

NEBRASKA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.nebraskabeekeepers.org

April Beeline 2008



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Special Notice

Members that have jigs, boxes, frames or special equipment that they use in their operation can share their tricks or display it at the next meeting at the ARDC on the 12th. Please call Marion Ellis at 402-483-4370 or e-mail at mellis3@unl.edu he will make sure that you will have a table to show your wares if you give him several days notice prior to the meeting.

President's Message

Our members packed the Gretna Library on March 15th for the monthly Nebraska Beekeepers meeting. It was our first meeting without President Mike Slater; Mike has been activated with the Nebraska National Guard. I speak for everyone when I say we are going to miss you Mike! As it turns out, I have plenty to learn about the in's and out's of running a meeting. Don't give up on me, I can only improve from here.

Joe Strecker gave an informative presentation on raising queens in Nebraska. As a beginning beekeeper it is really nice to have so many seasoned beekeepers in our organization to field questions. Thanks Joe, for bringing your queen rearing inventions and sharing them with the club.

Turning our watches forward to the Nebraska State Fair, our club has two bid solicitations for members to be on the lookout for:

- Provider for honey at the State Fair. One stipulation is the honey must be bottled in an inspected and approved kitchen. The club would like to have bids submitted no later than June 15, 2008.
- Potter to design and craft 18 honey pots for State Fair winners. Pots should hold about 1 pound of honey.

I have been out poking my nose in the beehive, every chance I get, what else would I do on a warm, blue skied March afternoon. Here's to spring!

Cheryl Osterloh

Secretary's Corner

The Nebraska beekeepers met March 15, 2008 at 10 am at the Gretna Public Library. Since our president Mike Slater is being sent overseas our vice president Cheryl Osterloh is taking his place. She opened the meeting with old business:

The honey princess may attend the state fair in place of the honey queen. Their job is to promote honey, and she will be here the first two days of the fair. Marian Ellis and his wife have offered for her to stay with them. Warren Nelson announced the club is all out of bee cards. Marian Ellis will get a price on having more printed.

New business: a motion was made to look into having a conference for the October meeting with speakers, etc. A motion was made and seconded to approve the schedule for the coming year. We would like to have bids on buying honey pots for our state fair. The honey pots are given as prizes for honey and honey related entries. Does anyone know a potter who would be interested in making our club some honey pots? They must be food grade and we need about 18. Warren Nelson passed out recipe folders and the club approved of getting some printed for the state fair if the cost was reasonable. A motion was made and seconded we renew our domain name for the association.

Joe Strecker gave a great program on spring management and raising queens. One of the tips he recommended for feeding bees was to use a quail feeder. The bees will not drown in them. They can be bought at tractor supply. Thank you Joe, for a great program on queen rearing..

Door prizes were donated by Mann lake and Dadant: bee brush - Mike Bush, American Bee journal - Warren Nelson, The Classroom (a book) - Ken Voorhees, bee pro patties: Keith Nielson, Joann Vasko, Mike Terneus, Theresa Skow, Jack Eager, Nancy Hecht

Joann Vasko Secretary

Classified Advertisements

For Sale 5 frame Nuc's available May 1ST, no frame exchange. Price is negotiable. Contact Pat Chandler, Anselmo, NE Phone:308-749-2252

In the late 60's and early 70's my grandparents raised bee's and sold to Sue Bee honey.

Recently after cleaning out our old garage up in the loft, I found at least 2 extractors and a bunch of misc. equipment that could be used. If anyone would be interested in them. Please contact me. Thank you ,
Mike Tonniges, 1209 RD 18,: York, NE 68467
Phone: 402-362-4270 Email:
gangrene.survivor05@yahoo.com

BEES WANTED

5 miles north of Crete at NE 103 and Sawtillo Rd. Has 75 fruit trees of various types. Is negotiable on pollination or leaving them there year round. Call Shane Kepler at 402-826-5773.

Treasurers Report

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Beginning Balance</u> | | <u>\$13,617.25</u> |
| | interest | \$2.89 |
| Dues | returned deposit item | (12.00) |
| Bee | | |
| Cards | | 282.00 |
| Dues | Cornelius | 24.00 |
| Dues | Fleck | 12.00 |
| Dues | Kounavis | 12.00 |
| Dues | Meyer | 12.00 |
| Dues | O'Hara | 24.00 |
| Dues | Shipman | 12.00 |
| Dues | Timm | 12.00 |
| Total Income | | \$380.89 |
| Expense | | |
| s | | |
| | Return Deposit Item | |
| | Fee | \$4.00 |
| 3665 | Warren Nelson postage | 69.74 |
| 3666 | Keith Nielson Feb&Mar newsletter | 86.36 |
| Total Expenses | | \$160.10 |
| <u>Ending Balance</u> | | <u>\$13,838.04</u> |

Upcoming Events:

April 12 10:00AM-2:00PM, Beginning Beekeepers Workshop & Field Day, presented by Marion Ellis and others at the Agricultural research and Development Center Headquarters Building, Mead NE, Pot Luck dinner

May 8th 6:00PM-8:30PM Swarm Prevention at Cheryl Osterloh at Bennington, NE. Pot Luck Dinner

June 18: 6:00-8:30PM Prep for the flow, Location TBA.

