# THE BEE HERDER

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Medina County Bee Inspector: Ron Zickefoose ronz@asap-homes.com 330-466-3642

State of Ohio Inspector: Barbara Bloetscher bbloetscher@agri.ohio.gov 614-644-5839 Join the MCBA to hear a great lineup of virtual and live speakers. Start or renew your membership online, or send in the membership form at the end of the newsletter.

Monday, July 18 – Fair Cleanup Medina Fairgrounds Agriculture Building 735 West Lafayette Rd Medina OH 44256

**Fair Booth Cleanup 6PM-7:30 PM** Brief Seller's Meeting (mandatory) immediately following.

Monday, August 15 – Club Picnic Buckeye Woods Park 6335 Wedgewood Rd (Rt 162), Medina OH 44256

Monday, September 19 WILLIAMS ON THE LAKE 787 Lafayette Road Medina OH 44256 Question and answer period begins at 6:30PM Presentation 7PM-8:30 PM Topic TBD



#### Ten Minutes with the Bees

by Paul Kosmos, MCBA President

#### The Bee Yard in July

It appears that many beekeepers are experiencing a very good Honey year. We are hearing about lots of supers full of capped honey and getting questions about extracting honey – about when and how to extract honey.



How Sweet it Is!

Let's start with the when. Many beekeepers extract their main honey in July. The honey is capped, the supers are heavy, and it will make inspecting hives a whole lot easier. Some wait until later in the year with the hope of only extracting one time. After all, as much fun as it is to collect honey, it is a lot of work. Most of it is in the preparation and cleanup. So, it is up to you!

As for how to extract honey, there are numerous ways. One method is to use a fume board and spray that causes the bees to leave the super. This used to be quite a popular method. It must be hot and sunny to activate the spray. Smoking the bees lightly also helps to drive them down before removal. Then, the super is removed as a whole.

Perhaps the most frequent comment I get is regarding the weight of a full super. A full super weighs about 35-40 lbs. If you have wo supers on a hive, the top one seems extra heavy because of the height. What about all the beekeepers with three or more supers? Yikes! There are ways to get around lifting such heavy boxes. You can remove one frame at a time, shake and brush most of the bees off (In front of the hive works well), then place the frame in a spare box and quickly place a towel over it. This works wonderfully well with two people and goes really fast.



Remove a frame, shake off the bees, hand it to the helper. Put it in a box and cover. You are already removing the next frame.

Your efforts will be richly rewarded with the best honey you will ever taste! When it first comes out of the hive take a second to taste it. It is like a tomato right off the vine – at its best.

#### What else is happening July?

Many beekeepers treat for Varroa in July after removing their supers. Some treatments are not approved for use with honey supers on. That makes it a good time to knock down the varmints!

#### Saturday, July 16 – Medina Library Bee Festival 11AM-3PM

Enjoy a day of bee-themed family fun including the opening of a bee hive, beekeeping information fun crafts, and activities for kids.

- Opening of the hive 11 AM-1 PM;
- Beekeeping Show and Tell; Nate the Great balloon twisting 11 AM-2 PM;
- 11:30 AM Storytime

#### Monday, July 18 – Fair Cleanup 6PM-7:30 PM

Fair Cleanup Day is right around the corner! The fair is one of the main programs MCBA supports and in turn revenue from the fair allows us to bring in speakers for the meetings.

Mark **Monday, July 18th** on your calendar! It starts at 6:00 PM and lasts only about an hour. We will have pizza at the completion of our work. It's fun, and important for the club.

#### Saturday, July 30 – Booth Decoration 9AM-11AM

We can also use some help on Saturday, July 30 to help decorate the MCBA booth. Signs, pictures, decorations, etc. all have to be completed to make sure our booth is the class of the fair. We should finish by 11:00AM.

### Monday, August 15 – MCBA Club Picnic 6PM-7:30PM

#### Buckeye Woods Park

#### 6335 Wedgewood Rd (Rt 162), Medina OH 44256

Join us to spend some time talking bees and getting to know your fellow beekeepers. We have hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats with all the fixings! This year we have invited a guest speaker from Medina Parks and Services to talk about the pollinator gardens and (weather permitting) give a tour of the bee yards.

#### Friday, September 30-Saturday, October 1 – Bee Culture Annual Event

**BEEing Diverse: Inspiring Leaders in Beekeeping** Bee Culture Conference Room 640 West Liberty Street Medina OH 44256

Speakers will discuss their journeys in beekeeping to the present, and what they are currently doing within the bee world. Keynote speaker is Dorothy Pelanda, Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

#### **TICKET OPTIONS**

In Person Only – \$100 In Person and Link to Recording – \$125 Virtual Event Only – \$50 Virtual Event and Link to Recording – \$75

Visit https://store.beeculture.com/events/ to register.



*Keynote Speaker: Dorothy Pelanda, Director of Ohio Department of Agriculture.* 

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# BEEing Diverse: Inspiring Leaders in Beekeeping

Mark Your Calendars for September 30 - October 1, 2022

The Return Of Bee Culture's Annual Event

# **Speakers Include:**

- Susan Cobey: Internationally known Founder of New World Carniolan program
- Geraldine Wright: Hope Professor of Entomology in the Department of Zoology at University of Oxford, UK

Nina Bagley: Urban Master Beekeeper

- Tammy Horn Potter: Kentucky State Apiarist, author of multiple books
- Kim Skyrm: Chief Inspector of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
- Barbara Bloetscher: Ohio Department of Agriculture State Entomologist/Apiarist
- Joan Gunter: Past president of ABF, Commercial Beekeeper

Ticket Options In Person Only - \$100 In Person and Link to Recording - \$125 Virtual Event Only - \$50 Virtual Event and Link to Recording - \$75

Visit www.Store.BeeCulture.com to purchase your ticket. In person will be limited to 100 individuals. This event will be recorded and is available as part of some ticket options. It will also be available after the event.

Anne Marie Fauvel: Bee Informed Partnership (BIP)

- Tracy Farone: Professor of Biology at Grove City College in Pennsylvania
- Maggie Lamothe Boudreau: Commercial Canadian Beekeeper, owner of Rayons de Miel, a 350 colony operation raising 4000 Queens a year.

Jackie Park Burris: Jackie Park-Burris Queens, Inc.

Julianne Grose: Associate Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Biology at BYU

Dorothy Pelanda: Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture\*

Each speaker will give two talks. One will be on their journey in beekeeping up until where they are now. The other will be on what they are doing now within the bee field.

\*Dorothy Pelanda, as the keynote speaker, will only give one talk.



# August 1-7 – Medina County Fair

We are still in need of volunteers to help in the children's area and to assist with the observation hive. A signup sheet will be available at the July meeting/Fair cleanup. Besides the fun and excitement of participating in the fair "atmosphere", the club relies on the income from the fair to help pay for speakers at our meetings.



## Come join us for a session to learn what we get so excited about!

# Saturday, July 30 – Booth Decoration

### 9AM-11AM

We can also use some help on Saturday, July 30 to help decorate the MCBA booth. Signs, pictures, decorations, etc. all have to be completed to make sure our booth is the class of the fair. We should finish by 11:00AM.



1Best Looking Booth at the Fair!



**Observation Hive in Action!** 



2Drone Petting - The hit of the Fair!

## 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