



Lorain County *Beekeepers* Association

Volume 23 Issue 260

March 2026

President's Message

Hello LCBA,

We have been treated to some beautiful warm days. Hope you have had the opportunity to open up your hives and see what the bees are doing. Are there food stores left? Pollen substitute needed? Time for a mite treatment?

Beginner beekeeping classes started last Friday with over 90 people in attendance. There are 3 more classes and LCBA members are welcome to attend.

This Friday, March 13th, is the next monthly meeting. Our speaker is Shari Baker who maintains 20 hives, helps manage her local beekeeper's club education bee yard and will be sharing her beekeeping experiences along with a body lotion demo.

The 3rd annual Ms. Honey Bee's High Tea is in the history books. A big Thank You goes out to all the volunteers.

See you Friday at 7 in the church hall, beginner classes will be in the church.

Marilyn

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winner!!

February's Members Meeting Winner

Phil Bartosh !!

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

Congratulations to Diane Breuler for being our Soup-Off Winner!!

Thank you to all of our Ms. Honey Bee High Tea Volunteers, your help is greatly appreciated with the successful fundraiser!

<i>Diann Ramirez</i>	<i>Ella Postlethwait</i>	<i>Maureen Duffy</i>
<i>Diana Corl</i>	<i>Lacey Postlethwait</i>	<i>Kathy Borling</i>
<i>Lorraine Leshnak</i>	<i>Daryll Postlethwait</i>	<i>Dave Borling</i>
<i>Dee Comstock</i>	<i>Linda Karp</i>	<i>Ron Knapp</i>
<i>Gary Comstock</i>	<i>Mary Donahue</i>	<i>Lynn Weigel</i>
<i>Amanda Manahan</i>	<i>Amanda Baus</i>	<i>Heather Baus</i>
<i>Ellie Jisa</i>	<i>Tim Beal</i>	<i>Kathy Beal</i>
<i>Nancy Koenig</i>	<i>Ella Boitel</i>	<i>Jon Reichel</i>
<i>Ron Webb</i>	<i>Sheila St. Clair</i>	<i>Denzil St. Clair</i>
<i>Bren Leiby</i>	<i>Randy Leiby</i>	<i>Marilyn Teeple</i>
<i>Gene Gargas</i>	<i>Audrey Gargas</i>	<i>Katherine Cravener Holmes</i>

Membership dues are up for renewal. If your dues have not been paid by March 1, you will not be receiving the monthly newsletter by e-mail. Membership can be renewed at each meeting with Gene Gargas or by mailing in the membership renewal form. Thank you!

If you are a current 2026 LCBA member with your current year dues paid, you are welcome to sit in on the beginner beekeeping classes to freshen up for the upcoming spring! Everyone is welcome!

Are you interested in sharing your beekeeper knowledge and skills with our new beekeepers? If so, please sign up to be a mentor for the new beekeepers, sign up forms available at the sign in desk or let a board member know. Mentor lists will be going out the 3rd week in March to the new students.

Our Intermediate Beekeeping Class will be in April, see the flyer in this newsletter.

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

World Bee Day will be celebrated on May 13-15 at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea. We are expecting 1,000 students this year spread over 3 days. For those who have not attended in the past, each student is given a passport and they need to collect a sticker at each bee education area to complete the world tour. Stations have several different topics and are manned by 2-3 people. Volunteer schedules are sent out in early May and you select your shift you would like to cover! If you are interested in sharing your bee knowledge with elementary school students and having a morning of fun, please sign up at the sign-in desk.

Shari Baker will be our speaker Friday and here's a bit of info to get to know her!!

Shari's life has always been filled with animals and animal husbandry. Her early childhood was in Oklahoma on a 60-acre cattle ranch, riding her father's cutting horses. Her teen years were spent in Ohio, helping her parents with their mini-exotic farm, raising everything from pocket pets like Sugar Gliders to miniature donkeys and cattle.

She has worked as a dog groomer, kennel and small-animal manager at a pet store, vet tech, veterinary surgical nurse, bank teller, administrative assistant, and concluded her eclectic career as a Chemical Dependency Counselor at a correctional facility.

