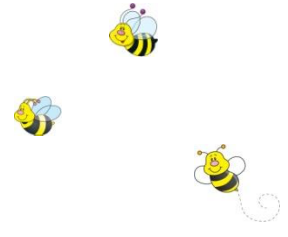


The Skep



Ohio Pollinator Week June 19-26, 2016

The [Pollinator Stewardship Council](#) in collaboration with the [Ohio State Beekeepers Association](#) has developed a Celebration of Ohio Pollinators as part of National Pollinator Week June 19-26, 2016.

Ohio State Beekeepers Association and Pollinator Stewardship Council are working together to increase awareness of the honey bee health crisis, improve the health of Ohio honey bees and native pollinators, and celebrate Ohio partners working together for the benefit of Ohio agriculture, Ohio parks and forests as well as backyard gardens.

Pollination plays a vital role in the health of Ohio's forests and grasslands as well as in the pollination services of agriculture. Honey bees provide \$12.4 billion through pollination services to pollinator dependent crops and \$6.8 billion of crop value to indirectly dependent crops. Pollination services are also contributed by our native pollinators who provide \$4 billion worth of pollination services to dependent crops,

and \$5.9 billion in value to indirectly dependent crops nationally.

The Pollinator Stewardship Council's mission is to defend managed and native pollinators vital to sustainable and affordable food supply from the adverse impact of pesticides.

Please visit the websites of the following partners for a few Ohio Pollinator Week activities.

- Cleveland Botanical Garden
www.cb garden.org/
- Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden
www.fpc conservatory.org/
- Charity A. Krueger Farm Discovery Center at Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm
web4.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/aullwood

2016 Tentative Meeting Dates & Locations

July 17	Bruce & Michele Zimmer
August 21	Don Kovach's Parents' Home
September 18	Shelly & Christian Cirino
October 16	A La Cart Catering

June Meeting Details

Sunday, June 19, 2016

Potluck Lunch 1:00 p.m.

(Bring your own lawn chairs, plates, cups and silverware please.)

Meeting 2:00 p.m.

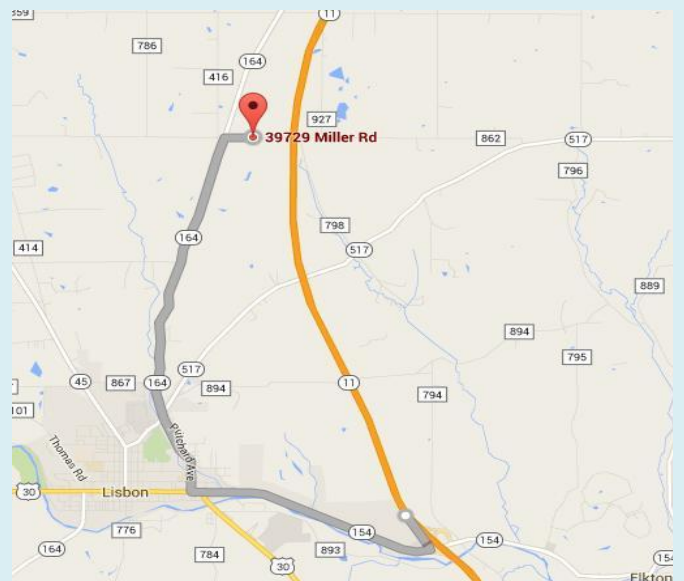
Chuck & Kathryn Hatch's Home

39729 Miller Rd.

Leetonia, Ohio 44431

From Rt 11 South take the Ohio-154 exit toward US-30 Rogers/Lisbon. Turn right onto OH-154 West for about 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Pritchard Ave then left onto Race Road for about .4 miles before merging onto OH-164 North. After 2.3 miles turn right onto Miller Road. The Hatch home is about .2 miles on the right.

From Rt 11 North take the Ohio-154 exit toward US-30 Rogers/Lisbon. Turn right onto OH-154 West and follow the directions above.



Association T-Shirt Orders



This year's shirts are true red with the emblem on the back. If you are interested in ordering shirts please see Andrea Deafenbaugh at an association meeting or call her at (330) 457-0326 . The deadline for orders and payment is Sunday, July 17.

Prices are as follows:

Polo Shirts (up to XL)	\$10.75
Polo Shirts (XXL)	\$11.75
Polo Shirts (3XL)	\$12.75
Polo Shirts (4XL)	\$14.75
T-Shirts (up to XL)	\$7.25
Each additional X in size adds an additional \$1.	
Embroidered name and skep on front of either style of shirt	Additional \$4

Embroidered Caps will be available for \$10 each.

