



# Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

[www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com](http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com)

## THE HONEYBEE TIMES

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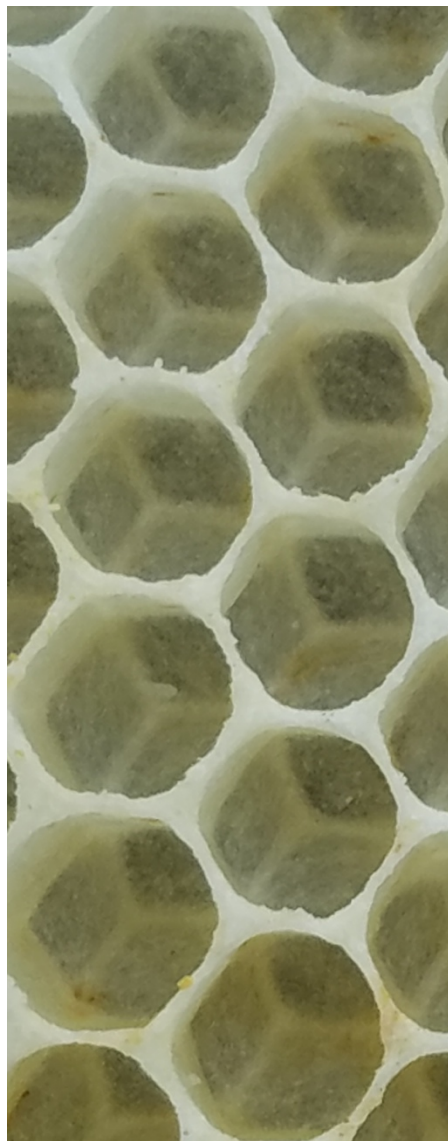
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## Wax comb



### Inside

**Presidents Message**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In the Hive**

**Resources**

**Upcoming Meetings and Events**

**Picture Page**

**Recipe of the Month**

## Pollen



## President's Message

Happy New Year! Hopefully you all had a wonderful and healthy holiday season with family and friends. The December potluck was a lovely evening despite the snow. All who attended had wonderful food and conversation.

As your new President, I look forward to serving GCBA's mission for all members. If you have any comments or ideas for our club, please do not hesitate to contact me or any board member. I hope 2018 will be a year of education, sharing knowledge and experience and lots of fun as beekeepers!

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

Peggy Garnes will present information on Management of Top Bar Hives at the January meeting. Please, plan to attend.

We will be celebrating the GCBA's 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday and cake will be provided.

Did you appreciate the help of other beekeepers getting you started or helping you through a challenge in your hive this year? Consider helping the 2018 newbees this year.

Over the next few months our Vice-President and Ohio State Beekeepers Association Director, Allyson May, will be sharing many ideas how you can be a mentor and still stay in your comfort zone.

The GCBA Beginning Beekeeping Course will be held each Wednesday evening in February. All current members are welcome to attend any or all sessions. Registration for new members is available on the website <http://www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com/2016/10/21/february-beginning-beekeeping-classes-rocky-river-nature-center/>.

The GCBA Field Day will be held on May 19, 2018. Mark your calendars now! Many hands on sessions are being planned. More details will be shared in the coming months.

Financial reports will be printed in our newsletter beginning in February once the audit committee, headed by Mike Gallagher, has certified the year end financials.

Annette

## December Meeting Minutes

GCBA General Meeting December 13, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Larry Theurer, President.

Thank you to all members and board members for all assistance through the year and for all the wonderful food brought for this evenings potluck.

Candidates for this year's election run unopposed. Larry asks for a motion to waive the formal ballots and conduct a vocal election.

Mike Gallagher put forth the motion.

Allyson May seconded.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Newly elected officers:

Annette Birt Clark, President

August A. "Tony" Indovina, Treasurer

Julie Haumschild, Secretary

No one ran for Vice-Presidents seat.

All Directors are still in term; Mark Vandyburg, Mike Gallagher, Gary Laisy.

Larry asks for a motion to adjourn formal meeting.

August A. "Tony" Indovina puts for the the motion.

Mark Vandyburg seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Holiday potluck follows.

## In the Hive

January is here and we finally have seen weather temperature in the teens. How are your hives? The cold is tough, but wind is a larger challenge for our bees. Do you have a wind break in place?

The warm fall weather lasted longer again this year. It is certainly possible the bees were consuming some of the stores you left on for winter a bit too early.

Does your hive have supplemental food available if they run out of honey stores? It is not too late to make or install a candy board, sugar brick or put on fondant in case the girls need it. Not sure how to do this? Ask your mentor or other club member for help.

Now is a good time to inventory your equipment and plan for any needs in 2018.

Are you going to expand your apiary? Will that mean you will be purchasing or building new equipment? Ordering a nuc, package or queen for a split? Do you want to keep an extra veil to share your hive up close with a family member or friend? Did that hive tool work well for you?

Did you keep good records this year? How can you do it better next year?

