

# **Lorain County** *Beekeepers* **Association**



**Volume 22    Issue 249**

**April 2025**

## ***President's Message***

***Happy Spring Beekeepers,***

***Welcome to our new Beekeepers! The Beginner Beekeeping classes were well attended with 110 registered families. Good luck to you all on your new adventure. LCBA is here to help you.***

***Mother Nature has given us some nice weather days so I hope you have been able to inspect your hives and do necessary cleaning. Watch for cups and brood congestion and start swarm prevention techniques if needed. And as always keep up on mite treatments.***

***The next members' meeting is April 11th. At 6 PM there will be a demonstration installing a package of bees in the Memorial Garden. You will have the opportunity to practice a bee install without the bees and learn how to light a smoker. Make sure you bring your veils and dress appropriately. The monthly meeting will be in the Church. A video on 'Queen Bee Introduction, Raising, and Acceptance' will be presented. The normal 7 PM start may be slightly delayed due to the demos in the Memorial Garden.***

***At 6:15 Friday April 11th, the High Tea Volunteers are invited to meet in the Church for a wrap up of the event.***

***Don't miss upcoming events. Mark your calendars and consider volunteering:***

***April 23rd - Earth Day at LCCC - 10 AM - 4 PM***

***May 15th, 16th, and 17th - World Bee Day at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds***

***May 17th - Parking - Fund Raiser for LCBA at the Gun show at the Wellington Eagles***

***June 7th - 31st Annual Field Day - 9 AM to 3 PM at Queen Right Colonies***

***June 20th - Bee City Festival - 4 PM - 8 PM On the Square in Downtown Wellington***

***See everyone Friday,***

***Your President,***

***Marilyn***

## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

***Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!***

***March's Members Meeting***

***Grace Boden !!***

***Beginners Beekeepers Class 50/50 winners***

***Weeks 1 and 2 - John Ochenas***

***Week 3 - Melanie Tennant***

***Week 4 - Gary Ochenas***

***Thank you to Rick Jirousek for donating all the wildflower seeds and helpful information for planting the wildflower seeds at our March members meeting.***

***May 17<sup>th</sup> is our LCBA fundraiser, parking cars at the Wellington Eagles Gun Show. If you are able to help out for the day or part of the day, please let Randy Leiby 440-381-1956, or [RDLeiby@hotmail.com](mailto:RDLeiby@hotmail.com) or sign up at the April or May members meeting.***

***May is World Bee Day and we are looking for volunteers to help on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds from 8:30 – 11:30 am or 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Stations we need help at include: Fruits & Vegetable Table, Types & Colors of Honey, Types of Hives, Observation Hives, Research & Development, Coloring Pages and Tattoos, Registration and Check out. We have 1,000 school children registered to spend the day learning about bees and we need help. If you are able to help out, please visit the following link to sign up for a slot. If you have any problems, please let Audrey Gargas know at 216-534-6195, [gargas1@frontier.com](mailto:gargas1@frontier.com) or sign up at the April or May members meeting. You can also visit the following link on sign up genius to sign up to volunteer at a time slot:***

***<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA9AD2AA6FFC70-55675363-world>***

***May 17, World Bee Day, is open to the public at Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds for all to attend from 9am – 4 pm.***

***The Swarm List will be published and distributed on April 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like your name on the list, please see the sign-up sheet at the April members meeting. If you are unable to attend, please email [gargas1@frontier.com](mailto:gargas1@frontier.com) with your name, phone number and the area of the county or cities you will pick up bees from. Deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>!***

