



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

June 2021

THE HONEYBEE TIMES

President's Message

Hello All:

It is almost Summer by the calendar, but Mother Nature said it was Summer a few weeks ago! Please keep an eye on your colonies to make sure they have enough room to expand (think at least 2 weeks in the future) so that your bees don't SWARM. It's not a good thing to get that call from a neighbor and they say "your bees are in my yard!!!"

Remember to QUIT feeding your bees once you have your Honey Supers on (otherwise you just have sugar water honey and not REAL honey!).

Thank you to everyone who attended our Field Day Conference on May 15th at the Fairgrounds. It was a smaller than expected crowd, but there was a wealth of knowledge shared and fun was had!

We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day and that made it easier to get into the beehives. There were a few surprises (virgin queen, swarm cells, queen cups) in addition to the regular things to look for (brood, larvae, eggs, queen) and everyone seemed to enjoy getting into someone else's hive. Coloring contest, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, queen marking contest, smoker contest and a chance to see the inside of the Bee Barn during non-Fair hours.

It was nice having a table top observation hive (John Rose) to view and to see the largest permanent observation hive at a County Fairgrounds in Ohio.

Thank you to our panel of County Bee Inspectors:

Phil Bartosh, Cuyahoga County, James Perry, Trumbull County, Ron Zickfoose, Medina County and Doug Gerber, Stark County

(Cont. on next pg.)

They offered a wealth of knowledge from Urban beekeeping to Rural beekeeping and amusing stories of their inspections and travels. Questions were also taken from the audience.

Thank you to our Officers & Board Members, Field Day Committee and Volunteers that made this day possible for you. When you get involved, we get an idea of what you are looking for in the Club presentations!

We also appreciate the Cuyahoga County Agriculture Society for making this great venue available to us at no cost. GCBA has a good working relationship with them which benefits both organizations mutually.

Please consider making yourself available for being on a committee in the future, attending a Board Meeting

(3rd Wednesday of each month) and especially signing-up to be our representative at our booth at the Fair (August 10-15, 2021). We will have sign-up sheets at our June Meeting and our July Picnic and we will explain what we expect during your time at the booth. Volunteers receive free entry for the entire day in exchange for a 2 hour minimum shift.

A sign-up genius can be found at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CABA92EA3F58-cuyahoga>

and we are looking for people to fill the shifts between Noon and 10pm from Tuesday through Sunday.

It really is a lot of FUN (Brenda & I have been doing this since the first year we took classes with GCBA). You meet many interesting people, share some knowledge (you already know 100% more about bees than most of the people you are talking to) **AND YOU GET TO TALK ABOUT BEES!!!** What else could you ask for?

Our June 9th Membership Meeting hosted our Speaker Jon Reichel (Lorain County Bee Inspector) and he shared about Building and Maintaining strong Colonies. This is a subject of interest to both new and experienced beekeepers alike.

We also went over what you need to do to enter items into this year's Fair. It is MORE than just entering your honey to be judged. And Fair books **should** be available at the time of the next Meeting.

Do you have any suggestions for Speakers or Topics for our Meetings? Please make sure to let a Board Member know and we will see if we can set something up for a future Membership Meeting! We want to keep both the new and the experienced beekeepers engaged at our Meetings!

Our next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 16th at the Fairgrounds at 6:30pm. Our Meetings are OPEN to All Members, so please consider joining us.

Our Club PICNIC will be on Wednesday, July 14th at the picnic pavilion next to the Fair Office at **6:30pm** (note the time change). This is a Pot Luck Event with the Club supplying a hand held meat, condiments and soft drinks and we request that you bring a side-dish to share with your fellow beekeepers! We will tell a few stories, share a few lies and briefly go over entering your items in the 2021 Cuyahoga County Fair.

Until next time, Larry

Inside this issue:

President's Message

GCBA Happenings

Field Day

Cuyahoga County Fair

Resources

Community Education

Upcoming Meetings and Events

June Meeting

06/09/2021

July PICNIC @ 6:30pm

07/14/2021

Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds

The Inspector's Corner

The weather in Northeast Ohio can be in the 50's one day and the 80's the next. If your using Formic Acid as a treatment please follow the labeling instructions and check the upcoming temperatures. Labeling will tell you the safe temperatures to apply the treatment.

