



Capitol Conservation District  
418 Goff Mountain Road  
Cross Lanes, WV 25313  
Phone: 304.759.0736 email: [ccd@wvca.us](mailto:ccd@wvca.us)

For Immediate Release:

Come and find out what all the buzz is about!

The Kanawha Valley Beekeepers Association, Inc. will sponsor a honey bee queen rearing workshop on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Heritage Farms in Huntington. *(Please see link below for map)*

The workshop fee is \$75.00, is all inclusive and is non-refundable. Space is limited to 30 attendees, first come, first serve.

Online registration is available at the following link: [Queen Rearing Class Online Registration Link](#)  
[www.regonine.com](http://www.regonine.com) Event 1996819

Checks can be accepted for registration. Pay to the order of: Capitol Conservation District with KVBKA Workshop in memo line  
Mailed to: Capitol Conservation District, 418 Goff Mountain Rd., Cross Lanes, WV 25313

**Registration Fee Includes:**

**Lunch**

**1 book – *Queen Rearing Essentials* by Larry Connor**

**1 Chinese Grafting Tool**

**1 Queen Rearing Frame**

**2 JZ-BZ Cell Bars**

**100 Cell Cups**

For more information please contact:

Steve May,  
President, Kanawha Valley Beekeepers Association  
304.389.1586

**Workshop Location:** Heritage Farms, 3300 Harvey Road, Huntington, WV 25704.

[MAP to Heritage Farms, Huntington, WV](#)

# WORKSHOP AGENDA

**June 11, 2017**

**Morning Session – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Sessions:

Criteria for Queen and Colony Evaluation

Mechanics of Queen Rearing

Queen and Drone Biology

*Question and Answer at the end of class*

**12:00 PM to 1:00 PM LUNCH**

**Afternoon Classes 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

***Attendees will work in groups of ten. All participants will be working with live bees and must have protective equipment.***

Sessions:

Grafting Method of Queen Rearing

Cell Punch Method of Queen Rearing

Building Starter and Finishing Units in the Bee Yard

*Question and Answer at the end of class*

***About the Instructors:***

***Judge Dan O'hanlon*** has been keeping bees for almost 40 years and raising queens for almost 25 years. He was chosen as West Virginia Beekeeper of the Year in 2011. He is the founding President of the West Virginia Queen Producers and the founding President of the Heartland Honey Bee Breeders Cooperative. He has spoken many times at Heartland Apiary Society, the Eastern Apiary Society and to many state bee associations.

***Gabe Blatt*** is a second-generation beekeeper and has been keeping bees for over 30 years. He is the former president of the Cabell Wayne Beekeepers Association with 25 years of service and 2008 president of the Heartland Apiculture Society. Gabe and his wife Rhonna were awarded 2010 Beekeeper of the Year by the WV Beekeepers Association. Gabe is a member of the West Virginia Beekeepers Association and is treasurer of the West Virginia Queen Producers. Gabe enjoys doing presentations for schools, legislative committees, garden clubs and other community organizations. Selling honey and educating the community about the importance of the honeybee is second nature to Gabe.

[gabeblatt@frontier.com](mailto:gabeblatt@frontier.com) 304.429.1268

***Joe Kovalski*** has been keeping bees for 24 years and currently manages approximately 90 hives. Joe's beekeeping career started out as a Boy Scout Beekeeping Merit Badge project with his younger son and two hives. Joe teaches beekeeping to boy scouts, girl scouts, 4-H groups, schools, garden clubs and other beekeeping organizations.

Joe is an EAS Master Beekeeper, West Virginia Master Beekeeper, Ohio Master Beekeeper and former EAS director for the State of Ohio where he was also named 2008 Beekeeper of the Year.

Joe and his wife Suzan produce beeswax candles and honey. The couple sells at many fairs and festivals, and have won many best of show and blue ribbons in honey and molded wax contests. In 2016 the Kovalski's were awarded the West Virginia State Beekeepers Best of Show Award for beeswax, comb honey and extracted honey. They also boast the 2012 EAS Bee Culture Magazine award for beeswax.

Joe currently holds the position as Crossroads Region director for the Ohio State Beekeepers Association. President of the Buckeye Queen Producers Cooperative, Secretary & Treasurer of the Heartland Honeybee Bee Breeders Cooperative, and is also a member of the West Virginia Queen Producers Association, raising queens in the northern panhandle.

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