June 26-28 Master Beekeeping Workshop, Mead NE at the Agricultural research and Development Center Headquarters Building.

July 8: 6:00-8:30PM, Harvest, Mike Bush's at Gretna

July 10-12 Heartland Apiculture Society Conference, Marshall University, Huntington, WV

August 4-8 Eastern Apiculture Society Conference, Murray KY.

August 8: 6:00PM, Varroa Monitoring, Mike Terneus bee yard, presented by Mike Bush & Joe Strecker

August 17-21 Western Apicultural Society Annual Conference, Victoria, British Columbia, Info: e-mail: mpitcher@uvic.ca

September 14: 1:00PM Beginners Field Day, at Mike Bush's.

Tenative October 24-26: Bee Keeping without chemicals, Organic Beekeeping, Location TBA.

November 22: 10:00 AM Bee Basics presented by Mike Bush, Gretna Library, Gretna NE.

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.

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

Joe Streckers Queen Rearing – Nielson’s Quick Notes

Use a deep hive body divided into 4 equal sections

Place 4 frames of eggs in one side of box or 3 frames of eggs and one frame of honey. Make sure to feed bees a 1:1 water to sugar mix.

Shake a few frames of bees into box with egg frames.

Move to a location at least 2miles from original site.

After 9 days move frames to the other side of the box. Place dividers in the box

Rotate box 180 degrees

Wait three weeks. You should be able to get 2-3 sometimes 4 queens with this process

Then start the process over again.

Joe does this in a shaded area and begins around the 1st of May

Editorial:

In preparing this newsletter I came across several interesting articles from two of the local newspapers in my part of the apiary. First was in the Republican-Nonpareil out of Central City in the history section of the paper at 75 Years Ago the Merrick County Beekeepers Club was deciding where to put their apiary. Growing up around the Central City area I did not know that such a club existed. But it only makes sense since the Platte River Valley in those days and up into the early 60’s produced large amounts of dehydrated alfalfa. However, today I know of only one other beekeeper in my immediate area thanks to the NBA, and I know the bee club has disbanded. Second, on March 24th the Grand Island Independent ran an article from the Associated Press entitled “Honey making a medical comeback”. I included it in this newsletter, knowing that it talked about using manuka honey which is produced in New Zealand and Australia. What if we could find in the United States a plant that produces a honey with the same qualities that are found in the manuka honey that kill the MSRA staph infections. Another thought is it shows we have not found all of the practical uses for honey yet and we are in a global market. I hope that I have accurately outlined the procedures that Joe Streckler used in his presentation at our last meeting. It is a process that I will use in rearing queens for my own operation and even making some nuc’s. I was so excited about the process I went to TSC to buy a quail water to feed the bees for the process. All I found for quail waters were bases that required a plastic bottle designed for the base. I put it in use to put a source of water near my hive for now. I checked my hive last week and the stores of honey are gone, so I will have to start the syrup feedings when the hard candy is nearly gone. I have frames and foundation to finish assembling as soon as they get here so I will be ready for the new packages that are coming in on the 5th. Hope to see you all at Mead on April 12th.

Keith Nielson, Newsletter Editor

Nebraska Beekeepers Gear

| <u>Items</u> | <u>Price</u> | <u>QTY</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Nebraska Beekeepers T-Shirts | | | |
| <u>Kids T-Shirts</u> | Small 6/8 | \$8.00 | |
| | Medium 10/12 | \$8.00 | |
| | Large 14/16 | \$8.00 | |
| <u>Adult T-Shirts</u> | Small | \$9.00 | |
| | Medium | \$9.00 | |
| | Large | \$9.00 | |
| | X Large | \$9.00 | |
| | XX Large | \$10.00 | |
| | XXX Large | \$11.00 | |
| | T-Shirt Shipping | \$3.00 | |
| <u>Association Wind breakers:</u> | | | |
| Jackets are flannel lined and have straight pockets. There is a choice of yellow w/black lettering or black w/yellow lettering. Our logo is screen printed on the jacket | | | |
| ___ Yellow w/black lettering ___ Black w/yellow lettering | Small | \$19.05 | |
| | Medium | \$19.05 | |
| | Large | \$19.05 | |
| | X Large | \$19.05 | |
| | XX Large | \$22.20 | |
| | Name –Screen Printed | \$4.15 | |
| | Name- Embroidered | \$7.30 | |
| Name lettering | | | |
| <u>Name Tag</u> | Pin Backing | \$15.00 | |
| | Magnetic Backing | \$16.50 | |
| | Shipping | \$2.00 | |
| Name Tag lettering | | | |
| <u>Bee Cards</u> Set of 18 Individually wrapped sets @ \$1.00 each sold in sets of 50 only | \$50.00 | | |
| <u>Bee Cards</u> Bulk wrapped sets of 100 @ \$30.00 per 100 | \$30.00 | | |
| Shipping (If you need cards brought to a meeting, call or e-mail Warren Nelson. Individually wrapped sets can be purchased in lesser quantities) | \$3.00 | | |
| TOTAL | | | |

Make checks payable to the “Nebraska Beekeepers Association”. Mail to: Bill Gustafson, 615 Brookside Dr. Lincoln, NE 68506. Thank you for your purchases.

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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: Bill Gustafson, 615 Brookside Dr. Lincoln, NE 68506

* 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 _____