

# MIAMI VALLEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

March 2007

Meeting Notes and Agenda:



March 5th at 7:00 p.m.

Nominations/Voting for Vice-President  
Sign-up lists for swarms, events, mentoring  
Expert Panel Discussion-- Bring your beekeeping questions



## Important Bees-ness: Spring Management



Spring time is coming soon to your nearest beeyard. Due to the warm early part of the winter, and then the arctic blast, your bees may need food. Now is the time they may also need pollen, or a pollen substitute. If your queen survived the winter, she will have already started laying eggs for the upcoming honey flow.

To help keep your apiary in top shape, you will need to stay ahead of the girls. Make sure your equipment is in good shape for the upcoming year, order any packages or queens, plan for potential swarming, and keep reading those bee journals and attending classes.

Speaking of packages, have you seen the prices?? Why not learn to make splits—you will be using bees that have already adapted to our climate, you will be learning a new skill, and you will not be importing potential hitchhikers that sometimes arrive with package bees. Splitting hives helps reduce swarming, controls mites, and can save you about \$66 (current price of some packages).

If you were to ask two beekeepers their favorite type of splits and you will probably get three answers. Some splits require advanced planning (division boards), some are based on critical need at the moment (yikes!! Tons of queen cells and overcrowded hives). Either way, when you split the hives you will help reduce the number of bees that you lose to the natural swarming instinct.

During April, May and June we will be demonstrating different hands-on techniques in our apiary at Brukner Nature Center. Look for further details in upcoming newsletters and at our website: [www.mvbeekeepers.com](http://www.mvbeekeepers.com). Sign-up sheets will be available at our next meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>—look forward to seeing you there!

### MVBA CONTACTS

**PRESIDENT**  
John Rowley

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
voting at meeting

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**  
Julie Saluke

**NEWSLETTER**  
Terry Lieberman-Smith

### **COUNTY BEE INSPECTORS**

**CHAMPAIGN:** Bob Kaiser 937.484.3249

**CLARK:** Tim Gifford – 614.562.7265

**DARKE:** Steve Brumbaugh – 937.548.8520

**GREENE:** TBD

**LOGAN:** TBD

**MIAMI:** Tony Rimkus - 937.667.1420

**MONTGOMERY:** Jack Turner - 937.294.5917

**Brukner Nature Center** (Debra Oexmann)– 937.698.6493

## **Bee-ing A Step Ahead:**

*Reminder: Mail in your Application for Apiary Registration form, along with payment*

- Saturday, March 3: Tri-County Bee School, Wooster, OH
- Monday, March 5: MVBA Meeting: 7-8:30 p.m. at Brukner Nature Center
- Saturday, March 24: Southwest Ohio Beekeepers School [-warren.osu.edu](http://warren.osu.edu)  
sign up before March 16th--save \$10
- Saturday, April 14: \*\*MVBA Hive Work Day, Brukner Nature Center 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Saturday, April 28: \*\*MVBA Hive Work Day, Brukner Nature Center 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Sunday, April 29: Honey Creek Watershed Festival-- volunteers needed



\*\* Hands-on learning sessions. Sign-up sheets will be available at the March 5 meeting!

Come to our meetings or visit our website:  
**[www.mvbeekeepers.org](http://www.mvbeekeepers.org)** for more information about the classes listed above.

Recently added to our website:  
Build-it-yourself plans for a Solar Beeswax Melter  
(Contributed by Bob Neuman)

Please note: We are now electronic! Our newsletter is available by direct e-mail and on our website. When you pay your dues, update your e-mail address so we can send you our monthly newsletter. If you do not have internet access, we will gladly send current members their copy through the postal system.

Miami Valley Beekeepers Association  
Terry Lieberman-Smith, Editor  
P.O. Box 24181  
Dayton, OH 45424



**Our next meeting: Monday, March 5th, 7 p.m. at Brukner Nature Center!**