

# THE BEE HERDER

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



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## MCBA Meeting Information

Club meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Williams on the Lake. 787 Lafayette Road, Medina, OH (Just west of the fairgrounds). The next meeting is June 18, 2018.

Join us at 6:30 pm the Beginner's Half Hour for questions and discussion about what's happening in your bee yard. At 7 p.m. Joe Kovaleski, will discuss Sustainable Beekeeping Using Nucs. This presentation is part of the Ohio State Beekeepers' Association (OSBA) 2018 Traveling Speaker Program about using nucs to better manage bee yards, replace winter loses, keep an extra queen on hand, and manage splits and swarms.

If you are planning on selling honey at the Medina County Fair this summer, make sure to pick up a seller packet from Peggy Garnes.

June 24: **Sunday afternoon at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens.** Join us for a special tour for MCBA of the Hall, Gardens and Butterfly exhibit from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Bring your veil if you wish to tour the bee yard - no exceptions. Register and pay (\$12) by June 20 through Eventbrite. The link is also on the MCBA website. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stan-hywett-gardens-and-hives-tour-registration-46676895852>.

July 16 – **Fair booth cleanup and training and Mandatory Seller's Meeting.** If you plan to sell hive products at the fair, you must attend this meeting. Contact Peggy Garnes with questions about selling honey or volunteering at the fair.

July 30 - August 5, 2018 – **Medina County Fair.** Please sign up to help at the booth for a few hours.

## Recent Events

Sheila St. Clair on Making Creamed Honey – Sheila led a lively demonstration of how to make creamed honey by using a stand mixer to blend one part of a smooth, high quality creamed honey with 10 parts of liquid honey until the mixture has a white, uniform color. Keep the mixture in a cool place for several weeks until the crystals form. Once the honey has set up, it will keep indefinitely. Sheila did not leave printed instructions, but you can read more about how to make creamed honey here:

<http://www.indianahoney.org/uncategorized/make-creamed-honey-at-home/>

# Medina County Beekeepers Association Minutes

## Regular Monthly Membership Meeting May 21, 2018

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Medina County Beekeeper's Association, was held at Williams on the Lake at 787 Lafayette Rd, Medina, Ohio on May 21, 2018. The meeting convened at 7:05 P.M., President, Paul Kosmos presiding, Laurene Kiel acting as Secretary.

Paul Kosmos introduced the new Bee Herder Editor, Tania Jarosewich, to the membership.

Paul Kosmos introduced the new Treasurer, Toni Watson. Paul is working with Toni to assist in her transitioning into the position. A Treasurer report will be available next month.

Committee Reports: Fair Committee - For members interested in selling at the fair, sellers' packets with the rules and guidelines will be available for pick-up at the June membership meeting. A mandatory sellers' meeting and the booth clean-up will take place at the fairgrounds in place of the regular July membership meeting.

Announcements: Saturday, June 2nd - A field day sponsored by the Lorain Beekeepers Association will be held at Queen Right Colonies

Sunday, June 24th 11 am - 2 pm. - \*Special Membership Event\* Enjoy a tour of Stan Hywet Hall, their beautiful gardens, and butterfly house. Club member and apiarist, Laura Urban, will be opening the property's hives for viewing. Veils are mandatory. Registration required through Eventbrite on the MCBA website. Cost per person is \$12.

A bear was spotted near Brecksville this month

Presentation: Sheila St. Clair provided the members with a demonstration on "how to" produce creamed honey. Sheila and Denzel St. Clair own and operate Queen Right Colonies in Spencer, Ohio. They have been in beekeeping for 47 years and supplied local beekeepers with 4,000 packages of bees in 2018.

Adjournment: June 18, 2018 at 7:00 P.M and Williams on the Lake at 787 Lafayette Rd, Medina, Ohio were fixed as the time and place of the next regular meeting.