## Lorain County Beginning Beekeepers Class - 2025

### Congratulations to the class of 2025

	Samantha Abrahamm	Adrian Acierno	Abe Allie
Eric Allie	Valerie Allie	Constance Anderson	
Zenta Apinis	Ron Apple	Mike Barnette	
Tina Barnette	Robert Bari	Doug Benzel	
Melanie Bibb	Patrick Bibb	Jason Bindel	
Chris Blankenship	Julie Blankenship	Daniel Blatt	
Ernest Bozikis	Meredith Bradley	Emily Brodke	
Ed Bruder	Mckenzie Bueck	Carrie Byars	
Jodi Carducci	Leah Carducci	Garret Cesarski	
Dennis Chan	Mary Ann Chapin	Jaco Chapin-Fowler	
Valerie Conrad	Isaac Cooper	Kyle Cooper	
Robert Cooper	Travis Cooper	Desiree Cortes	
Ethan Danico	Scott Danniger	Gia DelVecchio	
Darin Demarco	Julianna DeSalvo	Lucas DeSalvo	
Marcos DeSalvo	Rachel Devault	Ryan Devault	
Darrell Doughty	Haily Doup	Bruce Doup	
Lily Doup	Meghan Doup	Michael Doup	
Ripley Doup	Maureen Duffy	Ashlie Eckenrode	
Diana Eliason	Gilbert Eliason	Garrett Erne	
Gary Erne	Mason Erne	Maureen Erne	
McKenzie Erne	Kristen Estep	Kate Evrard	
Adam Fedak	Jordan Floyd	Derrick Friscone	
Jason Friscone	Melanie Friscone	Gary Goff	
Amanda Groth	Maureen Gywnn	Dave Haas	
Kyle Harris	Jackie Hartsel	Caroline Hendrickson	
Colton Hes	Larry Hes	Christina Hockman	
Jennifer Hodous	Ginette Jameson	Stephanie Jared	
Lydia Jones	Michelle Jones	Heather Jurca	
Cherri Keller	Kashif Khan	Black Knisely	
Kathleen Klem	Stormie Kyer	Jeff Larko	
Jessica Linden	Tracie Loehr	Amber Lutz	
Kyle Lutz	Gabby Mahin	Jennifer Maiden	
Scott Maiden	Hayden Mandic	Joe Mandic	
Lyla Mandic	Wendy Mandic	Arleen Marini	
Hugh Martin	Christian Mauk	Maura McFadian	
Jessica McKee	Sean McRae	Taylor Meade	
Tyler Meade	Angelique Messer	Duane Miller	
Deborah Mills	Debbie Mullins	Ralph Mullins	
Rufus Nelson	Adam Nunnari	Alexa Nunnari	
Gary Ochenas	John Ochenas	Maria Ochenas	
Bruce Onutz	Dante Ortiz	Jonah Parsons	
Bridgette Pelfrey	James Pelfrey	Theresa Piatt	
Erica Pizzolato	Donna Ponczocha	Oli Ponczocha	
Matt Porter	Joe Rack	Serene Billman Rave	

## Lorain County Beginning Beekeepers Class—2025

### Congratulations to the Class of 2025

LJ Regan	Amanda Reaser	Katherine Rice
Jennifer Richardson	Ryleigh Richarson	Michaela Rider
Richard Riley	Simone Rivers	Katie Roseman
Joe Rundle	Debbie Sabo	Brooke Samples
Annabelle Sautz	Beth Schaefer	Jennifer Schlifer
Art Schwandt	Brian K. Stapleton Sr.	Andrew Sterling
Cooper Strachan	Craig Strachan	Kevin Tansey
Christine Taylor	Jennifer Taylor	Kevin Taylor
Sean Taylor	Melanie Tennant	Nathan Thomas
Destany Tibbs	Virginia Tipton	Kitty Vanderpool
Tatiana Vargas	Gail Volpe	Janine Walbom
William Walbom	Alexis Watters	Joe Weber
Aether Webster	Fran Weiss	Melissa Wielkiewicz
Michelle Wilford	Raymond Wilford	Jessica Wyatt
Matt Zemantauski		

***We apologize to anyone we may have overlooked.***

***A big thank you to our class instructors: Dave Borling, Amanda Manahan, John Rose & Gene Gargas. And another big thank you to everyone who helped with the classes – Corrie Rose, Bren Leiby, Randy Leiby, Sheila St. Clair, Denzil St. Clair, Marilyn Teeple & Audrey Gargas.***

### Welcome to the 2025 YEP Candidates





## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

### Lorain County Beginning Beekeepers Class - 2025

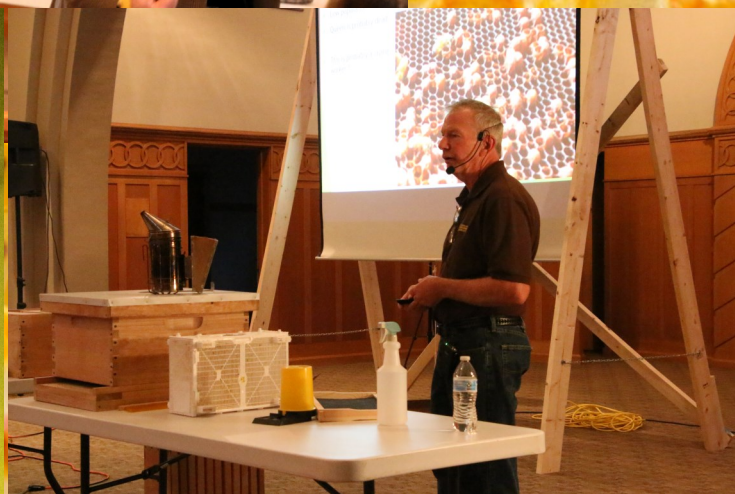
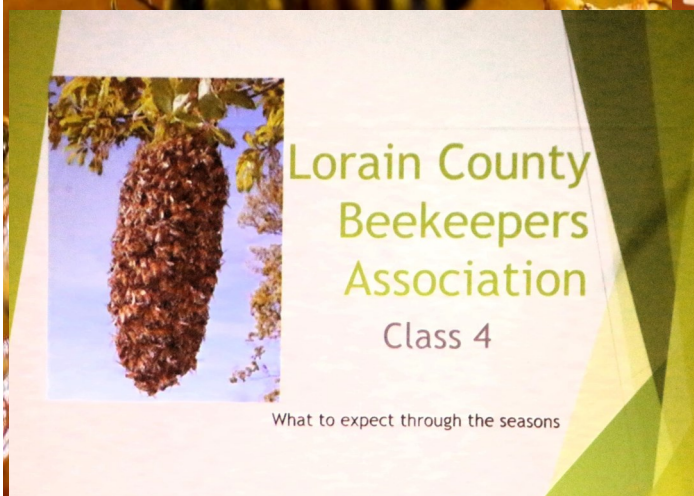
*Congratulations to Joe Weber for winning the 2025 Hive Kit*





## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

**LCBA's 2025 Beginners Beekeeping Classes - 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28**





## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

### March Meeting - Wax Working/Comb Honey with Dave Duncan





### To Promote Beekeeping through Education, Cooperation and any other Efficient Means

Located in Lorain County, Ohio, LCBA was founded in 1919 as a non-profit organization committed to educating the public about the value of honeybees and the impact honeybees have on our world. We provide educational appearances upon request to schools and groups. LCBA encourages and mentors beginning beekeepers through scholarship programs for students along with adult education.

#### Monthly Meetings

**When:            2nd Friday of each month, starting at 7:00pm to 9:30pm**

**Where:           Life Church**

**1033 Elm Street, Grafton, OH 44044**

### Did you know donations to LCBA are tax deductible???

**Lorain County Beekeepers Association is now a 501c(3) organization. Any donations made to LCBA are now tax deductible!!!**

### The BUZZZZ Advertising Fees

Members can place classified ads—maximum 4 lines (approx. 3/4 in by 3 3/4 inch) for free on a one time basis. If the same ad places for more than 1 month, a fee will be charged. There is also a fee if the ad is larger than the size listed above. Ads will run in the newsletter which is posted on the LCBA website and distributed to our member circulation and billed for 12 issues.

Rates are as follows for ads provided by customer \*LCBA Officers reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to change, modify, add, or delete all or portions of ads for content. Terms and policies to change. Information posted is a courtesy to LCBA Members and/or a paid advertisement for business entities. LCBA does not endorse or guarantee quality or pricing .

1 (Full) page - \$25.00 per month/issue

1/2 page ad - \$18.00 per month/issue

1/4 page ad - \$12.00 per month/issue

1/8 page ad - \$10.00 per month/issue

Any questions regarding advertising?

Contact Lori Keleman at

BuzzzzWorthy@gmail.com



## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

*Spring is here and we have heard a lot in the news about Hive losses. We want to thank Eugene Makovec, Editor of American Bee Journal and Charles Linder for the opportunity to share this article with our membership. If you recall Charles was our Guest Speaker at Field day 2 years ago, a commercial beekeeper running bees for honey and pollination in the midwest. A good article from an experienced beekeeper.*

*Sheila St.Clair*

*\*\*\*\*\*This is a small piece of the article - use the link below to read the entire piece*

*"By now I am sure most readers have heard of great losses this winter affecting the almonds. Some are hailing it as even bigger than the original CCD. This month, that will be our main discussion. What, where, how and why, and maybe the most important part, what next?? Keep in mind, I write this in mid-February, and it will be a few weeks before you get it. But first, a bit of an update on almonds in general. Last year we saw the demand for colonies drop a bit. Several seasons of tight water supplies and low nut prices really cut into growers' margins. Due to that we saw a lot of acres of older trees being pulled, and in many cases replaced with other crops (pistachios being one). Some will be replaced with younger trees, a few with self-pollinating varieties. Net result, a decrease in the number of hives needed in the last two seasons"*

<https://bluetoad.com/publication/?i=842482&p=78&view=issueViewer>

### **Grafton Prison Hive Project Update**

*Got a nice day to visit the branch LCBA, also in Grafton, the prison, March the 27th. Also had a chance to discuss a new beginner class with the new deputy warden, tentatively scheduled for April. The new beekeepers of Grafton Prison have realistic and grandiose plans for the new year, they want to make enough splits out of their own bees to start six new colonies, for a total of eight. The plan also consists of them producing their own queens, of course with a little help. Of course, both colonies of theirs survived the winter in good shape, one of which already had queen cups present, March 27th.*

