

NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.nebraskabeekeepers.org



November Beeline 2008

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Presidents Message:

I turned another one my Bee Culture calendar to November with 4 months and some change yet to go before my sentence is up. Not much has changed since last month except the rumors that go around. We went out and tried out this Chinese restaurant just down the road from our base. It was a going away party for a couple of our troops. It wasn't too bad. I had the Sweet and Sour Chicken which was OK but with a different taste to it since it was made from ketchup, vinegar, sugar and salt. I know this because it was printed on the menu. Right next door to the restaurant was an Iraqi restaurant that I heard was pretty good so I'll have to give that a try sometime and post my report. The temperatures are in the mid-seventies and lows in the low sixties, high fifties. We also saw some rain last week which was significant event for most of us here with many Kodak moments. Next week I head out on a four day pass to Qatar which is a lot of fun all except for the traveling. That in self will wear you out with all the steps you have to take in order to travel through Baghdad and down to Qatar. It will be nice to get up and do nothing except for what you want to do. There are a bunch of tours that you can go on for a small fee, cruises in the gulf, water skiing, 4 wheeling through the sand dunes or you can sit and watch movies all day on their 80" screen with the Blue Ray videos. You can also play bingo, go bowling, sing karaoke and allowed buy up to three beers per day. What I like is that it gets me away from the flag pole here for 9 - 13 days. Remember the part I said about traveling, do the math for a four day pass. Sometimes folks elect to stay here in the Green Zone for a four day pass. And that's all you get is four days because they don't like the travel part. That doesn't bother me because it changes the scenery. I know elections are coming up and I don't mind being the President of the NBA again for 2009.

Mike Slater

Treasurers Report

October 2008

<u>Beginning Balance</u>		<u>\$29,610.92</u>
	interest	\$ 6.11
Dues	Voorhes	33.00
Dues	Andrews	24.00
Dues	Lyons	24.00
Dues	Knoche	6.00
	Bee Cards	122.00
Total Income		\$215.11
Expenses		
	3685 W Nelson - postage	\$15.88
	3686 C Osterloh - conference adv	283.10
Total Expenses		\$298.98
<u>Ending Balance</u>		<u>\$29,527.05</u>

Nebraska State Fair 2009-2010

On October 14th members of the Nebraska Beekeepers Association met with Barney Cosner, Executive Director of the Nebraska State Fair. Those in attendance at the meeting were Dr. Marion Ellis, Bee Culture Superintendent; Joann and Rudy Vasko, Secretary, Warren Nelson, Past Association President; and Keith Nielson, Newsletter Editor.

Barney Cosner welcomed us to the Nebraska State Fair Office and showed us the plans for the location of the fair for 2010. He explained that the new Agricultural hall would be approximately 200,000 sq ft. Then he asked us what we would like to see the Nebraska State Fair look like.

We addressed our concerns on observation hives and making them so we could get a natural look at what the bees do in the hive.

The ice cream issue was discussed; questions have to be answered as far as transportation of the machine to Grand Island, storage of mix, water concerns for cleaning the machine and draining the coolant, manning the machine. We discussed the possibility of working with other organizations to help with some of these issues. The FFA was brought up as source of people that could help with the ice cream since there are six chapters close to the new fair location. Also these programs teach some food science and safety in their programs. Profits would have to be shared with those organizations.

We discussed what needed to make the move to Grand Island as well. We explained that if the observation hives could be vented to an outside location we would not need to take the stair step display. The Glass display would not go to GI as well it could be made into a better display.(Dozial exhibit) The bee cage is an issue, since the person that has done that demonstration will not do it all of the days of the fair. We could limit the number of times that a live demo is done or do away with the demo altogether if we could have observation hives that can have natural flight.

The Nebraska State Fair Board wants the fair to be an educational experience for all who attend the fair. This brought up discussion about other things we could do such as have an extraction and bottling demonstrations. Promote what the beekeepers do and what are some of the tasks we do each year.

How many square feet do we need to do our displays and demonstrations? Do we want to have a state honey market area?

Workers were discussed for the fair to include working with Grand Island UNL Extension and their Master Gardener program. (Jim Hruska)

State Fair Dates August 28-September 7th, 2009 & August 27-September 6, 2010. Dates beyond 2010 are still up for debate and may run two weeks earlier because the board is looking into conflicts with 4-H and FFA exhibitors and athletic practices. Also it was mentioned that the board would like to see other student organizations involved with the state fair such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, VICA, FCCLA, and FBLA.

We left the meeting on cordial terms and the door is left open to do what we want to do and think out of the box.

