



Spilling The Honey

JANUARY 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Registration is now open for our spring GBA Conference in Augusta, Georgia. The meeting will be held at [Augusta University Summerville Campus](#). Augusta is on the eastern edge of Georgia, right on the South Carolina border. Since Augusta is right off of I-20, it is quite easy to reach. Members pay \$45 for the one day meeting.

We are delighted to have as our featured speakers **Jennifer Tsuruda, Kim Flottum** and **Jennifer Berry**. Jennifer Tsuruda and Kim Flottum will each speak twice on Saturday at the conference. In addition, Dr. Tsuruda will be our featured speaker at the Friday night dinner after the board meeting. Jennifer Berry will be a delightful end to our conference, where in her closing address for our meeting she will share her adventures in twenty years of beekeeping.

We are dividing our breakouts over three periods rather than the usual two. Most of the breakouts will repeat and we are trying to schedule them so that you have a little more opportunity to hear speakers you missed in the first offering. There are lots of good talks designed to address the needs of beginners, middle level and advanced beekeepers. In addition there are talks addressed to local club needs, beginning business needs, and honey judging.

Our breakout speakers include **Bobby Chaisson, Bobby Thanephon, Bobby Torbush, Steve Page, Jimmy Gatt, Lynn Williams, Mary Cahill-Roberts, Ed Hoehn, Sandy Good,** and **Jay Heselschwerdt**.

Near the conference are two hotels offering discount rates to conference attendees. They are the **Augusta Residence Inn** and the **Springhill Suites**. Both are Marriott properties. The discount rates are only available until **January 15** (one month ahead of the conference). To make a reservation, [click here](#).

Our spring meeting includes the **Artisan Show**. Rules for this show [can be found here](#). The Artisan Show features meads and food items as well as arts and crafts. There are fourteen classes of entry, so ready your needles, turn on your ovens, and polish your camera lenses.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained, and the prizes are substantial.

Our meetings are so much fun with good vendors, raffle items, beekeeping friends and much to learn. We will also auction the annual website ad positions. We are thankful to our sponsors: **Mann Lake** and **Dadant**. I look forward to seeing many of you there and hope you are as excited about getting together as I am. [Don't forget to register here!](#)

Happy New Year and bee well,

Linda T



Eastern Apicultural Society 2019 Conference

– by Deborah Sasser



The biggest beekeeping gathering east of the Mississippi is happening close to home this year. The 2019 Eastern Apicultural Society conference is set to come to **Greenville, South Carolina** on **July 15th-19th**. GBA members **Virginia Webb** and **Deborah Sasser** can tell you about the good time they had at the 2018 EAS conference in Virginia. They both won big for their honey entries. Deborah getting silver for her black jar entry and Virginia winning a big first place for her Georgia honey.

The goal of the society is to provide the beekeeping community with information, education, and research support. Both the art and science of keeping honey bees is presented by speakers such as **Dewey Caron**, **Dennis vanEngelsdorp**, and Georgia's own **Jennifer Berry**.

This is the first EAS conference to include states on the eastern seaboard and a great opportunity for Georgia beekeepers.

The EAS website <http://www.easternapiculture.org/> provides more information about the conference and how you can become a member and receive the EAS journal.



(Above) A flyer for the 2019 EAS Conference. Photos are courtesy of Deborah Sasser from the 2018 EAS Conference in VA.

Reindog Pollinators

– by *Julia Mahood*
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers



Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association member **Cathy Zier** and her pack entered the *Atlanta Botanical Garden's Reindog Parade* on December 1, 2018 as the Reindog Pollinators and **WON Best Dog Pack** and **Best in Show!** What a great way to spread the word about protecting pollinators!

The team also submitted a poem:

Photo by Zachary Toth Photography

Pictured are Cathy Zier and Codie; Pamela Papner with Walter; Diane Silver with Rocco and Victoria Talley with Bingo.

Meet the Reindog Pollinators!



Buzzing Codie
Spinning Rocco
Humming Walter
And Queenly Bingo

Bees are truly amazing,
Built for nectar & pollen grazing.

They pollinate flowers, fruits & veggies galore,
Visit all and come back for more.

Avoiding pesticides to stay alive,
Returning with nectar & pollen to the hive.

Working all day to make sweet honey,
And it's oh so yummy.

Fly again, fly again, little bees,
All the way to ABG.

Protecting our bees, one and all,
We're the Reindog Pollinators, ya'll!



SEE THE HEAT!

– by *Deborah Sasser*
Clark Hill Beekeepers Club

It is fascinating to watch your bees producing thermal energy!

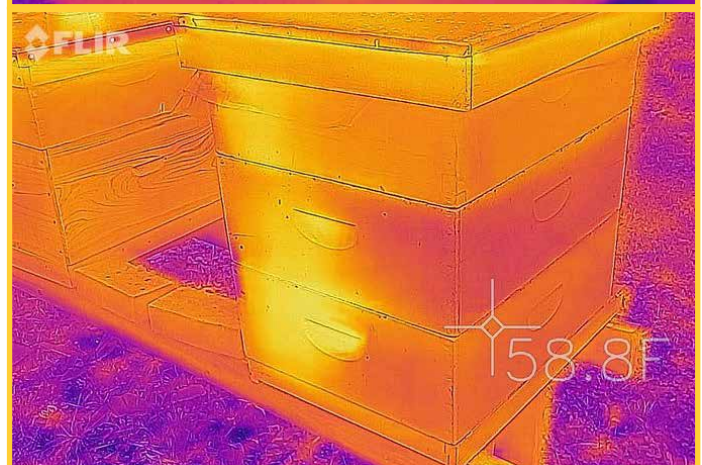
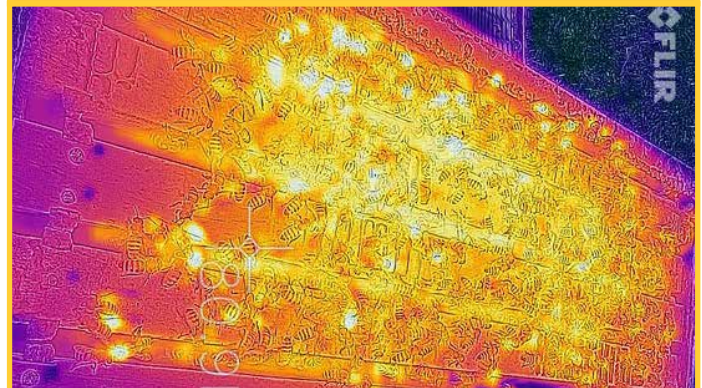
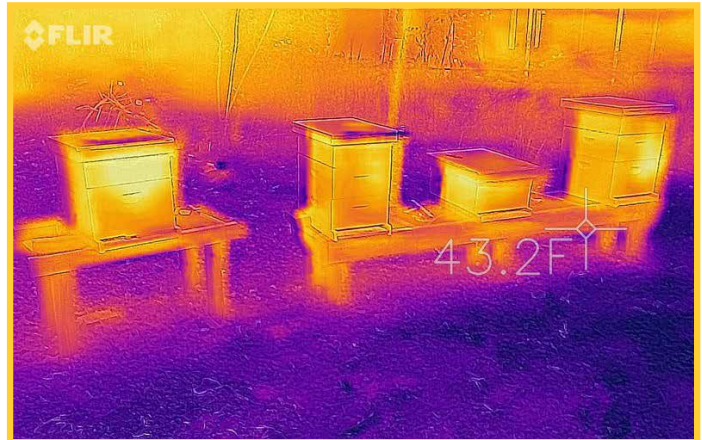
I went to my first ***Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS)*** meeting in Hampton, Virginia in August 2018. It was a motivating conference with many distinguished speakers. I learned a lot and wanted to share one of the most fascinating things I learned.

In one of the breakouts, **Wyatt Mangum, Ph.D.**, had the topic of “Hot Bees? Thermal Cameras Reveal Bee Behavior in New Ways.” Dr. Mangum expounded on the application of thermal imaging and its many applications in beekeeping. I was enthralled! I rushed home and ordered the FLIR One Pro Thermal Imaging Camera with MSX Technology. It gives infrared detailed photos and video with a clarity that was previously unavailable. If you’re intimidated by technology, rest easy knowing that the FLIR Infrared camera is simple to use and easily attaches to the lightning port of your Smartphone.

Although various professionals have measured their hives' heat range, I felt anxious to see my bees' heat signature inside their hive. The moment I walked into my bee yard I could see the bees and exactly where they were inside the hives. I could also see how big the cluster was and how warm they were keeping their colony. Very importantly, I quickly noted that the weak hive was producing very little heat from a small cluster, giving me proof positive that it needed to be combined with a stronger hive. I observed that the smoker was lit from the bottom not the top and that my bees were warming up their muscles in preparation for flight. There was so much vital information that was then easily accessible!

Having this additional information can help us make more informed decisions about our bees. I can honestly say I am very impressed with this device. Infrared cameras have been around for a long time but the technology and the amazing affordability makes it well worth the money.

I am going to love spending time in my bee yard using my new **Thermal Imaging** camera. I'll be watching, learning and documenting my girls this entire winter.





USING THE GBA WEBSITE TO HELP YOUR CLUB

– by *Linda Tillman*

GBA gives every club president a free year of membership in our association. There is a simple [form on our website to fill out to inform](#) us about your club officers.

Clubs change officers at different times and we don't have the time or volunteer resources to call each club to find out about officer changes. If your club has filled out this form, then we can add you to our spreadsheet. We definitely want to have a relationship with each of our local club presidents (and we want to give you your free year).

Filling [out this form](#) about your officers ensures that:

- Your club's GBA Director will be in touch with you.
- Your president will be on the list to be invited twice a year to the President's Breakfast at each spring and fall conference.
- Your club will be invited to participate as a voting member on the GBA Board.
- Directors and GBA officers will know where/when your club meets so we can come to visit you whenever possible.

Does your club offer a short course or some type of beekeeping training? [If you fill out this form](#) about your upcoming event, we will list it for you in the newsletter and on our website.

Every local club has good speakers and many of our members are within driving distance of clubs that are not necessarily their own home club. [If you fill out our Wufoo form each month](#), we can put your speaker information in the newsletter for all of Georgia to see. This gives other clubs ideas for speakers to invite and encourages sharing and connection among clubs.

We have successfully gotten the honey bee license plate approved for our state. Probably sales will not be open for this plate until the middle of 2019. Meanwhile, [there's a form on our site](#) that you and your members can fill out to be informed about how/when/where to purchase the new plate when it becomes available.

Volunteering with the GBA offers an opportunity to meet and work with beekeepers all over the state. We have [a form on our site](#) to find out where you might want to help.

Many local clubs help support our Buzz Fund grant program. If you'd like your club to donate to the Buzz Fund, you can do that by clicking "Donate" at the [very bottom of our first web page](#).

Harvest Hoffman, the GBA Webmaster, has worked hard to make all of this available to our members. Be sure to take advantage of all that GBA has to offer you, as president, and to your local club.

[Please see the flyers put out by some of our local clubs on the next page.]



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please send this info to gabeeepresident@gmail.com

Learning to keep **BEEES**

Many times when someone finds out you're a beekeeper they say, "Oh, I've always wanted to do that". Well now you can point them in the direction of the **GBA website** <http://www.gabeekeeping.com/Events/ShortCourses>. **Kelley Campbell** has put together a list of all the club sponsored courses for 2019. If you'd like to add your club's course, just fill out the form on the page. Thank you to all the clubs willing to spread the learning.

TROUP COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BEE KEEPERS

Day 1
February 23, 2019
8 am to 12:30pm

Day 2
March 2, 2019
8 am to 4 pm

First Lessons in Beekeeping

This will be a half a day that will cover hives and equipment for the Great Hobby of Beekeeping!

Only \$50

This course includes:
3rd year membership with Troup County Association of Beekeepers & First Lessons in Beekeeping Book by Keith Delaplane

To Register Please Contact:
Brad Myers 678-642-0242 or Steve King @ Hbkcsk235@tntma2.com
Location: 244 Sam Walker Dr, LaGrange, GA 30243

Presents New Beekeepers Class
February 23, 2019 from 8-12:30 Hive Budda & March 2, 2019 From 8-4 Bee School presentations Lunch Included!

Get Started Keeping Honey Bees

With help from **Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.**



If you've always wanted to keep **HONEY BEES**, or learn more about them, attend this **ONE DAY**

Beekeeping Short Course

Saturday Feb. 23rd
8:30 am—4:30 pm
\$50/person \$25/under 18

Includes
Hands on Workshops
Door Prizes-Lunch-Gift Bag
1st Lessons in Beekeeping
2019 Membership
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers
Future Hive Inspections

706-476-7089
404-219-7200

Hart Co. B.O.E. Agriscience Center
1951 Bowman Hwy. Hartwell Ga. 30643

Register on PayPal or email
lakehartwellbeekeepersassoc@gmail.com

Fundamentals of Beekeeping

Bee biology
Year in the bee yard
Pest and diseases
Plants trees and shrubs
Bee equipment

February 9th, 2019
8am-4pm

Presentations by **Georgia's Leading Beekeepers**

Tri County Beekeepers

\$50 per person


Door prizes!
Full day of learning!

Cindy Hodges Master Craftsman Beekeeper
Mike Dayton Certified Beekeeper
Steve Esau Master Beekeeper
Bill Owens Master Craftsman Beekeeper
Harold Lanier Journeyman Beekeeper

Membership to Tri County Beekeepers INCLUDED with course!

Mount Carmel Baptist Church 2405 Hwy 51/ Maysville, GA 30558
Register at www.tricountybeekeepers.net or call: 678-902-2899

7TH ANNUAL BEEKEEPING SHORT COURSE



JANUARY 26, 2019
GREENSBORO, GA
9AM-5PM

REGISTER ONLINE:
LBCA2019.eventbrite.com

Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association

ONE DAY Beekeeping COURSE

SATURDAY JANUARY 12, 2019

Learn the basics of backyard beekeeping

Taught by professional and hobbyist beekeepers, this classroom course is followed up with access to several hands-on hive visits during the spring and summer months.



The Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association is a non-profit 501(c)3 dedicated to honey bee education and apary management.

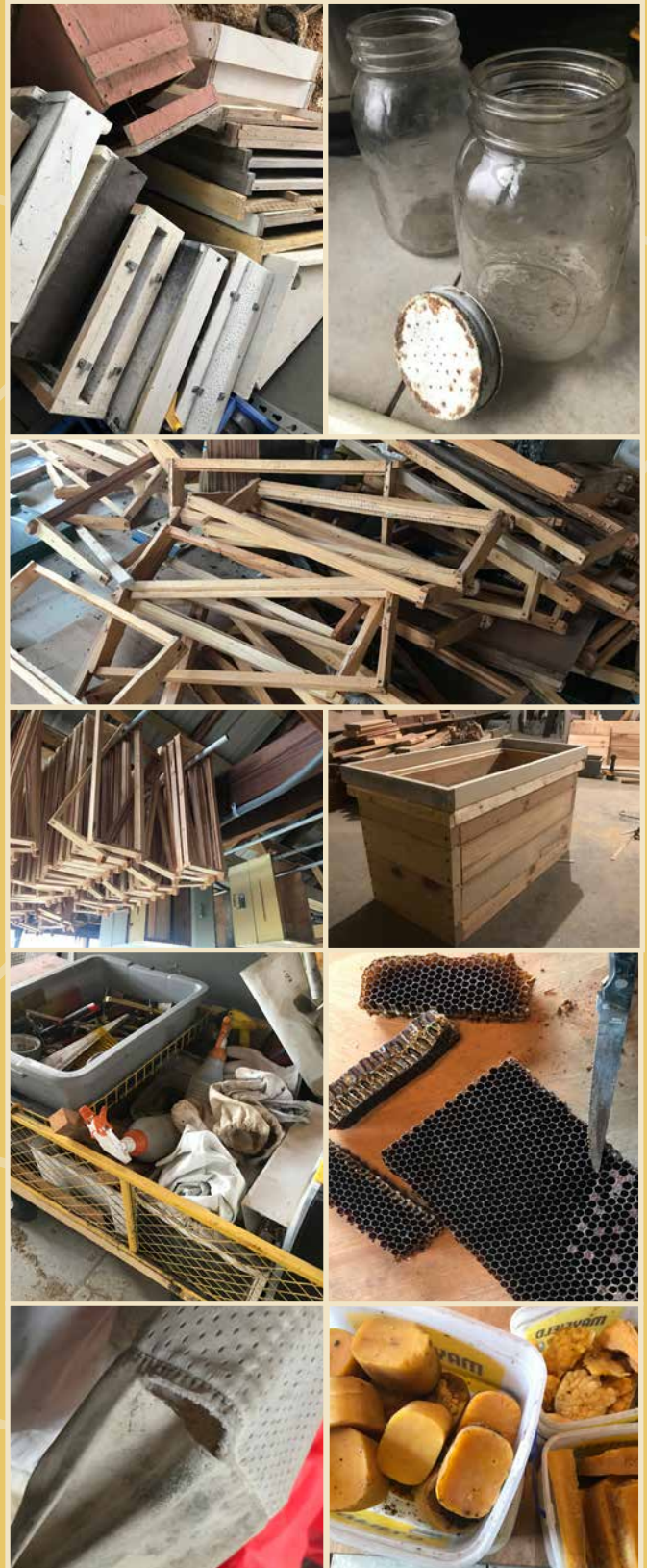
This Winter, I'm going to . . .

– by Kathleen Bourn

I'm one of those "list" people. You know us. We have to do lists, get lists, wish lists and best of all...projects lists. Beekeeping has provided me with an entirely new set of projects to list, especially in the winter. Each fall I'm positive every item on my simple little list will easily get checked off by the time the maples bloom and the bees start flying again. At least that's how I see it in my dreams. Here are the top ten items on my beekeeping winter projects list. Do you recognize any similar items on your list (or at least in the back of your mind)?

- 1. Clean Frames** – that pile isn't going to get smaller by itself
- 2. Repair Everything** – frames/traps/bottom boards/boxes
- 3. Better storage solutions** for that "Repaired Everything"
- 4. Clean Syrup Jars and Lids** – even those propolized little holes in the lids
- 5. Build New Hives** – try a new Layens Hive style this year
- 6. Build New Hives for Friends** – you know you said you would
- 7. Clean out the Bee Buggy** – what is all this junk?
- 8. Cut up the old dark comb** and slum gum for dog biscuits – Rudy and Katie think it's better than Milkbones
- 9. Check suit/veil/gloves for holes** – if you don't find them the bees will – repair with duct tape
- 10. Finally, do something with all that wax**

If you have a similar list you'll get no sympathy from me. As you can see, I have things to get done. Every year my problem isn't that I run out of winter projects. My problem is. . . I run out of winter.



BEE-AUTIFUL GIFTS



CLUB NEWS

Beekeepers of Gwinnett County

We celebrated an early December Christmas with our club members and shared treats. The food was great, but the friendships continue to be amazing. We had a short Q&A session, but it was clear that everyone preferred to continue with the celebration. We have such creative and great cooks. Honey was present in many of the treats.

In November we elected our officers for 2019. Our president, vice president and treasurer remained the same, but we voted in Tawna Low as our new secretary and Linda Bryant as our new librarian.

We have **David Bailey** from Ally Bees Honey speaking to us this upcoming January. David has a great presentation explaining month to month chores of a typical beekeeper. This is the third year in a row that David has spoken to the club and we look forward to having him join us again. It is good for all beekeepers, regardless of our level, to hear the basics again.

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc.

The Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association will hold its monthly meeting at 6pm on January 14th at the UGS Extension Office at 420 10th St., Columbus, GA. Program to be announced.

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc. will provide a six week course for adults giving an introduction to beekeeping through being able to take a hive home. The course will begin Saturday, February 16, 2019 from 3 to 5 pm at Oxbow Meadows Educational Learning Center in Columbus, GA and continue each Saturday for 6 weeks. The cost is \$100 for the series or \$25 per session. To register for course call 706-507-8550.

CVBA will also offer three one-day **Junior Beekeeping** classes. This class is for anyone ages 7-14 interested in beekeeping. These classes will be held from 10 am to 3 pm on March 9, April 13, and May 11 at Oxbow Meadows ELC in Columbus, GA. The class begins with a classroom session explaining everything a beginner beekeeper needs to know. The students engage in an activity such as searching for pollen and bringing it to a beehive as the honeybees do. Hive components are explained and students build a hive frame to take home. Lunch is provided followed by a hive inspection where the students get hands on experience with honeybees from inside the hives at Oxbow. Lastly, students will experience spinning the honey extractor and removing the honey and taking home a jar of honey. Preregistration is required because each class is limited to ten participants. Each participant must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. No child can be dropped off and left unattended. The cost for the class is \$35. For more information or to preregister, contact Oxbow Meadows at 706-507-8550.

Chattooga Beekeepers

The Chattooga Beekeepers will be offering a **How To Course** on beekeeping January 12. The class covers all the basics needed to get started as a beekeeper and to help your bees survive. This is a one day seminar from 8 am – 4 pm at 40 Middle School Road, Summerville GA 30747. The \$35 per person course fee includes a lunch and educational materials to take home. Call Randy Rolon to pre-register at 423-304-2714. Payments by check should be mailed to 40 Middle School Road, Summerville GA 30747 or to pay by Visa or Mastercard phone to 706-857-0744. Deadline to register is Wednesday, Jan 9.

Coweta Beekeepers Association

Beginning **Beekeepers Short Course**. January 26, 2019. Cost is \$50 in advance or \$55 at the door. Begins at 8:00 am with registration and breakfast. Class includes meals, one year membership in our Association, Dr. Delaplane's book, [First Lessons in Beekeeping](#) and door prizes. Come for a fun day packed with information and wisdom about the wonderful world of honeybees. Contact: Cowetabeekeepers.org or Andy Anderson at: imcaptainandy@gmail.com

Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers & Oglethorpe County Bee Club

Last November and December, Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association and Oglethorpe County Bee Club were offered a donation of old but mostly unused beekeeping supplies. Several members of both clubs got together and retrieved the equipment which turned out to be quite a lot! It consisted of some regular woodenware and frames along with a lot of specialty equipment for raising queens and producing nucs. A sale was organized and it raised almost a thousand dollars for each club!



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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers

The Heart of Georgia Beekeepers met Tuesday, December 18 for their annual Silent Auction and Christmas social. We raised \$256 on the silent auction and good food was enjoyed by all. Officers for 2019 were elected: Jonathan Hayes, president; Kathy Shelton, vice-president, Hazel McCurdy, secretary; Emily Heath, treasurer, and board members Nathan Runck and Marc Wagner.

The first meeting of 2019 will be on January 15th at 7 pm at the Houston County Extension meeting room.



The first picture shows various members checking out the silent auction items. The second picture shows members Tim Smith and Tony Castellano enjoying the food.

Lake Country Beekeepers Assoc.

Lake Country Beekeepers Association hosted their annual Christmas Party on December 11th. Over 50 members and their families gathered for a potluck dinner at the UGA Extension Office in Eatonton, GA. Keith and Rose Anne Fielder hosted and prepared grilled pork loin and chicken. It was scrumptious plus fun to share an evening together with good food and folks! Everyone brought salads, vegetables or desserts to share. Bruce Morgan (our newly elected President) and Mary Lacksen managed the door prize event. Each member received 2 beekeeping items including smokers, queen excluders and catchers, books, various honey bee nutrition products, extractors, and a complete hive (donated by Morgan Apiaries). Each year LCBA uses excess funds to give back to their membership. Our next event is LCBA 7th Annual Beekeeping Short Course on Saturday, January 26th. Bob Binnie, Keith and Rose Anne Fielder and Bruce Morgan are the featured speakers for this event. For more information, go to LCBA2019@eventbrite.com and come join this great group of beekeepers.

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.

Team “Beeswax” was the big winner in the LHBA Dec. 6th holiday party trivia contest. They put their beekeeping heads together to answer 20 questions about our favorite insect. First prize for each team member was a one-handed queen catcher (It only catches queens that have one hand).

Newly elected president, Drew Harvey presented the club with a plaque honoring the past presidents of LHBA. The club was started only 6 years ago with Tom Atkins leading us off.

The January 3rd meeting is at a **new location**. We meet at the new Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center (1951 Bowman Hwy. Hartwell) at 7 pm with coffee and snacks at 6:30 pm. Randall Kerlin will help us figure out how to feed our bees this winter.



West Georgia Beekeepers

The West Georgia Beekeepers Association had their annual Christmas party on December 3, 2018. We had lots of good food, exchange gifts and had lots of fun. Mark Dean was elected 2018 “Beekeeper of the Year”. On January 28, 2019, Bob Binnie of Blue Ridge Honey Company, will be our guest speaker. He will be speaking on his commercial beekeeping business and will have a question and answer session following. Debbie King will be our speaker on February 25, 2019. She will be speaking on First Aid in the Beeyard. We meet every fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, GA, 30134. The mentoring session starts at 6:30 pm and our meeting starts at 7 pm. Hope to see you there!

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, January 7		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, January 15		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, January 10		wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909		Thursday, January 24		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 15		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 8	David Bailey, on the year overview of the beekeeper – what to do, and when to do it.	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, January 14		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, January 10		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, January 16		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, January 14		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agricultural Bldg, 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 8		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pky, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, January 17	Holly Bayendor, on "The New Beekeeper"	spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802		Monday, February 11		tnorman@augustaga.gov	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, January 14		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, January 14	Steven Page on Preparing for Spring in the Apiary	danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	1400 Parker Rd SE, Conyers, GA 30094	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 22		thezechmans@yahoo.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, January 7		danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, January 10		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, January 24	Bob Binnie, on how they make 2,000 nucs in time for the commercial spring rush.	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 15		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 8		hartfieldmonty@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Hancock County Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, January 17	Keith Delaplaine, Director of UGA Honey Bee Program	mlacksen@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	*Different Location: Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643* [Usual Location: First Baptist Church, 95 W. Bowman St., Lavonia, GA 30553]	1st Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, February 7 **Different location in February!**	Dave Miller on the Australian Beekeeping Congress	lakehartwellbeekeepers@gmail.com	Franklin
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, January 22		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, January 3		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday 6:30pm/7pm	Tuesday, January 15	Adam Finklestein will present an overview of his queen breeding program	julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, January 8		abletinker@windstream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, January 10	Christine Fortuin, Introduction to the Wild Bees of Georgia.	officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday 7pm	Monday, January 14		ardisroger@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:30pm/6:30pm	Tuesday, January 29		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, January 21		joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132		Monday, January 14		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	*Different Location: Cedartown HS College and Career Academy 167 Frank Lott Drive, Cedartown, GA 30125* [Usual location: Cedartown Library Meeting Rm, 245 East Ave, Cedartown, GA 30125]	1st Saturday, 9:30 am	Thursday, January 10 **Different location this month!**	Steve Altom on Spring Preparations	polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, January 17	TBD	potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in Jan.			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, January 10		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, January 21	Dr. Mary Cahill-Roberts on Apitherapy: Health & Wellness from Your Hive	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 Hwy 126 Cochran, GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 1		threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley
Tri-County Beekeepers	7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, January 14	Tommy Mealer on Queen Rearing	info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Hall
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 15		tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, January 21	Krissa Jones with the Dept. of Ag., on Honey House set up and regulations.	neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, January 14		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, January 15		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, January 28	Bob Binnie, on his commercial beekeeping business	kingapiary@gmail.com	Douglas



EDUCATING BEEKEEPERS *and*
SUPPORTING LOCAL CLUBS

Augusta University Summerville Campus

This year's keynote speakers are **Kim Flottum**,
Jennifer Tsuruda, and **Jennifer Berry**.

Come enjoy our evening speaker dinner on Friday
night where Jennifer Tsuruda will be our speaker.

Our breakout sessions will include basic to expert
beekeeping techniques, GBA Spring Artisan Show and
club management programs and a variety of vendors.

For more info on the artisan show rules, registration
and accommodations: www.gabeekeeping.com

Spring Meeting 2019

2019 OFFICERS

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Linda Tillman

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February 15-16
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



Spilling *The* Honey

FEBRUARY 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our GBA Spring Conference is right around the corner. We are meeting on **February 15 and 16th in Augusta, GA** at the Augusta University Summer-ville Campus which is located at 2500 Walton Way in Augusta. Discounted **registration** for members is available until February 8th.

On Friday the 15th, the **GBA Board Meeting** happens at 5:00 and any GBA member can attend. If you are a local club president or a designated representative for your local club (must be registered as your club's representative with **Derrick, our secretary**, before the 15th), you can vote at the meeting. However, any GBA member at the meeting is welcome to participate in any discussion.

Following the board meeting, we have a dinner with **Jennifer Tsuruda** speaking. Jennifer plans to share with us her observations of honey bees during the total eclipse of 2017! I'll be excited to hear her because as the sun went dark at my house in Rabun County, Gina and I watched a very large spider begin to build a beautiful web. She disappeared as soon as the sun reemerged. I can't wait to hear what the honey bees did!

The next day on Saturday when the conference begins, you'll have the opportunity to hear Jennifer again (twice). Also **Kim Flottum** and **Jennifer Berry** will be our other keynote speakers. Typically we have about eight breakouts from which you can choose two. This spring we are trying something different. We will have **ten breakouts** from which you can choose three. Some of the best speakers in the state and elsewhere will be teaching breakouts.

Just to whet your appetite, here in alphabetical order are the breakout speakers and their topics:

Mary Cahill-Roberts: How to Produce Honey for a Welsh Honey Show

Bobby Chaisson: Thinking Outside of the Box

Jimmy Gatt: How to Create a Study Group for Certified/Journeyman Beekeepers

Sandy Good: A Non-Stitcher's Guide to Judging Needlework

Jay Heselschwerdt: No Welfare Bees

Ed Hoehn: The "Makings" of a Junior Beekeeping Class

Steve Page: Swarm Prevention for Increased Honey Production

Bobby Thanepohn: Year Two and Beyond: So Now What?

Bobby Torbush: Mass Mentoring

Lynn Williams: Integrated Pest Management/Varroa

A highlight of the meeting will be the **artisan show**. An artisan show is the opportunity to show off your other honey/bee based skills. In the past we've had some lovely needlework and photographs, some inventive contraptions, some creative poetry, and some delicious culinary treats. Be sure to **read the rules** and enter in many categories!

Hope to see many of you in Augusta! Haven't registered? [Click here.](#)

Bee well,
Linda T



Enter the Spring Artisan Show

– by Brutz English
Honey Show Chairperson

As spring approaches, a lot of us will be dusting off our backyard grills and smokers to take advantage of the warming weather. If you're like a lot of beekeepers I know, you might have your own special recipe incorporating honey into a sauce, dip, or dressing you like use to enhance some tasty treat. It's time to let that closely held secret or old family recipe loose, and we have just the occasion to get you motivated!

The **GBA Spring Artisan Show** is coming up on **February 16th** in Augusta, Georgia, at the University of Augusta Summerville Campus! One of the new and exciting categories we have in the Artisan Show this year is condiments!

A condiment is any spice, sauce, pickle, preserve or other preparation that is added to food to impart a specific flavor, to enhance the flavor, or to complement a dish. The rules provide that “[a]n Exhibitor may submit one example of a honey condiment prepared by the Exhibitor. An entry of in this class consists of one (1) resealable jar or bottle, containing not less than four ounces (4oz.), nor more than eight ounce (8oz). The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Judges evaluate entries on

the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality.” See the complete rules. Keep in mind, there is over **\$4,000.00 in prize money** at this year's Artisan Show! First prizes come with \$100 bills, and Best in Show takes home another \$500.00. Come on out and bring your best creations! The 2019 GBA Artisan Show is going to be a blast! We can't wait to see you there!



Beeswax Flowers and Decorative Displays from the 2018 INIB Honey Show.

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Keep in mind, there is over **\$4,000.00 in prize money** at this year's Artisan Show! First prizes come with \$100 bills, and Best in Show takes home another \$500.00. Come on out and bring your best creations! The 2019 GBA Artisan Show is going to be a blast! We can't wait to see you there!

Yeast & Fermentation



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

Yeast can cause fermentation in high moisture honey

The yeasts found in honey are not the same as those used in bread and beer. They are tolerant of the high sugar concentration found in honey. The primary sources for these yeasts are flowers and soil and the bees bring it in freely.



Some bee books will tell you that fermentation will only occur in honey with a moisture content of 18.6% or higher. This is not always true. This number of 18.6% is dependent on the yeast spore count.

The yeast spore count in honey can range anywhere from one to tens of thousands per gram. Honey with a low spore count of one per gram will usually not ferment with a moisture content of up to 19%. Honey with a spore count of ten per gram needs to be 18.6% moisture or lower to be safe. A high spore count of 1,000 or more needs to have 17% moisture or lower, or fermentation can occur. For example, mangrove honey with its low spore count is usually

safe at 19% while cabbage palm honey with a higher than average count can sometimes ferment at 18%.

I can't say how many times I have been surprised to have a barrel of honey that I thought was safe begin to show signs of fermentation. In my view, any hint of fermentation lowers the quality of honey and a high level completely ruins it.

Yeast is affected by temperature

Heat kills yeast and cold stops its activity.

