



THE CARROLL BEE

CARROLL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION (CCBA)

July 2017

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Fred Sypher

Our second annual CCBA picnic at Bear Branch Nature Center on June 24th was a lovely afternoon of conviviality, bee talk, and good food. A lot of the talk was about the reported eruption of European Foul Brood (EFB) among Maryland beekeepers. I spent some time researching non-chemical treatments for EFB and found that the US and England have completely different approaches to non-chemical treatment for EFB. In the US the recommendation is break the brood cycle by re-queening affected colonies. In England they perform a “shook swarm” by shaking all the bees off affected frames onto new, clean foundation. The scientific reports I read indicated good success with the shook swarm approach. Either way, if you have two hives with three medium hive boxes infected with EFB, that’s 60 units. Depending on what you replace (foundation or frames with foundation) it could cost from \$75 to \$190. That’s a sizeable expense for a backyard beekeeper. Re-queening three colonies can cost from \$34 to \$98, depending on where you buy your queens, but I found no reports on the effectivity of re-queening to control EFB. Modern beekeeping challenges us in many ways, but the rewards of beekeeping are, in my estimation, worth the effort and expense. Inspect your hives regularly so you know what’s going on with your bees. We will be talking about EFB at the next CCBA meeting.

Larry Fritz, Reed Muse and I spoke to over 120 Scouts about beekeeping on Friday, June 30th, and we were again surprised by how much they knew about honey bees. Kids apparently are learning far more about the natural world today than was taught 50 years ago. That’s a good thing.

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Carroll County Beekeepers Association meets at 7:30PM on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Bear Branch Nature Center | 300 John Owings Rd | Westminster, Maryland 21158 | (410) 848-2517

**To contact us or to become a member, e-Mail - carrollbeekeepers@gmail.com
Family membership is still only \$15 per year. Lifetime membership is still only \$150**

Message From The President, Continued

As we drift into August the need to closely monitor Varroa mites in our colonies becomes ever more important. We stress this at every CCBA meeting and we will again talk about Varroa monitoring and treatment at

the July 19th meeting. Laissez faire beekeeping today is rarely, if ever, successful. Come to the meetings and participate.

See you there.

Fred

SAVE THE DATES

Wednesday, July 19 – Monthly Meeting at Bear Branch Nature Center

Saturday, July 22 – noon – Open Hive Demo

July 31-August 4 - EAS 2017 University of Delaware, Newark, DE

July 29 – August 4 – Carroll County 4H Fair (more volunteers needed – watch for an email from Brad)

THREE EASY WAYS TO PAY 2017 DUES

\$15/family or \$150 Life Membership



Click on Buzzy, above, and follow directions to pay with PayPal



Mail check payable to CCBA, to . . .

Jody King
1435 Uniontown Rd
Westminster 21158



Give your check to Jody at the next CCBA meeting or at CCC.

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CCBA DIGITAL LIBRARY

By Larry Fritz

Over the years I have collected a bunch of beekeeping articles that I found helpful. Some of my collection is now available on the CCBA Google Drive and can be accessed here:

<http://drive.google.com/open?id=0B4uCC3CyQd7kNIIWXzhacV9vSkk>

Articles can be read online and/or downloaded to your PC. File names were assigned to function as a table of contents. Each month I will reference pertinent articles for our enlightenment. If you have articles that should be added, please let me know.

To change the way the list is viewed, click the icon on the top right side of the page to the left of the lowercase i in the circle.

