The Tri-County Beekeeper’s Association of Northern OH are hosting their 36th Annual Spring Beekeeping Workshop on February 28-March 1 at the OARDC in Wooster. The Workshop, titled Beekeeping: Past, Present and Future, will take a look at the golden years of beekeeping, as well as the challenges facing beekeepers of today and tomorrow. There will be educational classes geared for beginners and experienced beekeepers. There will also be workshops throughout the day for children, as well as a hands-on room.

Friday evening:
Tours of the Bee Museum and Pollinatarium

Special Class Sessions from 7:00—8:00 p.m., followed by refreshments:

♦ Evolution of Beekeeping—Dr. Jim Tew

♦ Beginning Beekeeping with Central Ohio Beekeepers Association

Saturday:
Key Note Speaker: David Burns
Topic: Beekeeping—Past, Present, Future

Workshop Topics Include:

♦ Pollination and Bee Plants
♦ Small Hive Beetle
♦ Queen Rearing
♦ Electron Beam Sanitation
♦ Urban Beekeeping
♦ Cooking with Honey
♦ Kid’s Classes
♦ and more…

Please note: This year there will be no walk-in registrations

For more information: TCBA’s website: www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org

Remember to renew your OSBA Membership
See page 27 for renewal form.
President's Letter

It's 24 degrees outside with six inches of snow covering the ground and snow piled on top of the beehives. It's still amazing to me, sitting inside my warm office, that the honeybees can survive inside thin wooden walls of their hive. While I do my share of worrying that I haven't done enough to prepare the hives for winter, I do enjoy the break from the hard labor of being a beekeeping. It gives me time to catch up on reading the new beekeeping books and magazines I've acquired over the past year. It also gives me time to reflect on the past year, what things worked, what didn't and what to plan for next year. The same is true for OSBA. The conferences and meetings are over for the year, but we have been busy working on conferences and plans for 2014. I am very happy to see the excitement and energy from the newly elected officers.

As Chairperson of last year’s OSBA Conference Committee, I would like to thank all those who helped make the 2013 Fall Meeting a huge success with more than 350 in attendance. A special thanks goes to past president John George who helped find our new and much bigger meeting location, Tolles Career Center, and to Terry Liebermann-Smith who worked tirelessly behind the scenes and called or emailed me almost daily to make sure everything was covered.

For the 2014 conferences I'm very excited to announce that Terry, Conference Chairperson, has reserved some great speakers for the summer and fall meetings. We have lined up Jerry Hayes and Keith Delaplane for our Summer Meeting, June 7th at Miami University in Oxford Ohio. For our Fall meeting Sue Cobey and Michael Palmer, November 1st in Plain City, Ohio. With great speakers like these you'll definitely want to mark your calendar now.

The Master Beekeeping Program continues to grow and evolve. Bill Starrett has been appointed Chairman of the Master Beekeeping Committee. There are currently more than 160 beekeepers enrolled in the program. This program is a great opportunity to improve your beekeeping skills. See the OSBA website for more information.

You should soon be getting your membership cards and renewal form for 2014. Please take the time to verify the information and consider signing up for email newsletters. It helps OSBA keep our costs down and allows us to do more in other areas. You will also receive beekeeping updates several times each quarter.

Another change you may notice on the membership forms is a spot to make an earmarked donation to OSBA. In past years we have sponsored beekeeping research projects though OSU. I believe we should continue to do so, but should also formally extend our support to 4H members doing beekeeping projects. While it's been part of our mission statement it has been overlooked in recent years. Any donations will be earmarked specifically for these projects.

Communication is another area we've improved on but can still use improvement. Email has allowed us to keep in better touch with our members, both distributing the newsletter and periodic announcements. But we need your help! We can't keep you or your local club officials informed if we don't have your contact information. So please let us know of any changes to physical or email addresses. This is equally important for the officers of local associations. Please make sure we have your contact information correct so that you receive timely notices of events and other information.

You do not need to be a board member to get involved in OSBA. Many of our members have useful skills we can use. We can use your help at conferences, classes, serving on committees, grant writing, at the State Fair, promotion of OSBA, and more. If you are interested in helping or promoting OSBA please let us know.

Finally, I welcome your feedback, comments and ideas. OSBA is your association and your input is invaluable. My email address is tarheit@watchtv.net and my phone number is 419-371-1742. While I may be difficult at times to reach during the day between work and the bee yard, Please leave a message and the best time to call. I will return your call or email if I receive it.

Tim Arheit

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OSBA Conferences— Mark Your Calendars!

2013 was an incredible year for the OSBA Conferences. Engaging speakers, record-setting attendance, new venues, beekeeping fellowship, and added activities such as the live bee removal from a tree trunk, and even honey judging!

If you thought last year’s OSBA conferences were pretty spectacular, hold your beekeeping veils and be prepared for some great speakers, topics, and other fun activities at the upcoming summer and fall conferences this year.

This year’s summer conference will be at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio on Saturday, June 7, 2014. The Butler County beekeepers Association will be hosting this event once again. Our guest speakers include Jerry Hayes, Keith Delaplane, and Denise Ellsworth. Jerry Hayes has helped educate many of us through his monthly Q&A column in American Bee Journal. Keith Delaplane is a noted instructor, speaker, researcher, and author in many of our publications. Denise Ellsworth is the coordinator of the webinar series focused towards helping beekeepers, and a popular presenter at many bee and master gardener conferences.

We will also have hands on apiary breakout sessions, along with hands on task for the apprentice level of the master beekeeper program along with educational opportunities, we’ll have a few surprises along the way.

Although it seems a long way off, our November 1 conference at Tolles Career and Technical Center in Plain City, Ohio, is going to be another absolutely amazing event that you will want to attend. Our current lineup of speakers includes Sue Cobey, Mike Palmer, and Denise Ellsworth.

New OSBA Life Members

The following beekeepers have shown their support of OSBA by becoming Life Members. Life Membership consists of a one-time payment to OSBA of $160.

| Floyd Ostrowski | Judy Pendergast |
| Dan Theisen     | David Powell    |
| Mark Briggs     | Jeff Rohrer     |
| Stephan Craig   |                  |

Put Your Creativity and Skills to Use

If you want to reach beyond your local hive and help develop programs and initiatives that will have a positive impact on beekeeping across Ohio, its as easy as joining one of the OSBA Committees. Our various committees meet throughout the year in order to continually update projects or brainstorm new ideas. Some committees are long-standing, while others are more project-related. Current committees include: Master Beekeeper Committee, New Club Handbook Committee, Fair Committee, Conference Committee, Marketing Committee, etc.

If your skillsets are a fit for any of the above committees, or you want to expand your skillsets, please contact either Tim Arheit: tim@honeyrunapiaries.com or Terry Lieberman-Smith: osbanewseditor@woh.rr.com

See you in committee...
How to Submit Bee Samples for Diagnosis

Ohio beekeepers are fortunate in that the USDA Beltsville Honey Bee Diagnostic Laboratory still conducts basic pest and disease diagnoses of honey bees at no cost for registered beekeepers in the United States of America.

It is important to send samples to a laboratory that is unbiased, professional and reliable so that the results can be trusted. The Beltsville Lab is run by well trained and knowledgeable staff who see a great deal of honey bee problems every year and can provide sound advice.

Several reasons may prompt the beekeeper to have his/her bees tested:

♦ Any beekeeper who wishes to sell queens, bees, packages, or nucs in Ohio must have a Queen Certificate issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) before these goods are sold, per Ohio Apiary Law 909.08. This rule is to ensure that the bees are healthy and free of serious pests and diseases, mainly American foulbrood, Nosema, plus varroa and tracheal mites. The rule requires the apiary from which the bees are produced, to have both adult bees and a section of brood sampled for diagnosis.

