The Official Newsletter of the Ohio State Beekeepers Association, Inc.

October 2020

Volume 9, Issue 4

Hunny
by Michael Pasquale

Best Practices Change Over Time
by Ron Zickefoose

Improving Your Club’s Web Presence
by Jeannie Saum

2020 American Honey Queen & Princess Report
by Honey Queen & Princess

Varroa Mite Management from a Difference Perspective
by Barb Bloetscher

For All Buzzkind
by Aimee Crane

OSBA Fall Conference - Saturday, November 7th

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Cover Photo

Would you like to contribute your photos to the newsletter? If so, please send high resolution or RAW photos, add the camera settings. Credits will given. Send photos to editor@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

October Cover Photo

Credit to: Aimee Crane

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Quarterly Donations to OSBA
Your support is important to help OSBA provide education, outreach, services, and programs to our members and the Ohio community. Your support is greatly appreciated. “Thank You”

David Listerman    Dorothy Ray
George Andrews     Scott Cohen

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 $200. You never have to worry about paying again!

Lisa Hull     Charles Travis
Harold Keiner   Clay E. Ottoni

We have had two Zoom Round Table Discussions. The conversations have been terrific with great feedback from those that have attended. We are planning another event on November 14 to help assist Ohio beekeepers, clubs & associations. There will be more discussions on technical support and team building. Check out our Facebook page for the upcoming event and come add your input. If you have any ideas, thoughts, or programs that you would like to see in upcoming events, please feel free to email: president@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

E-mail Conversions
We would like to personally thank everyone that made the conversion from printed newsletter to email delivery. In January, we have gone from 350 down to 278 mailed subscriptions to date. If you wish to convert to the electronic issues, please contact Kelly Morse newsletter@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

*Receive it faster than snail mail.
*Allows funds to go to other programs.
*You see everything in full color.

*Better use of your membership dues.
*Hyperlinks to vendors & websites.
*Conservation & saving the trees.

2021 Quarterly Newsletter Deadline
The deadline for the January Edition is December 1st. Please send in your information photos, articles, and club reports. We look forward to your participation and support!
Letter from the Editor

This is the final quarterly newsletter for the 2020 season. I can’t believe this year is almost over. I’m proud of the newsletter colony that has helped put this entire thing together. Like a proverbial phrase: “The few colony workers make light tasks for all.”

Everyone in the colony of “Ohio State Beekeepers” have something to bring to the table; talents, skills, trades, or hobby. These “talents” that originally started this great organization through years of time to the current day board, everyone has something to contribute to assist or help this organization grow. I’m only going to state my opinion and just what I know. I’ve been a beekeeper for just over 10+ years and I’ve excelled in this hobby that I love everyday. I put my skill set forward to help not just my own association, but anyone who asks. This has brought you this “new style” newsletter, Live Webinar, Hive Digest and other educational items, but I’m only one worker bee in this colony. I stink at spelling, am not politically correct, hate to sleep, and don’t know when to say “no”. Working together, we can create anything imaginable & doable with well laid plans.

Looking from the outside, anyone can say “wish they would do this, plan that, or moving forward”. It only takes one step forward to step-up and volunteer. Take five minutes to visit the OSBA website, view the OSBA Committees and look at everything that is currently being done. At an OSBA Round Table event, a gentleman made comments about the 4-H handbook. I explained what we were wanting to do and now he is stepping up to volunteer to help update this. He is not part of the OSBA Board or Committee, he just has a desire to make something better for the next generation of beekeepers. Don’t just sit in the backseat and complain about the driving, criticize the way it speds up, slows down, or which way it turns. You can volunteer and bring your talents to help kick things up.

Thank you to everyone that sent in recipes, took photos, wrote articles, put together club/association reports, proof read, and put in the countless hours of volunteer time to accomplish these things. We are not a global magazine or New York Times, but we are a terrific group of beekeepers that assist each other. As each of you know, everyone loves to see their stuff premiered, so others can see it. It’s called “being in the limelight” and everyone deserves their time to SHINE!

*Disclaimer - I will welcome anyone’s articles, photos, information, and feedback about OSBA or beekeeping topics. The only thing that would be changed is the spelling or grammar errors, checked by the “proofing team” but the message would not change. Take an hour to contribute now!

LIVE WEBINAR TRAINING

We created a new web page that has all of the information you asked for. Go visit www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/live-webinar-training/ or click on "Training Events" and scroll down to Live Webinar Training.

You will find: upcoming speakers for all dates through Dec. 13, directions on how to register for live events, directions on how to join the presentations, webinar etiquette, technical support and YouTube links to past presentations.

In return, we would like to ask for your input. What type of speakers & presentations would you like to see in the future? Please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WTDLB9J to take a 2-minute survey. Thank you in advance...
As I write this President's Corner - fall is here and the faint aroma of Goldenrod honey fills my apiary. The war on yellow jackets rages on and I'm hoping the smaller hives have a chance to survive the carnage. The long, hot dearth in Ohio has made life in the apiary difficult on many levels. Lack of pollen and nectar have made many a beekeeper think their hive was queenless only to add a bit of pollen patty and have a small syrup jar to their surprise, larvae appear and flourish.

I've been busy with Round Tables, weekly Fall Conference/Annual Meeting Planning meetings. The Zoom platform Conference is shaping up nicely. Speakers, videos and vendor ads are almost complete now so continue to visit the OSBA webpage and FaceBook posts for more information. The day-long “FREE” event will offer you opportunity to online vote for OSBA Officers and Directors. If you can't make the Conference - absentee ballots have been mailed and available online to complete and mail in.

Nominations are being accepted for Vice-President and Secretary in the Officer section and there are three (3) Director positions up for election. You can locate the duties and responsibilities of each position on the OSBA website. Please consider nominating someone from your club or association that would be willing to volunteer their time to make OSBA successful!

As I end my writing here, please keep our fellow beekeepers out west in your thoughts and prayers as they battle wildfires and try to save their homes and bees! It's a difficult time we all are facing.

OSBA Underserved Grant

The OSBA Board has approved funding for 5 underserved grants to be awarded in 2021. This grant provides a library of 10 beekeeping books, a year’s subscription to both national beekeeping magazines, along with an OSBA subscription to the newsletter. Grants will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you know of an underserved group who needs educational materials to assist their beekeeping needs, contact OSBA Treasurer, for details and the grant application: treasurer@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

Join Ohio State Beekeepers Association

You can renew your membership when you register for the OSBA Fall Conference to make it even easier. Memberships: Individual - $20.00, Family - $25.00, Lifetime - $200.00, Student - $15.00, or Senior - $15.00 per year 2020 - 2021. This helps support activities and projects that benefit our beekeeping community. 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 honey bees and beekeeping, voting in annual elections, discounts on publications, and an annual subscription to this newsletter. See page 66 for the membership registration form or join online at http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/?s=membership
The year 1995: “Drawn comb is priceless,” the old beekeeper said, showing me a sturdy black comb from a hive. Another confirmed with “Drawn comb is one of the most valuable assets in the bee hive: in fact I bought out another beekeeper simply to get comb.”

There are indeed some advantages to having old drawn comb in your apiary: They stand up to the extractor with out fail. If you drop one you'll probably still have a viable comb. If you're a small cell advocate the cells are most certainly smaller on brood comb due to the number of silk cocoons's left behind from several seasons of brood.

Fast forward 25 years: “You probably need to burn those combs.” The respected beekeeper said, showing me a sturdy black comb from a hive.

Our understanding has changed.

I'd be willing to go out on a limb and say that the comb, next to the bees themselves is the most important part of this superorganism we call a honey bee colony. The comb is the skeleton and kidneys and liver of the organism as its very nature is to attract and trap impurities in the system. Recent studies indicate that old comb can lead to queen failures, sick brood, and colony losses. A study by the University of Georgia stated that “On average, colonies with new comb produced a greater area of brood, a greater area of sealed brood, and higher weight of individual young bees.” (Berry, 2001)

Comb rotation is a new best practice. So what is comb rotation and how do we manage it effectively? Comb rotation is the regular replacement of old comb with fresh foundation. Chris Merkle a Wayne county beekeeper showed me how he writes the year on the top bar of each frame as it goes into the hive. He then has instant information about the age of that comb as it progresses through its life in the apiary. Best practice is the cull 1/3 to 1/5 of the comb in the apiary each year so that the entire apiary is rejuvenated every 3 to 5 years.

The question then becomes “can I save the old frames?”

Cleaning old frames is somewhat labor intensive, as after scraping the wax (plastic foundation), you need re-wax (or re-wire) and change the date on the top bar. Each bee keeper will have to determine what their time is worth and how much they enjoy the process of cleaning up old frames versus the pain of opening their wallet for new frames.

As beekeepers we are constantly adapting to our environment by paying attention to the weather, the nectar sources etc. So it is only natural that when we get new information regarding how we think this little creation operates, we change our practices in their management.
OSBA Announcements

With everything changing around us, we are working on adapting to continue to carry out the mission of OSBA, keeping members first and bringing you the best educational opportunities available.

1. We want clubs/associations to participate in the Fall Conference with their club logo. If you have not sent Nina Bagley your club logo, please do it ASAP. We want everyone represented, as you can see in the sample below. We want to help link area directors & representatives with their area clubs/associations. When sending in your logo, please give us the region, city, and area that you represent. Thank you in advance!

2. Get Involved Today! There are currently 2 open positions for OSBA Executive Board - Vice President, and Secretary, and 3 open positions for OSBA Regional Directors (Buckeye Hills, Crossroads, Western Reserve). That’s 6 opportunities for you to step-up to represent your region’s beekeepers, clubs and associations on the Board of OSBA. At anytime, you’re welcome to join OSBA committees and you do not have to be an OSBA Board member to help. You just have to have a passion to volunteer! We will help provide the technical assistance. Please visit the website at: http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/osba-committees/

3. Starting in 2021, the OSBA Quarterly Newsletter will only be sent to paid & lifetime members. Our current list shows over 7,800 members when there are just 1,200 paid & life members. We will be changing our policy to add value to anyone becoming a paid or life member. This will also extend to our archived issues which will be protected with password or user login information. The OSBA Board will be discussing more ideas this fall.

4. Heading into fall, the OSBA Board Members will be meeting in early December to work on the 2021 programs and schedule. Here are a few items we are working on:
   a. Educational classes for Gsuite (excel, word, powerpoint, Google drive, etc.)
   b. The OSBA website - putting together a resource page for all paid members/affiliates.
   c. Education for programs: Survey Monkey, Zoom, YouTube, and Email
   d. OSBA Directors/Representative doing outreach directly to their regions
   e. Scheduling more Round Table Discussions - discussions, feedback, and mini educational classes
   f. Memberships - value added benefits of being an OSBA member.
   g. Streamlining - internal/external communications for OSBA Board, Directors, & Representatives

Contact President Peggy Garnes for nomination forms president@ohiostatebeekeepers.org or pgarnes001@gmail.com
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Varroa Mite Management from a Different Perspective

by Barb Bloetscher

Years ago, I adopted a stray dog, who was very sweet but had been neglected. He was fairly large (65 lbs) and an extremely furry mixture of sheepdog with a beard, whom I named Gibbons (Gibby). The vet treated him for ear mites, fleas, intestinal worms and put him on a good diet. He seemed to be healthy and happy.

After four months though his energy slowed and he coughed a lot. As his lethargy increased, he lost his appetite and was losing weight, even though his stomach seemed swollen. A trip to the vet revealed the horrifying sad truth - Gibby had heartworms!

The veterinarian explained that heartworms live in the heart, lungs and arteries of related organs in dogs, cats and other animals; causing lung disease, heart failure and damage to the kidneys and liver. Up to a hundred heartworms can invade the tissue of an animal causing a great deal of damage. Adult heartworms are a foot long and cannot be killed easily: the preventive products do not affect them. Long term damage cannot be repaired: thus the patient's long-term health is compromised.

A second test for confirmation and a three-month quarantine period was started followed by a series of treatments, all of which was very expensive. Gibby had to stay in his crate for months during, therapy but the damage was done while he was running loose. It was time to let him sleep.

Although losing my furry buddy was extremely painful to me and him, the greatest sorrow was knowing that a simple monthly heartworm pill could have eliminated all Gibby's suffering. For $100 for a year's supply of preventive tablets, Gibby would have been protected from this destructive parasite instead of spending thousands of dollars only to lose him anyhow.

This same philosophy is true for maintaining a low varroa mite population in your honey bee colonies. Not treating for mites or not treating adequately, causes permanent damage to the affected pupae and the adults. Varroa mites chew and impair the fat bodies of honey bee pupae which reduces the bees' ability to finish their metamorphosis; maintain moisture balance; break down chemicals; and produce amino acids which are vital for protein production, as well as other important functions. Secondary effects include visible wing damage from Deformed Wing Virus as well as weakness and a reduced life span from the other 20 honey bee viruses which are transmitted by varroa; immune system weakening which help viruses to grow: susceptibility to other pathogens; Small Hive Beetle (SHB) attacks; and much more, as sick bees are taken over.