If your having issues with animals coming for a snack on your bees there are all kinds of things that can help. One is placing tack strips around the hive this one I do not recommend BE CAREFUL WHEN DOING THIS DON'T CAMOUFLAGE THEM WITH GRASS CLIPPING. Again be very careful if using tack stripslif you, a family member or pet accidentally step on one it's not pretty.

Nothing like stepping on a bunch of rusty tacks to make your day

Phil Bartosh

216.470.0934

216.351.6190

sd9990@aol.com

Cuyahoga County

Apiary Inspector



See what happened at our last meeting.



**Thank you to our panel of County Bee Inspectors:
Phil Bartosh, Cuyahoga County, James Perry, Trumbull County, Ron Zick-foose, Medina County and Doug Gerber, Stark County**

2021 Field Day



Outside Activities

2021 Field Day



Sarah Marie

Winner of the Gift Basket and the 50/50 Raffle

Emmett is the winner of the
Smoker Contest



Emmett is the winner of the

2021 Field Day



Inside Presentations

My Experience with Africanized Honey Bees

Submitted by: Shannon Warder

My son and I attended the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association Beginner Beekeeper Class Series in February 2010. During those classes and throughout the next few years of attending monthly meetings the topic of Africanized Honey Bees was mentioned here and there. No in-depth discussion since we in the northern states do not need to worry about Africanized Honey Bees. They are typically only a concern for the southern, hotter climate regions.

The Africanized Honey Bee as we know it in the United States is the result of experimentation done in Brazil in the late 1950s. Researchers were attempting to cross breed a species of honey bee from Africa with European species. The African species was a more prolific honey producer and performed better in tropical regions. Although the researchers had protocols and procedures in place to contain the more aggressive African species, several swarms still managed to escape. By the mid 1980s feral colonies of these aggressive bees were found in the southern United States.

After keeping bees for several years in Northeast Ohio and then in Washington DC, my family moved to Texas, just north of San Antonio in 2015. I called my trusted bee supplier Queen Right Colonies and ordered enough equipment to keep 12 hives. Due to dangerously high temperatures in Texas I could not mail order packages of bees. I had to obtain them from a local supplier in Texas. My son and I set up our 12 hives in late April, 2016. Early on backyard beekeeping in Texas seemed like business as usual, but by mid-July we could not step closer than 30 feet into our apiary without being met and stung by an aggressive bee. After trying to toughen up for a few weeks and take the stings that were generously given to us by our hives we decided we had to call it quits. After receiving some advice on how to go about exterminating the 12 colonies, my son and I poured 5 gallon buckets of soapy water into each hive during the dead of night. It was a sad event, both of us felt sick about it.

So what went wrong? For starters, we had taken the same approach of backyard beekeeping in the north to backyard beekeeping in the far south. Texas is a hotspot for Africanized honey bees. We did not take any precautions to prevent or stay on top of our hives being taken over by feral Africanized bees. In a recent visit to Texas, I was introduced to a backyard beekeeper who keeps 7 hives and lives in the same town as we lived. I asked her how she prevents what happened to us. Her solution is to re-queen at least 4 times a year. I know other backyard beekeepers in Texas just chalk up the aggressiveness to part of beekeeping and only re-queen every 2 years. For us re-queening so often and/or taking on a bunch of stings was not an option. We paused our hobby until we returned to Northeast Ohio, where conditions seem to be pretty amiable to backyard beekeeping.

Mite Control Calendar for NE Ohio

April – FA if it's an over wintered hive or nuc. OA if it's a package.

May – None needed unless mite signs are noticed. (See note #6)

June – OA touchup treatment

July – None needed unless mite signs are noticed

August – FA treatment – Very important for winter survival

September – None needed unless mite signs are needed

October – FA treatment

November - None needed unless mite signs are noticed

December – OA touchup treatment

January / February – OA touchup treatment on a >40F day

Notes:

1. FA - Formic Acid. See page #3 for instructions and tips.
2. OA – Oxalic Acid. See page #3 for instructions and tips.
3. Treatment Schedules are for the first week of every month.
4. Clean mite board before each treatment to see effectivity of treatment.
5. A single FA treatment can be substituted with 3 OA treatments, each a week apart.
6. Mite signs – Mites on bees or mites seen in drone comb

Lorain County Beekeepers Association

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



4

Varroa treatment options for a new package:

- Oxalic Acid (OA) dribble while bees are still in the package
- OA dribble after installing bees into the hive
- OA vaporization while bees are still in the package
- OA vaporization after installing bees into the hive.
- All methods achieve the same result of cleaning up any residual mites.

