

Buzzin' About

March 2022

The Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

Newsletter

Monday March 7, 2022

7:00 p.m.

In-Person (Tipp City Library)

Zoom (from the comfort of your own home)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86450701693>



Agenda

**Club Updates - Elections
Volunteer Sign-ups**

Presentation via Zoom:

Mr. Kim Flottum

**Past Editor of Bee Culture
Podcaster
Author**

Topic:

10 Rules of Modern Beekeeping

Renew Your Membership Today!

<http://www.paypal.com/instantcommerce/checkout/9XHL8DY4QH62Q>

MVBA Swarm List-

An Added Benefit of Being an MVBA Member

It pays to be an MVBA member! Sign-up by March 10th. The list will be posted on the MVBA website, and sent out wide and far to fire departments, police departments, parks, townships, etc.



<https://forms.gle/2dbD1LnPn4GZaD5A7>

A note from the Newsletter Editor

Terry Lieberman-Smith

Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

Spring 2022 is just around the corner, and bees and beekeepers alike are ready to shake off the winter chill. Probably your woodenware needs some maintenance, your hive stands might need truing up, and even your bees might need some new genetics to help spruce up the yard.

Your MVBA Board is looking for a few volunteers to help your club meet the members' needs. A completely staffed board helps ensure a dynamic and thriving association for our current and future members.

As you know, there were no nominees on the November election slate for President or Vice President. During a recent board meeting, Jeff Adler, MVBA Member At-Large, volunteered to be nominated and put on the ballot for an election in March. Our Constitution does allow for elections when officer positions become vacant during times other than November. We also need a nomination for Vice-President, and at least 1 At-Large position. We will be voting to fill the positions.

If you are interested in having your name on the March Ballot, please contact Brian Willis 937.418.4359.

Our March meeting can be viewed either in-person at the Tipp City Library, or from the comfort of your own home. We will be Zooming with Kim Flottum.

MVBA Treasurer Report

Brian Willis

Checking Account		Total Holdings		Cash On Hand
Beginning Balance Checking Acct Feb 2022	\$ 3,513.81	\$ 3,756.41	\$ 242.60	Beginning Balance Feb 2022
Income				Income during Meeting
Member Dues Paypal/Checks	\$ 45.00		\$ 80.00	Member Dues
	\$ -			
Total for Deposit	\$ 45.00		\$ 80.00	Total meeting income (cash/checks received)
Total Income		\$ 125.00		
Expenses				Expenses
	\$ -		\$ -	
	\$ -		\$ -	
	\$ -			
Total Check Withdrawals/Debits	\$ -			Total Cashbox Withdrawals
Total Expenses		\$ -		
Cash xfer (Deposit from Cashbox)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Cash Xfer to lessen Cashbox contents
Ending Checking Balance Feb 15 2022	\$ 3,558.81		\$ 322.60	Ending Cash Balance Feb 15 2022
Monthly total Net change		\$ 125.00		
Previous month Net funds		\$ 3,756.41		
Sum balance should equal total holdings (Bank activity +/- Cash Activity)		\$ 3,881.41		This acts as a check to ensure activity = actual balances
BA Total Holdings 15 Feb 2022 (Checking balance + Cash Balance)		\$ 3,881.41		

MVBA Secretary Report November 2, 2021

MVBA MEETING MINUTES 1 Nov 2021

Attendees 16 members, 2 guests

Presentation by Vickie Bowman – Winter Hives, Keeping Them Alive and Honey in the Spring

Ventilate the hive all winter. Check front porch after ice or snow and make sure it's clear.

Check hive for food and feed if necessary. Vertical movement is easier than horizontal movement inside the hive. Put sticks over cluster and put sugar brick on top to allow feeding directly above cluster. If food is not within reach, the bees will starve.

It's not too cold to open the hive to see if they need food. No wind, sunshine. Peek under cover and if they are at the top of the frames FEED THEM. Without food they will die. Never feed cold food.

Consider insulating the hive. Place insulation over the inner cover, but be sure to leave an opening at the inner cover opening for ventilation. Insulate the sides. Cover from suppliers are extruded or expanded polystyrene, silt fence cloth, tar paper, etc. TIP: Wind Break

Ratchet strap hive down in Spring to prevent the hive blowing over in strong winds. Hive will be lighter in Spring.

Spring is the most dangerous time of year. The bees will cover the brood and not move to the food and they will starve, even though there is lots of food in the hive.

To make the most of the Spring nectar flow you need lots of bees.

Approximately 1 month before the anticipated spring nectar flow make sure there is plenty of honey around the brood in the hive.

Put about 1/8 of a pollen pattie on the top bars of the hive and 1:1 sugar water. This stimulates the queen to start laying.

CAUTION: Hives will swarm early if you follow those steps – monitor your hives and give them extra boxes as needed.

Remove sugar water before you put on honey supers!

Board Elections held for 2022

Nominations were open for all positions. There were no nominations for President or Vice President.

Approved 14 Yes – 0 No

President – Vacant

Vice President - Vacant

Treasurer - Brian Willis

Secretary - Donna Meade

At Large Members – Jeff Adler and Patrick Reese

The first meeting of next year will be held March 7, 2022 at the Tipp City Library at 7:00 p.m.

