

SWEET STUFF

NIBA NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Allen

March is here and consistent warmer weather should be here soon. I spoke with lots of people at the February meeting who told me that their bees were still alive. We know that's not a guarantee that the bees will still be alive in April but it's a good sign that what you did to prepare the bees for winter got them through the worst part!

The March meeting will be the last meeting we send the meetings out over Zoom. Being in person helps build closer relationships between beekeepers and makes our club a better community. The quarterly door prizes are meant to get people back in the door, a large door prize given out just for showing up to the meeting seems to be helping. This month we're giving a complete hive box away!

NIBA is looking for someone to take over running the McHenry County Fair. This is our largest fundraiser and is our largest volunteer need. We spend the week talking with people about honey bees, becoming a beekeeper, helping kids find the queen in the observation hive and selling honey. One of the pillars of the NIBA charter is community outreach and the fair is just one of the events where we talk to people about honey bees. Running the fair can seem overwhelming but the workload can be split up between several people to make it more manageable. Donna did an amazing job setting the booth up and tracking sales last year! We can help you navigate everything you need to do to make the fair successful if you want to run it this year.

The NIBA swap meet was held February 28th and we had a fairly good turnout of buyers, sellers and people just looking around to see what



members wanted to sell. Some people had things like latex gloves they were giving away which was very nice. One brand new member is selling newer equipment that is stored inside of a barn for the new property owner. I'm going to ask him to talk briefly about this at the meeting so if someone wants to buy some they'll know who is selling it. One new member has built a top bar hive and is looking for someone to connect with about working with this, I'll ask him to stand up so if you have experience with this you can connect with him.

To be completely transparent, this will be my last year as the president of NIBA. I wanted to let members know so people had time to consider whether they want to run for president. I will have been president for 5 years and I feel it's time to step aside and let someone with fresh eyes lead for a while. I was a director for a few years, vice president for 2 years and I will have completed 5 years as president. I have been so blessed to work on great boards for all of those years and I can say that I learned a lot about being a board member while serving on the NIBA board. My first year as president was 2020 and we all know how drastically things changed that year! We just began meeting at MCC in January and the college shut down in late February and I didn't know what to do. That board was so amazing, we were able to continue meeting over Zoom because of Stephanie Slater. I had never heard of Zoom before but Stephanie assured us that we could continue to meet using it and she ran the technology to make it happen. The other board members found speakers who were willing to use Zoom to give us presentations and we continued to grow. Other clubs were shutting down because they couldn't figure out how they could continue to meet and a few told their members, especially newer ones, to join NIBA because we were still going strong. Again this was not me, it was all accomplished because we had a fantastic board that was thinking outside of the box!

I hope to see you at the March 12th meeting!

Tom



Confessions of a beeyard junkie

Thoughts from Larry Kregel

Thinking back, I didn't start out with bees thinking of becoming mesmerized by their company. It seemed like a passing fancy. I was signing up for a quiet, maybe temporary, hobby, something wholesome, even mildly dignified... the keeping of honey bees. I now spend my weekends in a veil, muttering encouragement to insects who seem to ignore me, negotiating with queens who seldom respond to my inquiries, and explaining to friends why I stand motionless in the yard listening for vibrations of an impending swarm. I've been stung in places I should not discuss, carried supers like a pack mule, and occasionally found myself apologizing to a hive after dropping a frame. It is not what was expected.

Every season, just as I am reconsidering the wisdom of returning to the beeyard for the next season, those bees go and do something outrageous. Not dramatic, mind you—nothing one can brag about to non-beekeepers. No, they wait until I'm good and tired, sweat running into my boots, smoker going out for the third time, and then they quietly build a frame of wax so perfect it could make a grown adult tear up. Or they pack a super so tight with nectar overnight that I start questioning the laws of physics. Or they share with me a whiff of that warm, sweet, impossible scent that rises from a hive when everything is going exactly right. Suddenly I'm standing there incredulous, grinning at ten thousand insects who absolutely do not sense the moment as I most certainly do... mesmerized.

That's how it happens, the real reason I continue with the bees, the reason I am drawn to their moods, their mysteries, and their utter disregard for my plans. I hope to see you in the beeyard.





