



Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com

THE HONEYBEE TIMES

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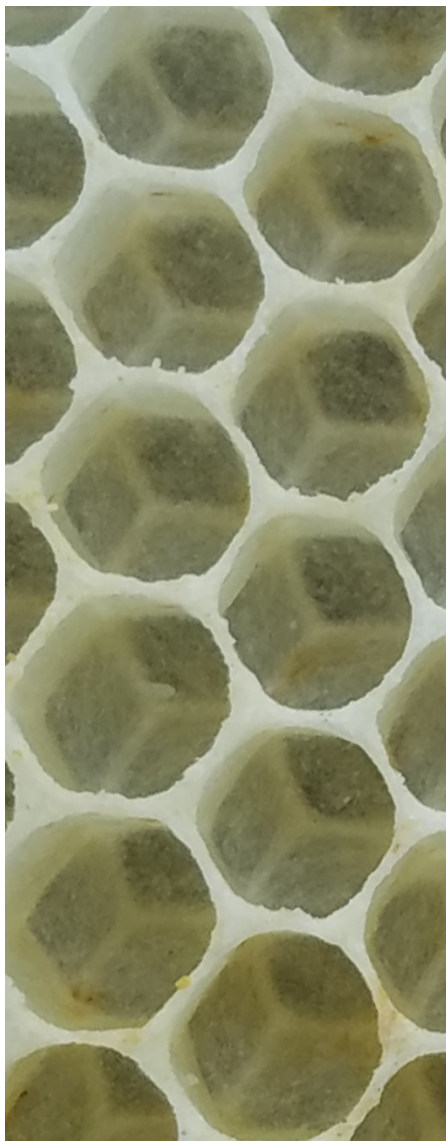
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Wax comb



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President's Message

At the January Board Meeting there was a unanimous vote to assign Janice Maund GCBA Secretary for 2018. We are very pleased to have a full board for 2018 and Janice is looking forward to a successful year.

The club has purchased Quickbooks software to simplify financial records and budgeting for GCBA and allows for a smooth hand off to any future Treasurer.

We have lost a wonderful beekeeper and long time club member, Gayle Bartosh. She will be greatly missed.

http://www.ripepi.com/sitemaker/sites/RIPEPI1/obit.cgi?user=52577389_GBARTOSH

Local genetics and overwintered survivor stock is the goal for a sustainable apiary, but are you all at that point yet?

If you have had losses and intend to increase your apiary early, a package is an option, especially if you are looking for honey production.

You can still make the choice to re-queen the hive with a local stock later in the summer. The hive is then going into winter preparations with a young healthy queen with local genetics. Some recommend a queen that has emerged after the summer solstice.

Local nucs are terrific and recommended, but become available later, as drone production, thus mating flights, are weather dependent. A great choice to expand your apiary, but not always the way to maximize honey production, if that is your goal.

Splitting healthy hives before they swarm and capturing a swarm are free and available methods for any beekeeper. Wicwas Press publishes "Increase Essentials" and "Swarm Essentials" to learn more about these activities. Our April speaker, Melanie Seal of Blue Sky Bee Supply, will speak on the topic of splits.

Do you have any empty 2 liter bottles to donate to the club? Please, rinse out and bring to the February or March meeting. Lids are not needed.

It is membership renewal time. Find the application attached to this email or online at <http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/join/>

The GCBA Beginning Beekeeping Course will be held each Wednesday evening in February. All current members are welcome to attend any or all sessions. Please welcome the newbees to our club.

Annette

January Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm

Happy Anniversary to GCBA, 9 years, cake to be served.

Thank you to Paul Buser for his service on the board. Julie Haumschild regrettably has to step down from Secretary position as she will be continuing her college education. Janice Maund has volunteered to step up if appointed. The board will vote at next meeting. Any other interested party should speak to Annette after the meeting.

Formal meeting minutes were posted in January newsletter.

Annette asks for a motion to approve minutes. Sheri Closky puts forth a motion. Bob Stone seconds the motion. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Leo Schirokauer, a Shaker Heights high school student, requested funds to support his laboratory materials and time at Oberlin College and CWRU. Leo has applied for a patent and thinks he may have found a way to prevent American Foul Brood. The 2017 GCBA board unanimously approved GCBA's first ever Youth Research Fund grant. Leo will be keeping the board updated, will speak at Field Day and will set up display in the apiary barn for fair this year.

January is membership renewal month.

