

# THE HONEYBEE TIMES

## President's Message – Oct 2012 Newsletter

Greetings and Happy Harvest:

Well the Harvest Moon is here and the nights are getting cooler. I know my bees are preparing for winter, as there are not many Drones, and those that I see are being kicked out. The bees continue to bring in pollen and when the sun is shining, there are very busy bees.

Fall is also a time to reflect on what did, or did not work, with our colonies. If you recall certain facts or situations, make sure that you keep a journal, and refer to it as you work with your colonies next year. And as a reminder, don't forget to complete your colony winterization plans. Mouse guards and/or entrance reducer - if necessary, bottom board – winter sheet, honey stores and brood locations, and if you have honey supers on for your bees, don't forget to remove the queen excluder.

This is also the time of year that we begin planning for our Annual Conference and we really could use your time and talent. If you are interested in assisting, please let us know. The 2013 Conference Theme is "**Natural Beekeeping**" and Ross Conrad will **bee** the Key Note Speaker

The GCBA Annual Conference is schedule for Saturday, May 11, 2013 and as more information becomes available, we will keep everyone updated.

Until next time;

BEE Good and BEE Safe  
Richard

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#### FACEBOOK:

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TWITTER: clevebeekeepers

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE – BURLINGTON, VERMONT, AUG. 2012

By Carol R. Gedeon  
Treasurer, GCBA



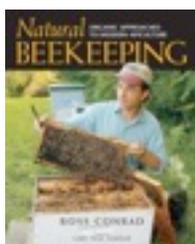
From the irreverent and unconventional beekeeper, Sam Comfort, to the brilliant academic and endearing Tom Seeley, the EAS was an experience for all looking to learn from top researchers, commercial beekeepers, and others involved in the world of honeybees.

Held in mid August at the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont, the 56<sup>th</sup> EAS annual conference offered a wide range of topics. Karin Wishner and I were two of the 700 beekeepers from 25 states and Canada who attended this year. Most of the beekeepers were amateurs like me, but there were a number of well known veteran professionals in attendance, to wit, Dave Hackenberg. See his website: [www.Hackenbergapiaries.org](http://www.Hackenbergapiaries.org).

The conference theme was “Bees and Beyond,” and the week consisted of five days of lectures, workshops, vendor displays, and courses for beginning and advanced beekeepers. There was a formidable line up of lecturers, and the following is a short summary.

Vermont writer, Rowan Jacobsen, opened the conference with “Terroir Not Terror,” a look at why honey should join wine, cheese, maple syrup and chocolate in consumer appeal. Later in the week there were workshops on honey and chocolate and honey and cheese. Rowan Jacobsen explained the vital link in food between place and taste and promoted honey as the next wine.

When you have Tom Seeley and Ross Conrad scheduled simultaneously in different rooms, it’s not a Hobson’s Choice. Dr. Seeley of Cornell University talked about his research on feral colonies in the Arnot Forest and how they survive in the wild with varroa without treatments. Comparing lifestyles of managed colonies and wild colonies, he looked at colony spacing, nest site, and nest structure. Bottom line: bees live differently in the wild.



Conrad gave a presentation about natural beekeeping, which will also be his topic at the upcoming GCBA Conference in Cleveland on May 11, 2013. He was followed by Nicole Dehne, who defined organic beekeeping. She administers the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA), a certification program. (See their website: [nofaut.org](http://nofaut.org).) These are farmers, gardeners, and consumers whose goal is to increase access of local organic food to Vermonters. Beekeepers and farmers can receive certified organic status after inspection, approval that the operation is organic, and much paperwork.

More highlights of the conference include the unforgettable, incomparable, bee tattooed, Sam Comfort, of Anarchy Apiaries, who gave a presentation on summer splits. He’s a natural with bees. Be sure to see [www.anarchyapiaries.org](http://www.anarchyapiaries.org) or connect with him on Facebook. He will blow your mind. Sam says to “go out in your apiary and let the bees teach you.” Google “Sam Comfort’s Anarchy Apiaries – You Tube” where Sam sings his song about varroa mites. Too bad I couldn’t take him home with me.





Diana Sammataro, Ph.D., in Tucson, AZ, author of “Beekeepers Handbook” is a research entomologist with Dr. G. DeGrandi-Hoffman and staff is the mite lady extraordinaire. She gave a mighty good presentation on Mite ABC’s. Not just varroa, but every other imaginable mite in the world, like hair and dust mites and more mites I can’t remember....