NIBA Swap Meet

Pictures from NIBA bee equipment swap meet at the McHenry County Farm Bureau on February 28th. There were a fair amount of participants and shoppers, not all from NIBA, which is good! Toward the end some equipment was donated to beginners and the local 4-H program that Jerry Gudaskas heads up. Jerry also brought a pot of chili to be shared by all! Also president Tom Allen brought donuts and coffee for everyone, thanks Tom!





A Short Treatise on Eating Comb Honey: Then and Now

For most of human history, **comb honey was the only honey people knew**. Before extractors, strainers, and bottling, honey was eaten exactly as the bees made it—sealed in its hexagonal wax cells. Families cut chunks from the hive, set them on the table, and enjoyed them with bread, cheese, fruit, or simply by themselves. The wax was chewed like a natural gum and either swallowed or discarded, depending on personal preference.

Today, even with all our modern equipment, comb honey still carries that sense of authenticity. People love it for its purity, texture, and the quiet connection it offers to the hive. But many aren't sure what to do with it when they first see it.

How to Eat Honey in the Comb

Most people find one of these approaches intuitive:

- **Spread it** — Cut a small piece and spread it on warm toast, biscuits, or fresh bread. The wax softens and blends with the honey, creating a rich, silky texture.
- **Pair it** — Add a slice to a cheese board. It's especially good with sharp cheddar, blue cheese, brie, or aged gouda. The wax adds a pleasant chew between bites.
- **Top it** — Place a small cube on yogurt, oatmeal, pancakes, or fruit. The warmth of the food melts the honey and softens the wax.
- **Chew it** — Pop a small piece in your mouth and chew gently. Enjoy the honey as it releases. The wax can be swallowed safely or simply discarded when the flavor is gone.
- **Cook with it (gently)** — Use it as a finishing touch on warm dishes, but avoid high heat, which can melt the wax into the food in ways that aren't as pleasant.

Why People Love It

- It's **raw and unprocessed**, exactly as the bees made it.



- The wax contains traces of pollen, propolis, and aromatic compounds that add complexity.
- It brings a **beautiful, rustic look** to charcuterie and dessert boards.
- It offers a sensory experience—flavor, aroma, texture—that jarred honey can't quite match.

Here's How

Learn the art of creating beautiful comb honey at the MCC Comb Honey Class on Wednesday, March 11, at 6:30 pm. Attend in person or online. Bon Appetit!

https://mchenry.augusoft.net/about/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_classes_id=12891





COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT CENTER
SPRING 2026



BEEKEEPING

Beekeeping 101

Keeping honeybees is fascinating. Bees will pollinate your garden and provide a sweet crop of honey. In this class, you will learn where to start as a keeper of bees. We'll cover bee biology, modern beekeeping techniques, construction of hives, and how to acquire bees. Keep bees for the fun of it, as a sideline job, or to help your garden and orchard.

Fee: \$75 Larry Kregel
 In person
 # [12873](#) W 2/4-2/25 6:30-9 p.m. Catalyst Campus
 Remote
 # [12874](#) W 2/4-2/25 6:30-9 p.m. Remote

Beekeeping Field Study

This short course will provide practical, hands-on instruction for installing, manipulating, and inspecting colonies of bees. The class will meet in a bee yard, so appropriate clothing and bee equipment will be necessary. Spring is the time to start with bees, and this course will walk you through it step by step. Learn what you need to know to start out right with your bees.

Fee: \$59 Larry Kregel
 # [12906](#) Sa 4/11, 4/18 10 a.m.-Noon MCC
 # [12907](#) Sa 4/11, 4/18 1-3 p.m. MCC

