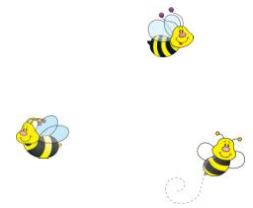




The Skep



President's Corner

Hello Beekeepers!

Thank you for all the help setting up for the fair, working the booth and meeting and educating the public about beekeeping and how important honey bees are to agriculture. As children return to the observation hive they can point out the queen pretty well. Thank you Don Kovach for setting up and caring for the two observation hives. Good job and thank you to everyone who entered their products for judging. Some members are getting their feet wet in judging their products for competition and learning the little tricks that help show a product at its best. You and your bees have worked hard for those products! Great job!

This coming meeting we will talk about the fair results, take reservations for the banquet and appoint a table decoration committee. Don Kovach touched on treating with oxalic acid at the August meeting and

in September he will treat a mock hive.

Make sure your bees are healthy and heavy with honey to make it through winter. Once you determine that a treatment is required, treat your bees for pennies or shell out dollars for packages of bees in the spring.

Don't forget, the Canfield Fair is Wednesday through Monday. The judging will be on Wednesday.

I hope to see you at the September 20 meeting!

Bruce Deafenbaugh

2015 Tentative Meeting Dates & Locations

- September 20 Nick Deemer's Home
- October 11 Fellows Riverside Gardens

Please bring your own plates, cups and silverware for the potluck lunch and folding lawn chairs just in case.

September Meeting Details

Sunday, Sept. 20
Potluck Lunch 1:00 p.m.
Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Nick Deemer's Home
11540 Rapp Rd.
New Middletown, Oh 44442

From Rt 7 South turn left onto OH 165E/E South Range Rd for 2.2 miles. Turn left onto Springfield Rd for 469 feet. Take the 1st right onto E South Range Road for 3.5 miles. Make a slight left onto Columbiana Rd/New Castle Rd for .6 miles. Take the second left onto Rapp Rd for .2 miles. The driveway is on the left.

From Rt 7 North turn right onto OH 165E/E South Range Rd and follow the directions above from this point.



August Meeting Recap



In March 2015, [The Environmental Protection Agency approved oxalic acid](#) as an active ingredient for use against varroa mites. Each state must approve the labeling before use. Fortunately, thanks to [Brushy Mountain Bee Farm](#), Ohio is one of the states with

a [registered oxalic acid product](#). At this time, this is the only product containing oxalic acid that is registered for legal use in Ohio and Brushy Mountain's current registration will expire in June 2016.

During previous association meetings we discussed two of the three application methods for oxalic acid, spraying in a sugar water solution for package bees and drizzling in a solution of sugar water between the frames in a hive. Following the regular business meeting in August, association member Don Kovach demonstrated his technique for the third application method, oxalic acid vaporizing. Don started by sharing the safety precautions and equipment needed for this application. It is very important that the safety precautions are followed as oxalic acid vapor can burn a person if not handled properly. After Don showed us his goggles, entrance reducer and vaporizer or [Varrocleaner](#), he continued to demonstrate how to complete the application of the vapor.

After Don's presentation the group got to work counting candy, folding pamphlets, and labeling honey. In no time at all the association was finished with the pre-fair preparations.



Overall it was a fun and productive day even though it was so warm. Thank you Don for the presentation and for all the fair prep work you did before we even arrived at your Honey House!

Bee-worthy Blooms

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



Goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*): N & P Major source of nectar and pollen. Honey has a strong odor as it is being dehydrated by the bees. Pollen pellets are dark yellow.



Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) N & P Also known as Japanese Bamboo and other names. Pollen pellets are creamy white.



Aster (*Aster* spp.) N & P Not all asters are good nectar sources. Pollen pellets are generally yellow.

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.

Product Labeling Considerations



It has been discussed at meetings and previously in *The Skep* about honey labeling guidelines and the importance of them. Beekeepers often offer other

handmade products prepared with honey and beeswax that also require adequate labeling according to the [Food and Drug Administration](#) cosmetic regulations and the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act. Lip balm, lotion and soap all fall into this category of hive products. The following paragraphs are intended as a guide with resources. Please use the resources and fully research the labeling requirements for your products.

First, adding words or claims to your labels can make your product a drug. In these cases your product would be subject to FDA drug approval and labeling regulations. To keep things simple, it is advisable to avoid claims of "anti-bacterial", "treats or cures eczema" or anything similar.



Soap has special consideration under the labeling regulations. A [true soap](#) is exempt from

the FDA cosmetic regulations and is governed by the Fair Packaging and Labeling act. A true soap is defined by the FDA as soap in which " the bulk of the nonvolatile matter in the product consists of an alkali salt of fatty acids and the product's detergent properties are due to the alkali-fatty acid compounds, and the product is labeled, sold, and represented solely as soap" in other words, it is made with lye and oils and it is sold as soap.

In order to be exempt from the cosmetic labeling requirements, the only claim that can be made about a true soap is that it is soap and it cleanses. Once the word "moisturizing" or other claims are added it generally becomes a cosmetic. Labels of soap require the name of the product, net weight and name and address of the manufacturer, distributor or packager. Soap does not require an ingredient declaration but most customers will want to know what is in handmade soap.



