

THE BEE HERDER

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www.MedinaBeekeepers.com



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Vacant

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MEDINA BEEKEEPERS MEETINGS

WILLIAMS ON THE LAKE, 787 LAFAYETTE ROAD, MEDINA OH, 44256

Question and answer period begins at 6:30pm
Presentation begins at 7:00pm.

January 17, 2022 Live Presentation

Peggy Garnes -Making Comb Honey

Peggy will do a live demonstration on making comb honey. How to start, what kind of super to use, how to prepare the comb, and how to package the comb for eating or to sell. You are invited to wear your mask if more comfortable. The talk will be zoomed at the same time.



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February 21, 2022 Zoom Presentation

Randy Oliver – Reading the Frames in Your Hives

Join us as one of the leading experts in our field will share his knowledge regarding understanding what is going on in your hives by “Reading the Frames”.

March 21, 2022 Barb Bloetscher

Barb Bloetscher - The Ohio State Bee Inspector

Barb will share recent findings regarding diseases in the bee yard. There have been recent outbreaks of American Foulbrood in Ohio, so this is a timely and important topic.

TEN MINUTES WITH THE BEES

By Paul Kosmos, MCBA President

The Bee Yard in January

December 21, 2021 was significant in the world of honey bees. The date was Winter Solstice, the day the Northern Hemisphere is tilted the most away from the sun. That is why it is the shortest daylight day of the year. Why is that significant? The bees sense the slightly longer periods of daylight beginning that day and slowly begin to increase brood production. Even when it is 10 degrees outside, they are already making plans for Spring.

So why talk about this in January? As the bees raise more brood, they will slowly increase the amount of food they need to feed their new brood. That is why many, if not most, hives that die from starvation do so in March and April. It is also noteworthy for all beekeepers as increasing brood also means more bees and less open comb in the hive.



Beautiful Frame of Capped brood

As we move into March-May increasing brood has a number of effects on the life of your bees. The most significant change is when your bees begin swarm preparation. Why so important? If you ignore the signs of growth in your hives your bees will end up in the trees. Swarms are exciting to see, but more so if they are your neighbor's bees. Swarms are not a bad thing, but they set your bees back a bit and can reduce your honey crop.

Left unchecked most hives will swarm. Simply put, it's what they do to procreate, to create more hives for survival of their species.



May Swarm, Low to the Ground

So, what can we do to prevent swarms? **It ain't easy!** But there are some good things to try. Most of them focus on preventing the hive from catching swarm fever for once they do it is very difficult to stop. Let's explore a few of the most common techniques.

1. Equalizing your hives. That means moving brood frames to have equal strength in all of your hives. Reduces the pressure on your strongest hives
2. Putting supers on early. This works best once you have drawn comb in your supers. You are hoping your bees will start storing nectar in the super(s) and not in the deeps.
3. Splitting your hives. This method works best, but may result in more hives than you want. Move the mother queen to a nuc with a couple frames of brood and let the old hive raise a new Q.
4. Next month I'll expand on these techniques and share some ideas to help you catch swarms. Whether your own or your neighbors!

MCBA CLUB NEWS

Volunteers Still Needed!

The club is looking for helpers in several areas. To learn more about any of these positions, contact Paul Kosmos (pkosmos@frontier.com).

- **Newsletter help** - We are looking for volunteers to help with the newsletter - help write, submit stories, or edit the newsletter. Tania, who has done such a wonderful job with the newsletter, can no longer edit the newsletter for personal reasons.
- **Library Hive Maintenance** - Join the maintenance team for the library hive, located in the main branch of the Medina County District Library. Occasionally the hive has to be maintained. Adding food, cleaning the hive, and possibly swarm control.
- **MCBA Bee Yard Hives** – We also need one or two volunteers to manage the Bee Yard. This is similar to managing the hives in your back yard. Regular checks are necessary to maintain the hives in good order so that they can be used for in-person field days.

MCBA has two New Helpers!

One last reminder that **Kate Reusch** and **Sharon Carpenter** have accepted the positions of Treasurer for the club and keeper of the club's Membership List. Kate and Sharon are both now up and running in their new positions. Should you have questions about fees or payments, or need to make changes to the member list, please contact them directly. Don't forget to notify Sharon if your email address changes!