7 Ways To Raise A Queen

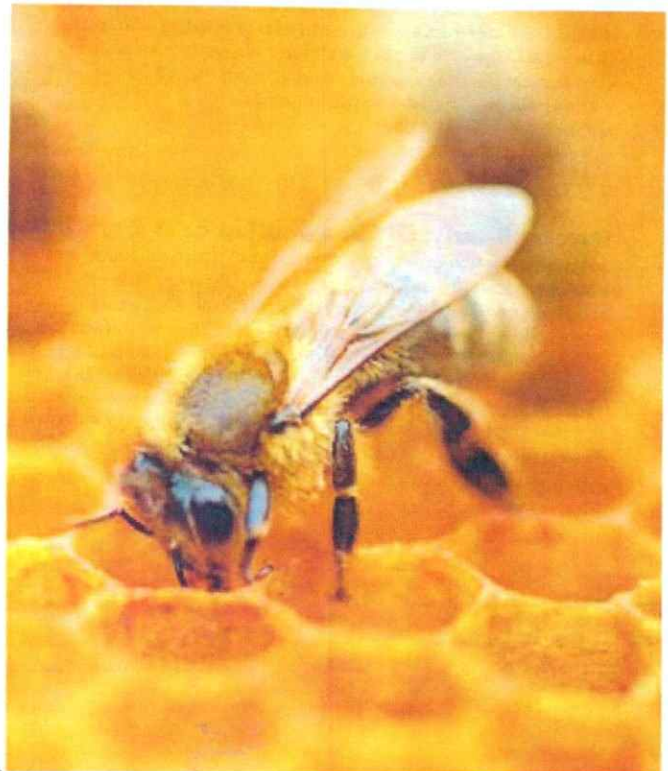
The number of small-scale beekeepers is increasing, and the demand for locally raised queen bees is growing. Purchased queens are often raised in areas of Africanized honeybees or come from migratory bee operations where dangerous viruses are exchanged. Gain information and learn seven simple methods of raising healthy honeybee queens. With a few insights and a small amount of equipment, the backyard beekeeper can raise locally adapted queens from bee stock with a great record of winter survival, good temperament, and excellent honey production.

Fee: \$25 Larry Kregel
 In person
 # [12889](#) W 3/4 6:30-9 p.m. Catalyst Campus
 Remote
 # [12890](#) W 3/4 6:30-9 p.m. Remote

Comb Honey

Comb honey is old fashioned honey harvested in the bees own wax case. A hundred years ago honey was removed from the hive and eaten in the comb. Today, extracted honey (honey in the jar) is the norm. This course is an opportunity to return to the old (and some contend the healthiest) way of harvesting honey. Producing honey in the comb is a beekeeping challenge, an old fashioned challenge explored in this class.

Fee: \$25 Larry Kregel
 In person
 # [12891](#) W 3/11 6:30-9 p.m. Catalyst Campus
 Remote
 # [12892](#) W 3/11 6:30-9 p.m. Remote



To register for a class, scan the QR code, visit www.mchenry.edu/personaldevelopment, or call (815) 455-8588.

For more information, please contact the Community Enrichment Center at personaldevelopment@mchenry.edu or (815) 455-8758



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT CENTER SPRING 2026



Varroa Mite: Know Your Enemy

Enemy #1 in the honeybee world is Varroa Destructor – the varroa mite. Understanding how the biology of the honeybee and that of the varroa mite intersect is important to successful beekeeping in today's world. This mite attaches to honeybees and their larva weakening them and passing on deadly viruses. A successful strategy for control of these mites is critical to the survival of a honeybee colony. This class will discuss the history, the biology and the control of Varroa Destructor.

Fee: \$25

Larry Krengel

In person

12893

W 4/8

6:30–9 p.m. Catalyst Campus

Remote

12894

W 4/8

6:30–9 p.m. Remote

The Sweet Life: A Buzz-Worthy Look into the World of the Honey Bees

Join us for a delightful journey into the fascinating world of honey bees! We'll explore the secret lives of these industrious little creatures, uncovering how they create the delicious honey we all love. From the Queen Bee's royal duties to the amazing teamwork of the worker bees, we'll learn about their incredible communication, their vital role in our ecosystem, and simple ways we can help them thrive. This presentation is full of fun facts and amazing stories about bees.

