



Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers  
Association

April 2023

the HONEYBEE TIMES



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## A Message from Our President

Hello fellow beekeepers,

Over the next few newsletters, I would like to speak about products or ideas that I have used, or considered using, and my related experiences. First on my list is winter hive wraps.

There are different schools of thought on whether or not to insulate hives over winter. Certainly, the winter we had without many severe cold snaps might have allowed the same results with or without insulation but, in retrospect, I am glad I purchased winter wraps last year. Over the winter, I had no problems with the wraps tearing or coming off. Even through the recent high winds of last week, there are no problems to date. These winter covers have done a great job and will be re-used next year.

The benefits include easy installation, and they fold away for compact storage. They also provide a great wind barrier. The disadvantages include the initial cost, and they don't allow the sun to warm the front of the hive.

Continued on page 2



## Inspector's Corner

Hello Everyone,

My commission for County Apiary Inspector was officially active April 1st and runs through October 31st.

Queen Inspections come first, so please be patient. As soon as the weather gets above 60 I'm allowed to open hives.

Last year we had 131 days below 60 or it was raining. Again, please be patient.

Thanks,  
Phil BARTOSH  
Cuyahoga County  
Apiary Inspector

## President's Message *continued...*

In comparison, for my first wintered hive, I chose to make an insulated cover from 2-inch-thick Owens Corning insulation. I am handy. Plus, it's easy to cut and glue together with spray foam. I chose to make the front panel detachable. I felt it important that, if I wanted the sun to warm the front of the hive when the weather allowed, it could be easily removed. It worked well but it was, in my opinion, unsightly. I chose not to paint it. I could have, but winter snuck up on me and I was not sure I was sold on the idea of the large non-collapsible insulators. Painting would have also driven the initial expense higher.

In the end, it was more expensive to buy the materials vs buying a winter hive wrap, and the biggest disadvantage was that I did not like its size for summer storage. The completed cover was the size of my winter hive. Storing it in my storage shed was convenient, BUT it was always seemingly in the way. Bulky and big. In addition, the Owens Corning and hive wrap offered about the same insulation factor of R value 8.

The good news is that winter is in our rear-view mirror. Spring is on the horizon and our days are getting warmer and longer. We are a long way away from the fall of 2023, but planning for the year end is as important as is the start of the season.

I was in the apiary last week doing a spring check on the bees and I took the wraps off for part of my inspection. They came off and went back on quick and easy. Part of me wanted to hurry spring along and leave the wraps off but, as I write this edition for the newsletter, my weather station is reporting 32 degrees outside.

I would like to hear from the members if they have any comments, ideas, or thoughts on these winter wraps. What are your experiences of insulating vs. not, and are there any other handy tricks that you would recommend? That is one thing I love about our GCBA community, that we share our stories and learn from each other, with the ultimate goal of getting better every year.

Thomas A. Kennish  
*President of GCBA*



# World Bee Day!

## Have you heard that GCBA and CCF are hosting their third annual World Bee Day May 19-20?



### Honey Simple Syrup

#### Yield

Variable amount as needed

#### Ingredients

- honey
- hot water

#### Directions

Heat 2 parts honey to 1 part hot water in a saucepan over medium-low heat until the mixture reaches a simmer. Remove from heat and cool. Store at room temperature or refrigerate as desired. Lasts 4 weeks in the refrigerator.

#### TIP

While the mixture is simmering, infuse the syrup with herbs, spices, citrus peels, or other aromatics. (Rosemary, grapefruit peel, peppercorn, pomegranate seeds, and vanilla bean are just some of the possibilities.) Cool and strain the infused syrups before using.

This means we have an exciting May ahead of us! We will need volunteers for both days.

T-Shirts will be available for you and there will be lots of children on Friday! They will be given a Passport and be directed to learning stations about pollination, honey and agriculture. We would like some farm animals too. Maybe a calf, a couple chickens, a pet goat...

