



# SWEET STUFF

NIBA NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2019

## THE BEE PULPIT

Dave Hill

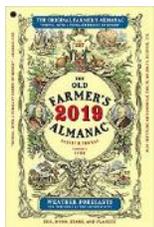
Happy Groundhog Day!!

First there was the polar vortex where we experienced near record low temperatures and then a warm-up of almost 70 degrees over the past weekend. That has to be a shock to our bees and fellow humans alike. Marianne and I went to the Woodstock Square for the annual prognostication and were happy that "Woodstock Willie" did not see his shadow.



This means that our beloved groundhog feels that we will have an early spring. I sure hope he is right because for the last week or so I found very few folks with an optimistic outlook for an early spring.

"The Old Farmer's Almanac" told us that winter would be warmer and wetter than normal with near-normal snowfall.



The average temperatures indicated in the almanac are much higher than we seem to be experiencing. I hope the seven bucks I spent will turn out

to be a good investment. Not looking like it yet in 2019.

We have been getting a few reports from NIBA members on how their bees are doing. I'd say there are mixed reviews and experiences. Temperatures did move up and there was evidence of flight. A few members have indicated losses already but some are seeing signs of life in their hives. We will see how February and March pan out with hopes that we don't see anything near the temperatures we saw last week. As it is during every winter, we await spring with eager anticipation!

The club bee package and nuc program is now official. Order forms are included in the newsletter and available on the NIBA website. Please remember that you must be a member of the club to order bees. 2019 membership applications are also being taken. Those can be mailed in or brought to one of our regular meetings.

Our March meeting will feature our annual vendor day. Local suppliers of

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Friday, February 8, 7pm**  
McHenry County Farm Bureau  
1102 McConnell Rd  
Woodstock, IL

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Friday, March 8, 7pm**  
McHenry County Farm Bureau  
1102 McConnell Rd  
Woodstock, IL

**McBEES FRIDAY**  
**Friday, February 15, 7pm**  
McDonald's  
250 S Eastwood Dr (Route 47)  
Woodstock, IL

**PACKAGE/NUC BEE ORDERS DUE**  
**Friday, March 15**  
NIBA  
517 Northlake Rd  
Lakemoore, IL 60051

**GARDENFEST**  
**Saturday, April 6, 7:30am - 4pm**  
Luecht Conference Center  
McHenry County College  
Crystal Lake, IL

beekeeping supplies will be in attendance. Sue Dietz of Harvard Eggs, Feed, and Produce, Warren Spencer of Spencer Apiary Supplies, and Tom Montavon of BL Plastic Containers will be bringing their wares for club members to peruse.

We are still looking for one or two members to serve as Directors for the club. If you have an interest please let me know by phone (815) 341-8843

or by e-mail at [daveahill95@gmail.com](mailto:daveahill95@gmail.com).

Did You Know? Honey bees' antennae detect sound and vibration and give them an amazing sense of smell, allowing them to detect



specific forage sources up to a mile away. They also use their antennae like cat's whiskers, as a physical gauge of space (an invaluable trait critical to building comb and doing other tasks of building within the colony and hive).

The next club meeting will be Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the McHenry County Farm

Bureau building in Woodstock. Tim Wilbanks will be our guest speaker. He is a fifth-generation beekeeper and is the club's supplier of packages and nucs. He is an interesting and informative speaker. You won't want to miss his presentation.

Hope to see you there!

### NO BAKE CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER ENERGY BITES



YIELD: Makes 15 servings, each serving is 2 bites

#### INGREDIENTS

1/2 cup - peanuts, finely chopped  
 1 1/2 cup - old fashioned Quaker oats, divided  
 1/3 cup - flax seeds  
 1/2 cup - almond flour  
 3 T - unsweetened cocoa  
 2 T - peanut butter powder  
 2/3 cup - mini chocolate chips, divided  
 1/2 cup - peanut butter  
 1/3 cup + 1 T - honey  
 2 T - almond or soy milk

#### DIRECTIONS

Line a sheet pan with parchment or wax paper. Place peanuts in a small bowl, set aside. In a food processor, combine 1 cup of the oats, flax seed, almond flour, cocoa, peanut butter powder and 1/3 cup of the chocolate chips. Pulse several times until it resembles coarse meal. Add the peanut butter, honey and almond milk to the oat mixture and process until the mixture comes together. Transfer the oat mixture to a large bowl and mix in the remaining oats and chocolate chips, your hands work best for this! Scoop out 1" clusters of the mixture and roll into a ball with your hands. Then dip the bites in the finely chopped peanuts. Place each ball on the sheet pan and chill in the refrigerator.