Fee: \$15

Larry Krengel

13501

F 1/16

10–11:30 a.m. Remote

Buzzing Beauty: DIY Beeswax Lip Balm Workshop

Join us for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn to create your own natural lip balms using beeswax. Discover the benefits of beeswax and explore a variety of essential oils and natural ingredients to customize your balms. This workshop will cover the entire process, from melting and mixing to pouring and packaging, ensuring you leave with your own personalized lip balm to take home. Perfect for beginners and anyone interested in natural skincare, this fun and informative session will have you crafting your own lip care products in no time. All materials will be provided.

Coming soon.

Stephanie Slater

Honey Tasting: A Sensory Analysis of Honey

Honey takes a long journey before it lands in your jar. The final product can be affected by many variables, including the local climate, botanical sources and the honeybees who visit them, and the activity of beekeepers. In this class, we will study varietal honeys using our senses of sight, smell, taste, and touch to fully appreciate the selection of these honeys. We will approach honey tasting as a sensory journey as we review at least five varietal honeys and compare their flavors and profile differences. We will also review and discuss: a Honey Sensory Wheel and how that impacts fragrances within the honey; how to more finely tune our senses to appreciate our local varietals of honey; how honeys acquire certain aromas that often differ from what we would expect; methods of tasting the full balance of flavors of these honeys; how to appreciate the different textures of honey and their impact on our taste buds; and sample 20+ varieties of handcrafted local honeys (creamed, infused, raw, and barrel-aged) and other honey-based products (honey sauces, mustards, and honey hot sauces). Students will receive their own Honey Sensory Booklet for future tastings.

Coming soon.

Frank Moriarty



To register for a class, scan the QR code, visit www.mchenry.edu/personaldevelopment, or call (815) 455-8588.

For more information, please contact the Community Enrichment Center at personaldevelopment@mchenry.edu or (815) 455-8758



NORTHERN ILLINOIS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2026 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Affiliated with the Illinois State Beekeepers Association (ISBA)

Check one: Renewal Individual Membership - \$20 Renewal Family Membership - \$30

Check one: **NEW** Individual Membership - \$25 **NEW** Family Membership - \$35
(Includes Single Membership in the Illinois State Beekeepers Association, additional ISBA memberships, \$10 each)

If applying after February 28, 2026, and you are a renewing member, please add \$5.00.

Name(s):
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
Email address (if family membership, include all emails. Newsletter will be sent to all emails):

Yes, I would like to order a NIBA name tag(s), add \$16.95 per order (which includes postage).

Name tag(s) should read as follows (please print clearly):

Please tell us more about yourself:

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, other)

Complete this form and mail with **check payable to: NORTHERN ILLINOIS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION (NIBA)**
TO: NIBA Membership, c/o Sue Pinkawa, 5010 Bonner Drive, McHenry, IL 60050



NIBA 2026 PACKAGED BEE ORDER FORM

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15, 2026



*Name(s):		*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 a drop-off point in Illinois. 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 2026 NIBA dues must be paid prior to your order being processed, **please use separate checks for bee orders and membership**. Mail your membership forms to the designated address. We will return orders received from non-members. We will order 250 packages of bees and 100 nucleus colonies (NUCs). **Orders will be taken on a first-come first-served basis until all 350 units are sold.**

- Package Price: \$150 each- package contains approximately 3 pounds of bees and a queen.
- 5-Frame NUC Price: \$ 177 each
- Queens \$40 each

Order Information:

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

Order Type	Quantity	Queen Preference/Quantity	Price per unit	Total
3 LB Package Pick Up (Targeting early/mid-April)		Italian _____ Carniolan _____ Buckfast _____	\$150.00	\$
Nucleus Colony Pick Up (Targeting Mid/late April)		Italian Only _____	\$177.00	
Mated Queens		Italian _____ Carniolan _____ Buckfast _____	\$40.00	\$
			Grand Total Due	\$

Make checks payable to Northern Illinois Beekeepers Association (NIBA)

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-served 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 and 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 must be picked up on day of delivery, NO EXCEPTIONS. You must designate someone else to pick them up if you are unavailable.**

Complete and mail order form and check (**NO CASH PLEASE!!!**) payable to: NIBA c/o Sue Pinkawa, 5010 Bonner Drive, McHenry, IL 60050. Contact Sue at spinkawa@gmail.com or (815-355-4630) - with any questions.



