

THE BEE HERDER

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www.MedinaBeekeepers.com



MEDINA
beekeepers

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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, August 15 – Club Picnic

6PM-7:30PM

Buckeye Woods Park

6335 Wedgewood Rd (Rt 162), Medina OH 44256

Guest Speaker: Kellie Docherty, Conservation Educator
Medina County Soil and Water Conservation District

Monday, September 19

WILLIAMS ON THE LAKE

787 Lafayette Road Medina OH 44256

Guest Speaker: Dave Noble
Topic: Preparing your Hives for Winter

Question and answer period begins at 6:30PM

Presentation 7PM-8:30 PM

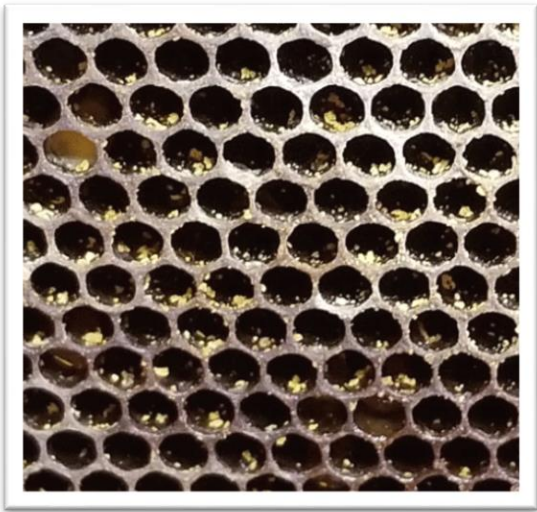


Ten Minutes with the Bees

by *Paul Kosmos, MCBA President*

The Bee Yard in August

It's time to go back to the basics and talk about Varroa Mites. Many of us get busy in the summer and let treatment of mites slide a bit. Or slide completely, skipping treatments. Unfortunately, we pay for our actions when a hive dies in December or January for "reasons unknown." It is difficult to pinpoint the cause of such failures, but there are hints....



Varroa Poop

If a hive dies, you can scoop up a cup of bees and do an alcohol wash to see how many mites you find. It might tell you something. Another test is to hold up one of the darker brood frames and see if a lot of cells have small white or yellow deposits on the side of the cell. If it looks like the frame above, the hive had a serious mite problem.

But we like to be proactive and do something to keep the mites in check. You can do a sugar shake or alcohol wash to determine if you have a problem. Some beekeepers skip this step since they always have some mites and end up treating anyway.

I am following Tim Moore's fall treatment plan since he has been so successful with it.

Tim treats his hives in late August or early September after he removes his summer supers. His preferred method is Formic Pro. Formic Pro is not quite as strong as Mite Away Quick Strips. As a result, it does not kill as many queens. It also has a longer shelf life.

Tim uses Formic Pro this time of year since there is brood in the hive and most other treatments are not effective at killing mites underneath the cappings.

Make sure you read and follow the instructions carefully, **especially regarding temperatures!** Also, wear protective gear as recommended.

Tim treats one more time around Thanksgiving. He picks a day in the 50's and treats with Oxalic Vapor. This treatment is very effective as there is almost no brood underneath cappings. Since there is no capped brood all of the mites are exposed (phoretic) and most are killed.



Formic Pro

Check out this informative article on [Betterbee.com](https://www.betterbee.com) for information on treating for mites in high temperatures.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 our guest speaker is Kellie Docherty, the Education Coordinator at the Medina County Soil and Water District. Kelly will be talking about the pollinator gardens and (weather permitting) give a tour of the bee yards.

Friday, September 23
OSU Extension Ag Day
Medina County Fairgrounds
720 W. Smith Rd.
Medina, Ohio 44256



2019 Volunteers

The Medina County Beekeepers Association has been invited back to participate in the 2022 OSU Extension Agriculture Day. The event was a huge success in 2019, with over 400 children attending. There were stations set up for each area, including horses, chickens, honeybees, etc.

MCBA set up two tables, including an observation hive, a drone petting box, and a lot of bee-related items. In addition, the kids got to try on a bee suit and have their pictures taken. It was a blast! The event was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID, but is back on this year. If you would like to volunteer, details will follow soon.



The kids (and volunteers!) had a blast!

