

**WARREN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**  
**November 2008**



**MEETING NEWS**

The next meeting will be Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM at the Hopkinsville Community Center Building on Rt. 22/3 near the intersection of Rt. 22/3 and Rt. 48.

The program for Sunday will be by Steve Hamrick, president of the Clarksburg, West Virginia Beekeepers Association. Pam Bishop is doing refreshments.

**WANT TO BE A BEEKEEPER!!**

The Warren County Beekeepers present a three part series on beekeeping basics

At:

Greenacres Foundation  
8680 Spooky Hollow Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Part One: Saturday, November 15 2:00 – 3:30 PM

What is the financial and time commitment necessary to be a beekeeper?  
What equipment will you need? Find out -- just in time for Christmas!

Part Two: Saturday, January 10 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Bring along your new hive equipment and we'll help you assemble it!  
You'll be ready to install your bees in March.

Part Three: Saturday, February 21 2:00 – 3:30 PM

So just how do you get those bees you ordered into that hive? What else do you need to do this spring? We'll answer those questions and more!

Cost: \$5

(Membership to the Warren County Beekeepers' Association). For more information, contact Roger Barton (513)677-1255 or Patty Harrington (513)314-3886

## **BEEKEEPERS CALENDAR**

**NOVEMBER AND THE BEES:** The bees continue to cluster for winter. They may not yet go into a full winter cluster, and may actually develop two clusters. They may break cluster frequently on warm days and re-cluster at night. But they will begin to cluster for the winter.

**NOVEMBER AND THE BEEKEEPER:** Feed your light hives as long as the sugar water doesn't freeze. Finish up all winterization of your hives. On a cold day when the bees are all inside, weed-eat around your hives. Enjoy Thanksgiving! Start purchasing next year's equipment.

### **Honey history**

Honey is as old as written history, dating back to 2100 B.C. where it was mentioned in Sumerian and Babylonian cuneiform writings, the Hittite code, and the sacred writings of India and Egypt. It is presumably even older than that.

Its name comes from the English hunig, and it was the first and most widespread sweetener used by man. Legend has it that Cupid dipped his love arrows in honey before aiming at unsuspecting lovers.

In the Old Testament of the Bible, Israel was often referred to as "the land of milk and honey." Mead, an alcoholic drink made from honey was called "nectar of the gods," high praise indeed.

Honey was valued highly and often used as a form of currency, tribute, or offering. In the 11th century A.D., German peasants paid their feudal lords in honey and beeswax.

Although experts argue whether the honeybee is native to the Americas, conquering Spaniards in 1600 A.D. found native Mexicans and Central Americans had already developed beekeeping methods to produce honey.

In days of old, honey has been used not only in food and beverages, but also to make cement, in furniture polishes and varnishes, and for medicinal purposes.

And, of course, bees perform the vital service of pollinating fruits, legumes, vegetables and other types of food-producing plants in the course of their business of honey production.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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