

# Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association



April 2020

srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org

## Upcoming Events

- **Monday, April 6th 7:00 pm**  
Cancelled due to recent events with the Coronavirus.
- **Beginning Beekeepers Class**  
• **(April 4th & May 30th)**  
Cancelled due to recent events with the Coronavirus.
- **Monday, May 4th 6:30 pm**  
**Potluck dinner.**  
Please bring a dish to share.  
Monthly meeting at the First United Methodist Church.  
510 W Maple Street, Clyde.  
Speaker: Jeannie Saum from BEEpothecary.



## Message from the President

Hello Beeks!

I wanted to start by saying that this has been a rough month with bee losses, and now the Coronavirus Pandemic. Given the Ohio and Federal guidelines set up to combat this virus, I feel that it is in the best interest of the club membership that we cancel the April 2020 club meeting.

The Ohio Governor's office has set some safety guidelines to follow and the one that pertains to our club is the gathering of 50 or more individuals. I feel there is no reason to put anyone at risk. We will see what the month of April brings for future club meetings.

Another decision I've made is the cancelling of the 2020 Beginners Beekeeping class held on Saturday April 4. Again the 50 or more individuals and the risk of getting someone infected has been the deciding factor. I'm not sure what we'll be doing to reschedule this educational event.

The SRVBA Executive Officers have been working very hard on this class. We've implemented a new PowerPoint and a booklet for future classes to be kept as property of SRVBA. We'll be meeting to suggest some different options, but until then, the decision has been made to cancel or postpone the class at this time. If the class is canceled for the 2020 year we will be issuing reimbursement checks to all the registered individuals. Again I'm sorry for this announcement, but I believe it's in the best safety of the club's membership.

Tom Rathbun

President of SRVBA

### Important April Reminder

Check food stores above bees. Fresh pollen is coming in from maples, but weather is the limiting factor for foraging. Brood is being raised this month using large amounts of pollen & honey. To raise one bee, the colony uses one cell of pollen, a cell of honey & a cell of water. When nutritional resources are limited, bees can't raise the amount of brood wanted for spring build up.

# Beekeeping Club Shares the Sweet Side of Bees

Note: Article published by The Lantern OSU, Lizzy Levine, December 4, 2019.

Available at: [https://www.ithaca.com/living/personal\\_health/a-new-path-to-relief-bee-stings/article\\_1dfb9c18-0014-11ea-b12e-d3fe472150fa.html](https://www.ithaca.com/living/personal_health/a-new-path-to-relief-bee-stings/article_1dfb9c18-0014-11ea-b12e-d3fe472150fa.html)

A new club is creating a lot of buzz on West Campus.

Established this past spring, the Beekeeping Club at Ohio State works to raise awareness on campus about the importance of bees to agriculture and the environment, according to the student organization page. Weather permitting, the club also works hands-on in bee hives.

Adrianna Pollee, a fourth-year student in forestry, fisheries and wildlife and a club member, said she found an interest in bees after taking a beekeeping course with Reed Johnson, an associate professor in entomology and the club's adviser. Since then, Pollee has worked at the Rothenbuhler Honey Bee Lab and advocated for bees.

"A lot of times, when people think of beekeepers, they're old men in overalls with their hives in the woods, but it's really cool to blend that tradition and also the scientific angle of it into one," Pollee said.

Harper McMinn-Sauder, a graduate student in entomology and the club's co-adviser, said her passion for beekeeping came from beekeeping with her grandfather in high school in Kansas. When McMinn-Sauder conducts research, she said getting stung is a normal, every-

McMinn-Sauder's research relates to honeybee nutrition and how a colony's nutrition impacts its overall health. She said bees' health is important for a number of reasons.

"They're economically important," McMinn-Sauder said. "We need them for our food like almonds, blueberries and pumpkins. Roughly a third of our food is pollinated by honeybees."

Pollee said bees are the main pollinating source for cultivated crops, and the economic value of pollination is estimated to be more than \$3 billion each year.