Secretary's Corner:

The Nebraska beekeepers met sat. October 25 at 10:00 AM at the Gretna library. Mike Bush did the program first & we followed with a short meeting. Even though we've been keeping bees for several years I always learn something from Mike's presentations. The first decision you make is to decide what size hives you want to use because full of honey they weigh a lot & unless you have something to lift with it can be a problem. Deeps can weigh 90 lb - mediums 80 lb & shallows 60 lb. He gave a hand-out with information to all on beginning beekeeping. Thank You, Mike. The Nebraska beekeepers board met with Barney Cosner on October 14 to

discuss future plans for the state fair in 2010 when it goes to Grand Island. Keith Nielson passed out information on what was discussed at that meeting. Keith also mentioned on January. 1 the dues for members who receive their newsletters by mail may increase as its costing more to mail those out. Thank you Keith for all the work you do on the newsletters. It was mentioned at the meeting we need to think about officers for the 2009 year coming up. It would be nice to have candidates before the January meeting. Nov. 14 is the deadline to register for the chemical free beekeeping workshop at southeast community college.

Joann Vasko, Secretary

Classified Advertisements

For Sale: 55 gallon food grade barrels with lids. \$10.00 each. Contact Warren Nelson at 402-466-8173 or e-mail wnelson193@neb.rr.com.

Equipment for Sale: Ron Cowden was a beekeeper in Lincoln, NE. He recently passed away and his family has donated all of his beekeeping equipment to the University of Nebraska - Lincoln Department of Entomology. The University does not need the equipment so they are selling everything with the money going to the Department of Entomology. The equipment list is as follows:

Dadant 25 gallon water jacketed bottling tank with electric stir system

2" Metal Honey Gate

Woodman style Galvanized 45 frame Radial Electric Extractor

2-55 gallon Steel Barrels with gates (could be used for mixing and dispensing syrup)

Should you have an interest in any of these please contact Warren Nelson at 402-466-8173 or e-mail

wnelson193@neb.rr.com. Warren has agreed to sell the items for the University with the proceeds going to the Department of Entomology.

For Sale:

Four frame extractor, \$200. Also available bulk honey. Contact Pat Chandler @ Chandler's Sandhill Honey, Anselmo, NE Phone: 308-880-1733 or 308-749-2252

Better Way Wax Melter, Leon Schuette, 26143 County Rd 8 Herman, NE 68029 ph. 402-654-3525

Wanted Colonies of Bees

Would like to buy complete colonies of bees, Mike Toukan, Phone 308-379-9170

Wanted Bees

Gerald Kudlaek, Brainard, NE, 402-641-3338, would like a beekeeper to put bees on his property.

Ken Musil, 49779 867th Road, Inman, NE 68742-4205 Phone: (402) 394-5300, Email:

moosemeadow@kmtel.net. I was wondering if there were any beekeepers in the Inman/O'Neill area that would be interested in putting some "bee boxes" in our hay meadow? We have many natural wildflowers and sweet clover in the meadow. We really wouldn't want anything for it - perhaps a jar of honey!

Ernie Belik, 15304 Mt. Vernon, Washington, NE 68068-4015, ph. 402-238-2848 or 402-990-8833.

Gary Godkin, 21101 N 27th, Lincoln, NE (near Ceresco) ph.402-476-1689(Tammy)

Mark & Julie Hintz, 1610 dove Rd, Hebron, NE 68370 ph.402-768-6672

Jan Mc Reynolds, Box 386, Gretna, NE 68028, e-mail jgmpapo@msn.com

David Krafka, 3196 Ashland Rd, Valparaiso, NE 68065 ph. 402-784-3157

Jack Irons, 4240 S49th, Lincoln, NE 68506 ph. 402-483-7585

Bob Renn, 2981 X Rd, Brainard, NE 68626

Verne Gibson, Bellwood, NE ph. 402-538-5025 Need someone to bring out hives, he has apple, pear, cherries & choke cherries, lives on Platte River.

Jerry Scheer and he has an orchard east of Fremont. His work number is 478-5010 and his e-mail is

jerryscheer@earthlink.net.

Keith Tomjack, 49329 851st Rd Ewing, NE 68735-5320 Holt County 25 miles south of O'Neil. Ph. 402-482-5404

Upcoming Events:

November 14: Deadline to register for Chemical Free Workshop; submit registrations to Nancy Holman Southeast Community College, Continuing Education Division, 301 South 68th Street Place, Lincoln, NE 68510, phone 402-437-2712, fax 402-437-2703

November 21-23: Chemical Free Beekeeping Workshop at Southeast Community College, Lincoln NE, see attached brochure for more information.