Thank you so much Andrea for organizing this sale!

CMCBA New Librarian

At our last Association meeting Grimilda Ocasio graciously volunteered to take care of our library. If you are interested in checking out a book or video please see her at one of the meetings.

Thank you Grimilda!

May Meeting Recap

Our May meeting was quite busy and thankfully we were sheltered from the snow in George and Edwynna's garage!

After our regular business meeting Mike Ferreri demonstrated his swarm trap boxes and explained their use. He also played a video of the traps in action. Mike is having a great deal of success with the swarm boxes and encouraged all of us to give them a try also. He and his wife offered a bottle of lemongrass oil and a swarm trap that he built as door prizes. If you would like to build your own swarm traps, you can find the plans and some awesome photos of the swarm traps in action on the association website at this link [Ferreri Swarm Trap Plans](#). Thank you Mike and Diana!

Following the discussion about swarms and using the swarm boxes, Jean Engle from [Treez Please](#) in Youngstown spoke. Jean and her organization are building native plant communities in Youngstown and assisting others in achieving the same goal. She explained that habitat fragmentation is a deterrent to all pollinator insects. To assist in rectifying the problem homeowners should do less mowing and create meadows and pollinator gardens. One of her suggestions was to put split rail fencing up around the newly created meadow so it is obvious that you are creating something rather than just allowing your grass to grow unkept. Jean also listed several plants to add to your meadow area or pollinator garden. Among them were goldenrod and bee balm.

Jean also talked briefly about pesticides. She informed us that Ortho has removed all [neonicotinoids](#) from their homeowner products but not their agricultural products. You can read more about this at the following link [NBC News Ortho to Drop Chemicals Linked to Bee Declines](#). Thank you Jean for your informative talk! We appreciate the time you spent with us discussing pollinator habitats.



Steve Miletta captured a photo of two queens fighting at the entrance of a hive. Thank you Steve for sharing this amazing picture with us!

Bee-worthy Blooms

A sampling of June blooming trees and plants that honey bees use as nectar (N) and/or pollen (P) sources.



Hollyhock (*Alcea rosea*): N & P
Pollen pellets are creamy white



Rose (*Rosa* spp.): P Pollen pellets are dark yellow.



Sumac (*Rhus glabra*): N & P
Pollen pellets are yellowish-brown.

White Dutch Clover (*Trifolium repens*): N & P A major source of both pollen and nectar. Pollen pellets are greenish-brown.

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*): N & P A major source of both pollen and nectar. Pollen pellets are yellow.

Resources:

Lindtner, Peter. (2014). *Garden Plants for Honey Bees*. Kalamazoo, MI: [Wicwas Press](#).

Tew, James E. *Some Ohio Nectar and Pollen Producing Plants*, Fact Sheet HYG-2168-98. Wooster, OH: Ohio State University Extension.

Bees Need Water!



According to Ohio State Beekeepers Association's [Best Management Practices for Maintaining Honey Bee Colonies in Ohio](#) a beekeeper should maintain a water source within 50 feet of the hives or less than one-half the distance to the nearest unnatural water source, whichever is closest for urban and suburban apiaries. But providing water isn't just for urban beekeepers. It is important for rural apiaries to have a source of water as well.

There are several options for providing water to your honey bees. Unfortunately, using a fire hydrant like the one in the swarm photo above isn't one of them. For details please refer to the [July 2015 edition of *The Skep*](#). In the article you will find lots of ideas, tips, tricks and resources to help you decide on the best way to provided water to your bees.

Cool photo provided by Angela Pierce and shared with permission. Thank you Angela and thanks to Don Hays for submitting it for the newsletter!

Swarming



This has been quite a spring for swarms. Judging by the emails and phone conversations most of you are running all over both

counties gathering swarms and spending a great deal of time taking swarm traps down, relocating colonies and replacing the traps only to have them collect another swarm of honey bees. It has been exhausting fun! Swarming has benefits beyond increasing the number of hives in an apiary. Understanding the causes and roles that swarms play in honey bee survival and maintenance will help beekeepers make management decisions.

