

MARCH 2025

NEWSLETTER



Sandusky River Valley Bee **KEEPERS** Association

Club Officers

President: Kathleen Conn

Vice President: Brennan Miller

Secretary: Sue Kosakowski

Treasurer: Kim Root

Directors: Rosemary Clifford, Beth Muffler Doug Ricci

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.

March Monthly Meeting Info

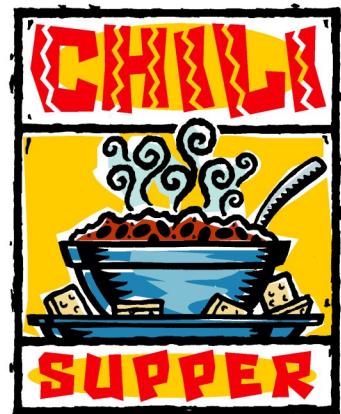
Presenter: Susan Nighswander, SRVBA member and Master Gardener

When: Monday, March 3, 2025; **6:30pm** (Chili supper before 7:00pm meeting)

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

Topic: Pollinators, Plants and Gardens

Be sure to come early to the March meeting for our chili supper! Excellent opportunity for fellowship! Bring a side dish to share.



Droppings from the President February/March 2025

With the strange winter temperatures swings, I am sure we all are itching to check the girls and get a start on the upcoming season butttt....not so fast friends, looking at the next couple of weeks (accu-weather-guesser) and the month ahead, it's not warm enough for me to be pulling boxes apart, not yet. Feeding and keeping entrances cleaned will bee the most of my activities at least until the temps get above 60F.

I have been listening to quite a few interviews on the colony deaths being reported by the commercial beekeepers. It seems they noticed bee deaths last fall, but things got more serious with more reports and huge losses in December and January. The testing and investigation is on going and of course many people are speculating CCD among other things. As a note, CCD, Colony Collapse Disorder, had no one definitive causation. Some report there is no recovery from the current number of losses, others report it is not as bad as 'they' are saying. My best guess: ask ten beekeepers a questions and you will get ten different views or speculations. Kidding aside, this is a fairly serious situation; huge losses for the pollinators, possible food supply problems(?) and most likely an increase of food prices. And possibly, as Dana Stahlman suggested, a short supply of packages or nuc availability? Dana advised to order early for those whom may be wanting nucs or packages this spring. While waiting for the official report we can only do our best with our girls through proper hive management: integrated pest management to control mite loads, requeening when brood pattern or behavior is off, feed and split as necessary.

Hive 5 Committees

The Education/Workshop Committee is in process and headed by Gary Wylie.

Mentoring Committee — I want to encourage anyone who has 3 or more years as a beekeeper to consider sharing your experiences with others and sign up as a Mentor. Bee-ing a mentor or participating in the mentoring committee only requires you to have a desire to learn new things as you are teaching new things because we don't truly know how much we do know unless we try to help someone else. It is a two-way learning and teaching experience.

The success of our club will depend on how much and what we, as members, put into it.

Plotting, planning and prayers,

Kathleen Conn
SRVBA President



Officers at work! February 22, 2025



BEEKEEPER CLASSES - Come One, Come All!!

The SRVBA is hosting a class for new and novice beekeepers. Here's the scoop:

WHEN: Saturday, March 15th

9am - 4pm (lunch included)

WHERE: 1000 CR 312, Bellevue, OH

COST: \$75 (includes materials, lunch, door prizes, experienced beekeepers)

Dues are due!!

If you haven't already mailed your 2025 dues, please plan on bringing them to the March meeting. At \$20, your dues are the best investment around for beekeepers! A membership form is included in this newsletter for your convenience. Or follow this [link](#).

From the honeycomb . . .

Beekeeping dates back to at least 7000 BC, evidenced by ancient rock paintings in Spain showing humans collecting honey from wild bee colonies. The practice has evolved over millennia, with ancient evidence of structured beekeeping in ancient Egypt around 2400 BC, where bees were kept in man-made hives. ([Savannah Bee Company](#))



We're SOOOO EXCITED!!!

Dana Stahlman, former Ohioan and current Master Beekeeper, has agreed to visit us from North Carolina this summer! Dana will be assisting the Club with a fundraiser presentation on July 12, 2025. He has decades (yes, decades) of beekeeping experience and is eager to share his knowledge with beekeepers in the SRVBA region.

Besides saving the date (*quick, mark your calendar right now!*), there are other things you can do to help.

1. Consider what topic you would like Dana to address. We'll be taking suggestions at our March meeting. All subjects bee-related are on the table.
2. Help with organizing the fundraiser. **Rosemary Clifford**, has agreed to chair this ad hoc committee. There will be a sign-up sheet at the next meeting, or



SRVBA Suppliers List

Pick Up Location	Nucs/Packages/Queens	Price	Phone #	Email/Website	Inspected	Name	Dates
Clyde	5 Frame Nuc Queens TO	\$180 \$40	419-552-9242 BEE	oneoldbroadwithhives@gmail.com DETERMINED	Yes	Linda Miller	May-June May-August
Fremont	5 Frame Nuc Order in April Queens	\$180 \$40	419-307-6681	elepard@yahoo.com	Yes	Evelyn Lepard	May May-August
Clyde	5 Frame Nuc Queens	\$180 \$40	419-603-1749	tmr7212@yahoo.com	Yes	Tom Rathbun	May May-August
Huron	5 Frame Nuc	\$180	419-603-9660	blessedbeeapiarys@gmail.com	Yes	Kathleen Conn	May-June
Kuny's Market South of Clyde, OH	3 LB Package 4 LB Package	\$138 \$164	740-417-1882	Ohio-bees.com Order and check out through the website. sillybeehoney@gmail.com Italian or Russian hybrids	Yes	John Clark	Mar 26th Apr 09th Apr 30th
Huron	Queens	\$40	419-366-0802	Mpk1219@aol.com	Yes	Dr Mike Kisil	May-August



SRVBA Membership Form

We welcome you to join the Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association! Yearly membership dues are \$20.00 per family & due by March 1st. You do not need to own honey bees to join - just have an interest in the welfare of honey bees. Please make checks payable to the Sandusky River Valley Beekeepers Association. Complete this form & mail it to: **SRVBA, c/o Kim Root 1000 CR 312, Bellevue, OH 44811.**

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Spouse: _____

Additional family names _____

Email address: _____

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number (home) _____ (cell) _____

Membership since: _____ Number of Hives _____

Please check all that apply:

New Membership I'm interested in being a mentor in

Renewal _____ County _____

Individual Add me to the swarm list for

Family _____ County _____

Willing to help with committees for _____ Tax deductible donations for supporting club activities. Beekeeping \$_____.

This information will never be shared with others, outside of the club. All information is confidential.

Meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church, 510 W. Maple Street, Clyde, OH 43410.

For office use only

Check number _____ Calendar year _____ Cash amount _____ Verified info _____