### HONEY COUGH SYRUP



#### INGREDIENTS

Zest of 2 lemons (approx. 1 1/2 T)  
 1/4 cup - ginger, peeled, sliced, or 1/2 tsp. of ground ginger  
 1 cup - water  
 1 cup - honey  
 1/2 cup - lemon juice

#### DIRECTIONS

In a small saucepan, combine lemon zest, sliced ginger and 1 cup of water. Bring mixture to a boil, simmer for 5 minutes, then strain through into a heat-proof measuring cup.

Rinse the saucepan out and pour in 1 cup of honey. On low heat, warm the honey, but do not allow it to boil. Add the strained lemon ginger water and the lemon juice. Stir the mixture until it combines to form a thick syrup.

Pour into a clean jar with a lid.

Note: This can be refrigerated for up to 2 months. For children ages 1 to 5, use 1/2 to 1 tsp. every 2 hours. For children ages 5 to 12, use 1 to 2 tsp. every 2 hours. For children 12 and older and adults, use 1 to 2 T every 4 hours.\*

\* Remember, honey is recommended for children after the age of one.

*Recipe courtesy of Nurse Practitioner Barbara Dehn, RN, MS, NP.*

## CLUB EVENTS

Tom Allen



We started out the new year by helping Blain's Farm and Fleet with their Bee Days event on January 19<sup>th</sup>. They asked us to help them at the Woodstock store from 9-11, and the Elgin and Sycamore stores from 1-3. We received about 8 inches of snow overnight, so the 9 NIBA volunteers outnumbered customers in the Woodstock store for most of the time. Customers were there for boots, shovels, or a snow blower. Try as we may, we couldn't get them to talk about bees. We had 4 volunteers at the Elgin store, and they talked

to several people about bees. Seems as the day went on, people had dug themselves out and headed to the store. I was a little late getting to the Sycamore store, due to the roads. Kevin, a store employee who used to be a beekeeper was already talking to a dozen or more people there. There was a family with a couple of young boys that were excited to keep bees, so that was nice. I passed out some club membership forms along with information on Larry's upcoming classes. All in all, a good opportunity to get out into the community.



The Bartlett Park District asked us to participate in their Earth Day event on **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. Jerry Gudauskas did this for us last year, and everyone loved him. They requested Jerry again this year, if he's available (which he is). If one or two more people would like to help at this event, please contact me.

Gardenfest will be on **Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, and will be held at McHenry County College. I'll be sending out a Signup Genius event for this soon.

I will be overseeing a new Events Committee to handle every aspect of coordinating Club events, rather than having one person be the Events Coordinator. This should make things easier, "Many hands make light work." If you are interested in being on this committee, please let me know. [tallen122@yahoo.com](mailto:tallen122@yahoo.com) (815) 861-1237



## MEMBER DONATIONS - Thank you for your support!

**Thank You** to all those who brought refreshments for the January meeting. Your generous donations help foster camaraderie within the group and make the meetings even more enjoyable. Your support is truly appreciated.

[I was remiss in recording all of your names—Donna is so much better at this than I am. 😊 Marianne]

An additional huge **Thank You** to these members who made raffle donations:

- \*Sue Dietz - Harvard Eggs, Feed, & Produce
- \*Frank Moriarty

A general thanks to **Harvard Eggs, Feed, & Produce, Spencer's Apiary Specialties, and BL Plastic Containers** for their generous and continued support. When you have some beekeeping needs, please consider supporting these member-vendors as they support us.

*Like the bees we study, we accomplish more together.*

John Leibinger

Jerry Gudauskas attended the American Beekeeping Federation meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, January 8-12, 2019. He shares some of his experiences below.