## MCBA Club News

The club is thankful to members who have agreed to help with tasks and is always looking for volunteers to write newsletter articles, help with the fair, give local talks – the more hands, the more we can accomplish. If you are interested in helping, please contact Paul Kosmos ([president@medinabeekeepers.com](mailto:president@medinabeekeepers.com)). Thank you to our most recent volunteers:

Local Talks – Mary Simonelli, beekeeper and Master Gardener, will deliver a talk for the Girl Scouts about pollinator friendly gardening to help with a garden that they are planning, designing, and planting.

Peggy Garnes will give a talk to cub scouts in June to introduce the boys to the world of bees.

Paul Kosmos is doing a presentation at the Wadsworth Library in July.

Newsletter –If you have ideas for stories, would like to write an article, or have information to share with club members, please email Tania ([Tania@HinckleyHoney.com](mailto:Tania@HinckleyHoney.com)).

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## Medina County Beekeepers Association Membership Application / Renewal

If you have not yet paid your club dues this year, please fill in the form below, bring a check for \$20 for email delivery of newsletter or \$25 for mailed newsletters payable to Medina Co.

Beekeepers Association to the next meeting or mail care of Toni Watson, PO Box 1353, Medina OH, 44258. You can also pay dues online at this link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-dues-registration-29296328106> . If you took the Beginner's Course, do **not** use this form. Your course registration includes a one-year club members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check here if this is a renewal and all information on the roster is correct. Otherwise, please fill out the section below:

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) # of Colonies \_\_\_\_\_

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### MCBA Bee Yard

The Medina Beekeepers Association Bee Yard is up and running in the Feeding Medina County Community Garden as you can see from Peggy's photo of the hives.

Mike Cantrell, Peggy Garnes, and several MCBA beginning bee keepers inspected the bee yard hives on Monday, May 21, 2018. They saw capped brood and a good laying pattern with all ages of eggs and larva. The bees were storing pollen and nectar, and building up nicely after a cold spring start. Mike said, "They are looking normal as normal could be in our world of bee keeping."

The group also saw a few drones as well as this little turtle. They thought maybe they could make it the bee yard mascot and train it to eat small hive beetles (SHB)!? Contact Mike or Peggy or watch the website if you are interested in participating in future inspections.



## The Northeast Ohio Bee Yard - June

June is an important month for northeast Ohio beekeepers, with the majority of honey production happening in June and early July. The “Ohio Trees for Bees” page of the Ohio State University Extension website shows photos of the leaves and flowers of the Black locust, Basswood (Linden), and Catalpa trees (<https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ent-71>).

If you installed a package this year on new foundation, your bees will have probably drawn out comb in both brood boxes and the queen should be laying in the second brood box. Keep feeding until all of the frames are drawn out. Your overwintered hives should be strong - plenty of bees between the frames covering swaths of brood, forager bees bringing in pollen and nectar, and bees working in the honey supers. Watch for swarms and if you have not yet done so, put honey supers on your overwintered hives for the honey flow. You might also want to put a pollen trap on a strong hive. Some beekeepers keep the pollen trap open and collect pollen all summer, others recommend keeping the trap open for about three days to collect pollen and closed for several days to let the bees store pollen.

If you haven't yet put out wasp traps, now is the time to do so. Take a look at the European Hornet that one of our members trapped in his bee yard and brought to the May meeting (in a vase covered with plastic wrap). European hornets are predators that can feed on bees, and strip bark and harvest the sap of bushes and trees such as ash, birch, roses and lilacs (<https://beeinformed.org/2011/10/21/hornet-predators/>).



And, of course, don't forget about pesky varroa mites. Do a monthly alcohol wash

(<http://www.indianahoney.org/uncategorized/alcohol-wash-to-get-a-mite-count-in-a-beehive/>) to measure mite counts and consider treatment if you have over 6 mites in your ½ cup sample of bees. When the temperature is between 50 and 90 degrees, you can use the MiteAway product. You can also make plans for walk away splits after the honey flow to provide a brood break.