♦ In most cases, the beekeeper need only to write on his/her Annual Apiary Registration form of the intent to sell bees. The 2014 Registration form provides a box for the beekeeper to check if he/she plans to sell bees. Beekeepers must apply for a Queen Certificate by April 1 of each year that the beekeeper plans to sell bees/queens or nucs.

♦ The County Apiary Inspector will receive a copy of these forms and inspect these yards first. The inspector will collect a composite sample of 50-100 bees from the total number of colonies per location and place them in alcohol, then cut a section of brood from the colonies per location.

♦ If the results received from the USDA Honey Bee Lab are negative for the pests described above, ODA will send the Queen Certificate to the beekeeper. The beekeeper should keep this document and either show or give a copy of it to those who purchase the bees.

♦ If a colony does not look vigorous or healthy or the queen is not producing as expected, the beekeeper may want to have the bees tested to determine if a disease/pest is present. If a disease/pest is found, the beekeeper can then treat appropriately, instead of guessing or treating unnecessarily.

♦ Many entrepreneurs are now raising their own queens and making colonies exclusively from their own hives instead of ordering packages. To maintain the quality of his/her stock, the beekeeper will want to have the bees tested at least once a year.

♦ Sometimes an unknown insect or strange looking bee or pupa is seen in the hive. The beekeeper can send these samples for ID as well.

To submit a sample, the item must be collected correctly and mailed following recommended guidelines so that the package will arrive at the Lab in the best condition. A moldy or damaged sample cannot be diagnosed and thus would result in a waste of the beekeeper’s time and money.

The instructions below were taken from the USDA Honey Bee Diagnostic Lab’s website. www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=7472

Submission of Samples for Diagnosis:

General Instructions
- Beekeepers, bee businesses, and regulatory officials may submit samples.
- Samples are accepted from U.S. states and territories, and Canada; samples are NOT accepted from other countries. For samples originating from Canada click here.
- Include a short description of the problem along with your name, address, phone number or e-mail address.
- At this time the service has no charge.
- For additional information, call (301) 504-8821 or e-mail: bart.smith@ars.usda.gov

How to Send Adult Honey Bees
- Send at least 100 bees and if possible, select bees that are dying or that died recently. Decayed bees are not satisfactory for examination.
- Bees should be placed in and soaked with 70% ethyl, methyl, or isopropyl alcohol as soon as possible after collection and packed in leak-proof containers.
- USPS, UPS, and FedEx do no accept ship-
EAS held its annual meeting this summer in West Chester, Pennsylvania. This college campus was an interesting venue and you got your walking shoes broken in! That said, over 700 attended this meeting. Each year the attendance grows and this one is now holding the title of “best attended”. But hold on – here comes Kentucky!

Back to West Chester... The Conference days were filled with wonderful speakers, a lot of science, and the short course was well attended on Monday and Tuesday. Many rooms were filled to capacity-some standing room only. Many new Master Beekeepers were certified!

It seemed the vendor areas were always bustling with super EAS deals and “FREE” shipping. All the major suppliers were there and I enjoyed visiting the local suppliers as well. Local bee plants in pots were available-bought those right up!

The business meeting was well the usual type business meeting. The most exciting part was when the new president, Tammy Horn, spoke about the upcoming EAS 2014 in Eastern Kentucky. Here is Tammy’s note to all as posted in the EAS Journal:

The Eastern Apicultural Society will be holding its 2014 annual conference at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond campus, July 27-August 1.

The keynote speaker will be, tentatively, Dr. Nicola Bradbear, founder of Bees for Development, an international extension nonprofit with teams in Africa, India and China among other places. Other speakers include beekeepers with the KY National Guard Ag Team, researchers with the USDA and state universities and other beekeepers involved with beekeeping extension programs. The Short Course will begin July 28-30. The general conference program begins on July 30 and concludes with a banquet August 01. More details about this conference including 2014 program can be found at the following address: www.easternapiculture.org.

I have personally been to this venue and the new science building will hold the conference nicely. Most of the conference will be in the science classrooms and shuttles are being arranged for those who will need some extra assistance. I ate on campus and the food was great – about 6 to 8 different food stations. Everything from salads and sandwiches to hot pastas, pizza and meat dishes! I don’t think someone could walk away hungry! Tammy is arranging a pre-tour of a surface mine site where she keeps bees. This will be on the Saturday prior the conference start. I will be on that one for sure!

Other than buying too much and trying to get in the car for the ride home, I think we all enjoyed West Chester and are eagerly waiting Eastern Kentucky’s hosting of the event.
Making Your Life Easier

One of the great things about beekeeping is that there are so many different aspects of the hobby. Roy and Bill and Dr. to get to discuss some of the more technical aspects, so I get to cover the other side of the hobby. Here are so many products and so much great advice that sometimes it’s a bit overwhelming. So each quarter, I will cover a few ideas or products that can make your life easier.

We all lead very fast-paced lives and sometimes we don’t have the opportunity to show our appreciation for people who help us or who might need a little lifting of their spirits. I solved the problem by always having on hand some type of honey treat in the house that I can share with other people, whether it’s honey caramels, honey scotch (the dessert topping, not the alcohol), honey fudge sauce or some other little tasty honey-based treat. This time of year the gift is honey caramels. I have batches of cut-up and wrapped dark and light honey caramels waiting for the right occasion to share with others. I usually put them in a cellophane gift bag that I buy at the local craft store. It’s a nice presentation, but nothing too exciting.

While I was in one of the big box stores, I noticed that Avery has a new product called Printable Bag Toppers with bags. Right now they are on sale for a final cost of about $.18 per bag and topper (plus, I get a quarterly refund for all my purchases so it will be cost me even less). Not only do these bag toppers make a wonderful presentation. The fact that Avery.com has free online design options to make your product look professional also helps create great business image and good-looking giftlet an brighten up anyone’s day. If you are looking to grow your business and want to have a professionally prepared looking product on a stores shelf, this is a great way to get extraordinary results for small price. You could even design your own toppers, and print them on almost any type of label surface, and even use gift bags you get at the craft store. I don’t know if they make heavier duty labels but you would certainly need a slightly thicker label for the same type of crisp presentation.

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OSBA is a non-profit organization with a mission to promote beekeeping in the state of Ohio. OSBA has a Board of Directors made up of 23 voting members. Eighteen of these members represent each of the nine regions of Ohio. They are the people who represent the membership and your region in all votes taken by the OSBA board regarding business of OSBA. You need to get to know your representatives.

The duties of the Director as listed by the Constitution:

The elected director will work with the beekeepers and local beekeeping associations and clubs in their respective regions to promote and implement the purposes of the OSBA within their regions. The Directors shall work to foster cooperation and collaboration between the local beekeeping associations and clubs in their respective regions. The directors shall have such other duties as assigned by the president or the board of directors. The directors shall attend all board of directors meetings with right of voice and vote on any matter brought before the board of directors. The directors shall report regularly to the Board of Directors regarding activities within their region.

The duties of the Appointed Representatives as listed by the Constitution:

The Regional Representative(s) nominated and confirmed pursuant to Article XI, A. & B. shall have voice and vote as full members of the Board of Directors. They shall serve a 1 year term commencing with the date of the first Board of Directors’ meeting in January and concluding on December 31st of the same year.
The Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry (OSCR)

Jared Shaffer

Pesticide drift from target areas may damage sensitive crops and organisms such as honeybees, grapes, strawberries, tomatoes and broadleaf vegetables. Communication between beekeepers, producers and pesticide applicators is critical to avoid personal/property damage while allowing target crops to benefit from applied pesticides. The Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry (OSCR) is a voluntary informational tool designed to allow stakeholders an effective way to communicate and protect organic crops, pesticide-sensitive crops and apiaries. OSCR was developed and is operated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Pesticide & Fertilizer Regulation section, which trains and licenses over 30,000 pesticide applicators and more than 13,000 pesticide products operating in the state of Ohio.

