



North Central Beekeepers Assoc., Inc. • P.O. Box 294 Brainerd, MN 56401

*A Non-Profit Educational Organization For Beekeepers.*

### Next **North Central Beekeepers**

**Information presentation** is 6:00pm May 21, 2012 at the beeyard

Meeting to follow at the

Northland Arboretum -- Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

All members and friends welcome !!

Editor: Burton B. Scripture 218-352-9202 [burtsbees@brainerd.net](mailto:burtsbees@brainerd.net)

North Central beekeepers website: [webmaster@northcentralbeekeepers.com](mailto:webmaster@northcentralbeekeepers.com)



**THE beeyard is located at John McKay's, 13320 Two Mile Rd. Brainerd Mn. 56401. (Two Mile Rd. Is also Crow Wing Co. # 9).How to get there; At the junction of 18 and 25 S.E. edge of Brainerd go East on 18 to the first road going South. This is less than ½ mile. South on two Mile Rd.(Co.# 9) about ½ mile on the left(east)to the McKay property go just past the big new house, second drive way and follow the field rd. back to the East and the beeyard.**

**PLEASE!! DO NOT COME TO THE BEEYARD WITHOUT AT LEAST A VEIL. Last year we had a lady stung under the eye and ending in the hospital instead of working in the beeyard.**

**The serving committee for lunch is;**

**Jonas Sophonis and Adrienne Griffith**

**The serving committee next month is everybody;**

**ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC!!**

**“We need to look for what is actually there not what we think or expect is there”**

**There are two completely different types of hive inspections. The quick minimally invasive check to see the queen, Eggs or uncapped brood and get back out. Any inspection causes the bees stress and slows brood rearing and or honey gathering. The other type of inspection is the complete inspection. The quick inspection is all that is usually needed for a large portion of the year and needs to be performed only as often as you need to know things are moving along**

**in the right direction. The complete hive inspection needs to be completed at times when you are really confused or know there is a real problem. The complete inspection should only be done after a 6 to 9 weeks time, twice a summer maybe! To do a complete inspection have your smoker lit and producing white cool smoke with no sparks or flame. Your protective suit on and all holes closed. Bees will find and use any chink in your armor including pants legs and fashion holes. Smoke yourself, clothing, hands etc. Next smoke the front entrance and under the screen bottom if you have them. Smoke the front again and then move to the back and lift the cover, apply smoke, smoke again and remove the telescoping cover and then smoke the inner cover as you loosen it with your hive tool. Set the inner cover cross ways on the up turned outer cover and look at the top bars of the box. You may or may not need more smoke depending on the amount of bees and their attitude. Remove the outside frame on either side of the super depending on your comfort or ease of removal. Take that frame and hold it up over the open top and carefully look at both sides. You are looking for eggs, larvae, sealed brood ,queen, pollen, honey these are all good things. You may also find varoa feces(small white spots) foul brood scales(stink), dead brood, sunken brood caps and other irregularities. Go thru all the frames in each super all the way down to the bottom board being aware of swarm cells on the bottoms of the frames.when the bottom board is reached check thru thru the debrie and notice if there are dead bees ,wax flakes or any thing out of place.**

**Put it all back together in the same order that the bees had it and record your findings in your records. You can now make the needed corrections or if none needed move to the next hive and start over. As I am sure you are aware by now if you have very many hives a complete inspection is a lot of work so you probably want to do at a minimum and remember it hits your production pretty hard as well.**

**Records; Some type of written or electronic record should be kept so that you have some idea of where you have been, where you are and the direction you are headed. A simple notebook may work in a small operation. Kelly's and Dadant both offer free record forms that can be copied and placed into a binder. Hivetrax is a free computer system that can be down loaded. There are many more options out there it doesn't really make any difference what you use but use something.**

**FOR SALE;**

**Lewis Struthers, Parkers Prairie has Queens from his production and will have 5 frame nucs after May10,2012  
lewisstruthers@gmail.com**

**Terry Patrick, Brainerd has 2 -4 frame nucs from carniolien queens #75.00, frame exchange 218-764-3278**

**The successful beekeeper is certainly one who spends significant time propagating hives**