

# THE BEE HERDER

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[www.MedinaBeekeepers.com](http://www.MedinaBeekeepers.com)



## Association Officers

**President: Paul Kosmos**

[president@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:president@medinabeekeepers.com)

330-239-1379

**Vice President: Peggy Garnes**

[vp@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:vp@medinabeekeepers.com)

330-723-6265

**Secretary: Sharon Carpenter**

[secretary@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:secretary@medinabeekeepers.com)

330-722-0080

**Treasurer: Kate Reusch**

[treasurer@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:treasurer@medinabeekeepers.com)

330-416-0284

**Newsletter Editor: Deanna Rasch**

[deanna.rasch@proton.me](mailto:deanna.rasch@proton.me)

**Webmaster: Mike Rossander**

[webmaster@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:webmaster@medinabeekeepers.com)

**Refreshments Coordinators:**

Elle Jisa [ejisa@roadrunner.com](mailto:ejisa@roadrunner.com)

Sheila Mauer

[spmaurer01@gmail.com](mailto:spmaurer01@gmail.com)

**Directors:**

**2022:** Larry Watson

[mcbalarry@aol.com](mailto:mcbalarry@aol.com)

**2023:** Tim Moore

[elkcreekhoney@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreekhoney@gmail.com)

**2024:** John Vrtachnik

[jvrtachnik@windstream.net](mailto:jvrtachnik@windstream.net)

**Medina County Bee Inspector:**

Michael Mohn

[mohnandsonsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:mohnandsonsfarm@gmail.com)

330-591-5035

**State of Ohio Inspector:**

Barbara Bloetscher

[bbloetscher@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:bbloetscher@agri.ohio.gov)

614-644-5839

Join the MCBA to hear a great lineup of live and virtual speakers. Start or renew your membership [online](#), or send in the membership form at the end of the newsletter.

**MCBA Annual Picnic**  
**Monday, August 21, 2023**  
**Buckeye Woods Park**  
**6335 Wedgewood Rd (Rte 162)**  
**Medina, OH 44256**  
**6PM-7:30 PM**

Our MCBA Picnic is always a great time to visit with friends and talk about bees or whatever!



## Ten Minutes with the Bees

by *Paul Kosmos, MCBA President*

### The Bee Yard in August

#### Something is the air is changing....

I am seeing lots of finches, both Purple and American Goldfinch, gobbling up all the sun flower seeds over the past week. Same goes for the hummingbirds as they are emptying their feeder every couple days and enjoying the last of the Hostas. It appears that they are getting ready for a journey.

There are other signs as well There are goldenrod plants springing up everywhere. Hope they produce more nectar this year. Some of the wild flowers are getting weaker and even a few trees have shown signs of change. And, as you know, most of our bees are just hanging out.

So where am I going with this? Fall is in the air and that means we need to plan our schedule for getting our bees ready for winter. Nothing new, just a reminder that our actions now will determine our success in having bees in the spring! So, let's think about what we have to do.

Step One is to **check or treat our hives for Varroa Mites**. The bees are preparing to raise the winter bees. Winter bees have higher body fat and are able to survive the winter. But only if they are strong, healthy bees going into winter (and are raised by strong healthy bees). Which is why now is a great time to knock the Mites down to protect those winter bees.

Treatments are left to your choice, but the important thing is to treat soon. Time has a way of slipping away and oops.... We've all done it.

Step Number two will be to **check their food supplies**. When you read this, it will be almost September. You need to know how much food your bees have so you can plan to feed if necessary, or perhaps leave on a super of honey.

You may not know for sure how much food they will have since the Goldenrod flow can vary dramatically. A strong GR flow can completely fill a hive in just a few days. But if you know the resources your hive has now, you'll be prepared in case that does not happen. So, take a quick peek at your outer frames to be prepared.



**A Strong Hive Can Fill a Deep 100% in a Week During a Good Nectar Season**

Step Number three is **preparing your hive for the winter**. Mouse guards? Insulation on top? Wrapping the hive? Candy Boards? Various methods to control moisture? Windbreaks? There are myriad things you can do to help your bees. The important thing is to **do whatever you plan to do in a timely manner**.

**Join us at the September meeting to learn more!**

**Did you know** – August 19 was [National Honey Bee Day](#) this year? Beekeepers, beekeeping clubs and associations, and honey bee enthusiasts from across the United States celebrate honey bees and recognize their contribution to humans' everyday lives as a means of protecting this critical species. National Honey Bee Day, which was inaugurated in 2009, also pays homage to beekeepers, whose labors ensure there are well-managed, healthy bees to pollinate crops.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wizard of Buzz at the Lorain County Fair  
August 20-27, 2023**

**Lorain County Fairgrounds Bee Barn – Building #27  
23000 Fairgrounds Road, Wellington, OH 44090**

Come out to Wellington for the 177th-annual Lorain County Fair, the second-largest county fair in Ohio! Lorain County Beekeepers will host events with the theme “Wizard of Buzz.”

**OSU Extension Medina County Open House  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023**

**5:30PM-7PM**

**4046 Medina Road, Medina, OH 44256**

OSU Extension invites you to celebrate their new office location. Stop by during their open house to learn how OSU Extension serves Medina County.