By sampling and treating for varroa, you are not just treating the one bee you see with a mite on its back: you are treating a colony (herd) of animals which are sick. As the colony loses individuals, its ability to function declines rapidly. A package of bees costs $120-160, a nucleus colony (nuc) costs even more and if a full colony dies, you just lost $300.00. Add the time, effort and sugar syrup required to build a new colony on foundation (never install package bees on drawn comb due to the bacteria which they may be bringing with them) instead of splitting established colonies and suddenly the cost and trouble involved is not worth any money saved as the colony manager who did not providing mite treatment.

Monitoring the varroa mite, especially from August through mid-October (if temperatures permit), is especially important. Winter bees need to be “fat” and healthy to survive until spring. Treating without monitoring mite levels before and after may give beekeepers a false sense of success while possibly treating the bees unnecessarily. Sick winter bees cannot survive three to four months as they normally should. As the size of the colony shrinks, the cluster is not able to keep the brood warm or find food stores.
Ben Franklin's expression “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” is true when it comes to preventive health of our family, pets and honey bee colonies. Spending the time to maintain honey bee health avoids the stress and disease caused by varroa mites, as well as preventing lost income from starting over and missing the honey crop. It also prevents your colonies from infecting every honey bee colony in your area. Keep an eye on your colonies and sample. Treat with a recommended product if necessary, follow label directions, then sample again to see if the treatment worked, to enable them to survive the winter and flourish next year.

A Great resource is the 'Tools for Varroa Management Guide' provided by the Honey Bee Health Coalition which can be found at: [https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/](https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/).

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Tuesday & Thursday 12 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday 8 am - 12 pm

[www.boslersbstuff.com](http://www.boslersbstuff.com)
If you would like to receive the monthly Training News at the end of each month, you're welcome to sign-up with your email at http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/contact-us/join-our-mailing-list/. You will receive that next month's speakers with detailed information and an active link to register, with 1-click.

OSBA is in search of speakers & presentations for the 2021 schedule that you have requested from the survey feedback. If you would, please take 2 min. to fill out the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WTDLB9J. We appreciate your participation. If you have questions, feedback, or any questions, contact me at editor@ohiostatebeekeepers.org. Thank You.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Shopping at your neighborhood Kroger while donating to OSBA - food for you means funds for the beekeeping community! OSBA is part of the rewards program. When you register your Kroger Plus Card, each time you shop for groceries and use your Kroger Plus Card, OSBA automatically earns a Kroger Rewards donation. https://www.kroger.com/topic/community-rewards-9 Type in “Ohio State Beekeepers” when it asks the donation group and designate OSBA as your recipient of Kroger Community Rewards.
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Yet, after all these years there’s still no quit in us. We pour our heart and soul into it, it’s our livelihood and we wouldn’t want it any other way.

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What is the OSBA Affiliate Program?

OSBA understands the issues facing local associations here in Ohio. The resource demands, financial limitations, volunteer time and effort, etc. needed to run a successful association continue to increase. Protecting officers and club members with appropriate insurance, completing paperwork and financial statements and effectively communicating information in a timely fashion can all take time away from planning and conducting informational and fun association meetings. The OSBA Affiliate Program can help fulfill many of these demands, lessening the burden on local clubs and giving club leadership more time to spend on programs and activities. 

**vicepresident@ohiostatebeekeepers.org** or **treasurer@ohiostatebeekeepers.org**

Benefits include:
- 501c3 status under the OSBA umbrella
- Access to discounted club insurance – Liability and Director/Officer insurance
- Website hosting and assistance with website setup
- Reduction in yearly tax filing paperwork
- Non-profit status through the OSBA group exemption
- Annual reports to the IRS and Ohio Attorney General
- Directors and Officers Insurance for your Board
- Monthly OSBA Affiliate Newsletter
- OSBA Pollinator Oasis Seed packet fundraiser
- Tech Soup membership (discounted software for club)
- Discounted OSBA Traveling Speaker fees
- Affiliate club discounts to special OSBA workshops

### Current Affiliate Clubs
- Black Swamp Beekeepers
- Fairfield County Beekeepers
- Geauga County Beekeepers
- Greater Grand Lake Beekeepers
- Greene County Beekeepers
- Guernsey Noble Beekeepers
- Harrison County Beekeepers
- Lake County Beekeepers
- Maumee Valley Beekeepers
- Medina County Beekeepers
- Miami Valley Beekeepers
- Northwest Ohio Beekeepers
- Pollinator Sanctuary and Training Facility of Defiance County
- Portage County Beekeepers
- Richland Area Beekeepers
- Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers
- Scioto Valley Beekeepers
- Trumbull County Beekeepers
- Tuscarawas County Beekeepers
- Warren County Ohio Beekeepers

In the USA, most women who did any bee work assisted their husbands, but in the 1880s Mrs. Harrison of Illinois was herself a large scale beekeeper. And in 1882 she published details of her bee dress. In 1879 Moses Quinby of New York State had written about women's protective clothing because women were becoming more and more interested in practical bee-keeping. He believed that clinging skirts were quite out of place in the apiary, and that every woman who wishes to work among the bees should wear a dress suitably short ....Drawers made of the same material ....Tolerably wide, gathered on a band at the bottom and buttoned tight about the ankle.
Let us help you design your labels and market your honey!

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Maumee Valley Beekeepers

The Maumee Valley Beekeepers have been busy in the new year. We have had guest speakers at our monthly meetings including beekeeper Andrew Carlin who talked about marketing honey and value added products; Julie Shapiro, talked about environmental concerns; and our own member Therese Hoehn and her husband Andrew who talked about their experience with an anaphylactic reaction to honeybee stings. We have completed our new beekeepers' classes with 20 new beekeepers graduating. We spent a Saturday talking bees and beekeeping at the Toledo Grows Seed Swap. We also donated some funds to help rebuild the greenhouse at Wildwood Environmental Academy where we hold our meetings. The old greenhouse and all supplies were lost due to an arson fire. Pictured is greenhouse coordinator, Katie Mantel, accepting a check from MVB president, Roger Myers. [www.facebook.com/pages/Maumee-Valley-Beekeepers-Association](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Maumee-Valley-Beekeepers-Association)

BG Bee Group

We typically meet the 3rd Thursday of each month, at the Wood County District Office, 18729 Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH 43402, from 5:30-7:30pm. For additional information contact Mike Soboleski at 419-494-2226 or email: [sobeehoney@gmail.com](mailto:sobeehoney@gmail.com)

Black Swamp Beekeepers Association

Black Swamp Swarm has not met in person since our last meeting in February, so we have taken to the digital format of Zoom meetings. For our regular meetings, we have had great presentations from Peggy Garnes on “Over Wintering Nucs; Dave Noble, who shared best practices on “Finding the Queen”; Jamie Walters, who presented a PowerPoint on “Trap-Outs, Tear-Outs, and Recoveries” and “Fall Preparation in the Apiary”. We will be taking nominations for the November elections using Survey Monkey to take the vote. We have had a couple of Executive meetings on updating our by-laws and conditions about meeting in-person.

Since we can not meet at the Defiance Extension Office or Defiance Health Department conference rooms. Andrew Carlin had a wonderful idea about meeting in smaller groups for coffee on Saturday mornings at some of the area coffee/breakfast shops. This is similiar to Sandusky Beekeepers parking lot meetings. Any one can post one of these meetings in the Black Swamp Beekeepers Association Mentors - Facebook. You are welcome to post your own meeting time/location for anywhere you want to meet. There are no RSVP’s, just come if you can. Hope to see you all soon! You're welcome to check out our Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/Black-Swamp-Beekeepers-Association](http://www.facebook.com/Black-Swamp-Beekeepers-Association)

Pollinator Sanctuary & Training Facility of Defiance County

We are getting ready for fall with a herbicide spray just after the first heavy frost, too any vegetation and invasives. In the early Spring, we will be broadcasting (OPHI) Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative pollinator seed mix within the freeze/thaw cycle, to naturally set the seed and give it the best survival rate. Once things begin to grow, we will monitor by hand pulling/spot spraying invasive weeds. In April, we will be planting larger specimen trees to help get a jumpstart so the deer don’t destroy them. We have not had any meetings or group demonstrations, but you are welcome to come out to the Pollinator Sanctuary anytime. Another season behind us at the Pollinator Sanctuary & Training Facility of Defiance County

Northwest Ohio Beekeepers Association

We have not had the opportunity to get together since the virus began. Due to having the meetings at the Pandora High School, we will be holding our October and November meetings through Zoom webinar software. Please look for the club newsletter coming out soon. [www.facebook.com/NorthwestOhioBeekeepers](http://www.facebook.com/NorthwestOhioBeekeepers)
Erie Basin

Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers

Despite having no meetings due to the Covid virus, we have been trying to stay in touch with our members. We are giving assistance to new and old beekeepers by answering member questions through email, phone, texts and providing educational articles in the newsletter with “In The Hive” that is geared to what is happening in the hives each month.

In June we had a Zoom meeting with Jeannie Saum from Beepothecary, who gave an excellent presentation about how to use hive products to make salves, tinctures and other useful health products. We had a lot of good questions at the end that she was happy to answer.

In August we had a Zoom meeting featuring Jamie Walters of the OSBA Traveling Speaker Program. He spoke about “Successful Overwintering” of bees. It was very well attended and helpful. He fielded some great questions at the end and everyone left with a better understanding of what it takes to get bees through winter.

Our Board continues to meet (outdoors and social distanced) each Friday to discuss how to move forward and keep members updated and informed. We also welcome any member who wishes to join us!

http://srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/

Richland Area Beekeepers

http://raba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/

Black Fork Bee Club

blackforkbeclub@gmail.com

North Central Ohio Beekeepers Association

https://www.facebook.com/groups/242848549962653/

Western Reserve

Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association

The Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association has shifted its course to online webinars. We have been hosting a webinar series every other Saturday at 10 A.M. titled “Ask a Beekeeper.”

Planning is underway for the 2021 Pollinator Symposium. The virtual component of the event will start in February. More details to come. The Pollinator Symposium is a joint effort between Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association, Ashtabula County Master Gardeners, Ashtabula Soil and Water Conservation District and Ohio State - Ashtabula County Extension.

Those interested in either event should email sjriccio@yahoo.com to be put on the clubs e-mail notification list. You don’t need to be a member to participate. www.facebook.com/AshtabulaCountyBeekeepersAssoc/

Greater Cleveland Beekeepers

Greater Cleveland Beekeepers, as with a lot of organizations, has had to be a bit patient and inventive this year. On a bright note, we have had the opportunity to do live-feed from an area beekeeper’s yard, do mite treatments and inspections. A type of “On the Road Show” if you will! ~continued next page
Continued - Greater Cleveland Beekeepers

Last month we included honey harvesting, fume board usage and a short segment on bottling. All of these can be seen on our Facebook page and website. We have great hope for October, November, and December with resuming some actual in-person meetings, dinners and fun. A great team of volunteers and a talented webmaster make all the difference in the world in times such as these. Get ready for winter and be prepared.  
www.greaterclevelandbeekeepers.com

Geauga County Beekeepers

The Geauga County Beekeepers meetings and bee chats are listed on our website, Geaugacountybeekeepers.org. No indoor meetings are planned but we have been keeping busy planning zoom meetings and having people give talks from their homemade YouTube videos. Gene McCune did a video about how to make creamed honey using the Albert Dyce Method. The process is a little involved but by, following it exactly, you can achieve excellent results. This can also expand your honey sales as creamed honey usually sells for more than regular honey. Gene used a Lyson 5OL honey creamer from Blue Sky honey supply. This machine is easy to use and produces excellent creamed honey. Trish Harness also gave a talk about "Preparing Bees for Winter - in August". This can be seen on YouTube under the name of "Chickabuzz". It was very informative especially her explanation of how mites can reproduce as the bee population goes down and the importance of dealing with the mites now and maybe later in the year (Oct.- Nov.) This can help to keep the bees healthier in the long run and more able to get through winter.

Our Great Geauga Fair was canceled by the governor, which was a great disappointment to all of those planning the fair and the fact it is the longest running fair in Ohio - since 1823, their 195th year. They will still have 4H contests for kids shows and demonstrations. The bee club was going to have a passive exhibit titled "What Does it Take to Become a Beekeeper". It would have shown a step by step approach and the money involved to become a beekeeper. The booth would not have to be manned and it could have been enjoyed by many people. Maybe next year.

Looking forward, we have updated our by-laws and need a quorum to have them read and passed. So far our zoom meetings are down by about 60-70 percent of our regular meeting size of 30-40 people or about 10 people are showing up for our zoom meetings. We are looking into having an open air meeting on September 26 and an activity like making something, such as a sugar board to help the bees during the winter. For our October 22 meeting 7 pm, we will be having Vera Strogolova from Strong Microbials talk to our club during a Zoom meeting. She will be talking about how you can use a probiotic supplement that helps to keep bee gut microbes in balance. We may also have a November meeting and we are looking into next year's meeting dates and subjects for upcoming meetings. We are asking for members to send in their ideas for our meetings to Trish Harness (Look at our website for more information). Finally we are scheduled to have elections for president and secretary. People interested in running for a position should contact Dale Olson.

