

THE BEE HERDER

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www.MedinaBeekeepers.com



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MCBA Club Meetings



SUNDAY, August 18

Annual MCBA Picnic

1:00 pm, Mugarage Park, 4895
Windfall Road, Medina.

The club supplies hamburgers, hots, chips, pop, etc. We ask members attending with last names starting A-K to bring a side dish and members with last names starting with L-Z to bring some type of dessert. The picnic starts at 1:00 pm and goes as long as we like. We have the pavilion for the afternoon. There will be some door prizes, hopefully a game or two. No RSVP required. Come and enjoy good company and good food.

We will resume our regular MCBA meeting schedule in September: Third Monday of each month at Williams on the Lake, 787 Lafayette Road, Medina, OH (west of the fairgrounds).

- 6:30 - 7:00 pm question and answer session
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm meeting and speaker

September 16 – Jeff Gabric - Winterizing your hives to survive our winters

October 21 – Bobbi Heider - Lotions, Lip Balms and Soaps. Hands on demo.

November 18 – Speaker to be announced

(Picnic basket Icon made by [Freepik](http://www.flaticon.com) from www.flaticon.com)

Ten Minutes with the Bees

By Paul Kosmos, MCBA President

August – Getting the bees ready for winter

August is when you make sure your bees are healthy in preparation for winter. Why now? While good health is always important, *now is when the bees raise the bees that will raise the bees that go through winter.*

Winter bees are different than summer bees. They contain more body fat and are able to live longer than summer bees. If the bees caring for these bees are sick or weak, they may not be able to provide sufficient care and/or food to make sure the winter bees are at their best. That can contribute to some of the mysterious dead outs in late winter.

By now you know all the steps. The question is if you've had the time (or energy) to do regular mite checks and treat as necessary?

Perhaps extract some honey to reduce the weight in the supers so it is not so difficult to inspect the deeps!

The best description with excellent pictures to help you is **Honey Bee Health Coalition**. The website is <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/> There are links to most areas of bee health... and especially Varroa.



If necessary, treat with your preferred method.

Your actions in the next week or so may determine how your bees fare this winter!

Small Hive Beetles. Happy to say that SHBs have not been an issue for most beekeepers this year. One or two here and there, but not like last year.

One happy problem this year!

Most beekeepers are finding full deep frames and lots of honey in their supers this year. And it seems to be continuing. It is mid August and everything is still green, clover and cone flowers still in bloom. Of course, that also caused a bunch of unexpected swarming last month.

Full deeps are wonderful for winter. But keep an eye on them and make sure your bees have a super to store if the flow continues, or at least have something to do.

European Hornets - If anyone has a solution for European Hornets please let us know! (Can't find the nest).

News

Medina Bee Festival Thank You!

The 2019 Medina Bee Festival was a huge success! Over the course of four short hours, 1,046 visitors attended this popular annual event to celebrate and learn about the honey bee. The children were especially curious and full of questions this year. The word is getting out about the importance of our pollinators!

I'd like to give a big shout-out and extend my gratitude to the following club member volunteers that shared their time, enthusiasm, and expertise:

Sharon Carpenter
Rebekah Carpenter
Samuel Carpenter
Jane Dew
Peggy Garnes

Laurene Kiel
Paul Kosmos
John Rose Mary
Simonelli

James Simonelli
Barb Vrtachnik
John Vrtachnik
Laura Weber

Thank you!!

Kim Barkfelt, MCBA Bee Festival Chair



Talk at the Salvation Army Day Camp

Club President, Paul Kosmos, and Vice-President, Peggy Garnes, gave a talk at The Salvation Army Day Camp in Medina on June 29. It was a fun time. There were 21 kids in the event and they clearly enjoyed Peggy's discussion and pictures of honey bees, yellow jackets, and related topics. They especially enjoyed the observation hive. Peggy also took some samples of burr comb. However, they eventually started squeezing them like bubble wrap. Now just wax!

Honey Extraction Time – Rent the Club Extractor

Don't have an extractor? Don't worry! One of the benefits of MCBA membership is that members can rent the club's extractor and new filtering equipment. Members can keep the equipment for three days during the busy season for a deposit of \$20 of which \$10 is refunded upon the return of the cleaned extractor and equipment. Call Peggy at 330-723-6265 to reserve your spot today.