One of the reasons some packers like to use heat in processing is that it stops fermentation in thin honey by killing the yeast. The yeast in honey will be dead in 8 hours when held at 125°F, 30 minutes at 145°F, and 1 minute at 160°F. Storing honey at 100°F or greater will slow fermentation, but honey stored for any time at these temperatures will show a noticeable deterioration of quality in other areas.



Bob Binnie (above) gives a tour of his honey packing operation in Lakemont, GA.

Be warned: if you think that killing the yeast in thin honey with heat will solve all of your fermentation problems going forward, think again. Yeast is everywhere. It is in your apiary, it is in your equipment, and it is airborne in your honey house.

(continued on next page)

Yeast & Fermentation – (cont'd)

– by **Bob Binnie**

Only if you heat honey in a sealed container or pour it hot into a container that will be sealed before it cools, will it be completely safe from fermentation. As soon as the container is opened again, if it is too thin, it is at risk. Again, yeast is everywhere.

If you do have to store thin honey and don't want to use heat to kill the yeast, it can be stored cold. The activity of yeast in honey will stop when the temperature drops below 52°F, but it will return when the temperature rises again.

Also worth knowing is that crystallized honey has a greater chance of fermenting than liquid. Not all of the sugars in honey will crystallize and the one that does (dextrose) has a lower solubility than the others. As it crystallizes, it will leave water behind thereby increasing the moisture content in the rest of the honey.

Numerous times I have had honey with borderline moisture content remain unfermented for some time only to have it ferment after crystallizing.

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



When you bottle over a million pounds of honey a year, you learn a few things about it. **Bob and Suzette Binnie** do just that at their **Blue Ridge Honey Company** in Lakemont Ga. Working over 2000 colonies helps make them the largest

honey packers in the North Georgia region. The Rabun County operation is a retail store, processing plant and beekeeping supplier all in one location.

They also welcome the public and beekeeping clubs for educational tours.

Sharing his vast knowledge about honey is one of Bob Binnie's passions. In a series of writings for *Spilling the Honey*, he will tell that there is much more to know about honey than the taste. This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Editor

Try before you Buy



In November **Cory Momany** let his **Oglethorpe County Bee Club** take a look at a style of Nuc box he wanted to try. The club had a chance to talk about the good and the bad qualities of this box.

Although **GBA does not endorse any beekeeping products**, we would like to hear from any member who is trying out an item for evaluation. If you'd like to help other beekeepers "**try it before you buy it**", please send a description and photos to gbanewsletters@gmail.com along with a critique.



UPDATE: Cory Momany's 7-frame nuc box

The girls in my Apimaye insulated nucs are all doing very well (three out of three alive through mid-January each with only five frames of drawn comb). But...ants are able to readily access the sugar water feeders despite what appears to be an otherwise excellent design.

– Cory Momany
Secretary, Oglethorpe County Bee Club
Vice-President, Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association

Plant a Tree, Save the Bees!

– by Jimmy Gatt
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers

When I started beekeeping, I was disturbed by the notion of *The Summer Dearth*.

I tried to plant summer-blooming plants in a noble but vain effort to combat this dreary time of year. It was during this search for plants that I discovered the beekeeper and arborist **Mike Connor**, who runs a tree nursery (Honey Tree Nursery) and tree rehabilitation service in Michigan. He presented at the 2016 Heartland Apicultural Society meeting (watch it on YouTube: search for “**Mike Connor Trees and Bees**”) in which he made a salient point:

An acre of yellow clover has a honey yield of *200 pounds* of honey per acre. An acre of basswood trees has a honey yield of *1,200 pounds* of honey per acre. What this means is that just two basswood trees has the same nectar output of an entire acre of yellow clover. **What is easier to plant: an acre of yellow clover, or two trees?**

Those of you who live in Metro Atlanta may know **Trees Atlanta**, a non-profit organization that has planted **117,000 trees** in Atlanta over the past 30 years. I thought: “If just 1% of those 117,000 trees had been basswood trees, then that would have created the nectar equivalent of 500 acres of yellow clover in Atlanta.” And what’s even better than that? Basswood blooms during the Summer Dearth.



Basswood bloom (above), and tree.

I realized that The Summer Dearth isn't something we have to live with. It's something we can kill. It took Trees Atlanta 30 years to plant 117,000 trees in Atlanta, and now Atlanta has the densest tree canopy of any U.S. city. We live in a time where the non-beekeeping public is both fascinated by honey bees and worried about their future. We beekeepers are in a prime position to educate the public in the most valuable thing they can do to help honey bees: plant summer-blooming, nectar-bearing trees that bloom in summer.



(continued on next page)

Plant a Tree, Save the Bees! – (cont'd)

– by Jimmy Gatt

If 1,000 people planted just one summer-blooming tree per year for the next 30 years, then in 30 years we would have the equivalent of 15,000 acres of clover that blooms during the Summer Dearth. We don't have enough beekeepers and arborists to do this task. But what we do have is a deeply-interested and concerned public. When someone asks you, "Are the bees still in trouble?" then tell them the truth: "Yes, they are, and you can do something about it: plant a summer-blooming, nectar-bearing tree!" That is the single-most valuable thing a person can do to help the welfare of our beleaguered honey bees. And native bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies, too.

Native summer-blooming trees:

- Basswood (*Tilia americana*)
- Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- Staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhia*)
- Devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*)

Native summer-blooming shrubs:

- Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)
- Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*)
- Shrubby St. John's Wort (*Hypericum prolificum*)
- New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)

Bonus native tree:

- Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginina*) – blooms and provides nectar in November!



Buttonbush



Shaghorn sumac



Summersweet



Witch Hazel

Spring GBA Conference Planning

– by Gina Gallucci
Vice President, GBA

We are learning a ton about how to plan our conferences in a location we have not used before. As in our fall 2018 meeting, we have scouted locations, asked what feels like a million questions and explained GBA's wants, needs and our mission to promote and support all beekeepers in Georgia.

We are consistently trying to improve our conferences in terms of location, excellent speakers with strong content to share, and overall comfort.

As always **we welcome your reasoned feedback** in our follow up surveys, and or suggestions by email or phone. We look forward to seeing you and all our new bee friends in Augusta.



Georgia's Commercial Beekeepers

on the Move

Two million commercial honey bee colonies migrate for pollination every year in the United States. A third of all the managed colonies go to the almond groves making it the largest managed pollination in the world. Commercial beekeepers in Georgia are starting their move to be part of that service. **Barry Hart**, of Hart Honey Farms, is a commercial beekeeper in south Georgia and a GBA member. He sent this photo of some of his bees.

These three photos are from **Ben Bruce**, a GBA member and commercial beekeeper in south Georgia. His bees are being loaded up to drive to California for the almond crop.



“These are my bees we had to rewash after three inches of rain. So, I decided to stack them up so when the semi gets here all we have to do is rewash the bottom pallet. California almond pollination is very good for us beekeepers in South Georgia, but it’s hard work to keep the bees clean and in good health to meet their very strict requirements.”

– Barry Hart





FROM CLUB MEMBERS TO BOARD MEMBERS

– by *Linda Tillman*

Many clubs have just had elections. Finding people to run for office in a club can be like pulling teeth. Many clubs resort to arm twisting and a few clubs have the same president year after year. Here are some suggestions for how to line people up to run for offices.

1. **Sophia Price**, one of our GBA Directors, suggests that you work hard to bring as many people as possible into the active part of the club: “Invite them to dinner with other beekeepers; involve them in club activities” so you grow the pool of people available to run for offices. Ask people in your club to help with the short course or to take on a club task to engage people to think about being active in the bee club.
2. Some clubs have it set up that the vice-president is actually the president in training and is in line to run for president when the president’s term is up.

The vice-president gets to practice in the year ahead of taking on the presidency.

3. Develop a club policies and procedures manual so the responsibilities of each club job are clearly outlined (and you can keep it in Google docs or in any “in the cloud” format so it can easily be available to your members). We are working on this for the GBA.
4. **Dan Long**, a local club president, suggests, “Remind people that holding office is one of the steps to getting your Journeyman Certification.”

Generally the trick is to spread out the responsibilities of a bee club and keep people involved in smaller ways so that when the time to run for office comes up, you’ll have possible people at the ready to run for a club office.

Do you want to participate in a *nosema* study?

In Chester, PA, the beekeepers are doing a study on the ***nosema* spore**. They need around five participating beekeepers from at least two different clubs who live in the Southeast. The study involves collecting about twenty bees monthly from your hives and sending the samples to the researchers in Pennsylvania. The general goals of the study are to understand nosema better, to help develop a medication for nosema, and to identify a hive strategy for high/low count nosema infestations. If you would like to read more about this study to consider participating in it, [click here](#).



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here](#) to fill out a simple form.

CLUB NEWS

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

ABA presents its 2019 annual one-day beginning beekeeping class, **Introduction to Honey Bees and Beekeeping**. It is on Saturday, February 23rd from 8 am to 4 pm at the Pickens County Extension Office, 500 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA. The class will include lunch, one year membership in our association, all course and reference material, a copy of *Bee Culture* magazine, door prizes, follow-up hands on field day and all the answers we can provide. We hope to be able to order bees for anyone interested.

Our field day on February 16th will provide hands on learning about installing swarms, hive inspections and frame manipulations. It starts a 10 am at the Talking Rock Nature Preserve.

See our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page for more information.

The February 14th ABA meeting covers preparing for spring with Sammy Hause. It's at 7 pm at Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA

Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

We started out the year with information about the "Year of a Beekeeper" and "How to Manage Your Hives" by **David Bailey** of Ally Bee's Honey. David is a sideline beekeeper and speaks to the club every year. It is interesting to hear how his talks have evolved to include more focus on Varroa and hive treatments. He is always a joy to have as a speaker and we learn so much regardless of our level of experience.

We are thrilled to have **Steve Esau**, a Master Beekeeper and sideline beekeeper, speak with the club about "Successful Splits" and how to effectively maneuver and manipulate your hives to increase the number of colonies. Steve is a frequent speaker at GBA meetings, and his presentations are very organized and based on his personal success.

This meeting is Tuesday, February 12th at 7 pm at the Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula (Module G).

Learn Beekeeping!



Class Includes:

- Extensive source materials
- 1 Year membership in the bee club
- "First Lessons In Beekeeping" book
- A goody bag with gifts from the hive
- Lunch and snacks provided

Presents
A 1 day Beekeeping School on March 16, 2019
From 8:30am-4:00pm
At Hebron Baptist Church
Dacula, GA

\$40 for non-member, \$35 for each additional family member, due by March 12, 2019
Mail checks payable to The Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County
P. O. Box 983
Dacula, GA 30019

Our Bee School is scheduled for March 16th this year and we are amid planning and advertising the event. As always, we will have indoor instructions followed by outside activities that include moving bees from a package to a hive.

This is by far the event new beekeepers enjoy the most. We will have plenty of door prizes, lunch, handouts, and a great time.

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc.

Spring Beekeeper Course 2019

Want to BEE a beekeeper?
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association is presenting a six-week course that will take you from a beginner to a beekeeper!

<p>WHEN: Saturdays February 23 - March 30 8:00-5:00pm</p> <p>WHERE: Oxbow Meadows 3535 South Lumpkin Road Columbus, GA 31903</p> <p>HOW TO REGISTER: Call Oxbow Meadows at (706)507-8559 https://oxbow.columbusstate.edu/</p>	<p>HOW MUCH: Cost is \$100 per person, and \$50 for immediate family</p> <p>WHAT'S INCLUDED: Classes, textbooks, handouts, one year membership with CVBA</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">OXBOW MEADOWS COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION & STATE SERVICES</p>
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Our **Fifth Annual Adult Beekeeping** course starts on February 23. Approximately 300 adults have participated over the past five years. Attendees learn all about the life cycle of the honey bee, safety equipment, how to put a hive together, how to install NUCs and packages of bees, and how to extract honey. Best of all participants will have hands-on experience with actual bees in the bee yard at Oxbow Meadows.

Jr. Beekeeper Workshop

Join us for a day long workshop and learn what's the "buzz" about honeybees!

Contact Oxbow Meadows for registration at 706-507-8559
oxbow.columbusstate.edu



2019 Dates

March 8
April 13
May 11

10am-3pm
Open to ages 7-13

\$35 per child
1 parent/guardian is free
Preregistration required

This is the second year CVBA has offered **Jr. Beekeeping** workshops. Last year the children really enjoyed the four programs offered. Each workshop is limited to ten students to ensure every participant can fully engage in all activities. Therefore,

be sure to enroll early for the workshop you wish to attend.

Kenneth Potteet has been selected as the veteran for this year's "Bees for Veterans" program. He was a combat medic serving for over ten years including two tours in Iraq. As a recipient of the 2019 "**Bees for Veterans**" program, Kenneth will take the February 23rd beginning beekeeping course and receive beekeeping equipment and mentoring by CVBA beekeepers. Congratulations Kenneth.



Pictured left to right is: James Wilson, Bill Green, Kenneth Potteet, and Luke Ellerman.

Next meeting of the CVBA is February 1 at 6 pm at Oxbow Meadows ELC. Program to be announced.

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Coweta Beekeepers Association



Congratulations to **Kara Bassett**, the Coweta Beekeepers Assoc. **2018 Beekeeper of the year**.

The new president for the Coweta Beekeepers Assoc., **Debbie King**, is excited to work with the CBA board to continue the mission of promot-

ing and supporting the practice of beekeeping. CBA Board members are: **Tony Edmondson** (VP), **Marilynn Parker** (secretary), **Andy Anderson** (treasurer), **Dan Scales** (past president), and elected officers (**Dave King**, **Peter Lorincz**, **Kara Bassett**, **Griff Jones**, **Everett Latimer**, and **Buddy Burns**)



The Coweta Beekeepers Association had 76 students attend the annual **Introduction to Beekeeping** class on Saturday, January 26, in Newnan

Georgia. Instruction included seven subject areas. Demonstrations included lighting a smoker and the pros and cons of wax and plastic foundation. It was a busy day with students learning all the basics of beekeeping.

Coastal Empire Beekeepers

The Coastal Empire Beekeepers Assn. is hosting its annual day-long **FUNDamentals of Beekeeping Workshop** on **Feb. 23** at the Oatland Island Wildlife Center. Session topics include: Basic beekeeping equipment; Getting started with packages or nucs; Colony location/fly-away zones; Honey bee biology; Varroa, small Hive beetles and other pests; and Honey, chunk comb and wax. The \$50 registration fee includes the book "First Lessons in Beekeeping" by Keith S. Delaplaine. During the event, CEBA raffle tickets will be sold for a variety of beekeeping items. CEBA also raffles off two nucs. The workshop is open to the public. All participants must be at least 16 years old. The maximum number of participants is 90. Registration with payment is required to participate. No refunds. No walk-ins. **Registration closes Saturday, Feb. 16.**

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers



At our January 15th Heart of Georgia Beekeepers meeting we named **Rick Moore** the **2018 Beekeeper of the Year**. Rick served two years as HGB president, was instrumental in the Dooly Prison beekeeping endeavor, and had several tasks at the state level, including newsletter editor. Shown here (*top photo*) is current president **Jonathan Hayes** (left) and Rick Moore (right) with his plaque. The program for the evening was presented by **Krissa Jones**, GA Dept. of Agriculture Food Safety inspector. She gave a very interesting program on what the state requires in order to sell honey and to have a licensed

honey house. The meeting ended with outgoing president **Broadus Williams** (*bottom photo*) being presented a plaque in appreciation for his service the past year.

On **March 2**, Heart of Georgia Beekeepers will be presenting **Beekeeping 101** at the County Extension Office on Carroll Street in Perry from 9 am to 12 pm. The Cost is \$20 (individual or family).

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, February 19 at 7 pm.

Forsyth Beekeepers Club (Cumming)

We have a full calendar throughout the year for anyone interested in beginning beekeeping, or extending their beekeeping knowledge. We have a monthly mentor dinner prior to each meeting, a guest speaker, for our meetings, as well as multiple classes throughout the year to support beekeepers and help us all be better stewards of the honey bee.

Our **bee school is a two-day event**, starting February 23 in a large, comfortable auditorium setting to learn the basics of beekeeping practices and an overview of honey bee biology and behavior. Lunch is on site, with local beekeepers teaching the class. The second day is **Hands On / Hive Side** April 20. Both days are led by volunteers who hold certified beekeeper status or higher. Beyond bee school, there are over 30 mentors in the club who offer 1:1 mentoring throughout the year, so you're never alone or unsupported in this new or continuing adventure.

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Forsyth Beekeepers Club (Cumming) – (continued)

In May, we offer the **GA State Certified Exam** for those who have been keeping bees for at least one year. Also in May, Forsyth offers a **Queen Rearing class**, where students can learn more about how queens are raised by workers and what makes the queen so different than their workers. Students may also learn how to graft queens for themselves, giving them the opportunity to walk away with four queens for their apiary.

In July, Forsyth hosts a **Disease and Disorder Day**, where keepers can spend a few hours looking at different pests and diseases of the hive, and how to prevent and combat them.

Forsyth hosts a **Welsh Honey Show** in September with cash prizes and ribbons.

We welcome visitors! Please check out the CLUB CALENDAR for more dates, details, and sign up links.

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.

Our President, **Drew Harvey**, and club member, **Kevin McCraney**, helped students in Anna Smith's Animal Science class kick start the pollinator program at the Hart County College Career Academy on Thursday, January 24. The hives and bees were donated by Georgia Power. The day was spent assembling hives and frames. Next comes a coat of paint and two packages of bees will arrive in March! The Lake Hartwell Beekeepers, along with the donations from **Georgia Power**, are supporting the class as they establish an apiary on the grounds of the Hart County Agriscience Center in Hartwell, GA.



**Get Started
Keeping Honey Bees**

With help from
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.

If you've always wanted to keep **HONEY BEES**, get learn more about them, attend this **ONE DAY**

Beekeeping Short Course

Includes:
Hands-on Workshops
Door Prizes Lunch-Gift Bag
3.5 Lessons in Beekeeping

2019 Membership
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers
Future Hive Inspections

706-476-7089
404-219-7200

Saturday Feb. 23rd
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
\$50/person \$25/under 18

Hart Co. B.O.E. Agriscience Center
1951 Bowman Hwy. Hartwell Ga. 30643

Register on PayPal or email
lakehartwellbeekeepersassoc@gmail.com

Also, the LHBA helps get new folks started keeping bees with our **2019 Short Course**. It's all planned for Saturday **February 23rd** starting at 8:30. We are at the new Hart County BOE AgriScience Center (1951 Bowman Hwy. Hartwell Ga. 30643) for a full day of learning, lunch and luminaries.

Metro Atlanta Beekeepers

On January 12, one hundred fifteen people gathered at the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta for the **MABA Short Course**. While nibbling on breakfast muffins, the attendants heard Julia Mahood lead them through how to set up a hive. **Tom Rearick** explained the biology of the honey bee, and they watched a video featuring **Cindy Bee** on how to install bees. **Jennifer Berry** taught them all they initially need to know about bee diseases, and **Jimmy Gatt** presented a laughter-filled talk about planting for bees.



A well-loved feature of the MABA course is lunch with a beekeeper in which every table is assigned to an experienced beekeeper and the attendants can ask questions throughout lunch. After lunch, **Kathy Bourn** taught bee nutrition, and Linda Tillman took them step by step through how to inspect a beehive. Our famous snack of honey ice cream broke up the afternoon. The day ended with **Kelley Campbell** explaining the year in the apiary and a panel of all the speakers answering questions. Attendants went home with a bag of handouts, beekeeping catalogs, magazines, honey and lip balm. The positive feedback from the participants made everyone involved feel excited about doing it again next year.

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Northeast Georgia Mountain Beekeepers

Last month's Northeast Georgia Mountain Beekeepers Assoc. meeting welcomed **Christine Cairns Fortui**, a PhD Student at the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resource. She taught us all about wild bees and how to care for them.

Oglethorpe County Bee Club

In December, Oglethorpe County Bee Club (OCBC) members presented outgoing president **Joe Conti** (photo, below, left) with an engraved hive tool to show their appreciation for his three years of leadership and for being a tireless mentor to many new beekeepers. For the first club meeting of the new year, **Bruce Morgan** (photo, below, right) www.morganhoney.com presented a talk titled *Nucs – The Most Underutilized Tool In Beekeeping*. His presentation included a short film of him building a deep in his workshop. Lively audience discussions included standard mite treatments, but also the use of essential oils like oregano and a new study on the antiviral properties of specific mushroom extracts.



West Georgia Beekeepers

The West Georgia Beekeepers Association Monday February 25th guest speaker will be **Debbie King**. She will speak on *“First Aid in the Bee Yard”*. There will be a question and answer session following her program. March 25th our guest speaker will be **Mary Cahill-Roberts**. Her topic will be *“Hive Inspection”*. We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, Ga 30134. The mentoring session starts at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7pm. Hope to see you there.

Tara Beekeepers

The Tara Beekeepers held their holiday party and elections in December. 2019 Officers are:

Keif Schleifer - President
Pat McNeil - Vice President
David Brookshire - Treasurer
Rick Stephens - Secretary



Keif Schleifer is voted **Tara Beekeeper of the Year**. She is shown here receiving her award from President Emeritus **PN Williams**.

Our guest on March 18th is **Lewis Bartlett** speaking on *Viruses: Humans & Honeybees*.

Afterwards, we'll have a discussion on *Beekeeping Essentials: Equipment & Gear that is Right for You*. Members will bring in equipment such as suits, gloves, tools, etc. and discuss the pros and cons of each item. This is a great opportunity for new beekeepers if they have not yet purchased equipment and would like to try it before they buy it.



Pat McNeil won a hive, handmade by PN Williams and painted by Keif Schleifer.

Tara Beekeepers meetings are open to anyone with an interest in bees. Regular meetings take place on the third Monday of each month at 7pm. We meet

in the Forest Park Kiwanis Bldg. at 752 Main Street, Forest Park, Ga. 30297 www.tarabeekeepers.org, Instagram @tarabeekeepers

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, February 4		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, February 19		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, February 14	Sammy Hause; Preparation for Spring	wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909		Thursday, February 28		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 19		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 12	Steve Esau will present how to make successful splits.	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, February 11		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, February 14		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, February 20		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, February 11		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agricultural Bldg, 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 12	TBD	beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pky, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, February 21		spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802		Monday, February 4	Sheryl Brousseau from the Edgefield Beekeeping Club	tnorman@augustaga.gov	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, February 11		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, February 11	Bob Binnie will present Why We Raise 2,000 Nucs and How We Do It	danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	1400 Parker Rd SE, Conyers, GA 30094	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 26		thezechmans@yahoo.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website *	1st Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, February 4	Dr. Keith Delaplane will give an update on the research at the UGA Bee Lab.	danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, February 14		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, February 28	Teri Meyer, How to Install a Nuc and Package, and 10 Common Mistakes a Beekeeper Makes.	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 19	Krissa Jones - Honey House Inspector	Jonathan.Hayes@cox.net	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 12		hartfieldmonty@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, February 21	Welcome to New Members w/ Q&A Panel of Experienced Beekeepers	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	New Location: Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, March 7	Jim Alexander will speak on the <i>Jim Alexander Method</i> of splitting hives	lakehartwellbeekeepers@gmail.com	Franklin
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, February 26		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, February 7		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday 6:30pm/7pm	Tuesday, February 19	Steve Esau; Splits	julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, February 12		abletinker@windstream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, February 14		officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday 7pm	Sunday, February 11, 2018		ardisroger@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:30pm/6:30pm	Monday, February 25		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, February 18		joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132		Monday, February 11		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown HS College and Career Academy 167 Frank Lott Drive, Cedartown, GA 30125*	1st Saturday, 9:30 am	Thursday, January 10		polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, February 21	TBD	potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in Jan.			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, February 14		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, February 18		maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 5		threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, February 11	Michael Minardi will present Hands on Mead Making.	info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 19	Establishing a prison beekeeping program at a nearby prison.	tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, February 18	Steve Page – speaking on queen rearing and hive splits	neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, February 11		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, February 19		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, February 25	Debbie King, First Aid in the Bee Yard	2nparker@bellsouth.net	Douglas



EDUCATING BEEKEEPERS *and*
SUPPORTING LOCAL CLUBS

Spring Meeting 2019

Augusta University Summerville Campus

This year's keynote speakers are **Kim Flottum**,
Jennifer Tsuruda, and **Jennifer Berry**.

Come enjoy our evening speaker dinner on Friday
night where Jennifer Tsuruda will be our speaker.

Our breakout sessions will include basic to expert
beekeeping techniques, GBA Spring Artisan Show and
club management programs and a variety of vendors.

For more info on the artisan show rules, registration
and accommodations: www.gabeekeeping.com

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Sophia Price
Jane Quattlebaum

February 15-16
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



Spilling *The* Honey

MARCH 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great conference! Thanks to all of you who drove to Augusta for the meeting. This was our first meeting on the east side of the state in recent memory. Our attendance was about the same as most spring meetings, so we appreciate all of you who drove a long way to get to Augusta.

First, we need to thank the city of Augusta, especially Iman Hill. They put together goody bags for each of the keynote speakers. Augusta University worked well with us, and we had particular help from Pam Whitter and Renea Johnson.

We had help at the site from student volunteers who are also beekeepers as well as their professors: Donna Wear and Zach Kelehear. The students helped with the lunch service, helped put out directional signs, and stepped up to the plate whenever we asked.

Many special thanks to the Augusta area bee clubs. All of the snacks came from the Augusta clubs. The morning snacks and the afternoon cookie break were baked or provided by Augusta beekeepers. In addition, Augusta beekeepers contributed registration help, which really makes a difference in how we get people in the door. Pradeep Bapat, CW Hand, Robert and Dianne Holland (Dianne was working with a smashed thumb!) and David Logue all trained with me and then worked to register people. In addition, Augusta beekeepers David Logue and Lisa Hogue drove Kim Flottum to and from the conference to the Columbia, SC airport.

We are very grateful to our sponsors for this meeting: Dadant and Mann Lake provided cash support. Rossman gave us two full hives and an extractor for auction. And Georgia Bee Removal provided our name tag lanyards. We appreciate all of the vendors who donated items for the door prizes.

So much goes on behind the scenes to make the meeting happen. Gina Gallucci chairs the meeting committee and works tirelessly to negotiate with the meeting site, work out the food for our meals, and to arrange sponsors for our meeting, as well as a thousand other things. Holly Bayendor created our program with her graphic skills. Derrick Fowler works with the student registrants. Harvest Hoffman organized the nametags and designated for each tag the person's membership and their attendance at the Friday dinner. Bobby Chaisson worked very hard stuffing all the name tags into their holders and attaching the ribbons, which was above and beyond the donation of the lanyards! Jennifer Berry arranged our keynote speakers. Brian Higgins, Gina, Derrick Fowler, Kathy Bourn, and Margaret Hogsed sold raffle tickets. Slade Mercer helped put out the directional signs. Steve Esau did a fabulous job as auctioneer, and was quite funny in the process! Paul Berry worked tirelessly to handle registration problems and wrote checks for speakers, honey show winners, expenses. Thanks to all of you and anyone I left out of this list.

The artisan show was replete with both beautiful art items and delicious goodies. Brutz and his crew of judges, secretaries, and stewards worked incredibly hard to cover all of the entries. Forty-three conference registrants entered the contest and entered so many categories that there were 172 entries to be judged. Thankfully, Katie Goodman set up a simple, quick entry process that everyone appreciated. Thanks to everyone involved in the honey show for a great job, well done.

Our breakouts were well-attended and included topics for local clubs, continuing education for our honey judges, and really good keynote talks. I appreciate Bob Binnie who stepped in when Jennifer Berry had to cancel because of a family illness. Bob carted equipment all the way from Rabun County and did a great talk on splits and nucs in the spring.

My children remind me frequently that I am O L D, so please forgive me if I forgot someone in all of these thanks. The GBA is a volunteer organization and everyone contributes mightily when they help in any way. We are so, so grateful for all of the help and will love to welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to help at the next meeting in the fall back at the Lanier Conference Center in Cumming.

Bee well,
Linda T



Whether to Feed *in this Weather*



– by **Jennifer Berry**
UGA Bee Lab

It's funny how much I pay attention to the weather. I have six weather apps on my phone and probably check each several times a day. If you're a weather junkie like myself, then you're probably a bit dismayed by how crazy the weather has been as of late. The temperatures are all over the place: Spring one week, winter the next. When I started seeing the daffodils in January, and then red maples, Bradford pears, cherries, blueberries, and plums blooming in February, I was excited to see such beauty, but nervous because we're still weeks away before technically, we are out of the "frozen" woods. April 15th is the last frost date for our area. It will probably be updated (if it hasn't already) since our winters are getting much shorter and much warmer.

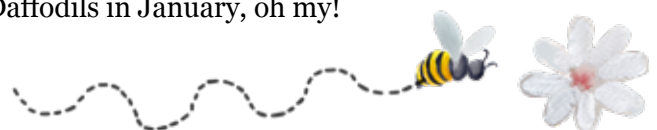
However, this week, temperatures are dropping well below freezing which is concerning. Blossoms are exceptionally tender and most cannot handle such cold. They could die, which will end any pollen and nectar flow the bees have been collecting. If you have worked your colonies lately, then you have probably noticed they have been bringing in loads of pollen; this triggers the queen to go into overdrive and begin laying 100s to 1000s of eggs each day. Once these eggs hatch, they need to be fed. Overwintered honey stores become depleted quickly and any nectar coming in is usually consumed. This is a critical time for our bees since they may be relying solely on what they have been bringing in these past few weeks. If that flow stops, and there is no food, they will starve.

As we've been inspecting colonies we're finding numerous frames of capped brood, and healthy populations of workers, which is great! We are also seeing minimal to no food stores which is not great! We pay close attention to food stores this time of year, and so should you. If your colony is shy on stores, then you need to start feeding, otherwise they will starve – which is one thing we can absolutely, hands down, prevent from happening. And please, don't get caught up in the rhetoric that

claims "if you feed your bees, they will become dependent and lazy, and stop foraging, and become welfare bees." This is absolutely ridiculous! If you've ever fed bees before and a nectar flow started, they immediately ignore the sugar syrup and switch to the nutritious and yummy natural nectar.

There are many reasons why bees may not have enough food stored, most of which

has nothing to do with the bees, their genetic makeup, being lazy, or otherwise. More likely, it has everything to do with poor location, extracting too much honey, badly timed swarms, improper management, too much or not enough rain and this rollercoaster, ever changing weather. With all the issues our bees face today, (diseases, pesticides, mites, lions and tigers and bears), the one thing we can make sure of is that they don't have to face starvation! If you're at all in doubt whether or not your girls (and boys) have enough food, go ahead and feed. It can't hurt. [Here's a link to an article which goes into more detail about feeding methods](#) and winter hive inspections. Daffodils in January, oh my!



Common Sense Natural Beekeeping

– by Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

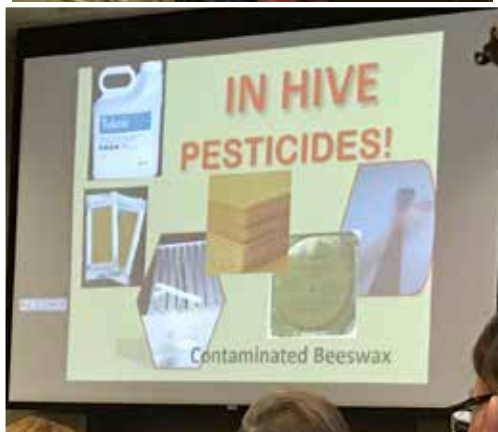
That was the message from Kim Flottum, internationally known beekeeper, author, and editor of *Bee Culture Magazine*. His sessions during the Spring Conference raised the question...what is natural beekeeping. He covered the areas of housing, health, food and management.

His first suggestion, start with better bees and go from there.

Kim volunteered that he thought if he gave this same talk two years ago he would have been drummed out of the conference.

He finds that urban beekeepers are much more receptive to this beekeeping style. When asked about his own honey bee management he said “I aggressively don’t treat.”

After his winter travels to conferences around the country, Kim said his Russian bees will be waiting for him when he gets back to Ohio in May.



Kim Flottum presenting at the GBA Spring Conference.

GBA Artisan Show Best in Show Winner *Sheryl Brousseau*

– by *Sheryl Brousseau*
President, Ridge Beekeepers
Edgefield, SC

I was so excited to win Best in Show for my Artwork Related to Beekeeping entry titled “Pollinator’s Paradise,” and that it was by a unanimous judges’ vote! For many years I have expressed my artistic talent through custom cake design, so it was a no-brainer for me to create a work of art using one of my favorite mediums...modeling chocolate! I used one of the current popular cake decorating techniques, a bas relief method which can be a plain or embossed background combined with a very detailed layering effect, along with my love for making sugar flowers. Most of this piece was hand molded, though I did use a few tools to get the effect I wanted. As a final touch, I brushed on edible gold luster dust to give it a metallic finish. The project took about eight hours to complete.

I also used my cake-decorating skills (mostly patience) in two other pieces that won first place...the beeswax flower entry that I did in honor of my mother who loves yellow roses, and the beeswax sculpture entry I called “Beekeeper’s Flame.”