# WELLINGTON OHIO

## Bee City Festival

CELEBRATING  
POLLINATORS



**JUNE 20, 2025**  
**4:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Downtown Wellington**  
**On the Square**

Join us for a buzzing good time at the Bee City Festival in the heart of Wellington! Celebrate the wonders of pollinators with an exciting day full of local vendors, educational opportunities, and fun for all ages. **FREE EVENT!**

For over 100 years, the Lorain County Beekeepers Association has been dedicated to the preservation of beekeeping and promoting the importance of pollinators. We are proud to shine a spotlight on Wellington, celebrating our history, fostering community education, and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. Together, we Preserve the Past by Securing the Future of beekeeping and pollinators.

**Vendor Applications Open Now!** Reserve your spot early—this is a free event, and donations (raffle baskets, cash, etc.) are welcome. Contact Marilyn at (440) 759-2826.

- **Meet Local Beekeepers** and sample delicious, all-natural honey and beekeeping products.
- **Interested in beekeeping?** This is the perfect opportunity to connect with experts and learn more about becoming a beekeeper!
- Discover local gardening tips and products from **gardening experts and local farmers.**
- Explore **Wellington merchants** who will be offering special food, drinks, giveaways, and much more!

Follow Us on Facebook for event updates, vendor news, and more exciting details!

*Sponsored by Lorain County Beekeepers Association*  
[www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)





# 31st Annual Field Day

## Saturday, June 7, 2025

Sponsored by Lorain County Beekeepers Association & QRC  
[www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)



**Rain or Shine Event • Free Event for Everyone!**

### 31 Years of Field Days – A Legacy of Beekeeping Education, 106 Years in the Making!

Join us for a special celebration of beekeeping education and community at the 31st Annual Field Days, hosted by the Lorain County Beekeepers Association (LCBA) and Queen Right Colonies (QRC). Whether you're a seasoned beekeeper or just beginning to explore the world of honey bees, this event has something for everyone!

We are thrilled to welcome Frederick Dunn, a Cornell Certified Master Beekeeper, U.S. Navy veteran, and creator of the popular YouTube channel "The Way To Bee", as our featured speaker. Frederick will present "Fun Bee Facts", sharing insights on honey bee biology, behavior, and backyard beekeeping. His presentation will be followed by a lively Q&A session, where attendees can ask questions and engage with one of the most knowledgeable experts in the field. Frederick and his wife, Annette, have been keeping bees since 2006 on their rural property in the northeastern United States, and his mission is to educate beekeepers of all levels—especially those focusing on small-scale, backyard beekeeping.



**Frederick Dunn**

#### **LOCATION: Queen Right Colonies**

43655 State Route 162, Spencer, OH 44275  
Tel: 440-647-2602 • [queenrightcolonies.com](http://queenrightcolonies.com)

#### **LUNCH STAND AVAILABLE**

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND BEEKEEPERS OF ALL STRIPES!**

For more details, visit our websites at [loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://loraincountybeekeepers.org) & [queenrightcolonies.com](http://queenrightcolonies.com) or follow us on Facebook.

In addition to Frederick's talk, we're offering 10 interactive learning stations set up in the East Field next to our large circus tent. These stations will cover a variety of beekeeping topics, from hive management and pest control to honey production. It's an excellent opportunity to gain practical knowledge and hands-on experience.

While you're at the farm, take time to explore the beautiful grounds, including a visit to the Amish Haus & Gift Shop, filled with unique antiques and handcrafted gifts. Families will enjoy traditional activities such as alpaca shearing, buggy rides, and live banjo music—perfect for making memories with loved ones.

#### **AGENDA - WEATHER PERMITTING**

**9:00 AM** Registration, Coffee, and Donuts

**10:00 - 11:30 AM** Frederick Dunn - "Fun Bee Facts" - East Tent

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM** Lunch Break

**11:45 AM - 12:30 PM** Honey Bee Derby

**12:00 PM** Alpaca Shearing

**12:30 - 2:00 PM** Frederick Dunn Q&A - East Tent

**11:30 AM - 3:00 PM** Beekeeping Learning Stations

**3:00 PM** Raffles Drawings and 50/50

As always, Queen Right Colonies, the largest retailer of beekeeping equipment, package bees, and queens in Ohio, will be on-site, offering expert advice and products to help you with your beekeeping journey. And for those who don't feel like packing lunch, we'll have food available for purchase at a minimal cost—so come hungry!

This is a FREE event, open to the public. To support the Lorain County Beekeepers Association, don't forget to participate in our raffles and drawings throughout the day. We expect a large crowd, so be sure to come early to get the best spot and enjoy a full day of learning and fun. See you there!





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