"Your diet would be a lot less exciting if it weren't for bees and pollination," Pollee said. "They do play a very critical role in keeping ecosystems healthy and providing us with the luxuries that we sometimes take for granted."

Pollee said the survival rates for bee hives in Ohio throughout the winter is low, but depend on the severity of the winter. Club members make efforts to prepare the bees stored at the Rothenbuhler Honey Bee Lab for winter.



Adrianna Pollee, a fourth-year in forestry, fisheries and wildlife and a member of the Beekeeping Club at Ohio State, holds a honey frame from a bee hive. Credit: Courtesy of Adrianna Pollee

# Beekeeping Club Shares the Sweet Side of Bees (continued)

“When we over-winter them, it just means that we’re helping them prepare to not go out and forage because there’s nothing to forage on in the winter,” Pollee said. “We’ll give them extra pollen patties or extra sugar water and just make sure that they have all the resources they need in order to survive the winter.”

Pollee said bees are more threatened now than ever due to pests, colony collapse disorder and monoculture farming.

[According to the EPA](#), colony collapse disorder is a phenomenon in which bees abandon their hive en masse for poorly understood reasons. Monoculture farming, the practice of growing a single crop at a time in a large area, leaves bees without food after the brief blooming period ends, [according to Scientific American](#).

“There is a need for people to want to help conserve bee populations. If we don’t have the bees, then we lose a lot of the luxuries that we have now,” Pollee said. “It’s definitely a fruitful skill to have, and it feels really awesome to do it, too.”



# Classifieds

## Packages & Nucs – Tom Rathbun/Southridge Apiary

Package honey bees for sale.  
Please message Tom for more information.  
Pickup only, Northern Ohio (Clyde, Ohio)

## Overwintered Nucs & Ohio Queens

Linda Miller - [oneoldbroadwithhives@gmail.com](mailto:oneoldbroadwithhives@gmail.com)

Linda will have overwintered Ohio nucs  
Probably in early May—\$160  
Ohio Queens as soon as weather permits. \$35



### 2020 BEE PACKAGES

- Italians - \$120
- Russians - \$125

#### Tentative Pickup Dates in Clyde, OH:

- March 25th
- April 8th
- April 22nd
- May 6th

7653 N. SR 101  
Clyde, OH 43410-9618

(419) 355 - 7223

Ohio-Bees.com

@LeibengoodFamilyApiaries

@LeibengoodBees

JOHNSON'S BEE FARM 

*Packaged honey bees for sale*

SPRING 2020

**#3 Package including Italian queen \$116**  
**Extra Italian queen \$30**

Available in Eastern Indiana, Ohio & Southern Michigan

**Pick up locations:**  
CINCINNATI, CLYDE, LIMA, NAPOLEON, & TIPP CITY AREAS



 **visit**   
Olddrone.net  
For more information & order forms



## Classifieds (continued)

Chris Carroll  
419-541-7410  
**\*\*SELLING\*\***

- Hive with a 10 frame brood box with lid and bottom board or pallet.
- Bees and laying queen included.
- 8 drawn frames
- internal hive feeder.
- Asking \$165.00 each.
- Available mid April-May1st, weather pending.
- Limited supply, taking orders now!



### **Cherry City Honey Woodenware – Tami & Gary Wylie**

Cherry City Honey stocks and sells new bee hive equipment from our barn. Due to our location in the Clyde-Bellevue area, it's approximately a one hour drive to the nearest bee equipment supply store. This drive is inconvenient, time consuming and expensive. Also, online orders from distant suppliers often require purchase of larger quantities to obtain fair pricing and shipping/freight rates for new equipment are expensive.

We stock bee equipment you'll most likely need. Our bee hive boxes and equipment is of the highest quality and comes already assembled and ready for you to paint before use. The equipment is available for pick-up only. We don't ship because the high shipping rates makes new bee equipment unreasonably costly. We can arrange for local delivery in the Bellevue-Clyde area. We accept cash or credit cards for payment.

Please compare our prices and consider us for your bee hive equipment needs.

Click on Link for Price List [Cherry City Farms 2020 Equipment Price List](#) (also attached to this newsletter email)