



The Skep

March 2020

Columbiana & Mahoning Beekeepers' Association Newsletter

President's Corner

Spring is just around the corner and hopefully everyone is set for new packages to arrive or ready to prepare splits to expand your apiary. The warmish winter has many wondering how their hives have survived as those warm days cause a lot of hive activity and then a sudden cold snap sends us all back to reality. Hopefully the warmer days have led to lower honey demand and food source is still in abundance. My hive is still quite heavy.

This month we are focusing on other pollinators. I have encouraged several groups especially a young Girl Scout troop to discuss and build solitary bee hotels. These groups can't take care of a honeybee hive but it still makes them aware of the importance of all our pollinators.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

President
Ralph Rupert

March Meeting Information:

Meeting Date: 03/15/2020,
Monthly Membership Meeting and
Luncheon

Austintown Senior Center
100 Westchester Drive
Suite 108
Austintown, Ohio 44515

Potluck Lunch at 1 pm and
Membership meeting at 2 pm

Effective May 2019 you no longer need to bring your own tableware; Plates, Cups, Silverware etc. These will be provided by the club.

Guest Speaker: Julie Bartolone / Bruce Zimmer

Topic: Alternate Pollinators/Bee Plants

Next Meeting: 04/19/2019



Meeting Highlights:

- Treasurer Recap:
 - The board approved this year's budget.
 - The financial statement was also approved by the Board.
- Ralph:
 - Committees have been and are being established to increase member involvement.
- Announcements:
 - A request was made to support Trickling Springs Country Store in Leetonia (40949 State Route 558, Leetonia, OH 44431). The candy for the fair will be coming from there.
 - Will be starting mentor/swarm lists from scratch.
 - Order bee packages soon.
- Program: "Where Will the Bees Come From?"
 - Steve Davis talked about bee packages
 - Mike Klem talked about NUCS.
 - A question and answer session was held.

This Month/Next Month in Beekeeping:

March

March is the month that bees may starve out if they don't have enough stores. It should be warm enough to install top feeders and feed 1:1 sugar water. Continue with feeding dry pollen or pollen patties. The bees will start foraging and the Queen should start laying more eggs. Using your best judgement on the weather, you can do hive inspections. Time to put the final push on assembling new woodenware as this year's packages will be here in April and May.

April

Inspect your bee hives and continue feeding if food stores are low and the weather does not permit them to collect enough nectar and pollen. Watch the Queen's laying pattern. If the pattern is sparse and spotty, now would be the time to replace her. If you have multiple hives and one or more of them are struggling this is an excellent time to combine hives.

Educational Opportunities:

Mount Chestnut Bee Club (MCBC)

Tuesday March 10th 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Bill Kopar will be speaking at this meeting.

727 W. Old Route 422 Butler, PA 16001

For more information - Facebook: MCBC - Mount Chestnut Bee Club

Spring Management Workshop

Harrison County

Beekeeper's Seminar

May 9th, 2020 9 AM – 4 PM,

Scio United Methodist Church, 117 Maple St., Scio, OH 43988

EMAIL: harrisonbeekeepers@gmail.com

Featuring

Dr. Kirsten Traynor

Cost (includes lunch) \$25 pre-registration - \$30 for walk-ins

Deadline for mail in pre-registration is May 1st, 2020

Space may be limited, so register early

Schedule:

9:00 AM - Welcome & Introduction - Eric Kimble, HCBA Pres.

9:15 - 10:15 - Queen rearing: Why bother? Is it even possible for a backyard beekeeper? - Kirsten

10:15 - 10:30 - Break

10:30 - 11:30 - How to graft and finish out cells - Kirsten

11:30 - 12:30 - Lunch pulled pork chips tea water coffee provided included

12:30 - 1:30 - Making mating nucs - Kirsten

1:30 - 1:45 - Raffle Drawing for Painted hive form BCCI and others

1:45 - 2:45 - Updates on varroa and what it means to go treatment free with responsibility - Kirsten

2:45 - 3:00 - Break

3:00 - 4:00 - in the apiary - Demo by HCBA members (Bring your veil)

To register: Clip the coupon or send the information below and check to:

Bob Henderson 447 Park Ave. Cadiz, Ohio 43907 Phone: 740-391-9123

Make checks payable to Harrison County Beekeepers Association.

Email: harrisonbeekeepers@gmail.com

-----Start coupon-----

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

-----End coupon-----

This image is here for no other reason than I had to take up some blank space.

