



October 2020

BCBA
P.O. Box 10371
Green Bay, WI
54307-0371

Facebook

**Northeast WI
Beekeepers**



**Join us
for a Virtual
Coffee & Bee
Chat Tuesday
10/6/2020 8AM
Via ZOOM
MEETING**

Brown County Beekeepers Association Newsletter

www.browncountybeekeepers.com

BCBA Mission Statement: We are dedicated to promoting sustainable, responsible, and healthy beekeeping practices in Northeast Wisconsin for both experienced and first-time beekeepers. We strive to create a fun environment where learning opportunities exist for association members and the general public.

The club will continue to hold our monthly meeting via ZOOM.

In addition to the ZOOM meeting for October we are working with GBBG to meet face to face indoors.
Space will be limited.

Contact Dave to reserve a spot.

MORE TO COME

OCTOBER



Fall Management

Generally, 6 weeks between Labor Day and Columbus Day

Purpose: to assure a healthy hive going into winter that is

Disease free

Well Fed

Has a robust Queen

October Meeting Topic: Local Veterinarian – Resource Treatment Foulbrood

ELECTION 2020

Club Elections: held as the first order of business at the October Meeting.

Currently we are working at ways everyone can vote whether meeting virtual or in-person. We need quorum to hold the vote. There is only 1 vote per individual membership or 1 vote per family membership.

- Remember if you plan to attend the meeting in person Contact Dave Elsen via email: daveelsenbk@gmail.com to reserve a spot. Space will be limited and we want to be sure everyone that wants to attend face to face has the opportunity to do so.

2020 Club Calendar

MONTH	TOPIC
October 21	Meeting 6:30pm Introduction to Dr. Jammie Ver Giessen Seymour Veterinary Hospital – Club resource for various hive diseases including AFB & EFB
November 18	Meeting 6:30pm Raising Queens
December	NO MEETING NO Christmas Party
January 2021	Annual Intro to Beekeeping Course in the Works

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2021

WE ARE ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2021 STARTING THIS MONTH

Payments can be made on the brown county beekeeper website via PayPal or Credit card

<https://browncountybeekeepers.com/about/join/>

BCBA Leadership

President: Dave Elsen
president@browncountybeekeepers.com

Vice President:
Julie Mazzoleni
vicepresident@browncountybeekeepers.com

Secretary:
Sarah Mueller
secretary@browncountybeekeepers.com

Treasurer:
Tom Cashman
Tcash99930@aol.com

Social Media Chair:
Carl Fisher
info@browncountybeekeepers.com

Membership Chair:
OPEN

Education Chair:
OPEN

September Meeting Links

BCBA Coffee and Bee Talk

Tuesday October 6, 2020

8:00am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88315563375?pwd=anhUSHJvOUZtK05FLzRZdTVhTEw0QT09>

Meeting ID: 883 1556 3375

Passcode: 736291

Club Meeting

Wednesday October 21, 2020

6:30pm

We are in the process of planning 2 meeting options

1. **Face to Face** for those who want to venture out we are setting this up now. **More to come on this.** As per the previous meeting, Social distance guidelines maintained. Masks required. Space limited.

Thank you in advance.

2. Zoom Virtual LINK BELOW

BCBA October Monthly Meeting

Wednesday October 21, 2020

6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89543131117?pwd=VTFYUFJ4bmhleWhwYjRHeTM1YmdtZz09>

Meeting ID: 895 4313 1117

Passcode: 795385



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Open Positions

Education Chair AND Membership Chair

Contact Dave Elsen

**Wisconsin
Conferences**

November 2020

NTC Annual Conference Wausau: Rescheduled to Saturday Nov 14

Wisconsin Honey Producers Fall Conference November 5-7 Wisconsin
Dells

Key Note Speaker: Maria Spivak
American Honey Tasting Society



Free Education Opportunity

Capitol Bee Supply

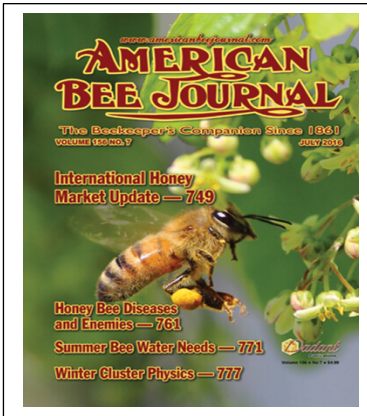
Check out the link below for some **FREE** e-learning topics by
<https://www.facebook.com/CapitalBeeSupply/posts/2890729754299781>

