



## the HONEYBEE TIMES



### From the President's Desk

#### Hello Everyone!

Can you believe it is October already? By now, we should all be in full winter preparation mode as these cold months will be upon us in no time! Get your sugar patties/fondant ready. We have a recipe if needed. Also, mite treatment should still be done as long as weather is permitting so get them in if you need to. Remember GCBA officer elections are in December at the Winter Holiday Picnic so get your nominations in if you are able and willing to help us make a difference in the organization. As always, I look forward to talking to you all soon.

**Mike Alonso**

*GCBA President*

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## October Beekeeping Class

**October 5, 2024 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds  
19201 E Bagley Road, Bldg 30  
Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130

Class will be \$50 and includes 15 month GCBA Family membership.

Donuts, coffee/juice and snacks will be provided.

Basic honey bee biology and beekeeping techniques, equipment needs, site selection, best management practices, bee diseases, and more will be presented. This course is designed for anyone interested in becoming a backyard beekeeper, no experience is necessary.

**REGISTER Online.** We accept credit/debit cards for payment. **PAY ONLINE** or you may bring the payment to our meetings. Your personal information is for club use only and will not be shared with anyone.

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**This month David Borling will be joining us to talk about winter prep. David is a 5th year beekeeper in Medina County. He started with one hive which quickly grew to 50 hives on 4 different parcels of land. David sells nucs in the spring and various honey products at local retail locations. He does swarm removals and cut-outs, plus mentors several new beekeepers in his area. We are so pleased that David is willing to share his tips on successful beekeeping!**

**Last month we announced that GCBA is taking nominations for open board positions. Open positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Directors positions.** You do not need to be a veteran beekeeper to sit on the board. You just need to have a willingness to help GCBA educate beekeepers and the greater community. We strongly encourage anyone who is thinking about volunteering to reach out to Sarah Alonso. All nominations for board positions must be in by the end of the November meeting for

elections in December. Below is the description of each position:

**The President** shall preside at all meetings of GCBA and of the Board. The President shall be subject to the direction of the Board and GCBA and direct the activities of the association. The President shall not have a vote on any proposal brought before any meeting except in the event of a tie vote by the Board at a Board Meeting or by the membership at a General Membership Meeting. The President shall have the power to establish and appoint committees for both the Board and the association. The President shall implement decisions of the Board and of the association via committees or otherwise.

**The Vice President** shall perform all the duties of the President during the latter's absence or disability and any other duties may be required by the ByLaws.

**The Secretary** shall record minutes of all the meetings, including General Membership Meetings and Board Meetings, which shall include the financial statements reported by the Treasurer and the names of all attendees at monthly meetings. The Secretary shall receive and forward mail to the Board for action and respond to such mail at the direction of the Board. The Secretary shall give all notices required by law or provided for by the ByLaws. The Secretary shall provide written minutes to the membership. The Secretary shall prepare election ballots and distribute ballots to members in good standing at the annual meeting in December. The Secretary shall have custody of the official records of GCBA.

**The Treasurer** shall receive all monies due to GCBA, based on the calendar tax year, and shall deposit the same in the GCBA bank account or such depository as may be designated by the Board, and shall make disbursements based on review and approval of the Board at any Board Meeting. The Treasurer may spend up to \$50 without approval between Board Meetings. A written receipt at the next Board Meeting must evidence expenditures. The Treasurer shall collect membership dues and keep an accurate record of all receipts, and disbursements, maintain the corporate record book, if necessary, maintain a ledger of membership, and any tangible assets owned by GCBA. The Treasurer shall provide a financial statement to the membership as deemed appropriate by the Board. The books are open to review by any member at any time in a place convenient to

the Treasurer or set by the President. At the end of each calendar year, the Board will review the financial statement for that year, and the year-to-date financial statement will be made available to the membership by January of the next calendar year. The Treasurer shall have custody of all insurance policies, contracts, leases, tax returns, and similar documents. The Treasurer shall file a verified statement of continued existence with the Ohio Secretary of State within five years after the date of incorporation or the last corporate filing. The Treasurer shall ensure all required returns are prepared and timely filed with the appropriate tax authority. The Treasurer shall ensure GCBA retains its status as a 5013C organization. To provide continuity, the Treasurer shall train their successor for a reasonable period of time.

**Doors for the October meeting will open at 6:30 pm for fellowship with the meeting starting promptly at 7:00 pm. Spooky snacks are welcome for this month's meeting and extra bonus points for those made with honey!!!**

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**"Honey Bees Are Pollinators"**

*The excerpts of an article found below that I thought would be a great motivator to all who are interested in and concerned about the greatest insect pollinator on the planet, the Honeybee.*

Honey bees contribute nearly \$20 billion to the value of U.S. crop production. This contribution, made by managed honey bees, comes in the form of increased yields and superior quality crops for growers and American consumers. A healthy beekeeping industry is invaluable to a healthy U.S. agricultural economy.