On Jan 11, I helped Sara Red-Laird with the Kids and Bees program. We setup 20 learning/activity stations. There were 610 participating; 343 kids, the rest were teachers and parents.



I did a presentation on honey bees to the Southside and Friends 4 H club in Umatilla, FL, on Jan 24. There were 18 kids and 8 adults there. Fran Shanaver is their Leader.



Tom Montavon got first place on White Extracted honey at the American Bee Federation Convention.



This was the Illinois group at the American Bee Federation Convention at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. It will be held in Schaumburg next January. NIBA member Tim May is the President.

## ANYONE SUFFERING FROM BEEKEEPING WITHDRAWAL?

John Leibinger

Here are a few resources that you may want to explore for your entertainment and education:

### **Podcasts**

Beekeeper's Corner podcast <http://www.bkcorner.org>

The Kiwimana Buzz <https://kiwimana.co.nz/category/podcast/>

HiveTalk with David and Jon <https://www.talkshoe.com/show/hive-talk-with-david-and-jon>

The Beehive Jive <http://thebeehivejive.com/>

The treatment free beekeeping podcast <https://tfb.podbean.com/>

The Honest Bee <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/the-honest-bee/id1220294018?mt=2>

Beekeeping Short and Sweet <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/beekeeping-short-and-sweet/id1369094363?mt=2>

Beekeeping Today <http://beekeepingtodaypodcast.com/>

### **Recordings of Sessions of past ABF Conferences available on the Internet :**

<http://abfconference.com/2018-session-recordings-handouts>

<http://abfconference.com/session-recordings-handouts-2017>

<http://abfconference.com/session-recordings-handouts-2016>

### **Several videos on Varroa by Meghan Milbrath**

Why did my bees die? [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWtSbVXqO\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWtSbVXqO_Y)

Understanding Varroa Risk <https://pollinators.msu.edu/keep-bees-alive/understanding-varroa-risk/>

Making a Plan for the Varroa Mite <https://pollinators.msu.edu/keep-bees-alive/making-a-plan-for-the-varroa-mite/>

### **Other Favorites**

A Canadian Beekeeper's Blog

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYDBTwxKg92H0cl3vIBQ0XOYbPQua5PzL>

University of Guelph Honey Bee Research Center Videos

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/honeybee/videos.shtml>

Minnesota Bee Lab Videos <https://www.beelab.umn.edu/resources-beekeepers/videos>

## CHORES OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

John Leibinger

### ***What's happening in the hive?***

Overwintering colonies will start raising brood for the coming year. Later in the month, *if we are blessed with some warmer weather*, some early pollen from willows and maples may be available for early foragers. This fresh pollen along with pollen and bee bread stored in combs will allow for some early feeding of brood. The brood will require warmth so the bees will be consuming more honey (carbohydrates) for the energy they will require to produce the needed heat.

### ***For Beekeepers with live overwintering colonies, it is time to:***

**Monitor the food stores available to your colonies.** Hefting the back of the hive may give you an idea of the amount of stores still available. A peek inside on a warm day may also provide insight. A sign that the bees may be in need of feed is their location in the hive. If they have worked their way to the top box, just under the inner cover, they may have consumed all the honey in their pathway and may need assistance. Check for honey on frames adjacent to the outer edges of the cluster. You can do this visually or you can carefully run your hive tool down this seam scraping against the adjacent comb. If the hive tool comes out with honey on it, there is food the bees should be able to access. If not, supplement with sugar-based feed, e.g. dry sugar, sugar bricks, winter patties, fondant, candy board, etc., to help them through the remaining winter. Providing pollen or pollen patties will provide needed protein for brood development.

**Check for activity at the hive on warmer days.** Have they been taking cleansing flights? Don't be alarmed at seeing some dead bees on the snow outside the hive. These are bees that likely left the hive for a cleansing flight and were too weak (or they chose a day that was a bit too cold for them) to make it back. This is not necessarily a bad sign. It is a sign that there are likely live bees inside still. If your entrance is plugged up with dead bees, scrape them out to clear the opening so that others can get out for cleansing flights (put back reducers and mouse guards afterwards). Though you may scrape out a lot of dead, it doesn't necessarily mean the colony is dead. Someone pushed them to the front in an effort to clean out the hive, so there is/was life inside.