I entered a total of ten classes. The judges awarded me another first for my poetry entry, a 2nd place, a third place, one very highly commendable, and two highly commendable. I was delighted that my daughter, Rebecca Joye, a first-time exhibitor, received a first place in her cut flower arrangement. I feel so blessed to have received such an honor and the prize money is much appreciated!



My heartfelt thanks go to GBA, to the Welsh honey judges, stewards, secretary, and all who helped with this show.

Sheryl Brousseau is a SC Journeyman Beekeeper. She is President of Ridge Beekeepers Association in Edgefield, SC. She is currently working towards Welsh Honey Judge certification.

The Artist and the Hive

– by Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

Our GBA Spring Conference always has a good selection of bottom boards, bee suits and beekeeping books but the bees bring out the artists too. Karen Boger and her son Wyeth offered conference goers a look at a variety of bee related artwork like velvet covered beeswax soap, handmade jewelry, and unique wraps.

The Bogers work a half a dozen hives and operate their TRI-BEE business outside of Gainesville, Georgia. They use the products of the hive as inspiration for all their work.

Their Raku (Japanese for enjoyment) pottery (*below*) is created with a firing process that uses both heat and smoke.



This Encaustic painting (*above*), also known as “hot wax painting,” was done using a travel iron as the heat source. The process involves heating beeswax and then adding colored pigments.

Karen Boger proudly won first place in the artisan show for her needlecraft (*left*).

The Artisan Show Winners:

– *from Brutz English
Welsh Honey Judge*

CLASS	PLACE	NAME	CLASS	PLACE	NAME	
Beeswax Sculpture	1st	Sheryl Brousseau	Honey Breads	1st	Linda Tillman	
	2nd	Michael Hogue		2nd	Michael Hogue	
	HC	Michael Killingsworth		3rd	Sheryl Brousseau	
Beeswax Flowers	1st	Sheryl Brousseau		HC	Deborah Sasser	
	2nd	Virginia Webb	Confections	1st	Andi Beyer	
	3rd	Lisa Hogue		2nd	Mary Cahill-Roberts	
	VHC	Christy Jones		3rd	Lisa Hogue	
Sweet Meads	1st	Michael Minardi		VHC	Julia Mahood	
	2nd	Michael Hogue	HC	Claire Sirmans		
	3rd	Michael Killingsworth	Condiments	1st	Deborah Sasser	
	VHC	Jack Mandula		2nd	Virginia Webb	
Dry Meads	1st	Michael Minardi		3rd	Andi Beyer	
	2nd	Mary Cahill-Roberts		HC	Michael Hogue	
	3rd	Michael Hogue	C	Mary Cahill-Roberts		
	VHC	William Thacker	Honey Jar Labels	1st	Julia Mahood	
	HC	Karen Mauldin		2nd	Bobby Chaisson	
Braggots, Beers & Ales	1st	Michael Hogue		3rd	Michael Hogue	
	2nd	Andi Beyer		VHC	Deborah Sasser	
	3rd	Jim Williamson	HC	Stephen Jones		
Honey Beverages (alcoholic)	1st	Michael Hogue	C	Rebecca Joye		
	2nd	Michael Minardi	Artwork	1st	Sheryl Brousseau	
	3rd	Jay Parsons		2nd	Julia Mahood	
	VHC	Andi Beyer		Poetry	1st	Sheryl Brousseau
	HC	Dan Long			2nd	Andi Beyer
Honey Beverages (non-alcoholic)	1st	Virginia Webb			3rd	Lisa Hogue
	2nd	Mary Cahill-Roberts	VHC		Stephanie Killingsworth	
	3rd	Michael Hogue	HC	Dan Long		
Honey Cake (traditional recipe)	1st	Michael Hogue	C	Mary Cahill-Roberts		
	2nd	Taffee Oakes	Crafts	1st	Andi Beyer	
	3rd	Dan Long		2nd	Jay Parsons	
	VHC	Linda Tillman		3rd	Eddie Minche	
	HC	Sheryl Brousseau		VHC	Virginia Webb	
Honey Cake (open recipe)	1st	Julia Mahood		C	Lisa Hogue	
	2nd	Sheryl Brousseau	Needlecraft	1st	Karen Booger	
	3rd	Taffee Oakes		2nd	Virginia Webb	
	VHC	Deborah Sasser		3rd	Bobby Chaisson	
	HC	Jay Parsons		VHC	Trish Keller	
	C	Michael Hogue		HC	Linda Tillman	
		C		Pamela Wisecup		

(continued)

The Artisan Show Winners: – (cont'd)

CLASS	PLACE	NAME	CLASS	PLACE	NAME
Notions, Potions & Lotions	1st	Michael Minardi	Electronic Media	1st	Dan Long
	2nd	Patti Parsons		2nd	Bobby Thanepohn
	3rd	Julia Mahood		3rd	Deborah Sasser
	VHC	Andi Beyer		VHC	Michael Hogue
	HC	Deborah Sasser		HC	Sheryl Brousseau
	C	Rebecca Joye			
Gadgets	1st	David Miller	Floral Display	1st	Rebecca Joye
	2nd	Virginia Webb		2nd	Deborah Sasser
	3rd	Bobby Chaisson		3rd	Lisa Hogue
	VHC	Stepnen Jones		VHC	Virginia Webb
	HC	Michale Hogue		HC	Mary Cahill-Roberts
	C	Dan Long			
Photography	1st	Chris Strong	Decorative Display	1st	Lisa Hogue
	2nd	Bobby Thanepohn		2nd	Virginia Webb
	3rd	Michael Hogue		3rd	Mary Cahill-Roberts
	VHC	Deborah Sasser	Childrens' Illustrations	1st	Emily Hogue
	HC	Rebecca Joye			

Best in Show Sheryl Brousseau - Artwork



PRISON PROGRAM CATEGORIES:

Artwork

- 1st – Lee Arrendale State Prison
- 2nd – Lee Arrendale State Prison

Crafts

- 1st – Al Burrus CTI (welding/metalcraft)

Beeswax Sculpture

- 1st – Al Burrus CTI

Poetry

- 1st – Lee Arrendale State Prison
- 2nd – Al Burrus CTI

Honey Cake

- 1st – Jimmy Autry State Prison

Honey Jar Label

- 1st – Lee Arrendale State Prison

Best in Show (Prison Division) –

Al Burrus CTI for Crafts

Judges:

Cindy Hodges, Brutz English, Gail Dean, Barbara Phillips, Marilyn Parker and Kara Bassett

Show Secretaries:

Katie Goodman and Cindy Hayes

Stewards:

Betty Cosgrove, Nancy Simpson, Weyman Cowen, and Josh Wells

GBA 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE



The Swarm
I was out walking in the deep woods this spring
Thinking and just enjoying all the beautiful scenes
My spirit uplifted by the warmth and the green
Tried a magical setting, it seemed
Then I heard the low buzzing of honey bees
In the sunlight streaming through the trees
I suddenly see the sign of thousands of bees
Oh I had come upon a glorious pageant
A magnificent parade with a splat in the lead
Was a perfect hike for the honey bees
But some were leaving nectar to the bees
So I stepped in to join the parade
I heard and among them they do travel and work
I fly to a low buzz and work for the bees
Now we come to build the honeycomb
The fragrances in perfume they are used for
I continued to walk in the woods
Came to a clearing and saw a sign
That the bees had won the award
I continued to walk in the woods
Came to a clearing and saw a sign
That the bees had won the award

GEORGIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
2019 ARTISAN SHOW
1ST PRIZE STATE CHAMPION
Michael Lopez



To all the award winners and participants of the Artisan Show: Thank you for taking part! (And many thanks to our judges, too.)

Materials in Processing



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



When it comes to processing and packaging honey, a little chemistry lesson can save you a lot of trouble. **Bob Binnie** (left) has learned these lessons (sometimes the hard way) by processing millions of pounds of honey at his Blue Ridge Honey Company.

He is sharing this knowledge with *Spilling the Honey* readers so all Georgia beekeepers can process honey successfully.

This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

Honey reacts with most metals

Because of its acidity, honey reacts with steel, iron, aluminum, galvanized metal, copper, tin, and more. Besides producing toxins, this can also affect taste and color. Although some are worse than others, steel and iron are considered especially bad for honey storage because they can rust and ruin honey. At least two exceptions to all this are silver and gold, but because we will probably not be manufacturing storage tanks out of silver or gold any time soon, I recommend food grade stainless steel as the next best, practical choice.

When using plastic in honey processing and storage, only food grade will do because other plastics can release excessive toxins. When bottling with plastic, polyethylene terephthalate (say that three times fast), better known as PETE plastic, is considered one of the best choices. PETE is clear and can be identified as having a number one in the triangle on the bottom of the container.

High-density polyethylene, also known as HDPE plastic, is also commonly used and can be identified with a number two in the triangle.

In my opinion, glass is better than plastic for food, or anything else we ingest, but because plastic will al-

most always outsell glass when sitting side by side in a grocery store it's hard not to offer it. We offer both and let the customer decide.

Also worth knowing is that crystallized honey has a greater chance of fermenting than liquid. Not all of the sugars in honey will crystallize and the one that does (dextrose) has a lower solubility than the others. As it crystallizes, it will

leave water behind thereby increasing the moisture content in the rest of the honey.

Numerous times I have had honey with borderline moisture content remain unfermented for some time only to have it ferment after crystallizing.



Bob Binnie's honey processing equipment at Blue Ridge Honey Company in Lakemont, GA.

Are you looking for a captive audience?



– by **Julia Mahood, Master Beekeeper**
GBA Prison Program Committee Chair

My husband gets a kick out of saying “Are you going to prison tomorrow?” especially in front of other people. That’s because I’ve been volunteering at Lee Arrendale State Prison teaching beekeeping for several years now, and aside from providing marital laughs, the endeavor has been incredibly rewarding.

I’d like to invite you to be a guest speaker to a prison class. There are programs at Lee Arrendale in Alto (the only women’s program), Dooly State Prison in Unadilla, Ware State Prison in Waycross, Al Burriss CTI in Monroe, Autry State Prison in Pelham, Hancock State Prison in Sparta and Rutledge State Prison. In addition to being a fun and eye-opening experience, you will never meet a more grateful and receptive audience. Aside from the feeling of appreciation you’ll get, there’s more: Keith Delaplane has made speaking to a prison beekeeping program a public service credit for those working towards their certification levels. In order to speak at a prison class the only hoop you have to jump through is to fill out a simple background check form. All the facilities have a projector available, so you can bring a powerpoint presentation if you like.

The program at Dooly in Unadilla, GA is especially in need of speakers. They have a staff person running the weekly class, and have a really strong program that is several years old. They meet on Wednesday mornings and have asked GBA for speakers.

If you’re interested in spending an inspiring morning behind bars, send me an [email at julia@mahood-studio.com](mailto:julia@mahood-studio.com). You won’t regret it!

YOUNG HARRIS!

Don’t forget to be ready for this year’s **Young Harris Beekeeping Institute**. The dates are **May 22 - 25 2019**. Registration opens the first part of March. *(Soon!)*

THE BUZZ IS GETTING LOUDER



GBA uses the Buzz Fund to support research and education in the beekeeping community.

Thanks to the Clark’s Hill Beekeepers, the fund has a thousand dollars more to grant to individuals, institutions, and organizations that have plans to make a positive impact on beekeeping and honey bees. Thank you Clark’s Hill Beekeepers for your donation at the GBA Spring Conference. If you know of a Buzz Fund project, [apply here](#).



THE IMPORTANCE OF NETWORKING

– by *Linda Tillman*

Clubs grow in many ways from sharing knowledge and information with other clubs. Two great ways to accomplish this through GBA are good use of the director system and participation in the President's Breakfast at the two conferences.



At this spring's President's Breakfast, among other topics, we shared information about good speakers and program ideas. While this is something that happens at every presidents' breakfast, sharing those ideas with other clubs is a way of helping with programming.

We sat in director's groups - and each group of nearby clubs could then find out about speakers local to the club. If Joe S. in one club is a good speaker and could easily be a speaker for a different club because the drive isn't that long (in the same director's group), then Joe is a good name to share among the clubs in that director's group. Or if a club asked a good speaker but couldn't fund that speaker on their own, perhaps a shared meeting in the director's group area would allow both clubs to participate with a sharing of the speaker's fee. These networking resources are invaluable.



Every time the President's Breakfast happens, the disparity between how some clubs earn funds compared to others is marked. Many clubs make money putting on short courses, for example. Others only have monthly raffles as a way of bringing in funds. If yours is a small club without much funding, consider connecting with another club in your director group to put on a short course together so the wealth could be shared.

If you'd like to read a summary of the overall discussions at the President's Breakfast, [click here to read our secretary, Derrick Fowler's, summary.](#)

CLUB NEWS

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

ABA presented its annual one-day beginning beekeeping class: Introduction to Honey Bees and Beekeeping. The February 23rd class was held in Jasper Georgia.

We had a good turnout for the classroom portion on Saturday. It provided a full day of basic beekeeping information trying not to overwhelm them with too many versions of the same practices. We use one of Dr. Keith Delaplaine's YouTube videos from 1993 that provides great basic info with a little humor due to the age of the video.

The photo below is from the follow-up hands-on field day on Sunday at our club apiary at Talking Rock Nature Preserve. We were very fortunate to have sunny, moderate weather. It was a great day for inspecting, lighting a smoker, finding the queen, frame manipulation and answering a lot of questions.



Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

Last month Steve Esau spoke to our club about "Successful Splits." Who knew there were so many ways to increase your bee population and attempt to avoid swarming during the upcoming swarm season? His presentation had great illustrations about the before and after of hive manipulation. Steve is a great presenter and everyone enjoyed his talk.

At our March 12th meeting, Keith Fielder will speak about "Things Beekeepers Do Wrong and What We Can Do Different." Keith is always an engaging speaker and freely shares his views and experiences. We love to have him come to our club!

Our Bee School is just around the corner on March 16th. We are still recruiting students and rely heavily on social media and word of mouth. We have recruited new members to speak, help with setup, arranging displays and door prizes.

We meet at the Hebron Baptist Church, Modular G, Dacula starting at 7:00 pm.

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc.

Steve Page from the Coweta County Bee Association spoke at the Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers February meeting. He talked about winter management for a spring honey harvest. It was very informative and helpful. Steve says "a big brood nest equals a big honey harvest." Management here begins the end of January and goes through to April first.

Then CVBA Spring 2019 Bee Course started Saturday, February 23rd with twenty-two participants. The first meeting introduced students to beekeeping equipment, clothing, and tools. They also had the chance to see the inside of a hive at the Oxbow Meadows bee yard. The class continues for the next five Saturdays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

The next CVBA meeting will be an open discussion on March 11th at the UGA Cooperative Extension Service Office (420 10th Street, Columbus, Georgia).

Next meeting of the CVBA is February 1 at 6 pm at Oxbow Meadows ELC. Program to be announced.



Chattooga Beekeepers

These very special people are new beekeepers! Chattooga Beekeeper Class 2019.



Photo by: Carolyn Rolan

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Coweta Beekeepers Association

The Introduction to Beekeeping Course on January 26th was a HUGE SUCCESS with 63 participants!!! It was a wonderful day of fellowship, good food and a lot of education! Thank you to Bobby Torbush for coordinating the course again this year. Thank you to all the presenters – Kara Bassett, Andy Anderson, Dan Scales, Marilynn Parker, Dave King, Griff Jones, Bobby Torbush, and Steve Page. The course would not have been a success without all the volunteers – Lauren Mitchell, Phil Mitchell, Mike Dixon, Newt Morris, Everett Latimore, Jim Picciola, Rob Sheffield, Allen Head, and Kathy Netherland.

To our 63 NEW members, Congratulations and Welcome. Your beekeeping journey has just begun. Spend your first year learning everything you can about honey bees, learn the language, trust yourself, watch and enjoy your bees. Beekeeping is a process. You will learn as you go and not everything you try will work!

Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association



We were very happy to have Dr Keith Delaplane (left) at our meeting in February. He talked about current and upcoming research at the UGA Bee Lab. It's always great to hear what's going on and his

speaking style is easy and entertaining, even when discussing some pretty technical things!

Lake Country Beekeepers

Bruce Morgan opens up his apiary and his hives during an OPEN HOUSE for the Lake Country Beekeepers. The open house will take place on Saturday, March 16th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. at The Hives at Morgan Apiaries (196 WJ Archer Rd. Sparta, Ga.)

LAKE COUNTRY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2019 BEEKEEPING OPEN HOUSE
Morgan Apiaries
196 WJ Archer Road (5 miles south of Sparta on HWY 15)
SPARTA, GA

Saturday, March 16, 2019
9:00 am till 2:00 pm
Lunch included.

Hands on experience in the hive:
*** bring your bee veil, long shirt & pants, and gloves
identifying queens, worker bees, and drones
locating honey and pollen
stages of brood development
how to install a package of bees
how to introduce and release a new queen
lighting and keeping a smoker lit
handling various parts of the hive
trying assorted beekeeping equipment
and beeing with your bee-friends!

For more information:
Call Bruce Morgan 478.357.4029 or Mary Lacken 478.456.1049



Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.

LHBA club members came together to put together a great gathering. The February 23rd, 2019 Beekeeping Short Course offered students top notch presentations, workshops, gift bags, good food and take home material.

Linda Tillman, Julia Mahood and Bobby Chaisson joined LHBA club members Harold Lanier, Randall Kerlin, Steve Jones, Webb Smathers, Kathy Bourn, and Tom Atkins in sharing their beekeeping experience.



(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Mountain Beekeepers Association

We are having a beekeeper field day in Blairsville, Georgia on Saturday, March 23rd. We're looking for a crowd from north Georgia. Contact MBA president Glen Henderson at 706-745-1840. abletinker@windstream.net



BEEKEEPERS' FIELD DAY
SATURDAY 23 MARCH 2019
COME ONE, COME ALL

If you are interested in Honey bees!
If you want to start raising Honey bees!
If you want to learn more about Honey bees!
If you just want to meet local beekeepers to know where to buy your honey?

Drop in
Blairsville Farmers' Market
Registration: 8-9 AM
Round Robin Seminars (questions & answers)
End up at 4 PM

If you can't stay all day DROP IN

The Beehive	Making Wood Hive	Locate Apiary
Install Package	Seasonal Mangmnt	Frame Mangmnt
Varroa Mite	Queen Finding	Swarm Catching

Northeast Georgia Mountain Beekeepers Assoc.

We have arranged for a lecture, open to all beekeepers, by Dr.

Jamie Ellis. Tickets are only \$5 and can be obtained by sending a check made out to Northeast Georgia Mountain



Jamie Ellis

**"Why are bees dying?
and What can I do
about it?"**

April 11, 2019 7:00 PM

Habersham Electric Membership Corp
6135 State Hwy. 115W, Clarksville GA

Beekeepers Association or NEGMBA. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to:

NEGMBA
c/o Katie Goodman
3864 Nub Garland

Road
Toccoa, GA 30577

"Congratulations to all that entered. I am amazed at all the talent we have out there. It's all so beautiful." says Michael Minardi, who won first place awards in the GBA Artisan Show.



Oglethorpe County Bee Club

Dan Long took a beekeeping trip to Scotland last year and shared what he'd learned with the Oglethorpe County Bee Club at our February 18th meeting.

Dan talked about the many subtle differences between beekeeping in the United States and the British Isles, like the physical differences between our Langstroth and their National and WBC hives. His story about coming through

US customs with multiple pounds of honey was humorous, while also enlightening.



At our upcoming March 18, 2019 meeting, Cory Momany will be the speaker giving a talk titled "The Art of Swarm Control."

Tara Beekeepers

At the February meeting of the Tara Beekeepers Association, Ken Zinkand, a beekeeper and member of The Mushroom Club of GA spoke on mushrooms and their effect on the immune systems of honeybees and humans.



Todd Pittard of 2FunGuys.com was also on hand to display his wares and talk about growing your own mushrooms



Join us on March 18th at 7:00 pm at 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA to hear Lewis Bartlett speak on "Varroa, Viruses, and What Makes an Enemy Dangerous."

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

On Monday, March 25th, our guest speaker will be Mary Cahill-Roberts. She will be speaking to the club about "Inspecting Your Hives."

David Kelton, owner of Lookout Mountain Honey Bees in Gadsden, Alabama will be our speaker on April 22nd. He will be talking to the club about commercial beekeeping and some of his beekeeping experiences. We meet every fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA, 30134. The mentoring session starts at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7pm. Hope to see you there.

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday 6:00pm	Monday, March 4		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday 6:30pm	Tuesday, March 19		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, March 14	Dan Long, Master Beekeeper: observation hives	wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 28		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 19		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 12	Keith Fielder, "Things Beekeepers Do Wrong" and "What We Can Do Differently"	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 11		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday 6:00pm	Thursday, March 14		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday 7:45pm	Wednesday, March 20		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday 6:00pm	Monday, March 11		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 40 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 12		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	1st Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pky, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday 7:00pm	No monthly meeting in March - field trip instead	Spring Field Trip – Josh Briggs; date TBD	spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months 7:00pm			tnorman@augustaga.gov	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday 6:30pm	Monday, March 11		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 11	Bob Binnie, Why we need nucs and how we make them	danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	1400 Parker Rd SE, Conyers, GA 30094	4th Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 26		thezechmans@yahoo.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 4	Dr Lewis Bartlett, Honey Bees and Pesticide Exposure	danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 14		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 28	Q&A with panel of experts	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 19		Jonathan.Hayes@cox.net	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 12		hartfieldmonty@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 21	Keith Fielder, UGA Extension Coordinator & Beekeeper	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

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Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	New Location: Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 7	Jim Alexander of Harden Hill Honey: Jim will share his tips on spring splits; the "Jim Alexander Method".	lakehartwellbeekeepers@gmail.com	Franklin
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday 6:30pm	Tuesday, March 26		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday 6:00pm	Thursday, March 7		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 19	Dr. Jennifer Leavey from Georgia Tech	julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, March 12		abletinker@windstream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 14	Carl Webb; history of beekeeping in NE Georgia and how the NEGA Beekeepers Association got its start.	officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 11		ardisroger@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday 5:00pm	Thursday, March 28		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 18	Cory Momany; "The Art of Swarm Control"	joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 11		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday 7pm	Thursday, March 14	Lisa McNamara; honey recipes and honey cake	polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, March 21	TBA	potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, March 14		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday 7pm	Monday, March 18	Lewis Bartlett, Varroa, Viruses, and What Makes an Enemy Dangerous	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 5		threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, March 11	Steve Easu; Making Splits	info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 19		tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday 7pm	Monday, March 18		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday 6:15pm	Monday, March 11		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, March 19		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday 6:30pm	Monday, March 25	Mary Cahill-Roberts; Hive inspection	2nparker@bellsouth.net	Douglas



Spilling *The* Honey

MAY 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is enjoying bees and beekeeping as this spring and bee season are well underway. A couple of economic issues are about to be at GBA's doorstep and I wanted to inform you about both of them.

First, **GBA will be switching to a new billing system for dues.** We have a relationship with Wild Apricot, a membership management software that runs our events, keeps up with our members' dues payments, and sends out our emails and newsletters to our members. Since we began using Wild Apricot in 2015, we have used PayPal (through Wild Apricot) to handle our financial transactions by managing our members' credit card payments for dues and events.

Wild Apricot has now introduced their own payment system, beginning in July, 2019, for handling dues and event payments. It will be less expensive for us to use the Wild Apricot system than to continue with PayPal. The new Wild Apricot system is very secure and operates at the top PCI compliance level of Internet security, so it is just as safe as using PayPal.

How will this change affect you?

If you have enrolled in automatic renewal, you will need to change to the Wild Apricot system. We will be sending you an email to let you know specifically what you will need to do. When your renewal comes up, it will not happen automatically. Instead you will get an email letting you know that your membership is up for renewal. The email will also instruct you how to enter your payment information into Wild Apricot's financial system. Going forward you can set up automatic renewal with Wild Apricot (as I plan to do), but the first renewal after we switch over will require your entering your information.

The license plate software at the state is finally about to be up and running!

We are proud to report that the license plate software at long last is about to get going and allow our beautiful honey bee plate to be issued to individual vehicle owners. We don't have the details yet, but wanted you to know that it is finally about to happen!

GBA is putting up an initial investment of \$25,000 to pay for the manufacture of the first 1,000 plates. Until we make our \$25,000 back, all plates will need to be purchased through GBA. You'll purchase your plate on our website and will have a receipt issued that you can print and take to the license office to get your honey bee plate.

The charges for the plate are below:

Cost Breakdown for Proposed GBA Specialty License Plate

	Year 1	Year 2 +
One Time Manufacturing Fee	\$25	0
Annual Specialty Tag Fee	\$35	\$35
GA Required Annual Registration Fee (Must be paid every year for both specialty and non specialty plates)	\$20	\$20

How the fees are distributed:
The \$35 Annual Specialty tag fee will be split as follows: \$22 to GBA - \$13 to the State of Georgia.
 The first 1,000 Manufacturing Fees (\$25) will go to GBA to reimburse the \$25,000 Manufacturing Fee to be paid to the DOR. After the first 1,000 plates are sold, the \$25 Manufacturing Fee will go directly to the state. **GBA will only be reimbursed the \$25 Manufacturing Fee for plates sold through GBA.**

Bee Well,

Linda T

HONEY BEE LICENSE PLATE

UPDATE

– by Gail Dean and the
GBA Legislative Committee

The GBA Legislative Committee is happy to report that we are in constant discussions with the Georgia Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Division, regarding our specialty license plate. According to DOR staff, the legislative bill to approve our license plate was the fastest ever approved in state history...but ironically production has been delayed for a year.

The GA Department of Revenue anticipates the launch of their “Drives” software program (updating the driver’s license and motor vehicle tag departments) on May 27th. After this date, the process of their internal programming, manufacturing the plates and setting GBA up with the ability to take manufacturing fee deposits and issue receipts will commence.

Of course, the major question remains, how long will this take and when can our license plate go public? The answer is...we are not sure yet. The anticipated date is June or July, but understand that the timing is in the state’s control. GBA will be the first organization to go through the new process.

Here are some answers to questions that have been posted.

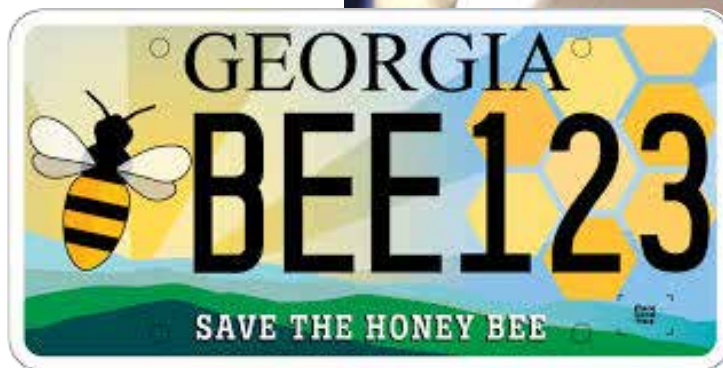
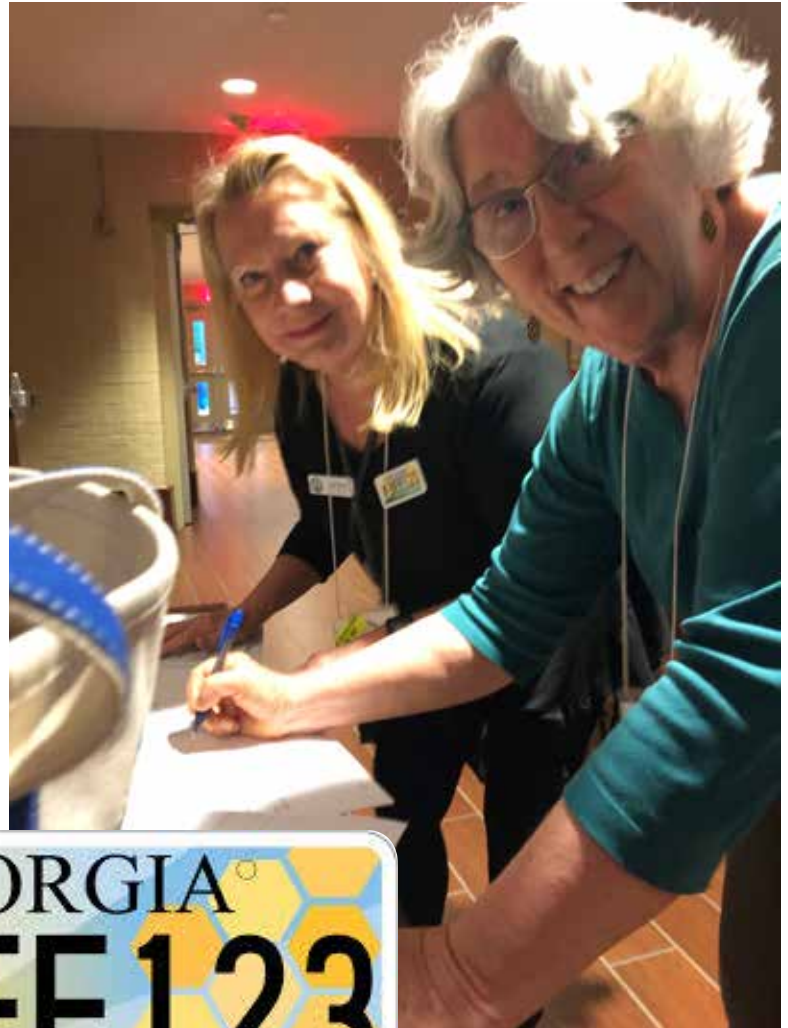
Q: How much will the plates cost?

A: There is a one time \$25 manufacturing fee that will be collected by GBA. Annually there will be a \$35 specialty plate fee, paid when you purchase and renew your plate.

Q: How will GBA benefit?

A: Of the \$35 annual specialty fee, \$22 will go to GBA for programs, grants, etc. That’s 63%!

Q: Can I purchase my tag even though it is not by birthday?



A: We understand that the answer here is yes and that your \$20 annual registration fee will be credited.

Please register on the GBA website gabeeking.com for updates. If you have questions, feel free to email me directly at gailjdean@gmail.com



Collegiate Bees



– by Paul Cerpovicz
*Ogeechee Area Beekeepers Assoc.
& Coastal Empire Beekeepers Assoc.*

The Bobcat Apiary at East Georgia State College located in Swainsboro, Georgia, is a bit more crowded after catching this large swarm that came from one of its beehives on April 16! The bees were seen emerging in a dense cloud from one of the apiary hives by Anita Cerpovicz, a four-year biology student who also has some beekeeping experience. After watching to see where the swarm landed, she quickly came to get me out of class (For some reason, my students did not seem to mind!) and together we collected the honey bees.



East Georgia State College (EGSC) established an apiary on its main campus in Swainsboro in 2015. In 2016, EGSC became a Bee Campus USA affiliate and has committed itself to honey bee education and the promotion of pollinator-awareness to the community. Using an observation hive, the campus bees have visited many local schools, civic groups, and community events. It is wonderful to

see how well the campus and the community has embraced the apiary and its honey bees. Several swarms have occurred on campus in the past year and, instead of mass “panic”, the students, faculty, and staff have watched each one

in amazement and many have helped in catching the swarms! Having the honey bees on campus has definitely changed the outlook of the campus! For more information on the Bobcat Apiary, EGSC’s Bee Campus USA activities, and to view the college’s honey bees on a 24/7 Bee Cam, please go to <http://www.ega.edu/bobcat-apiary>.

Honey Bee Festival



Honey Bees come together to support their entire colony. The folks in LaFayette Georgia come together each year to celebrate the honey bee and support their community. The City of LaFayette Honeybee Festival is a celebration of all things honey bee. On Saturday, June 1st, the northeast Georgia town focuses on their favorite insect with this free event.

“The City of LaFayette works to bring attention to the importance of preserving the honeybee population. We also see the importance of the honeybee population as a parallel to preserving the life of our own community”



Free musical entertainment is a big part of the day long event, with many top local groups performing. Other activities include a kid's zone, pageant, and a “Cruise In” of antique tractors. There are competitions for baking, BBQ, and of course honey. To enter go to www.myhoneybeefestival.com



Beekeeper of the Year



It's time to nominate outstanding members of your beekeeping community for the Beekeeper of the Year award.

The GBA Beekeeper of the Year is a GBA member who has not only demonstrated and promoted good beekeeping, but who is also an outstanding volunteer. Traditionally, past Beekeepers of the Year are not awarded the honor again. Past recipients are [listed on the GBA website](#).

The nominated beekeepers will be evaluated based on what is written about them on the nominating forms. **It's not a matter of how many nominations come in for that person, but of the qualities of that person as described by those who submit the forms.** So it's important to do your best to tell the committee why you think this person deserves the award.

To nominate someone, fill out this form [by clicking here](#).

It's important to know that **both the person filling out the form and the person being nominated have to be current GBA members.**

This year's committee is composed of members from different quadrants of the state:

Julia Mahood, Chair

Bill Norris

Bob Binnie

Steve Esau

Steve Nofs



Last year's winner of the Beekeeper of the Year award: Julia Mahood, with Sophia Price (left) and Bobby Chaisson.

The committee will first ensure that all nominations are eligible. Then after July 15, when nominations close, they will select three people as finalists, *based on what is written about them.* The GBA board of directors will then vote by secret ballot to select the Beekeeper of the Year.

