



## Beezette

March, 2024

Warren County Ohio Beekeepers  
Meeting at: Lebanon Presbyterian Church  
123 N. East Street, Lebanon, OH 45036  
[warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com)  
[www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/1769801953287281/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1769801953287281/)

### Next Meeting:

Our next monthly meeting is **Sunday, March 10 at 1:30pm** at the Lebanon Presbyterian Church. **\*\*\*Please Note – Daylight Savings starts on March 10\*\*\***  
This year we will have the WCOB Business meeting in the same church meeting room from **1pm to 1:30 pm**. Members are invited to attend these meetings.

**Note to new members:** Entry into the church meeting room is located in the back of the church. Park in the back, walk up concrete steps and look for a grey door.

**Our March meeting speaker** will be Bob Hooker. Bob began keeping honey bees in the 1970's. He operates Daglow Apiary in Franklin County, Ohio. He and his wife Mary, live on a three-acre homestead on the southeast side of Columbus where they have a large garden and the apiary. They raise a large portion of the food they eat, practicing sustainable, organic gardening. Bob is past president of the Ohio State Beekeepers Association, the Lorain County (Ohio) Beekeepers Association, the Heartland Beekeepers Association, and the Harrison County Beekeepers Association and served on the Central Ohio Beekeeper's Association (COBA) Board of Directors. Bob is an instructor in COBA's beekeeping school and enjoys mentoring new beekeepers. He was Harrison County Apiary Inspector for six years. He was an instructor in the OSBA Traveling Speakers program for six years. Bob retired as pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Oberlin, Ohio in 2010 after thirty-seven years of pastoral ministry in the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. **The title of his talk will be: "Swarms and Such, Beekeeping in March".**

### Congratulations are due to:

- Our WCOB president, **Paul Dorger**, for accepting the position of OSBA Regional Director for Miami Valley.

- **Dr. Bea (Beatriz) Woodall**, our former vice president, for accepting the position of WCOB Director of Education.

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for their commitment to supporting both our local and regional beekeepers through their service.

## **General Club Information:**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Membership renewals for 2024 continue to be accepted. Membership dues are due on January 1st of each year. Member dues remain the same at \$20 individual and \$25/family. Registration is online. Fill out the form at: <https://warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/join-or-renew-with-paypal/> Payments are made via PayPal, but a PayPal account is NOT required.

- **Swarm and Mentor maps**

The Swarm and Mentor maps have been updated to only include 2024 members. If you have paid your dues for 2024 and requested to be placed on the maps, please review the maps to make sure you are listed and that your information is correct. Any changes to information should be directed to [wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com). If you have not paid your dues for 2024, please fill out the registration form online. Swarm season is approaching!

### **Mentors**

- Club members with a minimum of three years of beekeeping experience looking to mentor are welcome to fill out a Mentor Form on the club website.
- For members looking for mentors, go to [www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/mentors](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/mentors).
- **Calling bee enthusiasts, many hands make light work**; please consider getting involved with the club in a volunteer position. It's a great way to learn and share "beek" knowledge and experiences. Send an email with your comments or questions to [warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com)

### **WCOB Club Officers:**

<u>President</u> .....	Paul Dorger
<u>Vice President</u> .....	Laura Fazekas
<u>Treasurer</u> .....	Alan DeJarnette
<u>Web Manager</u> .....	Rose DeJarnette
<u>Director of Education</u> .....	Bea Woodall
<u>Secretary</u> .....	Dian Danino

A list of responsibilities for our board positions is posted on the WCOB website under “Members” at [www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/members/officer-job-responsibilities/](http://www.warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org/members/officer-job-responsibilities/)

**WCOB logo** hats, shirts and outerwear can now be purchased online. Go to our website [warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org](http://warrencountyohiobeekeepers.org), then click on Members/WCOB Logo Wear.

## **HONEY EXTRACTOR RENTAL**

Warren County Ohio Beekeepers has a honey extractor that can be rented by members for \$5.00 per day. Any questions or comments should be directed to [wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wcobeetreasurer@gmail.com).

## **What To Do in the Month Ahead:**

- The Beekeeping to-do list for March has some similarity to February duties:
  - Colonies can die in late winter / early spring from starvation. Check hives for adequate food storage and add fondant or sugar brick.
  - Sugar syrup and pollen substitute may be an option in the later part of March depending on the weather.
- **Other considerations:**
  - Have you treated for Varroa mites?
  - Yikes, it's getting late! Order new bees ASAP!!
  - Last minute checks on the condition of your hive equipment.
  - Reverse the hive boxes to put the brood box down low.
  - Continue reviewing your Beek books to learn / refresh your memory.
  - First comprehensive inspection of the season. Weather permitting, you may be able to do a brief hive inspection. If you do inspect, have a clear plan on what you are looking for before you crack the lid (food, check for eggs/queen, brood pattern, bee population?) Make it quick!
  - Know what you will do to reduce risk of swarming (not applicable for first year beekeepers).

## **Tips, Tricks and Useful Information**

- ❖ Did you know that Ohio Law requires all beekeepers, regardless on how few hives you keep, are required to annually register with the Ohio Department of Agriculture? The registration form can be obtained on line.

The due date for registration is June 1 of each year. The fee is just \$5.00 per apiary. For more information Google, **Ohio Dept of Agriculture Apiary program**.

- ❖ **5th Annual Queen Rearing and Grafting Workshop.** This two-day workshop/field day will educate participants on honeybee/queen biology, grafting and queen rearing concepts, detection of mites and honeybee biting behavior traits, and finally, knowledge on Ohio inspectors and their role in inspecting bee colonies. This workshop will be divided into 2 days with the first day on classroom education, setting up a cell starter and grafting practice. The second day will consist of more classroom education, grafting and finally a test. There will be a supplementary ZOOM meeting in April (Date TBD) for those registered for the workshop to go through the basics of grafting and queen rearing. Instructors will be Hongmei Li-Byarlay and Danielle Kroh from the CSU Bee Lab. Each participant trained in person will receive a certification upon completion of class and test. The fee for registration is \$50/person, which is non-refundable after purchase, and covers lunch, the breeder queen and the basic supplies for the workshop. There is only room for 20 participants so register early. The deadline to register is **April 18, 2024**. All workshop participants will have an opportunity at the end of May to receive a virgin breeder queen with high grooming and mite biting traits. **Please use the following link to sign up.**
- ❖ <https://www.centralstate.edu/get-event-tickets>

**Do you have an announcement to include in the Beezette**, or a topic you'd like to hear covered at one of our meetings? Do you have ideas to benefit our club members and our bees? Let us know at the next meeting, or reach out to [warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:warrencountyohiobeekeepers@gmail.com)

### **February Beekeepers Meeting Door Prize winners**

Alan DeJarnette	hive tool
Teresa Nauroth	hive tool
Jeff Edwards	American Bee Journal
Carol Lemaster	American Bee Journal
Jay Thomas	American Bee Journal
Joe Hahn	WCOB hat
Scott Snell	American Bee Journal
Bernie Younkman	Protein patty