Registered apiarists and organic and pesticide-sensitive crop producers have the ability to draw their locations on an online map and share them with other registered users. Licensed pesticide applicators in the state of Ohio, such as farmers spraying their crops or ODOT crews applying roadside herbicides, can log-in to the system and search the map for sensitive areas nearby. Apiaries in particular can be difficult for pesticide applicators to spot and avoid. Although beekeepers must post their contact information in every apiary, OSCR can be used in addition to these postings to help applicators locate apiaries and contact the beekeepers before spraying.

To help ensure the highest-quality data for pesticide spray planning, the Ohio Department of Agriculture verifies each user registration request and each crop location submission before the data is entered into the Registry. Due to this verification process, OSCR is currently designed for use by commercial agricultural entities only; homeowners with private gardens, landscaping along roadways, and community areas are not eligible to use the OSCR system. Only apiarists and those who produce crops for sale will be approved to enter data into the system. This level of quality control is designed to allow for the continued success of OSCR and the optimal use of pesticides in Ohio.

Users can register for an account online through the OSCR website. Paper enrollment forms will be made available to those without internet access who also wish to register. These forms can be acquired by contacting ODA at 614-728-6386, or the local OSU Extension office. OSCR can be accessed directly via this address: http://www.agri.ohio.gov/scr

For more information, visit the OSCR website or contact Jared Shaffer at:
Attention: Sensitive Crop Registry
Ohio Department of Agriculture
Pesticide & Fertilizer Regulation
8995 E. Main Street, Bldg. 23
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-3399
Phone: 614-728-6386
Fax: 614-466-9754
Email: SensitiveCropRegistry@agri.ohio.gov

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We’ve all seen them, they have been available for a couple decades and perhaps you currently have one on your car or truck - specialty license plates. You know the ones, they have a logo or design on the left side of the plate and they’re promoting a specific cause the owner is interested in. Some of the original specialty plates were for various Ohio colleges and universities, Lake Erie, and Ohio State Parks. Today, a vehicle owner in Ohio has a choice of over 155 specialty plates; among the most recent is a plate for Superman.

A couple years ago I was researching a beekeeping issue when I came across a picture of a Maryland license plate advocating the Maryland State Beekeepers Association. What a neat idea!

My curiosity eventually got the best of me, as I started checking into what the process entails to do something similar in Ohio. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles administers Ohio’s specialty plate program, and surprisingly, it’s rather simple and straightforward. In a nutshell, an organization needs:

1. 500 valid signatures of Ohio citizens who intend to buy the proposed plate.
2. An Ohio legislator must draft a bill to establish the plate and the bill must be approved by the General Assembly.

Signatures were collected at the Tri-County Spring Workshop and OSBA’s pavilion at the Ohio State Fair. Nearly every person beekeepers engaged with at the fair was interested and enthusiastic about purchasing a honey bee license plate to help “save the bees.” Approximately 950 signatures were submitted to the BMV. Once the legislation is passed, the BMV will work to verify 500 of the signatures. A representative is currently working to have the language for the license plate inserted into a bill. I am hesitant to put a timeframe on the legislation process. However, I am optimistic that the plate will be available in 2014.

With every license plate sold, a portion of the fees will be directed to OSBA. I am excited about promoting Ohio beekeeping / the honey bee on license plates, the idea of being able to raise funds to help state beekeepers is a wonderful additional bonus. As beekeepers, we’ve probably all had similar conversations with the general public regarding the problems honey bees are having today. People want to help honey bees. I didn’t consider monetary issues when I first started pursuing beekeeping license plates, but this may well be a nice fundraiser for OSBA and that means more financial support for Ohio beekeepers.
Dana Stahlman is announcing the sale this year of OHIO BUCKEYE BELLE QUEENS. I will be going to Georgia in January to begin the process of building nuc’s for the production of Ohio queen stock that was described in the Walter T. Kelley Newsletter published in June, July and August of 2013.

The queen stock has been further enhanced with Artificial Insemination with selected drone semen. The mother queen survived in an abandoned bee yard (a hive that had not been managed for a number of years) and upon examination, the hive during the period it was not managed did not have wax moth or a long interruption in bee population which would have been indicated by rebuilt comb in the hive. In July the bees were inspected by the Ohio Department of Agriculture with both bee and comb samples sent to USDA for inspection and report. The report from USDA found no disease or mites.

If you are interested in purchasing queens or wanting to sell some of these queens, email me at: stahlmanapiaries@aol.com. Buckeye Belle and Buckeye Reb queens were produced by me during the 1990’s and early 2004. I am bringing them back into production.

OSBA Mission

The Ohio State Beekeepers Association serves beekeepers in Ohio and is associated with other organizations who have an interest in beekeeping.

- Provide our membership with current beekeeping information and represent them when beekeeping issues arise in Columbus and at the Department of Agriculture.
- Provide our membership with a quarterly newsletter and yearly beekeeping calendar.
- Provide our members with OSBA discounts to major beekeeping magazines.
- Provide two educational meetings a year (summer and fall).
- Support other beekeeping organizations in the state of Ohio by providing speakers, and publishing information about their activities in our newsletter.
- Support the 4-H project in Ohio. Any 4-H member working on a beekeeping project can get on our mailing list for our newsletter. Some OSBA members also serve as mentors to these young people.
- Support our Ohio State University bee programs — research and extension.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OSBA 2014 Activity Calendar</th>
<th>First Quarter 2014 Conferences/Seminars</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January, 2013</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 7-11, 2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>January Board Meeting</td>
<td>North American Beekeeping Conference</td>
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<td>Day and Time TBA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nabeekeepingconference.com/">www.nabeekeepingconference.com/</a></td>
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<td><strong>June 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 18, 2014</strong></td>
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<td>OSBA Summer Meeting</td>
<td>Mid Ohio Valley Beekeeper's Expo $20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Speakers include: Jerry Hayes, Keith Delaplane and Denise Ellsworth</td>
<td><strong>January 18</strong></td>
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<td><strong>July 28 – August 4</strong></td>
<td>Eastern KY Beekeeping School</td>
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<td>OSBA at the Ohio State Fair</td>
<td><a href="http://perry.ca.uky.edu/sites/perry.ca.uky.edu/files/EKBS%20flyerbeeflyer%202014_1.pdf">http://perry.ca.uky.edu/sites/perry.ca.uky.edu/files/EKBS%20flyerbeeflyer%202014_1.pdf</a></td>
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<td>OSBA will have a 10 x 10 booth -- Club and Vendor tables are available. Honey Judging too!</td>
<td><strong>February 14 &amp; 15</strong></td>
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<td><strong>November 1</strong></td>
<td>W. Pennsylvania Beekeeping Seminar $50</td>
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<td>OSBA Fall Meeting</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvent.com/events/western-pennsylvania-beekeeping-seminar/event-summary-0b7b79a9d48b40e8a37a711f0ef9e56.aspx">www.cvent.com/events/western-pennsylvania-beekeeping-seminar/event-summary-0b7b79a9d48b40e8a37a711f0ef9e56.aspx</a></td>
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<td>Tolles Tech Center– Plain City, OH</td>
<td><strong>February 22, 2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Speakers include: Sue Cobey, Mike Palmer and Denise Ellsworth</td>
<td>Indiana Bee School XII $30 (new location)</td>
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<td>Stay tuned for Details!</td>
<td><a href="http://www.indianabeekeeper.com/contact_us/indiana_bee_school">www.indianabeekeeper.com/contact_us/indiana_bee_school</a></td>
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<td><strong>March 7/8</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 28-March 1</strong></td>
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<td>Michigan Beekeepers Spring Conference</td>
<td>Tri-County Beekeepers Conference:</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org">www.TriCountyBeekeepers.org</a></td>
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<td>Stop by the OSBA Table!</td>
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<td><strong>March 22</strong></td>
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<td>SWOBA Beekeeper Conference</td>
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Beekeeping Classes Abound—Find One Near You!

