

# The Skep

February 2018

Columbiana & Mahoning Beekeepers' Association Newsletter

## President's Corner:

Hello Fellow Beekeepers and welcome to winter 2018!! I have had my fill of winter this year, and like many of you, I look forward to spring and the warmer days that lay ahead.

As a reminder, I will be filling in for our new President George Stacey for a few months, so please bear with me!

Please remember to pay your annual membership dues. These dues help us with the month to month operation of the club, so it's important to remember to keep current. Please see our treasurer, Don Kovach, to make your payment.

Now is the time to be working on your equipment doing repairs, cleaning and disinfecting dead outs, and assembling new items. Before you know it, bee season will be in full swing with swarm season, performing splits, and rearing queens.

Also, please take advantage of the educational opportunities available to you. Our friends at Tri County beekeepers out of Wooster, Ohio are having their seminar the first weekend in March. This is a great opportunity to learn, network with others in the hobby, and get decent deals on equipment.

Best Wishes,

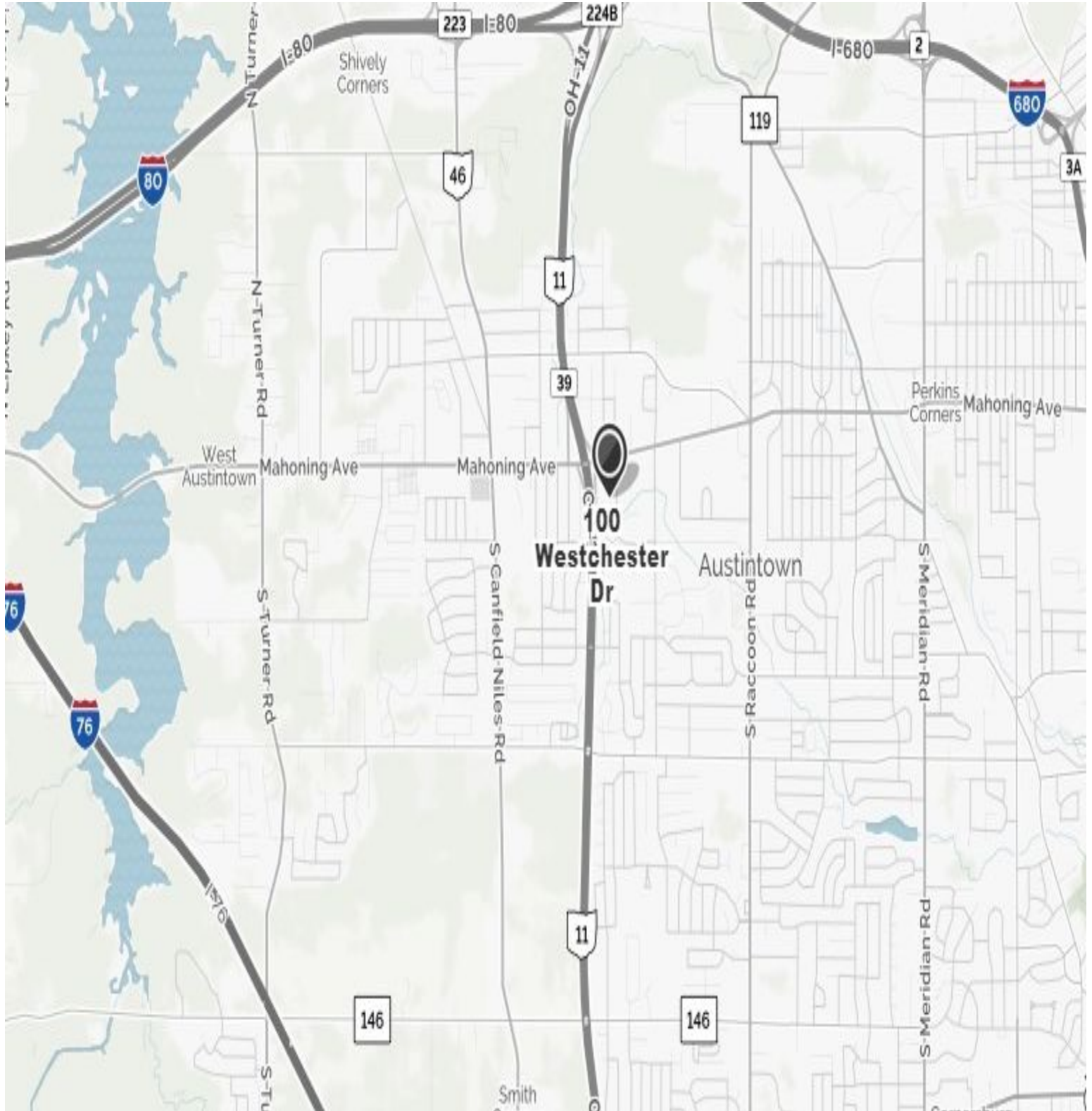
Bruce Deafenbaugh

## February Meeting Information:

**Next Meeting: 02/18/2018,  
Monthly Membership Meeting and Luncheon  
Austintown Senior Center  
100 Westchester Drive  
Austintown, Ohio 44515**

**Potluck Lunch at 1 pm and  
Membership meeting at 2 pm.**

**As a Reminder: Please bring your own  
tableware;  
Plates, Cups, Silverware etc.**



# Reminder for UpComing Education events:

Mark your calendars!

The 40th Annual TCBA Spring Beekeepers Workshop

March 2-3, 2018

Featuring Dr. Jamie Ellis, Randy Oliver and more....

[Tricountybeekeepers.org](http://Tricountybeekeepers.org)



**Registration opens 01/15/2018--Do not delay, only 1000 registrants will be taken.**

## Western PA Beekeeper Seminar

January 4 at 8:09am · 🌐

\*\*\*Register NOW for the premier beekeeping event in Western PA!!!!\*\*

February 16 & 17, 2018 in Monroeville, PA (just east of Pittsburgh)

We have national, regional and local experts!