December 13: 10:00 AM Equipment Basics, Gretna Library, Gretna NE.

January 11, 2009: 1:00 PM, Annual Meeting, Location to be determined.

January 17, 2009: 10:00 AM Equipment Workshop, presenters Mike Bush and others, at Hershel Staats.

January 17, 2009: 8:00AM – 5:00 PM Youth Beginner's Beekeeping workshop, Part 1, for 4-H & FFA members, York County Extension building York County Fairgrounds. (All beginners are welcome ages 12-21 and older), presentation by Dr. Marion Ellis, UNL Entomology.

February 1: 2:00PM Youth Beginners Beekeeping Equipment Workshop, at High Plains Community School Ag Shop in Polk, NE., presenter Keith Nielson

February 14, 2009: 10:00 AM presentation by Dr. Marion Ellis, Gretna Library, Gretna NE

March 6 & 7, 2009: Missouri State Beekeepers Association and the Kansas Honey Producers joint meeting at the Marriott Hotel, Overland Park, KS. Two guest speakers will be Jennifer Berry from the University of Georgia and Clarence Collison from Louisiana State University - both incredible speakers. We will update this as more information becomes available. This will be a fantastic meeting so plan on being there!

April 11, 2009: Youth and Other Beginners Beekeeping Workshop, Part 2, ARDC at Mead, Nebraska, practical exercises in beekeeping, presenting Dr. Marion Ellis UNL Entomology.

July 9-11, 2009: Heartland Apiculture Society, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH.

August 3-7: Eastern Apiculture Society- The Brethren Beekeeping, Without Chemicals, Holiday Valley, Ellicottville, New York

August 17-20: Western Apiculture Society-Dry Creek Best Western Inn, 198 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, California, USA 95448

RENEWAL TIME NOTICE

Membership is up for renewal in November: *Kay Klatt*, *Margi & Wendy Fletcher*, Please pay \$14.00 to continue your membership to January 2010.

Membership up for renewal in December: *Buzz Vance*, *Jim Arbaugh*, *Pat Kuehl*, & *Robert Davis*.

Please pay \$13.00 to continue your membership to January of 2010. We are trying to get all members to renew in January of each year.

FROM: CATCH THE BUZZ

SARE Grants FINALLY available in the North, North East Beekeepers have used these grants extensively. Try your hand at one for next season. Farmers and ranchers in the North Central Region can now submit proposals for grants to support sustainable agriculture projects. The 2008 North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) Farmer Rancher Grant Call for Proposals is now available online at <http://www.sare.org/NCRSARE/prod.htm>. Grants can range from \$6,000 for individual farmers and up to \$18,000 for groups of three or more farmers. Beginning farmers and youth may also apply. Projects should emphasize research or education/demonstration. The deadline for proposals is Dec. 1 at 4:30 p.m. NCR-SARE expects to fund about 50 projects in the 12-state North Central Region. The NCR has funded more than 650 farmer rancher grants worth more than \$4.3 million since the program's inception.

Vice Presidents message:

The Nebraska Beekeepers Association is excited to present, The Chemical Free Beekeeping Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska November 21-23, 2008. This is an exciting event with speakers coming in from all over the United States. The registration form is included in the newsletter as well as posted on our website,

http://www.nebraskabeekeepers.org/content/NE_BeekeepingConf_Nov08_web.pdf

Seats are still available for this super workshop. Presenters for the workshop include Dee Lusby, Dean Stiglitz, Laura Herboldsheimer, Corwin Bell, Michael Bush, Laura Tyler, and MICHAEL PALMER. Subjects for the workshop include: Small Cell Beekeeping, Experiences in Natural Cell Beekeeping, Top Bar Hives, Natural Cell Size and Varroa, Small Cell Management, Pathogens or Beneficial Microbes, Wintering Nucs, Rearing Northern Queens, See the film, "Sister Bee" and talk to the creator.

Cheryl Osterloh

Presidents Pictures from Iraq



1 The cooks grilling some lamb and beef kabobs at the Iraqi restaurant next door



2 Dave Scheideler and myself at the Chinese Restaurant. He's from Ord and Warren should recognize him since he's on the Nebraska State Patrol.



4 Was taken at the time of passing thunder shower at about 11 AM



3 SK1 Julius Dungo (Navy) who works in our office out taking the rain in

Recipes from the National Honey Board

Duck Breast with Tangy Honey Sauce-Makes 4 servings -

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup canned crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup dry sherry or chicken broth
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1 Tablespoon orange juice concentrate
- 1-1/2 teaspoons cider vinegar
- 4 (4 to 6 oz. each) duck breast halves, about 4 lbs.

