



# ***The Honey Bee Times***

***April 2026***

The March meeting featured Denzil St. Clair performing “necropsies” on dead-outs brought in by members. Too often we beekeepers simply accept that we’re going to lose some or all of our hives in the winter, but there is always a reason. Looking to see why the hive died and learning from our mistakes makes us better beekeepers.

The April meeting speaker will be Robert Najjar, President of the Summit County Beekeepers who will be speaking about the Demaree method of splitting and swarm control. The meeting will be April 8th at 7 pm in building 25 of the fairgrounds.



## This month in the bee yard

We're finally getting some consistently warmer weather, although the temperature fluctuations can be extreme- 70 one day and snow the next. March overall was warmer than average and you should be getting into your hive to make sure that they still have enough stores and your queen is starting to lay with the advent of the Maple bloom. Make sure that there's enough room in the brood nest for the queen to lay in. April is getting into the swarm season, so check for swarm cells as well.

Common advice is to switch the two deeps in the spring, but this can cause more harm than good by splitting the brood nest and it can be a disaster if we get a sudden cold snap.

.If you treat with Oxalic acid, do three treatments 7-10 days apart every other month using vapor or a dribble.

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## Swarm Removal list

The club maintains a list of beekeepers that are willing to capture swarms in the Greater Cleveland area on it's website. To be listed on the swarm list you must be a currently paid member of the association. You can specify whether you want to do "cut-outs" (removal from structures) or not. If you are interested, please provide the following information-

- ◆ Name
- ◆ Phone Number
- ◆ Areas Served
- ◆ Cut-outs Yes/No

Swarm removal can be a great way to get more bees. The potential downside is that bees don't always land where they can be easily collected.

To be included on the list send your information to Steve Dahar at [s1417559@gmail.com](mailto:s1417559@gmail.com)

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## Hives for Heroes

One of our new members who just took the Spring beekeeping classes is Karen Koza. Karen is a retired U.S. Navy veteran who served as a "Sea Bee," the popular nickname for the Navy Construction Battalion. She has worked on construction projects in the United States and various places around the world.

Karen contacted Hives for Heroes, a nationwide volunteer organization that helps pair veterans and first responders with beekeeper mentors. She worked with a local mentor last year and saw the work that went into keeping bees first hand. She was able to set up her hives and installed her first packages with the assistance of her mentor. For information on the organization, visit [www.hivesforheroes.org](http://www.hivesforheroes.org)



## Upcoming Events

World bee Day will be two days during the week (no Saturday event for the general public) from May 14-15 this year. Volunteers are always needed and it's great fun seeing the kids' eyes light up as they learn about bees.

The Cuyahoga County Fair will be held August 11-16 this year. Have some really nice honey that you extracted this year? Set it aside to enter in the fair.

Watch this newsletter for more information as these events get closer.

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## Apiary Registration

There was an error in the link to the new apiary registration form in last month's issue. The proper link is-

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/9edc5b8fa2214f3aa77bc18b0f8423c6?width=0.5>

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## Hospitality Corner

Speaking of tasty treats, our meetings are a great way to meet other beekeepers and for socializing. Members are encouraged to bring treats to share. Thanks to Jan Petrek for the coffee at every meeting and those who brought in the great treats for the March meeting.

## GCBA Merchandise is available

Check out the GCBA Store at the link below for cool threads that will have you looking great and supporting the GCBA. You can find it on our website under the "More" tab or just click on the link in this article. Several styles are available to compliment your individual look from tees to hoodies.

<https://rycosportslw.com/businesses/greater-cleveland-bee-keepers-association/>



# WORLD BEE DAY

# Field trip



**Celebrating the bees and other pollinators!**

**May 14-15, 2026**  
**Thursday - Friday**  
**9:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**Cuyahoga County**  
**Fairgrounds Bee Barn**  
**19201 E Bagley Road**  
**Middleburg Heights**  
**Ohio 44130**

**Honey Bee**  
**Passport**

Get your Honey Bee Passport stamped when you visit the Bee Observation Room and the Educational Stations.

## Honey Bee Educational Day for Students

World Bee Day celebration raises awareness on the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and on the many challenges they face today. The United Nations designated May 20 as World Bee Day thanks to the efforts of the Government of Slovenia with the support of Apimondia.