MVBA Contacts

President

Vice President

Secretary

Donna Meade

Treasurer

Brian Willis

At Large

Jeff Adler

Patrick Reese

Newsletter

Terry Lieberman-Smith

Apiary Manager

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association Membership Form 2022

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

The Basic Buzz in the Apiary

March

- Continue emergency feeding, if necessary.
- Feed pollen supplements or substitutes, if needed.
- First quick inspection of brood nest, if weather permits.
- Check for and clean up dead colonies.
- Clean out entrances and bottom boards.
- Attend conferences

April

- Monitor colony stores, esp. if weather is cold & wet.
- Inspect brood nest for laying queen, disease, etc
- Introduce package bees on drawn combs.
- Requeen colonies with failing queens.
- Reverse brood chambers when weather moderates.
- Add supers to strong colonies at maple or dandelion bloom.
- Unite weak colonies.
- Equalize strength of all colonies.

Seasonal Resource Corner - Winter-Spring Feeding

Home-Made version of Honey Bee Healthy (adapted from Beesource)

- 5 cups water
- 2 ½ pounds of sugar
- 15 drops spearmint oil
- 15 drops lemongrass oil

Heat the water to a boil. Remove from heat and stir in the sugar until dissolved. Once the sugar water has cooled, add the essential oils. Stir until everything is evenly distributed.

This solution should have a strong scent and not be left open around bees.

Cool completely before using.

I store this concentrate in the fridge -label it so that your family doesn't drink it!!

Approx. dosage: 1 tsp per quart of 1:1 sugar syrup for feeding

Marshmallow Bee Fondant

- 3 bags (10.5 oz) marshmallows
- ½ c. water
- 4 pounds confectioners sugar
- 1 t. Homemade mix from recipe above

Put marshmallows in a microwave safe bowl. Bowl needs to be large because marshmallows will puff up and cause a mess if they overflow. Pour water over marshmallows. Microwave, 20 seconds at a time, until melted.

Carefully remove from microwave. Stir in powdered sugar and honeebhealthy. Once it is difficult to stir, turn out on cutting board or countertop that has been dusted with confectioner's sugar. Knead in remaining sugar.

Coat the fondant with a light layer of shortening to help keep it moist. Wrap in several layers of plastic wrap.

Win-Win Situation:

Spring Food for Your Bees - Fall Forage for Local Wildlife

Plant trees this Spring, for next year's early pollen and nectar forage for your bees!

Most County Soil and Water Departments have a great assortment that is easy on your pocket!

Here's a sample of trees available from Miami County.

Your bees will thank you.

Miami SWCD Annual Tree Seedling & Perennial Sale

Qty	(#/pack)	Species (D-Deciduous, C-Conifer, ST-Shrub/Thicket) BOLD-New this year	\$ ea.	Totals
2		BLACK ELDERBERRY (ST)	\$4.67	
2		BLUEBERRY - HIGHBUSH (D)	\$7.48	
2		CRANBERRY - HIGHBUSH (D)	\$4.67	
2		DOMESTIC APPLE (D)	\$4.67	
2		NATIVE FLOWERING RASPBERRY (ST)	\$4.67	
2		NORTHERN PECAN (D)	\$5.61	
3		PAW PAW (D)	\$5.61	
3		REDBUD (ST)	\$5.61	
5		BLACK WALNUT (D)	\$8.41	
5		COMMON LILAC (D, ST)	\$8.41	
5		OHIO BUCKEYE (D)	\$8.41	
5		PAPER BIRCH (D)	\$8.41	
5		SERVICEBERRY - DOWNY (D)	\$8.41	
5		SHAGBARK HICKORY (D)	\$8.41	
5		SUGAR MAPLE (D)	\$8.41	
5		TULIP POPLAR (D)	\$8.41	
5		WHITE OAK (D)	\$8.41	
10		BALD CYPRESS (DC)	\$11.21	
10		NORWAY SPRUCE (C)	\$11.21	
10		WHITE PINE (C)	\$11.21	
1		AMSONIA BLUE STAR (P)	\$9.35	
1		ASTILBE FALSE SPIREA RED RASPBERRY (P)	\$9.35	
1		BEARD TONGUE (P)	\$9.35	
1		BEE BALM (P)	\$9.35	
1		CONEFLOWER MIXED COLOR (P)	\$9.35	
1		SHENANDOAH RED SWITCH GRASS (P)	\$9.35	
5	(CROWNS)	JERSEY KNIGHT ASPARAGUS (P)	\$6.54	
5	(CROWNS)	PURPLE PASSION ASPARAGUS (P)	\$6.54	

ORDER DEADLINE Friday 3/11/22 (postmarked)	SUBTOTAL=	
	TAX (X.07%)=	
	TOTAL=	
	If paying by CREDIT CARD add 3.49% Processing Fee to TOTAL=	

Signature: _____

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St: _____

Zip: _____

Township: _____

EMAIL THE COOPERATOR TO ME - Y N Email: _____

I AM PAYING BY: CASH _____ CHECK _____ CREDIT CARD _____

SEND OVER HIM V CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFO

MIAMI SWCD 1330 N. CR 25A, TROY OH 45373

Expiration Date: _____

Credit Card Information: Type: _____

IF PAID BY CREDIT CARD, 3.49% MUST BE ADDED TO YOUR TOTAL TO COVER PROCESSING FEES.

GUIDELINES

PICK-UP ORDERS @
Duke Lundgard Bldg Miami Co Fairgrounds
TUESDAY - 4/5, 2P-6P WEDNESDAY - 4/6, 8A-6P
EXTRA TREES SOLD THRU OUT PICK UP TIMES!

- Anyone may order these 1-3 year old bare-root seedlings.
- Substitutions possible w/ shortages
- Customer may exchange or request refund.
- No orders via phone or e-mail.
- Order forms available online @ www.miamiswcd.org or in office @ 1330 N. CR 25A, Troy

937/335-SOIL