Many beekeepers are saying this is turning out to be a banner year for honey. They are pulling off 30 - 60lbs. of honey per hive and are hoping for a continued good fall from goldenrod and aster honey in September. They are also treating the bees with Formic Pro which costs about $7 per treatment and lasts for 10 days. It’s much cheaper to treat now than have your hives die in the winter and have to spend $130 per new package of bees. www.geaugacountybeekeepers.org
Lorine County Beekeepers Association

LCBA's summer has been filled with lots of activity. Our Michael Gallagher Memorial Beeyard is undergoing a large landscaping project, including perennial plants, shrubbery and limestone work. We are promoting the Lorain County Junior Fair 2020 and working towards our fair theme, "Alice in Honeyland," for 2021. Bee City has been our goal since January 2020 and as you can see from the article below, it is a proud moment for a century old beekeeping organization. We were honored to reach this goal. Enjoy the article by Jason Hawk at (440) 329-7122 or news@lcnewspapers.com.

The village is now officially a Bee City USA, one of six communities to earn the designation in Ohio and 113 nationwide."We truly don't know what a world without honeybees looks like, and we don't want to," Sheila St. Clair of the Lorain County Beekeepers Association said. "Every steak you eat, every vegetable you eat, every glass of milk you drink, comes to your table through bee pollination in one way or another." Honeybees produce more than 260 million pounds of honey and 5 million pounds of beeswax each year in the United States, according to the Oregon-based Xerces Society, which runs the Bee City USA program.

Their far more important role is pollinating more than 60 crops we rely on, from apples and lima beans to pumpkins and pears. They contribute nearly $20 billion to the value of U.S. crop production. The Xerces Society says crop yield and quality suffer when there are fewer bees around, and each year farmers are relied on to feed more people with less land. The problem is "The Four P's" that affect bee health - pathogens, pests, poor nutrition and pesticides. Pesticides are the biggest threat. Bees face the possibility of extinction unless people come to their rescue, St. Clair said. She said that before pesticides were widely used, "it was a time of paradise. But today with all the pesticide and all the agricultural land disappearing, it is a horrible time for honeybees."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says it tracks the number of American bee colonies every five years, and found that since 1969 they've risen from 1.42 million colonies to 2.88 million. Colonies hit a record high 3.28 million in 2012, and fell off by 12 percent as of the most recent data in 2017. They're also facing colony collapse, which as of March 2020, had caused massive losses, the USDA reports. The disorder is characterized by rapid loss of honeybee population despite the presence of a queen, young workers and a good food supply. The Lorain County Beekeepers Association wants to do everything it can to revitalize the population. "If we don't take care of honeybees that are now in standardized boxes for the most part... we won't have bees at all," St. Clair said.

Her group wants to see pollinator-friendly gardens throughout the county, including at the Lorain County Fairgrounds. Beekeepers have talked with village officials about planting gardens in Wellington, but those discussions have been shelved during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Getting the word out is proving tough this summer", said St. Clair, who has been educating the public about bees for 50 years.

The virus led to the cancellation of the Lorain County Senior Fair, where the LCBA has set up shop with a hive, information and flavored honey sales for years. It also canceled Wellington's Fourth of July parade, where beekeepers wanted to march with a giant inflatable bee to get their message out."We always showcase honey bees, and are trying to continually get information out to people about their yards and pesticides," St. Clair said. ~continued on next page
Continued - Lorain County Beekeepers Association

“If you want to help honeybees”, she said “there are a few easy steps you can take”. St. Clair said to be careful with the treatment you use on your lawn, consider planting clover and dandelions and set up a birdbath, which can attract "the right kind of insects."

And if you want to become a beekeeper, the association is ready to help you learn. Visit www.loraincountybeekeepers.org for information - “But be prepared to work hard and spend a lot of cash”, said St. Clair. She said beekeeping is "a game of chess, not checkers" and takes five years to properly get set up.

Wellington has risen to the challenge. It's home to more beekeepers than any other community in Lorain County, St. Clair has noted. Of the 165 beehives in the county, 55 are in Wellington. There are 45,000 bee colonies in Ohio: 9,300 apiaries and 310 beekeepers in Lorain County, according to the ODA.

Summit Beekeepers

Summit County has had an amazing run of Zoom presentations the past few months. We learned about OTS (On The Spot) queen rearing from John Schwartz. He spoke about killing your queens and breeding new ones, post Summer solstice. The benefits would be for new queens to survive the upcoming winter and eliminate the chance of swarming in early Spring. We enjoyed a fascinating meeting featuring Barb Bloetscher, discussing the State of Ohio Apiary findings and other things to watch out for. Another highlight was her husband, Jerry Hayes, who discussed the challenges of Nosema. He explained in layman’s terms how to diagnose and treat for this disease. Everyone is looking forward to the fall honey flow and getting our girls ready for the imminent threat of coldness coming around the corner! www.summitbeekeepers.com

Portage County Beekeepers

The Portage Beekeepers Board continues to reach out to the members to provide whatever assistance we can remotely and continue to hold "Zoom" meetings at our regularly scheduled meetings. In July we were proud to host Kim Flottum as he discussed all things related to honey.

Our September meeting will hosting two speakers and topics. State Apiarist, Barb Bloetscher, will be discussing "Testing for Varroa and the Apiary Inspection Program". After that presentation, Tracy Alarcon, current President, past OSBA rep, and past County Inspector, will be discussing "Winter - Now Until April".

We held a fund raising event lead by director Maggie Loughney in conjunction with Portage Soil and Water where we offered "Bee Plants" for sale, so where anyone and everyone can help provide forage for our bees.

We continue working to find ways of dealing with Covid-19 restrictions. We all miss the typical in-person conversations with members, great food, in-person hive inspection, and open doors to the public.

We have had a solid core of members participating during these challenging times and will continue to offer all we can to help support the beekeepers in Portage County. We look forward to getting through this challenging time. https://sites.google.com/site/portagecountybeekeepers/
Medina Beekeepers
Medina has learned to Zoom! We have reached out to speakers Randy Oliver, Dr. Larry Connor and Dr. Jamie Ellis to Zoom in for September, October and November meetings and will share their presentations with other local clubs. By Zooming this way, MCBA can respect the time of the presenter and spread the knowledge with other beekeeping clubs. So far, this has been successful! This should be an exciting fall, in spite of the virus restrictions...

Before Zoom, we used Office 365 with Power Points presented online and that helped us complete our beginner classes - Thoughts for next year's classes are swirling like a swarm. Looks like planning for virtual classes will be in order for the early spring classes.

MCBA had a small "test" gathering for the Nuc Group, followed Covid protocol and the meeting went well. We met outdoors, wore masks and kept social distancing as best we could. Queen cells went home with the participants and some success was achieved. We are planning to have a follow-up outdoor meeting soon and invite a few more beekeepers. www.medinabeekeepers.org

Top of Ohio

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association
Miami Valley Beekeepers Association and its members have had a busy quarter with swarms, Zoom meetings, club apiary updates, along with a lively Facebook page and informative newsletter. As in past years, the monthly meeting was on hiatus in August, but meetings will resume with a robust schedule for the remainder of the year. Visit the club at: www.mvbeekeepers.org

West Central Ohio Beekeepers
With the issues of Coronavirus, West Central Ohio Beekeepers Association has not held in-person meetings since February. We are going to start holding Zoom Virtual Bee Meetings (ZVBM) starting in September. Using the power of Zoom, beekeepers outside of our club who collaborate on different projects with us will be able to attend our virtual meetings.

West Central Ohio Beekeepers Association Members have been busy mentoring less experienced beekeepers this spring and summer. Bee yard On The Job Training (OJT) has been very helpful for the less experienced beekeepers. We use masks and distance spacing where and when required.

Our members trap feral honey bee swarms or buy nucs that are feral honey bees. This year our new beekeepers were trained on the science of swarm trapping with great success. We caught over 100 feral swarms which will be tested for mite loads and mite biting behaviors, then treat if required. WCOBA will overwinter several of the swarms in five frame and eight frame systems to monitor queen performance for 2021 queen production.

Although COVID19 is in Ohio, beekeepers can succeed in beekeeping using creative teamwork and collaboration within our club and other bee clubs. www.wcoba.com

Greater Grand Lakes Beekeepers Association
https://gglba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/

Who designed the first bee smoker?
COBA
Central Ohio Beekeepers Association (COBA) has not only embraced the Virtual Beeyard, but in September, COBA will host virtual monthly meetings via Zoom, until the Franklin Park Conservatory meeting rooms are open again. We invite all members to join in an informal Q & A session while relaxing with their favorite beverage. The November 2020 meeting will feature the 2019 Scholarship Students’ presentations, virtually, of course. Elections, normally held at the October meeting, will be postponed until that happy day when we can meet in person. Meeting dates in 2020 are: September 16 at 6:30 p.m., October 21 at 6:30 p.m., and November 18, 6:30 p.m.

Fall/Winter programming will continue to be held virtually, including the Lithopolis Honeyfest Photo Contest and recruitment for the 2021 Youth Scholarship recipients. For details about these two programs, go to the COBA website.

Plans for 2021 Bee School are proceeding. COBA is happy to announce that Tess Conrad will be the new Director of Bee School. Information about the format of Bee School (whether virtual or in person) and dates, will be posted on the COBA website in January 2021. Please encourage new people to take advantage of this tremendous opportunity to learn about bees and beekeeping from the team of COBA mentors.

And of course, COBA continues its Virtual First Year Beeyard Program. This program has been operating this season through a Facebook mentoring program: “Wednesdays With Winnie” and videotaped inspections from COBA mentors. Winnie Williams, Queen Bee of the First Year Bee Yard, provides time-sensitive information about fundamental beekeeping practices geared to novice beekeepers, but also helpful to more experienced beekeepers. Five COBA mentors and their families videotape weekly inspections, leading viewers through the inspection process. As summer draws to a close, mentors have focused on mite testing and treatment protocols. COBA members use the open forum of Facebook to ask questions, make comments, and bring up the unique situations that they are encountering as the bee season progresses. The videos are now also available on the COBA YouTube channel. www.centralohiobeekeepers.org

ECOBA
Our adaptations to COVID-19 restrictions continue with our weekly Live Bee Yard Zoom Sessions. Newbies (and not so newbies) can log in and follow along during our live weekly beeyard. We do work in several live sessions, and schedule in about 4 people per hive worked so that new beekeepers can get additional hands-on experience. Some of these are still shots of opening hives in August, and earlier shots of comb gone awry! This is why we do beeyard, so that new (and not so new) beekeepers can see problems and discuss with others how to deal with the issue.

We were able to get one event in while County Fairs were still open in Ohio. We made a grand appearance at the Perry County Fair from July 20 – 25, 2020. Thanks to our Perry County Trustee Todd Rodgers for making the booth a real nice place to make a stop for fairgoers!

Elections – we are thick in the middle of election season. We are exploring all options, and are working with OSBA on suggestions from beekeeping organizations from all over Ohio on how to hold our annual elections in compliance with our constitutions and bylaws. October is our opening month for nominations. We are working tirelessly to accommodate all technological levels of expertise by our large membership in order to make sure everyone can cast their ballot. COVID-19 will surely put a needed review of everyone’s constitution and by-laws on the to-do list. ~continued on next page
Continued - ECOBA

We have had several new beekeepers able to make a honey harvest. Adam Koons and Alan Mahan respectively had some pretty good looking honey!

ECOA member Michelle Ackerman was featured by the Muskingum County Soil and Water Conservation District as part of their Urban Beekeeping series. Michelle has some nice hives, and you can catch her story by visiting their YouTube story at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPds0FmJBTE&feature=emb_title

We are super proud of Michelle and the great job she did! Member Ed DelGrosso showed us his skill with the camera when he posted this beauty of a picture of a flying lady in his beeyard.

Fairfield County Beekeepers Association

Like everyone else, we are working hard to stay connected to fellow beekeepers and support our new beekeepers, despite not being able to meet. We are using Zoom for monthly board meetings and club meetings. Speakers have been very willing to do presentations virtually. We’ve had lots of swarm and cut-out requests that several members have taken care of. We continue to gain members even though we haven’t met since February! People find us on FB or our website and join the club through our online Square store.

In July, we were fortunate to have Kirsten Trainor, PhD, and editor of 2 Million Blossoms magazine, to speak to us all the way from Germany. She graciously stayed up until 1:00 am, her time, to do her presentation via Zoom. She gave a very interesting and informative talk about preventing swarms, going over the natural bee behaviors and tendencies, the warning signs of swarming and prevention techniques. We learned a great deal from her talk.

In August, we had Joe Kovaleski, from the OSBA Traveling Speaker program, talking on Preparing Hives for Winter. This was a great presentation for new beekeepers and veterans as well. In September, Jeannie Saum, from the club, gave a talk about how to collect, clean, store and possible uses for ALL the hive products - honey, propolis, beeswax, pollen and venom.

