

Lancaster County Honey Producers NEWSLETTER

www.lancastercountyhoneyproducers.org

also

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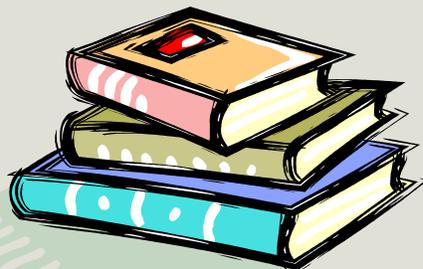
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Summer 2011



Club Library

Our group used to have a library of reference books for club members to check out and read. Due to popular request the library will be back.

Heather Tennes has agreed to be our Librarian to log and keep track of things. We will be looking for books, DVDs, or VHSs to be donated to the library for member check-out and use.

If you have anything you would like to donate to our Library, contact Heather or any of the club officers.

Thanks for your help.....Jim

Membership in the Lancaster County Honey Producers is \$10.00 per family per calendar year. Dues should be sent, by April, to Lori Stahl, Treasurer

Meetings for
2011

Jan 29

Introduction to Bees and
Beekeeping Workshop

Wow, what a day!!

We had 65 attend...57 were
new members...52 have no
bees yet, many are looking to
start beekeeping this spring.

March 8

Lancaster County Honey
Producer's Banquet
Best yet with 51 attending

April 19, 6:30pm

At the Gathering Place
Building Nucs for spring and
summer splits.
Installing a nuc

May 17, 6:00pm

**Southeast Agricultural
Research & Extension
Center**

August 16

Picnic at Strickler's Farm
Official invitations later.

August 20

**National Honey Bee
Awareness Day**

Sept 20, 7:00pm

Strickler's Farm
Using those hive products

Oct. 18, 7:00pm

"Honey Roundup" and
meeting at
Dutch Gold Honey

Jim's Summer Ramblings

Summer is here and I feel slightly overwhelmed trying to keep up with my bees (have to work the family in there too I guess).

Our May meeting at the Penn State Extension Research Center was a great success. Thanks Lori for all the work you put into setting it up and coordinating speakers. We are now in the process of setting up a few hives at the center for educational purposes, with both our group and the public when they have their field days. It will be a great opportunity for us to share our interest in honey bees with the Master Gardeners and others that have projects going on at the Center.

The screening of the *Vanishing of the Bees* was very well attended and the college is considering a second showing. Again, Thanks Lori for coordinating this project.

Nuc building went very well. We are looking at doing this again...you know, when things slow down a little☺. Thanks Dan.....Nice Shop and Tools!!

Check out Matt's work on the new web site www.lancasterbeekeepers.org Looks Great...Thanks Matt.

It is July and it may seem strange but we should be thinking about next spring. Remember April and May when you were looking for replacement bees and no one had any. It is easy to forget once you have bees in your hives again. Then there were the many issues with the packages and queens that we finally did receive. Well now is the time to work on getting off of that package merry-go-round. We buy bees and queens from the south only to lose most of them during the winter, (read the articles in the PSBA Newsletter, "A View from Honesdale" and "Noteworthy") than we buy replacements in early spring (again from the south), it just doesn't make cents (I meant to misspell that, because it does get expensive)

If you have a hive that is doing well and starting to push at the seams a little, take a few frames with emerging brood and clinging bees and some new eggs. Make sure you don't take the queen, but if you do, the main hive will be making the new queen instead of the nuc...works either way, you just may have to adjust the nuc a little with some empty frames. There is no magic to this, the bees did this long before we decided we needed to help them. It will be over 30 days till you see young larva, but you will have a more "localized" queen, maybe just a little better adapted to our area. Nucs should be started yesterday if not sooner to give them a fighting chance. You can build this second hive up to about a single deep (you will most likely have to feed them) and winter it that way or as a double nuc. See the spring Newsletter for Bob's method...it does work. If your hives are not strong enough, don't split them; work on getting them built up for winter. July, August and even September can be tough months for bees if we don't get rain.

Hope to see you all at the picnic(s) (and there are plenty of them to attend).....Jim

A reminder from Kelly Miller

The Elizabethtown Fair is coming up, August 22 to 27. Honey and hive products entered in the fair have been down the past few years with many premiums going unawarded. The fair is early and often beekeepers have not extracted this year yet. You can enter honey extracted in the last year, so last summer's honey could be entered (it is from the last year).

All entries must be brought in Monday August 22, between 9am-9pm. Kelly will be at the stand from 4-9 pm (In the Ag building). Anything brought in from 9am -4pm should be taken to the church to be entered and pay the entry fee (it is \$.25 per item). Then it needs to be brought to the stand. After 4pm you can come directly to the stand and Kelly will get your items entered.

Questions, you can e-mail Kelly at honeybees@dejazzd.com or phone 664-5130.

Let's not let those premiums go unclaimed!

APIARY PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT 23

RULES:

1. All honey and beeswax must be the product of the beekeeper.
2. The exhibit must fulfill the requirements of the class in which it is exhibited.
3. All products must have been produced within the last year.
4. The judge may open and sample any exhibit.
5. Exhibitor may enter only one item per entry number.

<u>PREMIUMS</u>	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
	\$5.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	1.00

SECTION 2Honey

1. Comb honey to be judged on perfection in filling, capping uniformity, neatness and cleanliness.
2. Extracted honey to be judged on body, clarity and cleanliness.
3. Jars are to have labels.