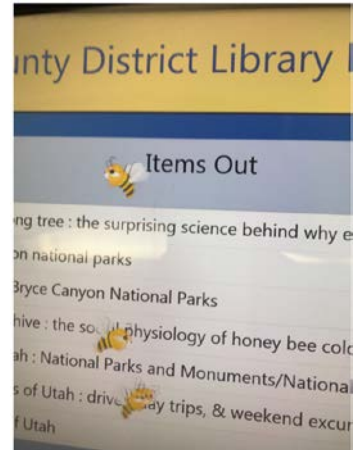
We'll talk more about post-honey flow management in the next newsletter. We'll also talk about winter planning. Even though the summer has just started, the days will get shorter after the summer solstice on June 21. Beekeepers often say that winter planning should start in June.

## Medina County Library Observation Hive

One of the ways that The Medina County Beekeepers' Association educates the community about bees and beekeeping is by supporting the Medina County Library's observation hive. The library owns the hive and the MCBA supplies the bees and volunteers to manage the hive. As one of the club volunteers said, "It is really a big deal for the kids and the adults."

Not only does the library host an observation hive, they take the theme of bees very seriously. Take a look at what we spotted on the Medina County Public Library self-check kiosk.

The photos below show Peggy Garnes installing the bees into their home in the Library observation hive in May 2018. Bees can typically survive in an observation hive over the summer, but struggle to overwinter in an observation hive because they cannot cluster or fly outside in the cold. This year the observation hive volunteers plan to remove the bees in late August, over winter them in a nuc, and reinstall them next year.



## Local and Regional Events

**Ohio State University** – Tuesday, June 19, 2018. Denise Ellsworth, Program Director for Honey Bee and Native Pollinator Education is offering a one-day training sponsored by The Ohio State University Bee Lab for individuals interested in becoming a certified Ohio Pollinator Advocate. Ohio Pollinator Advocates complete at least two hours of training in pollination biology, Ohio bee identification, bee biology and habitat enhancement. Once certified, advocates use outreach resources and materials to teach two programs to adult and youth audiences to spread the word about why pollinators matter and how to take action to conserve these important animals. For more information visit <https://u.osu.edu/certify/> or contact Denise at [ellsworth.2@osu.edu](mailto:ellsworth.2@osu.edu).

**Wooster's Secret Arboretum**, Saturday, June 30, 8:00 pm – 10:30pm. Free Insect Night for Families. The Ohio State Entomology Department students, staff and volunteers will host insect-themed activities and a guided walk through the arboretum to learn all about insect life after dark. Bring a flashlight, sneakers, and a bug jar. This event is free to the public and kids of all ages are welcome! Everyone will go home with a pollinator-friendly plant. Call 330-263-3723 if the weather looks threatening. More information at <https://entomology.osu.edu/events/insect-night-free-family-event>.

**Heartland Apicultural Society (HAS) annual conference** – July 11-13, 2018 - Washington University in St. Louis. Visit the association website ([www.heartlandbees.org](http://www.heartlandbees.org)) for information about speakers, topics, lodging, and registration.

**Medina Library Bee Festival** – Saturday, July 21, 11:00 am -3:00 pm. Join us for a bee tent with live nuc, kids' activities, candle rolling and balloon crafts. Each year over 1,000 visitors attend the event.

**Eastern Apiculture Society (EAS) annual Honey Bee Conference** – August 13-17, 2018. Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA. Visit the association website



([www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2018.html](http://www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2018.html)) for information about speakers, topics, lodging, and registration. The conference has tracks based on level of experience and offers a short and long session. The presenters are top beekeepers from around the world. -

**West Virginia Beekeepers Fall Conference** August 24-25, 2018. Fairmont High Tech Center. Visit the association website ([www.wvbeekeepers.org](http://www.wvbeekeepers.org)) for more information and registration.