



**Greater Cleveland
Beekeepers Association**
www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com

April 2021

THE HONEYBEE TIMES

President's Message

Well, Spring is working its way here.

This is an especially important time of year for your hive, please make sure they have food and room to grow.

For New Beekeepers, do not worry...your bees will be here soon! Make sure your beehive location is picked out and ready to go when your bees arrive.

Don't wait until the last minute as time has a way of getting away from us and you don't want to be building your boxes and frames when your bees are delivered and waiting to be installed.

At this time, your Officers are planning a scaled-down Field Day on Saturday, May 15, 2021.

Please watch for more information on this in the newsletter and our website.

At our April meeting, please join us to see a live Installation at 6:30pm by John Rise, followed by his 7pm presentation on Varroa Mites.

Please remember that masks are required at both the bee installation and our meeting.

Remember to register your hives with the State of Ohio:

<https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/plant-health/apiary-program>

https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/plant-health/forms/plnt_4201-002

Hope to see you in April!!!

Larry

Inside this issue:

President's Message

GCBA Happenings

Resources

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Recipe of the Month

April Meeting

04/14/2021

Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds

Building #25

Doors open at 6:30pm

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

The 2021 Beginner Beekeeping Class



We enjoyed more than 50 “New to Beekeeping” members to our association.

Renew your GCBA membership today!



Membership 2021 Calendar Year New Membership

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____)-_____

Email: _____

The 2021 Membership cost is \$20.00 per family which includes the monthly GCBA newsletter (e-mailed). One person per family may vote in GCBA elections or other official club votes.

Please renew at the next GCBA meeting or send your completed application and payment to:

**GCBA
P.O. Box 26251
Fairview Park, OH, 44126**

I acknowledge the risks involved in beekeeping activities which include and not limited to: stings, falls, shock, allergic reactions and personal injury. I agree to hold harmless the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association free from any liability, including financial responsibility for injuries or property damages, regardless of whether injuries are caused by negligence in the State of Ohio.

Signature

Date

For Office Use:

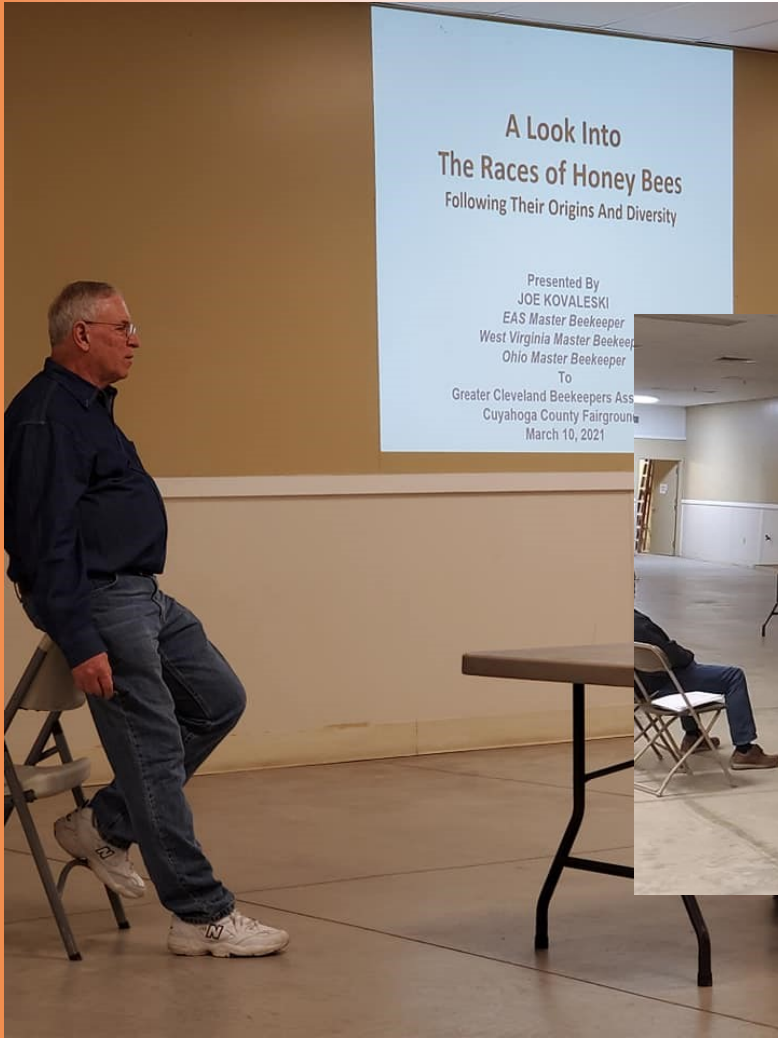
Payment Rec'd By: _____
(Initials/Date)