When her children were young, she did the homestead thing, before it was a thing. She had a big garden, kept dairy goats, horses, pigs, sheep, rabbits, chickens, and ducks. Spending her time canning the produce and making soap, cheese, and fudge from the excess goat's milk.

In the early days of Varroa mites, she attempted to keep bees. She inevitably lost them for lack of a good mentor and basic beekeeping education. Her passion is to educate new beekeepers on how to keep their bees alive, so they do not suffer the same frustrating fate of losing their bees.

Today, she maintains approximately 20 hives, striving to raise healthier, mite-resistant bees, and helps to manage her local beekeepers club education bee yard.

Congratulations again to Dave Zemancik who was named by LCBA as having the best tasting honey!!!



Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

Many of you have already received this information in the mail from the Ohio Department of Agriculture - this is the main content of information but please read your literature thoroughly and use the QR Code or the link to read more information regarding queen rearing and the registration of your apiary.



Department of
Agriculture

Plant Health

Agri.Ohio.gov

Mike DeWine, Governor Jim Tressel, Lt. Governor Brian Baldrige, Director

Dear Ohio Beekeeper,

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) manages the registration and inspection of honey bee colonies in Ohio as required by state law. The state budget bill, HB 96, made several changes to the Apiary Program which are being implemented during the 2026 renewal process. These changes will result in a more efficient, effective, and sustainable inspection program.

APIARY REGISTRATION – FEE ELIMINATED

The \$5 registration fee has been eliminated effective October 1, 2025, **registration remains mandatory**. Current registrations expire **May 31, 2026**. Renew your application before **June 1, 2026**.

NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION

ODA transitioned to a fully **online registration system**, with accommodation for those without internet access.

To register your apiaries online, please:



- Go this link <https://arcg.is/1TfCzr1>
- Or scan the QR code to the left
- If you would like a paper registration mailed to you, please email us at apiary@agri.ohio.gov or call [614-728-6373](tel:614-728-6373).

QUEEN REARING APIARIES – NEW Updates for 2026

Queen rearing operations must pay a **flat annual certification fee of \$50**. This fee covers **all queen-rearing locations under the individual's control**. Beekeepers who sell, trade, gift, or otherwise distribute queen bees, packaged bees, nucleus colonies (nucs), or full colonies must obtain annual certification for their queen rearing operations.

Compliance Agreement:

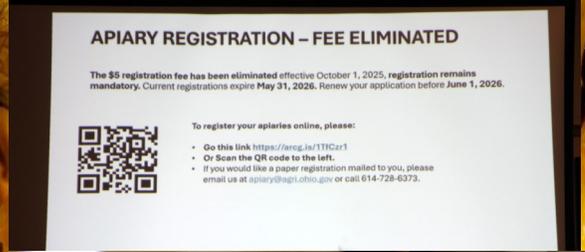
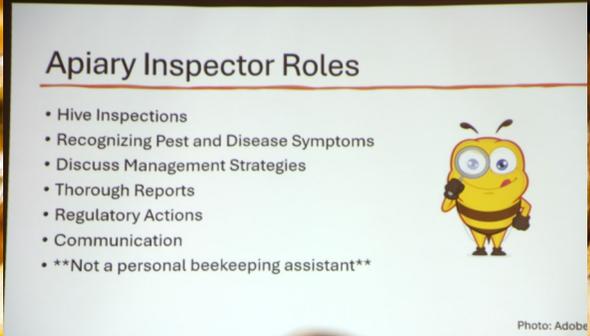
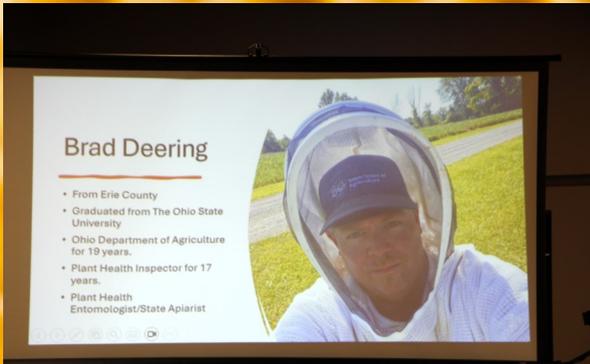
To become certified, beekeepers must consent to inspections and acknowledge the Queen Rearing Apiary Certification Compliance Agreement, confirming that their operation follows best management practices to promote healthy bees and prevent the spread of pests and disease. **NOTE: Beekeepers are required to address serious bee diseases and pests as they are identified in their apiaries.**