Directions

Combine pineapple, honey, sherry, soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, orange juice, vinegar, garlic, mustard and ginger in medium saucepan. Bring to a simmer over medium heat. Reduce heat to low; simmer 1 hour to blend flavors. Strain and set aside. Sprinkle breasts with salt and pepper to taste. Arrange duck on rack in roasting pan. Brush with butter. Roast at 400°F 40 minutes or until golden brown. Broil 3 to 5 minutes or until skin is crisp. Serve with sauce.

Herbed Turkey Breast- Makes 6 servings -

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 2 Tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
- 1-1/2 teaspoons sage, dried
- 1 teaspoon thyme, dried
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 boneless, skinless turkey breast, about 2 lbs.

Directions

Preheat broiler. Position oven rack 6 inches from heat source. Combine honey, orange juice, butter, sage, thyme, garlic, salt and pepper. Place turkey breast on rack set in broiler pan. Brush with some of honey mixture. Broil, brushing frequently with remaining mixture, turning turkey once, until no longer pink inside, about 40 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes before slicing.

**NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
YOUTH BEEKEEPING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ("NBA")
APPLICATION/AGREEMENT**

OBJECTIVE

1. To educate youth in the art of beekeeping to promote a better understanding of the value of honeybees to our environment and to the food chain.
2. To provide an opportunity for youth to experience responsibility and enjoyment through beekeeping.
3. To provide an avenue for youth to engage in an avocation and gain the potential to pursue beekeeping as a sideline or fulltime vocation.

THE AWARD

1. A one year membership in the Nebraska Beekeepers Association.
2. A beginning beekeeper seminar registration and textbook.
3. A set of woodenware for a beehive.
4. A nuc or package of bees for the hive.
5. Beekeeping gear: hat, veil, gloves, hive tool, and bee smoker.
6. Mentoring by a NBA member for one year.

ELIGIBILITY

1. The applicant must be between the ages of 12 and 17 by January 1 of the current year.
2. The applicant must be a resident of Nebraska or a surrounding county in a neighboring state.
3. The applicant must be currently enrolled in public, private, or homeschool.
4. The applicant must have permission and agreement from parent or guardian.
5. The application must be submitted to the Nebraska Beekeepers Association no later than January 1 st of the current year.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. Finalists will be selected by the Youth Program Committee.
2. The Program Committee will arrange an interview with finalists and parents/guardian.
3. The scholarship will be awarded to the applicant selected by the Program Committee and presented at the NBA January meeting.

APPLICATION

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City/St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Parent or Guardian _____

Summarize your involvement in school, community, church, and other youth or civic organizations:

Write an essay of 250 words or more on why you are interested in bees and beekeeping, and what you hope to accomplish if you are chosen for this scholarship. (*Use a separate sheet for your essay.*)

Parent or Guardian:

Do you feel your child can benefit from this program? _____

Do you feel you can support and encourage your child in this effort? _____

Does any member of your immediate family have bees? _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT

The recipient of this scholarship will receive woodenware consisting of a standard hive body with frames and foundation, a bottom board, a top cover, a nucleus of bees with queen, and the necessary beginner's equipment to start the beekeeping project.

The recipient will also receive the additional benefit of:

1. A one years membership in the Nebraska Beekeepers Association,
2. Will be able to participate in the Associations monthly meeting, and will receive the Association Newsletter,
3. Registration in a beginning beekeeping seminar,
4. Mentoring by a NBA member throughout the year, and
5. Will receive association assistance in extracting the first year's honey crop.

The recipient will be expected to:

1. attend at least 50% of the meetings between the January and the December meetings
2. present a short progress report of the activities to date.
3. The recipient will keep a written record complete with dates, photos, and other pertinent data sufficient to substantiate all progress reports.
4. A final report will be presented at the December meeting.
5. Successful attendance and completion of the seminar is required.

A Certificate of Completion and full ownership of the colony and the equipment will be presented at the December meeting if the scholarship recipient has met all requirements.

WAIVER/BINDER

We/I understand that neither NBA nor any of the Association members are liable for any accidents or injuries which may occur while my child, _____, is working with the aforementioned bees and equipment.

We/I also understand the bee colony and equipment remain the property of NBA, and cannot be sold, given away, transferred in any manner or destroyed during the qualifying period without the written consent of NBA.

In the event that _____ loses interest or can no longer pursue the beekeeping project, NBA shall be notified and the equipment and colony of bees will be returned to NBA.

