s) and another fine lunch catered by Terry Clancy and the Classic Cafe (there will be a small charge for the lunches only and lunch reservations are being taken by Dean Gerber). We will also have an indoor workshop again this year after lunch, topic to be announced (queen grafting seems to be a pretty popular topic, but we haven't decided for sure yet), in addition to the live hive demonstrations.

Everyone needs to bring their favorite comfortable lawn chair, a pen and paper to take notes with and their bee suits! And The Wheeler's Bee Store will be OPEN ALL DAY for anyone needing to purchase bee keeping equipment and/or supplies!

Reservations are needed for those who want to order lunch at a cost of \$10.00 and can be made by contacting Dean Gerber at 260-565-3773 or digerber@adamswells.com. Reservations are not required if you pack your own lunch. Reservations deadline is Monday May 10th!

James Ringswald is "in charge" of the event, if you have any questions contact James at email: ringswald@aol.com Phone: (260) 466-4999.