Compliance Agreement Process:

- A copy of the compliance agreement will be sent via email or mail if needed.
- Once the completed compliance agreement is returned to ODA, an email will be sent

Lorain County Beekeepers Updates and Events

**February's Meeting —
"The state of Beekeeping in Ohio and ODA changes in Beekeeping Policies" presented by Brad Deering**



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 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



Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Intermediate Beekeeping Class 2026

Swarm Prevention and Queen Management

DATE: Saturday, April 25, 2026

TIME: 12:00 - 2:00 PM

LOCATION: Life Church
1033 Elm Street
Grafton, Ohio 44044

COST: Cost of this class is free to all 2026 LCBA members. Non-member cost will be \$10, or \$20 for a 2026 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

IF YOU ARE A 2ND OR 3RD YEAR BEEKEEPER, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

LCBA Member (free) Non-member \$10 Non-member + Membership \$20

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment options: Cash Check Pay Online

Please make checks payable to: Lorain County Beekeepers Association

Please email to Marilyn at m.teep70@gmail.com

or mail form to:

Lorain County Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 144, Lagrange, Ohio 44050

Please RSVP by April 24, to m.teep70@gmail.com if you plan to attend this class.

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

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

SPONSORED BY



Nicky Sulandari
 216-447-8970



HOSTED BY



MEDINA
 beekeepers

PARTNERS



meijer



We pay \$100/ bus of 25 students or more. Contact Nicky Sulandari at collaborativechambers@gmail.com or call (440) 502-9506.



Queen Right Colonies®

queenrightcolonies.com



-  Cordovan
-  Golden West
-  Italian
-  New World Carniolan
-  Saskatraz

**BUZZZZZ
INTO SPRING!**
Order Your
Package Bees
TODAY!

3# Package Bees
California Bees



43655 State Route 162
Spencer, OH 44275
440-647-2602
info@queenrightcolonies.com

*Five Generations of
Doing Bees Right!*



Shelli Fridenstine

HR/Marketing Manager

North Coast Wireless Communications

143 Erie Street

Wellington, Ohio 44090

Office: 877-647-5622 ext 135

frides01@ncwcom.com

www.ncwcom.com



Cherished
Creations

Tracy Wind

Phone: 440-828-0165 ~ Email: cherishedcreations2021@yahoo.com

105 E. Herrick St Wellington OH 44090 ~ Facebook: [cherishedcreations](https://www.facebook.com/cherishedcreations)

Please remember to patronize our advertisers!!!!

Executive Board Members and Trustees 2026

President	Marilyn Teeple	(440)355-4419	m.teep70@gmail.com
Vice President	Kathy Beal	(440) 773-1635	bealsbarnyard26@twc.com
Secretary	Audrey Gargas	(216)534-6195	gargas1@frontier.com
Treasurer	Gene Gargas	(330)273-6308	gargas1@frontier.com
Trustee	Randy Leiby	(440)381-1956	RDLeiby@hotmail.com
Trustee	Nancy Koenig	(440) 829-1745	koenignancy10@yahoo.com
Trustee	Sheila St. Clair	(440)647-2602	info@queenrightcolonies.com
Fair Chairman	Bren Leiby	(440)381-1145	brenhono77@yahoo.com
Building Fund Director	Sheila St. Clair	(440)647-2602	info@queenrightcolonies.com
Event Photographer	Bren Leiby	(440)381-1145	brenhono77@yahoo.com
Buzzzz Editor	Lori Keleman	(440)748-6204	buzzzzworthy@gmail.com
Video Librarian	Bill Vittori	(440)323-4942	billv99@prodigy.net
Membership Coordinator	Gene Gargas	(330)273-6308	gargas1@frontier.com
Community Education Program Coordinator	Marilyn Teeple	(440)355-4419	m.teep70@gmail.com
Youth Education Program Director	Marilyn Teeple	(440)355-4419	m.teep70@gmail.com
Memorial Garden Coordinator			
Media Coordinator	Amanda Manahan		media.lcba@gmail.com