Central Ohio Beekeepers
Beginner Class on Tuesdays Feb 18, 25, March 4, 11 from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. or Wednesdays Feb 19, 26, March 5, 12 from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. An all day Beekeeping Class will be held on March 8 from 9 a.m.—3 p.m. All classes are held at Waterman Farms, Carmack Rd, Columbus, OH For registration details: www.centralohiobeekeepers.org

East Central Ohio Beekeepers
ECOBA one-day bee schools run from 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Feb 1, 8, 14 and 22. An ECOBA membership, workbook, and handout materials are included in the $75.00 fee. Family/household members can attend for an additional $10.00 per person. For more info, contact: info@ecoba.org

Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association
This 4 session class starts February 5 at the Rocky River Nature Center in North Olmstead. Cost is $45 which includes 1 year family membership in the club, and the monthly newsletter. For more information: www.greaterclevelandbeekeepersassociation.com

Greene County
This course which covers everything from apiary location to seasonal management. Thursdays, February 7, 14, 21; March 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. $40 for Greene County Residents, $50 for non-residents. www.gcbeekeepers.com

Knox County Beekeepers
Beginners Class: February 8th from 9 am-3 pm Advanced Beekeeping Class: March 8th from 9 am-3 pm See website for details: http://www.knoxbees.com/

Lorain County Beekeepers
LCBA’s Beginner Class includes class instruction on Friday, March 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2014 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at First Church (United Church of Christ), 106 N. Main St., Oberlin, OH, and Hands On Field Day: Saturday, June 7, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. rain or shine at Queen Right Colonies and a bonus class of Fall Wrap Up on September 12, 2014. The class costs $50 and also includes a one year of membership in LCBA and a monthly newsletter

Books will be available for an additional fee during classes

Medina County Beekeepers
Instructor: Kim Flottum will have two classes: Tuesday evenings or Saturdays. Students can attend either or both of these sessions once fees are collected.

Cost - $70.00 per person or family. Fees includes MCBA membership for one year, 2 books, class handouts and materials. Pre-reservation is required. To reserve your slot call Peggy Garnes at 330.723.6265 or peggy@beeculture.com.

Tuesday Evenings – 7 – 9:30 PM
Feb. 11, Feb. 18, Feb 25, March 4, March 11
Saturday Sessions – 9 AM – 2:30 PM
Jan. 18 and 25 and Feb 1
Combined Field Days for both
April 12, June 21 and August 16th.

Miami Valley Beekeepers
This two session class is on January 25 and February 1 and runs from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. at Brukner Nature Center in Troy, OH. Registration is $45. Contact Brukner Nature Center to register: http://www.bruknernaturecenter.com/

Northwest Ohio Beekeepers Association
NWOBA’s Beginner’s Class in on February 15th at the 2900 Campus Drive, Suite B on the OSU Branch Campus in Lima from 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m. Class cost of $30 includes membership to NWOBA and a book. For more information contact Dwight Wilson at 419.722.1953 or Tim Arheit at 419.371.1742

Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers
Dates are yet to be set, however they are usually held for two Saturdays at the end of March and the first week of April. Classes are held at 4865 CR 175, Clyde, OH. For more information call: 419.603.1749 or see their website: http://www.srvbeekeeping.com/

Scioto Valley Beekeepers
SVBA Beginning Beekeeping Class are Wednesdays, April 2, 16 and 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Classes are held in the community room of the Circleville Fire Department. Participants will learn everything needed to start a hive and care for it during the first year. Delivery of honeybees is tentatively scheduled for April 24. The $50 class-room fee includes the workbook, instructional materials and a one-year membership in SVBA. Class size is limited. The class fills up quickly so please register early. Spouses of class members and their children under the age of 18 can attend the classes for free. Questions? Contact David Crawford at oville@frontier.com or 740-477-2393

(Continued on page 18)
At the November meeting of the Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Assoc, they bottled and labeled over 200 six ounce honey bears for the local area Food Banks within their region. This has been an annual event for the past years.

In December, SRVBA will be having election of officers as well as a potluck dinner for the upcoming holidays.

Lorain County Beekeepers Association has a scholarship competition each year. The scholarships are awarded in two age categories, requires a 500 word essay, participation in educational booth at the fair, and that the winner must enter their honey at the County fair. The price package includes a complete hive including bees, and protection gear, along with a series of beginner beekeeping classes, membership to the club, and on a personal mentor. What a great way for the club to attract young beekeepers and help them on their beekeeping adventure.

Once again, Greene County Beekeepers Association will be supporting 4-H by providing woodenware and mentoring to Greene County 4-H beekeeper enrollees.
Queen Rearing Via the Notching Method

The ability to rear queens is absolutely essential to the long term success of any beekeeping program. Grafting is the standard method by which large numbers of queens are produced from a specific genetic source. It’s quick, simple and efficient. However, if you just have a couple of colonies in the backyard, or if you only need a few queens at any given time, grafting is simply not very practical. If you fall into either of these categories, you may want to consider notching.

Notching is a simple non-grafting queen rearing technique. Simply put, notching is the practice of removing or destroying the bottom cell wall of one or more worker cells containing young larvae of queen rearing age. When you remove the queen from an established colony, when you divide a colony or make up a new split, the queenless colony will immediately begin constructing emergency queen cells. If you employ the notching technique the queenless colony will focus its emergency queen rearing efforts on the larvae in the notched cells. By notching, the beekeeper in effect determines which larvae the colony will utilize to produce their replacement queen. The notching method I describe below is ideally suited to the small operator who needs a few queens to maintain his or her beekeeping endeavor.

I normally use five frame nuc boxes for all my queen rearing needs, but three or four frame units will work equally well in this application. From the breeder or donor colony I remove one frame containing a small amount of eggs and well fed young larvae. My intent is to rear a quality queen using a relatively small number of young nurse bees. I don’t want large amounts of brood competing for the food and heat resources of the small rearing colony. Once I’ve transferred the brood frame and its adhering bees, I remove a second frame containing some recently collected pollen and as much nectar as possible. The older adults on this frame are shaken back into the parent or donor colony. If pollen and nectar are in abundance I generally remove a second feed comb. Again, due to the absence of brood in the rearing colony, the two well filled feed combs should provide sufficient stores until the new colony becomes established. Two empty drawn combs, to provide storage for incoming nectar, complete the five frame unit. The last step in the setup process is to supply the nuc with nurse bees. With a five frame nuc box, place the frame containing the brood in the center slot and position a feed comb to either side. Return to the donor colony and remove two additional frames containing mostly open brood, check for the queen, then shake the bees into the open nuc box. Young nurse bees are the prime ingredient for successful queen rearing, so don’t be stingy. If the weather is on the cool side, or if the rearing colony is to remain in the same location as the breeder colony, compensate by shaking in a third frame of young adults. Once all of the ingredients are in place, close the colony up to let the bees settle down for a couple hours prior to notching. Likewise, if the colony needs to be relocated, complete that procedure before you notch.

