



*Greater Cleveland
Beekeepers
Association*



March 2023

the HONEYBEE TIMES



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A Message from Our President

Welcome everyone to the month of March!

We finished February up with our Beginner's Beekeeping Class. We had four great classes. These classes were for entry into the fascinating world of beekeeping.

The classes were designed to get a new hive up and running. As the year progresses, we will have more seasonal advice to prepare beekeepers for future success in honey production.

The club has a wealth of members with years of experience and success stories. One of the greatest assets of the club is its members. Certainly we have all done some internet surfing about beekeeping.

But the benefit of the seasoned members our members live in northeast Ohio and have experienced the seasonal changes. This interactive forum is a true asset.

Club members have ability to interact, ask questions, and get specific information about their concerns from some seasoned beekeepers.

Continued on page 2



President's Message *continued*

I am also happy to remind everyone we will have an up and running apiary on the fairgrounds. With monthly inspections.

This month's guest speaker, Tom Nolan is from Formic Pro. This is one of the easiest mite prevention products on the market for controlling the Varroa mite population. Varroa mites wipe out a large percentage of bee colonies every year. Unfortunately, the USA has not developed a bee that is not affected by varroa mites.

Certainly, there are other diseases and concerns that do arise, but this is one unavoidable problem. Please come listen to the guest speaker on this important topic.

This is the month all good beekeepers should be checking in on their bees. The last thing anyone wants is a failed colony due to starvation.

This is the month that bees could possibly run out of stored honey. It is very important to check your bees and if need supplement feed your bees.

Its also important to make sure your bees have a water source, besides your neighbors clogged gutter. On a few of these warm days I have filled my water feature. It was nice to see the bees out and about, a sure sign that spring is near.

It's also the time of year to inspect your equipment. There is nothing worse than needing frames or other supplies and then to find out your favorite supplier has things you need on order.

In the beginning of my beekeeping hobby someone told me, "Beekeeping is like a chess game. You always need to be planning your next move."

My few seasons in the apiary have taught me you can go from some capped brood to a hive that is running out of room in a very short time frame.

Final thought

The club has some great events this coming year and we still need help with board positions. Please take a moment to think about giving up a little bit of your free time to a great hobby and Club.

More to come about this and more at the March meeting.

Thomas Kennish (Tom)

GCBA 2023 President

Inspector's Corner

Hello Everyone,

Not much to speak on this month, remember to register your apiary. It's \$5.00 per location.

Lots of hives die in March due to starvation so check your stores. Remember during warm weather your bees eat more.

It's official that the County has appointed me as Apiary Inspector for 2023. Hope to see most of you this summer.

Thanks,

Phil BARTOSH

*Cuyahoga County
Apiary Inspector*



World Bee Day

Volunteers needed for World Bee Day May 19 and 20! Hear ye, Hear ye all members friends and readers of this announcement!

At the March meeting we will be looking for those who have expressed interest in helping us organize the May event, Please look for sign up sheet.

By April we will have a better idea of the needs of the event, whether it be setup, clean up instructing, the list is long. There will be a meeting specifically for volunteers in the weeks to come.

For more information contact Sarah Alonso, GCBA Secretary (s.alonso@myyahoo.com)



Best Honey Cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup cake flour
- 1 tsp. cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 8 Tbsp. unsalted butter, cold, cut into cubes
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 egg
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla bean paste
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar to roll cookies in prior to baking

INSTRUCTIONS

Whisk together the All-purpose flour, cake flour, cornstarch, baking soda, baking powder, salt and cinnamon together in a large bowl. Set aside.

Cream together the butter, sugars and honey using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, on medium speed until light and fluffy, ~3-4 minutes.

Add in the egg, egg yolk and vanilla bean paste until incorporated.

Add in dry ingredients, gradually until ingredients are incorporated. (Do not over mix).

Chill cookie dough in the fridge for at least 1-2 hours (or longer, such as overnight). This is important to help the cookies from spreading and to look soft and pillowy.

Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Scoop ~2 tablespoons of cookie dough and roll into balls. Will make ~20 small cookies.

By: Tawnie Graham
of Kröll's Korner



Pasteries for the bakery table are always welcome especially if they are made with honey.

Jan Petrek, GCBA Hospitality Coordinator



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



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.

Cuyahoga County Fair 2023

Now that the New Year is before us, it is now time to start planning our Beekeeping year.

Expansion, consistency, health of bees, and the list goes on!

As we look down the calendar, we realize what a short window of opportunity we have to get a great deal done.

One of the items on our check list is to finally get some honey ready for the fair.