Payment Type: Cash Check# _____
(Circle One)

Processed by Treasurer: _____
(Initials/Date)

Processed by Secretary: _____
(Initials/Date)

Joe Kovalski, our March guest speaker at the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers meeting. Topic for the evening, Races of Honeybees. Joe is a master Beekeeper with many years of experience.



Let the bees decide, they always make the best decision!

Let the bees decide, they always know what is best!

Let the bees decide, they know what they need!

Some of the dumber statements made in beekeeping!

If bees are so intelligent, why do they swarm into a tree one foot above an empty hive full of drawn comb and honey?

If bees are so quick, why do they leave the above hive and land right back in the same tree, same place?

If bees are so bright, why do they swarm in October and are dead in November?

If bees are so sharp, why do they not destroy their own varroa?

If bees are so canny, why do they kill a perfectly good queen determined by her production and replace her with an inferior supercedure queen of questionable quality and mating?

If bees are so astute, why do they fill a colony up with pollen to the point of no room for brood or honey?

If bees are so clever, why do they protect a drone laying worker to the point of colony collapse?

If bees are so bright, why do they build and fill some comb with so much honey they collapse?

“Bees are more perishable than fruit and more fragile than eggs.” This means they can both languish and spoil and or crash and burn!

Denzil Stclair

HAPPY EARTH DAY

Thursday, April 22nd

Name: _____

Date: _____

Bees Challenge

Complete the activity.



- ___ 1. Cells where honey is stored
A. worker B. sting C. honeycomb D. hive
- ___ 2. A sweet fluid produced by bees from nectar
A. nectar B. nurse bee C. honey D. drone
- ___ 3. Bees depend on this for their defense
A. pollen B. sting C. nectar D. queen
- ___ 4. Sweet liquid of flowers gathered by bees for making honey
A. drone B. worker C. honeycomb D. nectar
- ___ 5. Female bees who collect nectar and pollen from flowers
A. honeycomb B. hive C. worker D. honey
- ___ 6. Male bee whose only function is to mate with the queen
A. drone B. honeycomb C. sting D. honey
- ___ 7. A structure for housing bees
A. queen B. hive C. pollen D. nectar
- ___ 8. Dustlike cells of the anthers of flowers
A. pollen B. honeycomb C. sting D. hive
- ___ 9. Female bee whose only job is to lay eggs
A. queen B. drone C. sting D. honeycomb
- ___ 10. Worker bee that attend to the queen, the babies, or larvae of the hive
A. nurse bee B. honey C. nectar D. hive

Hernandez, Beverly. "Bees Printables." ThoughtCo, Aug. 27, 2020, thoughtco.com/free-bees-printables-1832364.

The Inspector's Corner

Hi everyone just a few reminders,

All apiaries in the state of Ohio must be registered with the ODA as required by ORC 909.02 Your 2020 registration expires on May 31st, 2021. Please return your application for renewal and payment prior to June 1, 2021. If you no longer have bees, please indicate that on your application and return it. Please note that any newly established apiaries are to registered within 10 days of receipt of the honey bees. You can find registration forms on the ODA website or the CCBH website.

