



# The Skep

April 2019

## Columbiana & Mahoning Beekeepers' Association Newsletter

### President's Corner

Well I am back in the cold north and will be at the meeting but will need guidance to get back in the swing of what you have been doing the last few months. I would like to thank all the officers for the excellent job they did managing the association business in my absence and any members that helped them.

I hope you had better success with wintering your bees than I did. Unfortunately I am hearing of many losses. I hope all of you that ordered new packages have gotten them installed without any problems. I installed 7 new packages in this cold weather spell. Hope they survive it. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

President  
George Stacy

The bees are starting to arrive – whether new packages or surviving colonies – warm weather has seen the emergence of activity. Hopefully we had a better over-winter than we've had in the past.

By next month we will also start to have swarm activity. We will have the current list at the next meeting – please make sure your information is current.

Vice-President  
Ralph Rupert

### April Meeting Information:

Meeting Date: 04/14/2019,  
Monthly Membership Meeting and  
Luncheon

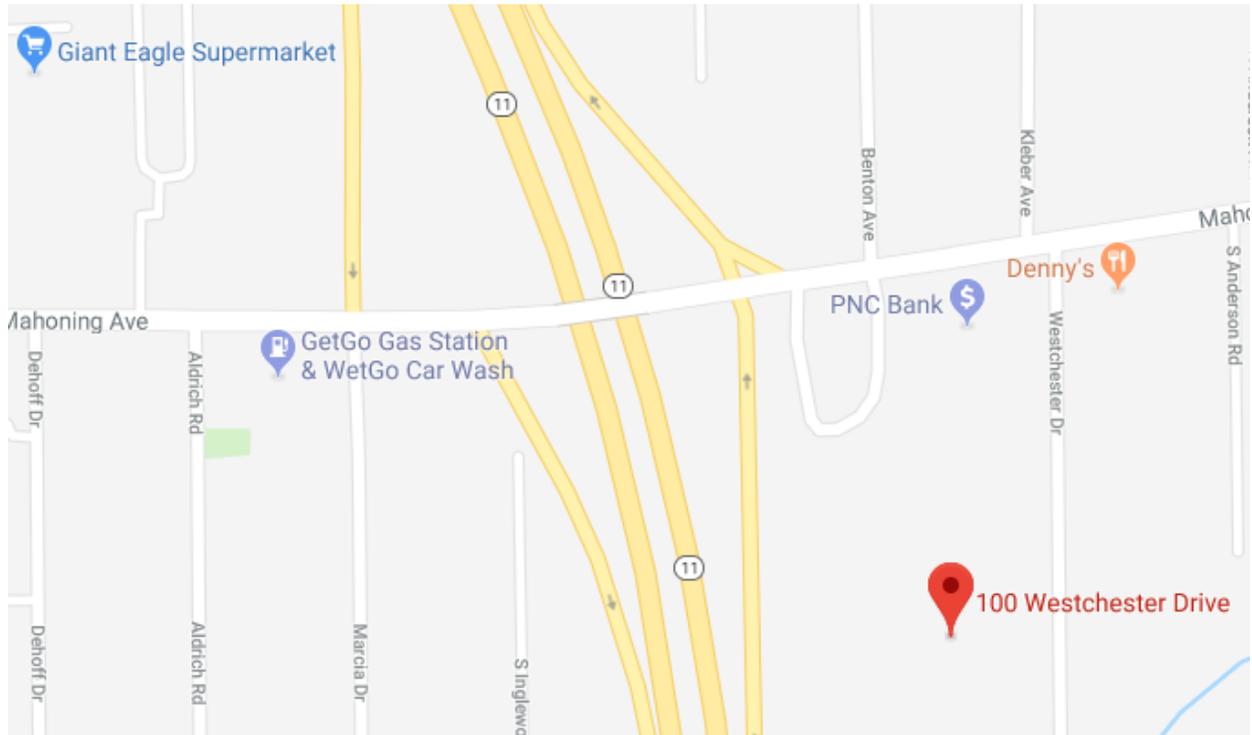
Austintown Senior Center  
100 Westchester Drive  
Suite 108  
Austintown, Ohio 44515

Potluck Lunch at 1 pm and  
Membership meeting at 2 pm

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

Topics: Splits and Nucs

Next Meeting: 05/19/2019



## Meeting Highlights:

- Bill reviewed the checking and savings account figures.
- A new separate fund has been established to help the library.
- An announcement was made that because of Easter, the April meeting is to be held on April 14.
- Currently Steve Davis has extra packages.
- There are speaking opportunities to provide education about bees to schools and other venues. Anyone who speaks needs to fill out a form to be kept on file by the club. If the speaker so chooses, they may request to be reimbursed \$20 for speaking. No board member is eligible for reimbursement. There is a drama kit, which may be borrowed from the library, available to be used for speaking engagements.
- During the April meeting a vote will be taken to open the bylaws, so that they may be reviewed in order to make any necessary changes to them.
- Andrea has pricing for the t-shirts. There are also hats available to order. If you ordered shirts last year and didn't pick them up, contact Andrea.
- The swarm list is being updated. Provide your information, including area(s) you want to cover, to be placed on the list.
- Bruce distributed seeds from Ernst Seeds. The product provided by Ernst Seeds was:



