



Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association

President—Gary Wylie
Vice President— Dr. Michael Stone

Secretary— Kim Root
Treasurer—Tami Wylie

Directors—Rosemary Clifford, Chris Earnhart, Jackie Kindred

JUNE 2022
NEWSLETTER



MISSION:

- To promote and support Beekeeping through education.
- To educate the public about the value of honey Bees and the impact of Honey Bees on the world through classes, public meetings and educational appearances.
- To promote the products of the hive to the general public.
- To promote the common interest and general welfare of the Ohio Beekeeping and the Beekeeping industry.
- To help and mentor new Beekeeper with knowledge and education.

Upcoming Event

June Monthly Meeting

When: Monday, June 6th, 2022 at 7pm

Where: First United Methodist Church
510 W Maple Street, Clyde, Ohio 43410

Presenter: Dr. Michael Stone

Topic: Exploring Artificial Insemination
in the Honey Bee



JUNE IS...

Just
around
the
corner
→



Things to consider doing this month:

- ⇒ Weekly hive inspections
- ⇒ Brood inspection
- ⇒ Honey super monitoring
- ⇒ Swarm management
- ⇒ Mite monitoring
- ⇒ Mite treatment substantiated
- ⇒ Attend bee club meetings




Future Dates *(dates/times subject to change)*

July Monthly Meeting—Saturday the 9th @ 10a Wylie's
Field Day - Beeswax Rendering/Candle Making

July 10th "DON'T STEP ON A BEE DAY"

- Celebrated in the United Kingdom

August Monthly Meeting—Monday the 1st @ 7p Wylie's
Field Day - TBD

August 20th is National Honey Bee Day

September is National Honey Month

September Monthly Meeting—TBD
Summer Picnic

October Monthly Meeting—Monday the 3rd @ 7p FUMC
Speaker-TBD/Hand out bears for filling for food pantries

October 28th/29th OSBA Fall Conference—Wooster

November Monthly Meeting—Monday the 7th @ 7p FUMC
Label Bears/Election Nominations

December Monthly Meeting—Monday the 5th @ 6p TBD
Christmas Party/Election of Officers



Message from the President—Gary Wylie

Hi SRVBA Members!

Swarm season is upon us! Yes, I've had a few swarms! Last month, I mentioned how impatient I had become, wanting to get into the hives but was prevented from doing so because of cold wet weather. Now, with the recent warmer temperatures, I'm trying to stay on-schedule with 10-day hive inspections but sometimes realize I can't always stay on-schedule.

I received great feedback on the May meeting. Our members' willingness to share their thoughts and experience with spring management and beekeeping practices was helpful to everyone. I really enjoyed the open discussion and members' willingness to share their experiences with swarms, splits, and early-season mite control. It's really true that there's more than one-way to accomplish most beekeeping tasks. Our May meeting confirmed in my mind that one of our Club's biggest strengths is our members' willingness to openly discuss important beekeeping topics.

May was a busy month with the Club providing several presentations related to bees and beekeeping topics. Most of these requests come from public and private groups such as retirement communities, schools via field trips, churches, etc. We've been able to keep-up with the presentation requests. I want to thank our Club's Secretary, Kim Root, for putting together a standard "talking point" presentation, which includes some beekeeping equipment, for our members to use to easily conduct a presentation. We have also developed a short PowerPoint presentation that can also be used for introductory bee and beekeeping information. The Club has a small projector that can also be used.

Friday, May 20th, was World Bee Day. Our Club had three presentations going on at the same time in addition to other days throughout the month. These presentations included Lyme Village in Bellevue, (Sue Rhodes/Jaime Garza), Erie County Senior Center in Sandusky (Kim Root) and Randal Residence Assisted Living in Fremont (Gary Wylie) Thank you all for taking time to help with our mission of educating! More presentations to come next month.

Looking ahead, we don't yet have a topic for the August meeting. The meeting will be held at Cherry City Honey's barn, so we have an opportunity for some hands-on activity. Please provide me feedback if you have any ideas for a topic.

Just a reminder, we're now taking orders for the SRVBA logo-clothing and hats. Kim Root recently sent out email messages with ordering information, and also included an order form. If you plan to order, please take the time to get your order placed.



After looking at and trying on the clothing, I like the quality but some of the sizes seem to run a little small. This might be because I'm a big burley guy. Most clothing looks small to me! We have samples of the clothing in most sizes at Cherry City Honey, laid out on tables. Please feel free to stop by to look at and try on the clothing, if desired. The clothing will be at Cherry City Honey until 4:30pm, Friday, June 3rd. The clothing will then be available to try on at the June 6th meeting which will be the last day for orders. I plan to submit the order to Benchmark Prints after our June meeting.