Phil Bartosh

Cuyahoga County Apiary Inspector

216.470.0934

216.351.6190

sd9990@aol.com

Information below is from the county website <https://www.ccbh.net/beekeeping-apiary-inspection/>

County Apiary Inspectors play a valuable role in protecting our local beekeeping industry. Along with identifying issues related to bee hive design and colony location, a trained inspector can help in identifying potential disease that could negatively impact, or even wipe out a honey bee colony.

Currently, at least 19 viruses that negatively impact honey bees have been identified in the U.S. Mites and beetles can also harm a bee colony. Varroa mites are responsible for most of the viruses honey bees get. Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), a phenomenon in which worker bees seem to simply disappear, is also a major concern around the world.

Apiary Inspectors are the first line of defense against honey bee colony pests and diseases. They can also provide a great deal of information and guidance to beekeepers, whether they are novices or well versed in apiary management. A study in the State of New York found that American Foulbrood (AFB) rose dramatically in the five years that they suspended their apiary inspection program. Once the program restarted, cases of AFB quickly dropped again. AFB is caused by a spore-forming bacteria that is specific to honey bees. This disease is highly contagious, will weaken and in most cases kill a honey bee colony. AFB will also contaminate beekeeping equipment which must then be destroyed to prevent the spread of AFB to additional colonies. There is no cure for

Continued

Anyone who owns or possesses bees in the State of Ohio is required to complete an annual registration application by June 1.

The application fee is only \$5.00 – a small price to pay considering all of the benefits an Apiary Inspector can provide during an annual inspection.

To obtain additional program information or to schedule an appointment or inspection, please contact the Cuyahoga County Apiary Inspector directly at the phone numbers or e-mail address listed below.

Please remember that apiary inspectors do not serve in the role of Commercial Pesticide Applicators or nuisance trappers. You should contact a USDA



Phil Bartosh

2020 INSPECTION SUMMARY:

Active Registered Beekeepers	6,183
County Apiary Inspectors	58
Counties Inspected	78
Apiaries Inspected	4,292
Colonies Inspected	22,152
Colonies with American Foulbrood	5
Colonies with European Foulbrood	19
Colonies with Chalkbrood	20
Colonies with Nosema symptoms	1
Colonies with Varroa Mite	11,711
Colonies with Small Hive Beetle	4,190



Hard Working

This application will let you renew a previous registration, add new apiaries, or create a new registration for new beekeepers. The registration fee is \$5.00 per apiary; both the application and fee is due by June 1 each year. There is a \$10 late fee if filing after June 1 (the late fee is a total charge of \$10, not \$10 per apiary). Payments can be made by check or money order only, no credit cards or cash are accepted.



Department of
Agriculture

Division of Plant Health • Apiary Program
8995 E. Main St., Bldg. 23, Reynoldsburg OH 43068
Phone: 614-728-6373 • Fax: 614-728-6453
apiary@agri.ohio.gov • www.agri.ohio.gov

APPLICATION FOR APIARY REGISTRATION

PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH APPLICATION ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1

<small>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY APIARY PROGRAM OFFICE</small>		IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:		CERTIFICATE NUMBER:	
COMPANY:					
NAME:					
ADDRESS:					
CITY, STATE, ZIP:		PHONE:			
EMAIL:		COUNTY:			
Check applicable box:	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered previously	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Locations	<input type="checkbox"/> New beekeeper		

Payment is required with application. Applications postmarked after June 1st are subject to a \$10.00 late filing fee. Exceptions to late fee after June 1: New Beekeepers or registering additional locations.
Fee of \$5.00 per apiary location (property address) made payable to the "Ohio Department of Agriculture"

Number of Locations: _____ @ \$5.00 each = Total Amount Due \$ _____ .00

Payment by check or money order only; Payment Method: Check # _____ Money Order # _____

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH

Hive Location	# of Colonies	County	Township	Location Information:			Property Owner's Name	Beekeepers: If you Sell Queens or Nucs from or at this location, Check 'YES' or 'NO'
				Address <small>(Please provide directions for Inspector*)</small>	City	Zip Code		
1								<input type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
2								<input type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
3								<input type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
4								<input type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
5								<input type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO

*Please write on back of form to provide inspector with additional directions and/or hive location information, if needed. (GPS Coordinates are helpful and appreciated; please indicate by Longitude and Latitude, in Decimal Degrees.)