We continue to support new beekeepers with our one-on-one mentors by phone or sometimes in person. We have opened up our club apiary inspections to small groups of people who want to come and learn. We were granted permission from the church where we meet and have our apiary, to build a moveable storage building for our equipment. Thanks to member Steve Shull for heading this up and doing most of the building!

Our next project is to figure out, in this time of quarantine, how we will do a new beekeepers’ class in the early spring of next year and how we will advertise it. We’ve all lost our venues like fairs and festivals, where we usually have information booths and advertise our bee schools. We got some good ideas at the OSBA Affiliate Round Table Zoom meeting in August! We will be planning both a virtual and an in person bee school and see what happens by then!

We have all appreciated the efforts of OSBA to provide us with beekeeper education through the twice-monthly webinars and the hosting services Jamie Walters has provided us. www.e-coba.org
Knox County Beekeepers
Hives are finishing the season strong. The honey flows were strong into mid-summer resulting in a good honey harvest. Some Beekeepers have been challenged by their typical sources to market their honey drying up, due to COVID-19 related issues. Hives are strong going into autumn. The majority of our members have completed treating for varroa. The majority are using Formic-Pro as their primary miticide.
www.knoxbees.com

Scioto Valley Beekeepers
Scioto Valley Beekeepers (Pickaway County) has held recent meetings in-person with masks and social distancing. Meetings have been well attended and featured presentations from members who are well-respected resources for different aspects of beekeeping. Isaac and Jayne Barnes of Honeyrun Farms discussed how they started their business, which has grown from a roadside stand to multiple products, several farm markets and an online store. More recently, Isaac gave a demonstration on how to perform alcohol washes for varroa monitoring. Membership in the club continues to grow despite cancellation of the spring beekeeping class and interruption of monthly meetings by Covid-19. Scioto Valley Beekeepers meets the second Thursday of each month. More information is available at sciotovalleykeepers.com

Crossroads

Tri-County Beekeepers
Lots going on in the Pollinator Garden! Stay tuned for upcoming events and visit us at www.tricountybeekeepers.com

Jefferson County Beekeepers
No report.

Carroll County Beekeepers
https://www.facebook.com/groups/CarrollCountyBeekeepersAssociation/

Stark County Beekeepers
www.starkbeekeepers.org

TCBA Spring Beekeepers
www.tricountybeekeepers.org

Miami Valley

Warren County Beekeepers
Warren County Beekeepers know that honey is helpful for seasonal allergies. What else can it be used for? In August at the Miller Ecological Park, Deb Wiater presented on the medicinal uses of honey. Visit https://warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org for our upcoming meeting information.

Butler County Beekeepers
We typically hold monthly meetings the second Thursday of every month at the Miami University Ecology Research Center (5806 Somerville Road, Oxford, OH 45056) check our FB page https://www.facebook.com/Butlercountybeekeepers/ or email karri_w@yahoo.com

Southwestern Ohio Beekeepers
No report. www.swohiobeekeepers.com
Clinton County Beekeepers
https://www.facebook.com/groups/250625229195238/

Greene County Beekeepers Association
Greene County Beekeepers Association continues to raise the bar in Providing our Community quality education and continuing information about our local area. Members have the opportunity to participate in two Zoom meetings per month, with guest speakers this quarter including John Schwartz, Dave Noble and Dr. Jamie Ellis. The club's website, Facebook page and newsletter help ensure timely information is provided to the greater Greene County Beekeeping Community. www.gcbeekeepers.com

Ohio Valley

Gallia County Beekeepers Association
Gallia County Beekeepers Association Zoomed into August thanks to Chris Blank. The first in-person meeting was held at the Church of Christ in Rio Grande. Beekeeping 101 will be held on 4 separate evenings from 6-8pm at 20344 St Rt 554 in Bidwell, OH 45614. To register contact chris@galliabees.com Learn more about the class schedule and GCBA on their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/2317700341608048/

Brown County
On August 11th, the Brown County Beekeepers Association held their first monthly meeting since March. Our speaker was Jim Coss of the Honey and Bee Connection who shared the secrets of his success and tips for winter prep. A Field day was held September 26th with Gary Keuffer covering a variety of topics and many members contributing to the “Show and Tell” format.

Social distancing social hour starts at 6pm. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in Rhonemus Hall at the Brown County Fairgrounds in Georgetown. Visit us at browncountybeekeepersassociation.org or https://www.facebook.com/browncountybeekeepers/?rc=p for upcoming educational speaker information.

Adams County Ohio Beekeepers Association
Vice President and County Bee Inspector Dave Mangus presented on monitoring and control for Varroa mites. He went on to state that the reports of small hive beetles are down this year. Adams County Ohio Beekeepers Association sponsored students again in 2020. Heidi Price and Alexis Phipps (pictured) have been updating the club on their progress at each meeting and are buzzing right along in their endeavors. ACBA meetings start at 7pm every third Thursday of the month at the Bible Baptist Church on 41 in West Union. For more information visit: www.facebook.com/Adams-County-Beekeepers-Association-214316711916893/

Highland County Beekeepers Association
No report.
Ohio River Bee Society

Also known as Lawrence County Bee Association. We are Beekeepers and love to educate others on the benefits of keeping honey bees. We are hoping to add members from southern Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. Contact: Misty Spring Akers mistyakers@ymail.com Learn more about us at www.facebook.com/groups/1308698889164047/

Buckeye Hills

Guernsey Noble Beekeepers

News from Guernsey Noble Beekeepers: Jim Smith is our club’s master swarm trapper trapping over 20 swarms this year and assisting several members with bees. Because of these efforts, Jim, Don Crock and James Coyle started an experimental project in hope to produce nucs for all club members for the 2021 season. Don Crock & Jim Smith spearheaded the project by grafting queens from select colonies and taking them to Jim Smith’s and James Coyle’s Apiaries for mating.

During June, the club hosted an outdoor meeting with member Jody Cordell (Certified Honey Judge) providing a talk with details on how a honey Judge evaluates honey. It included a demonstration and how to prepare your honey for a show. A Question and Answer period followed.

For the July meeting, Ben Nichols, ODA Apiary inspector for Noble County, along with other experienced members, hosted a Zoom “Bee Talk” in lieu of a meeting. Ben gave an update on the bee inspection process and what he is seeing in the “Bee Yard”. Then there was an open discussion on Honey Extraction and the upcoming August dearth.

For August, the club held an outdoor meeting at the Belle Valley Park. Ben Nichols demonstrated an alcohol wash to determine the level of varroa mites and explained the threshold for treatments. Then Don Crock followed with explaining the different methods of mite treatments available and the importance of controlling the mite levels for winter survival.

For more information about Guernsey Noble Beekeepers, visit the following website: www.guernseynoblebeekeepers.com or Facebook page at Guernsey Noble Beekeepers.

Tri-State Beekeepers Association

No report. www.tristatebeekeepers.com

Athens County Area Bee Association


Mid-Ohio Valley Beekeepers Association


Would you like to have your club/association posted in the next quarterly newsletter?

The 2021 January edition deadline is December 1st, 2020

Contact Kelly Morse - newsletter@ohiostatebeekeepers.org
This year’s program is awarding 10 scholarships (5 for 4-H, 5 for FFA), to students in school, between the ages of 12 and 18. You’re welcome to go to the website below to download the application to apply. Please share this information with your advisors, members, schools & organizations around the area.

www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/opp

For full program requirements and instructions, visit our website: www.OhioStateBeekeepers.org

Questions, contact the Ohio Partnership Program by email: partnership@ohiostatebeekeepers.org or call 419.438.7335

Ohio State Beekeepers Association
Ohio Partnership Program - 2021

This is the last report from the 2020 OSBA Partnership Program winners. We want to thank everyone that helped support each of the winners, from the clubs, their mentors, the directors, and their parents. We hope that they all stay in beekeeping and continue to hone their skills that they have learned this year. Since we are having a virtual conference this year, members will be able to hear a 2 to 3 minute verbal wrap-up from each of the ladies during the commercial breaks between the speakers/presentations. Thank you to our enthusiastic participants and good luck to each of you in the future!

I am so glad I got this opportunity, watching these amazing creatures work over this Spring/Summer. As I regularly examines, I saw that there were several frames full of honey. I am feeding them a 2 to 1 ratio sugar-water mixture and further preparing to start getting ready for winter. I am still learning about treating for things like hive beetles and Varroa Mites. For example, I recently tried my hand at sugar-dusting for a natural treatment, as part of my treatment plan. I presented a speech about the plight of bees to my local Grange, Monroe-Dan Emmett, and in the Ohio State Grange public speaking national contest. I was also awarded an A on my 4-H book and interview for beekeeping. Unfortunately, there is no Ohio State Fair this year to compete. I had a chance to work with a wild swarm that moved into an empty hive on a friends property and may have a chance to mark a queen. Even though the Covid-19 quarantine has been an obstacle in my works in the community related to bees, I am happy to say that I am trying my best through my Facebook page. Plus how I could possibly be lonely with 20,000 new friends? 😊
My bees have been thriving! One of my hives was able to be split. So my parents and I split the hive. There are already three queen cells on one of the frames in the new hive. I have been waiting for the weather to be a bit cooler in order to do a mite treatment. It is still a little too warm to treat them right now. I did perform a mite check on my hives and didn’t see any evidence of them.

This is the first year that I have added a second brood box on my hives. I have only done one in previous years. My hives have two brood boxes, a queen excluder and a super. One of my hives has used the second brood as a honey super. Every frame was full of honey and capped! They also had about 5 of the 8 super frames full of honey as well, in the super. So, this past week we gathered the honey frames and we plan to extract in the next couple of days. In an effort to not let the hive get honey bound, we pulled these frames. We are currently experiencing a dearth, so there is not much pollen action. I am looking forward to the goldenrod to bloom for the fall honey flow to begin.

During this experience, I have come to realize that I do not care for the wax foundation frames. They are really fragile and my bees seem to be eating through the wax to create a short cut to the next frame, even when I have kept the frames evenly spaced. These hives also seem to be weeks behind the other colonies that started at the same time. The other hives I have are 10 framed and not 8 framed. It has been very easy working with my mentor, Steve Roth. He has a passion for bees and for teaching others about beekeeping. I feel blessed to know him and learn from him. I have enjoyed this program because it has helped keep me more vigilant with my hives and to really record the personality of each hive, the queen laying patterns of each hive, and just the way each hive works together—or does not work together. I take the time to really dig into the hive to make sure I observe how the queen is laying, how the bees are behaving, how much bee bread and honey they are storing, etc… It has been a wonderful experience and I have learned even more this year.

The last quarterly report is all about the true joy of beekeeping. This includes watching how much pollen the bees are bringing in and I can’t forget about all the honey that the bees are storing. In my opinion, these last few inspections and all the time preparing for honey extraction is the hardest and most time consuming, but enjoyable part of beekeeping.

To continue my records on Hive 251 (Yellow Hive) and Hive 299 (Blue Hive). The next date that I have recorded is June 28th, 2020. On this day Hive 299 was doing really well, the bees were bringing in lots of pollen and nectar. On the other hand, Hive 251 was still weak, the bees were still drawing out comb on the first box, but had a good brood pattern. On July 12th, 2020, I checked the brood box in hive 251. I saw lots of honey, and this hive had a good brood pattern with lots of eggs, larvae and capped brood. A good brood pattern to me means the queen is laying a solid pat-
tern and not missing any cells. Now on to hive 299. I added another box which now means I have 3 brood boxes and 1 super on my blue hive. This hive has lots of honey, brood, and a large population of bees.

The last date I recorded in July was July 22nd, 2020. On this date I added another box to hive 251 (Yellow hive), so there are a total of 3 medium boxes. 3 medium boxes equals 2 deep boxes (Brood boxes). Also, this hive has lots of honey and capped brood. Hive 299 (Blue hive) has 4 medium boxes so, I have 2 brood boxes and 1 super. The super is almost full. The 3 frames on each side of the box have lots of honey, but it just needs to be capped. In the 2 frames in the middle are still light with not that much honey. The next date I recorded is August 8th, 2020. On this date hive 251 (Yellow hive), I saw brood, larvae, and lots of capped honey. I also added another box. In hive 299 (Blue hive), the honey super was full, and I added another box to this hive as well. It worked out perfectly because the weather for this day was sunny.

The next big date that I recorded is August 21st, 2020. On this date I took a full super off of my blue hive (#299) and I did an inspection on my yellow hive (#251). I did not take the super off of the yellow hive because the bees were still drawing out comb on the 4th box (Super). Speaking of big day, this was honey extraction day. This exciting day was August 23rd, 2020. I went to my grandparents' house and started the process of honey extraction. The first of honey extraction is to use an uncapping knife to cut all the capping's off and whatever the knife could not reach I used an uncapping roller to reach the rest of the capping's. Make sure all the comb is uncapped either using the roller or the knife because if its not uncapped the extractor will not spin it out. After all 8 frames were uncapped, I was ready to put the frames in the extractor and spin all the honey out. Once all the frames were empty and the honey was in the bucket, I filtered the honey through 2 different filters. After all that hard work was done, I weighed the bucket of honey. I got a total of 48 pounds of honey just from the 1 super off of my blue hive (#299). That super included 8 frames of capped honey. I then used a refractometer to measure the moisture of the honey. When I did it read 17.2% which is good for honey. The honey should not be over 18% moisture.