Thank you for supporting SRVBA!

Gary Wylie, SRVBA President

419 271-2638

wylietechnical@gmail.com





May 2022 Presentations

- **Erie County Senior Center, Sandusky**
- **Historic Lyme Village, Bellevue**
- **Randall Residence of Fremont**



IN THE HIVE by Brennen Miller

Screened Bottom Boards for Summer

In preparation for this month's newsletter, I contacted a friend who has been raising bees for over 40 years and asked him for any words of wisdom to share with the club. After mentioning an article I had read, he replied with some great information regarding screened bottom boards. Here is a clip of the email thread I sent him and his reply.

Hi Harold,

Recently, I read an article which mentioned that varroa mites were more susceptible to heat than honeybees. If this is true, is it possible that screened bottom boards, especially during summer months in hot weather, might actually be aiding the mites' survival?

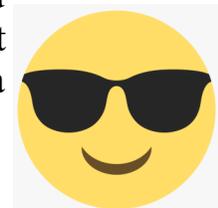
I realize that a small amount of the mite population in a hive falls through the screen. However, would a hotter hive resulting from use of a solid bottom board cause mites greater damage? Ventilation issues and the need to clean solid bottom boards aside, would solid bottom boards work better?

His reply was filled with information that I thought very useful for the upcoming summer months.

Brennen,

Lots of tradeoffs with additional heat in a colony. Remember the optimal heat in the brood nest is around 93 degrees F. Too much hotter and the damage begins to occur to the brood and the queen. 2/3 of mites are behind capped cells. Heat the colony enough to kill, hurt or damage varroa behind capped cells and you kill, hurt or damage larvae and pupae. The 14% of mites that typically fall through the bottom board is due to grooming and not heat, but I am sure you could add to that percentage as workers get frantic as heat rises and they can't control it. Wax gets softer as the heat index rises. Any mites that fall on the bottom board alive just dust themselves off and climb back up. There have been several attempts to use heat in some form or fashion to remove varroa mites in a field situation and like a lot of other varroa control things, it works, but it doesn't work very well. I vote for screened bottoms and other varroa control options.

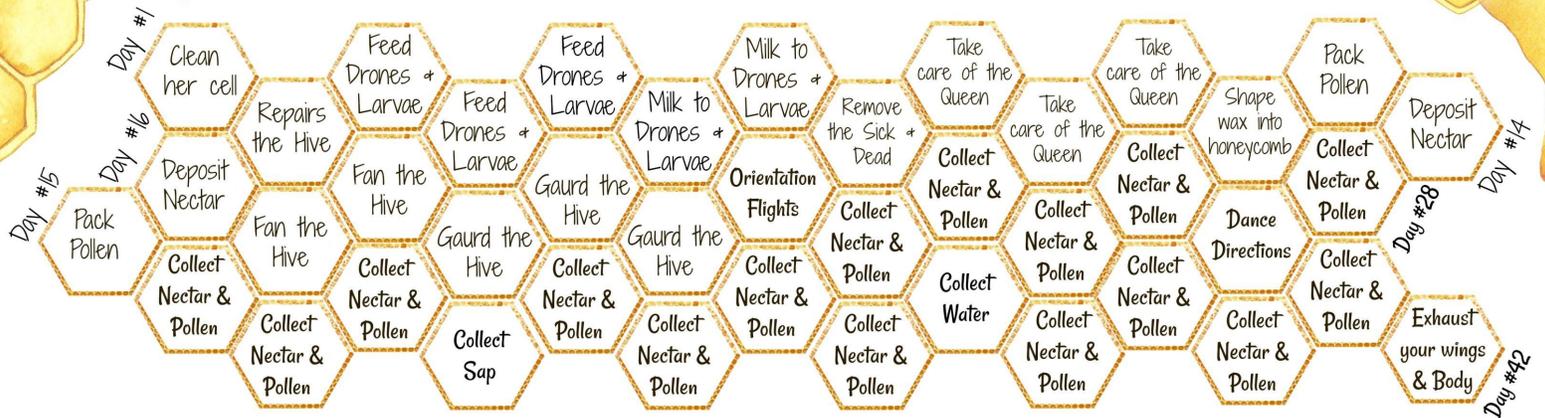
Good luck keeping cool over the summer to you AND your bees.



“BEE” CHECKING THIS OUT NOW.....