My signature below certifies that the information provided above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

APRIL IS OHIO NATIVE PLANTS MONTH

What are some native plants?

White trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*)

Wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)

Goldenrod (*Solidago*)

Trout lily (*Erythronium americanum*)

Below is from <https://www.cuyahogawcd.org/blog/2021/03/16/ohio-native-plant-month-is-back>

Just like the perennials, Ohio Native Plant Month makes its return this spring. Ohio celebrated its first annual [Ohio Native Plant Month](#) in April of 2020. It was a huge success with lots of fun events, plant sales, and social media posts. April 2021 is just around the corner and may look a little different this year, but there are still lots of things to do.

What are you going to do to celebrate Native Plant Month this year? Not sure yet? You've come to the right place for ideas.

- Shrink your lawn or help a friend by planting native plant gardens. This will also help to improve your home's resale value, soil health, stormwater runoff, and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Visit a [nursery](#) that sells native plants.

[Buy native plants online](#). Cuyahoga SWCD sells [seed packets, plant bundles, plant kits, and even trees!](#) For our tree sale you will be directed to the Licking SWCD website, just put Cuyahoga SWCD as your pick up location. Some of the spring deadlines for ordering have already passed, but why not start planning for the fall planting season.

Don't have a lot a lot of room or a yard at all? Try planting in containers and create a patio, balcony, or [porch pollinator habitat](#). You can also read my [follow-up blog](#) which includes lessons learned in 2020, new tips, and new photos of my porch pollinator habitat.

Create a [riparian buffer](#) or wildlife habitat.

Take the Master Rain Gardener [class](#).

Take the Healthy Yard [Pledge](#).

Every little thing we do helps, it matters. Just as there is death by a thousand cuts, there is hope and life out of a thousand positive acts. It has a ripple effect. If we each do a small thing to help the environment and work together imagine what an amazing difference we can make, from our own backyard to the entire planet. We are all connected.

Blog Author: Kelly Parker, Stormwater Specialist II

Mark Your Calendar

SPECIAL EVENT



**Ray
Olivarez**
of OHB

*Lorain County
Beekeepers Association
& Queen Right Colonies
Presents "Ray Olivarez"
Owner and Operator of
Olivarez Honey Bees,
Orland California.*



**Ray Olivarez, Owner and Operator of
Olivarez Honey Bees (OHB)**



If you have not had the opportunity to listen to Ray Olivarez of Olivarez Honey Bees you don't want to miss this event in September. Even though some details are not finalized we wanted to get the word out. We anticipate the turnout to be large that is why we have selected the Lorain County Fairground as our venue. Lots of space, parking, Grandstands, fresh air and a commercial building with all the accessories!

You will get no greater cutting edge information from anyone in the industry better than Ray Olivarez.

It truly is all about the bees at Olivarez Honey Bees, and Ray feels blessed to have created a culture of bee lovers at OHB, and has surrounded his bees with some of the best people you can imagine.

Ray credits his "core" knowledge of bees to the time he spent working bees with his Dad during some very lean years for beekeepers in the 1990s, when he faced the onset of Tracheal and Varroa mites, and a very steep learning curve. Today, he feels that keeping healthy bees and producing a top-notch product go hand in hand with beekeepers working together and sharing as much knowledge with one another as possible. Ray feels that OHB's core customers are some of the best "researchers" out there, an incredible source of information, and he relies on their input to bring his thoughts back to center.

OHB breeds 180,000 European, Camiolan, and Saskatraz queens every year, and 100,000 more at their Hawaii operation. These varieties are

selected for gentleness, honey production, brood production, overwintering ability, disease tolerance, and overall health. This complex process involves researchers, breeders, microbiologists, and feedback from beekeepers. While there are many factors affecting pollinator health, a lack of diverse, natural forage is the most detrimental. That's why after queen breeding season, the bees are sent to the pollen and nectar rich prairies and alfalfa fields of Montana. There they produce high quality honey and enjoy a nutrient rich diet to build up the health of the hive for brood season.