We have break out sessions for the newest beekeepers to the most experienced!

REGISTER TODAY! REGISTER NOW!



## Western Pennsylvania Beekeeping Seminar 2018

[FRIENDRAISING.DONORPRO.COM](http://FRIENDRAISING.DONORPRO.COM)

## OSU Bee Lab 2018 Workshop Registration

Registration is now open for:

March 1, Pollinators on Ohio Farms: An Integrated Crop Pollination Approach

March 15: Bumble Bees in Ohio: Biology, Identification and Conservation

March 16: Ohio Pollinator Advocate training

All programs will be held at OARDC in Wooster.

For additional details, visit: <http://u.osu.edu/beelab/courses/>

e-mail Denise: [ellsworth.2@osu.edu](mailto:ellsworth.2@osu.edu) with any questions.

Complete the following fields to register. Your registration is not complete until you send a check made out to The Ohio State University. Send to: OSU Bee Lab, Denise Ellsworth, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, OH 44646. Checks may be combined.

To register for an additional person, select "Submit Another Response" on the confirmation page.

Registration deadline is one week before the workshop date.

# WANTED

## Varroa destructor



For the wanton destruction of Honey Bee colonies worldwide

Yours could be next


Take the challenge

### TEST YOUR HIVE TODAY!

[www.mitecheck.com](http://www.mitecheck.com)

## Eversweet Apiaries HONEYBEE BREEDS

Honeybees are usually selected for their positive traits which are passed down from the queen & the drones she mated with. There are pros & cons for each breeds' traits. These breeds are the most common in the United States.



TRAIT	AFRICAN	BUCKFAST	CARNIOLAN	CAUCASIAN	CORDOVAN	ITALIAN	RUSSIAN
CALM ON COMBS	1	10	8	10	7	5	5
DEFENSIVE BEHAVIOR	10	1	1	1	1	2	7
EARLY BUILD UP	10	8	10	6	5	8	10
FORAGES EARLY	5	10	10	1	5	5	10
HONEY COLLECTION	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
HONEY STORAGE	1	10	10	8	8	10	5
NOSEMA RESISTANT	10	5	6	1	5	5	5
POLLEN COLLECTION	5	5	10	5	5	5	5
PROPOLIS COLLECTION	5	5	2	10	5	5	5
TENDENCY TO SWARM	10	2	5	2	5	2	7
TRACHEAL MITE RESISTANT	8	10	8	3	5	5	9
VARROA RESISTANT	10	3	4	3	3	3	5
WINTERS WELL	1	10	10	10	5	10	10