Many of the country's crops would not exist without the honey bee at bloom time. Crop yield and quality would be greatly reduced without honey bee pollination.

As honey bees gather pollen and nectar for their survival, they pollinate crops such as apples, cranberries, melons and broccoli. Some crops, including blueberries and cherries, are 90-percent dependent on honey bee pollination. One crop, almonds, depends entirely on the honey bee for pollination at bloom time.

Each year, American farmers and growers continue to feed more people using less land. They produce an abundance of food that is nutritious and safe. Honey bees are very much a part of this modern agricultural success story. It's estimated that there are about 2.7 million bee colonies in the U.S. today, two-thirds of which travel the country each year pollinating crops and producing honey and beeswax. The California almond industry requires approximately 1.8 million colonies of honey bees in order to adequately pollinate nearly one million acres of bearing almond orchards.

Bees are responsible for pollinating about one-third of the world's food supply. In the United States, honey bees alone provide pollination services valued at \$15 billion to \$20 billion annually, in the U.S.

There are more than 1,000 plants grown for food, spices, beverages, medicines and fibers that require pollination. Without the help of bees, the world would be without such well-loved foods as chocolate, coffee, peaches, almonds, tomatoes, blueberries, strawberries, apples, pumpkins, melons, vanilla and many other fruits, nuts and vegetables. Is being a beekeeper important, the answer is a definite yes.

Is it important that you keep bees and become an informed beekeeper, sounds like there is a lot of interests depending on it.



**Sheila St.Clair**

*BeeYard and Barn Beautification Project*

For more information on how honeybee pollination benefits specific crops, visit [USDA](#). Additional information can be found on the at [Pollinator Partnership](#).

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*Image by Propolia from Pixabay*

## Inspector's Corner

The end of the inspection program is fast approaching, Final inspection numbers will be out next month. Population of the hives are starting to drop so you might notice more mites as bee population drops mite population seem to increase. Hopefully, you have kept up with your treatments. Formic Pro kills mites under the cappings and is safe to use with supers on, the capped brood are your winter bees.

If installing mouse guards to keep the mice out, remember the guards can also lock the mice in, do a good inspection before installing the guards. One problem with mouse guards as bees start to die sometime they block the entrance so keep an eye out for that. The

hive is starting to kick out the drones so you might notice drones on the landing boards. If you removed your white boards put them back in.

My commission with the State ends Oct 31st, you can still call me after the 31st.

Bee happy and Thank you.

**Phil Bartosh**

*Cuyahoga County Apiary Inspector*

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Some of GCBA's worker bees had a great Saturday of work in the **Bee Yard and Garden** at Cuyahoga County Fair. Big thank you to Joe Petrek and Lisa Hull for all your time and talent. There is opportunity

for everyone to get involved. They say many hands make light work. Come to a meeting and ask about upcoming work days and events, GCBA has something for everyone!

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## Hot Spiced Honey, Apple Cider

*Recipe by Chef Charles Heaton*

This recipe makes an authentic apple cider from scratch, but if time is an issue or you need a quick shortcut, you can use store-bought apple cider (see substitutions below).

Apples ~4 lbs., any variety or combination- see below varieties. Cut in eight wedges, include core, stem, and skin.

Orange 1 ea.— sliced

Cinnamon – 3 medium sticks

Whole cloves – 5 ea.

Allspice - pinch + to taste

Nutmeg – 1/8 t. Fresh grated or ground

Local Honey– to taste (adjust at end)

Water – add enough water to cover.

### **Select from**

Sweet Apples; Pink Lady, Honeycrisp, Fuji, Golden Delicious, Gala.

Tart Apples; Granny Smith, MacIntosh, Cortland

**Procedure:** Place Apple, core pieces and spices into suitable size



pot, just covering with water. Simmer one hour or until completely tender.

When tender screen twice pressing pulp through strainer with a soup ladle to obtain maximum particulate and juice.

Add honey to taste.

Serve warm, garnished with orange half slices. ENJOY!!



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## Looking for a way to participate in Our Association?

We're in need of a volunteer for Newsletter Editor. Help out today! If you are interested, contact [Sarah Alonso](#).

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## GCBA Officers

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**GCBA Goal: *The Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association supports, educates, and connects both beekeepers and aspiring beekeepers alike through monthly meetings/classes.***

[greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com](http://greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com)



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