Overall, this year I feel that my hives did really well. Even though I did not get much honey this year. I have to remember that these are all newly established hives and were not overwintered like my other hive at the thicket. Speaking of overwintering, I am also getting prepared for winter. I will be doing mite counts and prevention treatments for mites, like oxalic acid treatments in the next month with the help of my mentor. This recaps all my records and journals for this quarter. I am very thankful for the OSBA choosing me as a scholarship recipient in the 2020 4-H Partnership Program.
After working through the problem (our queen disappeared after laying a lot of drone eggs) with the one hive, we got a new queen, and things more or less sorted themselves out. We did follow the advice of a helpful beekeeper to rotate frames from the other hive into the queenless one, then place the queen in and see if they build up good frames again.

That hive is now only slightly behind the other, but both are doing fairly well, and I was given some insight into the tenacity of bees.

After I did a full hive check a couple of weeks ago, I discovered my hives had hive beetles. I'm in the process of using the dryer sheet trick to get rid of them. The bees, being the perfectionist creatures they are, sealed most of the sheets to the frames with propolis. The things bees can make and how they make them are fascinating.

I am looking forward to meeting with my mentor again soon and begin strategizing about winter and keeping my bees healthy and well.

Hello everyone! I just completed my 4-H judging at the Portage County Junior Fair where I earned 100% and a blue ribbon. I focused my presentation on my favorite two activities so far: marking the queens and checking for Varroa mites. I also drew a picture of a bee, labeled all the body parts, and listed all of the basic equipment needed for new beekeepers.

This year has not gone as planned, but I have still learned a lot about beekeeping. My mentor, Mary Lovin, has been great about teaching me all about the bees and how to care for them. I feel like I'm really getting the basics down and I can't wait until next year when I can collect honey.

Thanks again for the support of the OSBA!
Disease, Pest, & Predators - Nina Bagley

ACROSS
3. Can cause severe problems in winter when stored.
5. Crab-like mites that pierce the skin of prepupae, pupae, and adult bees.
6. This foulbrood may be accompanied by an unpleasant smell, similar to dead insects.
7. If you can, raise your hive a few feet off the ground. This will deter this smelly nuisance from eating your bees.
8. Brown/yellow streaks of excreta on the top bars & inner cover are signs of.
9. For this small rodent the beehive is very desirable residence.
11. This virus prevents the bee larva from making its final moult when the prepupae turns into a pupae, and it dies before it can spin its cocoon.
13. This disorder destroyed 30 percent of honeybees in a single year.
14. The fungus kills the larva before the cell is sealed and becomes hard and gray.
17. Can destroy an entire hive by ripping it apart or tipping it on its side to get to the honey and bees.
18. This foulbrood the larva are a off-white color and lie in the cells at unnatural angels. They look "melted".

DOWN
1. These nasty insects prefer to eat bees and use them to feed their developing brood.
2. The spores severely interfere with the bee's ability to produce food and pollen.
4. This beekeeping can be very stressful for the bees, taking its toll on bee health and making colonies susceptible to disease.
7. They use a variety of webs.
8. They feed on small insects such as bees, ants, wasps, butterflies, flies, & midges.
10. This bird can be serious pest, especially in winter can smash holes through the hive boxes and damage both box & frames.
12. This mite is known because it infests the first pair of respiratory tubes in a young bee.
15. Though known to feed on insects, they are more likely to reach up under stacks of empty supers stored in an apiary and rip apart the frames of comb for a sweet snack.
16. Small hive beetles do this on the honeycombs to cause the honey to ferment and drip out of the cells.
19. This insect eats the bees larva and brood.

LIVE WEBINAR TRAINING + YouTube = https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOFVaRx00YMUbVtTR2RxsQ
WHEN IT COMES TO BEE HEALTH, LEAVE IT TO THE PROS!

**Pro Health**
Created with essential oils, Pro Health is a feeding stimulant that promotes healthy, vigorous hives and aids in the overall health of the bees. It can be used during late fall, early spring, and dearths of nectar. Use as a spray to stimulate bees to draw out new foundation faster.

- **Volume** | **Item No.** | **Price**
- Pint | FD350 | $29.95
- 1 Gallon | FD351 | $134.95
- 5 Gallons | FD352 | $449.95

**Pro-Sweet**
Unlike sugar water, our Pro-Sweet has both binomial (bees treat these like nectar) and monomial sugars (bees treat these like honey). It not only stimulates the bees, but helps them put on weight. Pro-Sweet won’t crystallize or ferment like sugar water.

- **Volume** | **Item No.** | **Price**
- 2-1/2 gallons | CN076 | $44.95
- 5 Gallons | CN075 | $79.95

**ProDFM**
A safe, beneficial option for strengthening your bees’ immunity, ProDFM is a Direct Fed Microbial formula that acts as a natural restorative in bees’ digestive tracts via healthful bacteria. Using ProDFM will help boost winter survival rates at a time when bees can be especially vulnerable.

- **Weight** | **Item No.** | **Price**
- 3.52 oz | DC144 | $17.95
- 2.2 lbs | DC145 | $89.95
- 22 lbs | DC143 | $489.95

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OSBA Beekeeper of the year ‘09 for educational promotion!
From the moment we were crowned 2020 American Honey Queen and Princess, national spokespeople for the sweetest industry, we hit the ground running. From January 13 through March 8, we traveled to five of the same states, and Queen Mary also traveled to three additional states. Collectively, we reached over 400,000 people during these in-person promotions. Mary fondly remembers meeting with state agricultural commissioners, discussing the vital role of honeybees in pollination, and a surprise meeting with Kentucky's first lady, bonding over the many uses of honey in skincare routines and smoothies. One of Princess Sydnie's most impactful events consisted of being featured in Dr. Jamie Ellis's podcast, “Two Bees in a Podcast”, where she discussed what the American Honey Queen Program is all about. She also had several radio and newspaper interviews. A few other highlights included attending two different beekeeping courses held in different states, each highlighting beekeeping in different climates. Promoting at the Fort Wayne Home and Garden Expo in Indiana was a fantastic way Sydnie reached many people, sharing some sweet recipes found in our recipe brochure.

Now that the world has changed with the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Honey Queen Program has had to adapt. With most of our in person events cancelled from early March through the fall, we have turned to social media and virtual presentations to share the same messages we love to share in person. Many school and civic presentations that we have had have been accomplished via Zoom. This platform easily allows us to share PowerPoint presentations and other electronic content and has very quickly become accessible for people of all ages. We have presented to many schools, beekeeping clubs, libraries, children's programs, and other organizations virtually. In place of some fairs, we've prepared videos to bring fair experiences to thousands of people missing the fair experience. Collaborating with beekeepers nationwide, notably through online video content, has become a major focus for the American Honey Queen Program in 2020.

Moving forward and understanding that the majority of our year would consist of virtual and remote presentations, we regrouped with our program's social media coordinator in North Carolina in early July. Meeting with her and other program representatives via video chat, we created a new project for the American Honey Queen Program, “The Coast to Coast Honey Experience” video series. Beekeepers from around the United States generously donated some of their favorite, unique honey varietals to feature on the American Honey Queen Program's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Upon arriving in North Carolina, we spent one evening just tasting, smelling, and observing the colors and unique properties of these beautiful honeys, so that we could craft short, informational videos for each honey. This is a great way for others to find and support the hard working beekeepers across the nation and learn about the many beautiful (and tasty) honey varieties in the country, while giving us a new experience and a safe at-home project to replace many in person trips that were cancelled. We hope that these videos will encourage consumers to try different varieties of honey, find different producers during the pandemic and patronize their businesses. This will be a great project for future American Honey Queens and Princesses to carry on, and we hope to bring in more beekeepers with each year that passes. If you are interested in having your honey featured in our series, please contact Anna Kettlewell at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com. We would love to feature some unique Ohio honeys! Catch our videos on Facebook – @AmericanHoneyQueenProgram.

We were excited to visit the states for in-person events in between our virtual presentations. In North Carolina, we presented to a Cub Scout group and promoted at a farmers' market. Sydnie visited Arizona to originally work at a Garden Expo, but pivoted due to COVID-related cancellations, instead, utilizing her time working with AZ Queen Bee, extracting honey, checking the frames, and labeling and bottling the finished
product for future sales. Capping off her time in Arizona, she promoted and sold honey at a farmer’s market, and made it on the Arizona news! In the meantime, Mary was filming videos in collaboration with Local Hive Honey to garner publicity for the beekeeping industry as a whole. Watch for these videos to be released through the ABF and American Honey Queen Program’s Facebook pages. Sydnie looks forward to visiting Kentucky for legislative meetings and beekeeping meetings in late summer. In September in Indiana, Mary will visit farmers’ and share tips, tricks, and facts about the beekeeping industry while promoting the consumption and use of honey in our everyday lives.

We have now reached 17 states through our virtual and in-person promotions, and we'd love to reach all 50 states with the technology available to us! If you are interested in having us visit for farmers' markets, media interviews, or civic organization presentations, let us know! Like the recent events noted above, we are excited and willing to travel to your state to promote at your live events and markets in your state. Many of our in-person trips have been shorter durations this year, and we'd be honored to visit your state if conditions allow!

We also enjoy giving school presentations, so reach out to your local schools, kids’ or grandkids’ schools and teacher friends to let them know we would love to give a presentation about honeybees. We would love to visit and help share about the importance of honeybees, honey, and pollination in your area! We would be thrilled to give a live or virtual presentation in every state of the nation this year!

We greatly miss seeing and meeting you all in person, and hope to connect online if we can't visit you in person! Find us on Facebook at American Honey Queen Program, YouTube at American Honey Queen, and our blog specially geared for elementary school students, www.BuzzingAcrossAmerica.com. We hope you enjoy watching our Honey Experience videos and send us honey if you'd like to be featured. If you know of any civic organizations, school groups, or events that would be interested in a presentation, let us know by contacting Anna Kettlewell, American Honey Queen Program Chairperson, at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com

Thank you to the OSBA for your support of the American Honey Queen program over the years, and we encourage you to continue to use this program this year and in the future!☺️

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On The Ballot
Saturday, November 7, 2020

Constitution - updates & changes

Vice President
- Tom Rathbun
- Write In

Secretary
- Jeannie Saum
- Write In

Region Director for Buckeye Hills
- Write In

Region Director for Crossroads
- Lloyd Hurst
- Write In

Region Director for Western Reserve
- Allyson May
- Write In

This year OSBA members will be voting for changes to the constitution and elections for Vice President - 2 year position, Secretary - 2 year position, and 3 Regional Directors - 3 year positions. The duties of each office are included in the OSBA By-Laws. If you have questions about any of the OSBA Board positions that are available, please contact President Peggy Garnes president@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

If you are interested in having your name on the ballot, applications must be filled out and returned by October 31, 2020. There are appointed positions available each year for Regional Representatives in each region. Please contact your Regional Director, Representative, or any of the OSBA Board members for more information. We welcome any volunteers to help with any of the committees, OSBA Board, or Regional Districts. More information, visit http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/nominating-committee-elections/

Photographer James Corey
**Absentee Ballot**

*Constitution & Candidates*

Vote for one candidate in each category or write-in candidate.

OSBA members may only vote once. Absentee ballots must be sent and received by Thursday, November 5th to be accepted. Please your ballot to: **Laurie Kehres, 4662 State Route 181, Crestline, OH 44827**

**OSBA Constitution** - please see pages 39 - 47


☐ Yes, I agree to the OSBA Constitution changes  
☐ No, I don’t agree to these OSBA Constitution changes

---

**OSBA Vice President**

☐ Tom Rathbun  
☐ Write-In  

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Home City/Bee Club</th>
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**OSBA Secretary**

☐ Jeannie Saum  
☐ Write-In  

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<th>First Name</th>
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**OSBA Regional Director for Buckeye Hills**

☐ Write-In  

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<th>First Name</th>
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<th>Home City/Bee Club</th>
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**OSBA Regional Director for Crossroads**

☐ Lloyd Hurst  
☐ Write-In  

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<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Home City/Bee Club</th>
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**OSBA Regional Director for Western Reserve**

☐ Allyson May  
☐ Write-In  

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<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Home City/Bee Club</th>
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Write-in candidates are permitted under the following guidelines:

*The name on the write-in ballot section must be spelled correctly using the first and last name.*  
*The home address or name of home club or home city of the write-in candidate must be used to avoid any like named persons.*  
*The candidate must be an OSBA member in good standing.*
It’s time to register for the 2020 OSBA Fall Conference! Be sure to save the date to sit back in the comfort of your home and enjoy hours of presentations, commercials, history, and educational videos. You’re welcome to watch all day or log in/out whenever you want. The final schedule will be posted once it’s completed. The cost of the event is FREE, but we are asking for donations. The conference raffles have always helped support the (formerly 4-H program) now OSBA Ohio Partnership Program. The new 2021 program is awarding 10 scholarships – 5 for 4-H students and 5 for FFA students, so please donate freely.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/osba-virtual-fall-conference-2020-tickets-121661656289

Click the above blue link, locate & press **Register**

**Tickets** - will allow 1 registration for Zoom link.
**Donations** - (any amount) that goes towards the Ohio Partnership Program (4-H, FFA).
**Add-ons** - membership for 2020-2021 season. This covers; individual, family, lifetime, student & senior.

