



Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers Association  
[www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com](http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com)

October 2019

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# THE HONEYBEE TIMES

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## Meeting is Wednesday, October 9, 2019

**Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Nature Center**  
**Doors open at 6:30pm for snacks and socializing.**  
**Meeting begins at 7:00pm.**

**October 9, 2019**

### Brood Comb Management

Stephanie Murray is a 3rd year Master's student in the Department of Entomology at Ohio State University. Stephanie's research focuses on questions surrounding old brood comb and how it should be managed.

Brood comb replacement was introduced to improve the health and survival of honey bee colonies by removing excess waste and pesticide residues, however, surveys through the Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) point to ambiguous results.

Stephanie will discuss her research project and results of her surveys.

Sweet or savory snacks to share are always welcome!



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## President's Message

I hope you all took some time to use the Growing Degree Days Calendar this year. As a new beekeeper I did not always recognize what "on a flow" meant when it came to hive behavior. This is very important to know if you want to control swarms and maximize honey production. This tool is a terrific resource for any beekeeper especially as our weather continues to vary dramatically from year to year. [OARDC Ohio Growing Degree Days Tool](#)

The season is coming to a close as far as resources from nature for our hives. It is an important time to understand the nutritional status of our hives. Do the girls have enough resources (food)? Take time to figure it out. Feed if you need to do so, especially if you took honey off the hive late in the season.

We are the stewards of our hives. Bees in nature do not choose to live 2 feet off the ground or in cavities as large as we keep them in. It is our job to know when they need food, water, medicine, manipulation, treatment and to just be left alone.

We are almost through the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the existence of GCBA. We are a young club and have accomplished many things in a short time. As my term as President comes to an end, I am grateful for all the efforts of present and previous GCBA Board members who gave their time to envision, create and carry on the work of our club.

GCBA exists for, and belongs to, the members. Many hands make light work. Please, consider volunteering to step into a board seat or to help make an event successful. You will find the experience rewarding!

Annette

## *How much do you like to talk about bees?*

As a club we are getting more regular requests for speakers for groups like garden clubs, girl scouts, community events, etc. We would like to put together a list of names of members who are interested in representing GCBA in this capacity. The club owns display items for show and tell and has literature that can be shared. We are thinking about creating a general outline of basic topics to cover if it is a more formal presentation. If you are interested in participating in this group, either as a speaker, to create an outline or to manage the schedule requests and speakers, please talk to Janice or Annette.



### *In the Hive*

The yellow jackets are out in number at this time of the year and robbing is being reported. Keep an eye on nucs and smaller hives. Keep entrances reduced and or robbing screens on.

Mouse guards will be going on soon if you have not done so already. Some models can be used to reduce the entrance and discourage robbing as well as prevent mice from getting in the hive.

How are your winter plans coming? Wind break? Ventilation? Moisture prevention? Equipment storage?

Does your hive need to be fed?

Several years ago Kim Flottum recommended feeding at night as an option. If you pop the top, near sun set (yes, suit up and have a smoker ready in case you need it) and add an extra box (deep or medium) above the inner cover or remove the inner cover completely. Feed a gallon of 2:1 sugar/water on a hive that needs resources in one feeder or multiple quart jars they will work on it all night when no robbing occurs. The bees are moving about the hive at night when temps are in the 60's and high 50's. If they need the sugar syrup, it will be gone in the morning. You can pull the feeders off and repeat the process the next day until they stop consuming the syrup or the temperatures drop.

What is your varroa count? Yes, IPM should have been executed all season long, but with the temperatures staying warm longer into the late fall more robbing can occur. Even if you

have done your best to keep your mite counts down you do not know that is the case with your neighbors with in 2 miles (maybe further). Your strong bees may be robbing out weaker hives and bringing back mites and all the viruses and disease they carry. Consider a mite count this month or a treatment of your choice to protect your hive.