**Lorain County Beekeepers Association End of  
Summer Classic**

**Saturday, September 9, 2023**

**Lorain County Fairgrounds**

**23000 Fairgrounds Road, Wellington, OH 44090**

**9AM-3PM**

**Admission: \$5**

Lorain County Beekeepers Association will be hosting their second annual “End of Summer Classic” festival. This will be a community educational day with three expert speakers on beekeeping. We will have bee activities, activities for kids, vendors, fair food, games, door prizes, raffles and car show.

The LCBA mission is to promote Beekeeping through education, cooperation, or any other efficient means.

A fundraising project to raise money to build a year-round learning center at the Lorain County Fairgrounds for the future generations of beekeepers and farmers. With building plans well under way, we invite you to work with us to make this plan a reality.

**MCBA September Meeting, Monday Sept 18, 2023  
Medina County District Library 210 S Broadway St,  
Medina, OH 44256 Meeting Room A and/or B Q&A  
6:30PM-7PM; presentation 7PM-8:30 PM**

**Topic:** Getting Your Hives Ready for Winter

**MCBA October Meeting  
Monday, October 16, 2023**

**Medina County District Library 210 S Broadway St,  
Medina, OH 44256 Meeting Room A and/or B Q&A  
6:30PM-7PM; presentation 7PM-8:30 PM**

**Topic:** Four Corners Discussion

**Ohio State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference  
October 27-28, 2023**

**Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center  
(OARDC**

**1680 Madison Ave. (at State Route 302 east and State  
Route 83) just south of Wooster.**

**Friday 5PM-9PM**

**Saturday 8AM-6PM**

Registration opens September 1.

OSBA members - \$55

Non-member - \$65

Visit <https://ohiostatebeekeepers.org/fall-conference/>  
for more information

**Member Karl Bartz** shared this interesting video about alfalfa leaf cutting bees.

*This bee gets punched by  
flowers for your ice cream*

# 2023 Fair Winners

Congratulations to all the winners on a job well done!



\*Denotes Best of Show

Entry	Placement	Winner
Extracted Honey –White	<b>First</b>	<b>Tim Moore</b>
	Second	Sharon Baker
	Third	John Kubankin
Extracted Honey – Light Amber	<b>First</b>	<b>Peggy Garnes</b>
	Second	Tim Moore
	Third	Richard Sprague
Extracted Honey – Dark Amber	<b>First</b>	<b>Peggy Garnes</b>
	Second	Tim Moore
	Third	Adnrew Kawac
Creamed Honey	<b>First</b>	<b>Steve Moysan</b>
	Second	Peggy Garnes
	Third	Pam Vagarasoto
Chunk Honey	<b>First</b>	<b>Bruce Pohl</b>
Beeswax – Black – 1 pound	<b>First</b>	<b>David Zamancik</b>
	Second	Tim Moore
	Third	Peggy Garnes
Beeswax – Black – 5 pounds	<b>First</b>	<b>David Zamancik</b>

<b>Entry</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Pollen	<b>First</b>	<b>Kirt Strahnic</b>
	Second	Tim Moore
Soap	<b>First</b>	<b>Tim Moore</b>
	Second	Ann Roach
	Third	Peggy Garnes
Hand Cream	<b>First</b>	<b>Ann Roach</b>
	Second	Peggy Garnes
Regular Comb Honey	First	
Comb Honey	<b>First</b>	<b>Jay Hadam</b>
Molded Beeswax	<b>First</b>	<b>*Peggy Garnes</b>
	Second	Kirt Strahnic
Molded Candles	<b>First</b>	<b>Bruce Pohl</b>
	Second	Tim Moore
	Third	Peggy Garnes
Lip Balm	<b>First</b>	<b>Ann Roach</b>
Honey Yeast Bread	<b>First</b>	<b>*Janet Weidig</b>
	Second	Karen Siffert
	Third	Heidi Coffman
	Fourth	Andrew Kawac
Honey Cake	<b>First</b>	<b>Nancy Pound</b>
	Second	Celeste Beohmerle
	Third	Kate Reusch
	Fourth	Hanet Gommel
Honey Cookies	<b>First</b>	<b>Heidi Coffman</b>
	Second	Karen Siffert
	Third	Janet Vannoy
	Fourth	Janet Weidig
Extracted Frame	<b>First</b>	<b>Kate Reusch</b>
	Second	Bruce Pohl
	Third	Andrew Kawak



## Library Bee Festival



The Library Bee Festival was a huge success. Jennifer, the supervisor of the Children's Library, made this "beehive" for young visitors to explore.

Special thanks to **Laurene Kiel** and **Toni Sober** for crewing the tent at the Bee Festival – they did a fantastic job!



Member **Kym Lucas** shared this article about using Liquid Smoke for bees.

*Is Liquid Smoke helpful or risky for calming honeybees?*

## 2022 MCBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

MCBA offers webinars and lectures, a monthly newsletter, the opportunity to sell honey at the county fair, and email updates. \$20 for emailed or \$25 for a printed, mailed newsletter. Membership includes one family member in activities other than voting.

Renew your membership [online here](#) or complete the form below, make a check payable to **Medina County Beekeepers Association**, and mail to Medina Beekeepers, PO BOX 1353, Medina, Ohio 44258.

**Membership Form** - Please complete so that we have current roster information for the newsletters!

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ (Optional) # of colonies \_\_\_\_\_