Upon successful completion of the qualifying term, and the satisfaction of stated conditions, the Recipient will be presented a Certificate of Completion of the program and ownership of the beehive and related equipment will be transferred to recipient.

PARENTAL CONSENT

I am the above named applicant's parent or guardian. He/She is not known to be allergic to bee stings and has my consent to accept this scholarship if chosen. Furthermore, I agree that by signing this waiver I relieve NBA and their members from any and all liability for any accidents, mishaps or other occurrences, which may happen in the pursuit of this project. By filling out and submitting this form, either electronically or otherwise, I understand that I am fully agreeing to all Terms and Conditions set forth herein.

Parent/Guardian _____

Applicant _____

Scholarship Committee Chair _____

Association President _____

Mail application to: Nebraska Beekeepers Association, c/o Joann Vasko, 13324 Madison, Omaha, NE 68137

Or bring application to an NBA meeting – which is listed on the calendar of events on the Nebraska Beekeepers web site <http://www.nebraskabeekeepers.org>.

For more information contact: Keith Nielson – 402-765-2391



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Return to: American Bee Journal, 51 S. 2nd St., Hamilton, IL 62341

Nebraska Beekeepers Association Membership and Membership Renewal Form

Please fill out the following information completely and legibly by printing the information

NEW MEMBER [___] RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP [___] 1 YR @ \$12 [___] 2YR @ \$24[___]

DATE _____

NAME(S) _____ Birthday _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

[___] Please send my newsletters by e-mail. [___] Please send my newsletter by the postal service.

Make checks payable to the "Nebraska Beekeepers Association"

Mail to: Keith Nielson, 865 Leonard Ave, Polk, NE 68654

* Dues are payable by January 31 for the current year running from January 1- December 31. *

** Dues are prorated for new members only at the rate of \$1 per month through December 31. **

*** Special rates on "Bee Culture" and "American Bee Journal" with membership to the state association.***

Clip and Send _____

Editorial: What is your honey worth? Does the public know what it cost you to produce honey? Do you know what it cost to produce honey, bottle, and label your products from the beehive? Who are my competitors? Do you have a niche market that you sell in or do you wholesale your honey? These have been some of the questions that I have had to ask myself when I price my products that I sell to local customers. Last year I had set my price for my honey crop and when I went to sell it to a coworker he said the price was too low and that was at \$6.00/lb. I have observed several producers at farmers markets selling their product for much less than the price I have set for my own honey. Well at this point that that's fine with me, I just don't have the volume of honey that they have. I do understand the economics that goes into the pricing of honey but if the consumer wants to pay a premium for quality honey I will take the money and invest in some more hives. By the way have you looked at the country of origin of the honey in the retail stores? China, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, India, I'm not saying that they don't have good honey. What I am saying is the US demand for honey is more than what our producers can supply.

I have been feeding my bees to make sure that they have enough stores for winter. Well I had a gallon of thick syrup spill in the pickup bed, and it is my transportation to school each day. You may already see where this is leading to. I have found a way for students to see bees close up without taking them to a hive. The area around the bed of my pickup had nearly 200 bees in and around it. I cleaned the bed of the truck, several days passed and I went out to pick up empty pails of syrup off of the hives and left them in the box when I went to school. By mid morning I had a few bees and by late afternoon I had another 100+ bees flying around the truck bed. Well the bees returned for more syrup, and I had to go to Columbus to pick up some steel for welding class. I moved my pickup a block away, and took the school pickup, and I did not return until after the sun went down. The next day I heard about the bees that were swarming around Mr. Hofer's car after I had left for Columbus. Well you guessed it his car was right next to my pickup in the lot. The other pickup that was next to Mr. Hofer's car was ten feet away with very few bees. This gave me an opportunity to discuss with Mr. Hofer's and my students why the bees were flying around his car and not Mr. Strecker's pickup. Mr. Hofer quickly found a video file on YouTube on the internet and we showed the student the waggle dance. One of my bright students replied that the bees were smarter at geometry that he was, which makes me wonder if I always know what I am doing when I work with my bees. But the students got to see bees close up, saw their social behavior, how they communicate and maybe just got a chance to appreciate them a little more. By the way the youth scholarship application in this newsletter is a draft taken from the Eastern Texas Beekeepers and needs membership approval, look it over and let me know what you think of the potential that it has.

Keith E. Nielson

Editor, Nebraska Beekeepers Association

Nebraska Beekeepers Assoc-Beeline

c/o Keith Nielson

865 Leonard Ave

Polk, NE 68654

