



Lorain County *Beekeepers* Association

Volume 22 Issue 257

December 2025

President's Message

Merry Christmas!

It is hard to believe 2026 is right around the corner! Planning for next year's calendar has been in the works for a couple months and will soon be posted on the website. A couple dates to mark on your calendar now: Beginner Beekeeping classes - March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea - March 8th and Field Day June 6th.

This Friday, December 12th, is the next Members' meeting. This is our Holiday potluck, White Elephant gift exchange, elections, games and prizes. The students in the Youth Education Program will be giving presentations about their Beekeeping experiences.

The trophy for the Best Testing Honey will also be presented. Doors open at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7:00.

Time to renew your membership and if you need a tax deduction you may want to consider a donation to LCBA.

Not too much to do in the bee yard these days but do check the hive to make sure no bees, snow or ice are blocking the opening.

See you Friday,

Marilyn



Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!

November's Members Meeting Winner

Jerry Hottel!

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

November's Meeting —

Shawn Hornbeck's Beekeeping Journey



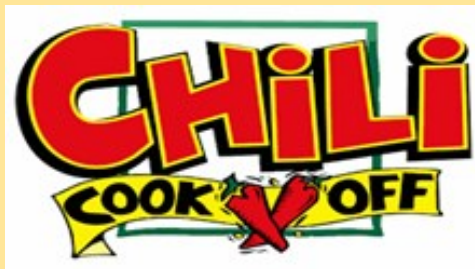
Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

November's Chili's Cook Off Winners

1st Place Lunn Chafetz

2nd Place Ellie Jisa

3rd Place Bill Vittori



Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events



We have two members who are interested in becoming a trustee with the LCBA Executive Committee. We will be voting at our December meeting but here is a preview of our candidates!

I am Denise Vasel. I have been in LCBA since I took Beekeeping classes from LCBA in 2016 Oberlin. I took the classes to get over my fear of bees. That first year I had 1 hive and got a lot of honey from it. I have slowly increased my hives to 7. But over the last 10 years I have had really good years and really bad years. I have learned to make sure I have a good plan for my bees, treatments, harvests, splits, swarms etc. This is necessary! I have learned a lot through the bee club and its members. We have a very good source of information with all of our members. If you have a problem with your bees, just ask someone about it.

Nancy Koenig lives in Penfield Township. She and her late husband were beekeepers for 10 years. An allergic reaction ended Nancy's beekeeping days; however, it did not end her love and interest in promoting the benefits of beekeeping. Nancy has served the club through volunteering and serving as interim trustee since July.

Building Fund Donation: Thank you to Zenta Apinis for her generous donation to the Building Fund!

HONEY JUDGES NEEDED:

There is a real need for qualified honey judges in Ohio, especially the northern part of the state. LCBA will offer this course free of charge to any interested party willing to put in the time and effort. The course will take place at Life Church, 1033 Elm St., Grafton, Ohio 44044 on Saturday, January 10, 2026, with an alternative date of January 31, should weather become inclement and inhibit driving.

A \$25.00 refundable fee will be required upon signup, and returned to you after the completion of the class. The class will be limited to a maximum number of ten (10) participants.

During this class you will learn the necessary equipment and their uses; for example, refractometer, polariscope, and Pfund scale. Additionally, LCBA is going to a standardized score card, so we will discuss scoring honey (in various forms), pollen, wax (in various forms) soap, lip balm, and anything else you may find in a standard honey show. There will be follow-up information forthcoming - this is a first notice! If you are interested in being considered for this class, please contact Denzil St. Clair by emailing info@queenrightcolonies.com.

Honey Judges, gather round- it's tasting time!

Have you ever been interested in becoming a honey judge? If so, we have the opportunity for you. The Lorain County Beekeepers Association (LCBA) will be conducting a class on 1/10/26 with an inclement weather date of 1/31/26 at 9:00a.m. There will be a \$25.00 refundable fee if you take and conclude the class.

In this class, you will learn about the equipment needed and their use, cost and where to acquire; especially the polariscope, refractometer, color comparator, introduction to score cards, and premium books.

Class size will be restricted to approximately 10 participants. We are in need of quality, qualified honey judges in the state of Ohio, with an emphasis in Northern Ohio. If interested, please contact info@queenrightcolonies.com to reserve your spot. Please make checks payable to LCBA c/o Gene Gargas, 2410 Brook Haven Lane, Hinckley, Ohio 44233. This class is not intended for persons wanting to be better prepared to show bee-related products, and if this is your intent you will be disappointed!



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, 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**

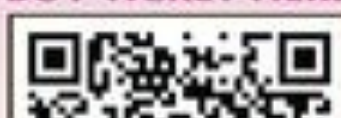
Luncheon at 1:00 PM (*Doors open at 12:15 PM*)

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
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Lagrange, OH 44050
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Trustee	Nancy Koenig	(440)829-1745	
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Youth Education Program Director	Marilyn Teeple	(440)355-4419	m.teep70@gmail.com
Memorial Garden Coordinator			
Media Coordinator	Amanda Manahan		media.lcba@gmail.com