Mike Gallagher is the chairperson of the audit committee for the 2017 fiscal year. The financial report will appear in the newsletter going forward. Tony gives the Treasurer's report:

December 2017

Beginning balance	\$18,385.23
Deposits	205.00
Disbursements	397.77
Ending Balance	\$18,192.46

Annette asks for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. James Corbett Jr puts for the motion. Delores Watson seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

Member Stephanie Sadlon has volunteered to chair the Field Day Committee this year. Stephanie did a great job last year and will need volunteers for planning and execution of Field Day on May 19th.

Tomorrow will be warm. Pop the top of your hives. Check to see if the girls need supplemental food.

Mites should have been under control months ago, but if the temperature is above 37 degrees you can use an oxalic acid vaporizer.

Tri County Beekeepers Spring Workshop opens on January 15th. It sells out every year. Get registered early if you want to attend

Quick anonymous survey was completed and results will be in February newsletter.

Annette asks for a motion to close the meeting. Ginger Needham puts forth a motion. Sarah Frey seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

January Speaker Takeaway Notes

Peggy Garnes gave a terrific presentation on keeping top bar hives.

A few takeaway notes:

If you are considering keeping a top bar hive, get as much information as possible before starting. Purchase books and read them.

Plan to be present when your apiary is inspected so you can move the frames.

There are limited mentors in our area for top bar hive help.

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance	\$18,192.46
Deposits	\$ 2,258.33
Disbursements	\$ 1,813.13
Ending Balance	\$18,637.66

In the Hive

February is a month when we can't really see exactly what is going on in the hive. Too cold to

break apart boxes, move frames and get inside.

But, we can evaluate the hive. If you have a thermal imaging camera you can see where the cluster is located without opening the lid.

Are your bees still alive? Are they at the top of the hive? Do they need additional resources?

If you have lost a hive, do you know why?

Do you have your varroa monitoring and treatment plan ready for 2018? What methods will you use? Plan now and have your tools ready. Integrated pest management is the recommended approach.

Are you increasing your apiary this year? Now is the time to order local nucs, packages and queens.

Are you attending any winter educational seminars?

Medina County Beekeepers are hosting a one-day **Intermediate** Class with Roy Hendrickson on March 17, 2017. This is not a beginners class.

http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/index.php?title=Medina_Beekeepers:Current_events

February is a good time to brush up on all the things we need to be aware of once we are back in our bees. Consider Ohio State Bee Lab offerings.

Reed Johnson's presentation on viruses in honey bees

<http://u.osu.edu/beelab/viruses-in-honey-bees/>

Alex Zomcheck explains the importance of monitoring hives.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0bRWmJV518>

Bee Cluture magazine has a webinar series that anyone can watch either live or archived. Consider watching "Tracking the Changing Deformed Wing Virus" episode from June 19, 2017. <http://www.beeculture.com/kimandjimshow/>

PhD student Sammy Ramsey from the University of Maryland has made a very interesting discovery regarding our understanding of varroa mites

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dq52ug3HTxY>

Interested in some thoughts from the UK?

https://kiwimana.co.nz/practical-beekeeping-with-roger-patterson-km115/?utm_source=Apis+Information+Resource+News&utm_campaign=86a60e5b54-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_01_31&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ec6bf7d517-86a60e5b54-320253513

Anytime is a great time to catch up on educational materials to sharpen

and hone your beekeeping skills.

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/>

Medina County Beekeepers is hosting "Conversations with Randy Oliver". Consider attending.

<http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/2018/02/01/march-4-2018-conversations-randy-oliver-medina-beekeepers-association/>

Research on colony health and pathogen composition in migratory beekeeping operations

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0182814>

For anyone who takes pictures, shares pictures, likes to look at pictures of nature. Use it on your computer or smartphone.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

Do you know the easiest way to do a sugar roll? Watch here.

https://www.facebook.com/UmnBeeSquad/videos/1129462230487492/?hc_ref=ARQ4o_6ZI-UKa-UrEkdzIg0S2H77Ba4EOYMM-HYnNIGKnhKXhd_WatS8NgOwW8Awc4

Do you have a deadout? Have you determined why?

https://www.perfectbee.com/a-healthy-beehive/inspecting-your-hive/learning-from-deadout-inspections/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=PerfectBee+Beekeeping+Course+%283+2%29+%3A+Inspecting+Your+Hive&utm_campaign=Course+Welcome

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

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

An informative site for any beekeeper. This particular page link is for new beekeepers.