OA Dribble Tips:

- Recipe
 - Mix 2.5 tbsp. OA crystal with 1.5 cups warm water.
 - Add 2 cups sugar and mix very well
 - Makes enough for about 10 deep boxes
- Separate brood chambers (Usually deep boxes)
- Gently smoke bees down between frames
- Using a syringe, dribble 5ml of solution between frames.
- No more than 50ml of solution / deep box
- No more than 100ml per hive.
- **Multiple OA dribble treatments may result in damage to the queen, but is still better than high mite loads.**



Formic Acid (FA) Tips:

- Watch the video from the manufacturer at: Nodglobal.com
- Do NOT use expired strips – These can kill bees.
- Only add strips if daily temperatures will be **BELOW 85F** for the first 3 days of treatment
- Only add strips if daily temperatures will be **ABOVE 50F** for the first 3 days of treatment.



Watch the video from the manufacturer at: Nodglobal.com !

3

7/24/2020

~ Opportunites ~

We are pleased to announce our Community Educators; Shannon and Tracy

Shannon and Tracy have many years of experience sharing their love of Bee Keeping. They look forward to helping those in our community learn more about the Honey Bees. Those community groups such as; Boy and Girl Scouts, Local-Garden Clubs, Schools, Libraries, Veterans Groups, Nursing Homes and more can reach them at:

Shannon Warder email shan.warder@gmail.com

Tracy Gannon email tgannon2@mac.com

Might you be interested in joining a new Community Educators Committee?

We would love to have a handful of folks be on the “on-call” roster to provide Community Outreach on Beekeeping Education. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next Meeting.

Recipe Submitted By Michelle Killin-Keith

OHIO
COOPERATIVE
Living

Tart and Sweet Brussels Sprout Salad |



Yield

6 servings

Preparation time

15 minutes

Cooking time

15 minutes

Total time

30 minutes

Ingredients

1 cup pecans

4 tablespoons honey (divided)

1 pound Brussels sprouts

1 tart green apple (cored and diced)

1/2 cup dried cherries

1 tablespoon yellow mustard

juice of 1 lemon

1/4 cup olive oil

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 F. Stir together pecans and 2 tablespoons of the honey. Spread evenly over a baking sheet covered in parchment paper. Bake approximately 15 minutes, stirring a few times. Allow 5 minutes to cool, then peel pecans off of parchment paper. Set aside.

Cut ends off of the Brussels sprouts and slice finely. Transfer to a large bowl and toss with diced apple, pecans, and cherries. In a small bowl, whisk together remaining 2 tablespoons of honey, yellow mustard, lemon juice, and olive oil. Pour dressing over Brussels sprout salad, tossing to coat.

Notes

Per serving: 363 calories, 22.5 grams fat (3 grams saturated fat), 0 milligrams cholesterol, 50 milligrams sodium, 41 grams total carbohydrates, 6.5 grams fiber, 5 grams protein.

LCBA Opportunity

LCBA Opportunity

SPECIAL EVENT

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

**Ray
Olivarez**
of OHB



**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, Carniolan, 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





Queen Right Colonies®

Beekeeping Supplies, Package Bees, Queens, & More

43655 State Route 162 • Spencer, OH 44275
440-647-2602 • info@queenrightcolonies.com

QUEEN BEES



Starting at
\$37

Get your Queen Bees at QRC!
We offer New World Carniolan, Cordovan,
Saskatraz, & Three-banded Italian Queens.
Order Your Queens Today!

KNOWLEDGE



QRC Diagnosis of Your Honeybee Colonies.
Talk with the Experts –
**Call Today for Services,
Appointments & Pricing.**

EXPERIENCE



Over 100 years of combined beekeeping
experience and 26 years serving the
Beekeeping Community.
You Can Rely On Us!

2021 EVENTS



Saturday, June 5, Field Day
The Return of Albert Robertson.
Saturday, September 11,
"End of Summer Classic"
with Ray Olivarez of Olivarez Honey Bees.

440-647-2602
queenrightcolonies.com



LCBA Opportunity

LCBA Opportunity

End of Summer Classic

BEST of the BEST

Car, Truck & Bike Cruisin'

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

GATES OPEN 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

LORAIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



Come check it out...

