



# The Skep

April 2018

Columbiana & Mahoning Beekeepers' Association Newsletter

## President's Corner:

Hello Beekeepers,

Even though the calendar says it is spring, I am cold just coming from 80 degree weather in Florida. I want to thank Bruce and the rest of you for carrying on the business of the association. I hope all of you are ready for the packages of new bees that you ordered as they will be here shortly. I already had my first swarm call. The bad news is it was in the park in Florida where we stay. I'm back rejuvenated and ready to get to work.

So I hope we have a good year.

Best Wishes,

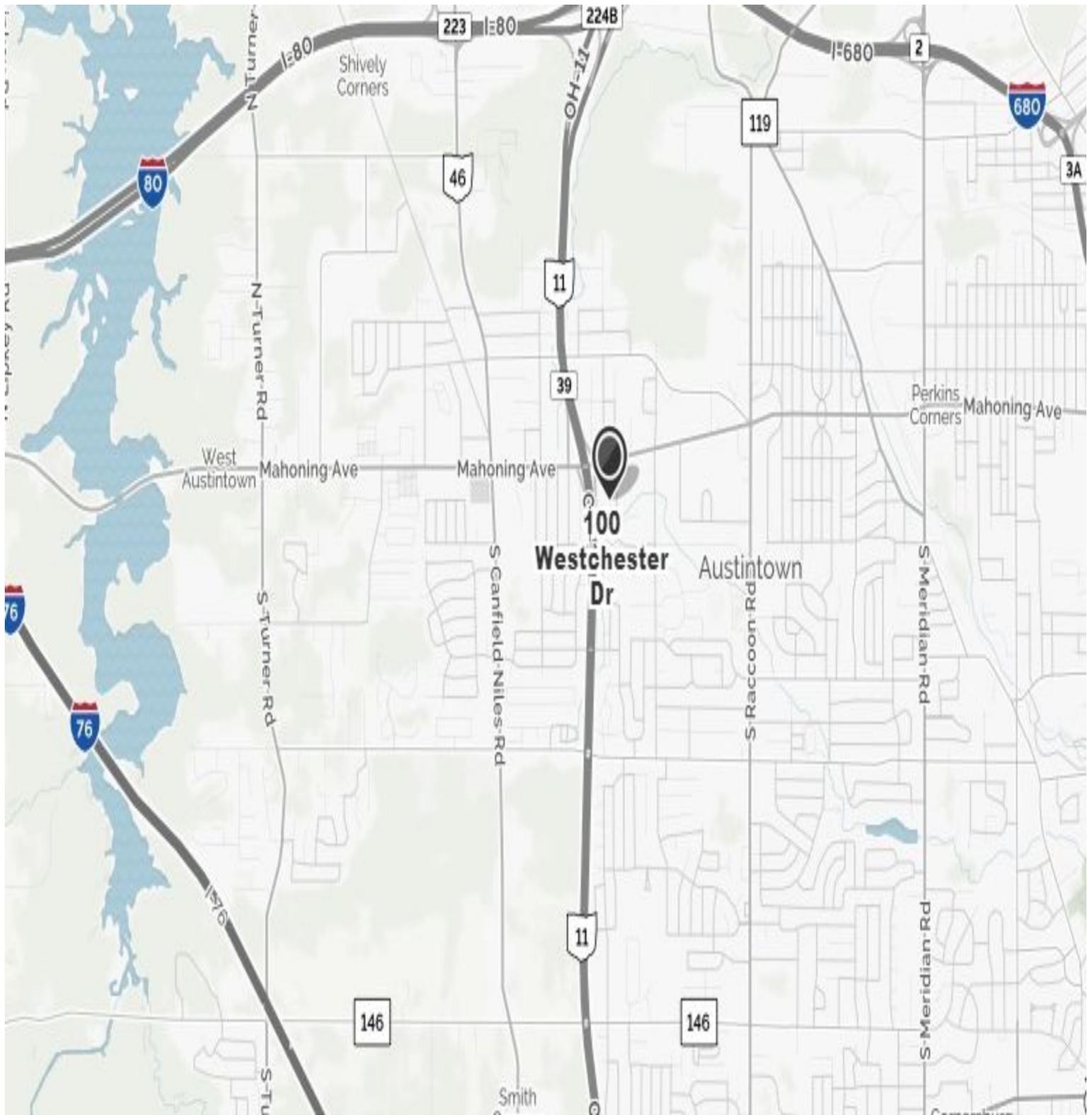
George Stacy

## April Meeting Information:

**Next Meeting: 04/15/2018,  
Monthly Membership Meeting and Luncheon  
Austintown Senior Center  
100 Westchester Drive  
Austintown, Ohio 44515**