## What a Celebration!

If you did not get a seat at the Lorain County Beekeepers Association 100 Year Anniversary Event, you missed a wonderful time! 350 beekeepers gathered to celebrate a milestone.

The event was years in the making and was held at the Lorain County Fair Grounds. The club gathered artifacts of all kinds from the clubs past. Pictures and old meeting minutes were on display as well as a large poster listing all board members from 1919 until 2019. Two large screens shown a revolving series of pictures from the club's history and events. Placemats at each seat were reproductions of meeting notes from 1919 – 1922.

A color guard presented the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. A trumpeter plaid the National Anthem and many sang along. The formality and respect show by all was such a wonderful display of unity and inclusion.

The rest of the evening, the mood was humor and levity lead by the evening's MC, Dr. Jim Tew. Other honored guests included Barbara Bloetscher, Ohio State Apiarist, Kim Foottum, Editor Bee Culture, Hans Schneider, Mayor of Wellington and Dick Stein, State Representative for District 57.

Appetizers were self serve, followed by a sit down dinner. Tables of 8 to 10 folks crowded the room full of beekeepers telling stories and greeting folks they know and those they just met.

There was a Chinese Raffle and an auction was held. Honey was sold to raise money for the new LCBA Memorial Apiary. This apiary is a remembrance of those beekeepers who came before us and is a tool for instruction of beekeepers now and in the future. The Michael Gallagher Memorial Apiary Hive Installation was held on June 14, 2019. If you did not know him, Mike Gallagher was terrific guy and served on the GCBA Board.

Cheers to the LCBA Anniversary Committee and all volunteers who put it all together. I was glad to be a part of such a memorable event.

Happy 100<sup>th</sup> LCBA! Keep up the great work for the bee community.

Annette Birt Clark



## [Elections](#)

They will be here before we know it. Any member wishing to put their name on the December ballot must inform the GCBA Secretary no later than the November 13<sup>th</sup> GCBA General Meeting. Please, consider sharing your skills and taking a turn to serve on the GCBA board.

***Interesting Articles:***

[Remembering Eva Crane](#)

[Climate Change Cachet](#)

[Propolis and bee health: the natural history and significance of resin use by honey bees](#)

[There are Queen Cells in my Hive, What shall I do](#)

[Pollinator News Aug - Sept 2019](#)

[Go with what we know](#)

**Anytime is a great time to catch up on educational materials.**

***Resources:***

Got mites? Not sure? What to do? Check out your options all in one place:

[Varroa Management Decision Tool](#)

Research based information from America's land-grant universities. This is a national bee health website.

[http://articles.extension.org/bee\\_health](http://articles.extension.org/bee_health)

Ohio Farm Bureau, Cuyahoga County Chapter

<https://ofbf.org/counties/cuyahoga/>

Check out BeeSpotter and see how many bumble bees you can identify!

<https://beespotter.org/topics/key/>

BeeSpotter is a partnership between citizen-scientists and the professional science community designed to educate the public about pollinators by engaging them in a data collection effort of importance to the nation. It is a web-based portal at the [University of Illinois](#) for learning about honey bees and bumble bees and for contributing data to a nationwide effort to collect baseline information on population status of these insects.

Thinking about planting more pollinator habitat? This may help you choose your plants.

<http://www.pollinator.org/bee-smart-app>

The Ohio State University Bee Lab has articles and webinars available, at your convenience, and is a great resource for new and experienced beekeepers.

<mailto:https://u.osu.edu/beelab/>

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has a complete guide to options for varroa treatments.

<http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

University of Minnesota has a comprehensive tool for bee disease and pests.