-  Teaching Future Generation Importance of Honey Bees
-  Career in Beekeeping through Research and Science
-  Learn How Honey Bees Improve Our Agricultural/Food
-  Educational Stations; Fruits, Vegetables, and Honey
-  Honey Bee Observation Room

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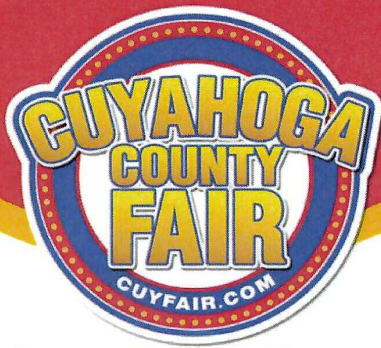
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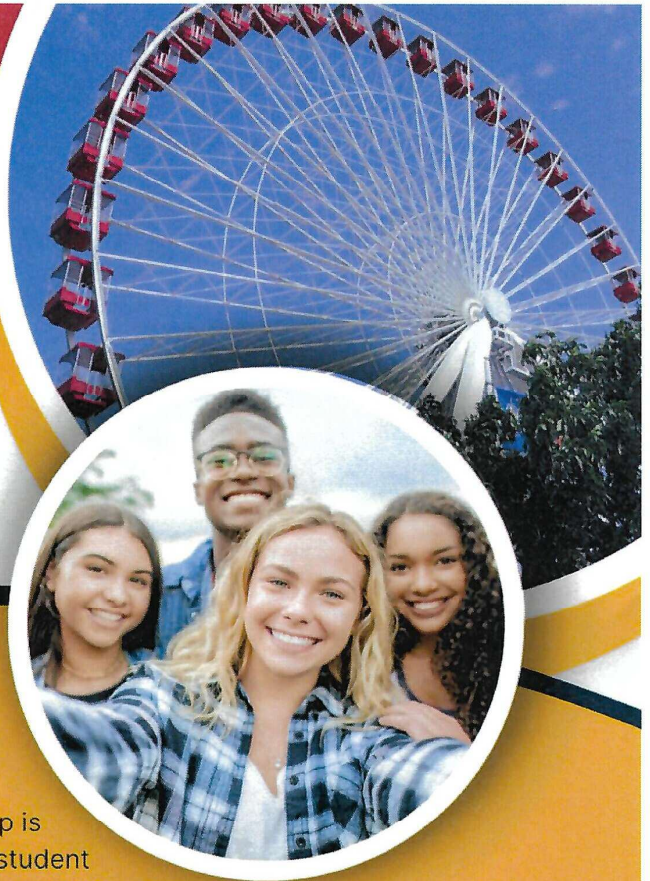
### PARTNERS



We pay \$100/ bus of 25 students or more. Contact Nicky Sulandari at [collaborativechambers@gmail.com](mailto:collaborativechambers@gmail.com) or call (440) 502-9506.



# Scholarship Program 2026



## Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society Scholarship

The Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society Scholarship is available to any high school senior or current college student applying for the first time, with a preference for residents of Cuyahoga County. Applicants must be enrolling in a post-secondary, two- or four-year accredited program or technical school. Candidates should have participated in the Cuyahoga County Fair as an exhibitor or in a county fair youth program for at least one year prior to applying. These scholarships are a one-time award and cannot be reapplied for if previously received. Applications must be submitted online AT [WWW.CUYFAIR.COM](http://WWW.CUYFAIR.COM). Deadline for applications is 3:00 PM on July 1, 2026.

## Jim Mikesina Law Enforcement Scholarship

A \$1,000 scholarship is available for residents of Cuyahoga County who are seeking a career in any first responder field. This encompasses professions in law enforcement, firefighting, paramedicine, and emergency medicine. Applications can be submitted online at [WWW.CUYFAIR.COM](http://WWW.CUYFAIR.COM). Please note that the deadline for applications is 3:00 PM on July 1, 2026.

## Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau/Cuyahoga County Fair Partnership Scholarship

The Cuyahoga County Fair is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2025-2026 school year. Applicants must have participated in the Cuyahoga County Fair as an exhibitor or in a youth program for at least one year. This one-time scholarship, in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau, is not available to previous recipients. Applications can be submitted online at [WWW.CUYAHOGA.OFBF.ORG](http://WWW.CUYAHOGA.OFBF.ORG), with a deadline of July 1, 2026.



Applications can be made online.  
Deadline July 1, 2026 @ 3pm

[CUYFAIR.COM](http://CUYFAIR.COM)



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## **GCBA Officers**

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## **Mission Statement**

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