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Coming in January:

Tending Nature: Native Plants and Every Gardener's Role in Fostering Biodiversity

Fridays at 10AM EASTERN for 6 weeks from January 7th through February 11th

Mary Gardiner, Doug Tallamy, Lisa Olsen, Bryan Danforth, Heather Holm, Debra Knapke



[Visit this page for speakers, details and recording links when available.](#)

[Find details and register here.](#)

Thousands of Honeybees Stared Down Spain's Cumbre Vieja Volcano. They Won!

Kim Lucas forwarded this link. It is an interesting and true story.

<https://gizmodo.com/thousands-of-honeybees-stared-down-spain-s-cumbre-vieja-1848164304>

Medina Beekeepers Beginner Class

The 2022 Beginner Classes are posted on the website and open for registration (we already have three registered!). Anything you can do to get the word out would be appreciated. We have printed flyers and placed them around area businesses. If you know a good place to hang one of the flyers, please contact me or any one of our board members.



So You Want to Become a Beekeeper?

How do I get started?
What do I need to know?
Will honey bees help my garden?
Will I get Honey?

2022 Beginner Beekeeping Classes
Starting in February
For Time, Place, and Registration
www.Medinabeekeepers.com

Contacts:
Paul Kosmos 330-239-1379 pkosmos@frontier.com
Peggy Games 330-723-6265 pgames001@neo.rt.com

2022 SPRING WORKSHOP

[The 2022 Annual TCBA Spring Beekeepers Workshop March 4-5](#)

SOME VENDORS WILL GIVE A DISCOUNT ON ANY PREORDERS PLUS SAVE SHIPPING, JUST ASK!

This workshop is fun and informative. Excellent speakers, and for beginners the best thing is the opportunity to see all the vendors. You can touch, feel, try on jackets, veils, and hand tools before you buy. Click the link below to visit Tri-Counties website and to register.


<https://www.tricountybeekeepers.org/register>

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Medina County District Library

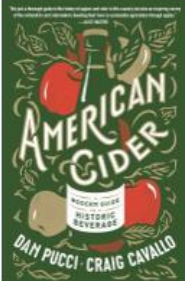
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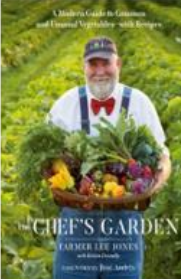
Bee People and the Bugs They Love
by Frank Mortimer
The author, a Master Beekeeper, has penned an entertaining and informative book about bees and their keepers: their obsessions, passions, missteps, and unique personalities. For anyone who has become or thought about becoming a beekeeper.




The Secret History of Home Economics
by Danielle Dreilinger
A fascinating and feminist look back at the field of home economics, which launched home cooks and housewives into the fields of chemistry, nutrition, finance, and education.



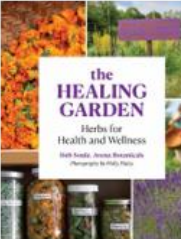
American Cider: A Modern Guide to a Historic Beverage
by Dan Pucci and Craig Cavallo
An in-depth and comprehensive look at apple cider and the growth, production, and promotion of a newly-popular, old favorite beverage.



The Chef's Garden: A Modern Guide to Common and Unusual Vegetables—with Recipes
by Farmer Lee Jones
This Ohio farmer revives heirloom species of vegetables and discovers new ones, and shares how to cook them.



Seed to Dust: Life, Nature, and a Country Garden
by Marc Hamer
A collection of the author's meditations from the year he was employed as a wealthy widow's gardener.



The Healing Garden: Herbs for Health and Wellness
by Deb Soule
A beautifully photographed guide to growing and tending herbs and creating products for wellness.

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2022 MCBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL – MEMBERSHIP MAKES A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT!

That's right – it's time to get ready for 2022. And how about an MCBA membership for a friend? Maybe you know somebody who would like to join our friendly beekeeping community and receive a monthly newsletter with tips and beekeeping ideas.

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: _____

e-mail: (please print): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ (Optional) # of colonies: _____