ENTRY # DESCRIPTION & SIZE

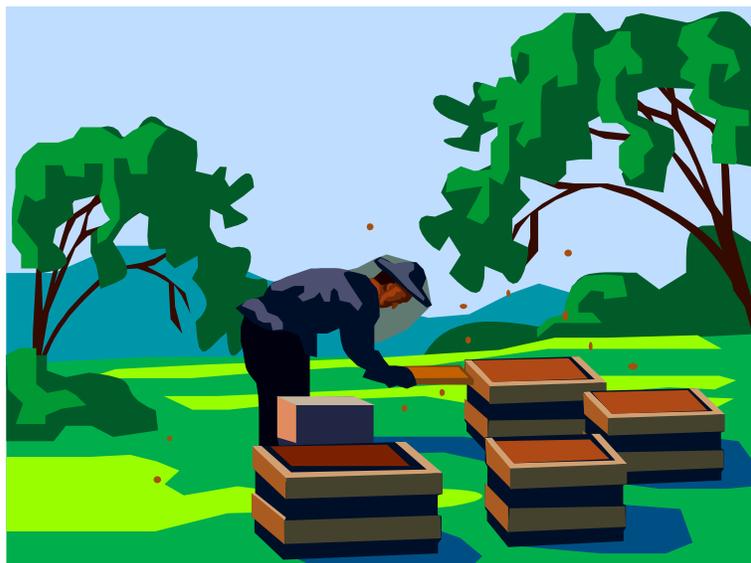
- 230200 - LIGHT COMB (3 sections)
- 230210 - DARK COMB (3 sections)
- 230220 - LIGHT EXTRACTED HONEY (3 one-pound jars)
- 230230 - MEDIUM EXTRACTED HONEY (3 one-pound jars)
- 230240 - DARK AMBER EXTRACTED HONEY (3 one-pound jars)
- 230250 - FINELY CRYSTALLIZED HONEY (3 one-pound jars)

SECTION 3..... Beeswax

Beeswax to be judged on color and purity

ENTRY # DESCRIPTION & SIZE

- 230300 - SINGLE PIECE PURE BEESWAX (not less than two pounds)
- 230310 - MOLDED OR DESIGNED (not less than one pound)
- 230320 - DIPPED CANDLES (one pair made of 100% pure beeswax)
- 230330 - MOLDED CANDLES (TAPERS) (one pair made of 100% pure beeswax)



PSBA 2011 Summer Picnic

Hosted by the York County Beekeepers

The PSBA Summer Picnic will be held Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23. On Friday, the choices will include a guided tour of either the battlefield at Gettysburg or the Capitol in Harrisburg, and a visit to David Papke's apiary in Stewartstown. In the evening there will be a barbecue and mead tasting at the lovely farm of Mary and Tom Chronister in Dover.

The picnic itself begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration at the [Lower Allen Community Park](#), 4075 Lisburn Road, Mechanicsburg, PA on Saturday, July 23. After the PSBA executive meeting, which begins at 10:00 a.m., activities will include honey tasting, an opportunities to try your hand at grafting and to get your bees tested for Nosema, a smoker lighting competition and hive tool toss championship, and a chance to 'show and tell' – show off some of the bee equipment you have devised, and tell your most amazing bee related story.

[York County Beekeepers](#), this year's picnic hosts, will be providing the meat course along with plates, cups, silverware and drinks for both Friday night and Saturday noon. They would like to invite attendees to bring a covered dish to share.

In the afternoon there will be a Honey Bee Simulation activity for children, devised and presented by Alice Hertzler.

And there will of course be door prizes, a silent auction, displays of bee equipment, lots of good food, and the amenities of Lower Allen Community Park at your disposal.

Most importantly there will be the chance to interact with beekeepers from all over the state, to share stories, learn from each other, and to make those friendships, which are both enduring and personally rewarding.

There is a preregistration form available on line or in your PSBA Newsletter.



LANCASTER COUNTY BEEKEEPERS SOCIETY

2011 Summer Picnic

Our club will be having a summer picnic on **Tuesday, August 16th**. Papa James, Fern, Peter, James & Christian Strickler have graciously invited us back again this year to have the picnic at their home at 1855 Stony Battery Road, just outside Mountville. You can begin arriving at 5:00 and we will be eating at 6:00. The club will supply paper products and plastic ware, James says they will supply ice water and punch. No business meeting, just bring a covered dish and enjoy an evening conversing with members and their families. There will be folding chairs available, but if you like you can bring your favorite lawn chair.

There is a pond and Papa James says the kids can bring their fishing gear, last year when the kids ran out of bait; they just dangled the hook and kept catching fish. There are plenty of shade trees and of course the pond, a beautiful location for a summer evening picnic.

RSVP to jim@gatheringplacemj.com or phone 653-5911. Summer schedules can be hectic. If you have last minute changes, we would still enjoy your company.

Other summer dates, picnics and gatherings.

Sat. July 30 .. The 8th Annual Bjorn/Oxbow Beekeeping Picnic. **Location: 180 Century Lane, Dillsburg, Pa. 17019** **Open to ALL!** Many activities from 9am till 5pm. Much more information at www.pennapic.org

Sat. Aug 20...National Honey Bee Day www.nationalhoneybeeday.org