**Potluck Lunch at 1 pm and  
Membership meeting at 2 pm.**

**As a Reminder: Please bring your own  
tableware;  
Plates, Cups, Silverware etc.**



# Reminder for UpComing Education events:

August 13 - 17, 2018

## EAS 2018

Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton, Virginia

**Conference (Aug 15-17) Speakers include:**

- Celia Davis, NDB (National Diploma in Beekeeping UK)
- Dr. Jamie Ellis, University of Florida
- Randy Oliver, Scientific Beekeeping
- Mike Palmer, French Hill Apiaries, Vermont
- Fred Proni, North Carolina Grown
- Sammy Ramsey, University of Maryland
- Dr. Juliana Rangel, Texas A & M
- Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda, Clemson University
- Michael Young, MBe, Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers and MANY others

**Short Course (Aug 13 & 14) Topics Include:**

- Beginners Track
- Intermediate Track
- Apiary Track
- Electronic Hive Monitoring
- Excellence in Honey & Hive Products
- Queen Rearing

**Special Events:**

- Beekeepers' Beach Bash
- Tea with Celia Davis
- Queen of the Sun Film Screening
- Honey Show and Awards Banquet
- Silent Auction and Dinner
- Trip to historic Jamestown, entry point for honey bees into North America
- Trip to St. George's Brewery and Apiary

Centrally located along the East Coast, 40% of the US population is within one day's drive (10 hours) of Hampton, Virginia.

Fun and easy day trips to Colonial Williamsburg and the Virginia Beach Boardwalk are less than an hour away!



**VIRGINIA 2018**  
"Where it all began"  
**EAS**

# WANTED

## Varroa destructor



For the wanton destruction of Honey Bee colonies worldwide  
Yours could be next

Take the challenge  
**TEST YOUR HIVE TODAY!**

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## THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Join Us for Monthly Webinars with Top Researchers and Experts




April 18, **Olivia Carril**, author and scientist  
Identifying Common Bees of the Great Lakes Region

May 16, **Reed Johnson**, OSU Entomology  
Where are Honey Bees Foraging in Ohio?

June 20, **Kim Flottum**, author and editor of Bee Culture Magazine  
Ethics in Beekeeping

July 18, **Alex Zomchek**, Master Beekeeping Instructor  
Insect/Animal Husbandry - What You Do and Don't Do Matters!

August 15, **Elizabeth Long**, OSU Entomology  
Protecting Pollinators from Pesticides

September 19, **Kelley Tilmon**, OSU Entomology  
Pollinator Diversity in Ohio Soybeans

October (date TBA), **Randy Mitchell**, The University of Akron:  
The Ohio Bee Survey: In Search of the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee

Webinars are at 9:00AM EASTERN, typically on the third Wednesday of the month.

Join Our Mailing List!  
Forward to a Friend

**Quick Links**

- [Ohio State Bee Lab](#)
- [Courses/Webinars](#)
- [The Buzz @ OSU News](#)
- [Ohio State Entomology](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

To Join a webinar, follow the link below and LOG IN AS A GUEST at about 8:55 the day of the event: <http://go.osu.edu/theOSUbuzz>

## Eversweet Apiaries HONEYBEE BREEDS

Honeybees are usually selected for their positive traits which are passed down from the queen & the drones she mated with. There are pros & cons for each breeds' traits. These breeds are the most common in the United States.



TRAIT	AFRICAN	BUCKFAST	CARNIOLAN	CAUCASIAN	CORDOVAN	ITALIAN	RUSSIAN
CALM ON COMBS	1	10	8	10	7	5	5
DEFENSIVE BEHAVIOR	10	1	1	1	1	2	7
EARLY BUILD UP	10	8	10	6	5	8	10
FORAGES EARLY	5	10	10	1	5	5	10
HONEY COLLECTION	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
HONEY STORAGE	1	10	10	8	8	10	5
NOSEMA RESISTANT	10	5	6	1	5	5	5
POLLEN COLLECTION	5	5	10	5	5	5	5
PROPOLIS COLLECTION	5	5	2	10	5	5	5
TENDENCY TO SWARM	10	2	5	2	5	2	7
TRACHEAL MITE RESISTANT	8	10	8	3	5	5	9
VARROA RESISTANT	10	3	4	3	3	3	5
WINTERS WELL	1	10	10	10	5	10	10

1 = Low Tendency for Trait      10 = High Tendency for Trait

85 Everhart Drive      Kearneysville, WV 25430      (304) 876-3832  
[info@eversweetapiaries.com](mailto:info@eversweetapiaries.com)      [eversweetapiaries.com](http://eversweetapiaries.com)      [facebook.com/eversweetapiaries](https://facebook.com/eversweetapiaries)

