

# THE HONEYBEE TIMES

Hello Beekeepers and Friends!

Conference time is quickly approaching. We feel we have a well rounded selection of educational opportunities for all levels of beekeepers. so make sure you don't miss this conference.

Ross Conrad is the featured speaker for this years **GCBA Honeybee Conference** on May 11, 2013. His topic is "Natural Beekeeping". Quite an honor to have him as our featured speaker. He is quite the authority on natural techniques for keeping bees.

We've also been honored to have Janet Clayton who will be speaking on Honeybee Health.

Our field events have three tracks: beginner, intermediate and advanced so find your comfort zone or tag team with fellow beekeepers and split up then share notes later.

This year our conference is awarding CEU's for those who are trying to achieve their Master Beekeeper Certification. Find out how you can begin your own track to this certification.

Register early to receive your discount! See you at the farm!

Richard

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# Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

## Topic: Natural Beekeeping

**Saturday, May 11, 2013 Case Western Reserve University Farm  
37125 Fairmount Blvd. Hunting Valley, Ohio 44022**

### Keynote Speakers:

**Ross Conrad:** “Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture”:

Mr. Conrad learned his craft from the late Charles Mraz, world renowned beekeeper. Conrad is a former president of the Vermont Beekeepers Association, a regular contributor to Bee Culture – The Magazine of American Beekeeping and author of Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture.

Ross has given bee related presentations and led organic beekeeping workshops and classes throughout North America for many years. His beekeeping business, Dancing Bee Gardens, supplies friends, neighbors, and local stores with honey and candles among other bee related products, and provides bees for Vermont apple pollination in the spring.

**Janet Clayton:** “Honeybee Health”:

Janet is a Master Beekeeper and served as editor of the WVBA Newsletter. Her recent work on a new honey processing facility has fueled her interest in this topic. Janet will give some valuable insights for beekeepers wishing to improve their honeybee health.

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## Conference Agenda

8:00 am 8:45 am Registration & Visit with your Vendors

8:45 am 9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:00am10:00am RossConrad:“OrganicApproachestoModernApiculture”\*\*

10:15am11:00am JanetClayton:“HoneybeeHealth”\*\*

11:15am12:00pm Workshop/Ross:“UrbanBeekeeping”\*\*

### ACTIVE BEE YARD

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch & Bee Beard Demonstration & Visit with your Vendors **(Veils - No Gloves Permitted)**

\*1:00pm–1:30pm AllRootApiaryandPollinatorGardenDedication–KimFlottum

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm - Bee Biology & Diseases” \*\* – 45 minute Lab Session: Nosema & Varroa Testing

## Educational Classes & Field Events

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Track 1** – Beginner Beekeepers

“In Your Hive” \*\* – The ins and outs of your colony - Instructor: Rick Becker

**Track 2** – Intermediate Beekeepers

“Colony Management” and Making a Split \*\* - Instructor: Janet Clayton Track 3b – “Bee Biology & Diseases” \*\* – 45 min. Lab Session: Nosema & Varroa Testing

2:15pm– 3:00pm Track 3c – “Bee Biology & Diseases” \*\* – 45 min. Lab Session: Nosema & Varroa Testing

**Track 3** – Advanced Beekeepers |

Instructor: Barbara Bloetscher, ODA – State Apiarist

1:30pm– 2:15pm Speakers:

**Rick Becker**

**Barbara Bloetscher**

**Pre-Sale - \$20 (by 4/1/13) Day of Event - \$30**

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm WRAP UP & RAFFLES

**Lunch will be available, pre-orders only & include with Registration**

**\*\* Continuing Education credits for OSBA Master Beekeeper participants**

<http://www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org/resources/master-beekeeper-program/>

[GCBA CE Program Credits](#)

## ROTATING HIVE BODIES

It's important for beekeepers to be well prepared to properly manage hives that have survived the winter.