Proceed to **Checkout**

This will ask you to fill in:

**Contact information** - how the Eventbrite system will register you to be contacted for conference receipt.
**Ticket 1 - Donation** - name & email address to receive a thank you for donating to the 4-H & FFA Program.
**Ticket 2 - Free Admission** - please double check the accuracy of your email address, as this is how we will send you the link for the Zoom conference.

On Friday, Nov. 6th, you will receive a link from editor@ohiostatebeekeepers.org with the active link.
The attached copy on the next few pages is the new fresh version of the constitution that we will be voting on Saturday, November 7th. Visit http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/nominating-committee-elections/ to see both versions.

- Strike Version and Fresh Copy

OSBA Constitution

The Ohio State Beekeepers Association, Inc.
Constitution

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Corporation shall be The Ohio State Beekeepers Association, Inc. (hereinafter cited as “OSBA” or “the Corporation”).

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

OSBA promotes sustainable beekeeping by providing education and training, resources and outreach to beekeepers, local beekeepers associations and the general public.

ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION

Section 1. OSBA is incorporated as a not for profit corporation under the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 2. The organization will maintain current and active registration with applicable State of Ohio and Federal governmental agencies as required of a nonprofit corporation.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Any natural person is eligible to become a voting member of OSBA by subscribing to the purposes and goals of OSBA and paying dues as set forth in the bylaws. Firms, corporations, and associations may join OSBA as non-voting members by subscribing to the purposes and goals of OSBA and by paying dues as set forth in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Dues. The Board of Directors shall establish membership levels and the amount of the annual dues. Each voting member in good standing for the current year shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any issue that may come before the members of OSBA for a vote.
Section 3. Termination. Any member who fails to renew his/her dues with the organization shall be considered an inactive member, and shall not be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership while such status continues. Reinstatement will be effective with payment of the current dues.

Section 4. Discipline – A member may be censured, suspended, or expelled for cause, by the vote of a two-thirds majority of directors at a meeting of the Board of Directors, using the Due Process Procedures described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1. Number of Officers. The officers of the organization shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and the Immediate Past President.

1. President. The President shall be the principal executive officer of OSBA. Subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors, he/she shall be in charge of the business and affairs of OSBA; he/she shall see that the resolutions and directives of the Board of Directors are carried into effect except in those instances in which responsibility is assigned to some other person by the Board of Directors; and, in general, he/she shall discharge all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Bylaws.

2. Vice President. The Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the President, assume the responsibilities ordinarily falling upon the President, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Bylaws. The Vice President shall be a member of the Conference Committee.

3. Secretary. The Secretary shall maintain all records of the Corporation. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and all Executive Committee meetings and membership meetings. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Bylaws.

4. Treasurer. Under direction of the Finance Committee, the Treasurer shall keep the financial records in good condition showing all amounts received and disbursed and shall sign drafts and checks of the Corporation in the discharge of day to day budgeted business.
   i. The Treasurer shall be bonded in accordance with Ohio laws.
   ii. The Treasurer shall be responsible for conducting the financial affairs of the organization as directed and authorized by the Board of Directors.
   iii. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Bylaws.

5. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall be an executive board member with no voting rights and shall perform duties assigned to them by the President or as may be prescribed by the Bylaws.
Section 2. Election and Term of Office. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting by the membership.

1. Terms shall be staggered, as defined in the Bylaws, so that two of the four officers are up for election in opposite years from the other two officers.

2. Officers shall serve a two-year term, their terms expiring on December 31st of the second year of the term.

3. If any officer is appointed to office for less than half a term, it shall not count toward the term limit.

4. Any person who has served two consecutive terms as an officer of OSBA is not eligible to hold office for a two-year period following the expiration of his/her second consecutive term.

Section 3. Officer Requirements – As representatives of OSBA and advocates of best beekeeping practices, officers must:

1. Be members in good standing of the Corporation,

2. Be residents of the state of Ohio,

3. Not opt out of the state apiary inspection program, if the officer is a beekeeper.

Section 4. Adverse Interest – Officers shall not include any logo, seal, title, or position from another organization outside of OSBA in any written or verbal communication when acting as an agent of OSBA.

Section 5. Discipline – An officer may be censured, suspended, or expelled for cause at a meeting of the Board of Directors by a 2/3 majority vote, using the Due Process Procedures described in the Bylaws.

Section 6. Vacancy. Any vacancy that occurs for any reason shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.29.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Members - The Executive Committee of the Corporation shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President of the Corporation. The Board of Directors shall determine the day-to-day control and direction of the affairs of the Corporation that shall be vested in the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Meetings – The Executive Committee shall meet as required to deal with the day to day business of the Corporation. The President shall chair the Executive Board meetings.

1. Committee members can attend Executive Committee meetings in person, by teleconference, by video conference, or by other technologies agreed upon by the Executive Committee which allow all participants in the meeting to hear one another.
2. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be 75% or more of the Executive Committee (not including the Past President).

3. In the event an officer cannot be present at the agreed upon time, the officer shall be notified of the issues at hand prior to any formal action taking place. Such notice shall be effective when sent by U.S. mail or e-mail to the postal address or email address for the officer as listed in the Corporation’s books and records.

ARTICLE VII - REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 1. Number of Regional Directors. There shall be nine (9) Regional Directors, each representing one of the nine OSBA administrative regions defined in the Bylaws, in which he/she must reside.

Section 2. Election and Term of Office. Regional Directors shall be elected by the members residing in their region, at an Annual Meeting.

1. Regional Directors shall serve a term of three (3) years commencing on January 1st following their election and concluding on December 31st of the third year following their election.

2. Terms shall run such that three (3) Regional Director positions are up for election each year.

3. Regional Directors are limited to two (2) consecutive elected terms, after which they may not serve as Regional Director for a period of two-years.

Section 3. Regional Director Requirements – As representatives of OSBA and advocates of best beekeeping practices, Regional Directors must:

1. Be members in good standing of the Corporation,

2. Be residents of the state of Ohio and reside in the region they are representing,

3. Not opt out of the state apiary inspection program, if the Regional Director is a beekeeper.

Section 4. Adverse Interest – Regional Directors shall not include any logo, seal, title, or position from another organization outside of OSBA in any written or verbal communication when acting as an agent of OSBA.

Section 5. Discipline – A Regional Director may be censured, suspended, or expelled for cause at a meeting of the Board of Directors by a 2/3 majority vote, using the Due Process Procedures described in the Bylaws.

Section 6. Vacancy. Any vacancy that occurs for any reason may be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.29

ARTICLE VIII - REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1. Number of Regional Representatives. There shall be nine (9) Regional Representatives, each representing one of the nine administrative regions defined in the Bylaws, in which he/she must reside.
The Nominating Committee shall accept nominations from local associations and the general membership to be presented to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall appoint one nominee per region by majority vote.

Section 2. Term of Office. Regional Representatives shall serve a term of one year commencing on January 1st (if appointed for the following calendar year) or the date of confirmation (if appointed for the current calendar year), and concluding on the December 31st next following.

Section 3. Regional Representative Requirements – As representatives of OSBA and advocates of best beekeeping practices, Regional Representatives must:

1. Be members in good standing of the Corporation,
2. Be residents of the state of Ohio and reside in the region they are representing,
3. Not opt out of the state apiary inspection program, if the Regional Representative is a beekeeper.

Section 4. Adverse Interest – Regional Representatives shall not include any logo, seal, title, or position from another organization outside of OSBA in any written or verbal communication when acting as an agent of OSBA.

Section 5. Discipline – A Regional Representative may be censured, suspended, or expelled for cause at a meeting of the Board of Directors by a 2/3 majority vote, using the Due Process Procedures described in the Bylaws.

Section 6. Vacancy. Any vacancy that occurs for any reason may be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.29

ARTICLE IX - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Board Members. OSBA shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of the five Executive Officers, nine Regional Directors and nine Regional Representatives.

Section 2. Quorum. A majority of the Board of Directors which includes at least two (2) Executive Officers shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors. Once a quorum has been constituted, the Directors may continue to transact business until adjournment of the meeting, even if some Directors withdraw from the meeting.

ARTICLE X - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Meetings. The Board of Directors must hold one meeting after the annual meeting of the members and before the end of the calendar year, for the purpose of appointing new committee chairpersons and for transacting such other business as
may be deemed appropriate. Directors may attend meetings in person, by teleconference, by video conference, or by other technologies agreed upon by the Board of Directors which allow all participants in the meeting to hear one another. The Board of Directors shall hold at least two (2) additional regular meetings after the first regular meeting and before the date of the next annual meeting of the members. Minutes of each regular meeting shall be sent to the Board of Directors within two weeks after the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be requested by the President, Vice-President, Secretary, or any two Directors by providing five days' written notice by regular U.S. mail (effective when postmarked) or e-mail (effective when sent) to each Board member, using the contact information provided for official contact by each board member. Directors may attend meetings in person, by teleconference, by video conference, or by other technologies agreed upon by the Board of Directors which allow all participants in the meeting to hear one another. Minutes of the meeting shall be sent to the Board of Directors within two weeks after the meeting.

Section 3. Procedures. The vote of a majority of the Directors present at a properly called meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the vote of a greater number is required by law or the Corporation's Bylaws for a particular resolution. Any member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless he/she specifically dissents to such action or matter. The Board shall keep written minutes of its proceedings in its permanent records.

Section 4. Committees. To the extent permitted by law, the Board of Directors may appoint from its members a committee or committees, temporary or permanent, and designate the duties, powers, and authorities of such committees.

The Board of Directors must establish at least the following Committees:

1. Nominating Committee
2. Finance Committee
3. Affiliate Program Committee
4. Conference Committee

ARTICLE IX – MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting shall be held once each calendar year for the purpose of electing Directors and Officers, voting on constitutional changes, if any, and to receive input from the membership.

1. The annual meeting shall be held at the time and place designated by the Board of Directors.
2. The annual meeting shall occur before November 15th each year.
3. Absentee Balloting may be allowed for the annual meeting per the Nominating Committee’s standard operating procedures.
Section 2. Special Membership Meetings. The Board of Directors may by majority vote call a special meeting of the membership.

Section 3. Notice. Notice of any meeting of members shall state the place, date, and hour of meeting, and if for a special meeting, the purpose of the meeting. Such notice shall be sent to all members of record at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. Such notice shall be effective when sent by U.S. mail (effective when postmarked), or e-mail (effective when sent) to the postal address or e-mail address for the member as listed on the Corporation’s books. For the purpose of Dissolution, notice shall be sent in either of the above ways, two (2) months prior to the meeting.

Section 4. Place of Meeting. Meetings shall be held at the designated location as stated in the notice.

Section 5. Quorum. - A quorum of the general membership shall consist of the lesser of sixty members (60) or thirty percent (30%) of the membership which must include a majority of the Regional Directors and Representatives, and at least two (2) Officers.

1. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting may be adjourned and continued at another time without further notice. If a quorum is represented at an adjourned meeting, any business may be transacted that might have been transacted at the meeting as originally scheduled.

2. Once a quorum has been met, the meeting may continue to transact business until adjournment, even if the withdrawal of some members in the meeting results in representation of less than a quorum.

ARTICLE XII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Finances

1. The Fiscal year shall be January 1st to December 31st, each year.
2. The Corporation shall use a cash basis for accounting purposes.
3. No officer or member has the right to incur any debt or become involved in any business under the Corporation’s title or by implying the Corporation’s title in any way unless given full authority to do so by the Board of Directors or vote of the membership.

Section 2. Affiliate Associations Provision

1. OSBA must maintain a group exemption with the Internal Revenue Service, under which beekeeping associations in Ohio, meeting the requirements defined by the Board of Directors and the IRS, may join as an Affiliated Association.
2. The Affiliated Association will become a 501(c)(3) organization under the group exemption. The Board of Directors shall establish the requirements for enrolling and maintaining status as an Affiliated Association, cost to the Affiliated Association, and any benefits they shall receive.
3. Status as an Affiliated Association shall not be construed as a membership to OSBA and does not grant membership or voting rights to the Affiliated Associations or its members.

ARTICLE XIII – CODE OF CONDUCT / DISCIPLINE / DUE PROCESS

1. OSBA has the right to enforce its rules and expect ethical and honorable conduct from its members, officers, and board members. Members, Officers, Directors and Representatives of OSBA shall be free to have and express different ideas, opinions, likes, and dislikes while participating in OSBA meetings and events. All OSBA members are expected to disagree respectfully and listen to others’ viewpoints.

