



# Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Volume 21 Issue 234

January 2024

## *President's Message*

*Hello 2024!*

*So far Mother Nature has been pretty kind to us in Northern Ohio. By the time we meet again the month will almost be half over.*

*Hope you are regularly checking on your hives. Make sure you keep the entrance of your colonies cleared of any dead bees, so the colony has good air circulation and as weather permits do vapor treatments.*

*The January meeting - Friday the 12th - will be the chili cook-off. So fire up your crock pots - there will be cash prizes. 1st place - \$40; 2nd place - \$30; 3rd place - \$20. If you don't win - don't put your crock pot away. The February meeting will be the Soup cook off.*

*Our speaker for January is Robert Najgar, the president of Summit County Beekeepers, presenting "Varroa Mites".*

*LCBA will be having polo shirts made with our logo. A sample shirt will be at the meeting. There will be sheets to sign up if your interested ordering one. Cost \$25.*

*To support the Lorain County Historical society, LCBA will donating a raffle basket. If you would like to contribute a jar of honey or any other bee related item bring it to Friday's meeting.*

*Once again the Intermediate Beekeeping class will be offered Saturday February 24th. Look for flyers in the newsletter and on LCBA's web site.*

*Beginner Beekeeping classes start in March and if you want a refresher, classes are free to LCBA members. Make sure you renew your membership to attend class and keep up with meetings and events throughout the year.*

*Lots will be happening in 2024. Please check out everything on the LCBA website, Facebook and The Buzzzz Newsletter.*

*Marilyn*

## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

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

***December's Members Meeting***

***Congratulations to Paul Kelly and thank you Paul for donating the money back to LCBA!!!***

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

**January Speaker - "Varroa Mites", Robert Najjar, President Summit County Beekeepers Association**

***Robert Najjar is a passionate beekeeper who lives in Richfield Ohio. He has been married to his sweetheart Mervat for over 34 years now. Robert and Mervat have four children together. He is a grandfather to Paxton and two more grandkids on the way. Robert owns and operates a technology company (DIS) that specializes in Cybersecurity and Networking. He started the company in 1992 and currently employs 16 employees.***

***His journey with bees started with running into a demonstration at the community garden in Richfield when a lady, now his friend, demonstrated how docile and gentle honey bees are. His journey started with one Saskatrez colony. Now, Robert manages 38 colonies. Robert enrolled in the Master Beekeeping program in 2021 at the University of Florida (UF), under Dr. Jamie Ellis' leadership. He became a Master Beekeeper in June of 2023. Robert is currently enrolled in the Craftsman Beekeeping Program at UF and hopes to finish by the end of 2024.***

***Robert's success rate when it comes to overwintering his colonies is 80%-85%. He attributes this success to his ability to manage the mite population throughout the year. During his presentation, he will go over his approach and the methods used.***

***LCBA will help sponsor the Lorain Bicentennial Committee High Tea in February by donating a bee related basket. Anyone who would like to contribute to the basket, please bring your donations to the January members meeting and give to Marilyn Teeple.***

***Thank you to Deb Fyda for her donation to the LCBA Memorial Garden in memory of Merle Griffith.***



## Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events



*LCBA will be sponsoring a CHILI COOK OFF at our next members meeting on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Come and sample our different styles of chili and then sit back and enjoy our varroa mite discussion, which is always a hot topic.*

*Please text **Joann Romick at 440-360-0444** or email her at [jromick227@gmail.com](mailto:jromick227@gmail.com) to let her know if you will be participating so we can be prepared for the number of entries.*

*Attendees will vote on the best tasting chili, with 1<sup>st</sup> prize being \$40, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$30 and 3<sup>d</sup> prize \$20.*

*So, pull out those recipe books and crock pots! Bring us your favorite version of chili whether its turkey, white bean, Cincinnati or good ole tomato-based chili! Spicy hot or cool-as-a-cucumber flavors are welcomed! Let us be the judge!*

*All participants will need to bring a serving spoon and a copy of their recipe. All recipes will be published in the February newsletter!*

*Good Luck to all participants! Please arrive by 6:45 to set up your crock pot so tastings can begin at 7 pm.*





# Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

## LCBA Upcoming Calendar

- January 12 7:00 Chili Cook Off & "Varroa Mites" presented by Robert Najjar, President Summit County Beekeepers
- January 25 Executive Committee Meeting
- February 9 Soup Cook Off & "Bee Business 101" presented by Marcia Coleman, LCCCC
- February 24 Intermediate Beekeeping Class
- February 29 Executive Committee Meeting

### Beginning preparations for Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea in March



**Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea**  
 Presented by  
**Lorain County Beekeepers Association**  
 Raffle Baskets & Door Prizes  
 to Benefit LCBA Building Fund

