

Buzzin' About

June 2021

The Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

Newsletter

MVBA Contacts

President

Chrystal Reese

Vice President

Lydia Pleiman

Secretary

Donna Meade

Treasurer

Brian Willis

At Large

Dan Richardson

Tim Ray

Newsletter

Terry Lieberman-Smith

Apiary Manager

Patrick Reese

Monday June 7, 2021

7:00 p.m.

430 Kirk Lane, Troy

Agenda

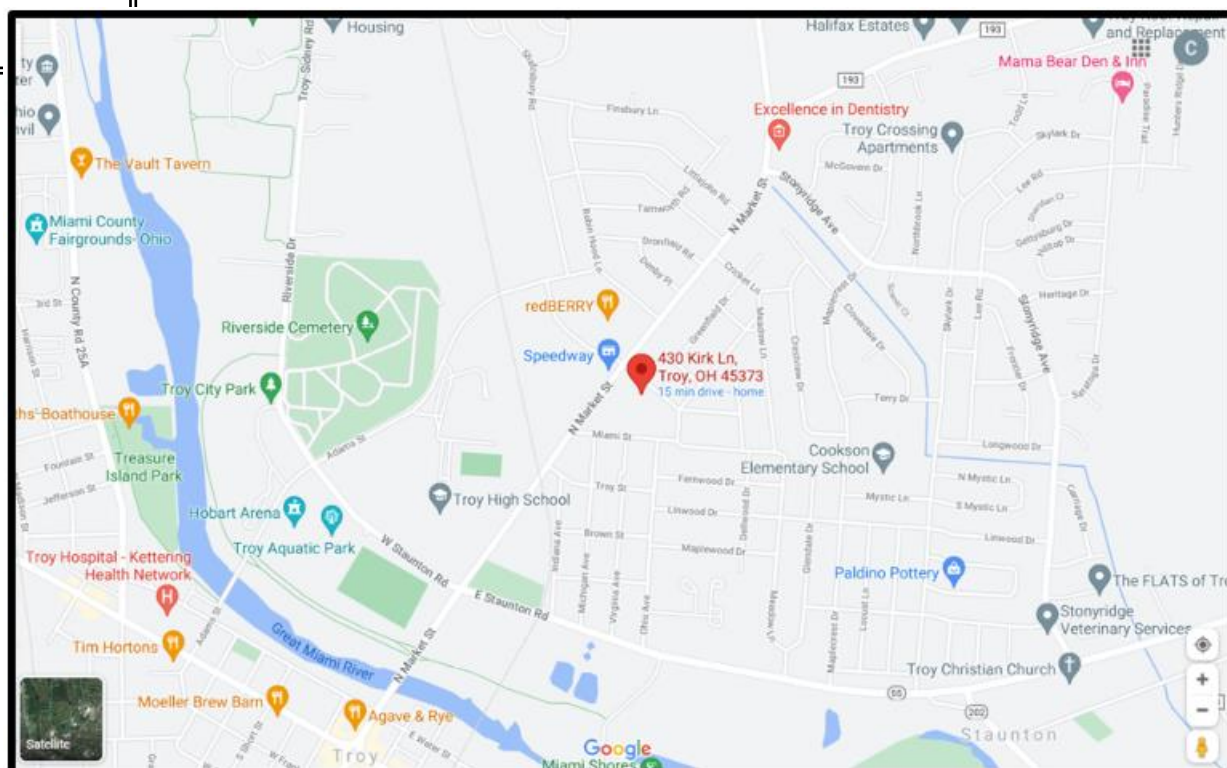
Club Updates

Volunteer Sign-ups

Guest Speaker:

Tim Reuber

Topic: Yes Dear, No More Hives



President Notes

I have been anxiously awaiting this moment when I can finally write: I'll see you at the meeting! We'll be meeting in person June 7 at 430 Kirk Lane, Troy OH 45373. We could use a little help arriving at 6:30 to set up for the 7pm start. We will also be streaming this via Zoom if you are not able to attend in person. This is a temporary location for June and July. We're hoping the Tipp City Library will be open once again for meetings by our August meeting.

We have a great speaker lined up for June. Our own Tim Reuber will share his dive into beekeeping in his presentation: "Yes, Dear. No more hives," Our Journey from Two Packages to 40+ Hives. I know many of us can relate to the rapidly expanding apiary and the need to resolve to limit apiary growth, or readjust our goals. We look forward to listening to Tim discuss his experiences.

The apiary is hopping and many beekeepers are seeing swarm cells and swarms are landing in trees and apiaries all through the area. In our bee yard, we split out some hives with swarm cells in an effort to relieve pressure and make them believe they've swarmed? Will they still swarm? It's possible. Will we still have managed to make another hive, whether we catch a future swarm or not? Yes!