2. When conflict or disciplinary issues arise, OSBA shall follow the Due Process Procedures described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV- CORPORATE SEAL, EXECUTION OF INSTRUMENTS

OSBA shall not have a corporate seal. All instruments that are executed on behalf of the Corporation which are acknowledged shall be executed by the President or Vice-President or Secretary or Treasurer under the general direction of the Board of Directors. All other instruments executed by the Organization may be executed by the President or Vice-President. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section, any written instrument may be executed by any officer(s) or agent(s) that are specifically designated by resolution of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be altered or amended only at an annual meeting of the members at which a quorum has been met, by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of those members present in person or by proxy. Notice of the proposed changes shall be sent to all members at least thirty days (30 days) prior to the said meeting. Such notice shall be effective when sent by U.S. mail (effective when postmarked), or e-mail (effective when sent) to the postal address or e-mail address for each member as listed on the Corporations books and records.

ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

The Bylaws may be amended, altered, or repealed by the Board of Directors at any properly called regular or special meeting at which a quorum has been met, by a majority of the Directors present. The text of the proposed change shall be distributed to all Board members at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting. Such notice shall be
effective when sent by U.S. mail (effective when postmarked), or e-mail (effective when sent) to the postal address or e-mail address for each Director as listed on the Corporations books and records.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

The Corporation may be dissolved only with authorization of its Board of Directors given at a special meeting called for that purpose, and with the subsequent approval by no less than a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present at a duly called meeting in accordance with Article XI.. In the event of the dissolution of the Corporation, the assets shall be applied and distributed as follows:

All liabilities and obligations shall be paid, satisfied and discharged, or adequate provision shall be made therefore. Assets not held upon a condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance to any other organization or individual shall be distributed, transferred, or conveyed, in trust or otherwise, to one or more charitable and educational organizations, qualified as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or any corresponding provision of any future federal tax code, of a similar or like nature to this organization, as determined by the Board of Directors.

This constitution was ratified on:

__________________________________________
Most of our local Ohio bee clubs have some kind of web presence, whether it be a Facebook page, a website through OSBA’s site, or their own hosted website. If your club doesn't have at least one of these, get busy! In these days of technology and especially during this time of social distancing, having a web presence is imperative. These can be great outreach and educational tools for members, people interested in getting into beekeeping, and the general public, IF they are set up and maintained effectively.

What does that look like?

1. **An Effective Opening Page** needs to be eye catching and provide basic information about your club, at a glance, without having to scroll down or change pages! Think road-side billboard - it tells a story in a few-second glance. A visitor to your site should be able to find the most important information on the first image they see on their screen. What that is, is up to you.

Think of it from a visitor's perspective. What might be their reason for visiting your site? What might they be looking for? What would catch their interest to delve deeper into your website? Here are some things I think of:

- Name of your club
- A brief introduction of your purpose/who you are
- Meeting date, time, place
- A menu or drop-down to find other things
- An Event coming up
- An appealing, captivating image that tells the story of your club - a bee image? your club logo?

These things could be static images on your front page, or a rolling slide show across the screen. Even on Facebook, most of these items could be in your header image. How does one do that? There’s a great free program online called Canva ([Canva.com](http://Canva.com)). With this program, you can combine text, images, shapes, lines, colors, etc. You can arrange all these elements as you wish, to make headers, posters, invitations, newsletters, fancy emails, all kinds of things. Once you are satisfied, you can save your creation as an image - .jpg, .pdf and others. This image, then, can be saved to your computer and uploaded to Facebook or website as your page header, showing all the important information you want. Here’s what one club did on Facebook.

2. **Easy to navigate!** Provide a menu on the opening page - either a list of categories that goes across the page, with drop downs under them or a button labelled MENU, that has drop downs. The visitor to your site should not have to hunt for this! It should be evident on the opening page without scrolling. On Facebook, other pages are provided for you, which appear in a list on the left of your page. You can upload files, forms, photos, events, etc. for people to access.

3. **Club Information** - This is important for your club members and for visitors. It keeps club purposes, governance and leadership open and transparent. If you include pictures and documents, it helps people learn who you are and find answers, on their own, to questions they might have about how the club is run.

- Officers, board members, maybe committee members
- Mission Statement
- Constitution, Bylaws

4. **CONTACT INFORMATION!** There is nothing more frustrating than perusing a website, trying to find out how to contact someone for more information or help; and not being able to find any! There should be at least ONE EMAIL or PHONE NUMBER on the web site, so people can contact the club. This could be on an About Us page or with the list of officers and board member.
If club officers, board members or committee chairs are uncomfortable having their personal emails or phone numbers published, there are some easy solutions. A club could create a free, general email address on Google Mail or some other service - something like fairfieldcountybeekeepers@gmail.com. Someone in the club, usually an officer, would be responsible for checking this email regularly or it can be arranged in Settings to automatically forward to an officer's email.

Similarly, a club could set up club email accounts on Google Mail or some other service, for each officer or board member. Examples: presidentofFCBA@gmail.com or secretaryofFCBA@gmail.com. These could all be published with the list and photos of the officers and board members on your website. The great thing about setting up these officer/board member emails is that they never change when new people are voted in. The new people just get into the email with the previous person's password and change it to a new one!

One could also use Google Voice to set up a club phone number (free) that could be routed to an officer's phone. The club phone number would be published, not the officer's personal number. We use this service for our business.

Using these general club emails or phone number means that your club information would always be correct on your web sites and related web sites like OSBA, and not have to be changed at every election cycle. If your club doesn't contact the OSBA webmaster every time elections change your leadership, then what is published on the state beekeepers' site may not be correct! Now is a good time to go to Ohiostatebeekeepers.org and check to see if your club information is correct. If not, send the corrections to webmaster@ohiostatebeekeepers.org. The same issue holds true if your club has started or dropped a website or Facebook page. Get that information to the OSBA webmaster, so people who visit OSBA's site can find your club!

5. Photos! There's nothing that draws people to visit your website or Facebook page like photos of club members and activities, whether from group functions or from member's apiaries! Photos can be part of different pages or posts on your site, or you can have a Photo Album as one of your Menu Categories.

6. Events - Visitors to your website should be able to find any upcoming events, including club meetings. These could be a list under an Events category, or on a calendar. On Facebook, there is already an events page ready for you in the list to the left. It is very helpful to visitors to be able to find the date for an event, months ahead of time - even a year - if you know it.

7. Resources - Your club website can be more than just the pretty face of your club. It can be used to educate your members and anyone who stumbles across it. You can provide links to other educational and well-respected, dependable websites. Do not copy and paste information from another website - most often, that is copyright infringement. Instead, post the link. Post instructional beekeeping video links for YouTube or posts members’ apiary videos. It’s a great way to share helpful articles or forms like hive inspection checklists or “What to do in you hive this month” posts.

8. Membership information - A menu category on your website should have membership information - how to join, how much dues are, and even a downloadable application.

9. Swarm List - It is helpful to the community if a swarm list of phone numbers of willing members is available. This could be posted on Facebook as well, under Files.

10. Newsletters - if you have a club newsletter, posting it on your website or Facebook page is a convenient place for people to go back to reference it if they don't have a copy in their email. It also lets visitors get an idea of what you club is doing and maybe become interested in joining.
11. **Classifieds/For Sale** - This is not as easy to do on Facebook, but it's a great asset for your members to be able to post the hive resources they sell if your club has a website. It helps us “Shop Local” and support other members.

12. **Things not to publish** - There are, of course, things that should not be published on your club website or Facebook page. Unless you have a way to partition your website and have a password protected section that only members can see, don’t put anything on your website that you don’t want shared with the public, DON’T post financial information about your club or club member contact information (unless you have their permission). Club contact lists should only go to members, and only if people want their info shared. This can be done with a club link to a Google Drive folder or Drop Box, or a paper copy. Private correspondence between members or club leaders should never appear on your site.

Having a club presence on the web is a great recruiting and outreach tool. Spread the story of bees and your group of beekeepers by using Facebook, a website under OSBA’s website or you club’s own site, to tell the world about what you are doing!

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**OSBA Fall Conference**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

**Proud to present**

**Dr. Hongmei Li-Byarlay**

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**Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk**

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There was a time when almost every rural British family who kept bees followed a strange tradition. Whenever there was a death in the family, someone had to go out to the hives and tell the bees of the terrible loss that had befallen the family. Traditionally, the bees were kept abreast of not only deaths but all important family matters including births, marriages, and long absence due to journeys. If the bees were not told, all sorts of calamities were thought to happen. This peculiar custom is known as “telling the bees”. The typical way to tell the bees was for the head of the household, or “goodwife of the house” to go out to the hives, knock gently to get the attention of the bees, and then softly murmur in a doleful tune the solemn news. Little rhymes developed over the centuries specific to a particular region. In Nottinghamshire, the wife of the dead was heard singing quietly in front of the hive “The master's dead, but don't you go; Your mistress will be a good mistress to you.” Germany, a similar couplet was heard—“Little bee, our lord is dead; Leave me not in my distress.”

This is 1800’s old tradition among beekeepers to “Tell the Bees” continuing with this tradition, OSBA wanting to recognize any beekeepers that have recently passed away. 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.

Long-time Ironton resident Lawrence Wilson “Larry” Freeman passed away at King's Daughters Hospital in Ashland, KY on the morning of July 6, 2020 after a prolonged struggle with lung illnesses.

Larry was born in Ironton on February 26, 1935 to Lawrence Suiter Freeman and Carolyn Ruth Wilson. He spent his early childhood on his family's farm in South Point, OH, where he developed his lifelong love of gardening. The family moved to Ironton in 1942, and eventually settled on a small farm in west Ironton in 1946, where Larry lived and gardened the remainder of his life.

He graduated from Ironton High School in 1952 and joined the Army in 1954, where he was promoted to Sergeant First Class, serving in Korea in 1955-56 and in the Army Reserves until 1959. He joined the Dow Chemical Company in Hanging Rock, OH in 1957, where he worked until his retirement in 1992. His most recent position was as Maintenance Supervisor in the Styrofoam plant, though he served as Interim Plant Manager and in several other positions over his career at Dow.

On October 2, 1960, he married the love of his life Linda Lou Kershey at the First Baptist Church in Ironton, where they have been members ever since. During his lifetime, Larry visited all 50 US states. In addition to traveling and spending time with his wife, sons, and grandsons, Larry's hobbies and interests were numerous. He and his father were locally well-known for growing and selling vegetables from their extensive west Ironton garden for almost 75 years. He was also a beekeeper for over 50 years, known for his locally produced honey, and a long-time respected member of the Lawrence County Beekeepers Association.

He was a life-long Cincinnati Reds fan through the greatest and not so great seasons. Larry was a highly-skilled carpenter and woodworker, remodeling his home by himself a number of times and designing and building furniture, canoes, guns, custom machinery and many other items, often as gifts for friends and family. He was also a history buff and enjoyed visiting museums and monuments. He served on the board of the Lawrence County Historical Society for several years. Larry was keenly interested in genealogy. He was proud to be a descendant of William Freeman & Sarah Parker Freeman, one of the earliest families to settle in Lawrence County, OH; and of having numerous ancestors who served in the Revolutionary War and US Civil War.
In addition to his wife Linda, he is survived by sons Scott Freeman (& wife Kathy) of Montgomery, OH and Kent Freeman (& wife Adriana) of New York, NY; grandson Rob Freeman of Columbus, OH; grandsons David and Will Freeman of Montgomery, OH; sister Alice Bruneau of Ironton; and brother Dale Freeman (& wife Karen) of Winter Haven, FL. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by sister Nancy Freeman.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Lung Association. To view video, please click the following link: Larry Freeman Tribute

For the love of honey, Donald A. Downs, rounded up his first swarm of bees in 1962. He wanted to provide for his wife and family, which grew to include seven children, as he transitioned into building his own electrical contracting business.

Though interested in apitherapy and its possibilities, it wasn't until 30 years later Don met apitherapist Jim Higgins at a Tri-County Beekeepers Association meeting in Wooster, Ohio. Jim encouraged him to join the American Apitherapy Society, and they attended many beekeeping conventions together. An AAS member for 20 years, Don even took his wife along to a World Beekeeping Federation Conference in Athens, Greece one year. Since stinging his first patients in 1992, Don saw positive results with nearly everything he has treated—multiple sclerosis, diabetes, Lyme's disease, arthritis, scar tissue, torn ligaments, broken bones, shingles, sinus issues, cancer, warts, lesions and more.

Three nights a week for nearly 30 years, Don continued to treat thousands of people who came to the apitherapy “bee room” he added onto his home. Those who visited—and kept returning—found relief from pain, experienced faster and more complete healing and gained better control of their mobility. A life member of the Lorain County Beekeepers Association and Indiana Beekeepers Association, Don said his favorite part was getting to know the people and hearing about all the stories and miracles. Don started a book two years ago on his experiences with venom therapy and it's expected to be published next year.

Don passed away Sept. 29 after a lengthy illness. The family plans to continue to make available the many products produced through his work with honey bees.

Barry Conrad beekeeper, photographer, and bee supplier.