Image taken 3/8/2020



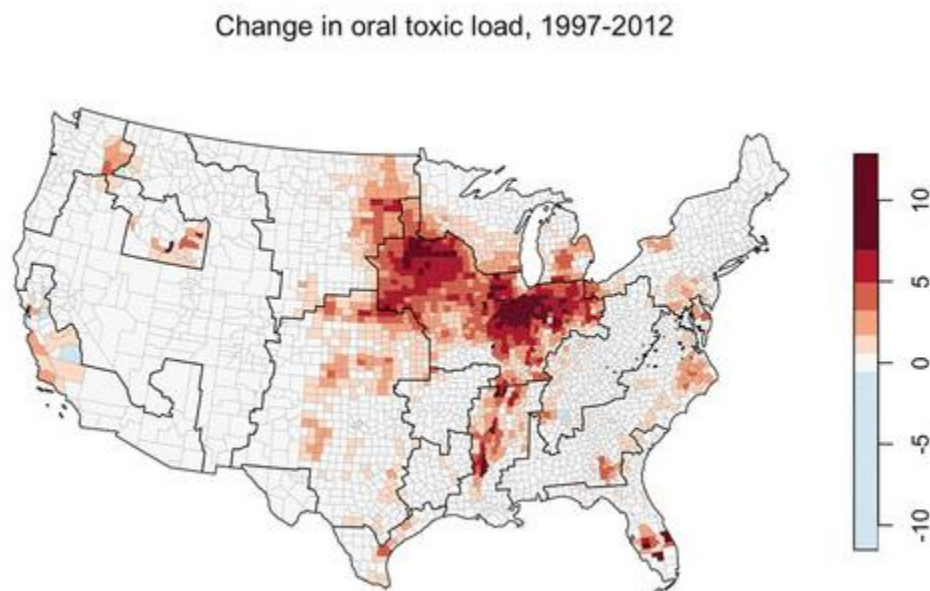
Bees in the News:

Insecticides becoming more toxic to honey bees:

January 21, 2020 Sara LaJeunesse

This article covers a study by Penn State and University of Minnesota. They explore the increasing toxic affects bees are exposed to from 1997 to 2012. Based on their image our area is in the 0 range, which does not mean we are in a toxin free zone. It simply means that in the last 20 years insecticide toxins have not increased. The article does not discuss the long term effects of the increase, they state that would need to be another study.

<https://news.psu.edu/story/604682/2020/01/21/research/insecticides-becoming-more-toxic-honey-bees>



Long Live the Sweat Bee

Or so it would seem. 100 Million Year old fossilized remains of tunnels studded with grape like off shoots were found in Argentina. A family of Bees known as Halictidae (Sweat Bee) builds this type of nest even today.

<https://api.nationalgeographic.com/distribution/public/amp/science/2020/02/oldest-ever-fossil-bee-nests-discovered-in-patagonia>

Members Corner:

Thursday March 5, 2020

I was out checking on the hives and found 4 out of 7 have made it this far. All of them had bees out and foraging for supplies. A number of them were bringing in pollen. I only can guess this is from some of the dandelions that have decided to brave the cold weather and are blooming in the fields. If not dandelions I am not sure where they are getting it.



Monthly Honey Recipe:

JALAPENO HONEY CORNBREAD

Dear Beekeepers and Friends,

This recipe is shared by CMCBA member SONJA TEMELKOFF. Many of you had the opportunity to try this at our last Club Meeting and found it to be so wonderfully good. Definitely a keeper of a recipe, one you'll want to make often. Best part is with Sonja's recipe and all her cooking/baking is she uses honey to replace sugar, no reaching for that sugar canister! Just reach for your local honey bottle, and feel good knowing what goodness is in your food!



Ingredients:

1 cup all- purpose flour
1 cup cornmeal
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup milk
1 egg
¼ cup oil
¼ to ½ cup honey
½ cup chopped jalapeno peppers from a jar

Directions:

Mix all 10 ingredients together and let stand for about 29 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350 to 375 degrees depending on your oven.

Spray cake pan or other pan with baking spray.

Bake 25 – 30 minutes until done.

Honey Butter Whipped ingredients:

****Optional but so worth it****

Use mixer - equal amounts of honey and butter.

2020 Officers

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Vice President	Mike Klem	
Secretary	Kelly Davis	330-881-0755
Treasurer	Bill Traynor	330-720-2669
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Steve Davis	2021	330- 881-0733
Bruce Zimmer	2022	

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Click on the company name to visit their web site.