

## PRESIDENTS LETTER AUGUST 3, 2024

Hello to All,

As the summer rapidly passes by, we are wishing for more rain, cooler temperatures, and a strong fall flow. Well, so much for that, but as beekeepers we are resourceful, patient, and depressed. But on a lighter note, as a club, we have much to look forward to in the coming months. We start out in two weeks with the club picnic on August 15 at the Bethlehem Community Park. In past years that has proven to be a wonderful time to get together informally and just visit. Please plan to attend.

Our fall lecture series starts with the September 19 meeting and Joe Kovaleski speaking on Care of the Bees Wax, followed by a Zoom presentation at the October 17 meeting from Anne Frey of Betterbee talking about All of the Mistakes That We Make as Beekeepers, and concluding with the November 21 meeting and a visit from Shanda King, the WV Chief Apiary Inspector.

Other important dates to remember are the WVBA fall conference on October 4-5 with keynote presentations from Jim Tew and Steve Rapasky in addition to 12 additional workshop speakers. The program will be held at Battlers Knob, the former Alderson Broaddus University at 101 College Hill Drive, Philippi, WV 26416. The [www.wvbeekeepers.org](http://www.wvbeekeepers.org) website will soon offer more information and registration opportunities. In addition, the Ohio Beekeepers Association's fall conference will be held on October 25-26 at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio.

For those of you who participated in the 2024 novice program, we will be offering Beekeeping 102 on Saturday, September 21 at the Good Zoo Building. A notice and registration information will be sent to you in advance.

Speaking of the novice classes, you may remember that one of the presenters, not John, continually pounded on tables to make a point. With that point in mind, regarding a late summer treatment, there may be a short window of favorable daily temperatures to apply Formic Pro at the end of this week, but if it does not materialize, you may consider an alternative treatment with Apivar or, if you do not sell your honey, the use of oxalic acid towels. It is never simple, is it?

Regardless, I am looking forward to seeing everyone again, listening to all of the stories, and am still hoping for a reasonable fall honey flow. Take care and "don't forget to wear your veil" he said while again pounding on tables.

Steve