### ***For New Beekeepers just getting started this year:***

**Read, Study, and Learn....**Books, Periodicals, Classes, Club Meetings, Podcasts, Internet videos (yes, that also means YouTube videos..they range from poor to great....reading, attending classes and club meetings, and asking questions will help you learn which are good and which are not). All of these will help.

**Get a Mentor from the Bee Club.** There are beekeepers interested in helping other beekeepers. The first step is to ask for help. Whoa!...that sounds like a line from a therapist's guide book! LOL

**Order your equipment, tools, and protective clothing.**Try to start with a minimum of two hives. It allows for comparisons. Understanding what 'Normal' behavior is in a colony of bees is an important skill to acquire. Multiple colonies allow you to learn this faster. Multiple colonies also allow you to share resources (potentially very important) between colonies if needed....more on this as the year progresses.

**Order your Bees.** Start with a minimum of two hives...see above. Don't get hung up on bee race, i.e., Italian, Carniolan, Buckfast, etc., they are likely mutts anyway (forgive the sarcasm). Packages or nucs(nucleus colonies)? There are advantages and disadvantages to each. Ask questions and listen to the reasoning provided. For new beekeepers, a nuc provides you with some drawn comb which greatly enhances early spring survival. Keep in mind, whomever you ask will have a bias, it is just an opinion ....here is mine: since you should start with multiple colonies, get at one of each and learn something. You will get to experience installing both types. You will get to see the development of each type. If you are only getting one, it should be a nuc with the drawn comb. It will allow for the greatest chance of success and higher likelihood of getting a first year honey crop. Next year you can pass on your experience and wisdom to the next 'Newbee'.

**Assemble and paint your equipment.** It's fun and can be creative....on the painting side...please assemble equipment per instructions. The bees will appreciate it.

**Start thinking about the location of your apiary.**

### ***For Beekeepers with dead overwintered colonies, it is time to:***

**Breakdown the dead-outs.** Pick a pleasant day and start the cleanup process...Doing it early, before much warmth and moisture occurs, will make an unpleasant job less unpleasant and much less smelly.

Don't just clean things up. See if you can determine what caused the problem. There is a high likelihood of a mite-related problem if you did not rigorously pursue mite load reduction in a timely fashion last year. Look for signs. Take some pictures at several different angles. Consider bringing a brood frame or two to the next club meeting and have a group-think forensic survey of the frame(s). We may or may not learn something, but we will find it interesting, I'm sure.

## ***For All Beekeepers, it is time to:***

### **Take an inventory.**

#### ***A) Equipment/Supplies inventory***

Make a list of your equipment, tools, and supplies. Do you need to replace frames or foundation (a honeycomb replacement program should be part of your annual routine)? Is your equipment in good order? Is your wooden-ware due for a paint job? Are your tools in good shape? How about your protective clothing? How about supplies, e.g., feed/nutrition supplements, pest/parasite controls, etc. Is your current equipment sufficient to help you achieve your goals for this year (see *B.* below)?

#### ***B) Goals inventory – Very Important***

What do you want to accomplish this year in beekeeping? You may have multiple goals. What are your priorities of these goals? Here are some thoughts:

- Do better than the state average honey yield per colony. More simply, increase my honey yield over last year.
- Successfully overwinter my bees.
- Move closer to achieving sustainable beekeeping (not having to buy new bees every year).
- Learn to create and use nucleus colonies to overwinter more colonies and increase the number of colonies in my apiary.
- Learn to raise my own queens.
- Learn to produce comb honey, e.g., Ross Rounds, cut comb honey, chunk honey, section boxes.
- Learn to produce Creamed Honey.
- Learn to make Mead.
- Learn how to process and use beeswax. Make candles, lip balms, hand creams, soaps.
- Are you interested in encaustic painting? Are you interested in creating wax art?

Do you need to re-evaluate your equipment to be sure you have what you need to achieve your goals (see *A.* above)?

If you have some of these interests, raise the issue at a club meeting and propose having a sub-group session to explore the subject.