Come join us for an informational meeting if you would like to help out:

- When: Wednesday April 19th at 5:30p.m.
- Where: Building #25
- What: A physical walk through, stations discussed, what is needed in preparation, volunteers list, T-shirt sizes, guest speakers.
- Food availability for attendees to be discussed.

Any questions, please contact the GCBA Secretary Sarah Alonso at [s.alonso@myyahoo.com](mailto:s.alonso@myyahoo.com)



View and download the flyers from our Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association website for more information.



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 month

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

Pastries for the bakery table are always welcome, especially if they are made with honey!

Jan Petrek, GCBA Hospitality Coordinator



## Cuyahoga County Fair 2023

One of the items on our annual beekeeping calendar is to get some honey ready for the fair!

Enter to see what our scores might be and the quality of our honey preparation.

Win a cash prize if we are so lucky to have the highest scores, and possibly a beautiful trophy that certainly comes with bragging rights!

Included in this newsletter is the majority of information you will need to participate.

Each month at the regular meetings there will be a table of information regarding the fair, where you can get additional input on fair entries, both specific and in general.

Start planning now, and may the best beekeeper win!

*See pages 6-7 for fair entry details and page 8 for entry form.*



# Bee Yard & Barn Beautification Project

Spring is a beautiful time of year. A fresh start to a new season. At the time of this writing, the Bee Yard and Garden projects are beginning to take place.

We have ordered the new Thank You/Sponsor sign to be hung in the Garden by May 19/20 if all goes as planned. In the early part of March, Dennis Eck, director and the maintenance dept. drilled the post holes for the Pollinator Garden Sign at the entrance to the garden. The posts were put in the ground and set on Friday 3/31. Next step is to see that the sign is hung.

Eric Matheney has begun to clean up of all of our wooden ware and take inventory of what is needed to get ready for bees. We also plan to put a clear coat on the Mural and the Pollinator Garden Sign to keep up with preservation of the artwork. Gate and fencing will follow in the next month or two as the schedule allows.

We will keep you posted and, when you come to our monthly meetings, you are welcome to walk down to Building #30 and see how things are taking shape! In time, our bee yard and garden will explode with activity and beauty, and blossom into a great attraction and a live classroom for all of our members to enjoy and learn from.

Let us know of any interests or ideas you may have, we are only as good as our membership! For example, have I mentioned we have our very own Master Gardener in our midst, Lorraine Bertosa??

The Cuyahoga County Fairground is home to the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association and we are very grateful. Out of all the Bee associations in the state of Ohio, I don't know of any that have the generosity and working relationship that GCBA has with CCF. We won't even try to discuss our presence at the upcoming Fair August 8-13. Come be a part of it all! Our regular monthly meeting in August is held during the fair on Wednesday evening, and your gate entry will be covered by the Fairboard. WOW!

Bee a part  
Bee Involved  
Bee a Keeper!

Kindly,  
Sheila St.Clair  
440-647-2602  
Beeyard and Garden Beautification Project

## Fun Facts!

- A honeybee can fly up to 15 miles per hour!
- One ounce of honey would fuel a bee's flight around the world.
- Honeybees must consume about 17-20 pounds of honey to be able to biochemically produce each pound of beeswax.

Source: American Bee Journal





**APIARY  
BEES AND HONEY  
DEPARTMENT 27**

**BUILDING 33**  
DENNIS ECK  
Director-At-Large

**Overall Best of Show**  
Trophy and \$25.00 to be sponsored by  
Queen Right Colonies

**Trophy for Classes**  
**202, 203 & 204**  
sponsored by Queen Right Colonies

**IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES**  
**BEES AND HONEY**

Sat. before Fair - 12:00 Noon to 4:00P.M. - Entry Set-up  
Sun. before Fair - 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon - Entry Set-up  
Sun. of Fair - 8:30P.M. - 10:00P.M. - Entry Pick-up  
(exhibitor tag required)