1 = Low Tendency for Trait      10 = High Tendency for Trait

85 Everhart Drive      Kearneysville, WV 25430      (304) 876-3832  
[info@eversweetapiaries.com](mailto:info@eversweetapiaries.com)      [eversweetapiaries.com](http://eversweetapiaries.com)      [facebook.com/eversweetapiaries](https://facebook.com/eversweetapiaries)

## **2017 Officers**

**President-- George Stacey 330-360-8717**

**V.President--Bruce Deafenbaugh 330-457-0326**

**Secretary-- Donna Birmingham 330-424-5305**

**Treasurer--Don Kovach 330-272-3711**

**Board: Bill Dehoff (2018) 330-549-2984**

**Andrea Deafenbaugh (2019) 330-457-0326**

**Ralph Rupert (2020) 330-400-8581**

## **2018 Club Sponsors and Donors:**

**A.I. Root- Bee Culture**

**Applewood Seed Company**

**Betterbee**

**Bee Smart Designs**

**Beeline Apiaries**

**Blue Sky Bee Supply**

**Brushy Mountain**

**Buckeye Queen Producers**

**Dadant - American Bee Journal**

**Draper's Super Bee Apiaries**

**Ernst Seeds**

**Heartwood Lumber**

**Honey Bee Ware**

**Kelley Beekeeping**

**Mann Lake**

**Olivarez Honey Bees**

**Pigeon Mountain Trading**

**Queen Right Colonies**

**Rossman Apiaries**

**Valley Bee Supply**

**Western Bee Supplies**

**HillTop Honey Farm--Steve Davis**

Click on the company name to visit their web site.

# Monthly Honey Recipe:

## APPLE BAKLAVA BITES



### INGREDIENTS:

**½ cup walnuts chopped**

**1 T butter cut into 8 cubes**

**1 T sugar**

**½ tsp.cinnamon**

**⅛ tsp. vanilla extract**

**Pinch salt**

**1 apple peeled and finely diced (about ½ cup)**

**1 T flour**

**1 package mini fillo shells (15 shells)**

**¼ cup water**

**¼ cup honey**

**⅛ tsp. Cardamom optional**

**½ lemon juiced**

## **DIRECTIONS**

Heat your oven to 350°F.

Arrange the fillo shells on a baking sheet.

Add the walnuts, butter, sugar, cinnamon, vanilla, and salt to a food processor or blender; process until the ingredients come together into a chunky dough. Combine the apples and flour in a medium mixing bowl. Add the walnut mixture; mix well.

Pack about 1 heaping tsp. of the apple-walnut mixture into each fillo shell. Bake for 10 minutes.

While the baklava bakes, combine the water and honey in a saucepan. Bring to a boil, then simmer for 8-10 minutes or until reduced to a thin syrup. Stir in the cardamom and lemon juice.

Carefully spoon the syrup over the baked baklava, letting it seep into the walnut filling.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

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## **January Membership Meeting Recap:**

\*Bill Dehoff is recovering from an illness. Please keep him in your thoughts.

\*Eric Barnett from Ohio Dept of Ag will speak in April on crop spraying and beekeepers rights.

\*William Bacho is a recipient of the OSBA and 4-H grant to become involved in beekeeping. He will be mentored by our own Lori Mowad.

\*Bruce reminded to feed the bees at 50 degrees and above and use 10% bleach solution to sanitize your bee equipment that may be contaminated.

\*New Category for Pollen entries will be implemented for the upcoming Canfield Fair. There are several sources for pollen traps to use.

\*Small Hive beetle is starting to be seen in our area. Please try to attend any class you can on this topic. The upcoming Wooster seminar will feature a lecture on this in March.

\*Don Kovach will be having field days again at Mill Creek Park on the following dates: 4/21, 4/28, and 5/5. This is a great opportunity for hands on experience under the watchful eyes of a master beekeeper using their supplies and bees! Maximum of 10 students per session.

\*Numerous vendors/members are taking orders for bee packages and nucs with prices ranging from \$105 to \$135.