- **The primary nectar flow is over and it's time to consider reducing hive entrances to the smallest size that avoids a traffic jam at the entrance. To read what robbing looks like and steps to stop/prevent it, read these articles.**
 - "Robbing - Billy Davis Robber Screen.pdf"
 - "Robbing - by Phil Craft.pdf"
- **In July, bee populations start to decline while Varroa populations can explode. There is a wealth of information on the *Honey Bee Health Coalition* web site: <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>**
 - "Varroa - HBHC- Varroa Guide_6thEd_Apr2017.pdf"
- **The Digital Library contains some excellent articles detailing the use of OA to combat Varroa.**
- **Some resources suggest requeening. Read these articles to decide for yourself, and for tips on improving requeening success.**
 - "Queens - Requeening Tips.pdf"
 - "Queens - Requeening Why, When How.pdf"
- **Small Hive Beetles (SHB) can wreak weak colonies. These articles are worth reading.**
 - SHB - A Big Problem.pdf
 - SHB - The Beetle Baffle.pdf
 - SHB - Traps.pdf
 - SHB - Charles Linden_Bee Culture_Mar2015.pdf

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JOIN THE MARYLAND STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

As well as belonging to an association of fellow beekeepers of all ages, backgrounds and experience, there are a number of tangible benefits to this membership:

- Several (FREE) association meetings each year where experts from across the country make presentations on a diverse range of subjects including beekeeping, bee biology and genetics as well as a host of other related topics.
- Regular publications of the association's newsletter, the '*Beeline*', keeping you up to date with beekeeping news and events

The cost is \$10/year. Click [here](#) for the membership application. The application also gives us an opportunity to donate to MDA's Apiary Inspection Fund. Donations will help to cover the expenses of our state honeybee colony inspectors who work long hours for low pay. These folks are a beekeeper's friend! Many other states charge us for their services, but in Maryland it is still free of charge. Our contributions demonstrate to the MDA how we feel about this valuable service, and encourages MDA to retain state funding



DISCOUNT SUBSCRIPTION TO AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

One year-\$28. Mention that you are a member of CCBA and the discount price is \$21. This applies to renewals as well as new subscriptions. Stop by the Carroll County Public Library for a look at this excellent magazine.

Phone 888-922-1293 <http://americanbeejournal.com/>

CLICK SUBSCRIBE TO BEE CULTURE MAGAZINE

1 year of the print edition for \$25. Stop by the Carroll County Public Library for a look at this excellent magazine.

Click [here](#).

CLICK APIARY MAPPING SITE

By Larry Truchon

We are building an apiary mapping site for our club members. It will show the appropriate location of participating member's apiaries with one, two and three mile rings. Only participating members will have access. To join please send:

- Apiary name (example: Wild Acre Apiary)
- Closest cross streets
- Number of colonies (not Nucs)
- Zip Code

Send above data to larrytruchon@gmail.com

If you are a first year member without bees this year, send info with 0 number of colonies.

You will be sent login info after you are entered into the database.

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FOR SALE - CCBA T-SHIRTS

(Navy Blue shown)

Short-sleeved navy blue club t-shirts will still be available at meetings or by arrangement with Anna Prior if you can't make it to the meeting. However, some members have expressed interest in having other colors to choose from. To make these alternate colors available with as little fuss as possible, Anna will have a sign-up sheet where you can choose one of two colors (or both!) and your size. Payment will be in advance. Cost depends on how many shirts are ordered but it should be around \$20-22.



Long-sleeved options are also available.

The special order color choices are as follows:

Short-sleeve - Heather Cardinal <http://www.customink.com/lab?PK=04661> and Prairie Dust <http://www.customink.com/lab?PK=04625>

Long-sleeve - Navy (same as our short-sleeve club shirts) and Military Green <http://www.customink.com/lab?PK=06133%20> (a darker version of Prairie Dust)

Anna will have samples of the Prairie Dust and Heather Cardinal with the sign-up sheet.

CHECK OUT THE CCBA WEBSITE

(Under Construction)

Send emails to: carrollbeekeepers@gmail.com

CCBA FACEBOOK PAGE

Check us out on Facebook by searching for **Carroll County Beekeepers Association**. Join the page to post photos, articles, ask questions, etc. Anyone can view.

CCBA 2017 OFFICERS

President	Fred Sypher	frsy4@outlook.com
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