Chores of the Month – March 2026

Please Review February Chores List. Most apply to March also, but with an increased sense of urgency.

What's happening in and around the hive?

March opened up with a fairly average beginning but by the end of the first week temperatures started warming up. Don't get too excited, it will drop back down and then up again....typical unpredictable March weather. For those with some live overwintered colonies, the bees will be flyin' and collecting pollen from the maples and willows. Don't celebrate victory over winter yet though, March is a tough and, it bears repeating, an unpredictable month. The bees have started raising brood by now. There won't be much early in the month, but as the month passes and if we get some warm weather, the pace of egg laying will pick up and there will be hungry young to feed. The bees will need pollen (protein) to feed the brood and honey/sugar (carbohydrates- and plenty of them) to energize the bees to forage and to produce heat to keep the brood warm. **This is the most dangerous month for colony survival. This is when food stores may run out.** Early pollen sources will be available, nectar will not, but **the weather must be favorable for the bees to forage.** The bees may well need assistance with supplemental protein (pollen patties/pollen substitute) for brood raising as well as a source of carbohydrates (sugar/sugar syrup {only if warm enough}) for themselves.


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

Continue to monitor the food stores available to your colonies. Checking the weight of hives by lifting/tilting from the rear may give you a sense of stores available. There will likely be days when you can take a look inside and better evaluate the stores available. Unlike the super cold weather temperatures the bees have come through, warmer temps allow the cluster to relocate to available stores within the hive... if they are there. 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. Unless we have consistent unseasonably warm day and night temperatures, it is likely to be a bit early to transition to liquid feed. Providing pollen, pollen substitute, or pollen patties will provide needed protein for brood development.

Think about swarm mitigation. Or not...it depends on your goals and personal management philosophy. If you are of the mindset that maximization of honey production is important to you and if your bees have come through the winter with some strength, and you leave them to their own devices, they will quickly teach you about the importance of swarm mitigation. **They will swarm.** There are many techniques that can be used to reduce the swarming urge, none of which are bullet proof, but you may want to consider taking some action and tilt the odds in your favor. **Splits, installing a new young queen, supering early and often,** and dare I suggest, employing **the Demaree manipulation/split** are but a few thoughts you may consider. Do something.....Do nothing.....the choice and the results are yours.

Keep in mind that if honey production is **not** top of mind to you, letting a colony swarm in springtime is not necessarily a bad thing (unless they take up residence in your neighbor's house). It potentially allows for an increase in feral bee colonies. It should provide you with a young queen with local overwintering genetics (if you allow them to re-queen themselves). It, hopefully, increases your odds of overwintering success for next year. It, hopefully, gets you a step closer to sustainability. Something to think about.

Check for activity at the hive on warmer days. You should start seeing activity on warm days. We saw that on a number of days in February this year. Bees will be taking cleansing flights and some will even be out foraging. If things are going well, you may see some orientation flights by young bees. I have already observed that this week(first week of March). If you have seen no activity on the warmer days we have recently had, your bees didn't survive and it is time (maybe past time) to get your bees ordered for 2026.

You may see some undertaker bees (they are the stiffer looking bees with dark tophats ) dragging dead bees from the hive. Help them out by reaching into the entrance with a tool and scraping out some of the bodies. Try not to be too alarmed by the number of dead bees removed; your colony is still alive. ...have a cookie and enjoy the moment. Alternately, if you don't see dead bees being dragged out, and you are the one scraping out all the dead, be alarmedbut it is too late to do anything about it now except to clean up the dead-out, get the hive ready for new inhabitants, and get your order in for some new bees. Research, read, and ask others about how you might do things differently to improve your results next year. If they are still alive, replace reducers and mouse guards afterwards. As the



temperature warms up later in the month, you should be able to remove the mouse guards and increase the opening at the entrance.

Order any additional colonies of bees you want for 2026...pronto.....time is running out!

For New Beekeepers just getting started this year:

Continue to Read, Study, and Learn.... Before you know it Bee Arrival Day will be upon us! Books, Periodicals, Classes, Club Meetings, Internet (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). Listen to some Podcasts. All of these will help. Bee Arrival Day and the culmination of all the nervous anticipation of having your first colony of bees will be here before you know it!