There are three types of swarms. Reproductive swarms occur in the spring as the colony builds. This impulse is a reaction to the increase in bees and the decrease in pheromone concentrations in the hive. Reproductive swarms generally occur at the start of a strong spring flow. Congestive swarms occur when space is reduced within a colony. These swarms resemble a reproductive swarm but are triggered by the lack of space for the queen to lay eggs. Congestive swarms generally happen just after the peak of a strong nectar flow and storage of nectar overtakes the brood nest area. Adding boxes of drawn comb can alleviate this type of swarming impulse. Absconding

swarms is the evacuation of the hive's population. The bees leave when threatened by pests within the hive, such as varroa mite overload or disease outbreak, or outside of the hive, such as bears, floods or chemical exposure. Absconding can happen at any time of the year.



There are many causes of swarming also. The first cause is the dilution of pheromone levels, or queen substance, per

bee. Young queens seem to have stronger pheromones and are less likely to swarm in their first season where as older queens are stimulated to deposit eggs in queen cups and swarm more often since their queen pheromone is reduced. Another cause of swarming is the lack of space for new eggs. There is a correlation between how much a queen is laying and how much pheromone she is producing. When a queen is unable to lay eggs due to a lack of space she produces less queen substance. This decline in pheromones leads to swarming. The genetic race of the honey bee is also a factor of swarming. Italians and Caucasians have a moderate tendency to swarm. Buckfast bees have a low tendency to swarm while Carniolans and Russians have higher tendencies to swarm. Russian bees are even known to hold ready-to-emerge queens in their cells,

feeding them through a small slit in the tip until the workers are ready for the young queen to emerge. Fourth cause of swarming is environmental conditions. A swarm will prefer to leave the hive on calmer days when the temperature is between 75° and 85°F. Often bees swarm on the first nice day after being confined to the hive by rainy or stormy weather. Finally the age of the queen can be a factor of swarming. Some research also suggests that queens mated after the summer solstice tend to swarm less the following season than queens produced prior to the summer solstice.



Although there may be some loss of honey production in the parent hive, swarming is not completely bad. Swarming creates a natural break in the brood cycle and in turn reduces the Varroa mite load considerably since it is dependent on honey bee brood to reproduce.

Recently Thomas Seeley, along with J. Carter Loftus and Michael Smith, published an article titled *How Honey Bee Colonies Survive in the Wild: Testing the Importance of Small Nests and Frequent Swarm*. In the article they describe their research and findings about the comparison between larger colonies and smaller colonies. By the final month of the study seven of 12 large colonies had signs of deformed wing virus while none of the small

colonies showed signs of this disease. The larger colonies experienced significantly higher mortality rates with a loss of 10 of the 12 hives while only four out of 12 of the smaller hives were lost. Their results indicate that smaller nest cavities and more frequent swarming contribute to wild colonies persistence without mite treatments. In the article the authors suggest that more studies are needed on the use of colony splitting as a non-chemical method for reducing Varroa mites in managed colonies.

Swarming has benefits beyond increasing the number of hives in an apiary. Understanding the causes and roles that swarms play in honey bee survival and maintenance is critical for beekeepers when taking care of the apiaries.

Resources:

Repasky, Stephen J. (2014). [*Swarm Essentials*](#) Kalamazoo, MI: Wicwas Press.

Loftus, J. Carter, Smith, Michael L., Seeley, Thomas D. [*How Honey Bee Colonies Survive in the Wild: Testing the Importance of Small Nests and Frequent Swarming*](#). PLOS one Website. Retrieved May 20, 2016 from journals.plos.org



This swarm had settled in a tree between two buildings in town. It had drawn out several rows of comb before anyone saw them.



Grape & Almond Salad with Honey Yogurt Dressing

Ingredients:

- ½ cup sliced skin on almonds
- ½ cup plain yogurt
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons mild honey
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 4 cups seedless grapes, sliced in half
- 2 cups apples, cored and chopped
- 1 cup celery, sliced

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 °F. Spread almonds on a baking sheet and place in oven for 12-15 minutes or until lightly toasted. Let cool completely.

In a mixing bowl whisk together yogurt, oil, honey, vinegar, mustard and salt until smooth. With a rubber spatula gently fold in the almonds, grapes, apples and celery.

Recipe & Photo from [The National Honey Board](#)

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	Chuck Hatch (2018)	330-807-0848

Special thanks to our generous suppliers who have provided us with catalogs, donations and door prizes. It means a lot to these folks to hear back from you, so be sure to mention our association when doing business with them:

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Dadant - American Bee Journal	Valley Bee Supply
Draper's Super Bee Apiaries	Western Bee Supplies
Ernst Seeds	

Click on the company name to visit their web site.



Check out our website for additional resources and information.



www.columbianamahoningbeekeepers.org

Article or recipe suggestions and submissions are accepted and appreciated. Please provide them by the second of each month.

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