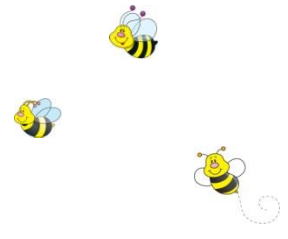


The Skep



President's Corner

Hello Beekeepers!

Last month we learned about the different ways to catch and retrieve swarms. Thank you Dave Duncan for your informative talk at the April meeting. Check out his DVD "Swarms Plus" if you want to see him in action.

With a wide variety of trees and flowers in bloom the bees are bringing in nectar and pollen!

The May Beekeeper's To Do List includes adding honey supers to the hives and making splits from existing colonies. Now is a great time to get the solar wax melter out and melt down the old foundation that you culled out of your hives when doing spring cleanup.

Don't forget to register your hives and sign up for Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry. The deadline is June 1, 2016.

This month we will be taking orders for polo shirts, t-shirts and hats. More information will be available at the meeting. I hope to see you at the next meeting on May 15. ***Bring your own lawn chairs to the meeting please!***

Bruce Zimmer

2016 Tentative Meeting Dates & Locations

June 19	Chuck & Kathryn Hatch
July 17	Bruce & Michele Zimmer
August 21	Don Kovach's Parents' Home
September 18	Shelly & Christian Cirino
October meeting	Details coming soon

May Meeting Details

Speaker Dr. Jean Engle of [Treez Please](#)

Sunday, May 15, 2016

Potluck Lunch 1:00 p.m.

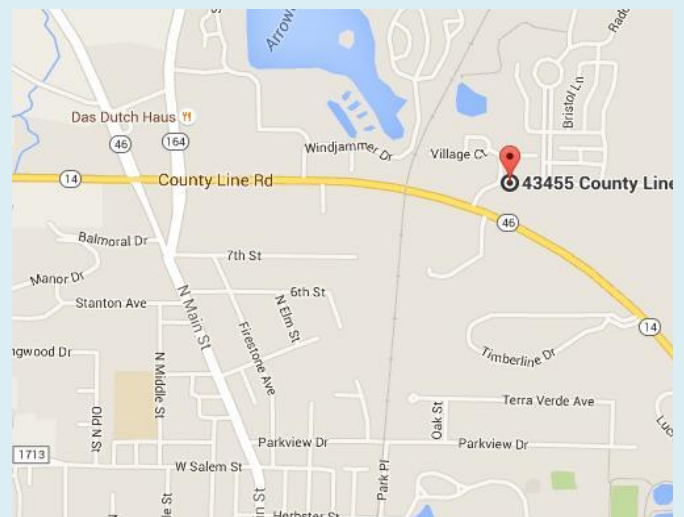
(Bring your own lawn chairs, plates, cups and silverware please.)

Meeting 2:00 p.m.

George & Edwynna Stacy's Home
43455 Country Line Rd.
Columbiana, Ohio 44408

From Rt 11 South take the Ohio 46 exit toward OH-14. Turn left onto OH-46 South/Columbiana-Canfield Rd. for approximately 2.4 miles. Turn left onto County Line Rd E. for about .6 miles then turn left to stay on County Line Road. The Stacy home is a blue house on the right in about 449 feet.

From Rt 11 North take the Ohio 46 exit toward OH-14. Turn right onto OH-46 South/Columbiana-Canfield Rd. and follow the directions above.



Association T-Shirt Orders



This year's shirts are true red with the emblem on the back. If you are interested in ordering shirts please see Andrea Deafenbaugh at an association meeting or call her at (330) 457-0326 . The deadline for orders and payment is Sunday, July 17.

Prices are as follows:

Polo Shirts (up to XL)	\$10.75
Polo Shirts (XXL)	\$11.75
Polo Shirts (3XL)	\$12.75
Polo Shirts (4XL)	\$14.75
T-Shirts (up to XL)	\$7.25
Each additional X in size adds an additional \$1.	
Embroidered name and skep on front of either style of shirt	Additional \$4

Embroidered Caps will be available for \$10 each.

Thank you so much Andrea for organizing this sale!

2016 Membership Roster

As per the Association Bylaws when a member requests a list of current members and their contact information, the roster shall be provided to the membership. I will be printing the 2016 Membership Roster for the June 21 meeting.

If you do not wish for your contact information to be included on the roster please contact Heidi by May 17, 2016.

(330)386-7763

hshmidbauer@columbianamahoningbeekeepers.org

The following poem was written by Walt Crawford, a beekeeper and good friend of Floyd Marshall. Thank you Floyd for sharing the lovely poems and memories of your early beekeeping years.

Beekeepers

By Walt Crawford

A hobby great for men and boys,
And many women share the joys
That keeping bees will surely give,
By understanding how they live.