**ENTRY RULES**

1. Only one entry will be permitted by an exhibitor for any one premium and no two exhibits in the same class shall be made by the same person or any member of his/her family from the same apiaries, or apiary.
2. Honey judged on quality, cleanliness, color, aroma and moisture content.
3. Bees and Queen judged for evenness in color and form, general appearance and educational value to the public. Queen and her bees shown on a frame of brood in observation hive.
4. Sweetening used in baked goods and canned fruit must contain 50% honey. Recipe must be attached. Bring entry in zip-lock bag on disposable plate.
5. Sweetening used in Honey Candy must contain a minimum of one-sixth honey. Candy and baked goods must be displayed in plastic bags or well-covered with clean film.
6. Honey and honey products must be produced by the exhibitor within the past year - from fair year to fair year.
7. The judge(s) may award a lower class prize or no prize for entries that are substandard.
8. Honey may be purchased for products in Section 300.
9. Set up Saturday, Noon - 4:00 P.M. or Sunday 9:00 A.M. - Noon.
10. All exhibits/entries can be picked up on Sunday, the last day of the Fair, from 8:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. Exhibitor Tag required for pickup. Any exhibits not claimed will be disposed of at the discretion of the Director-At-Large or the Superintendent. Award ribbons not claimed will be available at the Fair Office the week following the Fair.

Cuyahoga County Fair & Exposition **2022**

**HOME CANNING (continued)**

**RULES**

1. Space is limited and the number of displays may be capped if the number of entries exceeds the display space available.

**CLASS**

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
	\$100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00
	Rosette	Rosette	Rosette	Rosette
101. Individual booth display educational and/or advertising using modern equipment and/or techniques.				
102. Individual booth display demonstrating antique beekeeping practices using antique equipment, etc.				
103. Individual booth display for scholarship winner using educational, advertising and equipment etc. Rosette Only				

**To be Judged as follows:**

Educational and/or Advertising Value	35 points
Attractiveness and Arrangement	25
Quality of Product	25
Completeness of Display	15

**TOTAL** **100 points**

**BEE and HONEY DISPLAY  
SECTION 100**

**SECTION 200**

A trophy will be awarded to Best of Show for a single specimen in Section 200 & 300.  
The winner will be selected by the judge(s) of the Divisions. Honey will be judged according to the PFUND scale used in the honey industry using a jacks scale.

**Class**

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
201. Observation hive - <i>honey bees and queen</i>	\$35.00	25.00	15.00	10.00
202. Extracted honey - water <i>white to white, 3 lbs. in 1 lb. glass honey jars, PFUND of 0-34mm</i>	\$6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
203. Extracted honey, extra <i>light to light amber, 3 lbs. in 1 lb. glass honey jars, PFUND of 35-85mm</i>	\$6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
204. Extracted honey, amber <i>to dark, 3lbs. in 1 lb. glass honey jars, PFUND of 86-114mm</i>	\$6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
205. Creamed honey <i>Plain or Flavored - Minimum 18 oz. up to 3 lb. - in 6 oz or 1 lb wide mouth uniform jar with uniform lid</i>	\$6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
206. Chunk honey - 1/2 cut <i>comb minimum, 3 lbs. in 1 lb. uniform round wide mouthed glass honey jar with uniform lid</i>	\$6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
207. Extracting frames - <i>deep, 2 frames (Bee-proof container)</i>	\$8.00	7.00	5.00	4.00
208. Extracting frames - <i>shallow or medium, 7 1/4" or less, 2 frames (Bee-proof container)</i>	\$8.00	7.00	5.00	4.00

Cuyahoga County Fair & Exposition **2022**



**BEES & HONEY (continued)**

ENTRIES IN CLASS 201, 207, 208 MUST BE DISPLAYED IN BEE-PROOF CASES WITH SIDES MADE OF TRANSPARENT MATERIALS, GLASS OR PLASTIC. Frames must be removable to be judged.