Medina County Beekeepers Association Minutes

There were no minutes for the July Fair booth clean-up meeting

Medina County Fair 2019

By Paul Kosmos, MCBA President

A Few Pictures Say it all!



The 2019 Medina County Fair was a huge success for all involved. Amazing weather combined with interesting displays brought in records crowds. As always, the action at the Observation Hive was nonstop.



Most were apprehensive at first but once they tried it, we couldn't get them away! Adults wanted to try it also but their hands were too big!



Kim, Jane, and Barb set up the display area and the new Petting Box! John Vrchatnik built a petting box for drones and it was an instant hit.

***Thanks to all who contributed their time and talents to making 2019 our best fair yet!
Special thanks to Laura and Peggy for managing the fair this year.***



Once again, the booth was wonderfully done. As attractive as it was productive! Richard and Bob getting ready for the crowds.

Record Sales – Sales for MCBA at the 2019 Fair set a new record for total sales. Fair sales generate a large portion of the funds that enable the club to bring in speakers.

Medina County Fair 2019 Bee and Bakery Winners

1. Extracted Honey (white) pfund scale 0-34 mm (3) one pound jars in glass.
 - 1st Ron Zickerfoose
 - 2nd Russell Riopelle
 - 3rd Tim Moore

2. Extracted Honey (light amber) pfund scale 35-85 mm (3) one pound jars in glass.
 - 1st Richard Sprague
 - 2nd Peggy Garnes
 - 3rd Tim Moore

3. Amber Extracted Honey (dark amber) pfund scale 86 mm & above (3) one pound jars in glass.
 - 1st Peggy Garnes
 - 2nd Richard Sprague
 - 3rd Ron Zickerfoose

4. Creamed Honey (3) one pound jars in glass.
 - 1st Kim Barkfield
 - 2nd Richard Sprague
 - 3rd Russell Riopelle

5. Chunk Honey (3) one-pound wide mouth jars in glass. -No entries

6. Extracting Frames (shallow or medium) 2 frames in your display case or wrapped in plastic.
 - 1st Russell Riopelle
 - 2nd Andrew Tochinsky
 - 3rd Bruce Pohl

7. Comb Honey (3) round plastic sections in manufacturer container.
 - 1st Russell RiopelleNo additional entries

8. Cut Comb Honey (3) 12 oz. to 1 lb. cut comb sections in leak proof plastic box. No entries

9. Molded Beeswax Figure(s), NOT candle(s); maximum of 3 pieces, not to be identical.
 - 1st Russell Riopelle
 - 2nd Russell Riopelle
 - 3rd Russell Riopelle

10. Beeswax Figurine(s), NOT FROM MOLD & NOT A CAN-DLE; maximum of 3 pieces.
 - 1st Russell RiopelleNo additional entries

11. Candles, Molded; two pairs (4 identical pieces) weight of exhibit not to exceed 10 lbs.
 - 1st Russell Riopelle
 - 2nd Evona GaughanNo additional entries

12. Candles, Dipped; two pairs (4 identical pieces) weight of exhibit not to exceed 10lbs.

1st Russell Riopelle

No additional entries

13. Beeswax-One (1) 5 lb. block (5 lb. Minimum).

1st Russell Riopelle

No additional entries

14. Pollen in three one lb. jars.

1st Tim Moore

2nd Peggy Garnes

no additional entries

15. Bees Wax—1 lb. minimum.

1st Russell Riopelle - BEST of SHOW

2nd Evona Gaughan

3rd Richard Sprague

16. Hand Cream 3 uniform 2 oz. clear containers (recipe of beeswax, honey, propolis, pollen)

2nd Evona Gaughan

3rd Russell Riopelle

17. Lip Balm 3 uniform clear lip balm pots (recipe of beeswax, honey, propolis, pollen)

1st Evona Gaughan

2nd Angelina Sheetz

3rd Russell Riopelle

18. Soap 3 uniform bars, handmade lye based (recipe of bees-wax, honey, propolis, pollen).

No entries

19. No entry in Fair Guide

20. Honey Cookies—six cookies, recipe attached

1st Tanya Rodgers

2nd Janet Vannoy

3rd Kim Barkfield

21. Honey Cake—one layer, not frosted or glazed, recipe attached

1st Gerry Stormer

2nd Carole Lintner

No additional entries

22. Honey Yeast Bread—one loaf, recipe attached

1st Audrey Gregorek - BEST of SHOW

2nd Gerry Stormer

No additional entries

A Class Fit for a Queen (Bee)

By Paul Kosmos, MCBA President

Peggy conducted a class on how to make up nucs, how to introduce a queen cell, and how to prepare the nuc for winter.