Larvae twelve to eighteen hours old are generally considered the optimal choice for grafting purposes. The same rule applies to notching. In practice the notching procedure takes only a couple of minutes. Start by scanning the brood comb to determine which side contains the most larvae of correct age or size. Also check the amount of royal jelly that surrounds the young larvae. Well fed young larvae produce better quality queens than do poorly fed larvae. Notching allows you to make that choice. Once you have selected the appropriate side, lay the frame so the notching side is up, across the top of the open nuc box. With a soft bee brush, gently move the bees away from the area containing the young larvae. Using either the point of your hive tool or pocket knife, notch two cells, two or three inches apart, preferably on the upper half of the cell wall.Thumbtacks on the top bar directly above the notched cells

(Continued on page 16)
Notched Cell, the equivalent of a supercedure cell

Six or seven days after notching, the notched cells and most of the worker brood will be capped over. Use the reference thumbtacks to locate and visually inspect the notched cells. They should appear somewhat larger than the run of the mill emergency queen cells. Remember, by notching you enlarged the area immediately below the young larva. The colony responded by building the equivalent of a supercedure cell directly into the comb, hence the larger than normal appearance. If the notched cells appear normal, check for and remove all the natural cells around the periphery of the capped brood, on both sides of the comb. Invariably, most of the natural cells will have originated from older larvae; consequently, one of these queens will emerge first and destroy all your hard work. In those cases where the notched cells haven’t been accepted, or where they appear to be inferior, leave the two best looking natural cells. Either way, in sixteen to twenty one days you should have a nice laying queen.
Mini Hand-held Observation Hive

Educational outreach is passion of mine so I rarely turn down an invitation to bee-speak. And given a choice I prefer smaller, intimate groups. These present show and tell opportunities where I have found that having a miniature hand-held observation hive in your arsenal will steal the show. Designing one has been a work in progress.

I first started beekeeping at 12, and began building my own hives at 14. I have been exploring and questioning the Langstroth hive design ever since. Simply put, I both marvel at the Langstroth’s Stradivarius-like perfection, but have come to question whether or not the “super-sized” colonies that comes from this design are appropriate in a newer mite-centric world.

Over the years I’ve experimented with various hive mechanics. I’ve explored load cells for seasonal weight comparisons; miniature sensors for measuring temperature differentials, humidity, and more. This has been an evolutionary process culminating in an “Igor” hive which measures most of the afore mentioned metrics plus real-time flight counters using wireless communications and exaggerated LED displays for public appreciation.

Teaser alert: a unique hive design reveal is scheduled for this summer’s OSBA meeting in Oxford, OH. An imposed gag rule limits me at this time to say: living “crystal hive”; 70,000+ LEDs, software.

But of all these various hive configurations perhaps my surprising favorite is the single frame, hand-held observation hive. Before you can persuade or educate; you first have to get people’s attention. So when I couldn’t bring the public to the bees; I looked to bring the bees to the public. It took several iterations to get the balance, bee spaces, and safety issues addressed, but I finally arrived at an elegant solution in so far as simplicity.

This simplified observation hive has been field tested for the past three seasons and I feel comfortable endorsing its use across all audiences and age levels. Providing an up close and portable/personal experience with honeybees was the main objective but it has many uses. It can be a rainy day savior when a beeyard/lecture is scheduled. I also use it in my Zoo/Bot labs at Miami University to desensitize students: first we talk bees; then I pass around the single frame observation hive; and then we finally tackle actual beehives in the field.

This observation hive plays on our intrinsic sense of wonder and fear. We seasoned beekeepers are somewhat desensitized. As I introduce the obs. hive I deliberately spin and rotate it trying to stress how safe it is and am always met with expressions like I was Prometheus brandishing fire for the first time or juggling flaming chainsaws. Undeniably you have their attention.

Big picture lectures and hand waving are all very fine and well, but most people like specifics. The obs. hive employs the Keep-It-Simple Strategy using people’s own senses to personalize their educational experience.

It is often said that big things often come in small packages. Let me encourage you to use this simple one frame, hand-held, observation hive design. It will add to the venue whether you are lecturing for credit for your OSBA’s Master Beekeeper’s accreditation or educating/entertaining the general public. Add it to this season’s demonstrations and you are sure to be a hit (of course honey samples, silly bee glasses, and bee "tattoos" also help!).

You can contact Alex with any questions, at zomchea@miamioh.edu
Ohio Beekeeping

How to Submit Bee Samples for Diagnosis *(Continued from page 4)*

...ments containing alcohol. Just prior to mailing samples, pour off all excess alcohol to meet shipping requirements.

How to Send Brood Samples

- A comb sample should be at least 2 x 2 inches and contain as much of the dead or discolored brood as possible. NO HONEY SHOULD BE PRESENT IN THE SAMPLE.
- The comb can be sent in a paper bag or loosely wrapped in a paper towel, newspaper, etc. and sent in a heavy cardboard box. AVOID wrappings such as plastic, aluminum foil, waxed paper, tin, glass, etc. because they promote decomposition and the growth of mold.
- If a comb cannot be sent, the probe used to examine a diseased larva in the cell may contain enough material for tests. The probe can be wrapped in paper and sent to the laboratory in an envelope.

Send samples to:

**Bee Disease Diagnosis Bee Research Laboratory**
**Bldg. 306 Room 316**
**Beltsville Agricultural Research Center - East**
**Beltsville, MD 20705**

Link to ODA's Apiary Registration form:

Below is the link to the Ohio Laws and Rules
Law http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/901%3A5-55
Rules http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/909

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*Bee Classes (Continued from page 13)*

**Summit County Beekeepers**


**Stark County Beekeepers Association**

SCBA Bee School is March 15, 2014 and will be held at the Foltz Community Center 224 Wood St. N, East Canton, Ohio, 44730-1230. Classes are from 9 am to 3 pm, the cost is $35 for an individual and $45 for a family. This includes a years membership to Stark County Beekeepers Association. We teach basic beekeeping, where to get your bees, putting a hive together, dealing with neighbors, how to go through a hive and diseases. We have a workshop where the new beekeeper will handle bees, frames and working a hive. Lunch and snacks are provided.

**Warren County Beekeepers**

This one day class on January 25th runs from 8:30 a.m.—1 p.m. and costs $20. Topics include equipment overview, calendar of tasks and expenses. Fee includes 1 year membership in WCBA. For more information: [www.warrencobeekeepers.org](http://www.warrencobeekeepers.org)

**Other Classes:**

Beginners’ Beekeeping Course taught by Dave Noble, Apiarist at Stratford Ecological Center, a non-profit educational farm in Delaware county. Beekeeping Apprenticeship Classes will be taught at four different times starting in late March. They will all be the same class but students will sign up for Tuesday sessions, or Thursday sessions, or Saturday sessions. For more information please contact Dave at: apiarydave@gmail.com or 614.657.5392
Like Reflections in a Well

A well that is close to going dry, looks much like a well that is full of water. In both views, we see reflections. That is right up until the water is actually gone.

In much the same way, as in years past, we still see bees, monarch butterflies, and other pollinators in our summer fields. But those who keep bees, those who feed and nurture their busy endeavors, and those who count the wild ones among us, know..."the well is going dry". The pollinators are disappearing.

Who knows better than you the reader the odds of bee survival? How are your hives fairing? The Ohio Department of Agriculture places the 2013 National Average Hive Loss at 50%. When compared to the 2007 loss of 30% and the much earlier loss of 10%, it doesn't take a mathematician to realize that pollinators are moving toward extinction.

These grim statistics are the result of 21st century attacks on bees and other pollinators. Pesticides commonly used to promote high agricultural yields, viruses and mites that prey on bee populations, and the dwindling lack of naturally provided food, add up to disaster for the modern pollinators.