Class	1st	2nd	3rd
209. Cut comb honey - 4 containers, Ross Rounds in plastic containers	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
210. Comb honey - round sections, 4 sections, 8 oz. or more per section in transparent plastic containers	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
211. Beeswax- 1 piece, 8 oz. minimum	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
212. Specimen other than above	\$5.00	3.00	2.00

**SECTION 300**

301. Honey candy - 5 pieces, <i>recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
302. Honey cookies - 6 cookies, <i>recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
303. Honey loaf cake - loaf or 1 layer, <i>light or dark, not frosted, recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
304. Honey yeast bread - 1 loaf, <i>recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
305. Honey bread - non-yeast, 1 loaf, <i>recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
306. Honey/Mead in clear bottle 4/5 quart or 26 ounces, <i>straight sided bottle; will be opened and tasted</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
307. Novelty honey cooking - <i>quantity of product exhibited sufficient for a comparison, may include jellies (50% honey), granola, fruit leathers, etc. Recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
308. Fruit canned with honey - 3 jars, <i>all pints or quarts, recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
309. Specimen other than above	\$5.00	3.00	2.00

**SECTION 400**

400. Honey gift package - total package weight 8 lbs. or less. <i>Must be honey bee related product with the exception of container, honey servers, cookbooks or decorations</i>	\$8.00	6.00	4.00
401. Hand Cream: 3-1 oz. clear containers - <i>recipe attached, % (percent) of wax - honey - other</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
402. Soap products - 3 bars <i>1 oz. minimum weight each, handmade - lye - based, 3 uniform bars, recipe attached, % (percent) of wax - honey - other</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
403. Honey Pot	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
404. Specimen other than above	\$5.00	3.00	2.00

**PHOTOS FEATURING BEES  
SECTION 500**

Photos must be at least 5" x 7" and be matted  
*Premiums provided by the GCBA*

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
501. Flower with Honey Bee	\$10.00	8.00	5.00	3.00
502. Honey Bee hive (manmade)	\$10.00	8.00	5.00	3.00

**BEES & HONEY (continued)**

503. Honey Bee hive (natural)	\$10.00	8.00	5.00	3.00
504. Swarm - Honey Bee	\$10.00	8.00	5.00	3.00
505. All other bee-related photos	\$10.00	8.00	5.00	3.00

**FLORAL  
DEPARTMENT  
DEPARTMENT 28**

**BUILDING 33**

**TOM SABREY**  
Director-At-Large

**AMANDA HOLZMAN**  
Superintendent

Standard Flower Show is the official title of a flower show conforming to standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. National Garden Club's Standard System will be used for all competitive judging and is found in the NGC Flower Shows Handbook 2007 edition. Decisions of the judges will be final. Exhibits may not be altered after the judging. Awards will be withheld if not merited.

This flower show is sponsored by Ridgewood Garden Club of Parma and Westlake Garden Club in cooperation with the Cuyahoga County Fair under the direction of Show Chair Tom Sabrey. Ridgewood Garden Club of Parma and Westlake Garden Club are members of Garden Club of Ohio, Inc., Central Atlantic Region and the National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The classes in sections 400 - 800 are exhibits in the Standard Flower Show. The Standard Flower Show is open to all exhibitors whether or not they are affiliated with a Garden Club.

**FLORAL BUILDING SCHEDULE**

**ROSE SHOW**

Exhibits should be brought in the morning of the show starting at 7:30 A.M. Judging will be 10:00 A.M. Thursday.

**CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS - Blooming & Foliage**

Entries are accepted Saturday and Sunday preceding the Fair from 9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. and Monday from 7:30 A.M.-9:00 A.M. Judging will be Monday at 10:00 A.M.

**FAIRY GARDENS**

Entries are accepted Saturday and Sunday preceding the Fair from 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. and Monday from 7:30 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. Judging will be Monday 10:00 A.M.

**CUT SPECIMEN BLOOMS - Annuals & Perennials**

Entries accepted Tuesday from 7:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. Judging Tuesday at 10:30 A.M.