We encourage you to honor your members by nominating them. All nominated beekeepers will be informed that they were nominated, so even if not selected for the award, it's a nice way to honor those you respect and admire. The committee is looking forward to learning about outstanding members of our community from across the state.



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here](#) to fill out a simple form.

Dr. Jamie Ellis



Dr. Jamie Ellis began at the University of Florida Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory in 2006. Since then beekeepers from across the southeast and around the world have had the opportunity to hear him speak about his favorite insect. Even on his spring break with his wife and four children to the Northeast Georgia mountains, he takes the time to help beekeepers. On April 11th, the Northeast Georgia Mountain Beekeepers provided a chance to hear Dr. Ellis' talk: "Why are bees dying and what can you do about it?"

He spoke about the problems all beekeepers face but offered sources for solutions. Here are just a few:

The University of Florida Honey Bee Lab
<https://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/honey-bee/>

The University of Georgia Honey Bee Lab
<http://georgiaforages.caes.uga.edu/content/caes-subsite/honey-bee-program.html>

Bee Informed Partnership
<https://beeinformed.org/>

eXtension - bee health page
https://articles.extension.org/bee_health

Honey Bee Health Coalition
<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

Beemd
<http://www.thebeemd.com/>

Six Questions for Dr. Jamie Ellis

1) **What is the general reaction from the public when they find out what you do for a living?**

- People are curious about what I do. Most people are aware of the press surrounding colony losses.



Thus, most people ask me "what is happening to our honey bees" when they find out I am a bee scientist.

2) **What's your short answer when a non-beekeeper asks you what they need to know about Africanized Honey Bees?**

- I mention that African honey bees are the same species of honey bee that beekeepers keep. I note that they are only a different race of honey bee. They pollinate and produce honey, just like the bees we keep. That said, I share that these bees are very defensive and can pose a safety risk to humans and animals. This last idea has shaped many of the policies we have adopted regarding this bee in Florida. For example, we tell people that feral colonies of honey bees nesting close to areas where humans and animals frequent should be removed by trained, registered beekeepers or eradicated by pest control operators.

(continued on next page)

Dr. Jamie Ellis – (cont'd)

3) What is your favorite speaking topic and why?

- I much prefer to speak about honey bee biology. First, honey bee biology is fascinating to me. I never get tired of teaching it. Second, most beekeepers (from hobbyist to commercial beekeepers) are familiar with beekeeping topics, but seem to know considerably less about the biology of the honey bee. Consequently, it is fun for me to introduce beekeepers to the biology of honey bees as it usually overwhelms them with how amazing a creature the honey bee is. Finally, this topic really allows me to cover a broad range of subtopics. For example, I can chat about anatomy/physiology, honey bee behavior, nest architecture, mating biology, superorganisms, etc., all under the umbrella of “biology”. This, then, keeps me from getting bored as an instructor.



4) What do you think the best strategy is for recruiting and keeping beekeepers or at least people who care about honey bees?

- I believe that education is the key. It seems easy to recruit new beekeepers these days. People are falling over themselves in an effort to practice the craft. Retention is the more difficult part. In my experience, most people get out of beekeep-

ing when they fail to keep their bees alive. I think the primary issue here is that they were not prepared for what it takes to manage a colony. This, then, boils down to education and practice. They failed to recognize a problem for what it was and subsequently failed to remedy it appropriately. Managing a colony does not have to be difficult. However, people need to know what to do and have the confidence to do it. Proper education can address both of these issues.

5) What do honey bees contribute to your life besides a career?

- I have been a beekeeper since I was 12. Thus, honey bees have been a part of my life for a long time now (29 years). I enjoy the diversity of experiences one can have when keeping bees. You get to be a plant ecologist, a carpenter, a veterinarian, a farmer, an artist, etc. I also get intellectual satisfaction from keeping bees. They are a fascinating subject to me, never ceasing to amaze me by what they do. Furthermore, beekeeping has given me and my wife/children many opportunities. We travel the world because of my work with honey bees. It really is amazing where I find myself and what I find myself doing as a result of my work with honey bees.

6) What's the story with the bow tie?

- Faculty (professors) have a promotion scheme. We are hired as assistant professors. In five-to-seven years, we can be promoted to associate professor with tenure. In another five-to-seven years, we are eligible for promotion to full professor. None of these promotions are guaranteed. I always told my lab that they would know when I received promotion to full professor because I would wear a bow tie the day I knew. My lab recently took a picture of me on that day and posted the pic to our social media pages.

Wednesday - Saturday, May 22 - 25

2019 YOUNG HARRIS BEEKEEPING INSTITUTE

– by *Jennifer Berry*
UGA Bee Lab

The UGA Honey Bee Program offers an annual Georgia beekeeping event in cooperation with Young Harris College. This event provides a vast amount of information in the form of lectures, workshops and demonstrations from esteemed local, regional, national and international beekeeping practitioners, authors, and researchers. The event also features hands-on training classes, beekeeping and honey judging certification programs, a distinguished regional honey show, and many other educational opportunities. Since 1992, the University of Georgia and Young Harris Beekeeping Institute (YHBI) has been the single most comprehensive opportunity in the Southeast for concentrated training in all aspects of practical beekeeping.

experienced beekeepers.

- Guest speakers hailing from UK and USA
- 26 instructors with wide range of experience in science and application
- Something for everyone - from brand new beginner to commercial beekeeper
- Cash prizes reinstated for Honey Show
- REDUCED FEES from last year - thanks to cost savings that we can pass along
- 39 topical classes to choose from alongside the optional Master beekeeper and Welsh honey judge programs

Take a look at the program [here](#).



Registration for the 2019 Beekeeping Institute is now open, <http://bees.caes.uga.edu/yhc-uga-beekeeping-institute.html>

Our special guest instructors will include:

Dr. Francis Ratnieks, University of Sussex

Dr. David Tarpy, North Carolina State University

Dr. Wyatt Mangum, University of Mary Washington

Dr. Lewis Bartlett, Emory University

“It’s my goal to bring the best beekeeping science and practice in the world to the hills of north Georgia” -
Dr. Keith Delaplane

Held on the beautiful campus of Young Harris College, situated in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Beekeeping Institute is a four-day event with separate curricula for beginners and more

Please contact Bear and Marybeth Kelley, the Bee Institute Registrars, at greenabaco@gmail.com or (229) 322-5025 if you have any questions. Come join the fun!



Moisture in Honey



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



While giving tours of his Blue Ridge Honey Co. operation in Lakemont Georgia, Bob Binnie shares all he has learned about honey. In a series of writings for *Spilling the Honey*, he sheds light on the science behind our favorite sweetener.

This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

Although moisture may not be a big issue in arid areas like the southwest, moisture can be in high humidity, higher rainfall areas such as the east and southeast. Having a high moisture content in honey lowers quality and leads to fermentation. It's actually easy to affect the moisture level in honey. Moisture in honey all revolves around a few basic facts.

Honey is hygroscopic, which means it will absorb moisture from a high humidity environment. It's

also hydrophilic, which means it will release moisture when there is low humidity. There is always a point where the moisture level in honey will balance out with the humidity level it is exposed to and that honey will cease to gain or lose water. For example, given enough time, honey that is exposed to air with a 60% humidity level will balance out with it at about 18.3% moisture content. This is not a bad place to be. Most honey will not ferment at this level although some honey there are some that will. When exposed to 50% humidity, the moisture content in honey will lower to about 15.9%. This is a better place to be because no honey will ferment at this level and because it will have a thicker body, more character, and richer flavor. When continually exposed to 80% humidity, the moisture content in honey will eventually rise to 33.1%. No, that's not a typo. Unless pasteurized, honey with a moisture content that high will create enough pressure from fermentation to bend a metal jar lid into a dome if the seal holds or create a heck of a mess from leakage or both.

Honey bees try to keep their hive between 50% and 60% humidity for good reason.

Transporting, storing, uncapping, extracting, and the general handling of honey in a high humidity environment will absolutely add moisture to your honey. Doing the same in low humidity will have the opposite effect. A high

(continued on next page)



*Fermented honey (left).
A hygrometer,
to measure
humidity
(below).*



Moisture in Honey – (cont'd)

quality hygrometer, which measures humidity, can be a good thing to have in a honey house. Cheap humidity gauges are usually inaccurate.

If you need to remove moisture from honey, it's helpful to understand that honey has a very poor diffusion rate. If, for example, you were to use a fan to blow warm air across the top of a drum of thin honey only the top layer would dry because the effect will not migrate very far.

For most of us, unless you have a commercial honey dryer, it's best to remove moisture before extracting.

Honey supers can be placed in a warm, low humidity drying room which allows for a much greater surface area to be affected by warm, dry, moving air.

When removing moisture it is helpful to know that by simply raising the temperature in a given space, the relative humidity level will drop thereby increasing the drying effect.

If this is puzzling, remember that relative humidity is the amount of water vapor the air is holding compared to what it could hold if totally saturated at 100%. By increasing the temperature the amount of water vapor air can hold increases, so the relative humidity level, or current saturation level, goes down. This, along with the use of a dehumidifier and fans, can create a good, dry, low humidity environment for drying honey. Also, warm honey is easier to extract.

In our drying room at Blue Ridge Honey Co. we use two commercial dehumidifiers that run 24/7 during



Bob Binnie (above right) gives a tour of his Blue Ridge Honey facility in Lakemont, Georgia.

extracting season. Along with keeping the temperature 85 to 90°F, this keeps the humidity level well below 30% even when it is as high as 100% outside. We move this air through the stacks of supers with industrial fans mounted on the ceiling and by doing so see a notable decrease in moisture content in just a few days. Although, contrary to popular belief, moisture can and does migrate through wax cappings, we try to harvest our honey supers with a small amount of comb still uncapped to achieve a quicker and greater overall moisture reduction. If you don't have a refractometer for measuring moisture in honey you should get one. You may be surprised by what you find.



Rustic Honey Cake!



Ingredients:

- 1/2 C. Butter, Softened
- 1 C. Honey
- 2 Large Eggs
- 1/2 C. Plain Yogurt or Sour Cream
- 1 t. Vanilla Extract
- 2 C. All Purpose Flour
- 2 t. Baking Soda
- 1/2 t. Salt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9 inch round cake pan.

Beat butter and honey until blended. Add eggs and beat well. Beat in yogurt (or sour cream) and vanilla. Whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt. Slowly add to butter mixture and beat just until incorporated. Transfer to prepared pan. Bake just until toothpick comes out clean, about 30 to 35 minutes.

May be cooled and served in the pan, or turned out after cooling about 10 minutes. Tastes best and is more moist if wrapped well and served the next day. Freezes well.

This cake does not need frosting, but if you need some, this is a good one:

Beat together 8 oz. of softened cream cheese, 1 t. vanilla extract, 1 t. almond extract and 1/4 C. honey. Spread on cake after cooling.



Save the Date

**The GBA Fall 2019 Conference
September 26-28**

at

Lanier Tech / Forsyth Conference Center

Cumming GA

Tanked Bees

– by Kathleen Bourn
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

No, they're not drunk...they're in a tank. Lee Adams in Hart County came across a bee removal challenge that he needed some opinions about. As we all know, beekeepers are never short on opinions. Here is some of the conversation:

3/27/19 From Lee:

I have one for ya. I received a call from my mom today. She said they were cleaning up near her house and found some honey bees they said were “swarming”.



When I get there I find out they are actually inside this old beat up tank. It looks like a large old well pressure tank. They were coming out of the one inch threaded hole at one end.

I was able to pick it up and put it in the back of my truck and move it away from where they were doing clean up work. I placed a deep brood hive in front of it with some sugar water for now. I need to figure out how to cut open this tank and get the bees out and into my hive.

Any ideas?

From Kevin:

That's a tough one. You might catch a swarm that comes out of it in the hive box you set down but the original colony will likely remain in the tank and requeen. The only thing I can think of would be to cut the end of the tank off opposite from the opening with a side grinder and remove the colony. You'll need to take the comb out and fit it into empty frames to hive them. I don't really know that it's worth that much trouble. Personally, I would just set the tank up somewhere and enjoy watching them come and go.

From Kathy:

You can try a “trap out” by putting a screen cone (#8 hardware cloth) around the hole. The opening at the end of the cone should only be as big as a bee. This way the bees can leave but they can't get back in. This doesn't always work and it still won't get you the queen and the nurse bees because they won't leave the brood.



I'd try attaching a tube or pipe to the threaded entrance with the other end going into the back of a hive body with some old drawn comb in it. This way they have to go through the box to get outside.

(continued)

Tanked Bees – (cont'd)

Then cut the other end of the tank off. That way when the cutting starts the bees have somewhere to go and you can get to the comb and hopefully the queen. It's a lot of trouble but would be interesting to try.

From Drew:

I've seen where people will take a hive box and place it above the container that holds the colony and let them move up into the box over time as bees tend to move up if they have space. I'm not sure how the colony is oriented in the tank but you might be able to drill a hole a couple of inches and then position a hive box over the opening and hope they move into the box in time. Still not an easy or quick solution but something to consider; regardless, you need to take lots of pictures; you have an unusual situation!

4/1/19 Lee:

There are two threaded outlets and the plastic 1/2" or 3/4" pvc will not work. One is slightly too small the other is too big. Duck tape solved the problem. I sealed up any holes, put the 1/2" pvc insert in and positioned it on the landing of the bottom board. I'm going to give it a week for them to get used to this and then add the screen cone on the end of the pipe

Kathy:

You might turn the hive around and put the pipe through the back of the hive, pointing the entrance of the hive away from the tank. This forces them to go through the hive to exit/enter.

4/8/19 Lee:

I came up on the hive last night and they were all out on the ground. So I suited up, grabbed my smoker and I happen to have a queen catcher and went over there in hopes of trying to find her. Success! I was able to pick her from the group, place her in an empty hive body I had with frames. I sat it on the ground next to the group. My dad said pound on the hive and they will go to her and they did. That was cool!



Kevin:

That's awesome! I never get tired of watching them do things like this.

4/9/19 Lee:

I cut the tank open and it's maggot ridden. Glad I was able to catch the hive on their way out. The new hive seems to be doing good. Small numbers right now but seems to be working on getting a frame drawn out upon inspection today.

Congratulations to Lee and if you run across a similar bee catching challenge please let us know at gbanewsletters@gmail.com.

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

At our April monthly meeting, we were pleased to have Sophia Price share her very extensive knowledge on propolis. Sophia has accumulated more than just the common knowledge on propolis and all its beneficial properties. She has researched and studied the subject more than the average person. Sophia does a great job as the GBA Director for Northwest Georgia by keeping us informed and getting to know all the clubs in her district.

Due to bad weather we had to reschedule the April 20 dedication ceremony for the club apiary. We will try again on May 19. All are welcomed. If you knew Bud Champlin you know why we are making this effort to have this dedication ceremony.

Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

In April we were blessed to have Cindy Hodges talk to the club about propolis, a sticky substance that we all learn to hate! Cindy's presentation and comments made it easier to accept that there is a purpose for this dreaded bee glue. We all learned to put away our hive tools and deal with it! I'm sure several members are already making propolis tinctures for their health. Thanks, Cindy, for a great educational presentation.

With our new beekeepers getting nucs the past few weeks, we have decided to have a question and answer session for our May meeting. Tommy Bailey, the club's founder, has decades of experience and will share with the club the tricks of the trade and answers questions from the members.

Several club members have been busy collecting swarms. This year seems to be overly busy and the bee population is better than we have seen in years. Let's hope the honey flow continues and this year's harvest sets new honey records instead of rainfall records! With five inches of rain in our area last week, many have reconsidered their hive locations. The water was up to the bee's knees on some of our hives!



Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association

We had six Junior Beekeepers along with their parents in attendance for our second class held April 13th. The students had a chance to nail together their own frame, roll a candle and go into a beehive for some wonderful hands on experience. We had a great time! The next class will be May 11th.

Richard Fowler, Jim Ellis and James Johnson attended One Columbus State University Day to represent the CVBA on Wednesday, April 3rd. One CSU Day is an event where CSU and local high schools along with business and other organizations come together to promote better and sustainable environment practices. CVBA representatives met with high school and CSU students, some faculty, and other interested individuals to discuss the importance of honey bees in our environment.

The next meeting of CVBA will be held on Monday, May 12th, 6 pm at the UGA Extension Service Office located at 420 10th Street, Columbus, Ga. This will be a general discussion, question, and answer meeting.



Coweta Beekeepers Association

WORKSHOP – Members only!

Date: Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 2:00 pm
Location: Interstate Glass, 13 GA-54, Luthersville, GA 30251
<https://goo.gl/maps/EjPMX5WEAzw>

Protective equipment and a signed release of liability required to participate.

We will be working with honey bees during the workshop. Bring your veil, gloves, coveralls and any other items you need.

The workshop will include hive inspections and the installation of a nuc.

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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

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Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association

In April, we had David McDaniel come to speak about Splits and Swarm Prevention. We learned plenty of practical ways to turn of turning the season into an opportunity to make increases.



At the April 4th meeting, the club had the chance to hear from Dave Miller. He operates Dave Millerbees Mfg (Bee-tle Jail) and is the current President of the Anderson S.C. Beekeepers Club. Dave recently visited Australia and talked about “Beekeeping in Other Countries and Keeping Sting-less Bees”.



Henry County Beekeepers

Getting out with the public and sharing the love of beekeeping is important to Henry County Beekeepers member Christine Hurst. Recently she spoke at the McDonough Library, and Luella Elementary School, with more libraries and schools already on the calendar. By tapping into children's natural curiosity, and showing the importance of bees and why we need to protect them, perhaps we can help the next generation take better care of bees and our environment.



Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Assoc.

The story of the Savannah Bee Company came to life for the Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Assoc. members. Founder and owner, Ted Dennard talked about “Beekeeping it Real”, how he went from hobby beekeeper to national honey marketer.

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association

For some, the best way to learn is hands-on. In the case of beekeeping, it's gloves-on. That's why most beginner beekeeping courses include a hive inspection day. For the students of the Lake Hartwell Beekeeping Short Course that day was Saturday, April 13th.

Randall and Shairon Kerlin of R&S Bee Farm invited all LHBA members to come and take a peek in their hives. It's a great opportunity to crack open a box of bees while getting questions answered by experienced keepers. The most asked questions seemed to be “what am I looking at” and “how do you keep from squishing bees”.



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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

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Oglethorpe County Bee Club

Cory Momany presented a talk titled "The Art of Swarm Control" at the Oglethorpe County Bee Club's March meeting. He covered the underlying biological factors that play roles in swarming, which as a superorganism is the honey bee's reproduction process. Using animations to demonstrate the hive manipulations, he covered a variety of methods that can help minimize swarming.

On March 28 and 29, club members Lamara Martin, Lynn Faust, and Carol Williamson talked at Ag Day in Watkinsville, GA. This was a program for 3rd graders of the Oconee County public and private schools.

At OCBC's April meeting, Stetson Owen gave a presentation on how his family-owned and operated business, Bee Well Honey Supply in Pickens, SC, started from a humble beginning of only one hive to its present success of selling honey, bees, and beekeeping supplies, and offering educational boot-camps, tours of its facilities, and hosting community events.

Also, Carol Williamson caught a swarm on old, black comb tied to a branch 15 feet from her hives.



Queen Rearing Class

Jennifer Berry will be teaching a class on, "how to rear superior queens" at her farm in Comer, Georgia **June 7th & 8th**. This two day course will include lectures on how to rear superior queens, select for queen and drone mother colonies, hands on grafting instruction, how to find and mark queens, setting up grafting colonies, starter/finishers, & mating nucs. If you're ready to learn how to select and rear your own superior queens, then this class is for you. For more information about the class please visit www.honeypondfarm.com/Classes

Tara Beekeepers

In March we were honored to have Emily Ferral from the Georgia Dept of Natural Resources, to speak on What Gardeners Can Do For Bats. PN Williams also talked with members about what is blooming right now. Our members have been keeping busy with swarms. Our next meeting is May 20th at 7 pm. Jimmy Gatt, a certified beekeeper and Trees Atlanta volunteer will be speaking on Bees and Trees. Nearly Native Nursery will visit with some of the trees Jimmy will mention in his talk.



Tri-state Beekeepers

Our May meeting will convene at Alice and Bill Millen's Lookout Mountain Lavender Farm at 7pm on May 21st. Bring your bee gear. We will be opening the hives and sharing observations.

Next Month...

Please take photos of friends, bee apparel, speakers, awards, etc., if you are attending the Young Harris Bee Institute. Send them to us for June's issue of *Spilling the Honey*.

Thank you!



Send your pictures and stories to us, at: gbanewsletters@gmail.com.

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, May 6		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, May 21	Q & A / bulk ordering	marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Jasper Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, May 9	Julia Mahood on Splits, Nucs & Swarm Control	wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, May 23		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 28		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 14	Tommy Bailey will lead a Q&A session for our May meeting.	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, May 13		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, May 9		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, May 22		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, May 13		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 14		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, May 16	Pollinator Gardening – Katy Ross, Nightsong Natives	spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm			clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, May 13		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, May 13		danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	1400 Parker Rd SE, Conyers, GA 30094	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 28		thezechmans@yahoo.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, June 3	Cory Momany; Honey Harvesting	danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 9		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 23	Breakout Sessions - Honey and Wax Crafts	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 28		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253 **Liberty Hill Honey Co. 263 High Falls Rd. Milner 30257**	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	**Saturday, May 4, 11am Annual Picnic**	Annual Picnic! **Liberty Hill Honey Co. 263 High Falls Rd. Milner 30257**	hartfieldmonty@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 16	Bobby Colson of B&G Honey; Beekeeping Gadgets. Please bring your gadgets and donation items for the raffle	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

(continued on next page)

CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 9	Club Outreach Update and Group Q&A Discussion	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, May 28		info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, May 2		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 21	Jim Tew	julia@mahoodstudio. com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, May 14		abletinker@wind- stream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 9	Keith Fielder – Okay, I've got my bees, now what?	officers@negabee- keeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, May 13		kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, May 30		secretary@oabees. com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	(Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630) **Pittard Park, 125 N Church St. Winterville, GA 30683**	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	**Saturday, May 11, 9am**	Winterville Marigold Festi- val, Winterville, Ga. (9 a.m.- 4 p.m.) answering questions and selling local honey.	jocontibeas@aol. com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, May 13		victor@makinhoney. com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, May 9		polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, May 16		potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, May 9	We will welcome Honey4hope2018	info@sowegabee- keepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, May 20		maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 7		threecountybees@ gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, May 13	Steven Page; Queen Rearing	info@tricitybee- keepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 28		tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, May 20	David Forester; Varroa and pests of the hive.	neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, May 13		twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 28		waltonbees@yahoo. com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, May 27		2nparker@bellsouth. net	Douglas



Spilling The Honey

JUNE 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What we have been promising for a year is now just around the corner. The state closed shop for a few days at the end of May in order to implement the new software for manufacturing license plates. Our honey bee plate will be the first to be made and available for sale.

Your GBA board voted to put up \$25,000 of GBA's money to fund the manufacture of the first 1000 plates. We get that money replaced in our coffers **if and only if you purchase your license plate THROUGH GBA's web page**. We all want a bee license plate, right? So watch for instructions for how to purchase your honey bee license plate from our website and drive proudly around the state with it on the back of your car or truck.

A lot of people have worked hard to make this happen. Our legislative committee has pushed and pulled and pushed some more (any of you know Gail Dean?) She is co-chair of the committee and the person in charge of this license plate project and has made it happen almost by sheer force of will. But there are many others to thank - people like Katie Goodman, Tim Doherty, Brutz English, Gina Gallucci and I (all of whom went down to try to influence the legislature) And then there are so many of you who donated honey which we used to sweeten the pot by giving each member of the legislature his/her own bottle of local honey.



So buy your license plate through GBA. We need to sell the first 1000 plates **through our website** (oh, did I already say that?) and I will say that over and over again.

Summer is a good time to go visit other bee meetings. Julia Mahood and I are going to EAS (the Eastern Apiculture Society) in July. This is a good year to go because the meeting is in Greenville, SC. Registration is now open for the conference. [You can find it here](#). You can register for the whole week which includes the short course or for the conference part only (which is what we are doing). Their website is a little difficult to negotiate, but the conference is definitely worth it. They also have a short course and a great honey show. The last time I went to EAS was when it was in Boone, NC, in 2010. I heard many outstanding speakers there and am delighted to go again.

Given how close Greenville is to Georgia, I expect that many GBA members will attend.

Other good conferences to attend might include:

[Heartland Apicultural Society](#) in Bowling Green, KY on July 8 - 10.

[Apimondia](#) is the 8 - 12 of September in Montreal and registration closes on July 24. You can register and pay a late fee up to July 31.

[The North Carolina State Beekeepers Association](#) holds its summer meeting August 8 - 10 in Hickory, NC

And of course, start making your plans to attend the GBA Fall Conference in Cumming, Georgia at the Lanier Conference Center on September 26 - 29, 2019. Registration should open in early June.

Hope everyone has had a good bee season. Continue to

Bee Well,

Linda T



THE YOUNG HARRIS BEEKEEPING INSTITUTE

– by *Kathleen Bourn*
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

experience

As soon as I started keeping honey bees I started hearing about the Young Harris Beekeeping Institute (YHBI). Since 1992, the UGA Honey Bee Program and Young Harris College offered an annual beekeeping event. It consists of beekeeping and honey judging certification programs, concentrated training, along with a honey show.



I wanted to attend YHBI every year but my pesky day job always got in the way. This year I was finally able to attend and even better, I was able to test for my beekeeping certification. Even though I had heard and read about the institute, as a first-timer I didn't really know what to expect, so here is what I discovered.

Of course the first step is to register. All the information is on the UGA Bee Lab site. The process is a little bit of a throwback because you have to print and fill out a form and mail it along with a check. After that, you make your hotel reservations and head to the beautiful north Georgia mountain town of Young Harris.

The first day is dedicated to review courses and testing for Journeyman Beekeeper, Master Beekeeper, Master Craftsman Beekeeper, and Welsh Honey Judge. The Certified Beekeeper exam is available by appointment that day but most people tested for it Friday afternoon.

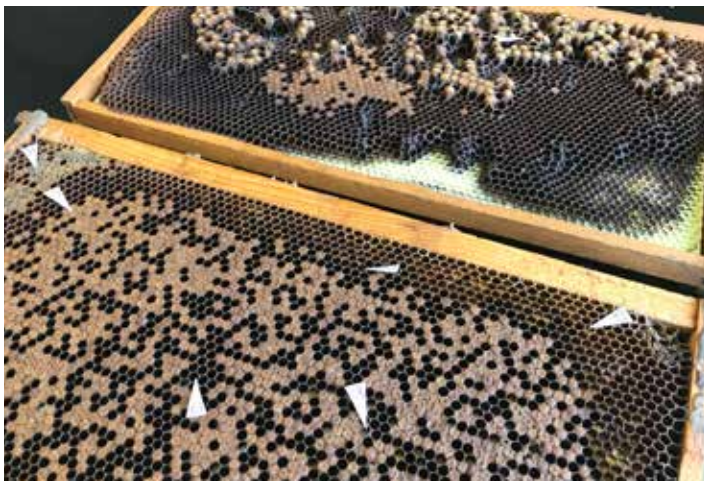
Starting Thursday, you get what Dr. Keith Delaplane calls “the best speakers in the English speaking world who provide science based beekeeping”. Each hour there are sessions designed for either the beginner or more experienced beekeeper. You pick what you're most interested in hearing.

(continued on next page)

THE YOUNG HARRIS BEEKEEPING INSTITUTE *experience* – (cont'd)

– by Kathleen Bourn

Since I was going for my certification I needed to sign up for my practical testing. I met Westley Hester, a research tech at the UGA Bee Lab, outside where they had beehives set up. Each person was tested on smoker lighting, opening a hive, recognizing stages of brood along with honey and pollen. We then went inside where they had hive parts laid out and combs marked for identification.



For those interested in entering the honey show, an area is set up for preparing and submitting all the items from honey to mead to artwork and crafts.

Depending on your interests, the days are filled with learning how to install bees, presentations from top honey bee scientist, classes to review testing, learning how to make beekeeping equipment or products and checking out what the vendors have to offer.



On Friday afternoon, all those wanting to test for certification gathered in an upstairs room. The tests were handed out and after I got over my college flashback I got to work answering the true/false, multiple choice and fill in the blank questions. The nice thing was, later that afternoon we had the chance to discuss the questions and answers with Jennifer Berry.

After three and a half days of everything honey bee, the awards for the honey show and congratulations for the passed certification tests topped it all off.

The Human Superorganism AT WORK

– by Kevin McCraney
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

The Hart County BOE Agriscience Center added 20,000 students! Anna Smith's animal science class and Nathan Heaton's FFA environmental class installed two bee packages into hives with assistance from Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc. members Drew Harvey, and Kevin McCraney. These bees will help support the declining bee population while providing an education and possible career path to our students.

The classes assembled and painted all the woodware. Both middle and high school students were instructed on basic honey bee biology and package installation before suiting up. They then headed out to the apiary that is set up on the school system's 13 acre agriculture education facility in Hartwell Georgia.

The pollinator program is a partnership between the Hart County School System, Georgia Power, Mountain Sweet Honey, and the Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association. Georgia Power provided the first two hives and the bee colonies. Mountain Sweet Honey in Toccoa, GA, provided deeply discounted protective gear and tools for the students. The Lake Hartwell Beekeepers have provided funding through a Georgia Beekeepers Association Buzz Fund Grant. The grant money is spent on fencing, storage facilities, hive stands, and protective gear along with on-site educational material. This is truly a community project and we're expecting it to grow!



Little Critters Day

at Fernbank Museum

On a Saturday in April, Fernbank Museum and Science Center holds a Little Critters Day. This year GBA was well-represented. Linda Tillman (GBA President and MABA member), Derrick Fowler (GBA Secretary and member of Beekeepers of Gwinnett) and George Logan (MABA member) set up a table and entertained hundreds of children and their families as everyone learned about bees. We took the MABA observation hive as well as all kinds of bee hands-



on stuff. When we picked up the observation hive, Gina Gallucci, keeper of the MABA hive, reported that she had put a frame in the observation hive box but it did not include the queen. While we were at the festival, a queen emerged from a queen cell slyly hidden on the side of the frame and paraded around for all the kids to see. They were so proud when they spotted her!



Filtering Honey



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



Every beekeeper who bottles honey has to make decisions. One decision is the degree in which honey is filtered. That choice is made easier when armed with knowledge from Bob Binnie. Here the owner of Blue

Ridge Honey Company gives all the filtering options to *Spilling the Honey* readers.

This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

Filtration is considered a sin by some, and absolutely necessary by others

Honey labeled US Grade A Fancy must be “free of defects that affect appearance and may not contain particles that affect clarity.” Although this standard for honey is not very well policed and can be highly misleading (much foreign honey is labeled US Grade A Fancy), many packers believe it adds consumer trust. Other than complying with this standard, there are other reasons many may not want particles in their honey. Besides crystallization and perceived shelf life issues, honey without particles can simply appear cleaner, brighter, and more attractive to consumers.

Of course, all of this requires fine filtering or “micro filtering” and there are those that feel this removes much of the “good stuff” in honey. That would include pollen, beeswax, and propolis particles, along with other substances considered desirable. Fine filtering also requires high heat to lower the viscosity (thickness) of honey so it can pass through a fine filtering medium. Honey handled like this should not be called raw although it often is.

The extreme opposite is honey sold as ultra raw. This honey is bottled straight out of the extractor, without any straining or settling at all and of course would contain a lot of foreign debris. While some would argue that the debris in freshly extracted honey is perfectly fine, even desirable, it's important to keep in mind that not all debris is created equal. A bee wing

or bee leg is one thing. A splinter or frame nail is quite another.

Just because I have product liability insurance doesn't mean I want to use it. Some straining or settling is recommended. If you want to remove large, potentially harmful debris but allow much of the “good stuff” to remain, straining your honey through something like a coarse, 800 or 1000 micron filter will work.

Settling can also be helpful. Because honey is so heavy, light debris such as dead bees, wood, and wax will float to the top while heavy items such as nails, dirt, and wire will sink to the bottom.

To put filter mesh size in perspective most pollen particles run between 10 and 50 microns with one occasionally up to 100. In case you're wondering, a micron, also known as a micrometer, is .001mm. or .000039 inch. The human eye generally cannot see a particle under 30 microns and a human hair is around 75.





Post-it
for Local
Club Presidents

HANDLING SWARM CALLS

– by Kathleen Bourn
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

Bees are everywhere
and every club, large or small,

should have a system to handle swarm calls. MABA has a well-oiled plan in place, so I interviewed **Gina Gallucci** who has managed the MABA swarm call line since 2012. Here are her helpful hints:

1. What are the advantages of having a swarm call center for your club? As the caller reaches a real person, it's a chance for the club member taking the call to teach people about all kinds of bee information. Having one person manage a whole area is very efficient. Gina fields all the calls for MABA and then sends out people to collect the swarms. This way lots of people get a chance to get a swarm and Gina can try to share the opportunity with people who might not otherwise get the experience of collecting a swarm in any given year.