There's many keep them just for honey,
Or they may think they'll make some money
Some do all right if they have luck
But if misfortune strikes they're stuck.

There's many things that can go wrong,
Which keep the bees from getting strong.
If through neglect, they are not stout,
The keeper's hopes just won't pan out.

Those who treat their bees with love
Will have success that's far above
The folks who do not understand
The things that keeping bees demand.

Most beekeepers get their knowledge
From keeping bees and not from college.
By reading books they're made aware
Of what bee masters have to share.

Equipment needed, by its cost,
Can all too soon our funds exhaust.
Used lumber found, when undertook,
Is easier on the pocket-book.

With measurements and tools to aid,
The wooden parts of hive are made.
All parts must be of standard size;
To change dimensions is not wise.

All parts must fit on any hive.
When shifting things around we strive
To correct problems that we find,
When hives are weak and get behind.

We take some pride in what we've made,
With thoughts of what we could have paid.
But there is greater satisfaction
In seeing honeybees' reaction.

Beekeepers from every state
Join in groups and congregate.
Information passes 'round.
Instruction gained and answers found.

Some will make their gadgets wild
And change designs that years have styled.
If benefits are found to accruing,
They must know just what they're doing.



Don Kovach explains the process of installing a nuc to Grimilda Ocasio just prior to moving her bees into their new home. Thanks to Don and the other mentors for helping our new members get off to a great start in beekeeping.

Bee-worthy Blooms

A sampling of May blooming trees and plants that honey bees use as nectar (N) and/or pollen (P) sources.



American Holly (*Ilex opaca*): N & P
Pollen pellets are yellow.

Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*): N & P
Pollen pellets are gray.



Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*):
N & P A major source of nectar.
Pollen pellets are yellowish-green.

Dandelion (*Taraxicum officinale*): N
& P Pollen pellets are orange.



Tulip Trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*):
N & P A major source of both
pollen and nectar. Pollen pellets
are creamy white.

Resources:

Lindtner, Peter. (2014). *Garden Plants for Honey Bees*. Kalamazoo, MI: Wicwas Press.

Tew, James E. *Some Ohio Nectar and Pollen Producing Plants*, Fact Sheet HYG-2168-98. Wooster, OH: Ohio State University Extension.

P.gibellini - Own work. Licensed under Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons - http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Liriodendron_tulipifera_flower.jpg#/media/File:Liriodendron_tulipifera_flower.jpg

"Rubus fruticosus Luc Viatour" by I, Luc Viatour. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rubus_fruticosus_Luc_Viatour.JPG#/media/File:Rubus fruticosus Luc Viatour.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rubus_fruticosus_Luc_Viatour.JPG#/media/File:Rubus_fruticosus_Luc_Viatour.JPG)

O.S.U. Bee Lab Webinars



The [Ohio State University Bee Lab](http://ohio-state.edu/bee-lab) offers a wealth of information on their website. In addition to a gold mine of native and honey bee links and handouts, there are courses/webinars broadcast on the third Wednesday of each month during the beekeeping season. These webinars are recorded and available, along with the accompanying handouts, on the website for future access as well.

Each [webinar](#) is presented by a trusted beekeeping authority such as Alex Zomchek, Kim Flottum, Jim Tew and Reed Johnson. Since there are a wide range of topics covered there is something of interest for every stage of beekeeping from beginner to experienced.

This year's schedule includes:

May 18	Reed Johnson	<i>Pesticides & Poisons in the Hive: An Overview of Bee Toxicology</i>
June 15	Kim Flottum	<i>Common Sense Natural Beekeeping</i>
July 27	Jim Tew	<i>Some Thoughts on Keeping Your Bees Alive</i>
August 17	Rick Johnstone	<i>Creating Pollinator Habitat on Utility and Highway Rights-of-Way</i>
Sept. 21	Karen Rennich	<i>What the Bee Informed Partnership Means to You</i>
Oct. 19	Greg Hunt	<i>Varroa Mite Resistance in Honey Bees</i>

Planting for Honey Bees and Other Pollinators

In my experience, non-beekeepers often ask what they can do to help honey bees and other pollinators. Offering suggestions for pollinator friendly plantings that are happy in Ohio along with providing appropriate water sources is a great way for them to have a positive impact. Not only will it benefit the bees directly with food and water, but it may spark a deeper interest in the pollinators as the gardener observes them more frequently.



One of the first suggestions is to avoid having a perfectly manicured lawn.

Allowing dandelions and clover to bloom in your grass will provide an important nectar and pollen source. This suggestion has been met with a look of uncertainty on more than one occasion so don't be surprised if you encounter this reaction.