Member Steve Davis--packages 330-881-0733 [hilltophoneyfarm@gmail.com](mailto:hilltophoneyfarm@gmail.com)

Queen Rite colonies packages--<http://www.queenrightcolonies.com/>

Simpsons Bee supply <http://www.simpsonsbeesupply.com/>

\*The Fair Board is installing a new display outside of the Hay and Grain building this year.

## Fair Submission Rules for Pollen Entries:

### Pollen

Pollen should be in a clear container so you can view the pollen granules. A judge needs to see evidence that the pellets have been cleaned, (little or no chaff). The pollen should have been frozen by the beekeeper to kill any wax moth eggs that may have been collected along with the pollen. The pellets should have a consistency in color for the show. If one wants to exhibit yellow pollen, the red, black, and green granules should be sorted out. The texture can be tested by pressing several granules together between the thumb and finger it should form a firm pliable mass, not clump and not crumble. The aroma should be pleasant and not musty.



Figure 38: Pollen

# SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

## Lithium chloride effectively kills the honey bee parasite *Varroa destructor* by a systemic mode of action

Bettina Ziegelmann<sup>1</sup>, Elisabeth Abele<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Hannus<sup>2</sup>, Michaela Beitzinger<sup>2</sup>, Stefan Berg<sup>3</sup> & Peter Rosenkranz<sup>1</sup>

Honey bees are increasingly important in the pollination of crops and wild plants. Recent reports of the weakening and periodical high losses of managed honey bee colonies have alarmed beekeeper, farmers and scientists. Infestations with the ectoparasitic mite *Varroa destructor* in combination with its associated viruses have been identified as a crucial driver of these health problems. Although yearly treatments are required to prevent collapses of honey bee colonies, the number of effective acaricides is small and no new active compounds have been registered in the past 25 years. RNAi-based methods were proposed recently as a promising new tool. However, the application of these methods according to published protocols has led to a surprising discovery. Here, we show that the lithium chloride that was used to precipitate RNA and other lithium compounds is highly effective at killing *Varroa* mites when fed to host bees at low millimolar concentrations. Experiments with caged bees and brood-free artificial swarms consisting of a queen and several thousand bees clearly demonstrate the potential of lithium as miticidal agent with good tolerability in worker bees providing a promising basis for the development of an effective and easy-to-apply control method for mite treatment.

Honey bees play a central role in agriculture as pollinators and their global economic contribution to food production is estimated between 235 and 285 bn US\$ annually<sup>1</sup>. Their value to the ecosystem lies in the fact that honey bees pollinate more than 90% of insect-pollinated plants, and as generalist, they are crucial for the buffering of pollination networks<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, recent reports of a general weakening of honey bees, which has led to periodical high losses of managed colonies have not only startled beekeeper and bee scientists but have also raised public concern. High colony losses not only exacerbate the management of honey bee colonies but also significantly increase the costs of pollination services<sup>3</sup> with consequences to global crop production.

Although the reasons for the current problems of honey bee health have not been completely unravelled, the haemolymph-sucking ectoparasitic mite *Varroa destructor* is considered a crucial driver of this global plight of honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) colonies<sup>4-7</sup>, and no other parasite or pathogen has had a comparable impact on bee health or beekeeping in the long history of apiculture<sup>8</sup>. Originally, *V. destructor* exclusively parasitized the Eastern honey bee *Apis cerana*. In the new host, *A. mellifera* the mite population grows exponentially during the periods when the honey bee colony has brood because female mites can exclusively reproduce within sealed worker or drone brood cells. High mite infestation levels lead to severe host damages by loss of haemolymph and even worse by the transmission and activation of certain honey bee viruses<sup>9,10</sup>. The most striking difference between the transmission of viruses per feeding and by contact among bees within a colony and by *Varroa* is that the mite directly injects the virus into the haemolymph, leading to a by-pass of host defence mechanisms. Migratory beekeeping practices and high colony densities have further aggravated the problem by favouring the horizontal transmission of bee viruses among neighbouring colonies through the mite vector<sup>11</sup>. This scenario has resulted

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To read the entire article, please click on the link below:

<http://rdcu.be/GGVu>