Get a Mentor from the Bee Club. The first step is to ask for help. There will be willing members.

Get a Mentor from the Bee Club. ...did I already say that? It bears repeating. Get a Mentor from the Bee Club.

Order your equipment, tools, and protective clothing. See February Chores.

Your Bees should be ordered by now. If not, you need to scramble. See February Chores for additional details.

Assemble and paint your equipment. No time to waste now. Bee Arrival Day is coming. It's fun and you can be creative with your painting...don't be creative on the equipment assembly though, follow instructions. The bees will appreciate it.

Tip: Put dates (month/year) on your frames to keep track of their age to help in annual comb replacement.

Prepare your apiary location. Determine what you will use as hive stands. Make sure that the platform is reasonably level. Consider your mowing/trimming needs for the summer and position hives accordingly.

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 pictures(or the frames themselves) of a frame or two (brood frames) to the club meeting and get some other experienced eyes to take a look.

Replace old frames or combs that have too many years on them. Commit to making this an annual effort by replacing at least 20% annually (oldest first). That will keep you from having any combs older than 5 years. Some more progressive beekeepers strive to get on a 3 year rotation of comb. To do that replace a third of the combs each year.

Note: Develop the habit of marking your frames with the month/year that you put them in use. It is a process that will help you maintain the discipline of comb rotation.

For All Beekeepers, it is time to:

Take an inventory.

A) Equipment/Supplies inventory

Make a list of what your equipment, tools, and supplies.

-Do you need to replace frames or foundation (a comb 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? Have you washed your suit recently?

*Do you have sufficient (and not expired) 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.....this is a very important issue for beekeepers though probably not thought about enough.



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.
- Learn how to do a Demaree manipulation/split
- Successfully over-winter my bees.
- Move closer to achieving sustainable beekeeping (not having to buy new packages or nucs every year).
- Learn how to do a Bailey Comb Exchange
- Set up swarm traps.
- Catch some swarms.
- Learn to create and use nucleus colonies to overwinter more colonies and increase the colonies in my apiary.
- Learn to raise my own queens.
- Make and maintain a Queen Castle (very useful if you have multiple colonies.....you won't regret it.)
- 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 (like a Viking!....or a Monk for those with a more introspective demeanor)
- Learn how to process and use beeswax. Make candles, lip balms, hand creams, soaps.
- Learn how to collect/process/use propolis.
- 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 colony in early March is a **hopefully** live colony in April....we still have another tough month 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 now March. Get ahead of your season. Plan, Read, Study, Learn. Now is the time! The Bees will be Flying Soon!

Like the bees we study, we accomplish more together.

John Leibinger



For honey bees, a dandelion is the first sign of Spring



2026 NIBA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President – Tom Allen
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Program Chair – Larry Krengel
 Webmaster – Terri Reeves
 Newsletter Editor – Sue Pinkawa
 Club Extractor Coordinator – Al Fullerton
 Club Raffle Coordinator – Jim Jellissen
 Snack Coordinator – Julianne Anderson

Website and Newsletter Submissions

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

This is YOUR newsletter. Please feel free to contribute. Or let us know if you have any topics you'd like to see covered. spinkawa@gmail.com

Honey Extractor

Did you know that your membership in NIBA includes the opportunity to rent one of the clubs 3 honey extractors?

Two of the extractors are manual, a 4 frame a 3 frame. The third is motorized and is capable of extracting both sides of 9 frames at a time.

Rental fee for either of the manual extractor is \$10.00 for 3 days with a \$10.00 security deposit. The electric (motorized) 9 frame extractor costs \$25.00 to rent for 2 days with a \$75.00 security deposit. Deposits will be returned if equipment is returned on time, clean, and undamaged.

The extractors come with most equipment needed to make the uncapping and extraction experiences go smoothly, except of course, the honey frames and buckets.

To reserve a date contact Al Fullerton by phone or text at 815-382-7139 or email adfhone@gmail.com, if you don't get a timely response, just phone. Pick it up in Cary Illinois.

The queen marking color for 2026 is White