#### ***C. Bee Inventory***

-How many colonies do you want to start this year with? How many do you have that will overwinter? Are you sure?? A live hive in early February is a **hopefully** live hive in April....we still have a couple tough months to go....don't be caught bee-less in April.

-Order as early as possible to reserve your bees. Packages or Nucs? Decisions, decisions.....

I'll leave you with this:

**It is February. Get ahead of your season.  
Read, Study, Learn. Now is the time!**

***Like the bees we study, we accomplish more together.***

John Leibinger



## Upcoming Beekeeping Event at Garfield Park Conservatory



### 10th Annual Bee Forum: *Reading the Combs—Experiencing the World Through the Perspective of the Bees*

Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance hosts an annual Bee Forum to join local beekeepers and beekeeping experts to discuss relevant topics in the world of beekeeping, in addition to building community with Chicagoland beekeepers. GPCA is excited to have Randy Oliver present on the topic of hive inspections. Randy's presentation "*Reading the Combs—Experiencing the World Through the Perspective of the Bees*" will focus on interpreting what bees are telling us as we inspect the hives and help us determine how to transition from having bees to keeping bees to managing bees.

To help build community and keep the conversation going, we have a shared potluck lunch.

#### **Presenter Bio:**

Randy Oliver owns and operates a small commercial beekeeping enterprise in the foothills of Grass Valley in Northern California. He and his two sons manage about 1,500 colonies for migratory pollination and produce queens, nucs, and honey. He has over 50 years of practical beekeeping experience, plus holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biological Sciences. Randy researches, analyzes, and digests beekeeping information from all over the world in order to not only broaden his own depth of understanding and knowledge, but to develop practical solutions to many of today's beekeeping problems, which he then shares with other beekeepers through his various articles in bee magazines, his speaking engagements worldwide, and on his website: [www.ScientificBeekeeping.com](http://www.ScientificBeekeeping.com)

**Sunday, March 31, 2019 from 10am-4pm**

Fee: **\$45**

Garfield Park Conservatory  
300 North Central Park Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60624  
Phone: 312-746-5100

For more information and to register, visit <https://garfieldconservatory.org/event/10th-annual-bee-forum/>

# NIBA 2019 PACKAGED BEE ORDER FORM

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15, 2019**



\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*Required fields

Please read and initial below –checks will be returned if not initialed:

*The undersigned acknowledges that NIBA will transport bee packages from the supplier in Wisconsin to various drop-off points in Illinois only for the convenience of the undersigned. The undersigned agrees that NIBA is not responsible for any damage to the bees or cages during the transport and distribution of the same. The undersigned understands that he/she remains at all times free to order and pick-up bees from alternate suppliers of their choice.*

**I agree with the above statement regarding NIBA’s Packaged Bee delivery: \_\_\_\_\_ INITIAL HERE**

NIBA is pleased to offer this group bee order as one of the benefits of membership. Therefore, your 2019 NIBA dues must be paid prior to your order being processed. Mail your membership forms to the designated address. We will return orders received from nonmembers. We will order 250 packages of bees and 100 nucleus hives(nucs).

Package Prices: \$125.00 each. 5-frame Nuc Price: \$150 each. **NO CASH PLEASE!!!** Each package contains approximately 3 pounds of bees and a queen.

**Order Information:**

My package order preference is given below. I understand that actual delivery timing is determined by many factors including weather, and producer variability.

3lb Package Pick Up (Targeting mid April) \_\_\_\_\_ x\$125 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nucleus Hive (Targeting mid to late April) \_\_\_\_\_ x\$150 = \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Total Due</b>   
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Make checks payable to Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association.

My queen preference is \_\_\_\_\_ Italian \_\_\_\_\_ Carniolan \_\_\_\_\_ Buckfast \_\_\_\_\_ Russian/Italian Hybrid.

Queen selection provides club direction only. The club will receive queens as provided by producers.

**I understand queens are available on a first come first serve basis and I may not receive the queen of my preference indicated above: \_\_\_\_\_ INITIAL HERE.** We will do our best to accommodate all requests, but queen availability is determined by package suppliers. You may mix and match your queens.