After World War II, agriculture practices changed throughout the US. Rather than planting a variety of vegetation, it is now common to devote many acres of land to one kind of crop, that crop providing one bloom season. For a few short weeks it is business as usual for the pollinators, but once the blooms are gone, this monoculture farming technique results in a vast food desert. Look at it from the bee's perspective; it is tough fending off predators and illness when you're hungry. And when the only food provided in the fields makes you sick and disoriented due to pesticide contamination, or when uncontaminated food is miles away from your home, how would you survive?

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), District 9, is stepping forward to address this problem and is piloting a solution. That is to convert roadway right-of-way to pollinator habitat.

Earlier this year, Pollinator Habitat was proposed as an Ohio Certified Manager's Program (OCPM) business plan in response to bee survival. Realizing the many benefits to the community as well as to ODOT, District 9 Deputy Director Vaughn Wilson and Highway Administrator Troy Huff were quick to sponsor the OCPM business plan. As a result, two acres along State Route 207 have been dedicated to the formation of pollinator habitat.

Fortunately there has been enthusiastic support from the beginning. Denise Ellsworth of the Ohio State Bee Lab was the first to offer practical advice and direction. It was she who first recommended the YouTube Marla Spivak TED Talk video for inspiration. As the project evolved, others joined in with their expertise and experience. Among those offering their time have been Barb Bloetscher of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Rodney Pritchard of the Central Ohio Bee Association and Seth Rankin of Pheasants Forever. Practical insight has come from the Scioto Valley Beekeepers Association. Some of their members have hives within the project area.

Bonnie Harper-Lore, former Restoration Ecologist for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and noted editor and writer of *Roadside Use of Native Plants*, has become the unofficial advisor to the OCPM Team. With her guidance, District 9 feels confident that this program will be a success.

Site preparation will begin in early spring and continue to the end of May with the killing of current site grasses and weeds. The area will then be mowed to within 2" of ground level and clippings will be removed from site. Native Ohio seeds, originating from local sources, will be planted using a Truex no till drill. Seed should be placed no deeper than ¼". The soil will not be amended as native seed needs no such help. In fact, it has been shown that adding fertilizer promotes weed growth as does tilling of the land. During the first growing season, growth will be maintained to 6"; during the second season, 12". This will prevent weeds from producing seed and allow the perennial forbs, grasses, and legumes to become established. At the beginning of the third season, ODOT hopes to enlist the help of the local chapter of Pheasants Forever to perform a controlled burn of the habitat. The expected result is a strong show of perennial native prairie flowers, weed controlled and virtually maintenance free. "Maintenance free" meaning one mowing in the late Fall each year with controlled burns in the Spring every few years.

Eight local apiaries within 2.5 to 3.5 miles of the site have been notified and engaged as a measure for habitat success. It is hoped that hive survival will improve as a result of the third season. It is also anticipated that bee diversity of the area will be monitored with the help of the Ohio Department of Agriculture comparing the first season with the third and fourth growing seasons.

In 1988, ODOT had a roadside wildflower program that...
Telling the Bees

This is an old tradition among beekeepers to “Tell the Bees” whenever a change happens in the beekeepers family. You may Google “Telling the Bees” and find a poem from the 1800’s about this subject. You will also find some history on the subject. What OSBA wants to do is to recognize any beekeepers that have recently died.

All associations or individuals are asked to forward the name and home county of the beekeeper and the date of death if available. Any personal info may also be beneficial such as how long they may have kept bees, any offices they may have held in beekeeping associations, etc.

Hopefully this will be some small way to recognize our fellow beekeepers as they pass on. It may also serve as notice of friends we have made when their passing comes.

Please appoint someone in your association to notify an OSBA officer when a loss occurs so proper recognition will be made.

Notify Ron Hoopes, Memorial Committee Chair at: beefarm2003@AOL.COM or cell 740.624.1683 if you have notices to pass on to the newsletter.

Like Reflections in a Well (Continued from page 19)

was discontinued due to sustainability issues. More is known now, and as we follow in the footsteps of our state neighbors such as West Virginia and Wisconsin, we anticipate that the success of this pilot program will encourage Ohio to rejoin their ranks.

Let’s talk money. Currently ODOT mows four times a season and there will be eventual savings as the frequency of mowing is reduced. Those savings alone will not be substantial, estimated at $100 annually per acre. There is also the initial cost to prepare the sites and plant the seed. However, consider the “no build” scenario. How much will be spent trying to imitate nature once we have lost these indispensible, perfectly designed creatures? What will it cost us and future generations when produce is reduced significantly due to pollinator loss?

Make a commitment now. Join the OCPM class and ODOT District 9 by planting your own pollinator habitat on whatever land you can use. Rally your neighbors, friends, and anyone else you can influence. You can make a positive difference in the world. Don’t feel limited, any unused land will do. Let’s help pollinators survive. Let’s keep the well from running dry.

Dianne Kahal-Berman is a professional civil engineer with the Ohio Department of Transportation, District 9. She and fellow Cohort 48 members of the Ohio Certified Management Program: Melanie Drerup, Melissa Clark, Beverly Hoskinson, Lora Weiser and sponsor Troy Huff, make up the “Bee Team”, proposing, organizing, and with District 9, implementing the OCPM Pollinator Habitat Plan described in this article.

Editor’s Note: Dianne’s planting for pollinators project reminds me of a saying I heard, “Without the trees in the spring our bees would be bereft of much of their forage.” Lucky for us, many counties have tree and seedling sales in March and April. Counties offer different selections, so you might want to shop around and see which ones offer the best prices and the selection of trees that are best for the bees. In my corner of the world, Greene, Clark, Montgomery, and Miami all have great selections. Purchase some reasonably priced shrubs and build a natural wind break or flight barrier for your apiary.
Now is the time for all new and experienced beekeepers to start planning for the new beekeeping year. I can’t stress enough that planning and organization will help make your year easier. The less time you spend running around for last-minute inventory or marketing materials, the more time you have to spend on improving your hive and apiary techniques.

Although the bee season seems far removed from the current cold winter weather, start collecting your plastic containers for your solar wax melter.

Many of the big-box office stores are having sales on labels and paper and ink. It truly pays to sign up for membership with these stores. You will constantly receive special coupons offering you incredible discounts. Plus most of the stores have a rebate program so that you get money back each quarter. One promotional e-mail I received today included a coupon for free paper and even 40% off some of the labels that I use on a regular basis. So by just this e-mail I can save almost $7 on the labels, have 60 cents put towards my quarterly refund, and have them delivered the next day so I don’t even have to pay for gas. If you use a pass-through website, such as ebates.com, you can earn another 2% off your purchase. It may seem like small change, but it adds up and helps me keep my honey prices competitive. If I’m really organized, I’ll stop at Kroger during my errands and buy a Staples gift card for the amount that I need, and earn gas money at the same time. I try to buy these cards when you can earn four times credit towards gas.

These stores also offer great incentives to recycle your ink cartridges. They were also offering a special card where you could get 10% off all your ink purchases for about a year and a half. As you know, color printers chew through ink, like hungry honey bees through sugar water in spring. Now is the time to build equipment or repair old equipment. While I enjoy picking up orders at conferences, I must admit I’m a bit spoiled by the bulk order that our beginning beekeeping class puts together each spring. The savings is immense. You might want to check with your local Association and see if they coordinate bulk orders.

Why not take this opportunity to contact local Rotary associations, libraries, garden clubs, and garden centers to see if they need speakers for the coming year. Even if the group does not actually pay you an honorarium, if you’re allowed to sell your honey products after your presentation, it’s a great way to make money and get your name out there into the general public.

I’m a visual learner so I enjoy a large two-month calendar on my bulletin board that enables me to see what’s coming up and plan. As a reminder, though, it does help to transfer all the information from your hard copy calendars onto your electronic calendar on your phone so that everything is in sync.