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

Win a cash prize if we are so lucky to have the highest scores and possible 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 fever has begun to affect us all. A time to plan, organize, cleanup and plan some more. This is no different when it comes to the GCBA Bee Yard. We have a lot to do to get ready for hosting our next event which is World Bee Day. “By failing to prepare you are preparing to fail”, Benjamin Franklin, wise words!

We have a great Volunteer staff with which to coordinate our plans for spring. Eric Manthey is our Bee Yard Manager and can be contacted at (216) 313-0550. Equipment clean up, inventory of supplies and preparation for our one-of-a-kind year-round observation hive located in the Bee Barn Building #25. Rick Moranz has graciously offered bees for the yard, but anyone who may have an early split or two be sure to let Eric know. There will be a package bee installation in April if not sooner, so watch for any announcements forthcoming.

The beautiful Pollinator Garden is overseen by the ever-famous Master Gardener/Beekeeper Lorraine Bertosa. She will be doing some cleanup and planning. We have already put in a request with Petitti's Garden for perennials and flowering bushes or dwarf flowering trees and mulch. They were very generous last year and we are grateful.

The big beautiful Pollinator Garden sign will go up soon, beams have been purchased and our fair director Dennis Eck is working on getting it in place before World Bee Day. We also are looking at the fencing at the front of the garden, possibly changing the materials to something more aesthetically pleasing. We may need some volunteers for this project. There will also be a sign placed this year in the garden in appreciation to Belmont Prison for all the beautiful artwork made possible by the inmates.

Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association is Cuyahoga Counties resource for all things Honeybees. An institution whose goals are the education and sustainability of the honeybee, through continuing educational programs. We have only begun to make a difference, one beekeeper, one beehive at a time. Through community activities, events, classes, and visibility in the county, it makes all the difference.

Sheila St.Clair

Bee Yard and Barn Beautification Project 2023

Why Did My Bees Die?

The number one question asked by about 30% of the beekeepers every spring is why are my bees dead? This will be a short class starting at 6:30 PM sharp for a pre-meeting or meeting before the meeting. We will use a colony from the GCBA Fairgrounds Bee Yard to demonstrate how and what to look for when doing a colony necropsy. Don't forget be there early or miss out.





**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, straight sided bottle; will be opened and tasted	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
307. Novelty honey cooking - quantity of product exhibited sufficient for a comparison, may include jellies (50% honey), granola, fruit leathers, etc. <i>Recipe attached</i>	\$5.00	3.00	2.00
308. Fruit canned with honey - 3 jars, all pints or quarts, <i>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 1 oz. minimum weight each, handmade - lye - based, 3 uniform bars, <i>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

DEPT 27

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.

DEPT 28

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

OFFICE USE

Fair Dates:
Aug. 9-14, 2022

Entries Close:
July 29, 2022

**NO EXCEPTIONS
FOR LATE ENTRIES!**

The Cuyahoga Couty Fair
P.O. Box 135
Berea, Ohio 44017
Telephone: (440) 243-0090
Fax: (440) 243-0344
Exhibitors Entry Form
For

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

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: _____

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 _____	

"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!

Beginner Beekeeping Class 2023

We would like to take this opportunity to announce the Graduating Class of Beekeepers 2023. Spending a great deal of time in class and research and now ready to keep bees this spring. GCBA welcomes you as members and friends!



50/50 Raffles

February 1, 2023

Take \$70.00 Split \$35.00

Winner: Joe D'Amico

February 8, 2023

Take \$110.00 Split \$55.00

Winner: Monica D'Amico

February 15, 2023

Take \$50.00 Split \$25.00

Winner: Charlotte Gircsis

February 22, 2023

Take \$50.00 Split \$25.00

Winner: John Krecic

February 22, 2023

Hive Squares

Winner: Dustin Pollock

February 22, 2023

Beginner Beekeeping Kit

Winner: Dustin Pollock

Deep Hive Box

Winner: Patricio Sapir

Welcome to the 46 new Families who signed up for 2023 Beginner Beekeeping Classes

Brenda Theurer

GCBA Treasurer



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440-647-2602

California



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New World Carniolan,
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info@queenrightcolonies.com





Greater Cleveland
Beekeepers
Association



March 2023

GCBA Officers



Looking for a way to participate in our Association?

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

President: Tom Kennish
tkennish@gmail.com

Past President: Denzil St. Clair
info@queenrightcolonies.com

VP: Mike Alonso
meanee13@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Brenda Theurer
larry1724@aol.com

Secretary: Sarah Alonso
s.alonso@myyahoo.com

Director: Laura Brown
lb68750@gmail.com

Director: Joe Petrek
jpetrek3@hotmail.com

Director: Charles Heaton
charlesheaton@mac.com

Fair Committee Chair: Tom Kennish
tkennish@gmail.com

Hospitality Coordinator: Jan Petrek
jpetrek@hotmail.com

Our Goal:

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