

Lorain County *Beekeepers* Association

Volume 23 Issue 258

January 2026

President's Message

Happy New Year Beekeepers!

We are having typical Ohio weather - one day 60 degrees and the next day 40 mph and snow.

The next monthly meeting will be January 9th. Fellow members will be presenting equipment repair, cleaning of tools, smoker, PPE and wax rendering. Take the time over the next couple months getting your equipment ready for Spring.

Membership renewals are up and still a good deal at \$20. Check out the LCBA website for meetings and events planned for 2026.

Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea is March 8th. We place bottles (8 oz) of honey on each table. If you can fill a bottle or two or more, the bottles will be available at the January meeting. Place your apiary label on the bottle and return at the February meeting.

See you Friday,

Marilyn

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

Inmates get honey extractor from local beekeeping organizations

Special Thank you to Reporters Sara Crawford, scrawford@medina-gazette.com of the Medina County Gazette and Larissa Beriswill, lberiswill@morningjournal.com of the Morning Journal for great articles and coverage. These local publications have been very supportive of Beekeeping over the years and we appreciate all their help.

SPENCER TWP. — With the help of three local beekeeping organizations, Belmont Correctional Institution inmates will soon have an electric extractor to help produce honey from the facility's nine hives.

The Lorain County Beekeepers met with the Greater Cleveland Beekeepers and the Medina County Beekeepers at Queen Right Colonies, 43655 state Route 162, on Thursday afternoon to present beekeeper Steve Roth with a donated extractor for inmates involved in the institution's bee club.

Roth said the Belmont Correctional Institution's bee club started about seven years ago and has since evolved to where the inmates are practically running the club themselves. He started helping with the club about six years ago and has since implemented a master beekeeping program for the inmates.

"You can't imagine how much that club means to these inmates," Roth said. "We have about 60 inmates in there, and some of them have been with it since inception."

Since the club's inception, the inmates had a honey extractor with a hand crank, Roth said. Recently, the hand crank broke. "When it did, it showered metal all through their honey, and it contaminated the honey," Roth said. Roth has wanted to get the inmates an electric extractor, and since the hand-crank extractor broke, he decided to call Sheila St. Clair of Queen Right Colonies. He asked St. Clair for the wholesale price of an electric extractor so he could set up a fundraiser and later purchase it. After hearing the need, St. Clair told him she'd give him a call back.

Rather than getting a price for Roth, St. Clair contacted local beekeeping organizations and explained what happened. Soon after, the three beekeeping organizations contributed to covering the honey extractor's full cost. "We've all done this as a group effort to help these men out," she said. When Roth came to pick up the honey extractor, he expressed both his and the inmates' gratitude for what the beekeeping organizations had done.

Roth hopes to use the donation to show the inmates that they are an entity in the community. "(The community knows) what you're doing," Roth said. "They think a lot of what you're doing."



Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!

December's Members Meeting Winner

Tim Beal !!

Don't forget to get your tickets at every meeting!

February Members Meeting

LCBA SOUP OFF



Bring a crock pot of your favorite soup to be judged by your fellow beekeepers at the February meeting and see if your soup recipe is a winner!

Please call or text Nancy Koenig at 440-829-1745 if you plan on participating to help us prepare for the number of entries. Please bring a copy of your recipe, ladle and be here by 6:45 to participate!

Good Luck!

If you are interested in volunteering to help at our Ms. Honeybee's High Tea on March 6th, we will have a sign up sheet available at the January and February meetings. The event is held at the Wellington Eagles on Rt 58, South of Rt 18. We will need servers, kitchen help, dish washers, raffle ticket sales and greeters. It's a fun day for all!

Looking ahead, World Bee Day will be May 13-15th at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea. They have 1,000 kids signed up to attend the 3 day event and we will need volunteers to help! Sign up sheets will be available in March.

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

December's Meeting — LCBA's Annual Holiday Party



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

Any questions regarding advertising?

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

Contact Lori Keleman at

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

BuzzzzWorthy@gmail.com

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

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

2025 YEP (Youth Education Program) Presentations
So very proud of our students and their mentors





Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Founded 1882, reorganized 1919, and incorporated 1966.

LCBA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



Annual Membership cost is \$20.00 per family, all living at the same address. LCBA Membership includes the newsletter e-mailed. You must include your e-mail above. Lifetime Memberships available for \$200.

Please make checks payable to: Lorain County Beekeepers Association \$ _____ Check # _____
(cash/check/money order)

Please mail form with payment to:

Lorain County Beekeepers Association

c/o Gene Gargas, LCBA Treasurer, 2410 Brook Haven Lane, Hinckley, OH 44233

Information is also available at our website, www.loraincountybeekeepers.org. Memberships run on a calendar year basis (January 1 to December 31). Youth between the ages of 11-18 may apply for the Youth Education Program. Please see the LCBA website for more information, the selection criteria, the process and the application.

The above person/family has applied for membership in the Lorain County Beekeepers Association. The adult members of the applicant family 18 yrs. and older are requested to take part in the annual association election of officers to conduct the regular business of the association. Youth members are welcome to join in on all other association activities.

The above person / family acknowledges that their contact information will be added to the membership list. This list is a controlled item and will be used only for L.C.B.A. business and will not be used for any other purpose.

I acknowledge the risks involved in beekeeping activities which include and not limited to: stings, falls, shock, allergic reactions and personal injury. I agree to hold harmless Lorain County Beekeepers Association from any liability, including financial responsibility for injuries or property damages, regardless of whether injuries are caused by negligence in the State of Ohio.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

www.loraincountybeekeepers.org



31st Annual Beginner Beekeeping Class

2026

Lorain County Beekeepers Association

FRIDAYS: March 6, 13, 20, & 27

*Join us for our Annual Beginner Beekeeping Class
and discover the fascinating world of honey bees!*



This class covers everything from essential beekeeping equipment and the honey bee life cycle to managing your hive through the first months, as well as summer and fall care. Hands-on hive openings will be offered on Saturdays in April and May, and the book *Beekeeping for Dummies* will be available for purchase to guide you throughout your beekeeping journey.

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 PM **Location:** Life Church, 1033 Elm Street, Grafton, OH 44044

Cost: \$50 – includes the class, a one year LCBA Membership and a monthly email newsletter for you and other family members living at the same address.

Memorial Garden Hands-On

Date: April 18, 25 and May 2, 9
Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Classes Descriptions:

- March 6: Beekeeping Equipment
- March 13: Managing Your Beehive
- March 20: First 2 Months as a Beekeeper
- March 27: Summer & Fall Management
- April 10: Members Meeting

Hands-On Field Day

June 6 - Rain or Shine
Time: 10:00 AM
Where: Queen Right Colonies
43655 State Route 162
Spencer, Ohio 44275



REGISTER TODAY!

www.loraincountybeekeepers.org



Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea



Presented by
Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Raffle Baskets & Door Prizes
to Benefit
LCBA Agricultural Programs

Sunday
March 8, 2026

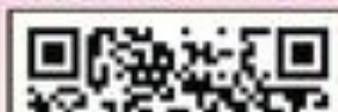
Luncheon at 1:00 PM *(Doors open at 12:15 PM)*

Wellington Eagles, 631 S. Main Street, Wellington
\$40 per ticket or Table of 6 for \$228 (\$12 savings)

**“Embrace the Buzz of Healing
Explore Bee Venom Therapy”**

presented by Connie Skolnicki

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
Queen Right Colonies,
or send a check to
LCBA, PO Box 144
Lagrange, OH 44050
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