In the next few issues I will be reviewing products that might be of help in your apiary and e-business. A really useful app is called “Out of Milk.”. While it is a shopping list, it also has the ability to be an incredibly great to do list. One of the nifty things about this program is that you can share it automatically with somebody else. If you have a beekeeping buddy, you can let him know what needs to be done in the apiary, or what equipment to bring on the next visit. All your partner has to do is sync up and all the information will be there.

If you do bring your phone or tablet to the apiary, make sure to have a cover for it...propolis is a sticky substance!
WANTED: County Bee Inspector for several Ohio Counties for the 2014 season.

If you are interested or have suggestions, please contact: Barbara Bloetscher, ODA State Apiarist, Bbloetscher@agri.ohio.gov and/or Cindy McGinnis at 614-728-6373

Counties needing an inspector include Cuyahoga, but others will be looking for Inspectors too, so please contact us if you are interested in being the Inspector for another County.

Job Description: The Applicant should have experience keeping honey bees and be able to recognize honey bee pests and diseases. The person should be professional and courteous and able to keep track of his/her time, inspections and mileage. He/she is representing The State of Ohio, the County in which he/she works and the Ohio Beekeeping Industry. He/she should be responsible and respectful of people, the bees and the environment.

The County appoints a County Apiary Inspector to inspect hives for that particular county. The applicant should inspect the colonies in each apiary registered for that county and maintain records of the inspections. The law requires that each apiary be registered by June 1. On days when the weather is favorable to open a hive between April 1-October 30, the inspector will inspect the apiaries and make recommendations to improve the health of the colony(s). The applicant should have a reliable vehicle to drive to the apiaries.

The advantage of the job is that the person meets other beekeepers and helps them become better beekeepers. They will learn a great deal from being an inspector and gain the trust of other beekeepers. It is a fun and rewarding job if you like honey bees and are concerned about honey bee health and the Ohio Beekeeping Industry.

** It is very important to continue the inspection program to stop the spread of American foulbrood, other serious diseases and pests that have been found in Ohio. Monitoring honey bee health within the state assures that crops and wild plants will be sufficiently pollinated. Fruit, vegetable, agricultural and seed crops depend upon pollination to set fruit.
Editor's Note– Challenge for the “Yes”

Terry Lieberman-Smith

After the OSBA Fall Conference in November, a beekeeper came up to me and said “My, aren’t you going to be busy...OSBA VP, Newsletter Editor, on the Board of a few local associations, assistant beekeeping instructor, and Beekeeper of the Year”. Since I didn’t know the person, I wasn’t sure if he was being congratulatory or sarcastic (given his tone of voice), but my response is always the same, nevertheless, an enthusiastic “YES”. Involvement in beekeeping associations is a good thing!

*The tragedy of life is often not in our failure, but rather in our complacency; not in our doing too much, but rather in our doing too little; not in our living above our ability, but rather in our living below our capacities”...Benjamin Mays

The fun part about all these activities is that I get to work with even more beekeepers and educate the non-beekeeping community to the important role that bees and beekeepers have in the larger environmental and food picture. I get to work with committee people developing all types of unique and exciting new projects, develop new educational tools for beekeepers across Ohio and beyond, teach new beekeepers in our local clubs, and of course in the process of all that I get to expand my own skill set. How often do these opportunities come your way?

*I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it....Thomas Jefferson

Get involved. I never thought I was much of a joiner until I began beekeeping. I thought I was more of a solitary beekeeper, but that phase is obviously way behind me now. The more I participate in local associations and OSBA, the more I learn and the more opportunities open up to me to become even more involved in education and outreach. I sometimes forget some of the projects in which I have participated. It wasn’t until I received the Beekeeper of the Year Award that I remembered....well, yes, I did help re-write the 4-H Beekeeping Guide. Someone came to me and said “4-H is dropping beekeeping because the book is out of date and they have no one to update it”. Really? It was “simple enough” to get a few members of GCBA together and we worked with Jane Wright at 4-H, and we re-wrote the manual. At the time I didn’t even realize the far-reaching effects of our group could have on future generations of beekeepers. I just thought it was an interesting project. (By the way, the guide probably needs updating again.....any volunteers?) Why not share some of your expertise with both your local Association and OSBA?

*The highest reward for a man’s toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it....John Ruskin

The old adage of the speed of the leaders is the speed of the team is very true. OSBA is truly picking up steam and forging ahead with new projects, revamping projects, and working on re-establishing strong lines of communication with local associations, state organizations, and developing new communication with neighboring state bee association leadership. Just like our bees, we all need to work together for our mutual benefit.

*Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal....Henry Ford

You don’t have to be an OSBA Regional Director or Representative to be involved in OSBA activities. You can volunteer for any of our committees, post on our Facebook page, submit articles for the newsletter, volunteer at the OSBA tent at the Ohio State Fair. The list only limited by your imagination. If you’d like to get involved but you’re not sure how, just contact me. My e-mail contact information is on the back page of the newsletter... Let’s start a conversation, you and I...about bees, beekeeping, how to improve not only beekeeping on the local level, but also on the state level.

*Your life will be no better than the plans you make and the action you take. You are the architect and builder of your own life, fortune, destiny....Alfred Montapert
In order to get the longest life out of Verona control products, rotation is essential. Mite resistance can develop in a short period of time and that is why it is key to rotate your control materials with products like Apistan®. Rotating on an annual or semi-annual basis with products that have different modes of action will help manage mite resistance. Start your rotation program with Apistan®.

For more information, call 1-800-347-8272 or visit www.centralapiary.com.

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Keeping in Touch — Find a Local Association

Ashtabula County Beekeepers
www.facebook.com/AshtabulaCountyBeekeepersAssociation

Athens County Area Bee evabear@mac.com for information.

Brown County Beekeepers
www.browncountybeekeepersassociation.org

Butler County Beekeepers
www.facebook.com/pages/Butler-County-Beekeepers-Association

Carroll County Beekeepers Assn.
Jean Rainsberger: music7gal@aol.com

Central Ohio Beekeepers
www.centralohiobeekeepers.org

Clinton County Beekeepers
buckleyfarm@yahoo.com

Columbiana & Mahoning County Beekeepers
www.columbianamahoningbeekeepers.webs.com

Coshocton County Beekeepers
www.coshoctonbeekeepers.com/

East Central Beekeepers
www.e-coba.org

Geauga County Beekeepers
www.geaugacountybeekeepers.org

Greater Cleveland Beekeepers
www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com

Greene County Beekeepers
www.gcbeekeepers.com

Guernsey-Noble Beekeepers
Darrell Hopps 740.685.6823

Harrison County Beekeepers
bobhooker2010@gmail.com

Highland County Beekeepers
www.highlandcountybeekeepers.com

Hocking County Beekeepers
hockingcobeepkeepers@yahoo.com

Jefferson County Beekeepers
Contact: catalina2982@aol.com

Knox County Beekeepers
www.knoxbees.com

Lawrence County Beekeepers
reidapiary@bright.net

Lorain County Beekeepers
www.loraincountybeekeepers.org

Maumee Valley Beekeepers
www.facebook.com/pages/Maumee-Valley-Bee-Keepers-Association

Medina County Beekeepers
www.medinabeekeepers.com

Miami Valley Beekeepers
www.mvbeekeepers.org

Mid Ohio Valley Beekeepers
www.angelfire.com/nb/mvbvba/

Morrow County Area Honey Bee
www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Morrow-County-Beekeepers-Association

Northwest Ohio Beekeepers
http://local-nwoba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/

Portage County Beekeepers
www.Portagecountybeekeepers.com

Richland Area Beekeepers
www.richlandareabeekeepers.com

Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers
www.srvbeekeeping.com

Scioto Valley Beekeepers
www.sciotovalleybeekeepers.com

Southwestern Ohio Beekeepers
www.swoba.org

Stark County Beekeepers
www.starkbeekeepers.org

Summit County Beekeepers
www.summitbeekeepers.com

Tri-County Beekeepers
www.tricountybeekeepers.org

Tri-State Beekeepers Assn.
www.tristatebeekeepers.com

Trumbull County Beekeepers
www.trumbullcountybeekeepers.org

Tuscarawas County Beekeepers Club
www.tuscarawascountybeeclub.com

Warren County Beekeepers
www.warrencountybeekeepers.org/

West Central Ohio Beekeepers
www.wcoba.com
Did You Know This About OSBA?

