

BROWN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



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

www.browncountybeekeepers.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hopefully your bees are putting on weight as we are in the major nectar flows of the summer. It appears basswood bloomed around July 3, depending on your location and we are now in the thick of summer.

So, what is next? Time to start thinking about how you are going to manage your honey harvest. Do you have enough jars and buckets? Is all your extracting equipment accounted for? What method are you going to use to remove bees from the honey supers? Fume board or bee escapes. After you remove the supers, how are you going to provide space for those displaced bees? Add new supers. Maybe add some new foundation to get them to draw those frames out. You don't want to create a crowded situation and have the hive get into swarm mode. There are many different ways to do honey harvest, but having a well thought out plan is the essential.

Also, in that plan is how to manage your mites in the hive. With honey supers off the hive, you have many more options available for mite treatment. You need to get on that treatment as soon as possible because that queen is going to start laying eggs that are going to become your winter bees. So, getting your hive as healthy as possible, should priority 2. The treatment is going to set the stage for your bees' ability to survive the winter!

- That's what this month's buzz is about

President: Chris Groth

president@BrownCountyBeekeepers.com



July 16th 2025 Summer Party!



BROWN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS SUMMER PICNIC

Location: **Green Bay Botanical Gardens**
Outdoor Patio (inside if it rains)

Date: **Wednesday July 16, 2025**

Time: **5:30 to 8:30 PM**

Master of Ceremonies – Wayne
Steigelman

Grill Master – James Arvey

Meat, buns, condiments, paper
goods, water and soda
provided by the club

**SIGNUP TO BRING A DISH TO
PASS! APPETIZERS, SIDES OR
DESSERTS!**

Organizers

Dick and Carol Sturm

RSVP text/call 920-475-7301

Signup by July 13

Members Guests are welcome.

Please include in RSVP



**DOOR PRIZES! BEE TALK! FOOD!
FELLOWSHIP!
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



Sign up by 7/13

RSVP text/call

Dick & Carol Sturm

920-475-7301

REMINDER

July 16th 2025 Summer Party!

Main drawing prizes are being provided by our member sponsors who have so graciously provided gifts for drawings throughout the year.

To be able to have as many door prizes as possible, we are asking members who are able, bring a gift for our drawing.

Prizes can be gently used beekeeping items, homemade mead or wine, homemade sweet treats, art projects of any type or products of your hive.

BEE CREATIVE...LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

THANK YOU
SPONSORS



2nd BCBA Honey, Wax and Crafts Judging Contest



Club members, the 2nd BCBA Honey, Wax and Crafts Judging Contest is a go for November. We are getting out the contest criteria early so you can start thinking about preparing your entries. Preparation is a key factor in success. I strongly encourage all entrants to read the Judging Criteria, attached. It's the best first step. There are also many YouTube sites available to help you prepare the perfect entry. Watch for future Newsletter updates for additional helpful references.

Last year we had 18 participants total which broke down as:

- 11 Light Honey
- 12 Amber Honey
- 3 Dark Honey
- 6 Beeswax Blocks
- 3 Beeswax Candles
- 7 Frames of Honey



This year we are adding Black Jar Honey, Photography, Drawings, Artwork and Craftwork categories.

First, second and third place finishers receive an awesome BCBA ribbon and some bragging rights.

We've included some photos of our judge Stephanie Slater from 2024 and some pictures of two types of boxes used to display frames of honey.

We will have some ribbons and honey frame boxes at the BCBA picnic on July 16th for you to check out as well.

If you have any questions, please reach out.

Dave Elsen
Member of the BCBA Judging Contest Team



BCBA BEEKEEPING EVENTS

July “At the Hive”

TBD



BCBA had the June Hive Dive hosted by Carl and Dave's EF Honey Apiary at the Botanical Gardens. We were able to find some queens, do some mite checks and add brood to a weaker hive. Lots of learning took place. Next up will be the July session after the picnic. Watch for details via Facebook and email.

Watch Facebook video...Click Below

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1807289960130953>



WHPA COMMITTEE NEWS

Dear WHPA Members,

We're excited to announce that the **2025 Farm Technology Days** will take place August 5–7 at Clinton Farms in Bear Creek, WI (Outagamie County)!

The Wisconsin Honey Producers Association will once again host a booth in the Rural Living Tent to share the sweet story of honey and the importance of beekeeping with thousands of attendees. It's a wonderful opportunity to support Wisconsin's beekeeping industry, meet new people, and enjoy the energy of this unique event.

We'd love to have you join us! Whether you've volunteered before or this would be your first time, your help makes a real difference. You don't need to be an expert—just bring your enthusiasm for bees and honey.



Event: 2025 Farm Technology Days



Location: Clinton Farms, Bear Creek, WI



Event details: wifarmtechnologydays.com

If you'd like to volunteer at the WHPA booth, please sign up here:



[Sign up on SignUpGenius](#)

Our 2025 coordinator is Fran Wayne. If you have questions or need more information, feel free to contact Fran at whpasec@gmail.com or call 715-495-0679.

Thank you for helping us share the buzz about Wisconsin beekeeping. We hope to see you there!

Warm regards,

Wisconsin Honey Producers Association

Here is what to expect in and around the hive in July.