<http://www.dave-cushman.net/bee/beginner.html>

Upcoming Meetings and Events

GCBA

February 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

GCBA Beginner Beekeeping Course 2018

Doors open at 6:30pm. Instruction 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Registration is Required. Members in good standing are welcome.

[mailto:http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/2016/10/21/february-beginning-beekeeping-classes-rocky-river-nature-center/?subject=GCBA Beginner Beekeeping Course Registration](mailto:http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/2016/10/21/february-beginning-beekeeping-classes-rocky-river-nature-center/?subject=GCBA%20Begining%20Beekeeping%20Course%20Registration)

March 14, 2018

Speaker: Denzel St Clair Topic: Coming through Spring
Beekeeper/ Owner Queen Right Colonies

April 11, 2018

Speaker: Melanie Seal Topic: Making Nucs
Beekeeper/ Owner Blue Sky Bee Supply

May 9, 2018

Topic: Varroa Enemy #1

Presentation on current science regarding the Varroa mite, biology, habits and treatment options by GCBA board members.

Other Upcoming Meetings

Lorain County Beekeepers meeting

February 9, 2018

Guest Speakers: Joe Pritash & Bob

Stone (GCBA member comments on his first year experience using a Flow Hive)

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

Medina County Beekeepers meeting

February 19, 2018

Guest Speaker: **Frank Licata, Operations**

Manager for Mann Lake in Wilkes-Barre, PA TOPIC: "Bringing Your Hives into Spring"

[http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/index.php?title=Medina Beekeepers:Current events](http://www.medinabeekeepers.com/index.php?title=Medina_Beekeepers:Current_events)

Tri-County Beekeepers Association Spring Workshop

March 2nd and 3rd

[mailto:http://www.tricountybeekeepers.org/register?subject=Tri County Spring Workshop](mailto:http://www.tricountybeekeepers.org/register?subject=Tri%20County%20Spring%20Workshop)
[Registration](#)

Ohio State Beekeepers Honey Judging Class

March 10, 2018

<http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/event/osba-sponsored-honey-judging-class-part-i/>

GCBA Field Day

May 19, 2018

Ohio State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference

November 3, 2018

[Picture Page](#)

Please, email any pics you have to share with the club! GCBAeditor@gmail.com
We will try to include as many as possible. Please include any caption information.



Photo Credits Annette Birt Clark

Wax moth webbing on forgotten frame



Wax moth larva, cocoons and feces

[Recipe of the Month](#)

Honey Sweetened Peanut Butter Cookies with Whole Wheat Flour

Ingredients

- 1 cup peanut butter (natural and normal will both work, smooth or creamy)
- 1 cup honey (I like to buy local, it seems less bitter than cheap store honey)
- 1 large egg
- 1½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 2 Cups whole wheat flour

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and line a baking sheet with parchment or a baking mat.
2. In a large bowl or the bowl of your stand mixer combine the peanut butter and honey and beat until totally incorporated. Stir in egg and vanilla.
3. Add the salt, soda and flour and mix until it comes together to form a dough.
4. Shape dough into small balls (about 1 tablespoon of dough each) and place on the prepared sheet. Use fork to lightly press each dough ball down.
5. Bake for 10-12 minutes until cookies become slightly golden brown. (Note: Be careful to not over bake! Honey burns much more easily than sugar.) Remove from the oven and place the cookies on a wire rack to cool.

Notes from the Chef

I like to buy white whole wheat flour. This means they milled the flour from soft white wheat berries. Traditional whole wheat flour is made from hard red wheat berries. Flour made from the soft white wheat berries is more tender and tastes less “wheaty”. It’s a great option for baked goods.

Courtesy of Melissa Griffiths

[Check out our Facebook Page!](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/greaterclevelandbeekeepers/>

2018 GCBA Membership

New / Renewal (circle one)

Name: _____

Additional Family Members: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

How many years have you been keeping bees? _____

How many hives do you keep? _____

How do you test for varroa mite counts? (please check all that apply)

Sugar roll _____ Alcohol Wash _____ Sticky Board _____

Other _____ No answer _____

The 2018 Membership cost is **\$20.00** per family which includes email of the monthly GCBA newsletter. One person per family may vote in GCBA elections or other official club votes.

Membership application by mail is encouraged.

Please, send your completed application and payment to:

**GCBA
P.O. Box 30092
Middleburgh Heights, OH 44130**

For office use:

Date _____

Amount: _____

Type: _____



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