The exact date and time for delivery & pickup will be communicated via the email address above. If you do not have email, you will be contacted at the phone number you provided above.

Orders will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis until the 350 packages are sold.

Complete and mail order form and **checks payable** to: **NIBA** 517 Northlake Road, Lakemoor, IL 60051

Contact Ralph Brindise at [rbrindise@att.net](mailto:rbrindise@att.net) with any questions.

\_\_\_\_\_ do not write below this line \_\_\_\_\_

Bees received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Print \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## ECHOES OF OUR BEEKEEPING FOREFATHERS

Larry Kregel

When we step into the beeyard, we are taking a step into the past... a past of which we are not often aware.

We hear about a number of beekeeping's founding fathers. Langstroth, of course. The legends of A. I. Root and C. P. Dadant, who both founded companies that have lasted 150 years. But there are many important figures in beekeeping history that are getting lost. Many are ones who contrived a beekeeping apparatus that we continue to use long after they are gone. Gadgets that at one time carried the name of the inventor, but have been given a modern generic name. I hate to see the recognition of these individuals lost.

The Porter Bee escape for clearing supers became a bee escape. The Snelgrove board has become a double screen. The Cloake board is now marketed as the "floor without a floor." And the Miller technique for combining honey bee colonies is now referred to as the newspaper technique. It is too bad.

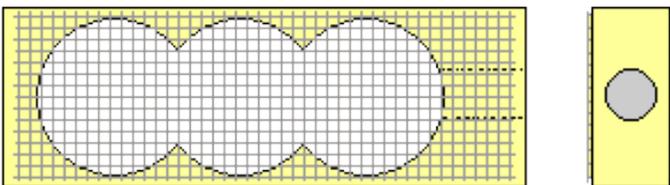
One more obscure invention is the Benton queen cage. Frank Benton was an important figure in 1900 beekeeping. He developed his queen cage to ship queens of a number of subspecies of *apis mellifera* to the US during his world travels as a representative of the USDA. For nearly 100 years his three-hole, bass wood queen cage was state of the art. It was only

recently largely replaced by the JZ BZ plastic queen cage. Most would agree it is a poor replacement... though cheaper.

The story of Frank Benton is an intriguing one of dedication to apiculture. After receiving a college education, he spent two years as a teacher in Tennessee. He then decided he preferred colonies of stinging insects to a classroom of children. He accepted a job with the USDA.

As part of this job, Benton traveled for years at a time to places like Cypress, Beirut, Palestine, Syria, Germany, and Austria. He was assigned to find the bee stock that would enhance the American bee yards. Benton sent "holy land bees" from Palestine, carniolan queens from Carniola in southern Austria, and Caucasian races of bees from the Caucasus in the southeastern part of Russia. (Benton had to hide in a monastery for a time during the Russian revolution.) Ultimately he found himself hunting bees in India and Java where he contracted "jungle fever", a disease that would later cost him his life.

Wow! My bee adventures are nothing like Frank Benton's. So with respect to our beekeeping ancestor, Frank Benton, here is his queen cage. I will continue to call it the "Benton Queen Cage." He deserves the credit.



Should you wish to read one of the two books written by Frank - *The honey bee: a manual of instruction in apiculture* (1899) - it is available online from the Cornell Bee Library –

<https://digital.library.cornell.edu/catalog/hivebees5707230>.



PROF. FRANK BENTON.

## MCBEE'S FRIDAYS

### MEETING AT McDONALD'S

Let's gather to chat. No agenda, just time for us to get together. Time to get to know our fellow beekeepers. Time to compare notes. Time to ask questions.

Interested? Just show up. No need for reservations.

Third Friday of the Month – **February 15, 7 pm**

McDonald's, 250 S Eastwood Dr (Route 47), Woodstock





Date Rec	_____	Amount	_____
Check #	_____	Cash	_____
Entered	_____	Member #	_____
Office Use only			

Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association - (NIBA)  
 2019 Application for Membership  
 Affiliated with the Illinois State Beekeepers Association (ISBA)

Check One:  Renewal Membership  New Membership

Check One:  Individual Membership - \$20  Family membership - \$30

**Please add \$5.00 after February 28, 2019 for renewal membership**  
 (Includes Single Membership in the Illinois State Beekeepers Association  
 Additional ISBA memberships, \$10 each)

The NIBA membership expires December 31

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (if family membership, include all emails. Newsletter will be sent to all emails):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Add \$5.00 for handling if you would like a paper copy of the newsletter mailed.