For more July management tips, click the link below

<https://browncountybeekeepers.com/july-bee-calendar/>



Here are practical beekeeping tips for July in Northeast Wisconsin, where summer conditions are typically warm and humid, and nectar flows peak then taper off:

Colony Management

- Monitor for Swarming: If your hive is strong and crowded, swarming is still possible in early July. Ensure there's adequate space in the brood nest and honey supers.
- Equalize Colonies: If some hives are weaker, redistribute brood frames or bees from stronger hives to balance your apiary.
- Requeen if Needed: July is still a viable time to requeen failing colonies before fall buildup. Mated queens are often still available.

Honey Production & Harvest

- Add Honey Supers: Keep adding supers as needed—Basswood (Linden), Clover, and Alfalfa can provide strong nectar flows.
- Check Honey Ripeness: Harvest capped honey in late July to prevent over-filling or robbing once the nectar flow slows.

Pest & Disease Control

- Mite Monitoring: July is a critical time to monitor Varroa mites using alcohol wash or sugar roll. Treat immediately if thresholds are exceeded (typically 2-3 mites per 100 bees).
- European Foulbrood (EFB): Watch for symptoms like twisted larvae and yellowish discoloration. Stress from nectar dearth can cause flare-ups.
- Small Hive Beetle: Check bottom boards and inner covers for beetle presence.

Nutrition

- Watch for Dearth: Nectar flow may slow in late July. If hives appear light, provide supplemental feeding (1:1 sugar syrup) as needed.
- Water Supply: Ensure bees have reliable water access, especially in hot spells.

Seasonal Preparation

- Start Planning for Fall: Late July is the time to begin thinking about winter prep—ordering mite treatments, considering feeding schedules, and preparing equipment repairs.

Weather Considerations

- July storms and high humidity may limit bee flight. Check for water pooling inside hives and ensure ventilation is adequate to prevent mold.



FACEBOOK SITES MANAGED BY BCBA

Northeast WI Beekeepers
beekeepers helping beekeepers

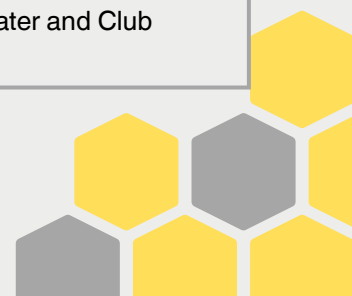
Brown County Beekeepers
updates on club happenings

2025 BCBA Meeting Education Calendar

Reg = Regular Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30p

MBM = Meeting Before the Meeting: Same Wednesday, starts at 5:45p

Date	Education	Type	Presenter
January 15, 2025	Varroa Mite Management	Reg	Dick Sturm
February 19, 2025	Identifying and Managing Honey Bee Diseases Minnesota Bee Squad	Reg	Jessica Helgen Bee Squad Pgm Director or Jenny Warner Bee Squad Beekeeper
March 19, 2025	Queen Rearing	Reg	Keith Zaidel, Zaidel Wild Apiary
	Honey Decrystalization	MBM	Rance Bennett, This Old Hive
April 16, 2025	Spring Management	Reg	Dave Elsen
	Installing Bees	MBM	Wayne Steigelman Nathan Frailey
May 21, 2025	Girl Next-Door Honey	Reg	Hillary Kearney
June 18, 2025	Beekeeping antibiotics	Reg	Justine Nguyen PhD Candidate - USDA SARE Grant Fellow
August 20, 2025	Fall Management	Reg	Panel
	Honey Extraction	MBM	Nathan Frailey
September 17, 2025	Wax Processing and Products	Reg	Rance Bennett, This Old Hive
October 15, 2025	Discussion Panel	Reg	Wayne Steigelman Facilitates
November 19, 2025	Products of the Hive and Honey Judging Contest	Reg	Stephanie Slater and Club



Brown County Beekeeping Association

Member Benefits

Club Sponsor – Hansen Honey Farm, Rhinelander, WI

- 5% discount for all BCBA members for ongoing purchase
- For online discount code, contact secretary@browncountybeekeepers.com
- When purchasing in-store only, let them know you are a member of the BCBA.

Club Sponsor – Let It Bee, Inc., Greenville, WI

- 5% discount for all BCBA member purchases, except nucs. In-store only.
- When purchasing in-store only, let them know you are a member of the BCBA.

[Click here for the Club Sponsor Website Page](#)

Club Equipment Rental

Perks of being a member! [Click here for the full rental list.](#)

American Bee Journal Subscriptions

(Contact Club Treasurer for Discount form)

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.

2025 Club Officers

President: Chris Groth

president@browncountybeekeepers.com

Vice President: Nathan C. Frailey, Sr.

vicepresident@browncountybeekeepers.com

Website Chair: Carl Fisher

info@browncountybeekeepers.com

Social Media: Wayne Steigelman

Club Education CoChairs: Mimi Gerner and Dave Elsen

Treasurer: Chad Ford

treasurer@browncountybeekeepers.com

Secretary: Edmund Poillion

secretary@browncountybeekeepers.com

Education Outreach Chair: Julie Mazzoleni

Board Member at Large: Dick Sturm