Discussion included the physical makeup of a two nuc system as well as a discussion of Mike Palmer's method for over wintering for comparison.



Illustration included placement of frames, type of bees, food requirements, and when to add the 2nd deep.



Peggy, Chuck, and John brought in 40 sets of equipment for the participants. The method shown was for two nucs on a double solid bottom board so that the two nucs could share the heat of the common wall. That also means one less exposed wall.



Peggy grafted and donated thirty-six 48-hour queen cells to the participants. These are premium queens, daughters of Perdue Ankle Bitters!



Placing the cells in a protective carrier. Styrofoam cups with Kleenex for cushion used to transport.

Kudos to Peggy and all involved for an informative and fun event!

Club Bee Yard Update

By Dwain Novak, MCBA Bee Yard Attendant

Greetings from the bee yard. We had a very productive early to mid summer honey yield in our hive. Unfortunately though, our hive has swarmed. I spoke with Peggy and Paul in this matter and it seems others are also experiencing late summer swarming. I was able to utilize existing club woodenware and, luckily, our resources furnished the yard with another queen. An alcohol wash showed a count of three mites, so prior to re-queening and with no brood present, oxalic vaporization was done. I will be attentive the week of August 12th - 18th to be sure we're back on track with our hive. Details will be coming shortly about the schedule for processing the honey, which we will donate.

The Northeast Ohio Bee Yard – August

Tasks for northeast Ohio beekeepers in August include making nucs, managing nectar dearth, treating for varroa, and planning for winter.

Create summer splits. Splits help with varroa control, protect against winter loss, and result in spring colonies with young queens. At this time, it's best to hive a split in a nuc rather than using 8- or 10-frame equipment. Make your nucs by mid-August while there are still sufficient drones for queen mating and to allow for several brood-rearing cycles before the first frost. You'll want to put pollen patties into the nuc and make sure that there is sufficient food for a quick build up. Overwintering a few nucs will set you up nicely for the spring. [Follow this link](#) to a detailed presentation from the Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association with details about making a split.

Monitor, and if needed, treat for varroa. As the bee population decreases in the dearth, the mite population will continue to increase. This time of year can be perilous for a colony since a higher percentage of bees carry mites and can be infected with viruses. Conduct an alcohol wash or sugar roll. If the count is more than 1 mite per 100 bees, treat, and then check to assess treatment effectiveness.

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has a great online resource that will walk you through the decisions you need to make to determine how best to manage varroa mites in your hives. Answer the questions and the tool will generate a list of your option: <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroatool/>.

Local and Regional Bee Events

[Germinate International Film Festival, Hillsboro, OH; August 16 and 17](#)

The Highland County Office of the Ohio State University Extension is holding the inaugural festival of films that represent current technologies, practices, and programs of rural communities and their industries. Attend live film screenings and participate in hands-on workshops on video production, photography, agriculture, natural resources, astronomy, and community development topics. To see a description of the films and to purchase tickets: <https://u.osu.edu/germinateinternationalfilmfest/>.

[Lorain County Fair, August 19 – 25, 2019](#)

Follow this link to see the fair schedule and location: <https://loraincountyfair.com/>

Lorain County Beekeepers – 100 Years Celebration, October 5, 2019; 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Enjoy appetizers, dinner and desserts at the Lorain County Fairgrounds. Seating is limited and attendance is limited to adults and children aged 10 and older for this event. RSVP by **August 31, 2019**. Learn more: <http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org/100-year-celebration.html>.

Apimondia, Quebec, Canada, September 8-12, 2019

Montreal will host the largest international beekeeping gathering, which will bring together more than 6,000 speakers from 80 countries. The program covers topics of interest to researchers, beekeepers and consumers. Over 200 exhibitors will be present. Learn more at <https://www.apimondia2019.com/>.