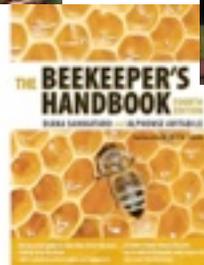


On another collegial note, Marla Spivak, MacArthur Fellow and Distinguished McKnight Professor in Entomology, and bee breeder of the “Minnesota Hygienic” stock at University of Minnesota, demonstrated how she freeze kills worker brood with liquid nitrogen and records the time for the colony to uncap and remove dead brood from cells. What does she do with the rest of the liquid nitrogen? She makes ice cream! Hygienic bees detect and remove damaged pupa and this alters brood cycle, helping bees defend themselves naturally. Rapid hygienic behavior is 90% removal in 24 hours. If they are too slow, that queen should be spayed. (only kidding). See [www.beelab.umn.edu](http://www.beelab.umn.edu) for more information about Dr. Spivak.

And lastly, Barry Thompson, MD, in his “Update on Bee Stings & Allergies,” demonstrated how to use an EpiPen and emphasized that if you have an EpiPen you should know how to use it. Good Samaritan laws could provide legal protection. If you have the EpiPen and don’t use it, he thought one could be liable for neglect. That’s a topic for legal research. He’s a doctor, not a lawyer. However, he did opine that it is not the beekeeper’s responsibility to provide protection for allergic individuals.

Of course there were the vendors, the bee yard, honey contest with awards, bee olympics and evening banquets and dinners where you could rub elbows with the experts. Thanks to the Vermont Beekeepers Association and to the volunteers for all their hard work at the conference. Special thanks to Karin Wishner for her photos of Dr. Spivak and Sam Comfort’s tattoo.

The next [EAS](http://www.easternapiculture.org) conference will be held in West Chester, PA from August 5 to 9, 2013. Be advised that the tickets for evening events always go quickly. You should reserve your place at the dinners and banquet well in advance, i.e., when you register. I was unable to attend any of the evening events because they were all sold out. Visit the website: [www.easternapiculture.org](http://www.easternapiculture.org).



Sam Comfort, Marla Spivak, [Beekeepers Handbook](http://www.beekeepershandbook.com) written by Dr. Diana Sammataro (free Ebook link), Sam Comfort’s awesome tattoo.

Notes from the Secretary, Kathryn Harlow

### Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2012

Before the meeting, an inspection of the hive behind the nature center by Denzil St. Clair .

Meeting began at 7:05 PM. Count: 81 attendees

Board Members present: President Richard Manley, Treasurer Carol Gedeon, Secretary Kathy Harlow, Vice President Bruce Sampsell, Trustees David Benedict and Barbara Krecik .

President started the meeting by announcing the following:

1. OSU study. If you got a packet make sure that you complete and return your fall survey study.
2. Inter-Continental hotel to get a beehive managed by GCBA. In return it will support GCBA by sponsoring the annual conference, giving 2 beekeeping class scholarships. Volunteers welcome to help with the management.

#### Program:

Dana Stahlman, president of Ohio State Beekeepers Association spoke. He encouraged people to get involved in OSBA. But he emphasized the importance of local organizations who can influence local politicians making decisions in the locality.

Beekeepers Round Table Forum: Experienced Beekeepers – Bonnie Plerson and Walt Jorgensen shared their passions and best practices on the care and maintenance of their bees. Various questions were posed to them by the membership. “Teach others by talking about what you do with your bees.”

**50/50 raffle:** \$34 won by Larry Theurer. Congratulations, Larry!

#### Announcement

Oct. 21 Chagrin Nature Center, SILENCE OF THE BEES

Grafton honey dinner.

Meeting over at 8:55 PM.

**Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association Executive Committee Meeting.****September 19, 2012**Call to Order - Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm. Quorum present. President Rich Manley, Vice President Bruce Sampsell, Immediate Past President Dennis Eck, Treasurer Carol Gedeon, Secretary Kathy Harlow, and Director Denzil St. Clair.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Dennis made a motion to accept the minutes from July 2012 meeting. Carol seconded motion. Motion by Carol and second by Bruce to publish monthly exec committee minutes in the monthly newsletter. Vote carried.

Review and Approval of Financial Reports

August Treasurer's Report: Carol provided paper copies of the August 2012 Treasurer's Report and summarized the contents. She moved to accept the report. Denzil seconded the motion. A vote to accept the report carried.

July's Treasurer's report : Dennis moved to accept July 2012 Treasurer's Report. Carol second. All in favor. income statement and balance sheet will also be presented at future meetings.

Old Business

1. 501(c)(3) still pending.
2. Record retention policy: Kathy presented a re-drafted record retention policy. Additional item: Insurance documents are currently kept by the Treasurer. That will continue, but Treasurer will provide to Secretary a copy of any new Certificate as soon as possible after execution.
3. Web domain name transfer to GCBA: Ecks will hold onto the domain name until April 2013. When it comes up for renewal GCBA will renew it.
5. 2013 Conference: Rich presented a proposed agenda. Ross Conrad is pretty solid to be keynote speaker and will present a workshop. \$400 plus expenses. Janet Clayton confirmed. We will offer a stipend plus expenses. Larry Conner said he would speak, but Rich will confirm with him. No information about his fee.

