



SEMBA NEWS

Volume 15 Number 2 Newsletter of the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers' Association
March/April 2005

Upcoming Events

Seven Ponds Bee Club Meeting:

Tues., February 22, 2005. (See below for details.)

Oakland Bee Club Meeting:

Tues., March 1, 2005. (See below for details.)

Tri-County Beekeeper's Association 27th Annual Beekeeping Workshop:

March 5, 2005 (Please see below for details.)

ANR Week Beekeeping Program:

March 11-12, 2005 (Please see below for details.)

Seven Ponds Bee Club Meeting:

Tues., March 22, 2005. (See below for details.)

67th Annual Beekeeper's Conference:

Sat., April 2, 2005. (See page 2 for details.)

Seven Ponds Bee Club Meeting:

Tues., April 26, 2005. (See below for details.)

TRI-COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION 27TH ANNUAL BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP

The Tri-county Beekeepers' Association of Northeastern Ohio will hold their 27th Annual Beekeeping Workshop on Saturday, March 5, 2005 at the Ohio State University, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC).

OARDC is located on State Route 83 south of US30 in Wooster, Ohio. Registration is \$30 per person. For more information contact Sherry Ferrell at 330-263-3684.

ANR WEEK BEEKEEPING PROGRAM MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY KELLOGG CENTER – MARCH 11-12, 2005

The Michigan Beekeepers' Association (MBA) invites you to attend their Beekeeping Symposium and Spring Meeting, held in the Kellogg Center, MSU on March 11 and 12. Whether you are a beginner or a commercial beekeeper, there will be something of interest and value to you. Beginner beekeeping workshops covering different topics will be offered on both Friday and Saturday. Major presentations will be made by professional apicultural specialists: Gard Otis, PhD, University of Guelph and Roger Hoopingarner, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, MSU and Zachary Huang, Ph.D., MSU.

HONEY MAKES KRAFT'S TOP FIVE LIST

A spokesperson for Kraft Foods says, "This is our favorite time of year in the Kraft Kitchen. It's when we compare notes to determine the hottest five foods of the year ahead. For 2005, we are pleased to announce that cilantro, chocolate, **honey**, nuts and beef made the cut. Each of these foods' distinctive flavors and endless preparation options inspired us to include them in this list."

Submitted by Dyanne Tracy

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SEVEN PONDS BEE CLUB MEETINGS

Seven Ponds Bee Club, an affiliate chapter of SEMBA meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Dates for the next three meetings are February 22 and March 22, and April 26. Meetings are held at the Seven Ponds Nature Center, 3854 Crawford Road near Dryden, MI. For more information, call Nancy Schliebe, 810-395-7379.

OAKLAND BEE CLUB MEETING

When: Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: E. L. Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Township, MI.

Program: "A Review of Current Beekeeping Research in the United States", Zachary Huang, Ph.D., Apiculturalist, Michigan State University.

Refreshments are welcome

APRIL DUES REMINDER

If your address label denotes an A05 your dues are now payable. Enclosed is a remittance form for your convenience.

67th ANNUAL BEEKEEPERS' CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, April 2, 2005
SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
VIS TA TEC CENTER
18600 HAGGERTY ROAD
(Between 6 & 7 Mile Rd.)
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You must enter through the VisTaTec Center entrance

You are invited to attend the 67th Annual SEMBA Bee School. This one-day conference is designed for all beekeepers as well as those who are considering keeping honeybees for the first time. Registration fee, at the door, is \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. No pre-registration is necessary.

Major speakers are Sharon Gibbons, National Honey Board and Dr. Zachary Huang, Michigan State University. Master Beekeepers and others who have kept bees for many years will conduct workshop sessions, featuring a variety of beekeeping topics.

Specially featured again is a series of beginning workshops, each dealing with a different aspect of beekeeping, to help the new beekeeper get started.

PROGRAM

- 8:00-9:00 a.m.** ----- Registration
9:00 a.m. ----- Beekeeping Video
9:20 a.m. ----Welcome by Roger Sutherland, Ron Forfinski
9:30 a.m. ----"The National Honey Board"
Ms. Sharon Gibbons beekeeper and member of the National Honey Board.
10:25 a.m.-- Introduction to concurrent sessions
10:30 a.m. -- **FIRST CONCURRENT SESSION**
1. Follow-up discussion with keynote speaker: Sharon Gibbons
2. Beginner's Seminar-----Session 1- Keith Lazar
3. Mead Making----- Ken Schram
4. "Bee Sting Allergic Reactions- Prevention, Symptoms, and Treatment" – Roger Sutherland
11:25 a.m. -- Michigan State Fair Regulations -- Dr. Dyanne Tracy
Noon --- SEMBA Potluck or lunch on your own at local restaurants
1:10 p.m. "Exocrine Glands and Pheromones"
Dr. Zachary Huang
2:15 p.m. Introduction to concurrent sessions
Keith Lazar, SEMBA First Vice President
2:20 p.m. **SECOND CONCURRENT SESSION**
1. Follow-up discussion with keynote speaker
Dr. Zachary Huang

