



*Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers  
Association*

May 2024



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## the HONEYBEE TIMES

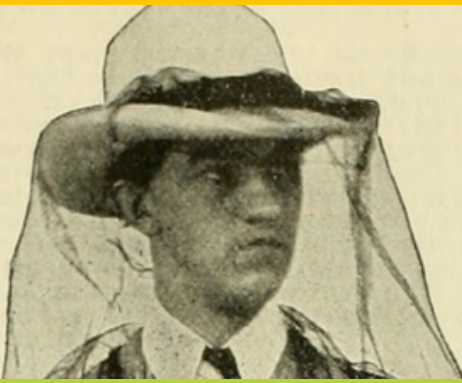
### A Message from Our President

Welcome to May, Everyone!

By now, most if not all of you have received and installed your new bees. I hope those of you that installed for the first time really enjoyed the experience. Please share your stories. I would love to hear them. For those on their second or more, how did it go? Was it the same as every other time? What did you do differently? I would like hear that too and I am sure there are many of us who agree. In any instance, now we are headed into the heart of bee season and all the scenarios that come with it. Please continue to join us monthly as our speakers have many things to share and teach us all. Their lessons will provide a nice mental catalog of what you may encounter in the months and years ahead.

Moving on, Eric Manthey, our bee yard manager, is working hard making sure our fair ground bees are thriving and is having demonstrations as they apply to the hives. Please keep an eye out on your emails as the opportunities to watch and assist tend to be short notice. He welcomes any visitors and their questions so please join and participate when you can.

*Continued on page 2*



## Inspector's Corner

Hi everyone,

It's swarm season, and most of us are Urban Beekeepers with neighbors within 50-100ft of us. It's important to check your hive(s) every 7 to 10 days. I know GCBA stresses this... why you ask? Queen cells hatch in 16 days so if you're in your hives every 7 to 10 days you can seek and destroy queen cells before they are capped. This does help greatly in stopping swarming. Losing half your bees to swarming also cuts your honey production.

The beekeeping community has fought hard to get beekeeping legalized. Swarming scares the heck out of the non beekeeper. Remember, it takes a stroke of a pen to make beekeeping legal in your community, but that same pen can also make it illegal to keep bees.

Thanks,  
Phil BARTOSH  
Cuyahoga County Apiary Inspector

Lastly, as I previously mentioned, we are heading into the heart of beekeeping season. There will be events which any and all help is very much appreciated and needed. It is never too late to sign up. We are all volunteers helping to educate and share our experiences with others. Your contributions are valuable and we are thankful for them.

I look forward to seeing you all and hearing how everything has gone.

Mike Alonso  
*President of GCBA*



## GCBA Events

**Volunteer, Donate, Jump in and Lend a Hand!**

- World Bee Day May 17th-18th
- Picnic in July
- Cuyahoga County Fair Booth in August
- Holiday Party in December
- Live Demonstrations year round

**Don't Forget!**

**Pastries for the bakery table at our monthly meetings are always welcome, especially if they are made with honey!**



Jan Petrek, GCBA Hospitality Coordinator



# Celebrate World Bee Day - May 17-18th!

## Have you heard that GCBA and CCF are hosting their fourth annual World Bee Day?

GCBA, along with numerous other organizations, will once again be hosting World Bee Day at the Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds on May 17 and 18th. We are extremely excited to have this opportunity to teach the public the importance of pollinators.

May 17 from 9 am to 2 pm will be dedicated to school children from all over Cleveland and its outer suburbs. Currently, we have over 700 students signed up to attend! May 18 from 10 am to 4 pm will be open to the public.

We need volunteers to help make this a successful event. You do not need to know a lot about honeybees, because you already know more than most people do! You just need to be willing to give a few hours of your time!

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

**WORLD BEE DAY**  
**Field trip**

Celebrating the bees and other pollinators!

**Friday**  
**May 17, 2024**  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds Bee Barn  
19201 E Bagley Road  
Middleburg Heights  
Ohio 44130

**Honey Bee Passport**  
Get your Honey Bee Passport stamped when you visit the Bee Observation Room and the Educational Stations.

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**Honey Bee Educational Day for Students**  
World Bee Day celebration raises awareness on the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and on the many challenges they face today. The United Nations designated May 20 as World Bee Day thanks to the efforts of the Government of Slovenia with the support of Apimondia.

- Teaching Future Generation Importance of Honey Bees
- Learn from Certified Master Gardener about Pollinator Gardens
- Learn How Honey Bees Improve Our Agricultural/Food
- Educational Stations; Fruits, Vegetables, and Honey
- Honey Bee Observation Room

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collaborativechambers.org greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com  
Contact Nicky Subandari at [collaborativechambers@gmail.com](mailto:collaborativechambers@gmail.com) or call (440) 502-9506.

**WORLD BEE DAY**  
**fun day**

Celebrating the bees and other pollinators!