**DESIGN ARRANGEMENTS**

Entries for the first show accepted Monday from 7:30 P.M. - 10:30 P.M. and Tuesday from 7:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. They may be picked



**Fair Dates:**  
Aug. 9-14, 2022

**Entries Close:**  
July 29, 2022

**NO EXCEPTIONS  
FOR LATE ENTRIES!**

**The Cuyahoga County Fair**  
P.O. Box 135  
Berea, Ohio 44017  
Telephone: (440) 243-0090  
Fax: (440) 243-0344

**Exhibitors Entry Form**  
For

**OFFICE USE**

Exhibitor No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Processed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered By: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTS and CRAFTS, CANINE, FLORAL\*, GARDEN PRODUCE\***

Cell Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ln No.	Dept No.	Sec No.	Class No.	No. of Entries	Description of Entry <i>as written in Premium Book</i>	*Show	
						1st	2nd
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

Enter On-Line at [www.cuyfair.com](http://www.cuyfair.com)

Check One	Fee
Exhibitor Early Entry Fee 2 Admissions - By July 15	\$10.00
Exhibitor Entry Fee 2 Admissions - By July 29	\$12.00
Exhibitor Early Entry Fee 7 Admissions - By July 29	\$35.00

Please indicate the Total Number of Entries \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Please Refer to the Premium Book for Exhibitor Entry Requirements.

Make checks Payable to: **Cuyahoga County Fair**

Use Reverse Side of this Form for Additional Entries.

Unclaimed items will be donated to charity  
7 days after the close of the Fair.

CREDIT CARD: VISA  MC  DISCOVER

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The Cuyahoga County Fairboard and Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society assume no responsibility for livestock and/or articles exhibited, entered and/or shown upon the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Exhibitor/Entrant specifically acknowledges his/her or its awareness that livestock and exhibition articles are placed upon and maintained upon the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds by them at their sole risk. Further, entrant/exhibitor agrees to hold the Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society and the Cuyahoga County Fairboard harmless from any and all claims to or resulting from their respective livestock and/or exhibits from any cause whatsoever. The aforesaid indemnification shall include injuries to the person or property of third parties resulting from the aforesaid livestock and/or exhibition articles. The Cuyahoga County Fairboard assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions in the foregoing booklet.\*

EXHIBITOR (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ FOR/BY \_\_\_\_\_ EXHIBITOR/ENTRANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Must be signed By Parent/Guardian if Under 18

**This Form May Be Duplicated as Needed!**





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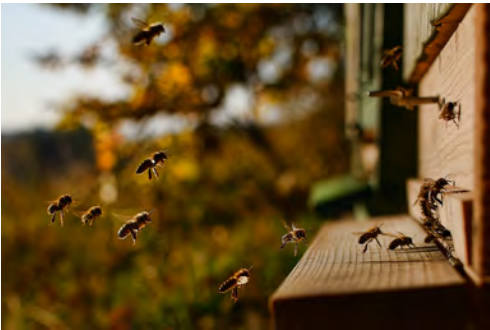


Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers  
Association



April 2023

## GCBA Officers



**President: Tom Kennish**  
tkennish@gmail.com

**Director: Laura Brown**  
lb68750@gmail.com

**Past President: Kenzil St. Clair**  
info@queenrightcolonies.com

**Director: Joe Tetreik**  
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**VP: Mike Alonso**  
meanee13@yahoo.com

**Director: Charles Heaton**  
charlesheaton@mac.com

**Treasurer: Brenda Theurer**  
larry1724@aol.com

**Fair Committee Chair: Tom Kennish**  
tkennish@gmail.com

**Secretary: Sarah Alonso**  
s.alonso@myyahoo.com

**Hospitality Coordinator: Jan Petrek**  
jpetrek@hotmail.com

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

We're in need of a  
volunteer for Fair Chair.  
Help out Today! If you  
are interested, contact  
Sarah Alonso at  
s.alonso@myyahoo.com

### Our Goal:

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