## **2018 Officers**

**President-- George Stacey 330-360-8717**

**V.President--Bruce Deafenbaugh 330-457-0326**

**Secretary-- Donna Birmingham 330-424-5305**

**Treasurer--Don Kovach 330-272-3711**

**Board: Bill Dehoff (2018) 330-549-2984**

**Andrea Deafenbaugh (2019) 330-457-0326**

**Ralph Rupert (2020) 330-400-8581**

## **2018 Club Sponsors and Donors:**

**A.I. Root- Bee Culture**

**Applewood Seed Company**

**Betterbee**

**Bee Smart Designs**

**Beeline Apiaries**

**Blue Sky Bee Supply**

**Brushy Mountain**

**Buckeye Queen Producers**

**Dadant - American Bee Journal**

**Draper's Super Bee Apiaries**

**Ernst Seeds**

**Heartwood Lumber**

**Honey Bee Ware**

**Kelley Beekeeping**

**Mann Lake**

**Olivarez Honey Bees**

**Pigeon Mountain Trading**

**Queen Right Colonies**

**Rossman Apiaries**

**Valley Bee Supply**

**Western Bee Supplies**

**HillTop Honey Farm--Steve Davis**

Click on the company name to visit their web site.

## Monthly Honey Recipe:

### DOUBLE CORN AND HONEY FRITTERS WITH HONEY-BACON DRIZZLE



#### **INGREDIENTS:**

**3 slices thick-sliced bacon cut into ½ inch pieces**

**¾ cup coarse yellow cornmeal**

**¾ cup all-purpose flour**

**2 tsp. baking powder**

**1 tsp. coarse salt**

**1/8 tsp. freshly ground black pepper**

**1 1/2 cup corn niblets fresh raw or drained canned**

**¾ cup buttermilk**

**2 T light honey**

**vegetable oil for deep frying**

**1 cup dark honey**

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

**Fry the bacon in a medium skillet over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally, until browned, about 10 minutes. Lift from the bacon fat with a slotted spoon and drain on a paper-lined plate. Set aside.**

**In a large bowl, stir cornmeal, flour, baking powder, salt, baking soda and black pepper until well blended. Stir in the corn.**

**In a small bowl whisk the buttermilk and honey until blended. Add to the dry ingredients and fold until thoroughly blended.**

**Heat about 1 1/2 inches of oil in a deep heavy pot until hot enough to sizzle and brown a crust of bread or 375° on a deep-frying thermometer.**

**Add the batter by heaping tablespoonfuls to the hot oil. Fry, turning as they brown, about 5 minutes. With a slotted spoon lift the fritters from the oil to a tray lined with double thickness of paper towels.**

**Heat the additional darker honey in a saucepan set over very low heat, stirring, just until warmed, about 1 minute. Add the bacon to the warm honey and serve with the fritters.**

## **March Membership Meeting Recap:**

- \*Eric Barnett from Ohio Dept of Ag will speak in April on crop spraying and beekeepers rights.**
- \*Bruce reminded to feed the bees at 50 degrees and above and use 10% bleach solution to sanitize your bee equipment that may be contaminated. Only dry feed is to be given to the bees this time of year to keep down moisture inside the hive that results from evaporating liquid feed.**
- \*Don Kovach will be having field days again at Mill Creek Park on the following dates: 4/21, 4/28, and 5/5. This is a great opportunity for hands on experience under the watchful eyes of a master beekeeper using their supplies and bees! Maximum of 10 students per session.**
- \*Andrea is once again heading up the shirt ordering this year. The new colors will be gold and black. \$7.25 for the tee shirt and \$8.75 for the polo shirt. Logos will be an additional charge.**
- \*Several members spoke on the classes they attended at the Tri-County Beekeepers workshop in Wooster in March. Major bees loss is contributed to 3 key areas; poor nutrition, high mite counts, and poor queen genetics. Randy Oliver stated that if you take care of mites and nutrition, you will have taken care of 95% of your problems in the apiary.**
- \*The club will be holding a class on creamed honey this summer, details to follow.**
- \*Over 45 members still owe dues for the year. Please Don Kovach is you have not paid. Your dues fund the month to month operation of the club.**
- \*Free diagnostic kits are still available thru OSBA. You must present a certificate from a completed beekeeping course, be a new beekeeper, and have receipts for bee equipment to qualify.**
- \*William Bacho was presented his beekeeping equipment from OSBA. He was a winner of the grant to begin his adventure into the hobby. He will be giving a presentation at the end of the year and update us on his progress. Congratulations to William!**