2. Do you give out your personal phone number? While you can get a free number from Google Voice which automatically forwards to your cell phone, Gina actually puts her personal cell phone number on the MABA web page. She maintains an annual list of people who want to be called for swarms. There are about 48 people on the list this year. She starts by texting to see if the person is available. Once availability is established, she may call and go from there.

3. What information do you take from the person who is calling in to report a swarm in need of capture? She gets the basics: name, phone number, exact address and where the swarm is. She tries to find out how high up it is, but people often can't figure a way to convey this information. She also tried to determine if they are honey bees or yellow jackets. Only about 1/3 of the calls are actually about swarms of bees. People call about wasp nests, ground bees, and simply bees on bushes. Some people call about bees in the walls of their houses. When they find out that they have to pay for someone to cut bees out of their walls, they are disappointed because they were hoping someone would get them for free.

Gina loves the calls because every single one is an opportunity to convey more information about bees.

4. How do you register your members who want to get a swarm? Gina keeps a spreadsheet and fills it with the information provided by MABA members who sign up to get swarms. Gina organizes the list each year and keeps up with who has been called and who has not. Club members who want to be called provide this information on a form on the MABA website:

- You will indicate how high you are willing to climb to retrieve a swarm and where you live. The swarm list manager will make the call based on queue order, location, and preferences.
- Swarm calls come in at all hours. If you are on the swarm list, you may be called at any time.
- Being on the swarm list does not guarantee that you will receive a call – swarm seasons can vary greatly.
- Those on the MABA swarm list must be current members, have the equipment necessary to retrieve a swarm and give us their limitations so we can choose who to call

5. How do you keep up with who you have sent out to get a swarm? When she finds someone to send on a swarm call, she writes down date and where it is. Forty eight people are on the list and most don't get a swarm. Lots of time they are brand new beekeepers and she feels nervous about sending them on some of the calls.

6. About how many calls per swarm season do you take in Atlanta? So far in 2019, she has distributed sixteen swarms. She has to make three or four calls to people on the list before she typically finds someone who is available. Of course, in addition to actual swarms, there have been many more educational calls that she has fielded on her swarm line.

7. What's the most fulfilling part of this job? Providing information about bees and beekeeping to the general public. Gina spends much more time on that than actually giving a swarm away. She calms the people and tells them not to panic. She teaches them about the honey bee.

My visit to Kennewick, Washington

– by Steven Page
Coweta Beekeepers

I was invited to speak and teach Coweta Sustainable Beekeeping in Kennewick, Washington, on May 18 and 19. Kennewick is on the Columbia River in eastern Washington which is dry and sunny compared to the Pacific coast west of the Cascade Mountains. Water from the Columbia River provides irrigation resulting in many crops, including vineyards and fruit trees.

I always enjoy meeting beekeepers in other areas so I can learn how their methods are similar and different. They have different weather, seasonal extremes, nectar, and pollen producing plants. Kennewick has colder with longer winters, and less pollen available during the year. Their main nectar flow occurs during May and June. The fruit trees blossomed before our visit. They have many of the same problems we have with, colonies dying in winter, dearths of pollen and nectar, and mites.

I learned about a local beekeeper, Aaron, that uses custom made six frame deeps for his colonies. He uses pallets that hold three hives that fit together snug. He places queen excluders on, then two ten frame deeps side by side above, and the three colonies make honey in the two deep supers. Aaron manages 500 colonies with only a few years of experience. So why are ten frame supers the standard in beekeeping? Is it because we are comfortable with our base-10 numeral system?



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here](#) to fill out a simple form.

The Great Georgia Pollinator Census

– by *Becky Griffin*
Great Georgia Pollinator Census
Project Coordinator

On August 23rd and 24th, 2019, Georgians all across our state will become citizen scientists and participate in the first Great Georgia Pollinator Census. The census is an important initiative to document a snapshot of our pollinator populations. Other goals include increasing sustainable pollinator habitat and increasing the entomological literacy of Georgia citizens. We want people to go from “ooh, it’s a bug” to “look at the tarsal claw on that bee!”. All Georgians are invited to be part of this project!

Pilot projects conducted in 2017 and 2018 focused on community and school gardens. The results of the pilot projects allowed us to improve the counting strategy and to create educational materials for gardeners and teachers. Many schools used the pilot projects as part of their STEM work.

The project website, <https://GGaPC.org>, contains all the information a citizen needs to participate. An Insect Identification and Counting Guide explains the details of the project. On the census dates people are encouraged to pick a favorite pollinator plant from their garden to use for counting. This plant should have many blooms that are attracting insects.

For 15 minutes participants will count the insects landing on their plant and put them in the following categories:

- Bumble bees
- Carpenter bees
- Honey bees
- Small bees
- Wasps
- Flies
- Butterflies
- Other insects



You do not have to be an entomologist to participate; we are not looking for species level identifica-



tion. Again, the Insect Identification & Counting Guide gives you all the tools needed to tell a bee from a fly and a bumble bee from a carpenter bee.

The website also

has information on building pollinator habitat as well as information about pollinator events going on around the state. After counting, participants will upload their counts to the website.

For those excited about learning more about these insects, our Georgia Pollinator Census Facebook page shares educational snippets daily and is a format for insect discussion.

Pollinator conservation is important to everyone from apartment dwellers to farmers. Homeowners will learn through this project that many of our native bees forage in a small area, 300-500 ft², and if the bees’ needs are met they will stay and provide valuable ecoservices for that homeowner. We can make a real and lasting difference in pollinator protection.

Won’t you join us? Sign up at the website. Join our Georgia Pollinator Census Facebook group. Create dedicated pollinator habitat. Learn about insects. Count with us in August. Be part of Georgia pollinator history.

EAS – JULY 15-19 2019

For the first time, EAS is coming to the southeastern U.S. The Eastern Apicultural Society of North America will hold its 2019 conference in Greenville S.C. EAS is an international non-profit educational organization founded in 1955 for the promotion of honey bee education.

Attendees have access to more than 50 speakers and over 100 talks. The EAS website lists all the speakers and provides the background on each one.

“We replaced the format on the website for speakers and talks to allow you to search and even pick your schedule for the time you are in SC.” - EAS

http://www.easternapiculture.org/speakers/speakers_preview.php

You can register for a day pass only, short course only, conference only or for the full week which includes everything.

Register early for some of the special events like the walking tour of the Bee Well Honey Farm

The honey show and mead competition are going on in addition to: auctions & demonstrations, children's program, bee wranglers in the apiary and many of the things that bring past visitors to EAS back again year after year.



“I have appointed Mary Cahill Roberts to serve as our official representative to EAS. She has a life membership in EAS and is very invested in the organization. As a past GBA president, she will represent us well.”

– Linda Tillman, GBA President

SPEAK! AND BEE HEARD.

The conference committee is constantly searching for good speakers throughout the state to give breakouts at our twice yearly meetings. We are currently scheduling out as far as 2021. So if you give talks to your bee club or the surrounding area or you know you have a good topic worked up to offer, please let us know so we can invite you to present at an upcoming fall or spring meeting. Please [fill out this form](#) to let us know what you'd like to present and to give us some information about you.

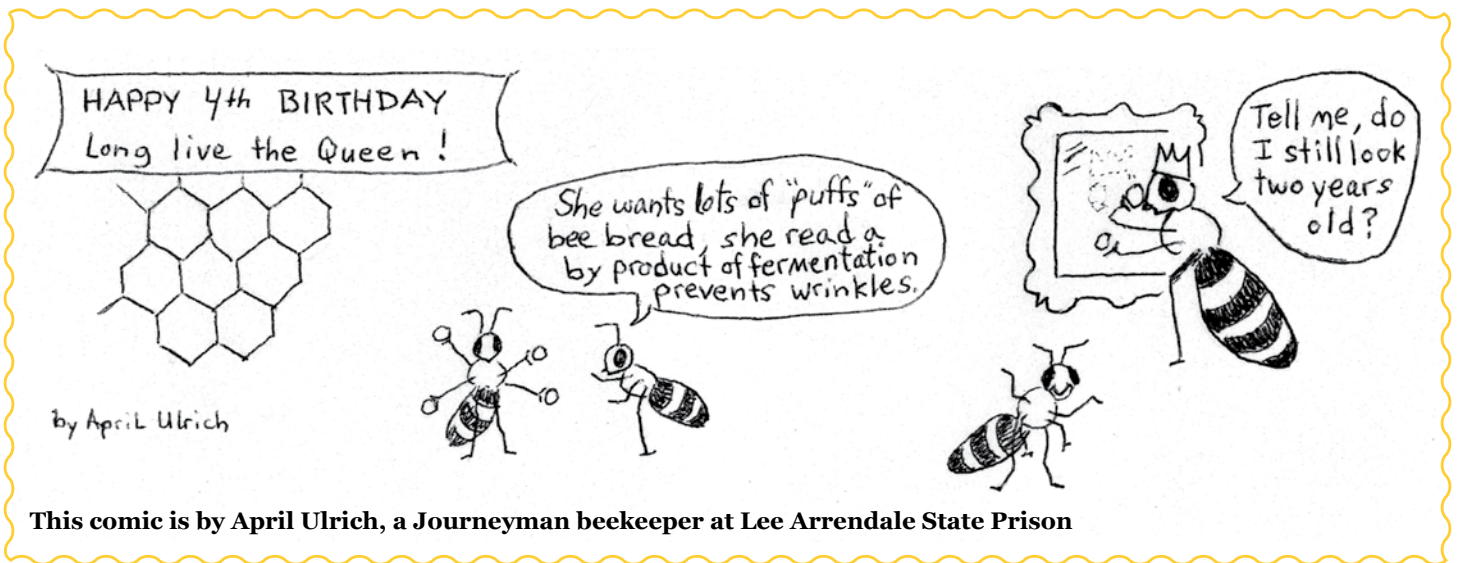


LaFayette Honeybee Festival

– by Denise Budde



Don't forget to attend the LaFayette Georgia Honeybee Festival on June 1, 2019. It is a free festival with many vendors, seminars on bees and plants, an education tent and entertainment as well. There is even a free Kids Zone. Go to Myhoneybeefestival.com to learn more. Our very own Brutz English will be leading the judging of the Honey Show. There are cash prizes for Best in Show, First Place and Second Place eateries.



Save the Date

**The GBA Fall 2019
Conference**

September 26-28

**at Lanier Tech / Forsyth Conference Center
in Cumming, GA**



CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

At our May monthly meeting we were honored to have Julia Mahood share her very extensive knowledge on Splits, Nucs and Swarm Control. As usual Julia provided very useful information and kept us entertained at the same time. It's always great to have Julia visit our club.

The rescheduled dedication ceremony for the club apiary was held on May 19. We dedicated the ABA club apiary to Bud Champlin. Bud was a co-founder and driving force for the Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia. He was a Master Beekeeper and personified that title by volunteering his time to share his knowledge at schools, local organization meetings, at craft fairs, at farmer's markets and anywhere anyone would listen. He was famous for his "Bud's Mountain Honey" that he sold as a regular at the Jasper Farmer's Market. Bud past away October 5, 2017 and we all miss him greatly.



Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

Our May meeting featured Tommy Bailey, one of our club founders, who answered questions from club members. Since many just received their bees, the questions were mostly tailored at beekeeping basics.

June is our annual picnic at the Little Mulberry Park in Dacula. The burgers and hot dogs will be cooked to perfection by our grilling team! We actually picked up a couple of new members last year that were checking out our food. Let's just hope the weather is about 10 degree cooler than we have been experiencing in May!

Thank you...



This is a very busy time for beekeepers.
We appreciate that you took time to contribute to *Spilling the Honey*.

Your editors – gbanewsletters@gmail.com.

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers



Heart of Georgia Beekeepers members Kathy Shelton (right) and Emily Heath (left) participated in Morningside Elementary's Farm Day on May 10th. Over 500 students learned about bees and were able to view bees in an observation hive. Each student also received a honey stick.

The Heart of Georgia Beekeepers met Tuesday, May 21 and Steve Nofs presented an interesting program on pollen. Our next meeting will be June 18th at 7:00.

Lake Country Beekeepers Association

The Lake Country Beekeepers Association May meeting hosted Mr. Bobby Colson owner of B&B Honey Farm in Register, GA. He demonstrated a variety of beekeeping inventions and shared creative ideas on handling, moving, and working with bees.

Bruce Morgan of Morgan Apiaries and President of Lake Country Beekeepers Association, demonstrated his latest invention that will keep a smoker lite. Insert a 1.5 inch metal pipe just above the grate on the bottom on a smoker. A propane torch is used to light the smoker and the pipe is closed off after lighting.



Lake Country Beekeepers Association will meet Thursday, June 20th 6:30 pm at Hancock County Library in Sparta, GA. Our guest speaker is, Cory Momany. He is a microbiologist, an active beekeeper, and very involved with both Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association and Oglethorpe Beekeepers Association. His program is titled "Bee Nutrition". Our meetings are open to the public.

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Metro Atlanta Beekeepers

From her honey bee bracelet to her bee license plate button, Gina Gallucci is representing MABA for the Earth Day festivities at the Blue Haven Nature Preserve.



Oglethorpe County Bee Club

Members of the Oglethorpe County Bee Club attended the Marigold Festival in Winterville, Georgia on May 11th. They provided honey recipes, beekeeping info, told bee stories, sold honey, and had a lot of fun. Keith Fielder, the UGA CAES county extension coordinator for Putnam County, Master Beekeeper and Welsh Honey Judge, will talk on types of honey and nectar sources at our next club meeting, June 17th at the Crawford Farm Bureau.



Tara Beekeepers

Jimmy Gatt spoke to our group on Trees and Shrubs that Support Honeybees & Other Pollinators. It was a very informative talk and we learned if there's one thing anyone can do to support bees, it's to plant a tree.

Following the meeting we had a group discussion on looking for pests and understanding their impact on your honeybee colonies.

Next month, Susan Meyers will be speaking on Monarchs & Milkweed Across Georgia. Later in the meeting we'll be discussing gadgets with some of our members telling about gadgets they've invented and what problem they were trying to solve when they came up with them.

Walton County Beekeepers Association

Walton County Beekeepers Association will host Dr. Keith Delaplane as their guest speaker on Tuesday, June 18, 2019. The topic of his talk will be "What the bees do for us". Dr. Delaplane is Professor of Entomology and head of the honey bee research and extension lab at the University of Georgia. Our association meets every third Tuesday of each month at Center Hill Baptist Church, 6372 Highway 20, Loganville, GA 30052 (second floor) at 7 p.m. This will be a packed house so please arrive by 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. Visit <http://www.waltonbees.org> for more information.

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

The West Georgia Beekeepers Association had a great turn out for their annual picnic on May 4th, 2019. The picnic was held at the pavilion of Union Grove Christian Church. We played games and had a lot of good food. On June 24, 2019 Jerry Cole will be the guest speaker. He has 40 years of beekeeping experience. His topic will be "Venom in the Veins". July 22, 2019 we will have a mid year question and answer session. We hope all beekeepers will share their 2019 beekeeping experiences. We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, GA 30134. The mentoring session starts at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7 pm. Hope to see you there.



CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, June 3		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, June 18		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Jasper Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, June 13	No speaker this month. Officer elections and round table discussion.	wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 27		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 18		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019 ** Mulberry Park, Dacula, Ga**	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 11	DIFFERENT LOCATION: Annual Picnic at Mulberry Park Pavilion in Dacula, Ga	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 10		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, June 13		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, June 19		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, June 10		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 11		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, June 20		spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm	Monday, June 3		clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, June 10		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 10		danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 25		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website *	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, July 1	Jimmy Gatt on Trees for Bees	danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 13		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 27	Butch Shelton and Andy Bailey will help us prepare for the winter, now.	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 18		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 11	Krissa Jones, Georgia Dept of Agriculture, "Selling Your Honey"	henrybeebuz123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 20	Cory Momany, Bee Nutrition	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 6	Keith Fielder, 13 things not to do as a beekeeper	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, June 25		info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, June 6		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 18	Dr. Leo Sharkashin on Layens hives. All guests are welcome!	julia@mahoodstudio. com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, June 11		abletinker@wind- stream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 13		officers@negabee- keeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 10		kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, June 27		secretary@oabees. com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 17	Keith Fielder; types of honey and nectar sources	joecontibeas@aol. com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 10		victor@makinhoney. com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, June 13	David Dye	polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, June 20		potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January	Monday, June 3		Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, June 13		info@sowegabee- keepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, June 17	Susan Meyers, "Monarchs & Milkweed across Georgia"	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 4		threecountybees@ gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, June 10	Micheal Minardi on Mead Making	info@tricitybee- keepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 18		tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, June 17		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, June 10		twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, June 18	Dr. Keith Delaplane, "What Bees do for Us"	waltonbees@yahoo. com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, June 24	Jerry Cole, "Venom in the Veins"	2nparker@bellsouth. net	Douglas



Spilling The Honey

JULY 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After two years of the hard work of many people, the honey bee license plate is now available for purchase! As most of you know, GBA put up \$25,000 to support the initial manufacture of the plate. We did this so that the plate could be available as soon as possible to you and to the public. Now we have to sell the plate to replace that money in our treasury.

Here's how to buy the plate:

1. **Click on this link to go to the purchasing page.**
2. **READ all the directions before you fill out the registration form.** This is important so you will know exactly how this will work for you.
3. **Fill out the registration form accurately** - many people simply put "Georgia" in the blank for zip code so we then have to google your address to get your zip code and many people also put "Georgia" in the blank for city and state so we then have to google your address to find out what city you live in.
4. **If you want to buy multiple plates, then add guests to your registration for each additional plate.** If you do it this way, you can use the same email address for each "guest" or extra plate.
5. You can also buy multiple plates by registering separately for each plate. To do it this way, **you have to have a unique email address for each plate you purchase.** This is a feature of our Wild Apricot software and is not about the state.
6. Your number on your license plate will be assigned randomly.
7. You may buy the plate even if it isn't your renewal month. You will pay the \$25 manufacturing fee to GBA and the \$35 specialty tag fee to the state. You will not pay the \$20 license tag fee until your renewal month. If it is your renewal month, the cost of the tag is all three of the fees above. Going forward GBA gets \$22 of the \$35 specialty tag fee and that money will go to fund the programs we have developed to educate about the honey bee.

You then take the state receipt (which includes a number that begins with L) which GBA has generated for you by entering the data on your GBA receipt to the state's software. **The state receipt (not the GBA receipt) is the one you take to the county license office to get your *Save the Honey Bee* plate.**

The state allowed us to determine who gets the first hundred license plates that begin with BEE001 - BEE101. So many people work hard for GBA that I wanted to thank them for their hard work. We decided to offer the opportunity to buy these 100 plates to people who have contributed to our state's beekeeping. We invited all the club presidents, the GBA life members, the state's master beekeepers, the three founders of Young Harris, the elected GBA board, directors, and committee chairs, and all the past Beekeepers of the Year. We allowed the invited people to pick their own license number. All one hundred did not choose to take one of these numbers so we will auction the remaining BEExxx numbers at the fall meeting.

We are thrilled to have sold about 200 plates in the first four days it has been available.

We had some glitches at the very beginning because the state software locked up and neither the state offices nor those of us working on the rollout of the GBA plate had access to the software. This meant we couldn't write instructions or do any practice runs (as we certainly would have liked to) before the plate was available to the public. We appreciate those of you who bought early and allowed us to learn how to manage the details.

Many people are a part of this process. Julia Mahood won the contest for the design and many people entered the contest. Getting the plate approved was the work of Gail Dean, Gina Gallucci, Tim Doherty, Katie Goodman, Brutz English, and all of you who donated honey to give to the legislators. Paul Berry has worked hard to transfer us to a new payment software for GBA and to manage the issues that have come up as people paid for their plates. Gina Gallucci and I are doing the transfer of the data. When you purchase a plate from GBA, Gina and I then have to enter your data into the state program to create your state receipt.

This is a volunteer organization and the fact that a plate is available to you is thanks to all of the above people as well as all of the GBA members who are promoting the plate on Facebook and to their friends and neighbors.

We need your continued help to sell this license plate to beekeepers and to everyone else you know – all of your friends and neighbors! We have to sell 1000 plates to replace the \$25,000 we invested from GBA money. Thanks to all of you for your support and energy for the Georgia Beekeepers Association and to support the honey bee.

Bee Well, Linda T



Big Changes Coming to the Fall Honey Show!



– by Arthur “Brutz” English
Welsh Honey Judge

The Fall GBA Honey & Beeswax Show is coming up in September, and there are big changes to this year’s rules regarding beeswax and candles! First, we have done away with the requirement that all beeswax items (including candles) be made from “this year’s” beeswax. We recognized that the vast majority of our members only maintain a handful of colonies, and it is often challenging for most hobbyist beekeepers to harvest enough beeswax in any given year to enable them to produce even one beeswax wax block, much less multiple exhibits for the larger honey shows. So, we made an adjustment. Exhibits still must be produced by the exhibitor, with beeswax harvested from that exhibitor’s bees, but now exhibitors may hold beeswax over from year to year to accumulate sufficient quan-

Beyond the two big changes described above we have added several new, and we think exciting, classes to the Fall Honey & Beeswax Show. Some of the new



ties to produce more exhibits. The rules pertaining to the same exhibits being submitted in subsequent years still apply.

The second big change is that we have added a ton of new beeswax and candle categories to allow for the use of colored wax in many exhibition classes. All of the traditional classes which call for the use of pure, clean, unadulterated beeswax still remain, but now exhibitors have the option of preparing exhibits with the use of colored beeswax as well.

classes (beyond those mentioned above) include Sourwood (varietal), Infused Extracted Honey, Flavored Creamed Honey, Top Bar Frame Comb Honey, Large Beeswax Block (5-10 lbs.), Beeswax Ingots, and Beeswax Figurines. All together there are over thirty (30) exhibition classes for exhibitors to compete in.

This year’s honey show will be at the GBA Fall Conference in Cumming, GA (same location as last year), on Friday, September 27th. As always with GBA honey contest, First Prizes come with \$100.00 purses. This years GBA Fall Honey & Beeswax Show will have over \$5,000.00 in potential prize money up for grabs! This year’s Spring Artisan Show was a HUGE success, and the Fall Honey & Beeswax show is going to be even bigger! Start preparing early, and bring all of your fantastic exhibits to the Fall Conference in September! Complete rules for the GBA 2019 Fall Honey & Beeswax Show can be [found here](#). We can’t wait to see you there!

Why Crystallization Occurs in Honey



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



When you bottle over a million pounds of honey a year, you learn a few things about it. Sharing his vast knowledge about honey is one of Bob Binnie's passions. In a series of writings for *Spilling the Honey*, he gives

readers the benefit of all he has learned while running the Blue Ridge Honey Company.

This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

Crystallization will occur in honey with a moderate to high percentage of dextrose

A 20% content of dextrose, also known as D-glucose, in honey is considered low and 40% is considered high. Honey with a 25% dextrose content or lower will generally not crystallize. Fresh honey containing 40% or more will begin the crystallization process faster than you can read this article.

I was once extracting a crop of Canola honey (which is high in dextrose) only to come back after a week-end off and find it setting up in the sump tank, pumps, and pipes. If you're not paying attention, honey like this can quickly crystallize in the comb and become almost impossible to extract. I learned this one the hard way.

Honeys high in dextrose will crystallize hard, and those with a moderate percentage will crystallize soft. A little lower percentage may give you a slurry or a thick, cloudy body.

Age can also have an effect on the consistency of crystallized honey. Over time, the percentage of dextrose in crystallized honey can decrease as it slowly converts to other sugars. This can give the appearance of honey that seems to have separated liquid from solid, with the solid on the bottom. Given enough time, some crystallized honey can actually go almost completely liquid again. Of course, this honey would be quite old and undesirable in my view because it will have deteriorated in other ways.

Examples of honeys low in dextrose are Black Sage, Tupelo, and Sourwood. Titi, Cotton, and Canola are



honeys high in dextrose and because of this are sometimes considered bakers grade or industrial grade.

Crystallization is affected by temperature

The optimum temperature for crystallization is around 57°F. Those producing creamed honey can use this fact to their advantage. The farther the temperature moves either above or below this range, the less apt honey will be to crystallize. Honey will not crystallize at or below 32°F. Honey that has already crystallized will begin to soften at 85°F and begin to liquify between 100°F and 104°F.

Heat is used to dissolve crystals in fresh honey that can initiate the crystallization process. Heat is also used to facilitate micro filtering which can remove particles that act as a platform from which the crystallization process can begin. Even a particle of dust can act as a starting point. Thirty minutes at 145°F will dissolve all crystals.

If you need to have a long shelf life without crystallization, heat may be needed.





RUNNING FOR GBA OFFICE

At our fall conference in Cumming, Georgia, we

will hold our annual election of officers.

According to our by-laws, this fall we will elect three directors, a secretary and a treasurer.

GBA is the umbrella over all the local clubs in the state of Georgia. Your members in your local clubs can expand your club's involvement in GBA by running for election. Becoming engaged in the volunteer work and life of GBA is a way to bring ideas back to your local club while at the same time cementing the growth and energy of the state club.

Running for election is a way for your club members to get more fully involved in beekeeping across the state. To read about the responsibilities of offices with GBA, [click here](#).

Being elected to office isn't just a notch in your belt or something to put on your resume. Instead, officers in GBA hold responsible positions. Everyone is expected

to work on projects for GBA and to act as conduits of communication to take messages back to your own or other local clubs.

The GBA team includes people from all over the state of Georgia. Our elected members take their responsibility seriously and are willing to work hard to do their part to expand the world of beekeeping across the state of Georgia. The GBA will continue to grow and flourish with more of the same.

So if someone in your club is a hard worker and understands the commitment that a volunteer position entails, encourage them to run for a GBA office. Your club's view of beekeeping in Georgia will be greatly expanded.

Bobby Chaisson who is not running for a position this year is our director on the board who is in charge of the election committee this year. If you or one of your club members wants to run for GBA office, [contact Bobby ASAP](#).

URGENT! NEW GBA PAYMENT SYSTEM

GBA is switching payment systems and it will affect your dues payments with us going forward. We are not using PayPal any longer. If you are set up with auto pay for your membership, Wild Apricot (our membership software) will no longer bill PayPal. Wild Apricot will automatically charge a credit card for you but not PayPal.

Please sign into **your own PayPal** account and **delete your automatic GBA payment**. PayPal should no longer do this but to be sure, we encourage you to delete the auto pay. We can't do it for you because it is set up in your personal accounts. Thanks for your understanding.

Linda Tillman, President, GBA



Save the Date

The GBA Fall 2019 Conference

September 26-28

**at Lanier Tech / Forsyth Conference Center
in Cumming, GA**



Beekeeper of the Year



It's time to nominate outstanding members of your beekeeping community for the Beekeeper of the Year award.

The GBA Beekeeper of the Year is a GBA member who has not only demonstrated and promoted good beekeeping, but who is also an outstanding volunteer. Traditionally, past Beekeepers of the Year are not awarded the honor again. Past recipients are [listed on the GBA website](#).

The nominated beekeepers will be evaluated based on what is written about them on the nominating forms. **It's not a matter of how many nominations come in for that person, but of the qualities of that person as described by those who submit the forms.** So it's important to do your best to tell the committee why you think this person deserves the award.

To nominate someone, fill out this form [by clicking here](#).

It's important to know that **both the person filling out the form and the person being nominated have to be current GBA members.**

This year's committee is composed of members from different quadrants of the state:

Julia Mahood, Chair

Bill Norris

Bob Binnie

Steve Esau

Steve Nofs



Last year's winner of the Beekeeper of the Year award: Julia Mahood, with Sophia Price (left) and Bobby Chaisson.

The committee will first ensure that all nominations are eligible. Then after July 15, when nominations close, they will select three people as finalists, *based on what is written about them*. The GBA board of directors will then vote by secret ballot to select the Beekeeper of the Year.

We encourage you to honor your members by nominating them. All nominated beekeepers will be informed that they were nominated, so even if not selected for the award, it's a nice way to honor those you respect and admire. The committee is looking forward to learning about outstanding members of our community from across the state.



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here to fill out a simple form](#).

EASTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY

Coming to Greenville, SC - July 15-19th

— by Mary Cahill-Roberts

The poster for the Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) 2019 conference in Greenville, SC, features a yellow background with a honeycomb pattern. At the top, it reads "Eastern Apicultural Society 2019" and "South Carolina EAS 2019 July 15th - 19th". It includes logos for Hilton, Greenville Convention Center, and the slogan "Healthy Honey Bees, Healthy Planet". The dates "July 15 - 19, 2019, Greenville, SC" and the website "www.easternapiculture.org" are also present. A row of six small photos shows speakers: Dr. Dewey H. Cassin, Dr. Kirsten Trappier, Dr. Geoff Williams, Dr. Meghan Wilson, Jennifer Barry, and Dr. Jay Evans. Below these are several hexagonal callouts listing activities: "Major Beekeeping Suppliers and Artisans", "Friday Night Banquet with Speaker, New EAS President", "30 LIVE Hives for on site, hands on training", "EAS Master Beekeeping Program Testing & Certification", "2 Day Short Course Different Learning Tracks", "Elaborate display of Honey, Food Exhibits, Gadgets & Artwork", and "EAS 2019 3 Day Main Conference".

In July, the Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) will be in Greenville, SC which is the closest it has been to Georgia in more than ten years. My first EAS conference was in Rhode Island and needless to say I was impressed. Buddy May is the President from South Carolina this year. He and the organizers have a multitude of speakers from throughout the country providing many opportunities for beekeepers to learn and network.

EAS is an organization dedicated to providing education to all beekeepers. There are many reasons to attend the July conference, including a short program prior to the main program, world renowned speakers, a master beekeeper certification process, an open bee yard with experts answering questions including hands on hive inspections, vendors to buy equipment, meeting other beekeepers, kids programs for education and a yearly Honey Show.

I especially like going to conferences to learn about different management methods, products, and others ideas. For example, I first learned about the AZ hive from a local conference, but the Nat Hive and the styrofoam hive came from EAS 2018. I like one of the hives but not the other...If you go to Greenville, stop me and ask me which one and why.

A Mentor Appreciation

I wanted to send a special thank you to Pete Roundtree and his sweet wife Sandy. I was new to bees last May. After going to a little beekeeping class and wanted to share our farm with some bees. I drove to North Ga not knowing I could get my bees right here. Of course about twenty bees were able to escape and by the time I got home I was pretty shaken. Pete and Sandy met me and I learned so much that first day. They have helped me with every call. Pete has been a wonderful mentor with patience and a sense of humor.

Thank you so much.

Lorraine Kaiher
Swainsboro GA , Tender Winds Farm



The Great Georgia Pollinator Census

– by *Becky Griffin*
Project Coordinator
Great Georgia Pollinator Census

On August 23rd and 24th, 2019, Georgians all across our state will become citizen scientists and participate in the first Great Georgia Pollinator Census. The census is an important initiative to document a snapshot of our pollinator populations. Other goals include increasing sustainable pollinator habitat and increasing the entomological literacy of Georgia citizens. We want people to go from “ooh, it’s a bug” to “look at the tarsal claw on that bee!”. All Georgians are invited to be part of this project!

Pilot projects conducted in 2017 and 2018 focused on community and school gardens. The results of the pilot projects allowed us to improve the counting strategy and to create educational materials for gardeners and teachers. Many schools used the pilot projects as part of their STEM work.

The project website, <https://GGaPC.org>, contains all the information a citizen needs to participate. *An Insect Identification and Counting Guide* explains the details of the project. On the census dates people are encouraged to pick a favorite pollinator plant from their garden to use for counting. This plant should have many blooms that are attracting insects.

For 15 minutes participants will count the insects landing on their plant and put them in the following categories:

- Bumble bees
- Carpenter bees
- Honey bees
- Small bees
- Wasps
- Flies
- Butterflies
- Other insects



You do not have to be an entomologist to participate; we are not looking for species level identifica-



tion. Again, the *Insect Identification & Counting Guide* gives you all the tools needed to tell a bee from a fly and a bumble bee from a carpenter bee.

The website also has information on building pollinator habitat as well as information about pollinator events going on around the state. After counting, participants will upload their counts to the website.

For those excited about learning more about these insects, our Georgia Pollinator Census Facebook page shares educational snippets daily and is a format for insect discussion.

Pollinator conservation is important to everyone from apartment dwellers to farmers. Homeowners will learn through this project that many of our native bees forage in a small area, 300-500 ft², and if the bees’ needs are met they will stay and provide valuable ecoservices for that homeowner. We can make a real and lasting difference in pollinator protection.

Won’t you join us? Sign up at the website. Join our Georgia Pollinator Census Facebook group. Create dedicated pollinator habitat. Learn about insects. Count with us in August. Be part of Georgia pollinator history.



The Importance of *Sealing Your Hives*

– by **Reinaldo Cermeno, Guyton, GA**
Coastal Empire Beekeepers Assoc.

I encourage our community of keepers to research the pros and cons of sealing absolutely all the gaps around your hive that are not the entrance, including the screened inner cover hole (the inner/outer cover chamber is for moisture, not for bees). I believe there is a correlation between sealing cracks and the levels of pheromone, and that significantly affects production. We can't have the smells escaping through gaps unnecessarily.

It's also a good idea to keep all the hive woodware sealed with good paint, including the entrance reducer. Any bare wood exposed to the elements will bring some type of fungus eventually. I've seen several cases where this process usually takes two to three seasons.





