



Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers Association  
[www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com](http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com)

January 2019

# THE HONEYBEE TIMES

**Join us Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at the Rocky River Nature Center**  
24000 Valley Parkway, North Olmsted, OH 44070

Doors open at 6:30pm for refreshments and conversation. Meeting begins at 7:00pm.

January is our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and cake will be served.  
Our informal Honey Tasting Competition will be held. Enter a jar. Best Flavor only criteria.  
Cash prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

This month's speaker is Bob Hooker who will be discussing *Sustainable Apiary Management Using Nucleus Colonies (Nucs)*

Learn the basics of what a nuc is and how and when to make a nuc for a sustainable apiary program. Understand how to use a nuc for swarm control, backup queens and to hedge against winter losses.



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## *President's Message*

Happy New Year!

I hope that the holiday season was a safe and joyful one for you, your family and friends.

The 2018 GCBA membership was more than 160 individuals and families. We now have a lending library supported by volunteers for the benefit of all members. The fiscal records will all be maintained using Quickbooks and on the new GCBA Treasurer's computer in 2019. GCBA participated in several community events and was represented by board members and volunteers alike. The first hive for a GCBA teaching apiary was purchased and used for demonstrations at our field day. The May Field Day, attended by beekeepers from age 6 thru 90, and held at the CCF Joyce Bee Barn was very informational with many hand on activities and enjoyed by all. Our July picnic was held in terrific weather with lots of good food. August brought a week at fair and many generous volunteers manned the GCBA table. The GCBA Face-in-the-hole board, honey tasting and coloring sheets were all hits! Our first Youth Research Grant recipient, Leo Schirokauer, participated in our field day, was our November speaker and was featured on the Kim and Jim show. The December elections and holiday party brought a very nice evening of food and fellowship. Thank you for electing me to serve as your President in 2019.

We are starting the year (Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary GCBA!) with a terrific speaker line up, new board members and many opportunities to collaborate and support beekeepers in our community. We welcome all members to give a little time to assist the Board members or committee chairs with our activities to keep the club thriving. If everyone does a little, no one gets overwhelmed.

Rebecca Masterman, UMN Bee Squad Associate Program Director, who earned her Ph.D. in Entomology studying under the direction of Dr. Marla Spivak, will be our keynote speaker for the GCBA Field Day on May 18, 2019. Look for more details in February and save the date on your calendar.

To keep with the theme of our January presentation, uses for nucs in your sustainable apiary, we will be raffling off some nuc equipment and new queens at the March meeting. All details and ticket sales will be available at the January, February and March meetings.

We will have the Beginner Beekeeper Course each Wednesday in February. All paid members are welcome to attend one or more of the classes. The second week, the first 30 minutes will be dedicated to general membership topics, so please plan to attend.

January is time for membership renewal. The form is at the end of the newsletter and we will have some available at the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Annette*

## GCBA Happenings

The January Board meeting will be held at the Berea library on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm. Please, feel free to stop in with any questions or ideas for the club.

The 2019 Beginner Beekeeping Course will be held at the RRNC every Wednesday in February. We would like a few members to assist the board for check in, general directions and welcome for the new students. If you are able to volunteer on February 6<sup>th</sup> or February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm till 7:30pm please talk to Janice.

Our lending library is open before each meeting with resources for any member to borrow. If you have any gently used beekeeping or pollinator plant books you would like to donate talk to one of our librarians.

Stephanie Sadlon is our Field Day Chair for 2019. She will be looking for volunteers to assist with many planning and event execution activities. Please, consider helping out. If you have any questions? Talk to Stephanie or Annette.

Now is the time to review the year in beekeeping. What went well? Did you follow your management strategy? Did you keep good notes? What would you have done differently?

It is also the time to plan the new year in beekeeping. Examine equipment for repairs or replacement needs. Decide if you want to change or expand your apiary. Read books on more advanced beekeeping concepts. Register for educational seminars. Attend a meeting at a different club. There is always more to learn!