OHB ships queen bees all over the US, Canada, and even to Dubai. They also sell packaged bees, produce honey, and contract out their own bees for pollination in the Sacramento Valley. They are currently expanding their business to include a restaurant and meadery in town. They expect their first honey wine to be ready in December.

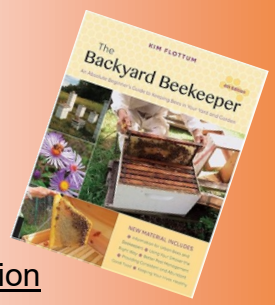
For more information on Ray Olivarez and Olivarez Honey Bees visit: www.ohbees.com

**September 11, 2021
Lorain County Fairgrounds**

DETAILS TO FOLLOW...

*Follow us on Facebook,
www.loraincountybeekeepers.com
& www.queenrightcolonies.com*





Shannon Warder Book Review: The Backyard Beekeeper, 4th Edition

The Quarto Publishing Group released the 4th edition of Kim Flottum's book, The Backyard Beekeeper, in 2018 and it is one of the recent books on the subject I have read. Back in my earliest years of backyard beekeeping, I was fortunate to hear Kim Flottum speak at a GCBA membership meeting, sometime in 2010, I believe. Mr. Flottum is a local beekeeping legend as he lives in the Medina area and has been the editor for *Bee Culture* magazine for decades. He is considered one of North America's experts on beekeeping. This book was one of three I had purchased to read over the winter and its front cover attracted me to pick it up and give it a go first.

I enjoyed this book and found it full of updated and useful information. As I fan through the pages now I can see I used a highlighter on just about every page, so I know I will be returning to it as reference resource this upcoming beekeeping season. Mr. Flottum wrote in clear, straight forward language, only getting scientific and technical when needed. Although it is packed full of information, the book is an easy read, I believe even a beginning beekeeper would agree. The book is 238 pages long, including the index, and contains hundreds of relevant, clear, colorful photos.

The layout of the information contained within The Backyard Beekeeper is a beginning to end format, pretty much following the beekeeping season. Right at the start Mr. Flottum discusses the basics of backyard beekeeping to include building DIY hive boxes, site selection, equipment, and installation. He then gets into bee races, temperament, behavior and biology. Next up, Mr. Flottum explains hive inspections, smokers, management of hives, requeening, and overall beekeeper responsibilities. He writes in-depth about pests and diseases and all the available mitigation techniques and treatments. Lastly, he covers honey and beeswax extraction and products.

What I really like about this book is how relevant I found the updated material to be, mainly the information about Varroa Mites. Nowadays a beekeeper can pretty much assume their hive has Varroa Mites, they are a relentless pest that cause havoc in a hive with the diseases they bring. There is a 13 page section dedicated to all things Varroa. This is a significant chunk of pages dedicated to one subject, it kind of acts as a red siren light going off. If a beekeeper did not think they had to be mindful of Varroa all season long, they would after reading this section.

As mentioned, the book contains hundreds of photos. Just about every page has one if not several. Captions accompany each photo, making them useful and supportive to the narrative. Another feature I like about the book is the "Beekeeping Tips" sprinkled throughout. Contained in contrasting yellow hexagons, these tips are quippy and light-hearted and give helpful tricks of the trade type information, like always clean your tools after inspections or else you'll have "a hive tool so sticky from honey and propolis that you can't let go of it."

Overall this edition is one of my favorite books on beekeeping. Some books I find are fine narratives and enjoyable. But typically I am not looking for a good story when reading books on beekeeping. Rather, I am looking for straight forward, updated information to add to my library of resources. Backyard beekeeping is a dynamic hobby, some aspects of it seemingly doing a 180 degree turn from year to year. As a beekeeper it's hard to keep up sometimes, but I think Mr. Flottum's 4th edition will help and I look forward to using it this season.