Club Education

In order to better help associations provide this training to beekeepers, OSBA is giving each club their own copy for FREE! That’s right, every beekeeping association in the state of Ohio will have its own "A Web-Based Introductory Beekeeping Training Program" DVD for their association library.

Contact your OSBA Director or Representative to get your associations’ free dvd.

Club Promotion

Does your club want to grow its membership? Promote your meetings and events, for free, on the OSBA website. Just go to www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org and click on the www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/events/community/add/

Its that simple!

Hundreds of people visit the OSBA Tent at the Ohio State Fair. Each year, local associations promote their club and provide beekeeping information at tables in our tent. Why miss out? To find out more about Club and Vendor Table reservation information contact Nina Bagley at: ninabagley@me.com

Do you lack a club in your area? OSBA is compiling a “How to Start a New Association Guide” and it will be available next year. Contact your OSBA Director or Regional Representative for details starting in January 2014.

Beekeeper Education

Our website and Facebook page are loaded with great information for all beekeepers. Videos, Best Management Practices, Newsletters, Classifieds, Recipes….and much more. Visit the sites today!

www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org
https://www.facebook.com/#!/OhioStateBeekeepers

Funding for OSU Honey Bee Research

Honeybee research in Ohio received a financial boost with a donation by OSBA to further studies at The Ohio State University. The contribution will support the continuing research of Reed Johnson, assistant professor of entomology at OSU, and graduate student Doug Sponsler. The OSBA funding will be used for an ongoing study that is comparing the foraging opportunities for honeybees in both rural and urban environments within Ohio. In addition, the OSBA funding will support the work of Eric Percel, an agricultural engineering student, who is developing a mechanical system for improving hive ventilation.

OSBA Phone Number

Yes! OSBA now has an official phone number. 567-703-OSBA (6722). If we’re not near the phone, leave a message and one of our officers will call you back.
### 2014 Ohio State Beekeeper’s Association

#### Officers and Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tim Arheit</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>419.371.1742</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tarheit@honeyrunapiaries.com">tarheit@honeyrunapiaries.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Lieberman-Smith</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>567-703-6722</td>
<td><a href="mailto:osbanewseditor@woh.rr.com">osbanewseditor@woh.rr.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floyd Ostrowski</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:floyd@ostrowski.com">floyd@ostrowski.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Crawford</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>740.477.2393</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ovville@frontier.com">ovville@frontier.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John George</td>
<td>Past—Pres</td>
<td>614.376.3040</td>
<td><a href="mailto:johngeorge706@gmail.com">johngeorge706@gmail.com</a></td>
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<th>REGION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connie Schalinske</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>614.237.0973</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drexe3@columbus.rr.com">drexe3@columbus.rr.com</a></td>
<td>Heart of Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Zomchek</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>513.524.9663</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ohiohoney@woh.rr.com">ohiohoney@woh.rr.com</a></td>
<td>Miami Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Lovett</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>740.418.4390</td>
<td><a href="mailto:calovett@gmail.com">calovett@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Ohio Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Willison</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>740.892.4290</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jblackburn001@insight.rr.com">jblackburn001@insight.rr.com</a></td>
<td>Heart of Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwight Wilson</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>419.722.1953</td>
<td><a href="mailto:djwilson@aol.com">djwilson@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Ohio Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Kovalsksi</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>740.632.7500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:josephkovalesski@sbcglobal.net">josephkovalesski@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td>Maumee Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Hammett</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>740.678.1312</td>
<td><a href="mailto:samjohammett@frontier.com">samjohammett@frontier.com</a></td>
<td>Buckeye Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Rathbun</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>419.603.1749</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tmr7212@yahoo.com">tmr7212@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Erie Basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Manley</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>740.644.2277</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ramciw@aol.com">ramciw@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Western Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwight Wells</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dwells85@woh.rr.com">dwells85@woh.rr.com</a></td>
<td>Top of Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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#### Staff Appointments:

- Terry Lieberman-Smith: Newsletter Editor [osbanewseditor@woh.rr.com](mailto:osbanewseditor@woh.rr.com)

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**Ohio State Beekeepers Association 2014 Membership Form**

Ohio State Beekeepers Association is a non-profit organization supporting people who have an interest in honeybees and beekeeping. You do not need to be a beekeeper or live in Ohio to join OSBA. Membership includes on-going activities of the association to promote honeybees and beekeeping, voting in annual elections, discounts on publications, and an annual subscription to *Ohio Beekeeping*.

For new memberships and renewals, send checks payable to OSBA with this completed form to:

Floyd Ostrowski, OSBA Secretary  
3321 Buckhaven Dr.  
Richfield, OH 44286

**Name:** ____________________________  
**Address:** ____________________________  
**City:** __________________  
**State:** ___  
**Zip:** __________  
**County:** ____________________________  
**Phone:** (___) ______-__________  
**Email Address (Print neatly):** ____________________________

Name of Local Bee Association: ____________________________

- [ ] $15.00 Senior (age 60 or over)/student membership for 1 year  
- [ ] $20.00 Individual membership for 1 year  
- [ ] $25.00 Family membership for 1 year  
- [ ] $200.00 Lifetime membership (individual or family)  
- [ ] I want to receive the newsletter by email only (no hardcopy)

I would also like to donate [ ] $5  
[ ] $10  
[ ] $20  
[ ] $_________ to support 4H and honey bee research

Membership is based on the calendar year, January through December
Across:
3. What the worker bees in the hive regulate with their bodies BC 7/22
8. Exciting educational facility at UI ABJ 4/371
9. Activity that is not welcome in the apiary BC 1/59
10. An electronic method to promote your business BC 7/79
12. Fraudulent versions of this “healthy” honey BC 10/72
13. Program that will create better informed club members BC 5/77
16. A great assistance in moving bees ABJ 5/481
17. A way to become a better beekeeper ABJ 8/859
18. Topic of Randy Oliver’s series for ABJ
19. Another business tactic ABJ 11/1177
21. What you need to create to bring in more money ABJ 5/485 & 501
24. Topic of Toni Burnham’s popular column in Bee Culture
27. Multiple Mating Behavior ABJ 2/147
28. What comes around on the ides of April ABJ 1/53
30. Ross Conrad’s 10 important factors for this decision BC 2/37
31. One way to expand your business BC 9/72
32. A product to add income to your business ABJ 9/975

Down:
1. Myths about this natural occurrence in honey ABJ 4/405
2. How one beekeeper adds to his apiary ABJ 8/823
4. Unique place to plant for pollinators ABJ 9/957
5. “Ask” Columnist in Bee Culture
6. Stretch your business sales with this ABJ 10/1067
7. What type of comb should be replaced ABJ 3/273
11. The proper caring for these at club meetings BC 2/51
14. Popular spring blossom for bees BC 5/70
15. Tips for buyers of this type of colony starter BC 4/59
20. The Classroom Columnist who will be guest speaker at OSBA Spring Conference
22. Ed Simon’s how-to October project of the month BC 10/64
23. Structure in which to overwinter bees? BC 9/46
25. How-tos for delicious value-added product BC 8/49
26. Planning tips for what type of club activity BC 4/65