Sunday  
 March 10, 2024  
 Luncheon at 1:00 pm - Doors open at 12:30 pm  
 Wellington Eagles, 631 S. Main Street, Wellington  
 \$28 per ticket or Table of 6 for \$156 (\$12 savings)  
 "Women in Beekeeping: The Expressive Life  
 and Era of Our First President, circa 1919"  
 Live Music! Hat & Period Attire Contests,  
 Raffle Baskets, Door Prizes & 50/50!  
 Questions contact Marilyn at 440-759-2826 or teepoop@aol.com

Tickets available at  
 Bread & Brevv,  
 Queen Right Colonies  
 OR  
 BUY TICKET HERE






# Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

## LCBA's Holiday potluck and Gift Exchange



## Lorain County Beekeepers Spotlight

**Beekeeper: Mindy Henry**

**January 2024**

**1. How long have you been beekeeping?**

*2 to 3 years*

**2. What prompted you to become a beekeeper?**

*I helped my dad capture a swarm and when we were done he asked me if I wanted to keep them and have my own bees? So, I did!*

**3. How did you hear about LCBA?**

*My dad*

**4. Did you have a mentor? If so, who was it?**

*My Dad, Dave Zemancik, also a member of LCBA.*

**5. What has been your biggest challenge?**

*Not becoming overwhelmed and intimidated by what I'm learning.*

**6. What have you enjoyed most about beekeeping?**

*Spending time with my dad with a shared hobby, and coming to the LCBA meetings, learning about the bees, interacting in nature.*

**7. How many hives do you have?**

*There are two hives on my property that I share with my dad.*

**8.. What area is your apiary in? (Village or Township only)**

*Jackson Township (Ashland County)*

**9. What are your five year beekeeping goals?**

*To keep learning, and to be able to help my dad when he says "such and such" needs to be done.*

**10. Your words of wisdom to new beekeepers?**

*I'm still new myself, but I recommend new beekeepers get involved with a reputable bee club. I have recommended the beginners bee class to others.*



Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

**LCBA's 2023 Best Tasting Honey goes to.....**

**Corrie Rose!!**

**Congratulations Corrie!!!!**



***Congratulations to Lorain County Beekeepers Association  
For the outstanding work that you do with regards to  
beekeeping, Ohio State Beekeepers Association has  
bestowed their highest honor—The OSBA Gold Award***





**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 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, Hincley, OH 44233

Information is also available at our website, [www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://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](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)





Lorain County  
Beekeepers Association  
is proud to announce the

# 29TH ANNUAL BEGINNER BEEKEEPING CLASS 2024

**Class Dates: March 1, 8, 15, & 22**

**Time:** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Location:** Life Church  
1033 Elm Street  
Grafton, Ohio 44044

**Cost:** \$50 – includes 1 year LCBA Membership and a monthly email newsletter for you and other family members living at the same address. Books will be available for an additional \$25 fee during classes.

### Classes Descriptions:

- March 1: Beekeeping Equipment
- March 8: Managing Your Beehive
- March 15: First Two Months as a Beekeeper
- March 22: Summer & Fall Management
- April 12: Members Meeting



**Memorial Garden Hands-On**  
Saturday, April 13, 20, 27 & May 4  
**Time:** 10:00 am

**Hands-On Field Day**  
Saturday, June 1 - Rain or Shine  
**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Where:** Queen Right Colonies  
43655 State Route 162  
Spencer, Ohio 44275

**Fall Wrap-Up**  
Friday, September 13  
**Time:** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
**Where:** Life Church  
1033 Elm Street  
Grafton, Ohio 44044

Go to the LCBA website to download the Class Registration Form  
[www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)





# Lorain County Beekeepers Association

## Intermediate Beekeeping Class 2024

*If you are a 2nd or 3rd year beekeeper, this class is for you!*

**Date:** Saturday, February, 24 2024

**Time:** 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Location:** Life Church  
1033 Elm Street  
Grafton, Ohio 44044

**Cost:** Cost of this class is free to all 2024 LCBA members. Non-member cost will be \$10, or \$20 for a 2024 LCBA membership for the rest of the year.

**Topics will include:**

- Splitting a Hive:
  - Demo
  - Evaluation of queenless hive
- Swarm Mitigation:
  - Making more room in the hive
- Queen Evaluation:
  - Killing vs retiring
- Proper Introduction of New Queen

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: LCBA    Cash \_\_\_\_\_    Check \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail form with check to:

Lorain County Beekeepers Association  
c/o Gene Gargas, LCBA Treasurer,  
2410 Brook Haven Lane, Hinckley, OH 44233

Please RSVP to [events@loraincountybeekeepers.org](mailto:events@loraincountybeekeepers.org) if you plan to attend this class by Feb. 23rd.

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 purposes.

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](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)





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Shelli Fridenstine

HR/Marketing Manager

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### ***Executive Board Members and Trustees 2023***

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Memorial Garden Coordinator	Corrie Rose	(440)567-7949	<a href="mailto:corrierose7949@gmail.com">corrierose7949@gmail.com</a>