American Bee Journal

Discount for club members

GREAT PUBLICATION

GET INFO FROM TOM CASHMAN



Club Education Reimbursement Opportunity

Club members are eligible for up to \$25/ calendar year for continuing education

Eligibility Guidelines:

- Must be a current member for at least 12 consecutive months
- Member must submit their request to the Leadership Team prior to the event including details on how it aligns to the Club's Mission

Note: BCBA sponsored events, books or magazines not eligible for reimbursements

Club Expectations of Members Receiving Education Reimbursement

- Overview of the education to the club or an education session
- Write-up with photos and/or video for club publication

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD BEES IN October

In the hive

There is little to no egg laying in October. Drone populations dwindle and any drones that remain in the hive are kicked out by their sisters.

Bees tend to form their winter cluster at around 50°F, usually starting in the middle of the month.

On warm days, the bees venture out looking for food and may rob unprotected hives.

Seasonal conditions

In Green Bay Wisconsin, in October, the average minimum and maximum temperatures are 38°F and 59°F, with 3" of precipitation.

A few asters may still be in bloom. Fall witch hazel may flower, too.

Inspection

The weather may be too cold for extended inspections.

It will be difficult to correct any problems this late in the season.

Nutrition

A full-sized colony should have at least 80 - 100 pounds of honey to eat by the beginning of October, or more than one full deep. Nucs of course need less. Estimate the weight by slightly tipping and hefting the hive. If you extract honey, leave enough for the bees or feed them sugar syrup to make up for the difference.

If you feed the bees sugar syrup, it should be a 2:1 ratio, thicker than the spring feed; the bees can evaporate the excess moisture from the hive faster from this thicker syrup.

The bees will need at least two double-sided frames of pollen/bee bread by late winter/early spring. It is better to feed protein earlier in the season, although you can do so in late winter/early spring if necessary.

Do not feed pollen or pollen substitute for the remainder of autumn, as bees use the reduction in pollen flow as a cue to continue rearing winter bees.

Pests, parasites, and diseases

At this point in the year, if you find three or more mites per 100 bees...from a sugar shake, ether roll, or alcohol wash, you will want to treat. Treatment methods will depend on your management goals, the condition of the colony, and external conditions. Treatments that are most effective when there is no brood present are good options now.

Always remove chemical *Varroa* mite treatments according to label directions. Make sure none remain in the hives before you winterize them.

Carefully check every brood frame in each colony for American foulbrood infection.

Equipment

Winter preparation should continue: remove extra supers and queen excluders, secure the hive cover with a rock or straps, add a mouse guard (after confirming that a mouse has not yet moved in), and add an entrance reducer (if it is not already in place). Consider raising the hive up off the ground, if it is not already. Remove any supers that have not been filled.

You may insulate the hive, but be sure foremost to avoid moisture build-up in the hives. Cold is less of a problem for bees than condensation. Since much of the heat escapes out of the top of the hive, some beekeepers add a super with an insulating, absorbent

material (e.g., dry leaves, woodchips). Others wrap the hives in black tarpaper or similar materials. Leave an upper entrance open for the exhaust of moisture. Tilt the hives forward a few degrees so that any moisture that does accumulate can drain out the bottom entrance.

Yard maintenance

Consider moving your hives to sunny winter yards. They can be crowded in these yards, since they will not be foraging. Be sure that these yards and the spring/summer yards will be accessible in mud season (early spring). Consider setting up a wind break near the hives.

Education and outreach

Register for the American Beekeeping Federation Conference and/or the American Honey Producers Association, which usually meet in January.

- *Adapted from the Cornell University Beekeeping Calendar 2020*