I would like to order a NIBA name tag(s) \$10 each.  
 Name tag(s) should read: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please Complete The Following:

I have been a NIBA Member since \_\_\_\_\_ (year). I plan to have \_\_\_\_\_ colonies/hives this season.

I have been a Beekeeper for about \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Check all that apply:  I sell Honey  Willing to Coach/Mentor  Swarm Catcher  
 Willing to remove Bees from buildings

Personal Skills I Would Be Willing to Donate to NIBA (i.e. Beekeeping Experience, Accounting, Webmaster, Event Planning, Community Education, Carpentry, Legal, Business Management, Retail Knowledge, Any Other, etc.)  
 Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Print and complete this form. Mail it with a check payable to Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association to:  
 NIBA Membership, c/o Ralph Brindise, 517 Northlake Road, Lakemoor, IL 60051



**June 7 and 8, 2019**  
Summer Meeting of the  
**Illinois State Beekeepers Association**  
Crystal Lake, Illinois

More information to be published in future

Friday—Join your fellow ISBA members in the **members-only** short courses. Course leaders will include Keith Delaplane from the University of Georgia, the acclaimed ABJ columnist Jerry Hayes, and Karen and Jim Belli discussing winning techniques for showing honey. More courses TBA.



Short courses—a benefit of membership - will be limited in size. First come, first serve.

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Sit in on an ISBA Board meeting following the Friday short courses. Association officers will be available to talk with members.

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On Friday evening we will host a gathering of mead makers. Experienced vintners and aspiring mead makers are all invited.

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Saturday will be a day of presentations and fellowship. There will be an opportunity to visit commercial exhibits and catered lunches can be ordered.

*Put this gathering on your calendar. Join your fellow  
ISBA members. Inspiration and information.*

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## 2019 NIBA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President – Dave Hill  
daveahill95@gmail.com  
Vice President – Tom Allen  
tallen122@yahoo.com  
Treasurer – Ralph Brindise  
rbrindise@att.net  
Secretary – Angie Garrod  
angiegarrod@gmail.com  
Director – Marianne Hill  
mariannehill1213@gmail.com  
Director – John Leibinger  
jleibinger@aol.com  
Director –  
  
Program Chair – Larry Kregel  
Webmaster – Terri Reeves  
Newsletter Editor – Marianne Hill  
Bee Package Coordinator – Joe Scherb  
Club Extractor Coordinator – Randy Mead  
Club Raffle Coordinator – John Leibinger

### Membership Has Its Perks!

- By Randy Mead

Did you know that your membership in NIBA includes the opportunity to rent a club honey extractor? We have two to choose from. Rental is \$10 for a 3 day rental. \$20 (\$10 for rental and \$10 deposit) is due when you pick up the extractor.

Schedule a pick up time, extract your honey and return the equipment in 3 days. The \$10 deposit will be returned if the extractor is clean.

To reserve a date, contact Randy at [rmeadtoys@gmail.com](mailto:rmeadtoys@gmail.com).

### Website and Newsletter Submissions

[www.nibainfo.org](http://www.nibainfo.org) – The Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association website. A wealth of information is available. Contact board members via email, download the membership form, access copies of the newsletter. Terri is asking for your pictures, stories, etc. to have them highlighted on the web page! [reevestherese@att.net](mailto:reevestherese@att.net)

This is YOUR newsletter. Please feel free to contribute. Or let us know if you have any topics you'd like to see covered.  
[newsletter@nibainfo.org](mailto:newsletter@nibainfo.org)

### Are you on Facebook? So are we!

Search for Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association. It's a closed group, so you need to request to join—but we're happy to approve your request.

We're an active and knowledgeable group. We've had LOTS of pictures and videos of your hives! Share your experiences, ask your questions.

Get in on the conversation. Join the fun today!

**The queen marking color for  
2019 is GREEN.**