Stimulate For Rapid Foraging Force

Prevent Swarms

*Rotate Hive Bodies* Inspect The Productivity Of The Queen

New Queen

Give 1:1 Sugar Water & Pollen Patties

Second year beekeeper need to understand how the bees gradually move upward in the hive during the winter. During the winter the cluster gradually moves upward into the top hive body eating its way into stored honey above the cluster.

Normally the colony is found in the upper deep hive body during the start of spring, leaving the bottom deep hive body empty of bees and honey. The colony will expand in the upper hive body but will quickly become congested and will not likely move down.

The congestion can cause the colony to swarm. Therefore, by reversing the hive bodies the main nesting area is placed on the bottom, giving the colony room to expand into the upper hive body thus elevating congestion and helping to prevent swarming.

This is referred to by beekeepers as rotating the hive bodies or also

as reversing the hive bodies. Many beekeepers become too eager to reverse the hive bodies and make a mistake so huge that it devastates the hive, and the colony usually never fully recovers. So let me give some practical advice on rotating the hive bodies.

First, **DO NOT ROTATE TOO EARLY.** Many beekeepers rotate the boxes too early in the season when the nights are still below freezing.

While a large hive may not be too effected, a smaller hive can suffer from being moved to the bottom.

Why? When they were in the top of the hive, they enjoyed living in the pocket of heat that became trapped in the upper part of the hive. This provided assistance in heating the newly reared brood. If the hive bodies are rotated and the temperature drops drastically from a surprise spring cold snap, the colony is now on the bottom and may have difficulty keeping the brood warm.

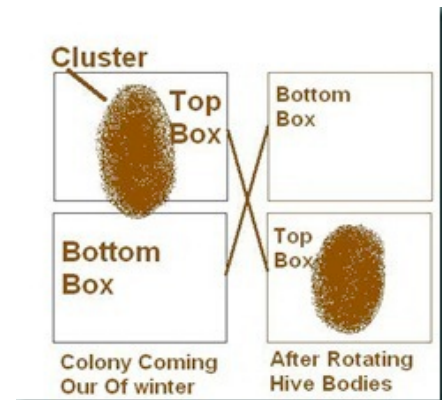
Secondly, many beekeepers make the mistake of not fully inspecting and locating the nesting area. **Before reversing the hive bodies it is essential that the hive be inspected.** If any of the capped or uncapped brood dips down into the lower hive body, **DO NOT REVERSE.** If the brood/nesting area was in the upper half of the lower deep, and into the lower half of the upper deep then rotating will damage and break up the brood area and the hive will likely not recover throughout the summer. So before rotating, make sure there is no brood in the lower hive body. It must be empty of brood, capped or uncapped. If there are some bees in the lower hive, but no brood, it is okay to rotate.

Rotating Hive Bodies & Cleaning Out Bees That Died In Winter

\* Be sure the nights are warm enough not to chill the brood.

\* Check and make certain all capped and uncapped brood is found in the upper hive body.

\* To rotate, simply reverse the locations of the hive bodies. Place the bottom one on top and the top one on the bottom.



## Bee Deaths From Colony Collapse Disorder On The Rise As Researchers Point To Pesticides

The Huffington Post | By [James Gerken](#)

Posted: 03/29/2013 1:56 pm EDT | Updated: 03/29/2013 3:06 pm EDT



A picture taken on May 31, 2012, shows bees in a hive, placed in front of apartment buildings, in Saint-Martin-d'Hères, French Alps. JEAN-PIERRE CLATOT/AFP/GettyImages

Honeybee deaths are on the rise across the world, and researchers are working to find the cause. With as many as [40 or 50 percent of commercial U.S. bee hives](#) lost to [colony collapse disorder](#), according to the New York Times, scientists are eyeing a relatively new class of pesticides as a likely culprit.

Neonicotinoids, which are chemically similar to nicotine, [have already been shown](#) to interfere with bees' capacity to learn scents, hampering their efforts to collect food. Colony collapse disorder -- which follows a "sudden loss of a colony's worker bee population," [according to the Environmental Protection Agency](#) -- may be relatively new. It first surfaced around 2005, the New York Times explains, but has gotten dramatically worse in the past year.