Saturday, September 24 – LCBA End of Summer Classic
9AM-4PM
Lorain County Fairgrounds
23000 Fairgrounds Road, Wellington, OH 44090

Fun-filled community educational day including beekeeping experts, family-friendly activities, local artisans, crafters and vendors, fair food, games, door prizes and raffles.

For more information, visit
www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

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.

Visit <https://store.beeeculture.com/events/> for ticket and registration information.

Medina Library Bee Festival

Another Huge Success!

The 2022 Bee Festival was a success for all involved, including the visitors and the volunteers. Turnout was good and everyone enjoyed the festivities. Laurene did her usual great job in the Bee Tent. Visitors, especially the adults, showed a real interest and asked great questions.

Jane, Kimberly, and Barb manned the candle rolling table to demonstrate their skills rolling wax.

Sharon and Rebecca held the fort at the Observation Hive and Bee "Stuff" display table.

Peggy, Shari, John, and Kim manned a display table with pamphlets and displays about MCBA and related topics. Kim also managed the event for MCBA and did her usual great job!

A really big **Thank You** to the **Medina County Public Library Staff** and all the **Volunteers** and who helped make the festival a success. Everyone involved helped in educating the public about our fuzzy friends.



Fair Wrap Up

The 177th annual Medina County Fair was well-attended and a huge **“THANK YOU”** to all the volunteers that participated in educating the public on the importance of honeybees. Volunteers sported bright yellow shirts with the club logo and were easily identified in the crowds.



Special thanks to:

Kim Barkfelt
Shari Baker
Larry and Toni Watson
Kimberly Carey
Shelia Maurer
Kris Gaughan
Cooper Claypool

John Vrtachnik
Kate Reusch
Chris Fullerton
Mary Jo Moses
Ellie Jisa
Donna Roberts
Mark Salzimmer

Richard Sprague
Deanna and Estelle Rasch
Paul and Yvonne Kosmos
Sharon and Rebekah Carpenter
Mark Fredrick
Rochell Coffman
Kym and Dave Lucas

Andy Kawac
Jay Hadam
Dan McDemermott
Kim and Matt Marcum
Tim Moore
Dan Parker
Peggy Garnes

This year we had a special guest, American Honey Queen **Lucy Winn**, who spent two days talking with fair goers, judging Fair Prince and Princess, and assisted in judging our bakery entries. Making smoothies and granola balls made with ingredients produced by honeybees and using our local honey to share was a hit with the fair attendees.



Candle rolling was a big hit, as was the second observation hive area. Many fair goers commented on how bright and well-decorated the MCBA spaces were, and asked about the winning honey and baked good entries.

So many children (and adults!) were excited to spot the queens in the observation hives. Our volunteers fielded numerous questions about everything from beeswax and the different colors of honey to beehives and pollinator-friendly plants.



Fair Winners

Congratulations to all the winners on a job well done!



Entry	Placement	Winner
Honey – Extracted White	First	Elk Creek
	Second	Bruce Pohl
	Third	Andrew Kawac
Honey – Light Amber	First	Jay Hadam
	Second	Pamela Vagarasoto
	Third	Elk Creek
Honey – Dark Amber	First	Peggy Garnes
	Second	Jay Hadam
	Third	Elk Creek
Pollen	First	Elk Creek
Soap	First – Best in Show	Evana Gaughan
	Second	Peggy Garnes
Bees Wax	First	Elk Creek
	Second	Evana Gaughan
Hand Cream	First	Evana Gaughan
Creamed Honey	First	Bruce Pohl
	Second	Kirt Stahinic

Entry	Placement	Winner
Regular Comb Honey	First	Jay Hadan
Cut Comb Honey	First Second	Jay Hadan Elk Creek
Bees Wax Figurines	First	Nick Coffman
Candles – Molded	First Second	Evana Gaughan Elk Creek
Balm	First	Evana Gaughan
Honey Yeast Bread	First – Best in Show Second Third	Janet Gommel Heidi Coffman Connie Adams
Honey Cake	First Third	Kate Reusch Karen Sissert
Honey Cookie	First Second Third	Connie Adams Amy West Erica Voss
Extracted Frame	First Second	Andrew Kawac Bruce Pohr



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 _____