

Buzzin' About

July 2022

The Miami Valley Beekeepers Association

Newsletter

Monday, July 11, 2022
7:00 p.m.

Tipp City Library and via Zoom!

Here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85925716669>

Agenda
Club Updates
Volunteer Sign-ups

Topic:
MVBA Mid-Year Q&A

No speaker for July. Instead, bring your questions, beekeeping "hacks", and trusted resources to share with your fellow club members. We will have a mid-year discussion on a variety of topics.

NOTE: Zoom will be offered for the business portion of the meeting, but may not pick up the Q&A session as well due to the nature of the room discussion. This meeting may be better suited for in-person attendance.

President Notes

Beekeeping Resources: Finding the gold nuggets

Happy summer, everyone! I hope your apiaries are looking good and the supers are filling up.

When talking with prospective or brand new beekeepers, the topic of good beekeeping resources always comes up. On one end of the spectrum is no information, and at the other end is too much information. The internet is more of the latter: the overwhelming amount of information can be daunting for newbees to know how to get started. It's intimidating to me and I've been doing this for a few years! Facebook groups, Instagram posts, YouTube channels, and Google searches provide lots of results, but how do you find the gold nuggets that will work for your bees? My best advice is to talk with experienced beekeepers to learn about their techniques and also ask for their trusted & proven resources.

I would love to know what resources you've found to be most helpful and reliable. Please send your recommended book titles, websites, Facebook groups, Instagrams, YouTube channels, and other entries to the MVBA email (MiamiValleyBA@gmail.com) and I will present these at the July meeting. Even better, please bring your favorite book or resource to share at the July meeting.

Here is my short list:

- [The Backyard Beekeeper](#) by Kim Flottum
- [Beekeeping for Dummies](#) by Howland Blackiston
- [Honey Bee Suite](#) website by Rusty Burlew
- Hilary Kearney: [Girl Next Door Honey](#) website, a blog, and wonderful [Instagram](#) posts

I am a member of several local beekeeping Facebook groups mainly to keep tabs on swarming activity and read questions/answers, but the info on them can be all over the place.

Every beekeeper makes "mistakes" but those are actually opportunities for learning: make observations, keep physical or mental notes, and adjust accordingly.

Have a great July 4th holiday and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting! Bring your questions and be prepared to speak up during our Q&A session.

Jeff Adler
MVBA President

MVBA Secretary Report June 2022

MVBA Meeting Minutes June 6, 2022

Attended by 17 in person and 3 on zoom.

Opening announcements by Fran Davidson, Vice President.

Fran and Tom Davidson gave a review of their presentation on National Bees Day at the STEM School in Dayton. During their hour long educational talk to 8th and 9th graders they also showed videos of catching a swarm, installing a package, the biology of bees and brought along an exhibition hive with bees. It was well received and the students asked lots of questions.

Announcements – Members were given the opportunity to sign up to have their business contact information added to the MVBA website for the sale of honey, queens, nucs, equipment, and all things bee related. If you missed it, email the club to be added to the list at MiamiValley-BA@gmail.com. Please provide your name, business name, contact information and product you provide.

Questions from members –

What is undersupering? When you add a honey super under an existing one to make it easier for the bees to access and work it.

What should the water content be when you extract honey? Less than 18%. The bees cap the honey when it is approximately 18%. You should only extract frames that are 80 – 90% capped. If you want to verify the moisture content of the honey, you can purchase a refractometer fairly cheaply.

Program: Honeycomb Management presented by Mark Beougher, OSBA Traveling Speaker.

Very educational program on how bees make honeycomb, what age they are when they produce wax, how you can tell what the wax is used for in the hive depending on the color, uses for comb, how to manipulate the frames for nice comb, what to do with burr comb, how to properly store comb and drawn frames, and why drawn comb is a such a valuable commodity to beekeepers. The program was packed with great information!

MVBA Treasurer Report– June

| Checking Account | | Total Holdings | | Cash On Hand |
|---|-------------|--------------------|----------|---|
| Beginning Balance Checking Acct June 2022 | \$ 4,736.41 | \$ 4,821.41 | \$ 85.00 | Beginning Balance June 2022 |
| Income | | | | Income during Meeting |
| Member Dues Paypal/Checks/ | \$ - | | \$ - | Member Dues |
| | \$ - | | | |
| Total for Deposit | \$ - | | \$ - | Total meeting income (cash/checks received) |
| Total Income | | \$ - | | |
| 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 June 15 2022 | \$ 4,736.41 | | \$ 85.00 | Ending Cash Balance June 15 2022 |
| Monthly total Net change | | \$ - | | |
| Previous month Net funds | | \$ 4,821.41 | | |
| Sum balance should equal total holdings (Bank activity +/- Cash Activity) | | \$ 4,821.41 | | This acts as a check to ensure activity = actual balances |
| A Total Holdings 15 June 2022 (Checking balance + Cash Balance) | | \$ 4,821.41 | | |

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association Membership Form 2022

Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year

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

Get Your Gardens Ready for Blooms

Nectar Sources: Basswood (American Linden), Yellow Sweet Clover, White Sweet Clover, Milkweed, Mints, Bergamot, Loosestrifes, Vetches,

Nectar and Pollen: Catalpa, Bramble fruits, Roses, Coneflowers, Ohio Buckeye, Rubeckia, Thistles, Hyssops, Coreopsis, Caryopteris

Pollen: St. John's Wort

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

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

August

- Check colonies for disease and monitor/treat for mites
- Remove and extract summer honey crop
- Remove section Supers
- Do not work bees unless necessary to avoid robbing
- Add more supers if needed.
- Consider re-queening for a winter-ready hive.