The European Commission has been [pushing for a neonicotinoid pesticide ban in the EU](#), but chemical companies have been protesting. Syngenta and Bayer, two of the top producers of the pesticides, recently proposed a plan to expand bee habitats and increase monitoring in an attempt avoid restrictions on their products.

In the U.S., a group of environmentalists and beekeepers recently filed suit against the EPA for approving the pesticides. Neonicotinoids, they wrote in the lawsuit, have been "repeatedly identified as highly toxic to honeybees, clear causes of major bee kills and significant contributors to the devastating ongoing mortality of bees known as colony collapse disorder," [reported Bloomberg](#).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected to issue its own assessment later in the spring, according to the New York Times.

A recent study published by the American Bird Conservancy found that the pesticides may also negatively impact birds and water-borne insects. [Mother Jones notes](#) the report hasn't been peer-reviewed, but was authored by a retired senior research scientist formerly with Canada's environment ministry.

Article submitted by David Benedict.

## Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association

March 13, 2013 Monthly Meeting

81 in attendance including President, Richard Manley, Vice President, Lorrie Rice, Secretary, Pat Bauer, Directors, Mike Varga, Dave Benedict, Bruce Sampsell

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements: Richard Manley

- Certificates were presented to the “newbees” who completed the Beekeeping Classes
- Raffle tickets are available every meeting:
  - 2013 Annual GCBA Conference May 11. Raffle includes: one each frame nuc with 2012 queen and brood; Kitchen Aid Mixer.
  -

“What’s Happening in Your Hive” presented by David Benedict

Program Speaker: Doug Sponsler

Topic: “Landscape Ecology”

- Urban beekeeping
- Beekeepers experience predicts hive productivity
- Beekeeper support and education matters
- To maximize bee health you need :
  - Floral diversity
  - Quality
  - Phenology (timing of biological events)
- Honey tracking 2013

Resources: Beehappy.com Zachary Long– Bee researcher @ Michigan State U.

Program speaker: Denise Ellsworth, OSU Entomology

Topic: “The Power of Pollinators”

- Native pollinators
- Who are pollinators?
- Characteristics/comparison of:
  - Honey bees
  - Wasps
  - Ground nesting (solitary) ie. Bumble bees
  - Cavity nesting ie. Leafcutter bees

There are 4000 species of bees in N. America; 400 species in Ohio

Landscape to encourage pollinators

Resources: [www.Xerces.org](http://www.Xerces.org); [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org) [www.clas.wisc.org](http://www.clas.wisc.org)

[go.osu.edu/Beelablist](http://go.osu.edu/Beelablist) sign up to join Entomology mailing list, free webinars

Queen Right Colonies Bee Knowledge Contest by Denzil St. Clair–No winner this month

Prizes June 5<sup>th</sup> will be one each five queens

Raffle winner of a hive jacket for today's sign in survey–Falana lalat

50/50 Raffle winner today was Chantel Dothey – \$27.00

B-Buddy map sign-up has 60 people signed up you can go to for support so far.

Reminder from last month:

- Earthfest 2013 – Sunday, April 21 will be at Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds.
- NEO Regional Sewer District is giving a break on sewer rates if you capture rainwater by planting a rain garden or set up a rain barrel