Bee part of the excitement, LCBA proudly presents the End of Summer Classic with Keynote Bee Speaker, Ray Olivarez of Olivarez Honey Bees Inc., California, and Guest Speakers, Dr. James Tew from Wooster, Ohio and Earl Hoffman of Strong Microbials, Inc. We will have bee activities, vendors, crafters, fair food, games, and raffles.

Open to all years, makes & models.
Shine'em up & Show them off!



Special Attractions

- Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11
- LCBA Sponsored Raffles
- LCBA Sponsored Door Prizes
- Civil War Reenactment
- Buggy Rides
- Bounce House
- Dunk Tank
- Rabbit Show
- Crafters & Vendors
- Food & Beverages
- Music



LORAIN COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BEEKEEPERS

ASSOCIATION



2021 END OF SUMMER CLASSIC

WITH: Ray Olivarez of OHB

For more information contact Randy at (440) 381-1956.
Visit www.loraincountybeekeepers.org or follow us on Facebook for more updates and announcements.



Scan me

What is on your license plate?

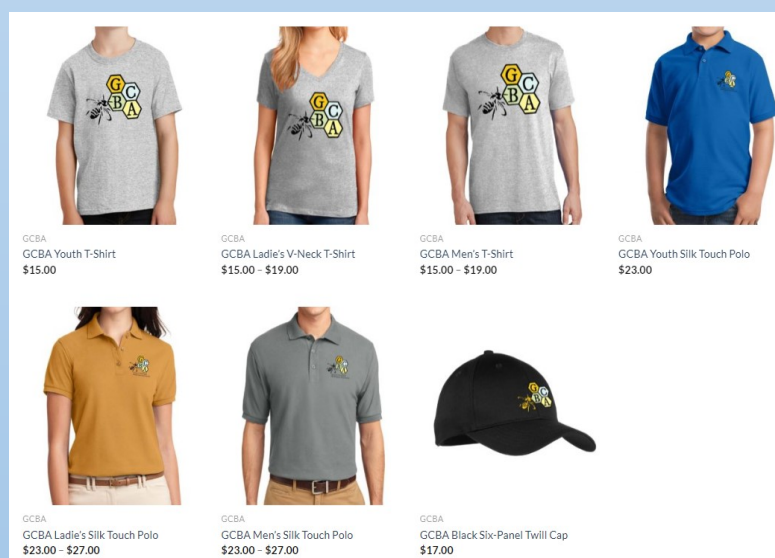


The "Save The Honey Bee" license plate is now available for order both online at oplates.gov and at your local BMV office! Funds generated from the sale of this plate shall be used to promote beekeeping, provide educational information, and to support other state and local beekeeping programs.

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

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

What are you wearing?



The Board of Directors is in the process of exploring additional clothing and GCBA Spirit items. More details to come in the July publication.



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



oming


GCBA events held throughout the year:

- Field Day in May
- Picnic in July
- County Fair Booth in August
- Special Event in September
- Holiday Party in December
- Live Demonstrations year round

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!!

May Meeting Winner is Sheila Maurer

Don't forget to get yours at the beginning of every meeting.



Mark your calendar!
124th CUYAHOGA COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 10-15, 2021

Free Parking every day!

Fair Hours	
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri:	Noon to 11:00 PM (Rides will open at 3pm on Tues, and at noon on Wed, Thurs & Fri)
Saturday:	10 AM to 11:00 PM (Rides open at 10am)
Sunday:	Noon to 10:00 PM (Rides open at noon)

We will need many members to volunteer.

Volunteers receive free entry for the entire day.

A sign-up genius can be found at this link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CABA92EA3F58-cuyahoga>

Thank You From All Of Us

2021 Officers

Larry Theurer, President

(216) 741-3798 larry1724@aol.com

Sheila Maurer, Vice President

spmaurer01@gmail.com

Brenda Theurer, Treasurer

(216) 741-3798 larry1724@aol.com

Shannon Warder, Secretary

(440) 832-1776 shan.warder@gmail.com

Directors

Phil Bartosh, Past President

(216) 470-0934

Sarah Marie

(216) 526-5086 sarah_marie@hotmail.com

Tracy McKenna

tgannon2@mac.com

Denzil St.Clair

(440) 647-2602

Michelle Killin-Keith, Newsletter Editor

(440) 781-4161