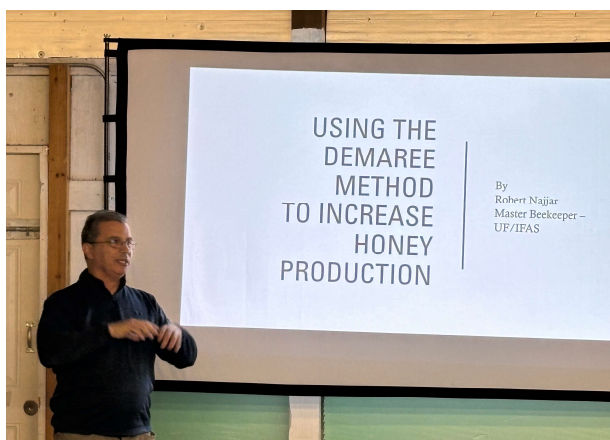




The Honey Bee Times

May 2026

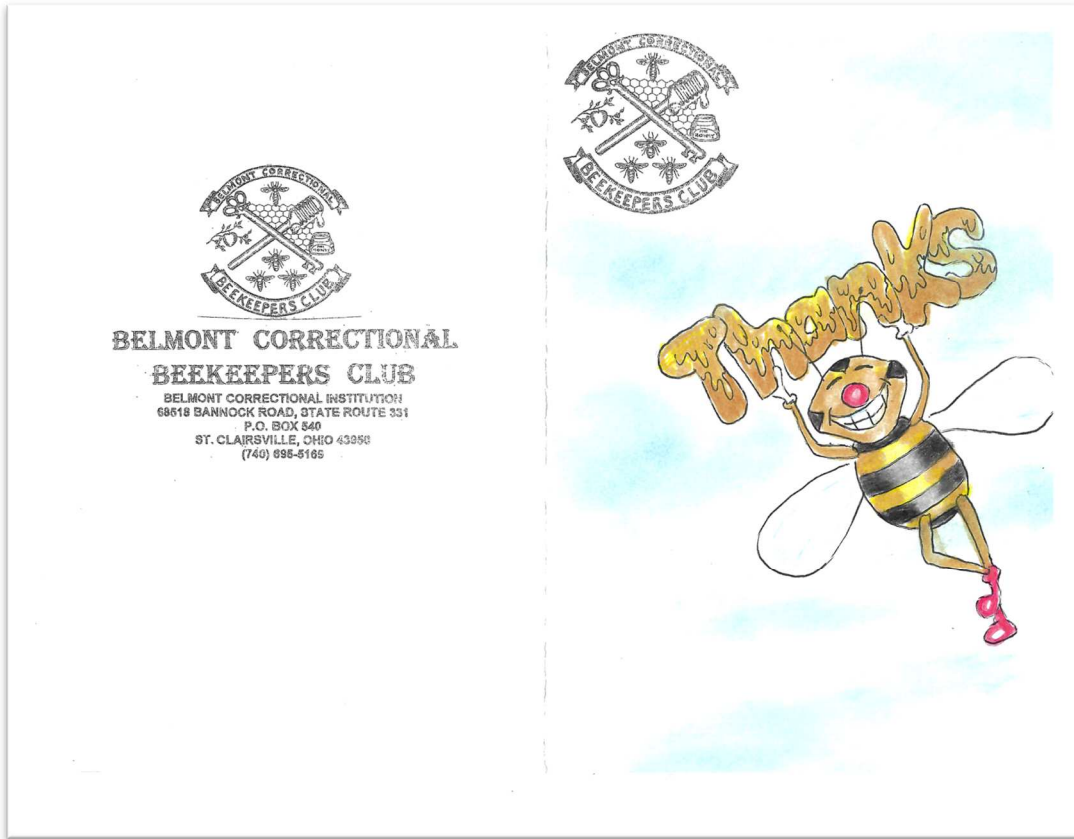


The April meeting featured Robert Najjar speaking about the Demaree method of splitting and swarm control. The Demaree method is a swarming prevention method. It was first published by George Demaree (1832-1915) in an article in the American Bee Journal in 1892.

In the Demaree method, as practiced today, the queen is placed in the bottom box, along with one or two frames of brood (but containing no open brood), as well as one or two frames of food stores, and empty combs or foundation. A queen excluder is placed above the bottom box, thereby restricting the queen to the bottom box but allowing bees to move freely between the bottom box and the rest of the hive. The original hive, along with all open brood, is placed above the queen excluder. The method works best if the nurse bees are removed far away from the queen. The distance between the queen and nurse bees can be increased by placing the brood nest at the very top of the hive, with the honey supers between the brood nest and the queen excluder. If any swarm cells are present, these must be destroyed by the beekeeper. The relative absence of queen pheromone in the top box usually prompts the nurse bees to create emergency cells. After 7-10 days, the beekeeper destroys the emergency cells.