Life's Work of a Worker Bee



House Bee the First half

Field Bee the Second half

The first day she emerges she cleans her cell and the cells around it. Then she repairs the hive until day 3 when she makes "Bee Bread" a mixture of honey and pollen for older larvae and the drones. Day 6 she feeds young larvae milk which she makes from a gland in her head and special royal jelly if they are making a queen. Days 3-16 she may help remove the sick, dead, or drones (if it is autumn). Days 7-12 she may be in the royal court where she takes care of the queen. By Day 12 her wax glands are prime for building honeycombs, capping honey, and capping brood and will be until about day 35. When she is not shaping wax she may be receiving and depositing honey or pollen or fanning the entrance to the hive to help control temperature and humidity or release a scent to help guide field bees home. During her last days in the hive (Days 18-21) she will guard the hive from predators and intruders.

They save the dangerous work for the older bees. As a field bee she is exposed to all kinds of threats from predators + the elements, to insecticide. She leaves every day at sunrise to take 10 one-hour-long flights collecting mostly nectar in her honey sac and pollen on her leg sacks, but she may pick up water, or sap if needed to repair the hive. When she finds flowers full of nectar and pollen she first deposits her load with the house bees then dances to communicate where her find is to other field bees. She is a field bee until for the rest of her life.

CANDLE MAKING

CLOTHING ORDER

First Field Day at the Wylie's will be in July and we will be learning the ins and outs of **beeswax rendering and candle making.**

The date is **Saturday, July 9th @ 10am** and this will be our monthly meeting for July.

This meeting will last longer than an hour but not more than two hours. An RSVP is not required. However, if you plan to attend please sign up at the next meeting or text

Kim Root @ 419-217-7579 by the June 6th meeting so there will be enough supplies for the projects you will be able to take home.

A light lunch will be provided including hotdogs, chips and water.

Keeping it simple!

The June 6th monthly meeting will be the last date you may order club clothing.

Sample sizes will be available at the meeting to try on. You will **NOT** be able to return your items once ordered.

Please fill out the attached order form and make checks payable to SRVBA, cash will also be accepted.

Mail order form with payment to:

SRVBA, Tami Wylie, Treasurer

1000 CR 312

Bellevue, OH 44811



Strawberry Popsicles

- 3 cups strawberries
- 1/3 cup water
- 1/4 cup honey



Wash strawberries and remove stems. Place strawberries in blender with water and honey. Adjust honey to taste. Blend until smooth. Pour into popsicle molds and insert sticks. Allow room for expansion. Place in freezer for about six hours. Makes 6.

Trivia Fun Facts by the Numbers



AVERAGE DEVELOPMENTAL PERIOD OF HONEY BEES

- Queen = 16 Days (Needs fertilizing by drones & may not lay eggs for up to additional 7 days)
- Worker = 21 Days
- Drone = 24 Days

AVERAGE LIFE LENGTH OF HONEY BEES

- A honey bee queen could live for 3 to 4 years, as long as she is free from disease
- Most beekeepers requeen after 1 to 2 years
- Worker bees live for 6 weeks during the busy summer, and for 4-9 months during the winter months
- At the most, drones may live for up to 4 months, however, they may survive for just a few weeks
- Note, that upon mating with the queen, drones die immediately

Archive

Did you miss a meeting?

The following meetings have been archived so you can catch up or review what happened by clicking on the months logo you want to watch.....

May Meeting:

Due to technical difficulties the May meeting was unable to be recorded.



Join Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association:

1. Fill out membership form

[http://
srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/](http://srvba.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/)

2. Mail form to: SRVBA

c/o Tami Wylie, 1000 CR 312

Bellevue, OH 44811





This page is for members who would like to sell, trade, buy bee related items/business. Please submit your ad by the third week of the month so that it will be in next month's newsletter.



Send ad to: Kimmie_59@hotmail.com

Pro Uncapping Bench for Sale

This pro uncapping bench has been used for only three seasons.

We needed to get a larger one and the reason why we are selling this one.

If you are interested in purchasing please contact Kristy Miller at kristymiller@gmail.com

(This item is located north of Tiffin near Bettsville)

The description and photo of the uncapping bench is from Blue Sky Bee Supplies catalog.



Asking \$400.00.

CHERRY CITY HONEY FARM BEE HIVE SUPPLIES

Tami & Gary Wylie — 1000 County Road 312, Bellevue, OH 44811

We stock the bee supplies you'll most likely need. Our beehive boxes and other woodenware is of the highest quality and comes already assembled and ready to paint.

Due to our location in the Clyde-Bellevue-Fremont area, it's approximately a one-hour drive to the nearest bee equipment supply store. This drive is 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.

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

Our price list is on the SRVBA Classified Web Page.

We can arrange for local delivery in the Bellevue-Clyde-Fremont area.

We accept cash, check, or credit cards for payment.



