

D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 2

the  
**HONEYBEE TIMES**

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



**Wishing You a  
Merry Christmas!**

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## Message from Our President

This month officially concludes the 2022 beekeeping season and that is just one reason we have a party, you will see information about the party elsewhere in the Times, please check it out. This month we elect officers, this takes minimal time and the focus is more on celebration than GCBA business. More important than anything else we celebrate the birth of Christ, Christmas, so do not forget the white elephant gift exchange, bring a gift/take a gift. At the last board meeting we came up with some great ideas for speakers next year and a lot more activity in the bee yard before each meeting. The bee yard is officially a GCBA responsibility and of course weather permitting activity. We have some great prizes for the turkey bowling and the corn hole contest, it might be best to practice before you come, competition is going to be severe!

Turning the page to the New Year, our January meeting is all about rendering wax cappings you have tucked away in a bucket or maybe in the freezer, from start to finish. We also want to discuss many of the things we use our beeswax for and the all-natural products we can make. Bring your ideas and or products.

Have more input or ideas regarding the topic for January please notify our Secretary Sarah Alonso [s.alonso@myyahoo.com](mailto:s.alonso@myyahoo.com) and she will get you the information you need.

~ Denzil







## GCBA Christmas Party & Potluck Wednesday, December 14th

Due to the Holiday lights at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, we will need to park in the camper parking lot.

Please use the following instructions.

Bagley to Eastland, then take University to the left to the open gate at the camper

parking area on your right. This is a grass and gravel parking lot please try to stay on the gravel. Building #25 is located just inside the gate. There will be some signage as you enter the fairgrounds.



## GCBA Happenings

### November Meeting Recap

The November meeting was filled with great beekeeping round table discussion. You, the members, were the special guests and generously shared your successes, failures, funny stories, remedies and how-to's. Nominations were held and refreshments were shared.

Remember, we are always wondering what speakers and topics you would be interested in, so please stop a board member or write the Secretary Sarah Alonso at [s.alonso@myyahoo.com](mailto:s.alonso@myyahoo.com) and share your ideas, this is your organization and your input is appreciated.

## The Inspector's Corner

### Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas Everyone

My Inspection season is done for the year. It's nice to be at the end of the season but after a couple weeks I miss it. Your hives should be starting to go into winter mode. We have had a strange fall.... weather has been unseasonably warm meaning your winter stores could be getting low, after all the work this year spent on inspections and mite treatment don't let them starve now, also for anyone who has a entrance reducer on don't forget get to check to make sure the entrance is not blocked with dead bees. Remember if your putting mouse guards on make sure you don't have a mouse already taking of residence in the hive. Check on your hives when weather is above 50 degrees to see if they are flying. Remember Beekeeping is a year round thing. Have a great Holiday Season!

*By Phil Bartosh*





## GCBA Happenings (continued)

### 50/50 Raffle

Don't forget to get your raffle tickets at the beginning of every meeting! You could win Big and support Greater Cleveland Beekeepers association! It's a WIN – WIN!

Congratulations to our November 50/50 Raffle Winner: Sheila St. Clair

Collected \$44.00, Sheila donated her half to the Bee Yard & Pollination Garden.



### Thank you!

As the Club is providing Coffee at our Meetings, we thank the Members who have brought pastry and candy each month. It is greatly appreciated!



## Upcoming Events

### CWRU Lego Club & Hive Honey Co Collaboration

CWRU LEGO Club will be working with Hive Honey Co, a local Cleveland beekeeper, to build Lego Beehives! This will promote both the Lego Club, as well as promoting the education of bees, etc. Students of CWRU will be able to build colorful and decorative beehives out of LEGO bricks, getting some snacks, giveaways, and education about the importance of bees in the world. GCBA to get involved – Stay tuned for more information.

**The making of the LEGO beehive:**

<https://youtu.be/ziH74ZXptIY>





# World Bee Day Honey Breakfast

Ohio Beekeepers, the Slovenian Consulate, OSBA and Collaborative Chambers Alliance served a Honey Breakfast to over 500 students and youth from nine different local schools in Greater Cleveland and to the veterans at the VFW Post in Wellington. Ohio beekeepers discussed with them the importance of bees and other pollinators for food production, as well as the importance of healthy eating of locally grown and fresh products. Pictured here is from the Euclid Middle School event in November following the culmination of World Bee Day - May 2022. Thank you to all the GCBA members who volunteered to support the Honey Breakfast and teach the children about beekeeping. And a *Special thanks* to the Future Farmers of America, young adults helping the GCBA members navigate the school grounds.



## TRADITIONAL SLOVENIAN HONEY BREAKFAST

Since 2010, every third Friday in November, Slovenia, a tiny Central European country, holds a "Traditional Slovenian Honey Breakfast", when children and youth in all Slovenian schools and kindergartens get a free breakfast, consisting of an apple, honey, milk, butter, and bread from local farms or producers.