ASK AUNT BEE!

“We’ve all seen bee beards but what does it mean when the bees beard?”

*– answered by
Harold Lanier and
Debbie King*

A: This time of year when the weather gets hot, lots of the girls decide to sleep outside on the porch. This is normal behavior and no, they are not getting ready to swarm! It's all OK.

– Harold Lanier
Lanier Bee Barn

A: Your colony population should be LARGE at this time. Sometimes during the hot weather, your bees may “beard” on the outside of the hive. Bees bearding or clustering on the front of the hive is normal during the summer months. Bearding occurs when the hives have increased their colony size to take advantage of the nectar flow. The bees do not want to overheat the brood so some of the bees will hang out on the outside of the hive and fan to increase the airflow, cooling down the hive. As a beekeeper, you can assist by propping up the back of the top cover.

– Debbie King
President, Coweta Beekeeper Assoc.



*Now, that's
a BEE beard!*



CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

At our June meeting, Vickie Champlin was elected President and Julie Bell as Vice President. Laura Chumley will remain as Secretary/Treasurer. We welcome the new officers and look forward to them bringing their enthusiasm and new ideas to the club. Congratulations!

Events:

Appalachian Beekeepers of Georgia - Monthly Meeting

When: Thursday, July 11, 7:00 PM

Place: Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA

Topic: Round table on what's going on in the hive right now

Field Day/hive inspection - hands-on

When: Saturday, July 13, 10:00 AM

Place: ABA Apiary at Talking Rock Nature Preserve, Carnes Mill Rd, Talking Rock, GA

Hive inspection, frame manipulation, etc.

Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

We celebrated the club's 10th anniversary at our annual party in June. We had great attendance and lots of sweets. Heather Coates even made a "Bee Hive Pinata". We all took a swing at it and it finally burst...don't try this at home! Tommy Bailey was presented a plaque and certificate acknowledging his founding of the club and the contributions he has made over the years. Fun was had by all!

Next month we have Dan Long speaking to us about Bee Lining. If you don't know what this is, come to our club meeting to find out (no Google searches allowed before hearing Dan). This should be an interesting topic and a nice break from talking about hive stressors.

Everyone is excited to hear the Save the Bee license tag is now available and look forward to sharing our hobby and efforts to save the bees with other motorists.



Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association

At our June meeting, our own vice president and Georgia Journeyman Beekeeper Cory Momany spoke to the club about harvesting honey. He included techniques specifically geared towards excellent quality for producing and bottling honey that's ready to win awards at honey shows. He brought and demonstrated a lot of equipment so folks could really see them functioning up close.



Lake Country Beekeepers Association

The most recent meeting of the Lake Country Beekeepers Association on June 20th was a real hit for the 50+ members and visitors in attendance. We celebrated several club members' achievements in our industry. Marie Makela and Rhoda Allen both passed the level one certification test for the Master Beekeeping Program and received engraved hive tools from the club to recognize their achievement. Also, Raymond and Maryleen Courson earned their Welsh Honey Judging Certificate and were presented with a judging kit in recognition.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Cory Momany, a Journeyman Beekeeper who owns Flying Pigs Honey, gave an in-depth presentation on bee nutrition. Besides covering the basics of what bees really need to consume in order to thrive, he explained much of the science behind WHY bees need a balance of carbs, lipids, vitamins and minerals, protein and water. After all, our goal for them is to thrive while facing big stressors in our environment including diseases and parasites, pesticides and reduced availability of nectar sources. He also reviewed some pros and cons of different supplements.

We invite you to attend our next meeting where we will discuss "bee cutouts" presented by our own member, Karen Palmer. The meeting will be Thursday, July 18th at 6:30 at the Hancock County Library in Sparta, Georgia.

(continued on next page)



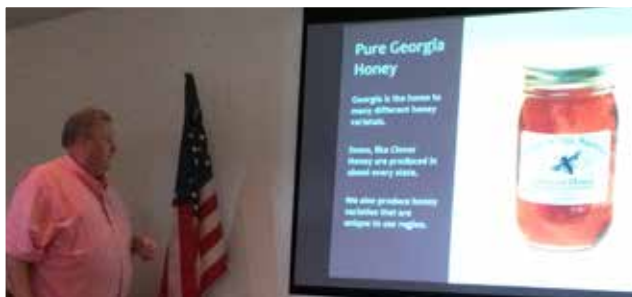
CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Oglethorpe County Bee Club

Keith Fielder presented a talk titled "A Taste for Honey" at the Oglethorpe County Bee Club's June meeting. He discussed the flavor profiles, colors, and gustatory pairings for various honeys- with a focus on those commonly collected here in Georgia. He ended his talk with blending strategies based on our tongue's sensory response to tastes. Yum!



Many of you know **PN and Evelyn Williams**. They worked with others to help create the Young Harris Beekeeping Institute, they founded the Tara Beekeepers Association and the Clayton County Adult Short Course. They visit numerous schools and children's groups to teach about honey bees and the vital role young people can play in protecting them. Evelyn was one of the first Welsh Honey Judges in the United States.

We invite and encourage everyone to join us on July 15th for an interview and open discussion with PN & Evelyn. This very special presentation will cover more than 50 years of beekeeping that spans a time before and after the arrival of colony collapse disorder, varroa mites and small hive beetles.

More information can be found at www.tarabeekeepers.org.

Tara Beekeepers

Susan Meyers from Monarchs Across Georgia was our June guest, speaking on the similarities between the issues that bees and monarch butterflies are currently facing. More information can be found at <https://www.ealliance.org/monarchs-across-ga>.



Pat McNeil was the winner of our quarterly prize, a solar wax melter built by members Rick Stephens and Keif Schleifer.

After the presentation, PN Williams gave a talk and demo on honey extraction.



West Georgia Beekeepers Association

Our monthly meeting on Monday July 22, 2019 will be our mid-year question and answer session. We will have a club round table discussion for all members. Allen Bradd, owner of Sweetwater Creek Honey Farm, will be our speaker on Monday, August 26th, 2019. He will be speaking about "pests and winter prep". We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, Georgia, 30134. The mentoring session begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7 pm. Hope to see you there

2019 Honey Bee Jamboree



For years the Eastern Piedmont and Oglethorpe Beekeeping clubs gathered together for a summer Honey Bee Jamboree. It always included a lot of good food and good times with other keepers of bees.

This year the presidents for the six northeast Georgia GBA clubs decided to get in on the fun.

On August 17th, National Honey Bee Day, members from NE Ga. Mountain, Amicalola, Eastern Piedmont, Ogelthorpe, Lake Hartwell and Tri-county clubs will cluster together at Hurricane Shoals Park.

Happy 4th of July, everyone!

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please *fill out this form* to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please *review the requirements*.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, July 1		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, July 16		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Jasper Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, July 11	Roundtable discussion about what's happening in the hives right now.	wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 25		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 16		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019 ** Mulberry Park, Dacula, Ga**	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 9	Dan Long, on Bee Lining	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 8	Meet at 5 pm at the club Apiary at Simmons Rd. 6 pm premeeting at Mike's Restaurant, Hwy 282. 7 pm at the Civic Center on Old Hwy 5. Harold Lanier will present Winter Prep.	marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, July 11		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthitt Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, July 17		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, July 8		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 9		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, July 18		spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm	Monday, July 1		clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, July 8		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 8		danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 23		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website *	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, July 1		danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 11		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 25	Keith Fielder	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 16		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 9		henrybeebuz123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 18	Karen Palmer, on Bee Cutouts	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	<i>Special date:</i> Thursday, July 11	Club members will review varroa mite monitoring and treatment options and facil- itate a question and answer discussion	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, July 23		info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, July 4		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 16	Preparing Entries for Honey Shows	julia@mahoodstudio. com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, July 9		abletinker@wind- stream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 11	Brutz English, Honey Show Entry Workshop	officers@negabee- keeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 8		kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, July 25		secretary@oabees. com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 15	Dan Harris, late season splits	joecontibeas@aol. com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 8		victor@makinhoney. com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, July 11		polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, July 18		potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January	Monday, July 1		Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, July 11		info@sowegabee- keepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, July 15	PN & Evelyn Williams, Our Beekeeping Journey, 50+ yrs	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 2		threecountybees@ gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, July 8	6pm, club cookout and picnic	info@tricitybee- keepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 16		tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, July 15		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, July 8		twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, July 16		waltonbees@yahoo. com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, July 22	Round table, and question and answer session	2nparker@bellsouth. net	Douglas



Spilling *The* Honey

SEPTEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September has arrived and with it comes our fabulous annual fall conference. **Have you registered?** We're counting down until September 26th when we can eat dinner with our beekeeping friends and listen (and laugh) as Jennifer Berry talks about her twenty-plus years in beekeeping

We have a great variety of speakers and topics this fall. Here is our schedule at a glance – it's not the whole program but will let you know who will be there and what their topics are:

Time	Friday
9 - 9:45	Clarence Collison: A closer look at factors affecting queen quality
9:45 - 10:30	Jennifer Berry: Oxalic acid: Go with what we know
11:00 - 11:45	Breakout A
	Lewis Bartlett: Feeding the world without destroying it: what roles for our bees
	Selina Bruckner: Bees and cheese: how the Swiss do it
	Bill Dunn: The winter bee: why is she so special
	Sophia Price: A few dollars more: Marketing
	Linda Tillman: How to be a treatment free beekeeper
	LUNCH
12:30 - 1:15	Leo Sharaskin: Horizontal Hives, advantages and management
2:00 - 2:45	Breakout B
	Repeat of all speakers and topics in Breakout A
3:00 - 3:45	Jaret Daniels: Importance of roadsides for insect pollination
7:00 - 9:00	Cookie and Honey Ice Cream Social: Honey show awards and Beekeeper of the Year announced
Time	Saturday
9:00 - 9:45	GBA Business Meeting
10:00 - 10:45	Leo Sharaskin: Natural beekeeping that works
11:15 - 12:00	Breakout C
	Paul Berry: Swarm catching
	Selina Bruckner: The collision of honey bees, pesticides, and parasites
	Jaret Daniels: Landscaping for pollinators
	Jennifer Leavey: Tips for finding and reading the best new research papers about bees
	Marilynn Parker: Planning, preparing and providing a honey show for your club
	LUNCH
1:15 - 2:00	Clarence Collison: Applying the basics of honey bee biology
2:00 - 2:45	Lewis Bartlett: Apis through the zoologist's lens: the most marvelous creatures on earth?
3:15 - 4:00	Breakout D
	Repeat of all speakers and topics in Breakout C
4:00 - 4:45	Julia Mahood: Confessions of a backyard beekeeper

The great news on the license plate front is that we have as of this writing sold almost 670 plates. I've been fascinated that 71% of the plates we are selling go to non-GBA members who are also not beekeepers. Only 29% of our plates are being sold to GBA members. If you haven't gotten yours yet, [click here](#). You can buy one when it is not your renewal month although perhaps many of you are waiting until then.

Come to the GBA Board meeting before the dinner on Thursday night (the 26th). We'll be discussing our 100th birthday, the possibility of hosting EAS in a few years, the needs for volunteers for the prison program, and the wonderful gatherings of beekeepers that are happening across the state.

See you at the fall conference.
Until then, BEE WELL,

Linda T



2019

Honey Bee Jamboree

– by Kathleen Bourn
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers



The six Northeast Georgia GBA clubs celebrated the 2019 National Honey Bee Day on August 17th with a Honey Bee Jamboree. GBA director Bobby Chaisson gathered the clubs together at Hurricane Shoals State Park in Maysville. The presidents for each of the clubs; Amicalola, Tri-county, Lake Hartwell, Oglethorpe, Northeast Georgia Mountain and Eastern Piedmont, organized the celebration and invited all their members.

As expected, most of the clustering was around all the great food. The clubs contributed the excellent BBQ and drinks while all the attendees filled in the side dishes and desserts.

Of course beekeepers can't get together without showing off their honey. Each of the six clubs submitted their three best tasting honeys. Jamboree attendees then did the taste-testing and the best of the best was chosen. Pam Wisecup's (Tri-County) honey was the favorite. Joe Conti (Oglethorpe) won second place and Rick and Kristina White (Lake Hartwell) placed third.



There was an assortment of door prizes along with a couple of hives and gadgets to look over.

Each club put their collective beekeeping knowledge to the test in the trivia contest. They pondered such questions as: *The term "honeymoon" is derived from the tradition of giving newlyweds a month's supply of what item to ensure happiness and fertility.* (The answer is mead). Probably the toughest question was: *The honey bee is the state insect of Georgia. What is the date when the joint resolution declaring this was signed?* (The answer is April 18th, 1975). It wasn't trivial that the Oglethorpe Beekeepers came out on top.

Bobby arranged for each club to have their photo taken along with a big Honey Bee Jamboree group picture.

It was a great day and a chance to get to know other beekeepers in the region who all share the love for those bugs in a box.

BEE COGNIZANT

– by April Ulrich
Journeyman Beekeeper

I am an inmate participant in the Lee Arrendale State Prison beekeeping program. Not counting apiary visits for summer weed whacking and winter feeding, I estimate I've had a hundred interactions/inspections with our bees between April 2016 and June 2019. A few of my interactions have remained present in my memory enough to compel me to share these stories.

September 2017 brought tropical storm Irma to Alto, Georgia, and toppled all six of our Langstroth hives. Thankfully, we got to rescue our bees who had spent a wet, cold night on the ground, and we only lost one queen. During the first real inspection of these colonies about two weeks after the storm, I noticed an odd behavior. Sometimes we don't have access to smokers due to tools being kept under lock and key in prison, so the first post-Irma inspection was smokeless. However, the bees responded to the covers being removed as if we did have smoke. They dived down between frames instead of boiling up on top bars, as if they instinctively thought disaster had struck again and they needed honey to prepare for evacuation. Afterward activity was back to normal. I genuinely believe the bees recalled that storm and that I'm not suffering anthropomorphism!

Our apiary is located in a large fenced field that was once used for soccer. Unlike most inmates, the bees get to fly outside these fences to forage, possibly even to a local orchard. One morning I was groundskeeping and got to witness their dance communication. The previous day our class had dumped on the ground some crystallized sugar syrup from feeder jars as we don't always have water hot enough to completely melt sugar. I carry my provisions of weed-eater, water bottle, paper towels, and extra cutting string out and set them on the ground as I put on my veil and primed the weed eater. This morning, unlike others, the bees zoomed to these provisions I'd set in the grass. It only took me a minute to realize they were really hunting for the lumps of sugar we'd discarded. It is nice to know your bees, and



it enriches my beekeeping experience to know these intelligent insects.

Lastly, bees know their sisters too. My regular prison job in May 2017 gave me access to a swarm of bees in a bush by our prison chapel. The bulk of that very large swarm was successfully housed in our apiary but I noticed a thousand or so bees still lingering in the bush. So four days later our entire bee class, along with volunteer Virginia Webb went to gather these abandoned bees. It was more an effort to let classmates see how bees cluster outside the hive. We caught them in a small plastic bag and walked them to the apiary and hive where their sisters and queen now lived. We opened the hive, exposing the tops of frames, and emptied the bag of bees onto those frames. Would you believe, a thousand bees instantly struck the nasonov pose as soon as their feet touched wood! HOME! They knew in that split second that they were kin. Okay, perhaps that is anthropomorphism because it was so cute. I've combined unrelated bees before, but this bee reunion was the cutest thing.

Now, if only I could become "bee woman of Arrendale" and figure out the washboarding behavior!

2019 North American Mite-A-Thon

From the [Pollinator Partnership Website](#).

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 TO
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019**

Mite-A-Thon is a tri-national effort to collect mite infestation data and to visualize Varroa infestations in honey bee colonies across North America within a one week window. All beekeepers can participate, creating a rich distribution of sampling sites in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Their Varroa monitoring data will be uploaded to www.mitecheck.com.

The parasitic mite, Varroa destructor (Varroa), and the viruses it vectors are significant drivers of this honey bee colony mortality. Yet, indicators suggest that many beekeepers are not monitoring honey bee colony Varroa infestations and therefore not able to connect infestation to colony loss.

OBJECTIVE: 1) To raise awareness about honey bee colony Varroa infestations in North America through effective monitoring methods. 2) Management strategies will be made available for discussion within bee organizations utilizing Mite-A-Thon partner developed information and outreach materials.

DATE: The week of September 7, 2019, with a practice test during summer 2019

PARTICIPANTS: All beekeepers in North America are encouraged to participate

COST: There is no cost. You can create your own test materials or kits can be purchased online and at your local bee supply store

OUTREACH: Promotion of Mite-A-Thon will be through local bee clubs, state beekeeping organizations, and national associations.

DATA COLLECTION: Participants will monitor the level of mites (number of mites per 100 bees) using a standardized protocol utilizing two common methods of assessment (alcohol wash or powdered sugar roll) and then enter data, including location, total number of hives, number of hives tested, local habitat, and the number of Varroa mites counted from each hive. The published information will not identify individual participants.

SPONSORS: Sponsorships are being solicited to underwrite costs and grants, as necessary.

CONTACT: Miteathon@pollinator.org or 415-362-1137

TO DO: Determine your preferred method of testing for mites and commit to a day for testing, either individually or through beekeeping organizations, and report your data.



Above: The sugar roll method for collecting and counting mites. Below: The alcohol wash method.

The Bear Necessities

"I wasn't going to eat it, I was just going to taste it."

—Winnie the Pooh—



Our favorite Katherine Montgomery has the most dangerous apiary in the world located on the 2400 foot level of the mountain over Ellijay, GA. She was kind enough to let us use her apiary and electric fence at her mountain cabin. We got great sourwood honey from the flow and the wildlife was amazing.

This waist-high boar bear helped himself to some of the best honey around and destroyed several hives in the process. We caught him on the trail cam we had set up. When this bear is already in the apiary, 4:42AM is not the time to be working the bees. The camera also caught this assortment of wildlife: The deer; the beautiful red fox with the black tipped tail; the momma bobcat with her cub in the background standing up against the electric fence sniffing the hives.

Sam Alston
Bear-prone
beekeeper



We've had two sightings from Appalachian Beekeepers Association members who have had bears on their property. One member lived in a neighborhood where there is an HOA. The hives were discovered when security came because of the bear. Our member had to move the hives to another location and was fined \$500. Expensive day.

Several years ago we had a bear get into a hive in our yard. The dog was barking early in the morning. My son Josh walked out to see why the dog (who never barks) was barking. He was surprised by the bear, standing on his hind legs, frame in paw, saying "Morning," Yogi was pretty casual, looking at my son, about 12 feet from the garage door. Josh went back in and got his gun and shot it into the ground and Yogi took off, still with frame in paw. He stopped after a short distance, turned to stand again, looking at Josh as if to reconsider coming back to the hive for more. Another shot to the ground and Yogi took off for good. Fortunately he was disturbed before he could destroy the hive. The bees survived afterwards for a period of time, but we moved the hive a little further from the house. We didn't want to walk out and meet Yogi again and maybe Boo-Boo would be with him.

Vicki Champlin
Appalachian Beekeepers

APIMONDIA



Every two years more international beekeepers cluster together than there are honey bees in a ten frame hive...and they call it Apimondia. This year the 46th Apimondia takes place in Montreal, Canada. Not since Vancouver in 1999 has this world beekeeping congress gathered in North America. On September 8th-12th one of the largest beekeeping conventions in the world will showcase world-wide advancements in apiculture. There are lectures from beekeeping experts, displays of beekeeping gadgets, a honey show to beat all honey shows and the coming together of new and old beekeeping friends.



BEExxx PLATES AUCTION AT FALL MEETING

GBA has a lot of low-numbered BEE license plates. We offered special plates which started with BEE to 96 people in the GBA leadership, beekeepers of the year, life members, etc., but all were not taken. We want to share this opportunity for you to have these remaining unprecedented first plates by silent auction. These are special plates and are the only group that will ever be made which start with BEE.

Our silent auction will be held at our Fall 2019 meeting. Opening bids begin on Friday Sept.



27th at 8:45 am and the silent auction will continue until Saturday Sept. 28th at 3:00 pm when the auction will close. Opening bids will start at \$25.00. All proceeds go to Georgia Beekeepers Association's mission of education about honey bees and beekeeping.

Good luck winning a BEE plate with the number of your choice!

Buzz Fund Grants

– by Gina Gallucci
Vice President, GBA

Donating to the Buzz Fund brings rewards to the field of beekeeping in our state. We have a well-defined application process and a dedicated committee to review each request earnestly. We are very careful in granting the money, and generous with grants being put to good use to promote beekeeping to a wide variety of people or programs. We have helped a veteran's program, schools, colleges, pollinator gardens, and a handicapped children's camp along with projects for some of the local beekeeping clubs in the state. Please donate the GBA Buzz Fund for effective results. It's easy. On our website- just click DONATE.



About Our Sponsors

Putting together the two GBA conferences each year takes time, energy and of course money. Since GBA was founded, beekeeping businesses have helped provide supplies to the beekeeper and sponsorship to our conferences.

These very generous sponsors are supporting our GBA Fall Conference.

- Pigeon Mountain Trading Co.** ...706-638-1491
- Mann Lake**.....800-880-7984
- Rossman Apiaries**..... 800-333-7677
- Blue Ridge Honey Co.** 706-782-6722



Elections Let Your Voice Be Heard

It is election time for GBA officers. We have several positions up for election. These include Secretary, Treasurer, and three Director positions. We want you to have a chance to meet those that are running for these offices. Cast your ballot at the GBA Conference on Friday, September 27th, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm then again on Saturday, September 28th from 8:30 am to 12 pm. Voting will be in the registration area.

Derrick Fowler – Secretary

I have enjoyed serving the GBA membership in the role of Club Secretary over my first term. I would be happy to serve again if elected. Often times Linds Tillman, GBA Club President, has spoken of how important it is for a volunteer organization to be served by a spirit of volunteerism by all. I encourage anyone to consider stepping into some role as another way to support your local and state clubs. You will be rewarded ten-fold with fellowship, strengthened friendships and a greater appreciation for seeing how things work and run smoothly, seemingly without effort..

Paul Berry – Treasurer

I almost know how to do the job! I have served as treasurer since Bear stepped down. I was elected two years ago and would like to serve for another two years.

Dave Helfer – Treasurer

I am a new beekeeper this year, but my profession is I am a Certified Public Accountant and own a small CPA firm. With my experience as a licensed CPA and member of the GBA, I believe I can serve the GBA in this way.

Robert “Bobby” Torbush – Director

After starting beekeeping in 2007, I served as President of Coweta Beekeepers 2011 - 2012, and by May 2015, I accomplished the goal of Master Beekeeper through the Young Harris/UGA Beekeeping Institute. I currently serve the Coweta Beekeepers Association as their Education Coordinator and run their Introduction to Beekeeping Class.

Although a hobbyist beekeeper, I have enjoyed visiting beeyards all over the world to compare beekeeping practices with those in Georgia. Of course, that includes collecting honey from many countries also!

I would be honored to be your elected Director to represent West Central Georgia.

Sophia Price – Director

I enjoyed visiting the clubs, getting to know members better, presenting programs for them, and helping at events.

David Logue – Director

My primary goal is always to promote beekeeping and an understanding of bees in our community. Serving as a Director on the GBA Board is one more way to better accomplish these goals. I currently hold the offices of president in the Clark's Hill Beekeepers Association and Vice President of the Augusta Beekeeping Association. I am a detail-oriented person with a dedication to planning ahead, keeping apprised of situations, and making sure operations are running smoothly. As a civil engineer, I am accustomed to managing big projects, creating reports, and working with different kinds of people to achieve a desired outcome.

I want to make certain that Georgia's bee clubs gain the maximum benefit from belonging to the GBA and as a Director I would be in a position to do that. I will represent the clubs in my area to communicate their needs and concerns to the GBA Board and provide any communication from the Board to the clubs. I will work to support changing rules that encumber beekeepers or lack protection of honeybees. There is a fundamental lack of public understanding when it comes to honey bees and other pollinators. I believe the GBA should take an active role in educating Georgia's citizenry about the needs and nature of our honey bees. This is fundamental in changing the environment so that bees flourish.

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association



At our August meeting, our very own member, Marty Mitchell presented the program. She and her husband Mike went to Slovenia on a two-week tour of bee farms. In Slovenia the honey bee is considered a domesticated farm animal. The PowerPoint presentation was very informative showing the AZ hives used by the majority of Slovenians. If interested

in taking a tour as they did go to beesloveniabeeking.com. Two tours are given annually in May and October.

The September meeting will be CVBA's annual picnic on Sunday, the 8th at 4 pm. The event will include a honey tasting contest and a smoker contest before enjoying a covered dish meal.

Lake Country Beekeepers Association

We held our Third Annual Honey Show in August. Three categories and three classes were available for our members. There were over 20 entries. Cash prizes were awarded for first, second and third place winners along with Best in Show. Keith Fielder was our honey judge; Raymond and Maryleen Courson served as show stewards; and Rose Anne Fielder was the show secretary. The Coursons, who recently completed their Welsh Honey Judge certification at Young Harris Beekeeping Institute, received a Michael Young Honey Judging Kit presented by Keith Fielder. The Best in Show award went to Larry and Joanne Huff.



Note: LCBA will NOT meet in September because we want beekeepers to attend the GBA Fall Conference on September 26th-28th.

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association

It turns out beekeepers forage on hotdogs and hamburgers like honey bees forage on nectar. The members of the Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association gathered on August 1st and were treated to master grilling by Shairon and Randall Kerlin along with homemade peach ice cream by LHBA president Drew Harvey. Other members brought the trimmings and samples of their honey. Everyone taste tested to determine the top three submissions. The honey from Rick and Kristina White, Jay Alexander and Harold Lanier went on to represent LHBA at the 2019 Honey Bee Jamboree on August 17th.



West Georgia Beekeepers Association

Our monthly meeting will be held on Monday, September 23rd. The guest speaker is Steve Posey and his topic is on queen rearing. There will be a question and answer session following the program. WGBA will have a booth at Greystone Power's Annual Meeting on October 12th. There will be members there to answer questions. October 12th, the club will host our annual honey contest and there will be a round table discussion during the judging.

We meet every fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, GA, 30134. The mentoring session begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7:00 pm.

Hope to see you there!

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, September 2		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, September 17		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, September 12	Linda Tillman, Treatment Free Beekeeping	pickensbeekeepers@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 26		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 17		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 10	Tommy Bailey, Winter Preparations and veteran keepers will host a Q&A session	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 9		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, September 12		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthitt Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, September 18		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	**Sunday, September 8	**Annual picnic at 4pm. Beegle Farm, 6535 Lower Blue Springs Rd. Hamilton, GA**	Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 10		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, September 12		spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm			clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, September 9		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 9		cowetabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 24		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, September 2		danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 12		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm **Special date for conference**	Monday, 9/23 (adjusted to avoid GBA conference this month)	Winter Preparations & Feeding, and our annual Honey Show	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 17		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 16		henrybeebuz123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, October 17	No meeting this month. See you at the GBA Fall Conf.	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

(continued on next page)

CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 5		lakehartwellbeekeepersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, September 24		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, September 5		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	**Picnic** Sunday, September 15	**Picnic, Auction and Honey Show. The Galloway School in Buckhead, 4-7pm**	julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	North GA Tech College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn Ln Blairsville GA 30512	1st Tuesday, 6:00pm	Tuesday, September 3		abletinker@windstream.net	Union, Towns, Fannin
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 12		officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 9		kaizen.thornberry@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, September 26		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd, Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 16	Kathleen Bourn, Gadgets, Gizmos, and Gotta Have Its	joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 9		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, September 12		polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, September 12		potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 12		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, September 16		maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 3		threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 9		info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, September 16		tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, September 16		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, September 9		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, September 17		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, September 23	Steve Posey, queen rearing	2nparker@bellsouth.net	Douglas



2019 Fall Meeting

EDUCATING BEEKEEPERS *and*
SUPPORTING LOCAL CLUBS

2019 OFFICERS

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Linda Tillman

Vice President

Gina Gallucci

Secretary

Derrick Fowler

Treasurer

Paul Berry

Newsletter Editors

Holly Bayendor &

Kathy Bourn

Past President

Mary Cahill Roberts

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September 26-28
CUMMING, GEORGIA

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Lewis Bartlett is an infectious disease biologist, entomologist, and evolutionary ecologist at the University of Georgia's Center for the Ecology of Infectious Diseases. He uses field studies, laboratory experiments, and computer simulations to understand how changes in beekeeping are affecting bee diseases in both the short and long term.



Jennifer Berry is the Research Professional and Lab Manager for the University of Georgia Honey Bee Program. On nights and weekends, she operates Honey Pond Farm, which sells quality nucleus colonies, teaches classes on how to keep bees alive and how to raise superior queens at her farm in Georgia.



Clarence H. Collison is an Emeritus Professor of Entomology and Plant Pathology at Mississippi State University. He has written numerous beekeeping publications and participated in many educational programs for the beekeeping community. He writes the monthly column "A Closer Look" for *Bee Culture* and has published two books.



Jaret Daniels, Ph.D is Professor of Entomology at the University of Florida and the Director of the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity at the Florida Museum of Natural History. An entomologist by training, he specializes in the ecology and conservation of at-risk butterflies and other native insect pollinators.



Julia Mahood is a Georgia Master Beekeeper, graphic artist, President of MABA, and the GBA 2018 Beekeeper of the Year. She teaches beekeeping at Lee Arrendale State Prison and coordinates volunteers for the GBA prison program.



Dr. Leo Sharaskin is a full-time natural beekeeper in the Ozarks of southern Missouri and editor of "Keeping Bees With a Smile." He catches wild survivor-stock swarms and keeps bees treatment-free in horizontal hives. He writes for *American Bee Journal* and speaks internationally on sustainable beekeeping. His website: HorizontalHive.com

[Click here to register for the GBA Fall 2019 Conference.](#)

Breakout Speakers



Paul Berry is a UGA/YHBI Certified Master Beekeeper. He has been keeping and caring for honeybees off and on since 1987. His passion is teaching others about honeybees, his joy is catching and caring for swarms. In the past three seasons, he has caught over 100 swarms.



Selina Bruckner grew up in a small village in Switzerland where she extracted her first honey and got interested in bees. Now, she is a PhD at Auburn University studying potential combined effects of Varroa mites and neonicotinoids on honey bee health.



Bill Dunn started keeping honey bees in the "golden age" of beekeeping – before mites. Currently he runs anywhere from 50 to 150 hives and nucs, and he also uses these for club training classes. Alas, Bill is the only charter member left of the Forsyth Beekeepers Club.



Dr. Jennifer Leavey is the director of the Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project, an interdisciplinary educational initiative with the goal of recruiting and retaining students in STEM careers through the study of how urban habitats affect honey bee health and how technology can be used to study bees.



Marilynn Parker became a beekeeper at age ten. She is now a Master Beekeeper and Welsh Honey Judge. There was a break in her beekeeping while raising two children, but she is back enjoying the benefits and pleasures of beekeeping. Her husband of 48 years allows her to continue this passion.



Sophia Price Beekeeper, bee educator, honey producer, Sophia is a lover of all things wax and propolis. The products she manufactures are her own recipes. Selling her own products at events, markets and festivals is a fun way to increase income.



Linda Tillman President of the Georgia Beekeepers Association and a Master Beekeeper, Linda has been keeping bees naturally and treatment free since 2006. Linda loves the people she has met in GBA. She has worked particularly hard this year on selling the license plate.

[*Click here to register for the GBA Fall 2019 Conference.*](#)

Breakout Sessions

SESSION A repeats as SESSION B

FRIDAY

SESSION A • 11:00 - 11:45

SESSION B • 2:00 - 2:45

Feeding the World Without Destroying it: What Role for Our Bees in Modern Agriculture • *Lewis Bartlett*

*Location: Ballroom**

Demand for agricultural output continues to grow worldwide, posing a monumental challenge for conservation biologists working to safeguard nature. One of the biggest debates in this topic is land sparing vs land sharing. Find out what role our bees might play in this, and if that role already shaping U.S. beekeeping.

Bees and Cheese – How the Swiss do it • *Selina Bruckner*

Location: Laurel

After two years of beekeeping in the US, it became clear to me that there are distinct differences between Swiss and American beekeeping practices. An attempt to compare beekeeping in different countries.

The Winter Bee: Why is She so Special? • *Bill Dunn*

Location: Redbud

This session will focus on the longest lived worker bee. Why she lives so long. What she is doing in the late winter and early spring to build up to that terrific spring colony. And as always the importance of early mite control.

A Few Dollars More • *Sophia Price*

Location: Training Room

Learn tips and tricks to put more dollars in your pocket. Utilize a few marketing strategies to step up your selling game to give you a fist full of dollars.

How to Become a Treatment Free Beekeeper • *Linda Tillman*

Location: Oak

Linda will talk about attaining survivor bees and about basic philosophy and practice of keeping bees naturally. She will also cover how to convert from your currently treatment-dependent bees to bees that can survive without treatment.

SESSION C repeats as SESSION D

SATURDAY

SESSION C • 11:15 - 12:00

SESSION D • 3:00 - 3:45

Catching and Caring for Honey Bee Swarms • *Paul Berry*

Location: Redbud

With a little swarm prevention thrown in at no additional cost.

