



Brown County Beekeepers Association

www.browncountybeekeepers.com

December 2019 NEWSLETTER

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please send your **renewal** to:

Brown County Beekeepers
Association:
PO Box 10371
Green Bay WI 54307-0371
(\$20.00 single, \$30.00 family)



Or you can give your payment
directly to

Tom Cashman, BCBA Treasurer, during meetings.

Meet our 2020 Officers:

Tom Cashman - Treasurer
Dave Elsen: President
Julie Mazzolini: VP
Sarah Mueller – Secretary



A BIG THANK YOU to Julianne Sanders!!

We appreciate all the work as our
BCBA Secretary during 2019
Well done Julianne!!



Kids suits purchased by BCBA

Due to the generous \$500 donation from the Schneider Foundation, we have purchased 6 suits to enable our interested youth and adults to have hands on experience with bees.

INTRODUCTION TO BEE KEEPING CLASS:

SCHEDULED: January 18, 2020 – A great way for members to further their education and PLEASE help us SPREAD THE WORD to others interested in beekeeping ... its A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT! Give the gift of BEES – or perhaps the gift of LEARNING about bees. Please share this link with family and friends
<https://browncountybeekeepers.com/2018/11/beekeeping-class-jan-2020/>

REMINDER!

NO DECEMBER MEETING

JANUARY MEETING – JANUARY 15, 2020

GREEN BAY Botanic Garden - 5:30 social 6:30 meeting

MOVIE: POLLINATORS – Club discount - \$5.00 off ticket price. (reimbursed by club)

Purchase your tickets by January 12, 2020 for the movie "THE POLLINATORS". It will be shown at the Green Bay Marcus Bay Park Cinema on January 23, 2020.

Link to Ticket purchase:

<https://tickets.demand.film/event/9463?ref=ROVvNmOG>

Link to Trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpgxhNVSjqc>

Christmas Message from our President, Dave Elsen

As we enter the Christmas season, I want to pass along my appreciation to each of you and your part in the club's accomplishments in 2020.

I am thankful for the wonderful leadership team of Julie Mazzolini, Tom Cashman and Julianne Sanders whose hard work throughout the year was instrumental in turning many of our ideas into a reality. Additionally, their time and contributions in putting together each month's newsletter can't be understated.

Thank you, Carl Fisher, for your time and leadership on various activities throughout the year to include being the Club's webmaster and coordinating the Introduction to Beekeeping class.

Throughout the year club members Julie Mazzolini, Ron Melchert, Kate Schuette, Carl Fisher, Kaelyn Sumner, Sara Kowalski, Jim Arvey shared their knowledge by presenting a variety of topics to the club. Thank you for taking the time to prepare and share your experiences with the club.

We are fortunate to have members that volunteered over 500 hours of their time on club activities throughout the year. Without your participation the Club Picnic, Einstein Project, Garden Fair, Intro Class, Honey Tasting Event, Youth and Adult Education Sessions, Club Brochure, refreshments and other activities would not have been possible. Thanks for your contributions to help make the club a vibrant and fun group that strives to fulfill our mission.

The Club benefitted with financial and talent contributions from Jimmy Johns, Hansen Honey, Schneider Foundation, private donors and Brown County Graphics which helped the club throughout the year.

What energizes me the most is each of you and your commitment to be part of the Club. Your quest to learn, share questions, challenges, time and knowledge with members is what makes a successful club and I appreciate it.

I am excited about some ideas we are working on and can't wait to share them with the club in 2020. Hope each of you will join us!

I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Dave Elsen

President Brown County Beekeepers



What's Happening in the hive in December

The bees are clustered in the hive staying warm. They will only leave the hive to take cleansing flights on warm, sunny days. Be sure to check hives after storms for any damage and keep snow away from entrances. Prepare to order bees as needed for the spring. Review your lessons from the year begin to plan for spring 2020. Attend conferences, read magazines and books to keep up your learning

What to prepare for in January

The bees are in a tight cluster staying warm and consuming food. January is mostly a "hands off" month however its important to monitor hives to be sure upper and lower entrances are open and any damage to hives is repaired. On warmer days (45 degrees) you can open hives and take a quick peek in to assess the colony and check for food stores. If needed add dry sugar/candy boards to replenish. Do not remove frames or disturb the cluster.



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November 2019 Meeting Minutes

Minutes: Wednesday November 20, 2019. Green Bay Botanical Garden.

Attendance: Jon Bootz, Tom Cashman, David Doering, Thomas Eisenreich, Dave Elsen, Carl Fisher, Sara Kowalski, Paul Martzke, Molly Martzke, Sarah Mueller, Wayne Richardson, Sue Richardson, Julianne Sanders, Kaelyn Sumner, Detlef Weiler, Todd Witthuhn

Dave Elsen President called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

Welcome and Announcements

We welcomed new members and visitors.
David Wagner, Augie Linskens

Club Business:

- * Items to purchase
- * Motion made and carried to approve October Meeting Minutes
- * Motion made and carried to approve club financials.

New Business:

- * Club brochure- We have them available to hand out anytime to promote our club. It is good to have them available to hand out when we go to collect swarms.
- * Our request was approved to purchase bee suits for education and promoting pollinators!
- * The group filled out a form to show which items they would like to purchase for the club.
- * We currently have 89 members!
- * Motion taken to spend up to \$1000 on items that rank high on the survey taken of items to purchase. The motion was carried.
- * A motion was taken to make funds available to use as donations. The motion did not carry. It will be addressed at a future meeting.

Club Activities

- * The Farmory located at 815 Chicago Street in Green Bay, has asked the club to do an overview of beekeeping January 9 from 6:00-7:30. This is before our Intro to Beekeeping Class and will be a great way to promote our class as well as our club.
- * Carl Fisher talked about the updates to our Intro to Beekeeping Class.
- * Molly Martzke completed flyers/posters for us to use to promote our club. Thank you Molly! Nice work!
- * Kaelyn spoke briefly about her whirlwind year in FFA and with her Science Fair project. She won State, competed at the Nationals and got silver ranking which was 7th in the nation. Then she received an award for the New Beekeeper of the year! Congratulations Kaelyn!

***Discussion**

We discussed the improvements in our club as well as the survey and some of the items that will be added to next years' goals and agendas. Then the discussion moved toward potential items we could purchase for club member use.

Items Discussed:

- Laptop
- Color printer
- Hive scale
- Candle molds
- Infrared Camera
- Honey Extracting Kit to go with the extractor
- Frame assembly jig
- Box making kit
- Scope to grade the honey
- Brown County Medallions

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Education program

We are looking for someone that is willing to drive to pick up the lunch for the Introduction to Beekeeping Class 1-18-20.

KEY SPEAKERS

Augie Linskens and Kaelyn Sumner. Augie Linskens shared about his company, honey production and honey sales. Kaelyn Sumner shared her perspective from a small business standpoint.



Augie told of the family history in beekeeping and honey production.

Augie spoke about the laws to abide by in production and sales. He told us how his honey is graded and labeled. He told us how lucrative it is to sell bee pollen and how he collects it but warns that he does not like to take too much pollen at the expense of bee loss.

Augie and Kaelyn spoke about their sales businesses and compared and contrasted the small business and the large producers. They spoke of liability insurance for both markets. They discussed "local" or Wisconsin honey. Augie also gave information about the international markets and pricing.

Looking Ahead: CLUB MEETING EDUCATION SCHEDULE:

December	No Official Meeting	
January	Goals for the club	First year beekeepers
February	Hive monitoring	Brood Minder Rep

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11