Denzil suggested that we have bee beards. He also discussed new exciting ideas for bee races.

Discussion of marketing and the necessary technology for conference presenters. Perhaps ask members with experience in I.T. to help out.

Suggestion of thanking everyone who volunteered at the conference at the subsequent member meeting. To determine the price of admission, we will see what the cost of the conference will be.

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

By: Carol R. Gedeon

Please join me in welcoming the following new member to the GCBA: James Stefanchik of Cleveland Heights. With Jim's membership, we currently have 148 members and their families for 2012. Thank you all!

GCBA Financials through September 30, 2012

	<u>Sept 2012</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Membership Dues	20.00	1,260.00
50/50 Raffle	35.00	460.00
Book Raffle	0.00	37.00
Conference Raffle for bees and equipment	0.00	227.00
Beekeeping for Dummies Books	0.00	480.00
2 lb. bees Raffle	0.00	202.00
Hive Raffle	0.00	236.00
Conference Vendors	0.00	175.00
Conference Sponsors	0.00	1,550.00
Conference Food Sales	0.00	356.00
Honeybee Conference	0.00	1,280.00
Beginning Beekeeping Classes	0.00	2,925.00
Donations	<u>0.00</u>	<u>320.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>55.00</b>	<b>9,508.00</b>

<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Cuyahoga County Fair Prizes	90.00	90.00
May conference supplies, printing, food	0.00	1,625.50
Postage	0.00	9.00
Liability insurance	0.00	665.00
Raffle items & books	0.00	753.00
Office supplies	15.00	102.92
Refreshments	48.80	100.43
Printing	0.00	853.51
Speaker Fees	75.00	1,025.00
Other	<u>20.00</u>	<u>807.25</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(248.80)</b>	<b>(6,031.61)</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

Bank Accounts	11,764.62
Petty Cash	<u>+ 100.00</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>11,864.62</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## Local Beekeeping Organizations Schedules

### Medina County Beekeepers

[www.medinabeekeepers.com](http://www.medinabeekeepers.com)

Meeting: Third MONDAY of each month, 7 - 9pm

Beginner's Halve Hour - 6:30 - 7

Location: A. I. Root, 624 West Liberty, Medina, Ohio 44236

### Lorain County Beekeepers

[www.loraincountybeekeepers.org](http://www.loraincountybeekeepers.org)

Meeting: **NO MEETING**

Annual Banquet, different location see web site for more information

Location: First Church of Oberlin, 106 N. Main Street, Oberlin, Ohio 44074

## Publications

### Bee Culture Magazine

[www.beeculture.com](http://www.beeculture.com)

Discount subscription coupons available to members of GCBA

### American Bee Journal

[www.americanbeejournal.com](http://www.americanbeejournal.com)



*AHH.....the joy of a first harvest! And a Goldenrod Harvest to boot!*

**CONGRATULATIONS GCBA NEWBEE!**

## GCBA

### MESSAGE BOARD

[greaterclevelandbeekeepers.buzz@gmail.com](mailto:greaterclevelandbeekeepers.buzz@gmail.com)

#### HELP WANTED:

Comments and photos on GCBA's Facebook page! Show off your girls! You Tube bee videos always welcomed!

[www.facebook.com/ClevelandBeekeepers](http://www.facebook.com/ClevelandBeekeepers)

#### NEEDED:

#### GCBA Needs Videographer

-Speakers (when requested) - local organizations and schools

Respond to club email:

[greaterclevelandbeekeepers.buzz@gmail.com](mailto:greaterclevelandbeekeepers.buzz@gmail.com)

#### FOR SALE:

GCBA Members may advertise for free here.

#### WANTED:

GCBA Members may request items for free here.

#### SERVICES:

#### HVAC-R & Electrical

Bruce Sampsell

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[merlinme2@gmail.com](mailto:merlinme2@gmail.com)

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[www.queenrightcolonies.com](http://www.queenrightcolonies.com)

### STORE HOURS:

**Monday - Saturday**

*(March 1 - Oct. 31)*

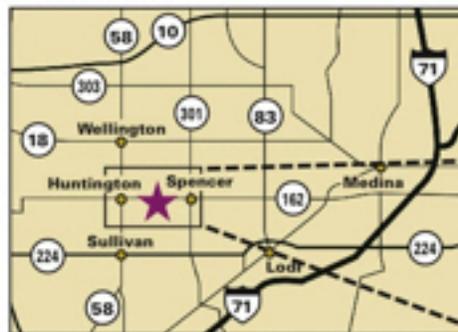
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Monday - Saturday**

*(Nov. 1 - Feb. 28)*

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Closed Sundays)



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