What is happening in your hive?

With all these warmer days you should have popped open the cover to take a peek. All the mild temperatures have stimulated more than normal hive activity and cleansing flights. The bees are consuming more resources. Do your bees have enough food? If not, what are you doing to get them resources?

When did you last treat for mites? Did you clean off the bottom board after you checked the mite drop? What does your bottom board look like now? Just was bits and bee parts or mites as well? If you did not treat your hive for mites in October, November or December you may choose to use an oxalic acid vaporization treatment when the temperatures are in the 40's. Please, always follow manufacturer's safety instructions.

Package and queen orders have already begun. We will forward resource information as we receive it.

In this new year we will be offering members the opportunity to place advertisements in the newsletter. Look for full details in February.

Anytime is a great time to catch up on educational materials to sharpen and hone your beekeeping skills.

Bees and Wasps of Ohio Guide

[http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/portals/wildlife/pdfs/publications/id\\_guides/Pub5488\\_Bees and Wasps of Ohio.pdf](http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/portals/wildlife/pdfs/publications/id_guides/Pub5488_Bees_and_Wasps_of_Ohio.pdf)

Possible bee vaccine

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2018/12/07/674587061/worlds-first-insect-vaccine-could-help-bees-fight-off-deadly-disease>

Beekeeping Today Podcast with Samuel Ramsey

<http://beekeepingtodaypodcast.com/dr-samuel-ramsey-the-varroa-fat-body-rediscovery>

Do you know about the healthy hives 2020 program?

<https://beehealth.bayer.us/what-is-bayer-doing/bayer-research/healthy-hives-2020>

Thinking about planting more pollinator habitat? This may help you choose your plants.

<http://www.pollinator.org/bee-smart-app>

Research based information from America's land-grant universities. This is a national bee health website.

[http://articles.extension.org/bee\\_health](http://articles.extension.org/bee_health)

The Ohio State University Bee Lab has articles and webinars available, at your convenience, and is a great resource for new and experienced beekeepers.

<mailto:https://u.osu.edu/beelab/>

For anyone who takes pictures, shares pictures, likes to look at pictures of nature. Use it on your computer or smartphone.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has a complete guide to options for varroa treatments. Copy of the monitoring and tracking chart located later in newsletter.

<http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

University of Minnesota has a comprehensive tool for bee disease and pests.

[https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016\\_disease\\_pdf\\_version\\_s.pdf](https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016_disease_pdf_version_s.pdf)

Dr. Meghan Milbrath also has a very good article to help you make a plan for varroa management posted on her site Sand Hill Bees.

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56818659c21b86470317d96e/t/5900c9798419c2db7622e85b/1493223802902/MakingAPlanforVarroa\\_2017.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56818659c21b86470317d96e/t/5900c9798419c2db7622e85b/1493223802902/MakingAPlanforVarroa_2017.pdf)

Bee Culture Magazine's Kim and Jim Show brings current technology, science and information to beekeepers with webinars. You can watch live and submit questions in real time, or watch later from their archives. <http://www.beeeculture.com/kimandjimshow/>

If you come across any educational material you would like to share with the club, please let us know! [gcbaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:gcbaeditor@gmail.com)

## **GCBA Meeting and Events**

### **Beginner Beekeeper Course**

February 6th, 13th, 20th and 27<sup>th</sup>

Registration information available at <http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/>

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

### **March Membership Meeting**

March 13<sup>th</sup>

Melanie Seal, Owner Blue Sky Bee Supply, Beekeeper

Four Seasons of Feeding – honey bee nutrition 12 months of the year

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

### **April Membership Meeting**

April 10<sup>th</sup>

Chris Merkle, Tri-County Beekeepers Association Educator, Beekeeper

Spring management. What is happening in the hive now?