The Collision of Honey Bees, Pesticides and Parasites • *Selina Bruckner*

Location: Oak

Varroa mites and neonicotinoids are known to independently cause negative effects in honey bees. But what if queens, workers and drones are exposed to both stressors simultaneously? An overview of potential interaction effects and mitigation strategies.

Landscaping for Pollinators • *Jaret Daniels*

Location: Laurel

Private yards and home gardens alone collectively comprise the largest percentage of greenspace in most urban areas. As a result, it is critical to ensure that these landscapes include appropriate resources to help support pollinators and other wildlife.

Tips for Finding and Reading the Best New Research Papers About Bees • *Jennifer Leavey*

Location: Ballroom

Primary research articles can be difficult to access and a challenge to read – you don't want to waste your time reading junk! In this session, we will discuss how to find research that has been well vetted and how to read articles critically using an exciting new article as an example.

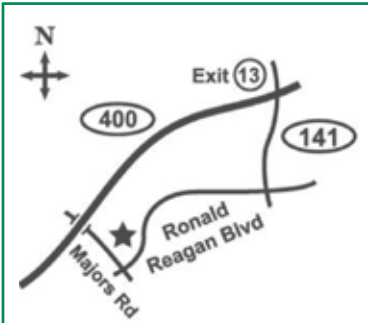
Planning, Preparing and Providing a Honey Show for Your Club • *Marilynn Parker*

Location: Training Room

From start to finish you will be able to provide your club with planning and organizing each part of putting on a honey show. Your planning committee, secretary, stewards and judges along with the forms you will need to put on a quality honey show.

**Please see the map on the back cover for room locations.*

[Click here to register for the GBA Fall 2019 Conference.](#)

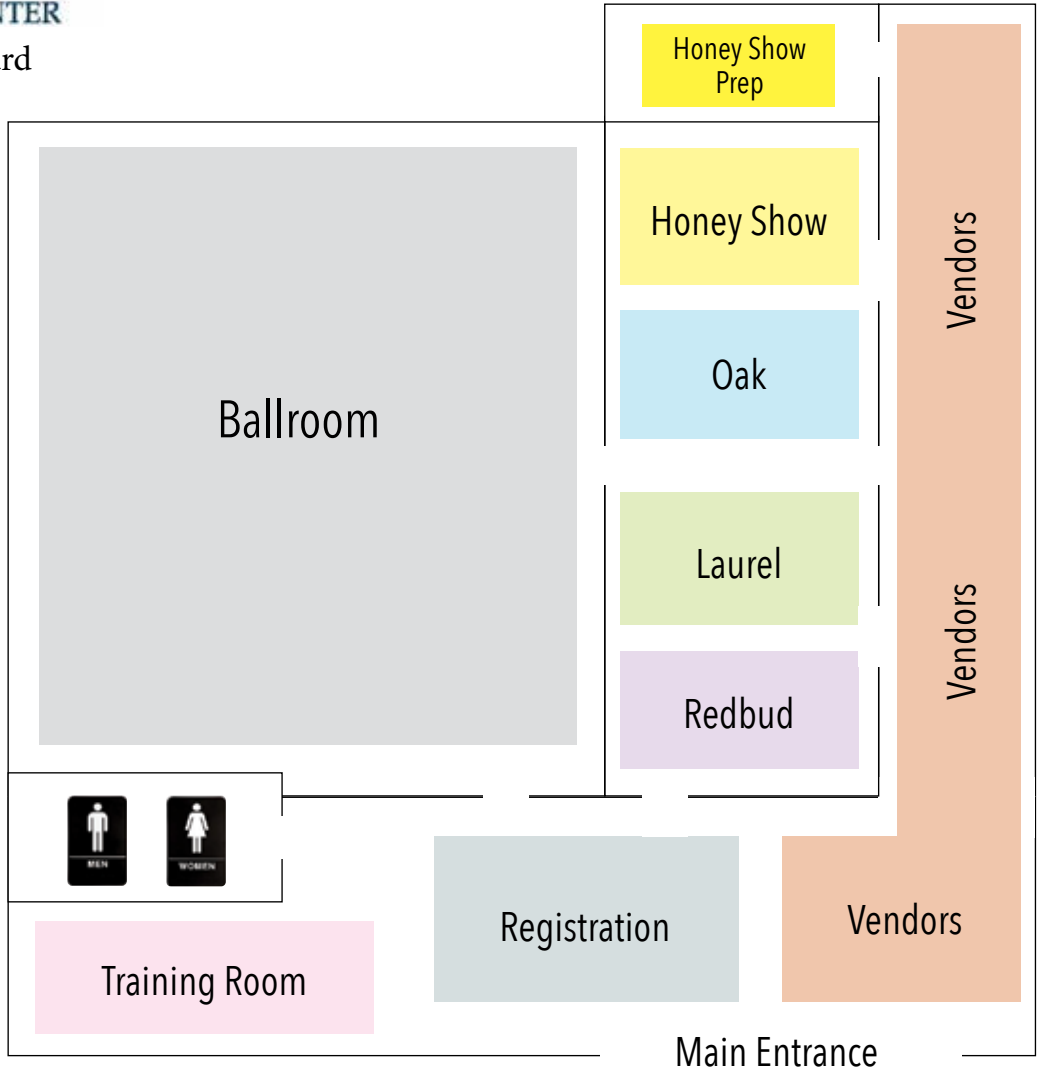


Directions going North:

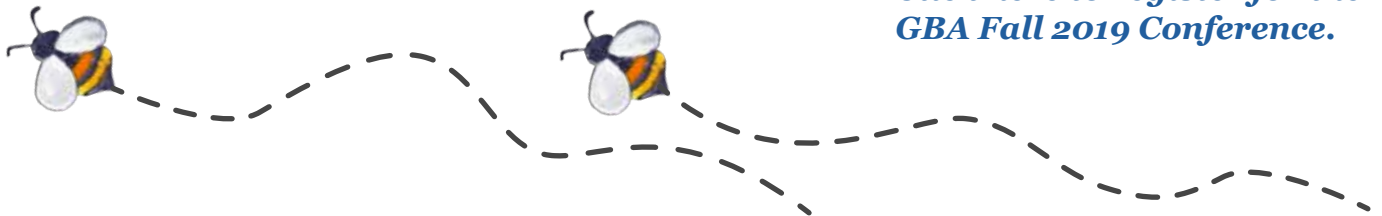
- 400 North
- Take Exit 13, Route 141
- Right onto Route 141
- Right onto Ronald Reagan Blvd
- Entrance to Forsyth Conference Center is before intersection of Majors Road on the right

Directions going South:

- Take Exit 13, Route 141
- Left onto Route 141
- Right onto Ronald Reagan Blvd
- Entrance to Forsyth Conference Center is before intersection of Majors Road on the right



Click here to register for the GBA Fall 2019 Conference.



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OCTOBER 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great conference! I loved every minute of it from the GBA Board meeting on Thursday until the closing on Saturday afternoon. There were so many people who worked so, so hard to make this happen.

The Board meeting went well and everyone did their part. As part of the legislative report, we heard a really good presentation to the board about what was learned in Apimondia about adulterated honey. Thanks to Jennifer Berry, we had a very entertaining dinner talk about her experiences during her years of beekeeping. Not only that, everyone got to reconnect with old and new bee friends over dinner.

Mike Dayton was an absolute champion as he continually made coffee throughout the conference. I never went to the kitchen when he wasn't there, rinsing and re-filling coffee pots. Thanks so much, Mike. Teri Meyer, Butch Shelton, and an energetic group of Forsyth beekeepers ran registration, making entering the conference much, much easier. Thanks to all of you who helped. And Forsyth members baked cookies for the ice cream social on Friday night.

Bobby Chaisson was everywhere. He helped in every way imaginable so I'm not going to try to name them all. Tim Doherty and Gina essentially ran the license plate auction and it was enormously successful, bringing in money well over the \$25 manufacturing fee for each plate. Sophia Price ran a committee of volunteers selling raffle tickets. And who could forget Steve Esau with his rolling cart of snacks!

The honey show under Brutz English was full of 183 entries - a record for GBA. I know many people were frustrated with the long sign-in wait but there's always something to learn in every event, and I'm sure the committee will address this before the spring.

Julia Mahood made the gorgeous Beekeeper of the Year plaque for Bobby Chaisson and the framed award for Gail Dean. She also created certificates of Lifetime Membership for Harold Ward and Jesse McCurdy. Her artistic abilities are reflected throughout GBA from the license plate to the many other ways in which she adds her creativity.

I'm a little biased because I'm the person who invites the speakers, but I think this was an interesting program, with such a nice variety of speakers and topics. They were well-informed and seemed to be well-received. And then we had the lovely ending with Julia's talk on her "confessions" after fifteen years of beekeeping.

I can't possibly remember everyone to thank but you will be hearing from me (I'm a southerner who is big on hand-done thank you notes). However, my biggest thanks go to Gina Gallucci who is my right hand person and who is the lead in every conference we present. She and I both work hard on the meetings, but she is constantly thinking creatively and invitingly about every aspect of the conferences.

Like I often say about beekeeping, I do love the bees, but I love even more the dear, wonderful people I meet and get to know in beekeeping. That is what GBA is to me.

Thank you, thank you, thank you one and all.

Bee well,

Linda



Oh! The Places You'll Go

– by Kathleen Bourn
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers



If you look around...really look around, you'll see our beloved honey bees in a variety of places.

If you have any of those disposable fly traps, give this a try. When the traps are full and the flies are dead, I usually dump the traps out in the compost pile. This year I happened by and saw honey bees all over the dead flies. I have no idea what they were getting but they seemed excited to have it.

Also, one early morning I spotted hundreds of them on some cardboard I put over my garden beds. They were definitely after the dewdrops but they seemed to pick and choose which ones they wanted.

As it turns out the girls like sweet summer watermelon too. Monroe Brown at Blue Haven Honey Company in Canon, Ga. saw this picture and passed it on to us.



Post-it
for Local
Club Presidents

GBA PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST

– by *Drew Harvey*
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

The GBA currently has 46 clubs throughout the state of Georgia and 37 were represented by their presidents or delegates this year at the GBA President's Breakfast. Everyone was seated with their state district and district representative so they could share ideas and plans to bring the regional clubs together and encourage more beekeepers to become involved. Each regional group then reported to the larger audience with ideas such as sharing club meeting announcements with each other, videoing speakers and storing presentations in a video library on the GBA site for other clubs to use, encouraging speakers to register on the GBA site as volunteers to speak to other clubs.

We also discussed the potential to share costs between clubs through group purchases for club membership management tools and so much more. In short, the message is clear, there are many great ideas and activities taking place across the state and the more we connect with each other to share these ideas, the greater our potential to grow our local clubs by reaching more beekeepers. Linda Tillman wrapped up the session by thanking the presidents for all their hard work and I think all the presidents would agree, the thanks truly goes to all the hard working club members that volunteer and do so much to keep our local clubs thriving.



Natural Beekeeping



Natural Beekeeping Symposium

Join us for a day with the world's leading bee scientist **Dr. Tom Seeley** and a full time natural beekeeper **Dr. Leo Sharashkin**. Your views on bees and beekeeping will never be the same after you hear them present! Discover the science and keys to success in natural beekeeping.

November 16, 2019
at Trident Technical College



Dr. Tom Seeley Dr. Leo Sharashkin

Register at
www.charlestonbees.org

Talk of treatment free apiaries was a part of the fall GBA conference with presentations from Dr. Leo Sharashkin... but it doesn't end there. Our beekeeping friends in Charleston, SC are continuing the conversation with a Natural Beekeeping Symposium. Dr Sharashkin is a full-time natural beekeeper in Missouri and he is joined by Dr. Tom Seeley, Professor of Biology at Cornell University. Dr. Seeley is a leading researcher and author of *Honeybee Democracy*, *The Wisdom of the Hive* and most recently, *The Lives of Bees*. The Charleston Area Beekeepers Association invites you to "discover the science and keys to success in natural beekeeping."

The symposium takes place on November 16th, 2019 at Trident Technical College in Charleston SC (Thornley Campus).

For more information and to register visit: www.charlestonbees.org

Washboarding

Have you ever heard of washboarding?

– by **Harold Lanier Lanier Bee Barn**
UGA Journeyman Beekeeper

It is when the bees orient head-down on the front of the hive and move up/down and side to side holding on with their four rear-most feet and seem to brush with the front two. They also seem to be touching/tasting with their mouth parts.

I sent an email to Dr. Keith Delaplane from UGA and he said "LOL, you have plugged into one of the biggest mysteries in beekeeping. No one really knows what washboarding's all about."



GBA FALL CONFERENCE 2019



BEEing with your People

One of the nice things about going to the GBA conferences is that beekeepers get to connect with those who provide beekeeping items. It's that ability to connect to "my people" that made Sandra Campbell want to bring her pottery, wood burning art and body care products to the conference. She is a first year beekeeper in Forsyth County but soon centered her art around honey bees.

Her Quarter Acre Farm provides a place for her bees and the garden where the natural ingredients for her salves and ointments grow.

What she really connects to is people. Tim Doherty picked some items from Sandra's work but after they unfortunately "walked away," she graciously replaced what he needed. That's the kind of connection we all hope for when we go to GBA conferences.

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GBA FALL CONFERENCE



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GBA FALL CONFERENCE



Beekeeper of the Year 2019

Bobby Chaisson

As soon as you walk in the door you see him at the GBA conference registration, helping you navigate the election process. You see him wearing his love of honey bees in his shirts and shoes. You see him helping to raise money for the Buzz Fund...dishing out honey ice cream...talking and laughing with everyone. The list doesn't end which is why the 2019 GBA Beekeeper of the year is Bobby Chaisson.

Here are just a few of the nominations submitted:

"He has actively removed and relocated hundreds of colonies from buildings around the state. Every time he removes bees from a structure, he uses it as an opportunity to educate the homeowner/building owner about the importance of honey bees."

"It doesn't matter what meeting you are attending, what colonies you are working, what hives you are loading, what folks you are teaching, if Bobby is around, he is helping. And the best part about it, you don't even have to ask, he just jumps in and helps wherever, whenever he can."

"Life is better with Bobby in the beekeeping world."

GBA FALL CONFERENCE

Beekeepers of Distinction

This year three of our members were awarded special honors. Harold Ward and Jesse McCurdy were awarded Lifetime Memberships. Gail Dean was honored for her service on the Legislative Committee, for her work in the State Legislature for the Honey Bee license plate.



Above, Harold Ward accepts his Lifetime Membership Award from Julia Mahood and Linda Tillman. Right, Julia presents the Lifetime Membership award for Jesse McCurdy to Jonathan Hayes, who accepted for him. Above right, Bobby Chaisson congratulates Gail Dean on her award for Outstanding Achievement.



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GBA FALL CONFERENCE

A Honey of a Show

The biggest GBA Honey Show to date happened at this year's fall conference.

It included an incredible 183 exhibits. The total number of exhibits for the year, including the Spring Artisan Show is over 350.

Brutz English, Honey Show Committee Chairman, made it clear that "All the first place winners here you could send to any show in the country and it would be no contest."

This expanded fall conference show allowed for new categories such as flavored creamed honey, big beeswax block (five pounds), infused honey, along with beeswax figurines and ingots. Color was added to the exhibits because of the new rule allowing the use of colored wax. The show also included the state prison beekeeping programs.

Even with all the first place prizes, the most outstanding work is done by the judges themselves. These highly trained and dedicated people forgo attending much of the conference in order to check in, label, categorize, and judge each entry according to Welsh Honey Judge certification standards.

The judges give each entry (winner or not) a written card with notes about how to improve their entry the next time. Even after the winners are chosen, the judges often take the time to talk with and educate those interested the honey show.



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GBA FALL CONFERENCE



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GBA FALL CONFERENCE

Winning exhibits/exhibitors for 2019:

Light Extracted Honey

- 1st Jay Parsons
- 2nd Michael Killingsworth
- 3rd Bill & Sandi Griffin
- VHC Virginia Webb
- HC Michelle Mincey
- C Paul Cerpovicz

Med. Extracted Honey

- 1st Michael Killingsworth
- 2nd Barbara Phillips
- 3rd Jay Parsons
- VHC Bill & Sandi Griffin
- HC Cindy Hodges
- C Grant & Karen Springfield

Dark Extracted Honey

- 1st Michael Killingsworth
- 2nd Julia Mahood
- 3rd Virginia Webb
- VHC Jay Parsons
- HC Cindy Hodges
- C Robert & Pam Wisecamp

Novice Extracted Honey

- 2nd Charlie Scott
- 3rd Daphne Glass
- VHC Bill & Sandi Griffin
- HC Sandra Campbell
- C David Holloman

Commercial Extracted Honey

- 1st Bobbee MacBee
- 2nd Virginia Webb

Varietal Extracted Honey

- 2nd Jay Parsons
- 3rd Virginia Webb

Sourwood Extracted Honey

- 1st Michael Killingsworth
- 2nd Virginia Webb

Infused Extracted Honey

- 1st Bobee Macbee
- 2nd Jay Parsons
- 3rd Cindy Hodges
- VHC Sandra Campbell
- C Virginia Webb

Creamed Honey

- 1st Bobee Macbee
- 2nd Michelle Mincey
- 3rd Robert & Pam Wisecup
- VHC Mary Cahill-Roberts
- HC Jay Parsons
- C Claire Driggers

Flavored Creamed Honey

- 2nd Mary Cahill-Rberts

Chunk Honey

- 1st James Ritchie
- 2nd Virginia Webb
- 3rd Daphney Glass
- C Michelle Mincey

Cut Comb Honey

- 1st James Ritchie
- 2nd David Collins
- 3rd Virginia Webb
- C Michelle Mincey

Section Comb Honey

- 1st Jay Parson
- 2nd Virginia Webb
- VHC Mary Cahill Roberts

Full Frame

- 1st Virginia Webb
- 2nd Mary Cahill Roberts
- 3rd Michelle mincey

Black Jar

- 1st James Ritchie

Beeswax Block (standard)

- 1st Michael Conner
- 2nd Bobbee Macbees
- 3rd Virginia Webb
- VHC Michelle Mincey
- C Danny Harvey

Beeswax Block (Large)

- 2nd Virginia Webb
- 3rd Michael Conner

Beeswax Bars

- 2nd Virginia Webb
- 3rd Michael Conner

Beeswax Ingots

- 1st Michelle Mincey
- 2nd Robert & Pam Wisecup
- 3rd Cindy Hodges
- VHC Virginia Webb
- HC Mary Cahill Roberts

Beeswax Figurines

- C Virginia Webb

Dipped Taper Candles

- 3rd Virginia Webb

Colored Dipped Tapers

- C Virginia Webb

Molded Taper Candles

- 2nd Virginia Webb

Colored Molded Tapers

- HC Virginia Webb

Molded Ornamental Candles

- 1st Julia Mahood
- 2nd Michelle Mincey
- 3rd Mary Cahill-Roberts
- HC Virginia Webb
- C Robert & Pam Wisecup

Floating Candles

- 1st Michelle Mincey
- 3rd Mary Cahill-Roberts
- VHC Virginia Webb

Rolled Candles

- 2nd Laura Adams
- 3rd Virginia Webb

Colored Rolled Candles

- 2nd Laura Adams
- 3rd Virginia Webb

BEST EXTRACTED HONEY

Sourwood Extracted Honey
Michael Killingsworth

BEST COMB HONEY

Cut Comb Honey James Ritchie

BEST BEESWAX ITEM

Standard Beeswax Block
Michael Connor

BEST BEESWAX CANDLE

Molded Ornamental Candles
Julia Mahood

BEST IN SHOW

Cut Comb Honey James Ritchie

SWEEPSTAKES WINNER

86 pts across 26 classes Virginia Webb

PRISON DIVISION

Extracted Honey

1st Place Lee Arrendale

Creamed Honey

3rd Place Lee Arrendale

Full Frame Comb Honey

2nd Place Lee Arrendale

Beeswax Block

1st Place Lee Arrendale

Beeswax Bars

1st Place Lee Arrendale

Beeswax Candles

2nd Place Lee Arrendale

Black Jar

1st Place Jimmy Autry

Best in Prison Division

Beeswax Block Lee Arrendale

OFFICIALS

Sr. Judge (Presiding) Brutz English

Judge Gail Dean

Judge Sandy Good

Judge Sean Massey

Sr. Judge Marilyn Parker

Judge Rodney Garner

Judge William Good

Show Secretary Katie Goodman

Show Secretary Cindy Hayes

Steward Phil McConnell

Steward James Kolasa

Steward Nancy Deason

Steward Betty Cosgrove

Steward Kenny Jones

[Note: VHC = Very Highly Commendable,
HC = Highly Commendable, C = Commendable]



CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

For our September meeting, we had an open floor Q & A session. Tommy Bailey answered many of the questions that were presented with his humor and experience in beekeeping. As you would expect, many of the questions were related to the treatment of Varroa.

September is also the time for us to talk about beekeeping at the Gwinnett County Fair. We have an observation hive, a teaching hive, equipment, and tons of handouts. Each year we pick up new members as a result of the fair. We also sell our honey, lip balm, and lotion bars to raise money for our club. This is our only fund raiser and our participation is one of the best public education opportunities we could ever ask for.



October is "Everything Honey" at our club! Bob Binnie will do a presentation about the properties of Honey. We always enjoy hearing from Bob when he shares his outstanding knowledge about any topic, but this one is great timing and will be a hit with the club. While Bob is presenting, Nicholas Weaver will be judging our Honey Show. We will have 14 categories and cash prizes for the winners. The show is always a hit and this year we expect there will be even more individual entries.



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here to fill out a simple form.](#)

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association

FDR State Park hosted a National Honeybee Day Celebration on August 17, 2019. Several of our members went to the celebration and sold their honey. Bill Mead won 2nd place in the honey tasting contest.

CVBA Annual picnic was held September 8, 2019. There was a good crowd in attendance and wonderful food. Jim Ellis opened a hive that was on location for attendees to look into and search for queen. A honey tasting and smoker contests were also held.



Winners of the Honey Contest:
1st: Joy Wallace (pictured below, right)
2nd: Bill Mead
3rd: Duane Johnson and Mark Eckman



Winners of the Smoker Contest:
Tall can: James Wilson (pictured above, left)
Short can: Luke Ellerman (pictured above, right)

The next CVBA meeting will be October 14, 2019 , 6 pm, at the UGA Extension Service Office located at 410 10th St. This will be a BS (Bee Stuff) and "Meet a Member" meeting.

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CLUB NEWS

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Henry County Beekeepers



Christine Hurst (pictured left) of the Henry County Beekeepers is showing a working frame of bees, brood, honey, and a queen to children at the Fortson Library in Hampton, Ga. The display frame holder was made by Tom Bonnell of the Henry County

Beekeepers, and he graciously allowed Christine to use it during a presentation at the library. It is a marvelous tool, and it sparked a lot of interest by those attending.

The Henry County Beekeepers recently set up two hives on the Farm Bureau property where we have our meetings. We use these hives for instruction, and we video recorded a hive inspection and mite treatment for our Facebook page. This is David McLeod and his grandson Nathan (pictured below), who came along to help us out. David is teaching his grandson all the ins and outs of being a beekeeper.



The Lake Country Beekeepers Association

We did not meet in September, yet our members were out and about sharing their bee knowledge and serving as bee ambassadors in their communities. Barbara and Emory Cromer and Daniel Douglass are promoting their honey and related products at the Washington County Farmers Market in Sandersville. Karen Palmer of Honey Please Bee Removal spoke at the Macon Beekeepers Association meeting. She says that bee removals require carpentry and beekeeping skills along with gymnastic skills for climbing ladders and scaffolding. She did a handspring for the audience to demonstrate her agility and strength.

The Macon Beekeepers now have a wonderful spacious and technology savvy meeting location at the Macon Museum of Arts and Sciences. Roger Kicklighter entertained adults and children at the Rose Tarbuton Library in Sandersville with his Honey Bee Program. Rhoda Allen and Marie Makela have developed and coordinated events on bees and pollinator gardens for families at the Hancock County Library in Sparta. Tim Bramblett, Rhunette Lewis, and Bruce Morgan helped them host a National Honey Day program. Hancock County Library is the first Georgia library to house an observation hive. Raymond and Maryleen Courson and Keith and Rose Anne Fielder were volunteer judges for the LCBA 3rd Annual Honey Show.



Beth Lewis spoke with members of the Garden Club of Union Point and explained what do bees do and what it takes to learn beekeeping. Some of these attendees are interested in taking the 8th Annual LCBA Short Course scheduled for Saturday, January 25th, 2020. Visit www.lcba2020.eventbrite.com for more information



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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

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Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association



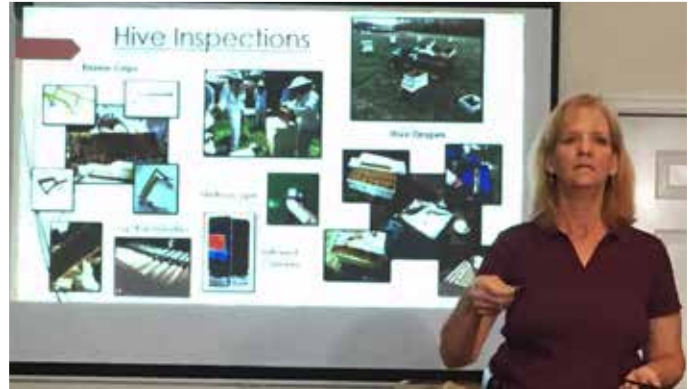
During its Annual picnic, MABA honored Ed Hoehn (left, with Julia Mahood) as their Beekeeper of the Year, 2019. They also awarded Jerry Wallace and Mickey Anderson with Lifetime Memberships.

Charlie (pictured below) and Mary Scott made a visit to the Schiff School in

Sandy Springs to talk to kids about honey bees and let them see the girls in action in the MABA observation hive.



Oglethorpe County Bee Club



Kathy Bourn (above) (co-editor for the GBA monthly newsletter, *Spilling the Honey*, e.g. what you are reading!) presented a talk September 16th to the Oglethorpe County Bee Club titled "Gadgets, Gizmos, and Gotta Have Its!" She presented a variety of simple, inexpensive, and often hand-constructed gadgets to simplify beekeeping.

Tara Beekeepers

In September the Tara Beekeepers held their first open house and black jar honey show. It was a huge success and we're looking forward to next year.

Our annual picnic will be held in October in place of our regular meeting.

Our next meeting will be November 18th and our topic will be Honey Bees and Beekeepers in Myth, Legend, and Lore.

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

Our monthly meeting will be held Monday, October 28th, 2019. We will have our annual members-only Honey Show and a round table discussion during the judging. The club will have a booth at the Greystone Power's Annual meeting on October 12th, 2019. November 25, 2019, Brutz English will be our guest speaker and he will be speaking on the State of Affairs of the GBA. We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, GA, 30134. The mentoring session begins at 6:30pm and the meeting to follow at 7:00pm.

Hope to see you there!



CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm			Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnell
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, October 15	Honey Show	marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, October 10	Mary Hawkins, products of the hive	pickensbeekeepers@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 21	TBA	Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm			arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, October 8	Welsh Honey Show, and Bob Bennie will talk to us about all the ins and outs of honey.	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm			marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm			tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm			cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, October 14	Bee Stuff and Meet a Member meeting	Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm			beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm			sposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm			clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm			CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm			cowetabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm			eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 6:45pm			danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm			EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, October 24	Virginia Webb will present her findings on the propolis envelope.	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm			heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm			henrybeebuz123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm			lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

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Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, October 3	Dan Long, Bee-lining: the theory and practice	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm			info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	Museum of Arts and Sciences, 4182 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, October 3		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, October 15	Jennifer Berry	julia@mahoodstudio. com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	North GA Tech College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn Ln Blairsville GA 30512	1st Tuesday, 6:00pm			abletinker@wind- stream.net	Union, Townns, Fannin
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm			officers@negabee- keeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm			kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm			secretary@oabees. com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd, Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, October 21	Mary Lacksen, queen rearing	joecontibeas@aol. com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm			victor@makinhoney. com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm			polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm			potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm			info@sowegabee- keepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm		Annual Picnic! (No regular meeting.)	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm			threecountybees@ gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, October 14	Harold Lanier, see our website for topic	info@tricitybee- keepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Monday, 7:00pm			tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm			neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm			twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm			waltonbees@yahoo. com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, October 28	Members-only Honey Show and discussion group	2nparker@bellsouth. net	Douglas



Spilling The Honey

NOVEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Traditionally the month of November is a time to be thankful. I am thankful for so many things about GBA.

First, I am thankful for the talented people who keep this organization going:

Gina Gallucci – our vice-president who is my right hand person and does everything from getting sponsors for our two annual meetings and planning conferences with me to keeping me on track when we have so many questions to address.

Derrick Fowler – the best secretary ever who drops everything to send emails to the organization, keeps monthly emails going out without a hitch, covers minutes for every meeting in person and on the phone, sends cards to ailing members and many other things.

Paul Berry – who misses conference speakers to make registration happen at our conferences, writes checks for everything, and figures out Wild Apricot for our membership dues, etc.

We have six great directors who continually do things beyond my expectations: **Bobby Chaisson, Brutz English, Steve Esau, David Logue, Sophia Price, and Bobby Torbush.** They meet with local club presidents at each conference, plan activities, contact local clubs between conferences and help GBA with committees and responsibilities.

I am thankful for **Harvest Hoffman**, who maintains our website; makes changes for us all the time; sets up the name tags for all the conferences, and is always at risk for being invisible, while she is an extremely hard-working bee.

I am thankful for some other people who have taken on special responsibilities: **Julia Mahood** who has breathed new life into the prison program and is my wise advisor every time I need her; **Gail Dean**, who spear-headed the license plate passage and is working on a Governor's resolution for our 100th year anniversary; **Virginia Webb** who is chair of the 100th year celebration committee and is working creatively and very hard on our anniversary celebration.

I am grateful every day that **Holly Bayendor** and **Kathy Bourn** are editing this wonderful newsletter. They do a phenomenal job bringing us information about our state beekeeping. And the newsletter is always entertaining.

I am thankful for the license plate sales which will bring resources into our organization that we can use to promote education about bees in Georgia. We will be able to use some of that money to do things like support speakers for our conferences, beef up our work in the prisons, develop video-tape education, etc. Sophia Price, **Katie Goodman**, and **Bob Binnie**, along with Gina and me will be working as a committee to determine recommendations for the use of those funds.

I am very thankful for all of you. We have over 1000 members in 46 clubs. Our members are the heart and soul of GBA and without you, we would not exist. So many of you are willing and able to help GBA in so many ways. And by being beekeepers, you all educate the public about the honey bee. If you have suggestions for how we can further enhance beekeeping in Georgia, [I want to hear from you.](#)

Finally, I am thankful for the honey bee, the insect we all love – the only insect that provides food for humans. I love everything about the honey bee – her hum and buzz, her many sisters, her honey, her wax, and her work in the world pollinating plants and trees.

Have a happy Thanksgiving, and BEE WELL,

Linda



A BEE MOVIE

— by *Spilling The Honey* Editors



The link between the honey bee and the production of food is clear to beekeepers but maybe not well understood by many consumers of that food.

The Pollinators, a new documentary by Demand Film, shows how our complex food system rests on the wings of pollinators, especially honey bees.

The film's director, beekeeper Peter Nelson describes his new documentary.

The Pollinators is a cinematic journey around the United States following migratory beekeepers and their truckloads of honey bees as they pollinate the flowers that become the fruits, nuts and vegetables we all eat. The many challenges the beekeepers and their bees face en route reveal flaws to our simplified chemically dependent agriculture system. We talk to farmers, scientists, chefs and academics along the way to give a broad perspective about the threats to honey bees, what it means to our food security and how we can improve it.

—Peter Nelson

This film is only being shown in theaters and groups can arrange for exclusive screenings.

For more information about The Pollinators documentary, along with theater times and places [click here](https://www.thepollinators.net) or [click here](https://www.thepollinators.net). (<https://www.thepollinators.net>)



Above, director Peter Nelson filming a hive. Left, the documentary's poster. All photos are courtesy of Demand Film.

APIMONDIA 2019

The World Beekeeping Awards and Honey Fraud

– by Gail Dean
Honey Judge

What I experienced at the Apimondia World Beekeeping Awards (WBA) in Montreal last month was shocking. The Apimondia Organization and its World Beekeeping Awards and Congress occur every other year and are considered to be the International Gold Standard of all things honey and beekeeping. This year's event included 134 countries, 5,500 participants, 320 lectures, 360 scientific posters, over 260 vendors, and 140 medals awarded in the honey show.

Georgia was well represented. Virginia Webb, Mary Cahill-Roberts and I served as judges in the World Beekeeping Awards.

per entitled “Statement on Honey Fraud” published in January 2019. Apimondia is very publicly taking a stand against honey fraud and adulteration.

So what is honey fraud? It is economically motivated adulteration and is a worldwide problem that affects us locally.

The following day representatives from the world's leading testing labs present-



The honey judges at Apimondia 2019.

On the morning of the honey judging, all of the judges assembled for our mandatory meeting. The honey classes from all over the world were on display. We were shocked by what we saw! Cards in the place of numerous honey entries read: “This exhibit has failed laboratory examination and cannot be judged further.”