If you started beekeeping in central or southern Ohio in the past 20 years, you likely met Barry Conrad when you were buying your bees and equipment. If you visited the Ohio State Beekeeping Pavilion at the Ohio State Fair, you saw him. He was there every year, escorting the American Beekeeping Federation royalty and doing the fair's inaugural bee beard. He was a familiar face at state bee meetings and seldom missed an ABF conference, regardless of the distance.

Barry died Sept. 30, 2020 after a lengthy illness that for the last several months, had kept him from living the life he loved as a beekeeper.

Barry and his wife, Carmen, operated Conrad Hive & Honey in Canal Winchester with family members for nearly 20 years. Barry sold equipment and bees and he loved to share his knowledge of beekeeping with early learners and sage veterans. He was an officer for several years with Central Ohio Beekeepers Associa-
This year’s National Honey Show, 22nd to 24th October 2020, will be a professional, online conference the first event of its kind in the UK beekeeping world! Check the website for more information and place for registering for each day’s link. Everyone is welcome to attend the event, free of charge. Registration will go live in early October.

Attendees will be able to attend lectures, demonstrations, visit our trade hall and take part in other exciting activities. Planning for the virtual conference is evolving so visit our website and Facebook for more news as we add content to the show over the coming weeks.

Live Lectures:
Michael Palmer, A year at French Hill Apiaries
Etienne Bruneau, The honey market in turmoil
Jeff Pettis, Long live the queen, please! Why are queens failing?

Live Demonstrations:
Gwyn Marsh, Making Beeswax Wraps
Chris Park, Skep Making
Sara Robb, Making Beeswax soap
John Goodwin, Showing honey

http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/general-announcements.php
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As beekeepers, we spend a lot of our time and energy tending our bees on planet Earth. Did you know that honeybees have actually made it to outer space? I find this fascinating as a complete space nerd and someone who works for NASA for my full time job. I am constantly sharing my work with my bees to colleagues (and even astronauts!) in my daily meetings and through public (virtual) educational outreach opportunities. I often feel I am in a spacesuit walking out to my hives.

Bee Culture did an incredible feature on the history of bees in space in November of 2019 as last year marked the 50th anniversary of the first humans landing on the moon as part of the NASA Apollo 11 lunar mission. I highly encourage you to check out the article and the images they shared. [https://www.beeculture.com/bees-in-space/](https://www.beeculture.com/bees-in-space/).

A more recent adventure with bees in space involves the International Space Station, which is celebrating a 20 year anniversary of continuous human presence in space this fall. Have you heard of Project Astrobee? [https://www.nasa.gov/astrobee](https://www.nasa.gov/astrobee).

The following is an excerpt about the exciting project that is flying around the Earth as you read the OSBA October Newsletter.

NASA has developed three new robotic teammates to work alongside astronauts on the International Space Station as they help to advance research.

Astrobee, NASA’s new free-flying robotic system, will help astronauts reduce time they spend on routine duties, leaving them to focus more on the things that only humans can do. Working autonomously or via remote control by astronauts, flight controllers or researchers on the ground, the robots are designed to complete tasks such as taking inventory, documenting experiments conducted by astronauts with their built-in cameras or working together to move cargo throughout the station. In addition, the system serves as a research platform that can be outfitted and programmed to carry out experiments in microgravity - helping us to learn more about how robotics can benefit astronauts in space.

The Astrobee system consists of three cubed-shaped robots, software and a docking station used for recharging. The robots use electric fans as a propulsion system that allows them to fly freely through the microgravity environment of the station. Cameras and sensors help them to “see” and navigate their surroundings. The robots also carry a perching arm that allows them to grasp station handrails in order to conserve energy or to grab and hold items.

Robots will play a significant part in the agency's mission to [return to the Moon](https://www.nasa.gov/astrobee) as well as other deep space missions. Robots such as Astrobee, have the capacity to become caretakers for future spacecraft, working to monitor and keep systems operating smoothly while crew are away.

**Astrobee Fast Facts:**
- The three robots are named Honey, Queen and Bumble.
- The robots are shaped like cubes 12.5 inches wide.
- When needed, the robots can return to their docking station and recharge the battery power.
- Each robot also carries a perching arm that allows it to grasp station handrails in order to conserve energy or to assist astronauts.
How amazing is this? I highly recommend checking out these additional links below on how the robotic bees are helping our astronauts in space. I personally work on the Artemis Missions at NASA. These missions are taking humanity back to the Moon to stay, and eventually informing our path to land and live on Mars in the near future. There is no doubt in my mind, the team work and research involved with working with these hi-tech robotics will inspire a new generation of explorers to live and work in space.

It is so exciting to see our hard working bees getting the recognition they deserve, both on and off the planet! Links to learn more:

- Hi Honey! NASA's Second Astrobee Wakes Up in Space
- NASA's New Flying Robots: Bee-ing in Space for the First Time
- Astrobears First Robot Completes Initial Hardware Checks in Space
- 'Look, No Hands! NASAs First Astrobee Robot “Bumble” Starts Flying in Space

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Bee City USA
Bee City USA fosters ongoing dialogue in urban areas to raise awareness of the role pollinators play in our communities and what each of us can do to provide them with healthy habitat. The Bee City USA program endorses a set of commitments, defined in a resolution, for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet.
Find it at: https://www.beeCityusa.org/

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http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/place-an-order/

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For the Beekeeper: Order OSBA merchandise, DVD’s ADK books, etc.
One day when he was out walking, he came to an open place in the middle of the forest. In the middle of this place was a large oak tree. From the top of the tree there came a loud buzzing noise.

Winnie the Pooh sat down at the foot of the tree, put this head between his paws, and began to think. First of all he said to himself: “That buzzing noise means something… You don't get a buzzing noise like that - just buzzing and buzzing – without it meaning something. If there's a buzzing noise, somebody's making a buzzing noise, and the only reason for making a buzzing noise that I know of is because you're a bee…” Then he thought another long time and said “And the only reason for being a bee that I know of is making honey.”

And then he got up and said “And the only reason for making honey is so I can eat it…!”

Like Winnie the Pooh, most people love honey. Yummy and satisfying, it tickles the palate delightfully while bestowing upon the eater the virtue of consuming a natural and healthy sweet rather than the guilt of ingesting dextrose-laden cakes, candy bars and ice cream devoid of any salutary benefits.

Throughout recorded history, mankind has risked life and limb to harvest this “nectar of the gods.” Cave paintings thought to be 8000 years old have been found in Spain showing brave folk hanging by vines from the edge of cliffs to reach wild hives and harvest honey. Honey was also gathered from logs and brave souls climbed trees and faced the wrath of irritated bees to remove comb from hives tucked away in rotted branches and hollows.

Ever inventive, humans eventually began domesticating bees for easier access to, and more plentiful, honey. Beekeeping is documented to have been well established in Egypt 4,500 years ago, though many experts believe it began much earlier. Hieroglyphs and wall drawings show that beekeeping was very important in ancient Egyptian society. Egyptian beekeepers made simple hives by excavating voids in hillsides and walls and by establishing hives in horizontal clay vessels. They discovered how to use smoke to attenuate their bees' response to human interference and they used clay jars to store the honey harvest. Some of these jars were discovered in the tombs of pharaohs during recent archaeological excavations.

Skeps are conical baskets that were used in beekeeping throughout Europe beginning in the Middle Ages. (Some European beekeepers still use them.) They are placed open-end-down often with a small opening at the bottom for bees to enter. They are believed to have been first used in Ireland, where they were made from wicker plastered with mud until after the Middle Ages when almost all were made completely of straw. In Northern and Western Europe, skeps were made of coils of grass or straw. There is no internal structure provided for the bees and the colony must produce its own honeycomb, which is attached to the inside of the skep in a haphazard fashion. This has two particularly strong disadvantages: beekeepers cannot inspect the comb for diseases and pests, and honey removal usually results in the destruction of the entire colony. To harvest honey, beekeepers would drive the bees out using burning sticks saturated with sulfur or hold the skep over a pit containing burning sulfur and other noxious substances that created smoke. By the mid-nineteenth century, beekeepers developed a practice known as “driving,” which entailed drumming rhythmically on a skep housing bees thereby driving them into a new skep placed strategically above it. The process, though irritating to the bees, preserved the hive. Today in the United States it is illegal to keep bees in skeps due to the difficulty of inspecting for, and treating, disease.

Beekeepers in Africa and Asia often use “top-bar hives.” A bar is placed across the top of a bee enclosure to give the bees a starting point for building the comb. In the US, a top-bar hive is typically a long horizontal piece with 10 to 12 bars evenly spaced on rails. Unfortunately, top-bar hives have the same flaw as the skep in that comb must be destroyed in order to harvest honey.
In 1851, the Reverend Lorenzo Langstroth discovered that when bees have less than 3/8 inch or greater than 1/4 inch between solid structures inside the hive enclosure, they do not build burr comb or close the space with propolis. This measurement is called “bee space.” The discovery of bee space led to the invention of the Langstroth movable frame hive.

A Langstroth hive is a modular beehive with vertically hung frames, a bottom board with entrance for the bees, boxes containing frames for brood and honey, and an inner cover and top cap to provide weather protection. In a Langstroth hive, the bees build honeycomb onto frames, which can be easily removed or rearranged as required.

Langstroth's hive was originally patented in 1852 and the basic design is still in use today with only minor modifications.

In 1858 Langstroth moved to Oxford, Ohio. Langstroth planted bee-friendly trees and flowers throughout his property calling it his “honey garden.” He lived there from 1858 to 1887. Langstroth's residence has been designated a National Historic Landmark. It was donated to Western College for Women and is today home to the Miami University Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching.

In 1887 Langstroth moved with his daughter, Mrs. H.C. Cowan, and her family to Dayton, Ohio. Langstroth died as he was beginning a sermon in the pulpit of the Wayne Avenue Presbyterian Church in Dayton on October 6, 1895.

"Successful Overwintering”. This program covers the basics of getting bees ready for winter and steps that beekeepers take to improve winter survival of honeybees. We are still offering the OSBA Traveling Speaker Program as a Zoom webinar for 2020.

There is a nominal fee for a Traveling Speaker Presentation: $35 for OSBA affiliates, and $50 for non-affiliates. We are currently accepting reservations for these presentations. To schedule a speaker, please contact, Joe Heider at travelingspeaker@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

What topics would you like OSBA have as a traveling speaker program for 2021? You’re welcome to give us your comments of subject topics, interest, and the program as a whole. Thank you to those that scheduled a presentation, gave us feedback, and participated. Good luck to overwintering those colonies!

Other topics available through the Traveling Speaker Program include:
- Sustainable Beekeeping Management: Hobbyist Queen-Rearing -ADK Presentation
- Monitoring for Sustainability
- Sustainable Beekeeping using Nucs
OSBA is a non-profit organization with a mission to promote beekeeping in the state of Ohio. OSBA Board of Directors is 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 the business of OSBA. Get to know your Representatives; they are here to help you.

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Quarterly Newsletter - 2021 Deadlines

**January Edition**
Articles / Photos  December 1st

**April Edition**
Articles / Photos  March 1st

**July Edition**
Articles / Photos  June 1st

**October Edition**
Articles / Photos  September 1st

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If you have any updates or changes, please contact Kelly Morse newsletter@ohiostatebeekeepers.org
Answers from July Edition

RED - worker brood, GREEN - drone brood, BLUE - capped honey

The Queen Mandibular Pheromone
The (QMP) has releaser effects and primer effects - label each one below as R - releaser / P - primer.

- **R** Retinue behavior
- **P** Queen rearing
- **R** Guarding
- **P** Foraging
- **R** Drone attraction & mating
- **P** Worker reproduction
- **P** Comb building
- **P** Swarming clustering
- **P** Brood feeding
Ohio Beekeeping is the official publication of the Ohio State Beekeepers Association. Annual subscriptions are included with membership in OSBA. Send news about your bees and your experiences, as well as any corrections, letters, comments, photographs, story suggestions, interviews, and additional requests to:

Or email: editor@ohiostatebeekeepers.org

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Thank you on behalf of our collective newsletter colony,

Jamie Walters

Ohio State Beekeepers Association 2021 Membership Form

Ohio State Beekeepers Association is a 501c3 non-profit organization supporting people who have an interest in honey bees 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 honey bees 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:

Ohio State Beekeepers Association
955 Murnan Road
Galloway, OH 43119

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: ______________ State: ___ Zip: ______________ County: ______________
Phone: (__ _) ______-___________ Email Address (Print neatly) _______________________

Name of Local Bee Association: ____________________________________

Number of Hives: ____________
☐ $15.00 Senior (age 60 or over)/for 1 year
☐ $15.00 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 would like to be on the OSBA Swarm List
☐ I would also like to donate ☐ $5 ☐ $10 ☐ $20 ☐ $_________ to support 4-H/FFA and honey bee research.

Membership is based on the calendar year, January through December
OSBA is a 501c3. Donations may be tax-deductible.
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2020 BEE PACKAGES

The Leibengoods wish you luck with your honeybees & thank you for a terrific season!

Stay tuned for 2021!

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