The May meeting will be on May 13th and will feature Sal Caruso speaking about honeybee health and nutrition. The meeting will be held in the Bee Barn and weather permitting there will be activity in the bee yard prior to the meeting at 6:30 or so. Bring a treat to share and enjoy the fellowship of fellow beekeepers.

We (along with the Lorain and Medina county clubs) received a nice thank you card from The Belmont Correctional Beekeepers Club for the donation of an extractor for them to use in their operation.



Richard Brown John (C) W

Thank you!

Edith

Chris

Thank you!

Earl Collins

Kevin

AW

Thanks! Mike

William Poyate

Joe Hupp

Doug Kincaid

Matthew Horal

Stacey Belle

Thank you!

Ted Fades

Dennis Mast

Many thanks. McKelvey

Mark Blankenburg

James Lee

Thank you for your support. You are awesome! 😊

Thank you.

Tamara Howard

Max

Austin Snyder

Marken J.

RR

Lee Sunny

Honey and Vanilla Bean Pudding

Chef Charles Heaton

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups whole milk

1 cup heavy cream

1 x4" vanilla bean or 2 tsp vanilla extract

3 egg yolks

½ cup sugar

¼ cup mild honey

3 Tbs cornstarch

⅛ teaspoon salt

1 tsp butter

Strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, or vanilla wafers to garnish

Whipped cream

PROCEDURE:

1. In a heavy medium saucepan, bring the milk to a simmer over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat.
2. Using the tip of a paring knife, slit the vanilla beans and scrape the seeds into the hot milk and add the pod. Cool 15 minutes. Cover and chill 2 to 24 hours.
3. Remove the vanilla pods; using two fingers, press the milk out of the pod into the milk mixture to extract all the seeds; discard pod.
4. In the same saucepan, heat the milk and 1 cup whipping cream over medium heat until boiling, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat.
5. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, beat the egg yolks with sugar, honey, cornstarch and salt until well combined.
6. Gradually beat in about 1 cup of the hot milk mixture to temper.
7. Add the egg yolk mixture to the remaining milk mixture in the saucepan. Bring to a gentle boil over medium heat, stirring constantly; reduce heat. Cook and stir for 2 minutes more. Remove from heat. Stir in butter until melted. If necessary, strain mixture to remove any lumps.
8. Pour pudding into 4 -6 ounce individual dessert dishes or a 3-1/2- to 4-cup serving bowl. Cover surface of pudding with plastic wrap. Chill at least 1 hour for individual dishes or at least 3 hours for the large serving bowl or until pudding is completely chilled. Serve pudding with fresh berries, vanilla wafers and whipped cream.



This month in the bee yard

After a relatively warm March and April, we're in a cooler pattern that's keeping the bees inside more which leads to congestion in the hive. Make sure that there's enough room in the brood nest for the queen to lay in. May is getting into the middle of swarm season, so check for swarm cups or cells as well. If you haven't already done so, setting out swarm traps is a good idea. Bait the traps with a frame of older comb and some new foundation. Using an attractant such as lemon oil or any of the commercially available swarm lures will help. You should also have some extra equipment available for housing swarms or making splits.

.If you treat with Oxalic acid, do three treatments 7-10 days apart every other month using vapor or a dribble.

Swarm Removal list

The club maintains a list of beekeepers that are willing to capture swarms in the Greater Cleveland area on it's website. To be listed on the swarm list you must be a currently paid member of the association. You can specify whether you want to do "cut-outs" (removal from structures) or not. If you are interested, please provide the following information-

- ◆ Name
- ◆ Phone Number
- ◆ Areas Served
- ◆ Cut-outs Yes/No

Swarm removal can be a great way to get more bees. The potential downside is that bees don't always land where they can be easily collected.

To be included on the list send your information to Steve Dahar at s1417559@gmail.com

Hospitality Corner

Speaking of tasty treats, our meetings are a great way to meet other beekeepers and for socializing. Members are encouraged to bring treats to share. Thanks to Jan Petrek for the coffee at every meeting and those who brought in the great treats for the March meeting.

WORLD BEE DAY

Field trip



Celebrating the bees and other pollinators!

May 14-15, 2026
Thursday - Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 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.

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
-  Career in Beekeeping through Research and Science
-  Learn How Honey Bees Improve Our Agricultural/Food
-  Educational Stations; Fruits, Vegetables, and Honey
-  Honey Bee Observation Room

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Nicky Sulandari
216-447-8970



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PARTNERS



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Director: Joe Petrek, jpetrek3@gmail.com

Director: Charles Heaton, charlesheaton@mac.com

Hospitality Coordinator: Jan Petrek, jpetrek@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Neal Klabunde, beesnplants@dirty-fingernails.com

Fair Committee Chair: Rolly Platten

Mission Statement

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