If you are a second or third year beekeeper, consider taking an additional beginners class at another club. You will likely be reminded of something you forgot from your beginner's class and make you a better helper or mentor for a new beekeeper this year.

Look for advanced beekeeping courses and other state conferences to attend this year to expand your beekeeper knowledge. Many are just a day trip away from Cleveland.

Regional and national organizations have annual conference and education events. Consider attending Eastern Apiculture Society or Heartland Apiculture Society or any other events this year.

There is always more to learn about bees and how to be a better beekeeper.

If you have already suffered a hive loss this article by Meghan Milbrath, PhD. may help you diagnose why it happened.

[http://www.indianahoney.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ColonyDeath\\_2016\\_MSUE.pdf](http://www.indianahoney.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ColonyDeath_2016_MSUE.pdf)

**“One can no more approach people without love than one can approach bees without care. Such is the quality of bees...”**

– Leo Tolstoy

Winter 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/>

For more experienced beekeepers, or anyone really, Randy Oliver's Scientific Beekeeping is a very interesting resource. <mailto:http://scientificbeekeeping.com/>

Lots of good information on the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and New Technologies for Ag Extension project site. [mailto:http://articles.extension.org/bee\\_health](mailto:http://articles.extension.org/bee_health)

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has a complete guide to options for varroa treatments. <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

The NY Bee Wellness UTube channel so for the video lovers. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7iM0M1\\_IwQPIKSpdMnCLjQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7iM0M1_IwQPIKSpdMnCLjQ/videos)

Alberta Agriculture has developed an app for "Bee Health" focusing on hive threats, bee disease symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options. Free Mobile App for iOS and Android. <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.ab.gov.beehealth&hl=en>

If you want to read up on top bar hives before the January meeting: <http://www.beeculture.com/standard-top-bars-for-the-beekeeper/>

Thoughts for wintering hive challenges: <https://www.beepods.com/top-5-reasons-bees-dont-survive-winter/>

Very interesting article from Edward O. Wilson: [http://faculty.washington.edu/timbillo/Readings\\_and\\_documents/ABRIDGED\\_READINGS\\_for\\_PERU/Wilson\\_1987\\_Little\\_things\\_that\\_run.pdf](http://faculty.washington.edu/timbillo/Readings_and_documents/ABRIDGED_READINGS_for_PERU/Wilson_1987_Little_things_that_run.pdf)

Thinking about some landscape changes or just trying to keep it natural? <http://www.gcbl.org/live/home/landscaping/native-plants-and-organic-lawncare>

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

### GCBA

**January 10, 2018**

Speaker: Peggy Garnes

Topic: Top Bar Hives

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

**Other**

**Tri-County Beekeepers Association Spring Workshop**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

**The Native Plant Society of Northeast Ohio January Program 1.27.18**

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

**GCBA Field Day**

**May 19, 2018**

**Ohio State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference**

**November 3, 2018**

**Picture Page**

Please, feel free to email any pics you have to share with the club! [GCBAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:GCBAeditor@gmail.com)

We will try to include as many as possible. Please include any caption information.



Figure 1 Photo Curtesy Leigh Melendez



Figure 2 Photo Credit Annette Birt Clark

1. Yes, sad, but it is normal now thru end of winter to find dead bees at the front door.

2. Left to right varroa mite, small hive beetle, worker bee

**[Check out our Facebook Page!](#)**

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



## Recipe of the Month

### **NO bake Quaker Oatmeal Energy Bites**

**YIELD:** Makes approx. 24 bites

#### **INGREDIENTS**

1 1/2 cup Quaker rolled oats divided

1/2 cup dried figs or dates

4 T chia seeds divided

1/2 cup almond butter

1/2 cup wheat germ

1/2 cup pistachio divided

2 T orange marmalade

1/2 cup honey

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Line a baking sheet with parchment or wax paper

Combine the oats, wheat germ, dried figs and 1/4 cup of the pistachios and 1/2 of the chia seeds in the food processor and pulse a few times. Add the almond butter, honey, and orange marmalade. Process until well combined and until the "dough" begins to come together into a ball. Remove the mix to a bowl and chill for 30 minutes.

Finely chop the remaining pistachios and combine with the remaining chia seeds in a small bowl.

Scoop the chilled oat mixture onto the lined baking sheet, then with wet hands roll each ball to compress the ingredients and roll in the pistachio chia seed mixture. Place the finished bites back on the baking sheet and return to the refrigerator to chill again. Store in an air-tight container in the refrigerator up to a week.

#### **TIP**

You can substitute other nuts for the pistachios, such as almonds, pecans or walnuts.

Courtesy of The National Honey Board

(You can also substitute other dried fruits and nut butters and ground flax seed for the wheat germ)

## **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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## 2018



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**\$140**

**43655 SR 162  
Spencer, Ohio  
44275**

**STORE HOURS:**

March 1 - Oct. 31  
Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Closed Sundays and Dec 24 - Jan. 2

Nov. 1 - Feb. 28  
Monday - Saturday:  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.