

CARROLL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

THE CARROLL BEE

<http://www.carrollcountybeekeepers.org/>

JULY 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Today is July the first and I just returned from the CCBA apiary at Bear Branch. On June 22nd we finally (finally!) received the packages we ordered back in April for the short course. Not surprisingly, some students who wanted packages in April either changed their minds or got bees from another source, so we had two unclaimed packages. We had already added a package to the CCBA apiary as a hiving demonstration so we decided to take one of the extras, too. After we installed the second package, we put feeders on the hives and poured in one and a half gallons of 1:1 sugar water in each. I checked on the apiary last Wednesday and everybody seemed to be doing all the right things. The club now has four hives at the apiary as well as an observation hive at the Bear Branch Nature Center.

I went to Erie, Pennsylvania over the weekend and today it was time to visit the bees. I prepared two gallons of 1:1 sugar water, grabbed my sugar spray bottle and drove to Bear Branch. The weather has been strange for days and today was no different with lovely white clouds, sudden rain showers and occasional thunderstorms. Not weather to be trusted.

Our new girls had almost cleaned out the feeders, so they were happy to see me pour in a gallon each. I did not bring my bee gear as I didn't want to start pulling things apart just as it began to rain. I'll make another run over to Bear Branch Tuesday or Saturday. Caring for a remote apiary is bothersome when it's miles away. Bear Branch is a 35-minute drive from my house, just long enough to give me second thoughts about driving over. But the bees are not at Bear Branch because they chose to settle there; we put them there, so it's our responsibility to look after them, especially as the packages arrived so late in the rather brief nectar flow here in Carroll County. So, as Gary Pohlner cleverly said, we don't have bees. We have 20,000 new girlfriends, and they need attention.

Did I mention that I took the other package and gifted my wife with her very own bee hive? Yes, she was surprised—another hive wasn't at the top of her wish list—but I'm confident she will assume full responsibility for the new girls any time now, or I will have another 10,000 girlfriends. At least they're in our back yard.

The club's new stainless steel honey extractor is attracting attention. One of our members is using it now and two others are in queue for it. It was truly serendipitous that Dan Finch had a nearly new extractor for sale just as I proposed buying a smaller extractor for the club. I believe one of the benefits of having a club is the ability to pool resources to provide club members access to equipment they would not ordinarily buy for themselves but still have need of. We also have a hand refractometer (with directions) available for members who want to measure the water content of their honey. So much to do, so little time!
See you at the next meeting. **Fred Sypher**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

07/27/13 Carroll Co 4-H Fair Carroll Co Ag Center
07/28/13 Carroll Co 4-H Fair Carroll Co Ag Center
07/29/13 Carroll Co 4-H Fair Carroll Co Ag Center
07/30/13 Carroll Co 4-H Fair Carroll Co Ag Center
07/31/13 Carroll Co 4-H Fair Carroll Co Ag Center

UPCOMING BEEKEEPING EVENTS

7/27 – 7/31: Carroll County 4-H Fair

8/5 – 8/9: [Eastern Apicultural Society 2013 Conference](#)

JULY 17th MEETING AGENDA

Old/new business

Please sign up for e-mail notification when the newsletter is posted at <http://www.carrollcountybeekeepers.org>. Also, please share your beekeeping experiences with the club by submitting articles/pictures/upcoming events by the last day of each month (for the upcoming month's newsletter) to Stella Fouts at Newsletter@CarrollCountyBeekeepers.org.

Our 10 week fundraising campaign for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society has ended. Our team raised approximately \$20,000 to help cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma. Thanks to the members of CCBA, we were able to raise \$850 from selling donated honey. I especially would like to thank Bill and Terri Hemelt, Brad Criddle, Pete Hammersla, Pete and Maureen Kazaras and Steve McDaniel for their generous donations. Also, I'd like to thank our fuzzy little friends for making a product that everyone loves. Thank you.

Gary Pohlner



New Beekeepers - It's important to keep a record of what is happening in your hives because it's so easy to forget!

Sample report forms have been posted on the Forum for your consideration.

<http://carrollcountybeekeepers.org/db/index.php?board=1.0>

Larry Fritz

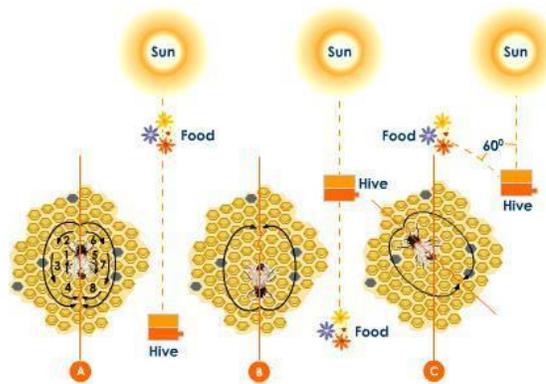
Provide a Water Tray for Visiting Bees



Consider providing a water tray with small rocks in it to assist honeybees visiting your garden flowers, especially in hot weather. Bees need sound footing to access drinking water. Bees float in water; however, they easily drown in water one half inch or more deep, usually after exhausting their energy in efforts to get out of the water. The potential mosquito breeding area can be reduced or eliminated by changing the water daily or providing a very slow drip rate to keep water moving.

http://www.tonitoni.org/bee_gardening

Tail Wagging Dance



Tail Wagging Dance of Honeybee Worker. The Straight Line Indicates the Direction of the Food Source

ilovehoneybees.co.uk

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Stella Fouts, editor