[Honey Bee Forage Mix](#)

[Ernst Seeds](#)

8884 Mercer Pike  
Meadville, PA 16335  
800-873-3321

#### Mix Composition

20.0% Melilotus alba (Sweetclover, White Blossom)

20.0% Trifolium pratense, Medium, Variety Not Stated (Red Clover, Medium, Variety Not Stated)

15.0% Trifolium incarnatum, Variety Not Stated (Crimson Clover, Variety Not Stated)

15.0% Trifolium repens, Dutch (White Clover, Dutch)

10.0% Melilotus officinalis (Yellow Blossom Sweetclover)

10.0% Trifolium hybridum (Alsike Clover)

10.0% Trifolium michelianum, 'Fixation' (Balansa Clover, 'Fixation')

#### General Product Information:

A pasture mix for honey bees composed of clovers and sweetclovers.

Item Number: ERNMX-157

Product Categories:

Pollinator Favorites, Wildlife Habitat & Food Plots

Height: 1.0 – 6.0 Ft

Seeding Rate: 10 lb per acre

- The program was “It’s Spring-Are You Ready”. Several people gave recaps from sessions they attended at the TCBA Spring Beekeepers Workshop in Wooster: Lauren spoke about Beginning Bee Courses, CiCi spoke about Tropilaelaps Mites, Bruce Deafenbaugh spoke about Varroa Destructor, and Ralph spoke about Nutrition.
- Steve Davis showed how to install new packages.
- Bruce Zimmer spoke about Ohio Native Bees and provided several links to Ohio Native Bee resources.
  - <https://u.osu.edu/beelab/>
  - <https://u.osu.edu/beelab/native-bees/>
  - <http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g2256.pdf>
  - Resources for Educators - <http://millionpollinatorgardens.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/MPGC-Pollinator-Education-resources-for-web-2-19.pdf>

## **This Month/Next Month in Beekeeping:**

### 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.

Note this is the start of Swarm Season.

## May

May comes to us from an old calendar published by Master Beekeeper David Burns in 2007. You can read the whole calendar here. <http://basicbeekeeping.blogspot.com/2007/12/beekeepers-calendar-of-important-events.html>. Bees are in full operation now that it is May. You can stop feeding strong hives now because they are bringing in lots of nectar and pollen. You should put on honey supers in May. Put on as many as you'd like. The hive is expanding rapidly. The brood chambers are filling up fast and becoming crowded and congested.

And with congestion comes swarming. Mr. Burns has an excellent article on Swarm Capture and Prevention.

<http://basicbeekeeping.blogspot.com/2007/11/lesson-fourteen-swarm-capture.html>

## Educational Opportunities:

### April 2019

#### **Stratford Ecological Center – Feeding and Nutrition**

April 13 @ 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Stratford Ecological Center, 3083 Liberty Road  
Delaware, OH 43015  
\$25

Knowing how, when, what, and if to feed bees is not always a straight forward prospect. This class explores the nutritional needs of honey bees and focuses on ways that beekeepers can supplement, and meet, those needs through the different seasons to maximize colony health and help with management goals. Date: Saturday, April 13 Time: 1pm-4pm Cost: \$25 to register call (740)-363-2548 or Go online [www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org](http://www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org)

#### **Advanced Beekeeping Classes- Urban Honey Bee: Feeding and Nutrition**

April 28 @ 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Urban Honey Bee,  
12623 Hametown Rd  
Doylestown, OH 44230  
[www.beesfromohio.com](http://www.beesfromohio.com)  
\$25

Feeding & Nutrition Knowing how, when, what, and if to feed bees is not always a straight forward prospect. This class explores the nutritional needs of honey bees and focuses on ways that beekeepers can supplement, and meet, those needs through the different seasons to maximize colony health and help with management goals. Date: Sunday, April 28 Time: 9am-noon Cost: \$25

## **Advance Beekeeping Classes- Urban Honey Bee: Hive Emergencies**

April 28 @ 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Urban Honey Bee,

12623 Hametown Rd

Doylestown, OH 44230

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

\$20

Even a beginning beekeeper knows that sometimes things can happen fast in a bee colony, and not all of those things are good. This class will provide an overview of reasons for, and management solutions to, hive problems such as queen-less-ness, drone layers, laying workers, and others.