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

### **May Membership Meeting**

May 8<sup>th</sup>

Dr. Richard Cryberg, Organic Chemist, Researcher, Beekeeper

Oxalic Acid in Glycerin to Control Varroa Mites. Dr. Cryberg will discuss the data Randy Oliver has generated and disclosed, to date, on efficacy of oxalic acid/glycerin mixes

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

### **GCBA Annual Field Day**

May 18<sup>th</sup>

Rebecca Masterman, Entomologist from University of Minnesota, Keynote Speaker

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds

8:00am – 3:00pm

## Other Beekeeping Meeting and Events

### **Medina County Beekeepers Association**

January Membership Meeting

William Riccio, CPA, Beekeeper

The Business of Beekeeping, Record Keeping. Turning your hobby into a business, tax considerations, and record keeping.

Williams on the Lake

6:30pm – 9:00pm

### **Mid Ohio Valley Beekeepers Association**

Honey Bee Expo

January 26<sup>th</sup>

<http://movba.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/pre-registration-form2.pdf>

West Virginia University

### **Tri-County Beekeepers Association Spring Workshop**

March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

<http://www.tricountybeekeepers.org/>

Fisher Auditorium

1680 Madison Ave Wooster, Ohio 44691

### **OSBA Honey Judging Class**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/>

Waterman Farms in Columbus, OH

### **Michigan Beekeepers Association Spring Conference**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.michiganbees.org/2019-spring-conference/>

Michigan State University

### **Heartland Apiculture Society Conference**

July 8-10, 2019

<http://www.heartlandbees.org/>

### **Eastern Apiculture Society Conference**

July 14-19, 2019

<http://www.easternapiculture.org/>

### **OSBA Fall Conference**

November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Plain City, OH

## Recipe of the Month

Honey Chili Drenched Orange Fritters

**YIELD:** Makes 4-6 servings

### INGREDIENTS

#### For Calabrian Chili Honey Sauce:

1/2 cup honey                      1 T orange zest  
1/2 tsp. salt                      1/2 tsp. Calabrian chili flakes

#### For Honey Drenched Orange Breakfast Fritters:

1 cup whole milk ricotta cheese                      1 large egg  
2 T sugar    1 T orange zest  
"Caviar" from 1 scraped vanilla bean                      3/4 cup all-purpose flour  
2 tsp. baking powder    1 1/2 tsp. salt,  
vegetable oil for frying    1/4 cup pistachios, toasted and finely chopped

### DIRECTIONS

Combine the honey, orange zest, salt, and chili flakes in a small saucepan. Simmer on low and keep warm.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the ricotta, egg, sugar, orange zest, and vanilla bean caviar. In a second larger bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add the wet mixture into the dry and stir until combined.

Heat about 1" of vegetable oil in a heavy, wide skillet until just below the smoking point. Carefully drop the fritter batter into the hot oil by the spoonful, about 1 T each. Fry the fritters in batches, leaving room for them to float around, flipping after 1-2 minutes until golden brown and crispy on each side. Remove with a slotted spoon to a paper towel lined tray or cooling rack to drain the excess oil.

Put the warm fritters in a medium bowl and pour 1/2 of the Calabrian Chili Honey Sauce over them, tossing to coat the fritters. Sprinkle the fritters with the pistachios and serve immediately with the rest of the honey sauce on the side.

### TIP

Regular red chili flakes may also be substituted for the Calabrian chili flakes.

Courtesy of The National Honey Board





# Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

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## 2019 Membership

**New / Renewal** (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you been keeping bees? \_\_\_\_\_

How many hives do you keep? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you volunteer 4 hours this year for a club activity or need? \_\_\_\_\_  
(This could be over several days or all in one day)

The 2019 Membership cost is **\$20.00** per family which includes email of the monthly GCBA newsletter. One person per family may vote in GCBA elections or other official club votes.

**Please, renew at the next club meeting or send your completed application and payment to:**

**GCBA  
P.O. Box 30092  
Middleburgh Heights, OH 44130**

For office use: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment  
Type: \_\_\_\_\_