Honey bees visit one or only a few

flowering species with each foraging flight. This behavior is known as flower fidelity or flower constancy and is one of the reasons honey bees are the most dependable agricultural

pollinators. Knowing this behavior leads to the next suggestion. Plant more than one example of each species in a cluster. Bees will be more apt to visit a plant if there is a larger amount of that flower available. For example if you would like to add lavender to your garden, purchase two or three plants and place them together in the same area.



Next, when planning or adding to a garden, variety is

important. Variety in bloom times, flower shapes and flower color all play a role in the success of the pollinator garden. Having blooms available from early spring through fall provides an ongoing food supply. Having a variety of bloom shapes and colors ensures that you are attracting and providing for a variety of pollinators. It also ensures that you are providing sources of nectar and pollen because some plants are better providers of one than the other.



The following list of trees and plants are suggested for their pollen and nectar

contributions. They bloom at a variety of times and cover a wide range of bloom color and shape. The majority

of these plants are best for honey bees but will also attract other pollinators. Additional information and plants can be found in the resources listed following the article.



Spring blooming plants and trees provide the first sources of

pollen and nectar as honey bees build up their brood nest. Maple trees are one of the earliest providers of pollen and nectar for honey bees. Crabapple trees bloom in April and generally provide both resources as well. In May Tulip trees bloom and offer an abundance of nectar and a good amount of pollen. Ohio Spiderwort begins blooming in late May along with Sage and Salvia.



Summer bloomers begin with the Milkweed flowers in

late June. These blooms provide a good nectar source but the pollen is less likely to be collected. Bee-Bee trees bloom in July and into August providing an abundant nectar and pollen source while few plants and trees are producing. Cosmos, zinnias, marigolds and sunflowers are among the annuals that are beneficial to pollinators. Perennials and herbs include hyssop, purple coneflower, Shasta daisies, peonies, lavender and borage.



In the fall honeybees and other pollinators are attracted to goldenrod

for its strong nectar flow and pollen source. Other fall plants include sage, chrysanthemums and asters.

Maintaining a pollinator friendly garden and lawn will have a positive impact on the status of pollinators in Ohio. Not only will it benefit the bees directly with food and water, but it may inspire more interest in honey bees and other pollinators as they are observed by those tending lawns and gardens.

Resources:

Ellsworth, Denise. (2014). [*Attracting Pollinators to the Garden*](#), Fact Sheet ENT-47-14. Wooster, OH: Ohio State University Extension.

Lindtner, Peter. (2014). [*Garden Plants for Honey Bees*](#). Kalamazoo, MI: Wicwas Press.

Pollinator Partnership: [*Selecting Plants for Pollinators, Eastern Broadleaf Forest Oceanic Province*](#). Pollinator Partnership Website. Retrieved April 24, 2016 from www.pollinator.org

Tew, James E. *Some Ohio Nectar and Pollen Producing Plants*, Fact Sheet HYG-2168-98. Wooster, OH: Ohio State University Extension.

The Bee Lab offers a wealth of information, including plant and pollinator guides, Denise Ellsworth's webinar, links to free Power Points and other educational resources at the following link. [OSU Bee Lab Gardening for Bees](#)



Sparkling Honey Limeade

Ingredients

- 1 liter club soda or sparking water, chilled
- 1 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup honey (light colored preferably)
- Ice
- Fresh fruit and mint (optional)

Directions

In a pitcher whisk together 1/2 cup water and sugar until the sugar dissolved. Add the honey and continue to mix until well blended. Stir in lime juice. Pour in club soda or sparkling water and stir once. Add ice, fruit and mint to serve.

*I find it easier to use 1/2 cup room temperature water, add the sugar and honey as directed then chill the blended mixture.

Recipe & Photo courtesy of www.cookingclassy.com

2016 Officers

President	Bruce Zimmer	330-547-2273
V.President	Tom Pittman	330-503-3131
Secretary	Heidi Schmidbauer	330-386-7763
Treasurer	Sandra Hays	330-921-5805
Board:	George Stacy (2016)	330-360-8717
	Joe Schmidbauer (2017)	330-386-7763
	Chuck Hatch (2018)	330-807-0848

Special thanks to our generous suppliers who have provided us with catalogs, donations and door prizes. It means a lot to these folks to hear back from you, so be sure to mention our association when doing business with them:

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Brushy Mountain	Queen Right Colonies
Buckeye Queen Producers	Rossman Apiaries
Dadant - American Bee Journal	Valley Bee Supply
Draper's Super Bee Apiaries	Western Bee Supplies
Ernst Seeds	

Click on the company name to visit their web site.



Check out our website for additional resources and information.



www.columbianamahoningbeekeepers.org

Article or recipe suggestions and submissions are accepted and appreciated. Please provide them by the second of each month.

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