Date: Sunday, April 28 Time: 1pm-4pm Cost: \$20

## **May 2019**

### **Stratford Ecological Center – Varroa Mite: Monitoring, Mitigation and Management**

May 11 @ 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Stratford Ecological Center, 3083 Liberty Road

Delaware, OH 43015

\$35

The Varroa mite is the number one management challenge for beekeepers. This class will not only help you to better understand what the mites are doing but it will also focus on effective ways to monitor mite levels as well as look at management practices and treatment options. We will specifically cover alcohol washes, drone brood trapping, and several treatment options. Date:

Saturday, May 11 Time: 1pm-5pm Cost: \$35 To register call (740)-363-2548 or Go online

[www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org](http://www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org)

### **Black Swamp Beekeepers Association – Queen Rearing Class- May**

May 25 @ 9:00 AM - May 26 @ 5:00 PM

Black Swamp Beekeepers, 6879 Evansport Rd

Defiance, OH 43512

\$150

Black Swamp Beekeepers Association is having a 2 day (May 25 / 26) queen rearing class, 9am till 5pm each day. First half of each day will be PowerPoint presentations with handouts, then second half with hands-on grafting at the Pollinator Sanctuary. Cost is \$150 - kit includes; (grafting tools, queen cages, cell protection cages, grafting cups, grafting bar, and handbook). This will be a rain/shine, no rain dates, no refunds. Deposit of \$25.00 will hold your spot. Only 25 available

## Bees in the News:

This is a very good article on Varroa Mites, but I would not call them “Amazing” more like disturbing as I see it.

<https://www.perfectbee.com/blog/the-amazing-life-of-the-varroa-mite>

## Members Corner:

In February you may remember I reported on the state of our hives. All of them were in some need of food with one of them particularly needy. That hive had bees coming out of the hole in the inner cover. Rather than lift the inner cover and disrupt them I placed the emergency food on the inner cover. This was a disastrous decision for them. The cold came back and they retreated back into the hive where they had no food to sustain them. That hive starved out. The other 4 are still doing fine.

On a happier note, on March 19<sup>th</sup> I was watching our hives again and noticed bees bringing in pollen. I have no idea where they were getting it from. I was putting out pollen substitute for them when I noticed them bringing in the real thing. They haven't touched the substitute from what I can see.



## 2019 Officers

President	George Stacey	330-360-8717
Vice President	Ralph Rupert	330-400-8581
Secretary	Kelly Davis	330-881-0733
Treasurer	Bill Traynor	330-720-2669
Board of Directors:		
Andrea Deafenbaugh	2019	330-457-0326
Julie Bartolone	2020	330-720-2669
Steve Davis	2021	330-881-0733

## 2019 Club Sponsors and Donors:

A.I. Root- Bee Culture  
Applewood Seed Company

Heartwood Lumber  
Honey Bee Ware

[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](#)

[Kelley Beekeeping](#)  
[Mann Lake](#)  
[Olivarez Honey Bees](#)  
[Pigeon Mountain Trading](#)  
[Queen Right Colonies](#)  
[Rossman Apiaries](#)  
[Valley Bee Supply](#)  
[Western Bee Supplies](#)  
[HillTop Honey Farm](#)

Click on the company name to visit their web site.

## Monthly Honey Recipe:

Lemon Pancakes with Honey-glazed Blueberries

<https://amp.freep.com/amp/3297151002>

Serves: 7 / Prep time: 15 minutes

Total time: 45 minutes

¾ cup all-purpose flour  
¾ cup white whole-wheat flour  
3 tablespoons granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
½ teaspoon baking soda  
¼ teaspoon salt  
1 container (5.3 ounces or 2/3 cup) low-fat lemon Greek yogurt  
1 large egg  
1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon canola oil, divided  
1 tablespoon lemon zest  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
¾ cup skim milk  
⅓ cup honey  
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
2 ¼ cups fresh blueberries

In a large bowl, combine all-purpose flour, whole-wheat flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In a separate bowl, whisk together yogurt, egg, 1 tablespoon oil, lemon zest, vanilla extract and milk.

Add milk mixture to flour mixture and stir until batter is just combined, being careful not to over mix. Coat a nonstick skillet or griddle with remaining teaspoon of oil and warm over medium heat. Once it's hot, create pancakes by using ⅓ cup of batter per pancake. Turn pancake when top forms bubbles and edges appear cooked, about 2 minutes. Briefly cook second side, just long enough to brown. Repeat with remaining batter to yield 21 pancakes.

To make glazed blueberries, combine honey and lemon juice. Pour over blueberries and gently toss to coat. Each serving consists of 3 pancakes topped with ⅓ cup glazed blueberries

Created by Darlene Zimmerman, MS, RD, for Heart Smart and tested by Susan M. Selasky for the Free Press Test Kitchen.

253 calories (14% from fat), 4 grams fat (1 grams sat. fat, 0 grams trans-fat), 49 grams carbohydrates, 7 grams protein, 260 mg sodium, 27 mg cholesterol, 108 mg calcium, 3 grams fiber. Food exchanges: 2 ½ starch vegetable, ½ fruit, 1 fat.