2. Beginner's Seminar---Session II
Ed Nowak (Master Beekeeper)
3. National Honey Board Workshop
Sharon Gibbons
4. How to Make Creamed Honey
Judy Schmaltz

3:15 p.m. THIRD CONCURRENT SESSION

1. Beginner's Seminar----Session III
Ron Forfinski, Win Harless
2. Wax From Frame to Candle-----Larry Yates
3. Beekeeping Mistakes----- Bill Sirr
4. Making Your Own Equipment
Fritz Sanders (Master Beekeeper)

4:10 p.m. CONCLUDING SESSION

Questions and Answers and Hive Raffle Award

SPECIAL FEATURES OF CONFERENCE

DOOR PRIZES

All bee-school attendees will receive a door-prize ticket when they register.

BEE HIVE-PACKAGE BEE RAFFLE

A complete hive, donated by Dadant & Sons of Albion, Michigan, and a three-pound package of bees supplied by SEMBA will be raffled. Tickets for the raffle, at \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, may be purchased at the bee school.

POTLUCK LUNCH INFORMATION

A potluck lunch will be held at noon. If you wish to participate, bring a food item (with serving utensils), which will serve six to eight persons. Also bring your own table service including plates, silverware, and cups. SEMBA will provide beverages. Please label any utensils that you bring with your name so that they can be easily identified.

BEEKEEPING SALES, DISPLAYS AND CRAFTS

If you have displays or crafts that you wish to display or sell, we encourage you to bring them. Please call Roger Sutherland, 734-668-8568, to reserve table space (no charge). Dadant & Sons will have a beekeeping supply sales table.

SILENT AUCTION

Any beekeeping-related item may be placed in the Silent Auction. Bidding takes place throughout the day during the bee school. You may keep the profits or you may consider sharing the proceeds with SEMBA to benefit the association.

BEEKEEPING CLASS

The hands-on beekeeping class, initiated in 1997 by Master Beekeeper Ed Nowak, will be offered again by him this year. In preparation for this class, participants are encouraged to attend the three beginner's seminar workshops conducted during the Beekeepers' Conference at Schoolcraft College on April 2, 2005. Details will be available at the conference or you can contact Ed Nowak at 734-422-0508, epnowak@earthlink.net The complete syllabus is available online at <http://www.sembabees.org>

MICHIGAN STATE FAIR UPDATE

In the last SEMBA Newsletter, proposed changes for the State Fair honey/beeswax competition were announced. The major change is the fact that SEMBA will no longer be able to enter show items as a group and that all entries must be made by individuals.

Rod Jordan, head of the Michigan State Fair Agriculture Section, suggested that a SEMBA committee should review all exhibit classes, premiums and score-card requirements and submit those changes by February 1st for inclusion in the 2005 Michigan State Fair book.

A SEMBA committee consisting of Blanche Barber, Joyce and Dan Guthrie, Dick Miller, Bill Sirr, Mary and Roger Sutherland and Dyanne Tracy met on December 29, 2005 to review the apiary exhibit classification and judging criteria for all honey/beeswax entries. Changes in premium amounts, elimination and consolidation of classes and judging criteria were proposed and agreed upon. Dyanne Tracy volunteered to compile the proposed changes; Bill Sirr and Dick Miller were appointed to submit the changes to Rod Jordan.

A workshop featuring honey/beeswax competition for the state fair will be presented by Dyanne Tracy at the SEMBA Beekeepers' Conference on April 2nd.

Significant changes in the organization of the Michigan State Fair were made recently by passage of Michigan Senate Bill 1130, signed into law by the Governor. The January 15, 2005 *Michigan Farm News* reported that this Senate Bill also addressed the immediate need of getting the exhibitor premiums paid for the 2004 fair season by authorizing \$625,000 in additional spending of monies that were earned by the state fair this past year. SEMBA received money for premiums on December 23, 2004 and all SEMBA members who entered items in the fair were paid.

Some of the changes in the Senate Bill 1130 are:

- (1) A new authority board replaces the existing state exposition and Fairgrounds Council.
- (2) The funding of the fair will now be under the Michigan Department of Management and Budget instead of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.
- (3) The authority board would consist of 11 members, appointed by the Governor. Of the 11 there would be three for agriculture, one for tourism, two for the general public, one for organized labor, one for the business community and one for county fairs.
- (4) The Governor will appoint the state fair manager.

