

**Buzzin' About**

**June 2018**

# The Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

Newsletter

## **MVBA CONTACTS**

### **President**

Robert Dorsten

### **Vice President**

Lydia Pleiman

### **Secretary**

Chrystal Reese

### **Treasurer**

Francisco "John" Martinez

### **Executive Board**

Jeff Gerhart

Katie Stefaniak

### **Newsletter**

Terry Lieberman-Smith

### **Apiary Managers**

Jeff Mahar

Katie Stefaniak

**Monday, June 4, 2018**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Brukner Nature Center**

## **Agenda**

Club Updates  
Membership Renewals  
Bee Bucks  
Etc

## **Guest Speaker:**

Tanya Brown with Living Simply Soap

## **Topic:**

Using Wax and Honey in Soaps and Lotions

**Renew your membership**

Can't attend this month's meeting?

Use the renewal form  
on page 5.

## Editor's Note

The hot summer weather is here, and our bees are busier than ever. Last year at this time, everyone was swamped with swarm calls, but this year the bees seem to be a bit behind (or maybe beekeepers are staying ahead of their colonies).

This month's guest speaker, Tanya Brown, will show us how we can use some of our hive products - wax and honey - in soaps and lotions. Perfect timing for this subject, because before long the summer will be over and everyone will be thinking about holiday gift baskets.

Club members, stop by the MVBA Apiary before the meeting. Weather permitting, our Apiary Managers Katie Stefaniak and Jeff Mahar, will provide everyone pointers and this month's apiary activities. Bring, and wear, your protective gear. Our training apiary is only one of the many benefits of joining MVBA. Not a member yet? Join at the June club meeting, or fill out MVBA Membership form on page 5 and mail it to our Treasurer, John Martinez.

See you in the beeyard

*Terry Lieberman-Smith*

## Who's Your Inspector?

From the ODA Website:

Champaign	Brad McClincy	(614) 668-5911
Clark	Jim Lyons	(614) 806-9234
Darke	Steve Brumbaugh	no contact information listed
Miami	Dean Pond	(937) 473-5053
Montgomery	Steve Hollen	(937) 371-4071
Preble	Don Popp	(513) 523-0789
Shelby	Shawn Henry	(937) 658-3262



## Almond Acreage in CA Grows to Record Total - 1.3 Million Acres

California's almond acreage grew 7 percent last year to a record 1.3 million acres, as the state continued its dominance as the world's leading producer of almonds.

The state grows more than 80 percent of the world's supply. In 2016, California's almond crop was valued at more than \$5 billion.

Of the state's total almond acres, 1 million acres are producing almonds and 330,000 acres of trees are still maturing, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's almond acreage report.

**MVBA Meeting Minutes**  
**Chrystal Reese, Secretary**  
**May 7, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7 PM. There were 68 guests and members in attendance.

**Announcements for May:**

Deb from Brukner Nature Center gave us a Brukner update. They have also begun grant writing for the barn building.

MVBA Apiary Report: they are going to split the hives that overwintered. The package installed in April is doing well.

John Gonzales gave the financial report. The club has a current balance of \$1958 and took in 1 new member in April.

Terry Lieberman-Smith gave an OSBA update. There are 201 Apiary Diagnostic Kits still available. The OSBA Fall Conference is November 3, 2018.

Vickie Bowman announced that MVBA club members who order queens from her will get a discounted price of \$30 but they must be picked up.

Robert Dorsten opened the floor for question and answer time.

Q: How do I get my bees to get water from a water source of my choosing?

A: Bees will get water where they want, but you can encourage them by adding chlorine to the water source you want them to use. There is no guarantee, however.

Q: If you cut out bad or destroyed comb from a frame with no foundation, will they always refill that with drone comb?

A: Yes, generally they will.

Guest speaker Tim Arheit of Honey Run Apiaries, from the OSBA Traveling Speaker series, presented on "Sustainable Beekeeping: Nucs." What is a "Nuc?" It is a small hive with every resource a full-sized hive has.

Why keep nucs? Reasons for keeping nucs include holding replacement queens until you are ready to place her in her own hive, swarm control, breaking a brood cycle, increasing your apiary, or having extra resources on hand to strengthen weak hives.

Tim detailed the equipment, the methods of creating nucs, splitting, and overwintering.

Nucs for sustainability means having extra resources in your own bee yard to properly manage your apiary.

Next meeting is June 4, 2018.

**MVBA Treasurer Report**  
**John Martinez, Treasurer May 7, 2018**

As of 15 May 2018 our total holdings: 2018.25

On par with past years, new memberships have slowed and we've covered all of our "start of season" expenses. As a result this has been another reporting period with little activity to report regarding the MVBA accounts. We will have a few expenses related to "speaker fees" over the next few months (monies paid out to cover the costs of some of our guest speakers from outside of the club), but no significant gains or losses projected until mid/late July when we'll be preparing for the Honey Harvest.

# Get Your Gardens Ready for Blooms

## Pollen Sources Walnut

**Nectar:** Ground-ivy, Sour Gum Tree, Buckthorns, Viburnums, Locust Trees, Tulip Poplar, Common Privet, Basswood, Linden, Candytuft, Lambs Ear, Vetch

**Nectar and Pollen:** Crabapple, Apple, Serviceberry, Shadbush, Hawthorns, Blackberries, Chives, Cotoneaster, Leopard's Bane, Redbud, Strawberry, White Sweet Clover,



Want to know what is blooming in your area? Know what's blooming and you can plan your honey crop (or if you need to feed your girls)

<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/>

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## The Basic Buzz in the Apiary

### June

- Continue to check for queen cells.
- Rear queens if you prefer your own stock.
- Check colonies for disease and monitor for mites.
- Remove comb honey supers when properly sealed.
- Provide plenty of super space.
- Control swarming.
- Capture swarms

### July

- Remove comb honey supers when properly sealed.
- Check for queen cells, especially in colonies used for queen rearing.
- Add sufficient super space (undersuper).
- Remove and extract early season honey crop.
- Freeze comb honey to prevent wax moth damage
- Prepare for the Fair!

# Bee-ing a Step Ahead



Our Official Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/miamivalleybeekeepers/>

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- June 4 – Using Wax and Honey in Soaps and Lotions - Tanya Brown with Living Simply Soap  
July 2 – Pest Management and Tips for a Healthy Hive  
August 5 (SUNDAY) – Annual Honey Harvest  
September 10– Bee Anatomy and Intelligence vs Instinct – Vickie Bowman with Ohio Buckeye Belle Queens  
October 1 – To Be Determined  
November 3 OSBA Fall Conference, Tolles Career and Technical Center, Plain City, OH  
November 5 – Member Carry-In, Officer Elections, Bee Buck Raffle.

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## Miami Valley Beekeepers Association Membership Form 2018

Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year

Membership benefits include:

- Monthly meetings (exp. For Dec/Jan) with educational speakers
- Monthly e-zine with beekeeping articles and other features
- Sponsoring public presentations
- Education in the MVBA Apiary
- and more!***

Name

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Address

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Phone

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Email

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Make checks out to: Miami Valley Beekeepers Association and Remit Payment to:

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

900 Antioch School Rd

Vandalia OH 45377