If you haven't already started putting honey supers on your hives, it's time. Be sure to give them plenty of space above so they don't store more honey than necessary in the brood chamber. In the past we've had a package swarm from being honeybound. We didn't think they were ready for a honey super and they most definitely were. We also like to make sure they have an upper entrance so they don't have to work their way through the brood chamber to get to the super. We believe this has also helped them not become honeybound. We learn every year, sometimes it's "what to do" and sometimes "what not to do again!"

Looking forward to seeing you all at the June 7th meeting!

Chrystal Reese
MVBA President

MVBA Treasurer Report

Brian Willis

Checking Account		Total Holdings		Cash On Hand
Beginning Balance Checking Acct May 2021	\$ 4,090.77	\$ 4,313.37	\$ 222.60	Beginning Balance May 2021
Income				Income during Meeting
Member Dues Paypal/Checks	\$ 18.24		\$ 20.00	Member Dues
	\$ -			
Total for Deposit	\$ 18.24		\$ 20.00	Total meeting income (cash/checks received)
Total Income		\$ 38.24		
Expenses				Expenses
Correcting carry over errors from July-Aug 2020 and Feb-March 2021	\$ (445.20)		\$ -	
Added cash balance twice to checking balance	\$ -		\$ -	
	\$ -			
Total Check Withdrawals/Debits	\$ (445.20)			Total Cashbox Withdrawals
Total Expenses		\$ (445.20)		
Cash xfer (Deposit from Cashbox)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Cash Xfer to lessen Cashbox contents
Ending Checking Balance May 15 2021	\$ 3,663.81		\$ 242.60	Ending Cash Balance May 15 2021
Monthly total Net change		\$ (406.96)		
Previous month Net funds		\$ 4,313.37		
Sum balance should equal total holdings (Bank activity +/- Cash Activity)		\$ 3,906.41		This acts as a check to ensure activity = actual balances
BA Total Holdings 15 May 2021 (Checking balance + Cash Balance)		\$ 3,906.41		

MVBA Secretary Report May, 2021

Chrystal Reese opened the meeting with announcements

Club honey extractor and decapping knife available for member use. Three day loan, \$30 refundable deposit when returned clean. Contact Tim Ray 937-875-0107 to borrow.

Board recommends MVBA partner with Tipp City to become an affiliate of Bee City USA.

In person June meeting will be held at interim location 430 Kirk Lane, Troy. Meeting will also be presented on zoom. Guest speaker Tim Reuber, "Yes dear, no more hives." Our journey from 2 packages to 40+ hives.

Patrick Reese presented the apiary report and was the guest speaker with how to Increase for the Home Apiary.

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association Membership Form 2021

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

Address

Phone

Email

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

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

2455 Piqua-Troy Rd

Troy, OH 45373

MVBA Apiary Report May 2021

April Showers Bring May... Swarms!

Greetings from The Apiary! Late April and early May rains kept the bees bottled up in the hive, but the last few days have been crazy with swarms. I'll tell you what happened on the swarm front in a few minutes, but first I need to follow up on a promise I made last month, in which I'd hoped to have pictures of new hives for this month's report. Our Apiary has grown by three colonies; here's the rundown:



This was the strong hive of the two we had in The Apiary. Using the Continual Split Method that we discussed at the last MVBA meeting, on May 2nd I took two nucs from this colony, and set them in the original colony's place. Each nuc had some ripe Queen cells from this colony. The original colony was then moved to another hive stand in the same beeyard. While the loss of eight frames of bees and brood knocked down the population of this hive for a while, it has come back nicely. There was a lot of traffic at the entrance today, though I didn't get a chance for a full inspection. Meanwhile, back at the nucs...



Along with the Queen Cells from the original colony we added some brood and food frames – four frames of bees in all for each nuc. This nuc was bustling with activity when we left the Apiary that night. With two weeks gone, we went through both of these nucs on May 15th, and found Queens in both of them! Because they were overflowing with bees, we put both of the nucs into double medium boxes. I think these are going to be some incredible hives.



Here are the two new colonies, fresh from their nuc boxes. Our Apiary is going great as an example of healthy increase, using not only these two new colonies, but...



Remember the one method of increase that can include a passive process? That's right – swarms! I was a little lazy this Spring (ok, a lot lazy!) and didn't get some of the absconded boxes cleaned up and put away. When we went to the Apiary tonight, we found a swarm had moved into the absconded hive... so it looks like we just did an unconventional swarm catch. We'll let the bees get situated and settled into their new home, and then do an inspection on them, probably next weekend.

So there you have it. We started May with two hives, and now we have five at the mid-way point. Things really are going well in the Apiary. Now, as soon as everyone gets strong enough, we need to get honey supers on them. That will be the next step.

Until then, I hope things are going well in your own apiary. See you next month!

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: 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/>



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