HONEY HOUSE REGULATION UPDATE

For over a year, representatives of the Michigan Beekeepers' Association (MBA) and the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers' Association (SEMBA) have been working cooperatively with members of the

Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) Food and Dairy Division. The goal was to clarify and possibly modify the Michigan Food Law of 2000 as it relates to the inspection and licensing of honey food-processing facilities (honey houses).

Michigan beekeepers sought to gain an exemption from inspection and licensing for hobby beekeepers extracting and processing small quantities of honey. Another goal was to prepare a set of guidelines to be used by food inspectors in the licensing of honey houses in Michigan.

After numerous meetings and discussions, SEMBA and MBA feel an agreement has been reached that would satisfy the goals stated above. MBA and SEMBA will be reviewing the regulations and guidelines for a formal endorsement.

Copies of these regulations will be made available to all SEMBA and MBA members when the endorsement process is finalized.

MBA and SEMBA also proposed the development of a booklet that would outline the honey-house regulations and guidelines. Additional information, focusing on beekeeping for the new beekeeper in Michigan, will be included.

Presently Mary and Roger Sutherland have completed the first draft of a booklet that includes the following topics:

- ~ Why become a beekeeper?
- ~ What to do before starting a colony.
- ~ Locating your colonies in Michigan – ordinances and other concerns.
- ~ Evaluating your nectar forage area.
- ~ Determining a bee-sting allergic reaction.
- ~ Obtaining bees in Michigan.
- ~ Rules and regulations of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management.
- ~ Monthly manipulations of colonies in Michigan.
- ~ Honey harvest in Michigan
- ~ Honey House regulations by the MDA Food and Dairy Division.
- ~ Labeling and selling Organic Honey in Michigan
- ~ Appendices.

Review of this booklet is being made by several Michigan beekeepers and hopefully a completed version will be available by mid 2005.

DADANT AND SONS HAS MOVED

On December 13, 2004 the Pottsville branch of Dadant and Sons was closed. Now the Michigan branch of Dadant is located in Albion, Michigan under the management of Chris Barnes. The new address and phone numbers for the Albion location are:

Dadant and Sons
1009 Industrial Ave.
Albion, MI 49224
Phone: Toll free 877-932-3268
or 517-629-2860

RAY TOWNSHIP – AERIAL SPRAYING

The Ray Township Board is expected to approve spending \$800.00 for aerial spraying in the spring to suppress a gypsy moth infestation. If you have bees in that township you may want to know just where the spraying will be. You may need to move your bees for their protection.

~ Bill Sirr

SEMBA Bargain Corner

For Sale:

- Package bees from Georgia scheduled to arrive in Roseville, MI April 2005. If interested, **call Jerry Dunbar, 586-770-9953 or e-mail geraldunbar@hotmail.com**
- For sale: Dadant plastic uncapping tub comp. pd \$85.95 plus shipping. Selling for \$70.00. **Contact Bill Jaddatz, 734-753-4353.**
- Package bees from Wilbanks Apiary to be picked up in Georgia on April 18, 2005. To order, **call Blanche Barber, 248-634-7017.**
- Package bees, 2 lb.-\$51, and 3 lb.- \$58. Orders for 20 or more packages, paid in advance, \$43 for 2 lb, \$50 for 3 lb. Scheduled delivery for April 5, 23 and May 6. **Contact Shaun Shubel, 517-548-5176.**
- New deep and medium supers, frames, bottom boards, inner/outer covers, new 1 and 5 gal. buckets with lids. **Call Keith Lazar, H 248-626-2483, P 248-815-5522.**
- New deeps, shallows, frames, bottom boards, covers, all hive parts. **Call Robert Hollis, H. 810-798-8084, cell 810-338-1523.**

Services:

- Honey bee removal service. **Call Jeff Brown, 734-422-0296.**
- New Hudson location available for colony placement. **Call Deanna Wilson, 248-437-0796.**

Wanted:

- Wanted: Power extractor and de-capper. **Contact Bill Andre, by phone 248-651-0522 or by e-mail, Wandre225836@comcast.net.**
- Wanted: used extractor. **Call Ted Hysen, 734-878-6792.**

Note: ads in the Bargain Corner are free to SEMBA members. To place an ad, contact Susanne at souxsieq2@msn.com, or phone 248-476-4991 or Roger Sutherland rsuther@hotmail.com.

Southeastern Michigan
Beekeepers' Association
Organized April 1, 1934



Oakland Beekeepers' Club



Schoolcraft Beekeepers' Club



SEMBA Membership
5488 Warren Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9425