[https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016\\_disease\\_pdf\\_version\\_s.pdf](https://www.beelab.umn.edu/sites/beelab.umn.edu/files/2016_disease_pdf_version_s.pdf)

Bee Culture Magazine's Kim and Jim Show brings current technology, science and information to beekeepers with webinars. You can watch live and submit questions in real time, or watch later from their archives. <http://www.beeeculture.com/kimandjimshow/>

If you come across any educational material you would like to share with the club, please let us know!  
[gcbaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:gcbaeditor@gmail.com)

Recipe of the Month

Savory Honey Muffins

**YIELD:** Makes 8 muffins

## **INGREDIENTS**

3/4 cup low-fat milk

4 T butter, melted

2 eggs

1/4 cup honey

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. salt

2 tsp. chopped chives

3/4 cup shredded Gruyere cheese + 1/4 cup for sprinkling on top of muffins

## **DIRECTIONS**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Line 8 cups of a muffin tin with paper liners (or coat with non-stick cooking spray).

Whisk together the milk, butter, eggs, and honey in a large mixing bowl. Stir in the flour, baking powder, salt, chives, and cheese, setting aside 1/4 cup of Gruyere for sprinkling on top of muffins.

Divide the batter evenly among the cups, filling them three-quarters full.

Bake muffins for 20-25 minutes, until golden on top and remove from oven. Sprinkle remaining Gruyere cheese over tops.

Turn oven to broil and broil muffins for another 2-3 minutes until cheese is melted and lightly browned.

Recipe courtesy National Honey Board

Interested in GCBA swag?





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*HomeTown Threads of North Olmstead is the source!*  
[Order Your GCBA Swag Here](#)

## **GCBA Meeting and Events**

## **November Membership Meeting**

November 13<sup>th</sup>

Jeannie Saum, Owner of Beepothecary <https://mkt.com/beepothecary>

All you want to know about propolis. Jeannie will discuss methods of propolis collection, washing and cleaning. She will share information regarding health benefits of propolis and value added products you can make.

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

## **December Membership Meeting**

December 11th

Elections, Holiday Gathering

Our annual year end wrap up! Come and enjoy a meal and share stories of your hives this year. Please, bring a salad, side dish, or desert with a serving utensil to share. GCBA will provide meat and vegetarian entrée selections.

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

## **January Membership Meeting**

January 8th

Annual "Best Flavor" Honey Competition for members

Ann Cicarella, Landscape Designer, OSU Certified Pollinator Education,

Rocky River Nature Center

6:30pm – 9:00pm

## **February Membership Meeting**

No meeting, but all members are welcome to attend one or all of the Beginner Beekeeping Classes which are held each Wednesday evening in February from 6:30 – 9:00pm

Rocky River Nature Center

## **Other Meeting and Events**

**October 11, 2019**

**LCBA General Membership Meeting**

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

<http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org/home.html>

**October 17, 2019**

**Geauga County Beekeepers Monthly Meeting**

BAKE OFF - BRING RECIPE; Chinese Auction, Elections.

Geoff Westerfield, president of the Portage Beeks, will present about 4 legged pests of the hive

<https://sites.google.com/geaugacountybeekeepers.org/geaugacountybeekeepers/home>

## **Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association Annual Conference**

October 19, 2019 10:00am – 3:00pm

<https://ashtabulacountybeekeepers.org/>

**October 21, 2019**

**Medina County Beekeepers Association Monthly Meeting**

Monday, 7:00 – 9:00 pm (Q & A Session 6:30 to 7:00 pm)

Speaker - Bobbi Heider - lip balms and soaps

<https://medinabeekeepers.com/>

**OSBA Fall Conference  
November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Plain City, OH

Tolles Career Center, 7877 US Highway 42 S

Plain City, OH 43064 United States [+ Google Map](#)

<https://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/event/osba-fall-conference-2019/>

**November 18, 2019**

**Medina County Beekeepers Association Monthly Meeting**

Monday, 7:00 – 9:00 pm (Q & A Session 6:30 to 7:00 pm)

Speaker - Dwight Wells - Preserving Honey Bees in Ohio

<https://medinabeekeepers.com/>

## Classified Ads

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 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a page in size. Additional ads will be subject to advertisement fees.

Advertisement Fee Schedule:

1/8<sup>th</sup> Page: \$5 month, 1/4<sup>th</sup> 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.