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## **Swarm Trap Information from Mike Ferreri:**

**Our own Mike Ferreri has submitted the following link to help provide members with planning and making their own swarm traps. Swarm season will be here before you know it, and he has graciously provided you with all the information you need to make and setup your own traps. Please read his email below.**

**“I was planning to talk about swarm traps at the next club meeting. However, I will not be able to do so because speakers are already lined up for March and April. I would like to get as much info to club members about swarm traps as possible before our May meeting. Last year there were already 15 swarms on my property by May 20, which is our next meeting date.**

**You usually mention some type of bee work in the Skep that we should be doing in the winter to prepare for the upcoming beekeeping season. Maybe this could be one of them.**

**I have revised the swarm trap details for which you have a link to on our club website. It now includes a cutlist for optimizing the plywood panel cuts, and instructions on how to use the swarm traps to catch honey bees.”**

**Please click on the link below to go to his google drive and get the information.**

**<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xYAdy7TKH9Q5SVErDdkGBucC4FvUcaWT/view?usp=sharing>**

# BY THE NUMBERS

HONEY VOLUME = WEIGHT 1 Gallon Honey = 12 Pounds 1 Quart Honey = 3 Pounds 1 Pint Honey = 1.5 Pounds 1/2 Pint Honey = 12 Ounces

FRAME SIZES & AMOUNT OF HONEY IT CAN HOLD Deep = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 9-1/8 inches = 6 Pounds Honey Medium = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 6-1/4 inches = 4 Pounds Honey Shallow = 19 inches x 1-1/16 inches x 5-3/8 inches = 3 Pounds Honey

HONEY PER 10 FRAME BOX A shallow super will typically yield between 25 and 30 pounds of honey, or 2 to 2 1/2 gallons. A medium (6 5/8") depth super will typically yield between 35 and 40 pounds, or 3 to 4 gallons. A full-depth box will typically yield between 60 and 70 pounds, or 5 to 6 gallons.

CELLS PER FRAME FOUNDATION (APPROX.) Deep = 3500 Per Side Medium = 2310 Per Side Shallow = 2058 Per Side

ESTIMATING COLONY STRENGTH A shallow frame fully covered with bees will hold approx. 0.3 pounds of bees. A deep frame fully covered holds 0.5 pounds of bees or about 1750 individuals. There are about 3500 bees per pound.

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.

Honey bee colonies consist of a single queen, hundreds of male drones and 20,000 to 80,000 female worker bees. Each honey bee colony also consists of developing eggs, larvae and pupae. A well-mated and well-fed queen of quality stock can lay about 1,500 to 2,000 eggs per day during the spring build-up—more than her own bodyweight in eggs every day.

## Fun Facts Honey Bees

- Honey bees fly at 15 miles per hour.
- Honey bees' wings stroke 11,400 times per minute, thus making their distinctive buzz.
- Honeybees will usually travel approximately 2 to 3 miles from their hive.
- Honeybees are the only bees that die after they sting.
- Honeybees are responsible for pollinating approx. 80% of all fruit, vegetable and seed crops in the U.S.

- Honeybees have five eyes, 3 small ones on top of the head and two big ones in front. They also have hair on their eyes!
- Bees communicate with each other by dancing and by using pheromones (scents).
- Honeybees never sleep!

## **Honey**

- Honey is 80% sugars and 20% water.
  - To make one pound of honey, the bees in the colony must visit 2 million flowers, fly over 55,000 miles and will be the lifetime work of approximately 768 bees.
  - A single honeybee will only produce approximately 1/12 teaspoon of honey in her lifetime.
  - A single honey bee will visit 50-100 flowers on a single trip out of the hive.
  - Honey is the ONLY food that includes all the substances necessary to sustain life, including water.
  - Honey never spoils.
  - It would take about 1 ounce of honey to fuel a honeybee's flight around the world.
    - Flowers and other blossoming plants have nectarines that produce sugary nectar. Worker bees suck up the nectar and water and store it in a special honey stomach. When the stomach is full the bee returns to the hive and puts the nectar in an empty honeycomb. Natural chemicals from the bee's head glands and the evaporation of the water from the nectar change the nectar into honey.
  - Out of 20,000 species of bees, only 4 make honey.

## **Beehives**

- A populous colony may contain 40,000 to 60,000 bees during the late spring or early summer.
- A honeycomb cell has six sides.
  - Bees maintain a temperature of 92-93 degrees Fahrenheit in their central brood nest regardless of whether the outside temperature is 110 or -40 degrees.