Cosmetics are defined as "a product, except soap, intended to be applied to the human body for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness or altering the appearance." Balms, lotions, lotion bars, most melt & pour soaps, and other products fall into this category. The basic requirements for labeling cosmetics can be considered framework for your label design. There are specific details in the [Cosmetics Labeling PDF](#) that will be helpful as well. The Principal Display Panel (PDP) is the label that the consumer sees or examines when it is displayed for retail sale. Generally this label is on the top or front of the package. The exception to this is when the container is small or decorative and would be picked up by hand to be inspected for possible purchase. In this case the Principal Display Panel may be on the back or bottom of the container or on an attached card. The information on the PDP includes the Brand Name of the product, Identity (what is it?) and the Net Quantity of Contents. A Back or Side Panel should contain the name and address of the responsible party (manufacturer, packer or distributor), directions for safe use (if applicable), warning statements and the

declaration of ingredients. The declaration of ingredients needs to be listed in descending order of predominance but there are a few exceptions listed in the FDA guide. It is required that the common name of each ingredient be used in the list. The address of the responsible party can be omitted if the company is listed in a current city, telephone or online directory.

Knowing the labeling requirements for your handmade hive products will help as you package and label your items. Consumers will appreciate your transparency and your products will have a professional appearance.

Resources:

[Gale, Marie](#) (April 20, 2015). *Soap & Cosmetic Labeling 3rd edition*. Boulder, CO: Cinnabar Press.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (2014). *Soaps:FAQs*. FDA website. Retrieved on August 14, 2015 from <http://www.fda.gov/Cosmetics/ProductsIngredients/Products/ucm115449.htm>.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (2015). Cosmetics Section. FDA website. Retrieved on August 26, 2015 from <http://www.fda.gov/Cosmetics/default.htm>.

I honestly had a difficult time finding photos of properly labeled handmade soap or cosmetics.

Photos courtesy of [Bramble Berry Soap Making Supplies](#).

OSBA Fall Conference

The [OSBA Fall Conference](#) will be held on October 31 at Tolles Career & Tech Center in Plain City, Ohio. This year's speakers include Dr. Thomas Seeley, Kent Williams, Dr. Reed Johnson, Michele Colopy, Alex Zomcheck and Christie Welch. Registration is open until October 23.

Registration Fees:

OSBA Member Pre-Register \$25

OSBA Member at the Door \$35

Non-Member \$35

OSBA Guest (with paid OSBA member) \$10



Association Elections

Serving on the 2015 Nominations Committee are Don Hays, Alex Schmidbauer and Joe Schmidbauer. This year we must vote to fill the offices of the President, Vice President and one Board Member but of course the Secretary and Treasurer positions are also available for nominations. To learn more about the responsibilities and duties of these positions please refer to the [Constitution & Bylaws of the Association](#). If you would like to run for one of these positions or would like to nominate another member please contact Joe at jschmidbauer@columbianamahoningbeekeepers.org

More Answers to

Commonly Asked Questions
at the Fair



- 100% Beeswax candles clean the air by releasing negative ions as they burn. The negative ions negate the positive charge of pollen, dust and other pollutants causing them to fall to the ground or be pulled into the candle.
- The average developmental period for a queen bee is 16 days, worker bee is 21 days and a drone is 24 days from egg to adult.
- Worker bees can sting one time, queen bees only sting other queens or cells and drones do not have stingers.
- A medium 10 frame honey super holds about 30-40 pounds of honey.

There are more fair pictures and information, including the honey show winners, coming in the October Skep! Best of Luck to those entering!

Preparing for the Canfield Fair takes many hours and lots of members! Here are a few photos of the preparations. Thank you to all of you that spent so much time and gave so much effort bottling honey, labeling products, counting candy, making pamphlets and fliers, setting up and working at the booth.





Honey Macaroon Dessert Pizza

Ingredients:

- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 3/4 cup honey
- 1 tube (10 oz) refrigerated pizza dough
- 1/2 T. butter, softened
- 1/4 cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 1/4 cup lightly toasted almonds

Directions:

1. Whisk together honey and whipping cream. Reduce over medium high heat by about a third. (I reduced it to half.) The mixture thickens and develops a light caramel color. Reserve.
2. Shape pizza dough according to the package directions. Spread butter over the shell. Sprinkle with coconut and almonds. Drizzle the honey mixture (it is similar to a honey sauce) and spread gently with a rubber spatula.
3. Bake at 450° for about 10 minutes until crust is lightly browned.
4. Cut into wedges and serve with whipped cream and fresh fruit.

Recipe courtesy of [The National Honey Board](http://www.thenationalhoneyboard.com)

2015 Officers

President	Bruce Deafenbaugh	330-457-0326
V.President	Chuck Hatch	330-807-0848
Secretary	Heidi Schmidbauer	330-386-7763
Treasurer	Sandra Hays	330-921-5805
Board:	Don Hays (2015)	330-921-1012
	George Stacy (2016)	330-360-8717
	Joe Schmidbauer (2017)	330-386-7763

2015 Ohio Queen Producers

The following Queen and Honey Bee Producers have generously supplied our association with queen certificates for door prizes. Please show your appreciation when doing business with them.

Williams Honey Bees

Frankfort, Ohio

740-998-4380

[Check out the Williams' Etsy Shop Also!](#)

Mike's Bees and Honey

Forest, Ohio

419-365-9902



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:

2015 Supporters

A.I. Root- Bee Culture	Gardner's Apiaries
Basco Inc.	Golden Bee Products
B & B Honey Farm	H & R Apiaries
Beeline Woodenware	Heartwood Lumber
Betterbee	Honey Bee Ware
Bee Smart Designs	International Mating Nuc Inc
Blue Sky Bee Supply	Kelley Beekeeping
Brushy Mountain	Koehnan & Sons Inc.
Carbolineum Wood Preserving	Miller Bee Supply
Country Rube's Farm	Plastic Packaging Concepts
Cowen Mfg. Inc.	Queen Right Colonies
Dadant - American Bee Journal	Rossman Apiaries
Dakota Guinness	Valley Bee Supply
Draper's Super Bee Apiaries	Western Bee Supplies
Ernst Seeds	Wicwas Press

Click on the company name to visit their web site.

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

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