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Bauer, Secretary



GCBA Financials through March 31, 2013

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 13</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Beekeeping Class Fees	0.00	900.00
Books-Beekeeping for Dummies	0.00	340.00
<b>Conference</b>		
Food Sales	36.00	72.00
Registration	280.00	380.00
Ross Conrad Dinner	0.00	20.00
Sponsors	100.00	150.00
Vendors	25.00	75.00
<b>Total Conference</b>	<u>441.00</u>	<u>697.00</u>
Membership Dues	100.00	1,520.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	20.00
<b>Raffles</b>		
5 Frame Nuk Pkg #1 & #2 (Class)	0.00	148.00
5 Frame Nuk Pkg #3 (Conference)	29.00	86.00
50/50	26.00	153.00
<b>Total Raffles</b>	<u>55.00</u>	<u>387.00</u>
Reimbursed Expenses	0.00	21.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>596.00</u>	<u>3,885.00</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Books (Beekeeping for Dummies)	0.00	358.98
<b>Conference Expense</b>		
Printing and Reproduction	211.99	211.99
Refund Ross Conrad Dinner	20.00	20.00
Rentals	1,261.00	1,261.00
Supplies	94.10	94.10
<b>Total Conference Expense</b>	<u>1,587.09</u>	<u>1,587.09</u>
Drawing Prize	0.00	54.95
Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	55.00
Exhibitor Fees	0.00	60.00
<b>Insurance</b>		
D&O Insurance	400.00	400.00
Liability Insurance	398.00	398.00
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<u>798.00</u>	<u>798.00</u>
Marketing	94.10	94.10
Miscellaneous	0.00	20.00
Office Supplies	14.00	67.99
Postage and Delivery	0.00	60.00
Printing and Reproduction	271.39	271.39
<b>Professional Fees</b>		
Speakers	0.00	50.00
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
<b>Raffle Items</b>		
5 Frame Nuk Pkg #1 & #2 (Class)	0.00	220.00
5 Frame Nuk Pkg #3 (Conference)	0.00	110.00
<b>Total Raffle Items</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>330.00</u>
Refreshments	0.00	81.30
Scholarship Expenses	0.00	264.46
Website Expense	60.86	60.86
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>2,825.44</u>	<u>4,214.12</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-2,229.44</u>	<u>-329.12</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-2,229.44</u></u>	<u><u>-329.12</u></u>
<b><u>BALANCE SHEET</u></b>		
Bank Account	12,508.47	
Petty Cash	100.00	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>12,608.47</u></u>	

## Ohio State University BEE LAB Webinars:

[Join the Bee Lab contact list](#) for reminders and login instructions for the OSU Bee Lab webinar series. New programs available for 2013.

### 2012 Webinar recordings:

[Protecting Honey Bees During Corn and Soybean Planting Season](#), Purdue University. April 9, 2012.

[Hive Health Diagnostics with Barb Bloetscher](#), ODA/OSU. April 18, 2012. 56 minutes

[Pesticides in and around the Hive with Dr. Reed Johnson](#), OSU Department of Entomology. May 16, 2012. 58 minutes

[Parasitic Mites and Honey Bees with Dr. Jim Tew](#), State Specialist with Alabama Cooperative Extension and Retired Associate Professor, OSU Department of Entomology. June 20, 2012. 55 minutes (handout PDF below).

[Planning In Summer for Winter Preparation](#) with Barbara Bloetscher, ODA/OSU. July 18, 2012. 54 minutes

[Questions from the Hive](#) with Dr. Reed Johnson, OSU Department of Entomology. August 15, 2012. 57 minutes (handout PDF below).

[Marketing Bee Products](#) with Dr. Julie Fox, OSU Direct Marketing Specialist. September 19, 2012. 54 minutes (handout PDF below).

[Putting the Hive to Bed for Winter](#) with Kim Flottum, Editor of Bee Culture magazine and beekeeping author. October 17, 2012. 56 minutes (handout PDF below).

[Lyme Disease and the Blacklegged Tick](#) with Dr. Glen Needham, OSU Department of Entomology. November 8, 2012. 62 minutes (handout PDF below).

### Program handouts:

[Parasitic Mites and Honey Bees \(PDF\)](#)

[Planning in Summer for Winter Preparation \(PDF\)](#)

[Questions from the Hive \(PDF\)](#)

[Marketing Bee Products \(PDF\)](#)

[Putting the Hive to Bed for Winter \(PDF\)](#)

[Gardening for Pollinators powerpoint program handout \(PDF\).](#)

[Lyme Disease and the Blacklegged Tick \(PDF\)](#)

[Tick ID with Dr. Glen Needham \(PDF\)](#)