Ohio State Beekeepers Association (OSBA) Fall Conference; Plain City, OH; November 2, 2019

Mark the date on your calendar. Registration for the conference will begin in September. We'll post a link in the next newsletter.

2019 MCBA Membership Application / Renewal

Annual MCBA membership has two options for members:

- \$20 if newsletters will be emailed or \$25 for a printed newsletter mailed to your postal address

Membership provides one vote in MCBA club matters and includes one family member in club activities other than voting.

You may renew your membership

- online [here](#)
- complete the form below, make a check payable to Medina County Beekeepers Association, and mail both to MCBA Treasurer, PO Box 1353, Medina, Ohio 44258
- Bring a check and completed membership form to the club treasure at a club meeting.

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

Member Name: _____

e-mail: (please print): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ (Optional) # of colonies: _____

Medina County District Library Books for Beekeepers

Enjoy our quarterly installment of a feature from the MCDL: a list of books on a variety of topics that could be of interest to our club members. All of these books are available to borrow at the MCDL. Thank you to the MCDL for providing us with these resources.



Medina County District Library

mcdl.info



The Enlightenment of Bees: A Novel

By Rachel Linden

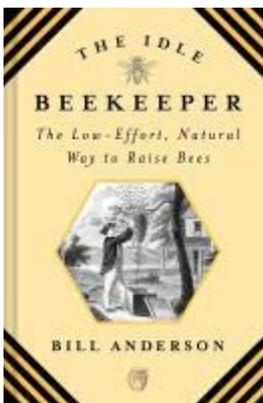
When Mia's plans for happily ever after fall apart, a humanitarian aid trip places her in the midst of the refugee crisis, where she finds true purpose.



Whole Food Cooking Every Day

By Amy Chaplin

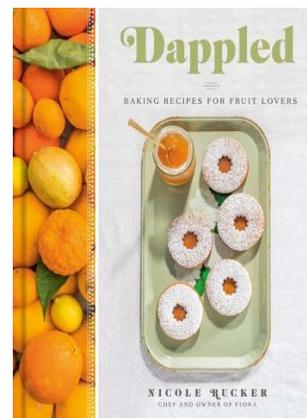
A fresh collection of 250 recipes that are free of meat, gluten, dairy, and refined sugars.



The Idle Beekeeper: The Low-Effort, Natural Way to Raise Bees

By Bill Anderson

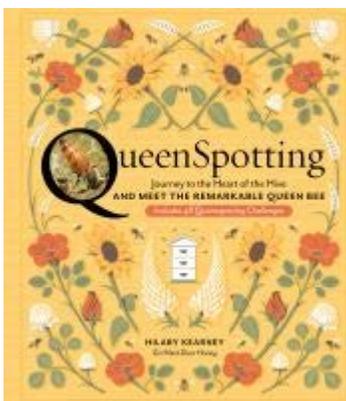
A truly low-maintenance method of beekeeping that promises to benefit both the environment and humans.



Dappled: Baking Recipes For Fruit Lovers

By Nicole Rucker

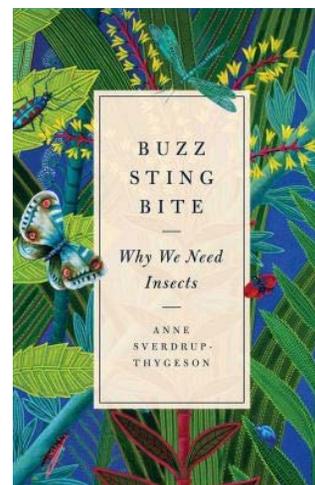
Everything an experienced or novice baker needs to know about choosing, using, and celebrating fruit in their baking creations.



QueenSpotting: Meet the Remarkable Queen Bee and Discover the Drama at the Heart of the Hive

By Hilary Kearney

A unique and fun look at the powerful and essential Queen, her behavior, and how it influences every aspect of hive activity.



Buzz Sting Bite: Why We Need Insects

By Anne Sverdrup-Thygeson

An entomologist convinces us, with humor, insight, and fascinating facts, that insects are not only essential, but desirable.