Recipe submitted by: Sheila Stclair

Honey Ricotta Cheesecake



Recipe courtesy of Giada De Laurentiis

Show: Everyday Italian Episode: Eggilicious



Level: Intermediate

Total: 1 hr 50 min

Prep: 20 min

Inactive: 10 min

Cook: 1 hr 20 min

Yield: 12 to 16 servings

Ingredients:

- 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 1 (12-ounce) container fresh whole milk ricotta, drained
- 2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, room temperature
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup orange blossom or clover honey
- 1 tablespoon orange zest
- 4 large eggs
- 8 ounces purchased biscotti

Directions:

- 1** Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
- 2** Wrap the outside of a 9-inch springform pan with 2 3/4-inch-high sides with 2 layers of heavy-duty foil. Finely grind the biscotti in a food processor. Add the melted butter and process until the crumbs are moistened. Press the crumb mixture over the bottom (not the sides) of the prepared pan. Bake until the crust is golden, about 15 minutes. Cool the crust completely on a cooling rack.
- 3** Blend the ricotta in a clean food processor until smooth. Add the cream cheese and sugar and blend well, stopping the machine occasionally and scraping down the sides of the work bowl. Blend in the honey and orange zest. Add the eggs and pulse just until blended.
- 4** Pour the cheese mixture over the crust in the pan. Place the springform pan in a large roasting pan. Pour enough hot water into the roasting pan to come halfway up the sides of the springform pan. Bake until the cheesecake is golden and the center of the cake moves slightly when the pan is gently shaken, about 1 hour and 5 minutes (the cake will become firm when it is cold).
- 5** Transfer the cake to a rack and cool 1 hour. Refrigerate until the cheesecake is cold, at least 8 hours and up to 2 days. Cut the cake into wedges and serve.



What are you wearing?



GCBA
GCBA Youth T-Shirt
\$15.00



GCBA
GCBA Ladies V-Neck T-Shirt
\$15.00 - \$19.00



GCBA
GCBA Men's T-Shirt
\$15.00 - \$19.00



GCBA
GCBA Youth Silk Touch Polo
\$23.00



GCBA
GCBA Ladies Silk Touch Polo
\$23.00 - \$27.00



GCBA
GCBA Men's Silk Touch Polo
\$23.00 - \$27.00



GCBA
GCBA Black Six-Panel Twill Cap
\$17.00

HomeTown Threads of North Olmsted is the source! Order Your GCBA Swag with this link.

<https://hometownthreadscleveland.com/product-category/gcba/>

4636 Great Northern Boulevard 6053 Between Sherwin Williams and Harbor Freight Tools
North Olmsted, OH 44070 Mon. – Thur.: 9am – 6pm, Fri. – Sat.: 9am – 5pm, Closed Sunday
440-779-6053 email: htt119@hometownthreads.com

What is on your license plate?



The "Save The Honey Bee" license plate is now available for order both online at oplates.gov and at your local BMV office! Funds generated from the sale of this plate shall be used to promote beekeeping, provide educational information, and to support other state and local beekeeping programs.

Look up "Ohio State Beekeepers Association" when purchasing your plates.

http://bmv.ohio.gov/sp_bee-keeper.stm



lassified

Classified Ads Any member in good standing may place an ad for bee-keeping 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. Used foundation should not be sold and will not be advertised. Used woodenware cannot be certified free of some diseases like American Foulbrood. Be very cautious when purchasing any used woodenware products. Please, contact the individual or business for details.



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GCBA events held throughout the year:

- Field Day in May
- Picnic in July
- County Fair Booth in August
- Holiday Party in December
- Live Demonstrations

Thank You From All Of Us

2021 Officers

Larry Theurer, President
(216) 741-3798

Sheila Maurer, Vice President

Brenda Theurer, Treasurer
(216) 741-3798

Shannon Warder, Secretary
(440) 832-1776

Directors

Phil Bartosh, Past President

Sarah Marie

Tracy McKenna

Denzil St.Clair
(440) 647-2602

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