We connect this project with two other Slovenian projects - "World Bee Day" and "We plant honey-bee friendly plants" - and share it with the help and support of partners, sponsors and Ohio beekeepers with American students and youth.

The aim of the project is to provide healthy breakfast and educate about the importance of morning meal/breakfast and healthy eating, use of home-grown or local produced food, the impact of bees and other pollinators on food production and food supply chain, as well as their connection to the environmental changes.

This year marks the 4th time that a "Traditional Slovenian Honey Breakfast" is served in Ohio to approximately 450 children and youth of the following American local schools: Slovenian schools at St. Mary of the Assumption in Collinwood and Slovenian school at St. Vitus, Cleveland, Euclid Middle School and St. Jerome School in Euclid, Thoreau Park and Pleasant Valley Schools in Parma, Beachwood Middle School in Beachwood, Slovenian School for Adults and, for the first time, the veterans at the VFW Post in Wellington.





## The First World Bee Day Planning Meeting is Now Checked off the Calendar

The new location for 2023 is at our own Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds! There will now be room to bring in school buses from all over the County. Public, private and home-schooled children will have the opportunity to learn about bees, where honey comes from and how it gets in a jar. Also available will be the bee yard beehives, observation hive, and a host of beekeepers, instructors, and volunteers. There will be hands on stations for learning such as what is pollen? Where bees live in nature and in the bee yard. Why bees are important to us all. And so on!

There will be monthly updates and planning meetings once we get beyond the New Year, watch your newsletter for more information. Please consider volunteering for this project.

We all believe that everyone needs to understand the importance of Honeybees so what better way than to teach our community and its children.

"The Purpose of GCBA shall be to promote interest in beekeeping through education, training and Community awareness" Article 1 Section 2.

With all the experienced beekeepers in the association and beyond this has the potential to be the best teaching program we have ever conducted.

Next year is going to be great, but only if you help.

*"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."*

~ Henry Ford

## Honey-Spice Ginger Cookies By Martha Stewart

5 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for surface and parchment  
 1 1/2 teaspoons salt  
 1 teaspoon baking soda  
 4 teaspoons ground ginger  
 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
 1 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg  
 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves  
 2 sticks unsalted butter, softened  
 1 cup granulated sugar  
 2 large eggs  
 1 cup honey  
 1/2 cup unsulfured molasses  
 Royal Icing  
 Fine sanding sugar

*Step 1: Whisk together flour, salt, baking soda, and spices in a large bowl. Beat together butter and granulated sugar with a mixer until pale and fluffy. Beat in eggs, 1 at a time, then honey and molasses.*

*Reduce speed to low, and gradually add flour mixture until well combined. Divide dough into thirds, and wrap each in plastic wrap. Refrigerate until firm but still pliable, about 1 hour.*

*Step 2: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Working with a third of dough at a time, roll dough out to 1/4-inch thickness on generously floured parchment. Brush off excess flour, transfer dough on parchment*

*to a baking sheet, and freeze until firm, about 15 minutes. Cut into shapes with cookie cutters, rerolling scraps as needed. Transfer cookies to parchment-lined baking sheets, and freeze until firm, about 15 minutes. Bake until edges turn golden, about 15 minutes, rotating once and firmly rapping baking sheet halfway through baking to flatten any bubbles in cookies. Let cookies cool completely on baking sheets set on wire racks.*

*Step 3: Place icing in a pastry bag fitted with a small plain round tip (Ateco #0, 1, or 2). Pipe outlines and details on cookies. Immediately sprinkle with sanding sugar, and tap off excess. Let set completely, uncovered, at room temperature, at least 4 hours or (ideally) overnight.*





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# Monthly Meeting

## Wednesday, January 11, 2023



The January meeting will focus on rendering the wax cappings you have tucked away in a bucket or maybe in the freezer, from start to finish. We also want to discuss many of the things we use our beeswax for and the all-natural products we can make. Bring your ideas and or products.

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## Classified Ads

### Hear ye, hear ye...

Any member in good standing may place an ad for beekeeping related items for sale or trade once a quarter free of charge. This ad will not exceed 1/8th of a page in size. Additional ads will be subject to advertisement fees. Advertisement Fee Schedule: 1/8th Page: \$5 month, 1/4th Page: \$7 month, Half Page: \$10 month, Full Page \$15 Please note: Information posted is a courtesy to GCBA Members and/or a paid advertisement for business entities. GCBA does not endorse or guarantee quality or pricing.

## GCBA Events

### Volunteer, Donate, Jump in and Give a Hand

- Monthly Member Meetings
- Field Day in May
- Picnic in July
- County Fair Booth in August
- Special Event in September
- Holiday Party in December
- Live Demonstrations Year Round







# Thank You From All of Us!

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