

# Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association



July 2019

srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org

## Upcoming Events



- **Monday, August 5th 7:00 pm**  
Monthly meeting at the First United Methodist Church.  
510 W Maple Street, Clyde.  
*Making mead!*
- **Monday, September 8th**  
Club potluck at Dr. Michael Stone's residence  
1850 SR 12 Fremont, OH

## IT'S FAIR SEASON!

- July 18 - 20 Ottawa County
- July 25 - 27 Seneca County
- July 31st and Aug 3rd - Ohio State Fair
- Aug 8 - 10 Erie County
- Aug 15 - 17 Huron County
- Aug 21 - 24 Sandusky County



If you are able and willing to help at any of these fairs, please contact Rich Brutsche at [rbrutsche@neo.rr.com](mailto:rbrutsche@neo.rr.com).

### Honey Bee Trivia

- What are the meanings of "must" and "racking" in terms of making mead.

**The "must" is the unfermented or fermenting mixture (honey/water plus fruit juices if desired) used in the making of wine (mead). Racking is the process in which the liquid portion of the fermenting mixture is siphoned away from the sediment (dead yeast cells) in the bottom of the chamber. This is necessary when fermentation is completed to prevent the sediments from ruining the flavor of the wine.**

- Meads normally contain approximately 10-12% alcohol.
- T or F: Honey wines made with darker honeys will naturally ferment more rapidly than those made with lighter honey.

**TRUE - Dark honeys are richer in minerals and vitamins which are needed by the yeasts for rapid growth.**

# At our meeting...

We learned all about different products that can come from our hives!

Carol Mahl kicked off the fun demonstrating how to make soap. She used Olive oil, palm oil, coconut oil, castor oil, beeswax, water, Lye, and essential oils. She did a great job explaining the safety precautions needed when handling Lye - see picture for protective equipment needed ;)



Tami Wylie was up next explaining how she makes lip balm with just beeswax, shea butter, coconut oil and vitamin E oil. She makes a bunch of different flavors and varieties using essential oils. According to Tami, making lip balm is a piece of cake! Her recipe is attached so feel free to try it out yourself!

Beeswax is used in many skin care products because it provides a protection against irritants while still allowing the skin to breathe. It also offers anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and antiviral benefits, making it helpful in treating skin irritation.

Kassandra Combs stepped up to show us how she makes body salve using beeswax, shea butter, jojoba oil, almond oil, and vitamin E oil.

A huge thank you to all of our presenters! It was very interesting learning about these processes.



## Some “housekeeping”

If you still have dead-outs sitting out waiting for a swarm to move in, now is the time to get them cleaned up and aired out. Wax moth will be moving in at any time and can wreak havoc on empty comb.

It is also a good time to manage small hive beetles if you’ve seen them in your hives. Laying Swiffer sheets on the top bars or placing SHB traps will help to manage the infestation.

# Soap

Online sites with precise soap making directions and ingredients

1. Brambleberry.com
2. Bulkapothecary.com
3. Thespruce.com

# Lip Balm

- 2 Tbsp Beeswax
- 2 Tbsp shea butter
- 1.5 Tbsp fractionated coconut oil (MCT)
- 1/8 tsp Vitamin E oil
- 30 drops essential oil

# Body Salve

- Several drops on vitamin E oil
- 4.5 tsp. almond oil/grapeseed oil/or olive oil
- 1/2 tsp jojoba oil
- 1 tsp beeswax
- 2 tsp shea butter

Melt beeswax in a double boiler.

Melt and combine in another double boiler shea butter, almond oil (or other liquid oil), jojoba oil and melted beeswax. Stir occasionally until melted.

Take the oils off the heat and add the vitamin E oil.

Pour into containers. Wait until oils cool completely before you attach the lid and store in a cooler atmosphere away from direct heat and sun.