**Saturday**  
**May 18, 2024**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds Bee Barn  
19201 E Bagley Road  
Middleburg Heights  
Ohio 44130

**\$2 Donation**  
The proceeds from this event will be donated to provide Honey Breakfast on November 11-15, 2024, for K-12 students in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

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We invite you to join in the fun of World Bee Day!  
World Bee Day celebration raises awareness on the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy, and on the many challenges they face today. The United Nations designated May 20 as World Bee Day thanks to the efforts of the Government of Slovenia with the support of Apimondia.

- All Day Speakers Series About Honey Bees and Agriculture:
  - Julia Maria Cujba - All About HIVE Products
  - Charles Heaton - Cooking with Honey
  - Peggy Vasu - Pollinator Gardeners
- Learn How Honey Bees Improve Our Agricultural/Food
- Honey Bee Observation Room
- Slovenian Corner
- Food & Beverages

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



# Bee Yard & Barn Beautification Projects



Saturday, April the 27th, was a great learning day in the Pollinator Garden and Bee Yard. Big thank you to Eric Manthey, Bee Yard manager, for a great class on Queen Grafting. A few days later the report came through that 6 of the 8 grafts were being built and tended.

Upcoming events such as this will be announced via email from the GCBA Secretary. This allows for weather and other situations to be taken in to consideration when deciding on a Saturday gathering. Watch your email! If you are receiving this newsletter, you will also get an update regarding the bee yard.

Also in attendance was the Cuyahoga County Bee Inspector Phil Bartosh. It's very beneficial to have him as a active member of GCBA. If you have questions I am sure he has an answer!

Once last thought! The Garden was given a donation of three Yarrow Roots from the Eden Brothers and Laura Brown got those planted a couple weeks ago. If you have donations of plants bees love, please let someone know. If you have an idea for the garden, do likewise.

This organization is doing a great job sharing the importance of Honeybees, and it shows!

Thank you all,

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

Eric Manthey  
216-313-0550  
Bee Yard  
Manager



## Pollinator Fun Facts!

- When you remove gardening materials or prune too early in the spring season, you risk disrupting or potentially destroying eggs or pollinators who may not have left hibernation yet.
- Participate in "No Mow May." Studies have shown that mowing less frequently promotes pollinator-friendly food like weeds, clovers, dandelions, and more native plants to grow more robust.
- Opt for native plants in your garden. This can be a great addition to any garden, and reduce environmental impact by ensuring you aren't planting invasive species. Since pollinators have evolved over time with native plants in a specified area, they've developed a mutually beneficial relationship.



## Ingredients:

### Biscuit Dough

- 4 cups (500g) All-purpose Flour
- 1 1/4 cup (120g) powdered sugar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 4tsp spice blend (sifted)
- 1/2 cup (180g) Slovenian Honey
- 1 egg
- 11 Tbsp (150g) butter, room temperature
- Zest of 1 lemon

### Spice blend

- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground cardamom
- 1 tsp ground cloves
- 1 tsp ground star anise

## Slovenian Honey and Spice Biscuits

Recipe by Chef Charles Heaton

## Procedure

- Combine dry ingredients, mix thoroughly.
- Combine liquid ingredients and softened butter in a mixing bowl, mix thoroughly.
- Add blended dry ingredients to wet ingredients in two to three additions.
- Mix all of the ingredients into a smooth dough.
- Scoop approximately 1 oz. biscuits and place them on a baking sheet.
- Bake at 300F (150 Celsius) for approximately 15 minutes, until brown on the bottom and lightly brown on the top edges.
- Allow to cool and dust lightly with powdered sugar.
- And... dober tek! (Bon appétit!)
- Yield: approximately 25, 1oz biscuits



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## 30th FIELD DAY - JUNE 1, 2024



Sponsored by  
Lorain County Beekeepers Association & QRC



Join QRC & LCBA for our 30th Annual Field Day with keynote speaker **Randy Oliver of Golden West Queens** and guest speaker **Ray Olivarez of Olivarez Honey Bees.**

For more information visit:  
[loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://loraincountybeekeepers.org)

**440-647-2602**  
**queenrightcolonies.com**

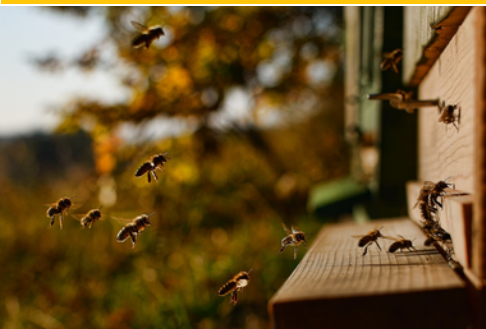


Greater Cleveland  
Beekeepers  
Association



May 2024

# GCBA Officers



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## Our Goal:

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