According to those in attendance, this had never happened before at Apimondia, even though the honey in previous years had been analyzed in the lab. Only 54% of the entries were judged because 46% of the honey entries were disqualified. WBA officials did not disclose the reasons for the individual disqualifications. Individual entrants were later able to look on a computer screen to see their lab reports.

Judges were advised that the disqualifications were a result of more accurate laboratory screening using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) and Mass Spectrometer (Mass Spec) detection equipment used for the first time at Apimondia. The reasoning given was that this more stringent testing supports Apimondia's position pa-

ed the best combination of tests to detect fraud and adulteration. Officials who had addressed the judges the day before were among the speakers.

More importantly, the chair and staff representative of US Pharmacopeia's “Honey Expert Panel” also spoke. This committee's charge is to create a honey standard for the United States and make recommendations for the best methods to detect purity in honey. (The current US honey standard and suggested testing were adopted from European standards years ago.)

Finally, Sweetwater Science Labs disclosed the testing results for the WBA and presented the six most common worldwide forms of honey adulteration currently being diagnosed with the new technology.

1. **Addition of Sugar Syrup** – with honey supers on or after extraction. The current international government standards, used for over ten years, include only testing for corn and cane syrup and have been known to be ineffective and unreliable. NMR and Mass Spect

(continued on next page)

APIMONDIA2019 – (cont'd)

The World Beekeeping Awards and Honey Fraud

– by Gail Dean
Welsh Honey Judge

testing include screening for rice, beet and wheat syrup.

- 2. Resin Scrub Technology** – this latest Eastern technology removes pollen, bad aroma, taste, color, antibiotics, pesticides and other impurities from honey. The resulting lighter honey type product can then have additives such as pollen incorporated (or dust-



Brandon Tai, Katie Goodman, Gail Dean, Chair of the Canadian Delegation, Virginia Webb, Barbara Phillips and Mary Cahill Robinson.

ed) to create a bio-honey, or what some refer to as plastic honey, that can be marketed from a new country of origin, allow for transshipping and avoid tariffs. Country of Origin can be easily determined with the new technology but was not used in the WBA as a disqualifier.

3. Immature Honey Harvesting

– Every five - seven days, producers are harvesting honey that contains up to 40% moisture and then vacuum drying it. This increases honey production but changes the timing in the hive, developing foragers faster than normal and reducing the number of house bees.

- 4. Ultrafiltration** – This removes pollen and other impurities making crystal clear more “saleable” honey, and is similar to resin scrubbing in that it allows for dusting with pollen and renaming honey type and country of origin.

- 5. Overheating** – Cooking honey makes it quicker and easier to bottle and results in clearer, darker honey that can then be entered in the dark category in honey shows.

- 6. Antibiotics and Pesticides** – that are not allowed in hives, some not fit for human consumption.

How can the individual beekeeper adapt to this issue:

- Gina Clapper, who represents US Pharmacopeia in the Honey Adulteration round table, encourages local beekeepers to share their concerns at gina.clapper@usp.org or 301-692-3626. The report recommending the first US based Honey Standard and best methods for testing honey purity is scheduled for June, 2020. These findings will be published in the Food Chemicals Codex.

- Read the Apimondia2019 “Statement on Honey Fraud.” The ten page document is enlightening. [Click here for the pdf.](#)



Place cards denote the honey contest entries that were disqualified at Apimondia2019.

The very public Apimondia honey disqualifications and their “Statement on Honey Fraud” has put honey fraudsters and adulterers on notice that testing is now available to determine what is actually in their honey and where the honey originates. Honey is the third most adulterated food in the world, behind milk and olive oil. Entrants in future WBA awards will take notice.

I hope to see you at Apimondia2021 in Ufa, Russia, and Apimondia2023 in Santiago, Chili.

Gail Dean
Vice President, Metro Atlanta Beekeepers. Welsh Honey Judge, National and International Honey Judge



An Apiary Field Trip

– by Sophia Price

Forester Farms and Apiary was the field trip destination for a homeschool group from Chattanooga, TN. The students from the Ingleside School were able to experience more bee education than normally found in a classroom. After touring the honey house and store, they not only learned about honey bees and bee problems, they also observed a bee yard, saw the infamous varroa mites, and viewed small hive beetles. Then the many questions they had about honey bees were answered. They observed a frame of honey being uncapped and extracted. Many tasted honeycomb for the first time. After a picnic lunch and a short hike in the woods, some of the students pumped water from a working hand pump before being treated to homemade cookies made by Mrs. Linda Forester, Derick's mother. The experience was one that the students will take with them for a lifetime. Hopefully they'll see honey bees as an important part of agriculture.



Forester Farms and Apiary (51 Forester Drive, Rising Fawn, GA) is owned and operated by Derick Forester a third generation beekeeper. The renovated home place of his grandfather is the Dade County location for the store and honey house. Derick is a Mann Lake dealer and sells equipment and supplies as well as honey and related bee products at his store.



Derick Forester of Rising Fawn, Ga. teaches children about bees, honey and the issues they face.

A SHORT COURSE ON SHORT COURSES

– by *Kathy Bourn*
Lake Hartwell
Beekeepers

This is the time of year when the bees are tucked in their nests, the fall flow stops flowing, and bee clubs start planning their winter beginner short courses. For most clubs, this is an opportunity to bring new blood to the beekeeping world and connect new beekeepers to the expertise within the club. Each organization will have different challenges when setting up a course but here are a few tips to think about if you want to give it a try.



- Start Planning now. It takes time to nail down the particulars but the basic planning needs to start soon.
- Identify the people in your club that you know will step up to help. Get these people together, get their ideas, and divv up the work.
- Decide how you want the course structured. Will you have speakers, hands-on classes or a combination of both? Do you want to have it all in one day or spread out over several sessions?
- A good location is very helpful. Try to have your course at a place that has audio/visual equipment (and support), plenty of room, and is easy to locate. It's a big plus if it has kitchen facilities.

they can but there is also a lot of talent within your club. You can have someone demonstrating how to assemble equipment while others can talk about hive inspections.

- Tap into your local talent and resources. The big name beekeepers try to speak at as many courses as



- You have to consider the money...how much it will cost and how much you can expect to make. Short courses can be a decent fundraiser or a break-even club event that supports the beekeeping community. Either way, someone has to keep track of the funds and devise the best way for attendees to pay.

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A SHORT COURSE ON SHORT COURSES

– (cont'd)

- The date and time for the course depends on several factors; when is your facility available, when are surrounding clubs holding courses, do you want it early enough for attendees to get bees, do you want it late enough to be able to open an active hive.

- Keep the program simple and easy to understand. Having pictures and backgrounds for the speakers helps attendees figure out who is who. Name tags should be provided for everyone. Label the name tags to show if the person is an attendee, club member, speaker, or vendor.
- Start getting the word out as soon as you have the basic information. Put a flyer together that can be shared on social media along with paper copies. Members can distribute these at businesses, churches and schools.



- If you have an all day course you have to provide food and drinks. This can be anything from boxed lunches to prepared food at the facility to a potluck provided by club members.
- Vendors and supply companies can help with door prizes and gift bags. Gift bags can include catalogs, coupons, books/printouts for beginners, and things like hive tools and honey samples if the club can afford them. It's nice if you have room for vendors but you can at least get free catalogs from the supply companies. Start requesting these items now.

- If you're thinking about having your first short course, try to talk with experienced short course organizers. Sometimes it's hard to remember what it was like when you started keeping bees so keep your course on the beginner level. Remember, this is for people who probably don't know a DCA from propolis.

Most importantly, have a good time with new beekeepers and don't fret...it'll all work.

*If your club is holding a short course, please share that information using the Wufoo form GBA sends to your club president. Consider sharing your agenda, handouts, and presentation, as well, so we can have a strong collection of resources for others. Also, please take pictures and let **Spilling the Honey** know about your short course.*



GOING HORIZONTAL



Bruce Morgan of Morgan Apiaries built this horizontal hive after attending Dr. Leo Sharashkin's talk at GBA Fall Conference.

(Stories and images on this page are courtesy of Mary Lacksen.)



At the fair...

Photos from Georgia National Fair in Perry. Many familiar and interesting products from Georgia beehives were featured at the Georgia Grown Pavilion.



Bee Cleaning



– by *Kathy Bourn*
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

How can the biology of the honey bee provide engineering solutions? Researchers at Georgia Tech took a close look at that...an extreme close look.



Students in the School of Mechanical Engineering wanted to find out how honey bees clean themselves of pollen. Researcher Marquerite Matherne says “we were able to tether the bees to hold them still and used a high speed camera to film”.

Once a honey bee works a flower for its’ nectar or pollen, the bee’s body is covered with pollen particles.

“While they’re hovering, they’ll do this process where they clean their antennae and eyes and pass the pollen back to the pollen baskets on their back legs and then carry it back to the hive.”

Honey bees can clean themselves of 15,000 pollen particles in about two minutes with special attention to their eyes.

“It’s pretty impressive for a little bee to clean that much”.

The camera shows this is possible because of the difference in the spacing of the hairs on their eyes and legs. It’s like cleaning a hairbrush with a comb.

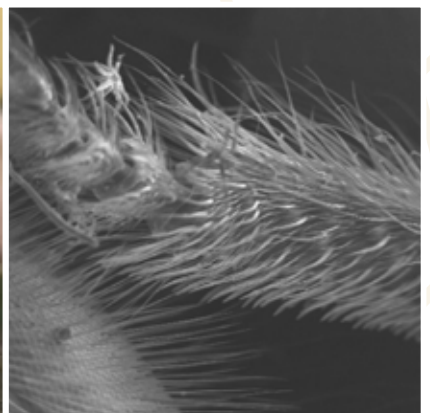
This grooming technique can also provide innovative engineering solutions.



Metherne says “This kind of cleaning in particular is really important to things like solar panels or microchips or other small devices that can easily get dirty and are very hard to keep clean but are also very important to keep clean”.

Researchers also attached a bee leg to a small motor. The hope is that they can make something that is not only easier to clean but that also cleans itself, just like bees do.

“You know, kind of neat to have a little robotic honey bee leg cleaning your solar panels or your microchips”.



BEE PLATE

— by Spilling The Honey Editors



Check out this month's issue of *Bee Culture* magazine. Jennifer Berry wrote a great article on the trials and tribulations (and down right hard work) it took to get our beautiful **Save The Honey Bee** license plate. The magazine also features license plates with BEE themes. Ours of course are the best looking ones of the bunch.



MORE BEE PLATES



These vehicles belong to participants of our recent GBA Fall Conference. It was great to see so many new tags "in action." Did you get yours?

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association

In October, EPBA welcomed Selina Bruckner to speak at the meeting. She is a PhD student at Auburn University but hails from Switzerland. She spoke about her research on the combined effects of varroa infestation and pesticides. In an age of internet memes and popular culture "experts," it was refreshing to hear about real science!

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers

The Heart of Georgia Beekeepers met October 15th at the Houston County Extension Office. The program consisted of the annual black jar honey contest. This year's winner was Shannon Wagner. She is pictured with president Jonathan Hayes (below, left).

Jesse McCurdy was presented the certificate recognizing him as a life time member of GBA. He is pictured with president Jonathan Hayes (below, right). Jonathan accepted the certificate on his behalf at the GBA conference in September.

The meeting ended with a question and answer session led by Jesse McCurdy. Our next meeting is November 19th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

Dan's talk is based on Dr. Tom Seeley's research, books, their conversations, and Dan's experience. Dr. Seeley's book "Following the Wild Bees" will be available in paperback soon and much of Dan's presentation is based on this book. Beelining is bee hunting. It is a craft and a science used to locate feral bees and accessing the quality of neighboring bee yards. Dan (below) demonstrated the concepts and use of the chamber box.



Key components for beelining are:

1. PATIENCE
2. chamber box
3. sugar syrup and anise extract
4. marking pens or paint
5. notebook
6. compass - navigation equipment
7. PATIENCE

We enjoyed and admire all Dan is doing for beekeepers in the Athens area. He is a volunteer and speaker plus a strong advocate for the Georgia Beekeepers Association. Dan gifted the club a chamber box to initiate our beelining adventures. In addition, in April Dan advised LCBA in establishing the first observation hive in a Georgia library at the Hancock County Library in Sparta. It was an honor to have him as a guest to our club.

Our 8th Annual Beekeeping Short Course is on Saturday, January 25th, 2020 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm in Greensboro, GA. More information and registration at www.lcba2020.eventbrite.com.



Lake Country Beekeepers Association

In October, LCBA members learned about beelining and hunting wild bees from Dan Long, President of the Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association in Athens. Dan operates Brushwood Nursery and maintains 15 hives for selling nucleus hives and producing queens, as well as honey and honey products.

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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association

"The single best thing that you can do to save the bees is to plant a nectar-providing tree that blooms in summer."

Jimmy Gatt left that powerful message with the Lake Hartwell Beekeepers at the October meeting. Jimmy is a Journeyman Beekeeper and Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association board member who is spreading the word to beekeepers and gardeners alike about the tremendous bee forage trees provide. His well-received talk covered bee foraging behavior and annual seasons along with honey plants throughout the year.



Jimmy works with Trees Atlanta to promote the planting of trees such as the Basswood. This tree, called "the queen of the honey trees," is fast growing and, more importantly, blooms during the summer dearth.

To plant their own summer nectar providers, two LHBA members won three foot tall Basswood tree saplings.

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is right now."— Chinese Proverb

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers continue their beekeeping partnership with the Hart County Charter School System. Kathy Bourn (*below*) and Kevin McCraney instructed the students in Anne Smith's High School class on how to test for varroa mites. Students then put the lesson to practice on the beehives at the Board of Education offices.



Oglethorpe County Bee Club



Mary Lacksen, owner of BeeCo Apiaries and founding member of Lake Country Beekeepers Association where she is the vice-president, gave a presentation on queen rearing. She covered a variety of methods and tricks with a focus on grafting (Doolittle method) and tidbits on the Nicot system and others.

(Above) Mary Lacksen shows club member Alan Gingle queen roller cages and candy holders. (Below) Bob Binnie explaining how his lid tightener works to EPBA and OCBC club members.



Bob Binnie gave a tour to members of the Oglethorpe County Bee Club and Eastern Piedmont Beekeeping Association of his Blue Ridge Honey Company in Lakemont Georgia. His showroom and facility has expanded remarkably since the last club tour a few years ago and it's thrilling to see the big road signs on 441 as you get close. This is definitely a club go-to event and we really appreciate Bob's generosity.

Tara Beekeepers

On November 18th we will host a *Honey Bee Holiday Tour of Homes* featuring examples of several different types of hives. You can talk to beekeepers who have used these hives and learn the pros and cons of each.

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

The West Georgia Beekeepers Association will host our annual Honey Bee Short Course on November 2nd at the American Legion Hall. There will be several experienced speakers covering a lot of great topics. Brutz English from Liberty Hill Honey Company will be our speaker at our monthly meeting on November 25th. He will be speaking on the state of the affairs of the Georgia Beekeepers Association. December 2nd will be our annual members only Christmas party. See you there!

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, November 4		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnell
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, November 19		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, November 14		pickensbeekeepers@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 28		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 19		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 12	Guest speaker & elections for 2020 officers	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 11	BJ Weeks of Weeks Works, Spring Preparation	marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, November 14		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, November 20		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, November 11		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 12		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, November 21		spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm	Thursday, November 7		clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, November 11		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 11		cowetabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 26		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, November 4		danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 14		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm (special date)**	Thursday,** November 14 (special date)	Holiday Dinner & election of officers for 2020 (no December meeting)	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 19	TBA	heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 12		henrybeebug123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 21	Dr. Jamie Ellis, UFL Bee Lab, (webinar)	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

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Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 7		lakehartwellbeekeepersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, November 26		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	Museum of Arts and Sciences, 4182 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, November 7		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 19	Dr. Keith Delaplane of the UGA Bee Lab	julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	North GA Tech College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn Ln Blairsville GA 30512	1st Tuesday, 6:00pm	Tuesday, November 5		abletinker@windstream.net	Union, Towns, Fannin
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 14		officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 11		kaizen.thornberry@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, November 28		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd, Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 18	Linda Tillman, working with wax	joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 11		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, November 14		polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, November 21		potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, November 14		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, November 18	We are hosting <i>Honey Bee Holiday Tour of Homes</i>	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 5		threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 11		info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, November 18		tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, November 18		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, November 11		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, November 19		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, November 25	Brutz English, GBA	2nparker@bellsouth.net	Douglas



Spilling The Honey

DECEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Holidays and gift-giving often go together. Here are some gift-giving thoughts as we beekeepers approach this holiday season:

1. Give the gift to your bee club or to GBA of **volunteering for something**. Local clubs need volunteers - to help put on the short course, to welcome people to the meeting, to help manage the FB page, etc. Ask your club officers how you can help. GBA can always use help at our two conferences - to sell raffle tickets, to bake cookies, to help with registration. There's a space on our registration page for you to check how you would like to help make the conference a success.
2. If you'd like to give a gift of support to GBA, encourage a friend or relative to buy a license plate. We are getting close to the 1000 plates that we have to sell to repay GBA's initial investment of \$25,000. You can also **purchase a receipt for the GBA Save the Honey Bee plate** and give it to a friend for a holiday present. The receipt is a mere \$25. To buy a Save the Honey Bee plate receipt, [click here](#).
3. A gift that GBA offers you, but many do not know about, is **our GBA Forum**. You can post questions there about GBA stuff or about bees and beekeeping and get into a discussion with other members. This is a gift that goes both ways: GBA gives it to you and in participating in it, you are able to give to other members through your help and support!
4. Finally, give yourself the gift of **registering for the GBA Spring Conference**. Registration opens up on December 1. This conference marks the beginning of our 100th year as a bee association! We will fill the year with GBA history. At our opening dinner on Friday night at the spring conference in Augusta, **Bob Binnie** will be our featured speaker. He will share his stories about his experiences in beekeeping over the years. To register for the conference (and be sure to check the box to come to the dinner and hear Bob), [click here](#).

I am so delighted to be your GBA president during our 100th-year celebration.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday time, celebrating with family and friends.

Happy Holidays and Bee Well,

Linda Tillman
GBA President



Natural Beekeeping Symposium

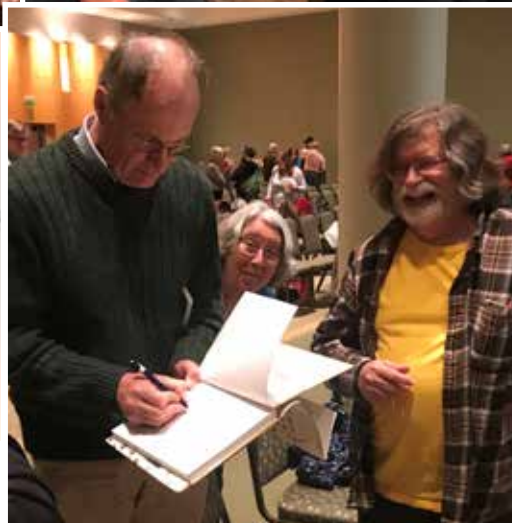
– by Drew Harvey

The Charleston Area Beekeepers Association hosted a Natural Beekeeping Symposium on Saturday, November 16, in Charleston, SC. The symposium featured the world's leading bee scientist, Dr. Tom Seeley, and a renowned, full-time natural beekeeper, Dr. Leo Sharashkin. It was an amazing event with approximately 250 attendees including at least a dozen GBA members from across the state.

Dr. Seeley reviewed key concepts from his most recent book, *The Lives of Bees: The Untold Story of the Honey Bee in the Wild*. He also highlighted things we can do in our own apiaries to manage bees in conditions that

configurations. Dr. Sharashkin also shared techniques for selling honey at a premium price when producing it without using chemicals or sugar-feeding.

Both speakers acknowledged the debate that exists between natural beekeeping and Varroa treatment practices. Which way is best or correct? The debate continues as there are many perspectives to consider. Your individual goals and objectives clearly play a role in the approach you choose. Are you trying to maximize honey production and minimize colony losses or is your goal to manage bees in ways that more closely align with how they exist in nature? Do you have hundreds



(Above) Dr. Tom Seeley and (below) Dr. Leo Sharashkin speak at the symposium.

more closely mimic the way they choose to live in the wild. In summary, he spoke of beekeeping as if the bees mattered.

Dr. Sharashkin presented Natural Beekeeping That Works. He described the value of catching swarms and using local stock as well as the benefits of using horizontal hives compared to traditional Langstroth hive

or thousands of hives or just a few in your backyard?

I left the meeting with a greater appreciation for both perspectives. The discussion will no doubt continue but perhaps we can frame it in terms of a “both/and” proposition instead of “either/or” stance. We all have heard the expression that if you ask four beekeepers a question you will get five answers. This topic is no different. Like most comparisons in life, one way isn't necessarily better than

another, they just result in a different set of tradeoffs.

Regardless of your own views and chosen approaches, it was an incredible opportunity to hear from two extraordinary beekeepers over the course of the day. I don't think anyone left disappointed and I, for one, will remember the day for quite a long time.

A Sweet Day at East Georgia State College

– by Paul Cerpovicz

On November 15th, East Georgia State College (EGSC) hosted its first ever Honey Extraction Party! Members of EGSC's recently organized beekeeping club met, along with other students, faculty, staff, and members from the community, to learn more about honey, how it is made by honey bees and collected by beekeepers. I am an EGSC faculty member and hobbyist beekeeper. I brought extraction equipment to the campus and set it up in the lobby outside the college auditorium. Twelve frames of honey from the campus Bobcat Apiary were extracted, along with 21 frames from my own beehives.



Daniel McCoy and Bryan Martinez spinning the extractor.

About 30 people were on hand to learn more about honey, honey bees, and honey extraction. Several observers jumped in to uncap the honeycombs, use their muscles to spin the frames in the extractor, and helped to filter the honey. To be sure that the college had honey to call its own, the frames from the campus apiary were extracted first, then filtered and collected separately from the off-campus honey. The importance of a low-moisture content (< 18%) to prevent spoilage was explained, and the use of a refractometer was demonstrated to show that the percent moisture in the collected honey was good to go at about 17.2%.

Nearly 22 pounds of campus honey were collected, along with about 47 pounds of off-campus honey. The smell of honey was everywhere, and as soon

as the campus honey was filtered people were diving in to sample it – with the overwhelming consensus being that it tasted **WONDERFUL!** This was the culmination of four years of hard work by the bees of Bobcat Apiary and the committee that supports them. The hives have gone through hive collapse, lack of sufficient forage, and swarms. They were able to produce surplus honey to be extracted—an exciting accomplishment for this campus initiative.

For most of those present, this was the first time they had participated in, much less witnessed, a honey extraction. Everyone seemed to show a lot of interest in the process, ask a lot of questions, and have a good time. In addition to the extraction activity, a teaching



Olivia Christian uncapping honey.

(continued on next page)

A Sweet Day at East Georgia State College – (cont'd)

hive and beekeeping equipment were on display, along with UGA's Georgia Pollinator Protection booklets, pamphlets and honey recipe brochures from the National Honey Board, and information sheets about honey. To make the day even better, everyone had the opportunity to fill their own bottle of honey to take home and enjoy!

East Georgia State College now maintains two apiaries – one on its main campus in Swainsboro, Ga., and a second apiary at an off-campus site in the town of Swainsboro. The second apiary was set up this past



Filtering the honey.



Bottling EGSC's first batch.

year thanks in large part to a Buzz Fund Grant received from the Georgia Beekeepers Association. The major goals of these apiaries are to increase awareness about honey bees and other pollinators, as well as their importance to the environment and how to protect both the hives and their habitats.

Since its designation as a Bee Campus USA institution in 2016, East Georgia State College has greatly increased its efforts to achieve these goals and to further promote honey bee and pollinator protection education to its students, staff, faculty, and community. The Honey Extraction Party was a fun activity to help reach these goals, and we hope to make it an annual event from this point forward!

Honey Sensory Analysis *Workshop*

– by **Brutz English**

The University of Florida Bee College is putting on a special honey sensory analysis training this spring. For more information and registration, [click here](#). This will be an awesome program!

“This workshop will allow participants through practical honey tasting exercises, to become familiar with the basic understanding of the honey tasting and honey characterization techniques used to distinguish some single origin European and North American honeys.”

– UF/IFAS Honey Bee Research and Extension Lab

THE POLLINATORS

- A review

- by Kathleen Bourn



The Pollinators is a new documentary by Demand Film and director and beekeeper Peter Nelson. It shows how our complex food system rests on the wings of pollinators, especially honey bees.

This film is only shown in theaters and individuals can request a screening. On Monday, Nov. 25th, GBA Director Bobby Chaisson hosted a showing at the Regal Mall of Georgia theater.

The film covered not just the plight of pollinators, but also food production practices down to the soil. One farmer said: "Soil is not dirt. Soil is a living, thriving thing. Healthy soil is the answer to the bee problem."

The Pollinators followed migratory beekeepers from Florida to California to Maine, demonstrating the tremendous efforts by beekeepers and growers to produce fruits, vegetables, and nuts. Apple farmers said they would love to use fewer pesticides but that that can only happen if the consumer stops demanding perfect looking apples.

Even though many of the approximately fifty attendees were beekeepers, they expressed amazement at seeing the vast monocultures such as the almond orchards. It



Above left, a scene from the movie premiere. Above right, members of the club enjoy snacks as they prepare to view "The Pollinators".

was learned that five percent of all land, not just cropland, but all land, is planted in corn.

Some non-beekeepers attending said they wanted to cry when seeing the piles of dead and dying honey bees. One beekeeper in the film said: "If the dead honey bees were cattle they'd have the FBI out there investigating the deaths."

The film also looked at farming practices that are nourishing the soil, using fewer pesticides, providing a living for the farmer; all while providing a safe and healthy place for pollinators.

*For more information about **The Pollinators** documentary, along with theater times and locations [click here](#) or [click here](#).*



POLLEN PICTURES

The Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) is looking for representation from southern states to use in their winter EAS Journal. Linda Mizer, EAS Journal editor, would like beekeepers from Georgia to send pictures of pollen and honey bees with pollen on their legs.

You can email her lam6@cornell.edu your pictures along with the name of the photographer and the name of the plants if possible. She would like to have these pictures by December 15th for publication in the journal that comes out in mid-January.



GBA SPRING CONFERENCE

Feb 21-22 2020

Augusta University in Augusta

100 year anniversary

Registration is \$50 for members and \$70 for nonmembers.

In order to enter the artisan show, your membership must be up to date.

If a nonmember wants to, he/she can join (\$15) and come for the member rate. If not, the nonmember can pay \$70 which includes a full year of membership to GBA but will not allow him/her to enter the artisan show.

Telling the Bees— The Death of Pete Rountree

– three friends pay tribute

“It is with deep sadness that the Ogeechee Area Beekeepers Assoc. reports the loss of Pete Rountree, a long-standing and active member of both our club and Altamaha Beekeepers Assoc.

Pete suffered a heart attack on Tuesday November 19th while doing that which he loved; tending his bees.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Sandra, and the rest of his family as they come to terms with their unexpected loss, and as they follow the ages-old tradition of "telling the bees" that their keeper has died. ”

– Ruth Mettler

“It is with a broken heart that I bring the news of our dear friend’s passing. From what I understand at this time Pete was working with his bees (of course), and was taken suddenly. Words are never enough to describe the sense of loss for such a dear friend. Pete has been a pillar of our club, a teacher, a mentor, and always someone to lend a helping hand. ”

– Ronald Wilkes

“I will miss my mentor and friend, Pete Rountree. Pete and his sweet wife, Sandra, would come to our farm every time I needed education and support. Pete was on the phone with me before I traveled home with my two nucs, helping me prepare for their arrival. He laughed at my elaborate preparation of pretty painted boxes set inside a big kennel so skunks, raccoons or other bee seekers couldn’t get my bees.

One huge emergency Pete helped me through was when I had a new queen and the hive was being very mean to her for almost four days. She was hardly moving, she was so tired. Pete knew I couldn’t let her die. It was around 11 at night. I had my headlamp on working in the dark. He outlined my options. I chose putting the tired little queen in a nuc box with two brood frames I stole from another very upset group of bees. He told me to seal it with duct tape and move it as far away as I could. That little queen survived and the hive is very strong today.

I saw Pete on Friday at the college for extracting honey from their bees. He was talking to so many onlookers encouraging them to enjoy bees. He gave me some lip balm and talked about harvesting his Tupelo honey when the rain stopped. Pete Rountree was an exceptional example of an honorable and kind man. I will miss him being here physically but know his spirit is with us in our hearts. I think what would Pete advise me to do and carry on in his fashion. ”

– Lorraine Kaliher



The Bee Carol

Silently on Christmas Eve,
the turn of midnight's key;
all the garden locked in ice -
a silver frieze -
except the winter cluster of the bees.

Flightless now and shivering,
around their Queen they cling;
every bee a gift of heat;
she will not freeze
within the winter cluster of the bees.

Bring me for my Christmas gift
a single golden jar;
let me taste the sweetness there,
but honey leave
to feed the winter cluster of the bees.

Come with me on Christmas Eve
to see the silent hive -
trembling stars cloistered above -
and then believe,
bless the winter cluster of the bees.

by Carol Ann Duffy

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett

Elections were held in November and Tommy Bailey has been elected as our new President. The incumbents for our other positions are remaining in their roles.

Last month Harold Lanier was our speaker. As always, Harold did an excellent job presenting his discussion about swarms. This may seem to be an odd time of the year to discuss this topic but Harold shared with us plans for a swarm box that our members can build this winter. We now have more individuals ready to go out and capture a swarm than we ever had before! We all hope that any swarms caught are not from our apiary.

Next month is our Annual Christmas Holiday Party. We expect good eats from our member-supplied potluck dinner and suspect honey will be an ingredient in the desserts. No speaker is planned for this month as it is our time to gather, be thankful, and enjoy the company of beekeeping friends.

We did a quick survey with some of our club members about preparing for winter. Nobody is planning to insulate their hives. Most reduce their entrances and place a windbreak beneath their screened bottom boards (great use for campaign signs). Most also continue to prop up their telescopic cover to allow airflow that helps to remove any moisture.

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association

Elections for 2020 officers were held at the November Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Assoc. meeting. Luke Ellerman was elected President with Steve King elected Vice-President. Jenny Eckman, treasurer, and Frances Kelly, secretary, were both reelected to their positions. New Board of Directors include Don Campbell, Danny Mead, and Matt Young.

On December 3rd CVBA will decorate a Christmas tree for uptown Columbus. Last year, the club won for best tree. Jenny Eckman is in charge of the decorating so contact her if interested in helping.

For the first time, the club will enter the Columbus, Phenix City Bi-City Christmas Parade on December 7th. The parade begins at 10:00 am, but participants need to arrive by 8:30 am. Luke Ellerman is coordinating the float. Please come and join the fun.

Later in the day on December 7, 2019, Oxbow Meadows will have their Open House from 1 until 5 with crafts, activities, and more.

Our monthly meeting on December 9th will be the annual Christmas party at the UGA Extension Service Office in Columbus. This is a covered dish event for good fun and fellowship.

Lake Country Beekeepers Association

In October, we learned about beelining and hunting wild bees from Dan Long, President of the Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association in Athens. Dan operates Brushwood Nursery and maintains 15 hives for selling nucleus hives and producing queens, as well as honey and honey products.

Coweta Beekeepers Association

We are holding the highly sought after Introduction to Beekeeping course on Saturday, January 25th, 2020. The location is the Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Road Newnan, Ga.



Registration and all the information is on our website at: www.cowetabeekeepers.org

This is a full day course to get the novice up to speed with all the information needed to get started beekeeping in the spring. It covers honey bee biology, the beekeeping equipment needed, and all the way to processing your honey in order to enjoy your newly made products of the hive.

If you are interested in keeping honey bees then this is the course for you.

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

In November we celebrated the club's fifth anniversary. The club will host their annual Christmas party on December 2nd. The party is for members only. Jerry Miller will be our guest speaker on January 27th. He will be speaking on "Preparing for Spring" and sharing some of his personal beekeeping experiences. We meet every fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 649 Bankhead Hwy, Douglasville, Georgia 30134. The mentoring session begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7:00 pm.

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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

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Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Assoc.

In November, Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association had Bruce Morgan speak to us about hive equipment. He had an excellent presentation and plenty of questions were answered.



Editor's note: You saw just a taste of Bruce Morgan's hive making ability in the November issue of *Spilling The Honey* with his new horizontal hives.

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers

Heart of Georgia Beekeepers Kathy Shelton (pictured, below right) and Emily Heath (pictured, below left) discuss beekeeping at Lake Joy Elementary's Farm Day on November 22nd. Approximately 660 third through fifth graders learned about bees; some had never seen a working bee hive.



Lake Country Beekeepers Association

Our November meeting welcomed Dr. Jamie Ellis from the Honey Bee Research and Extension Lab at the University of Florida. This presentation was a Webinar event, the first one for our club. Given uncertain technology and unreliable rural internet access, our President Bruce Morgan was prepared with backup options and had to rely upon his personal hotspot to avert streaming clichés with the library connection.

From his home in Florida, Dr. Ellis led our beekeeping members month by month through a "Year In The Apiary." His talk focused on how to synchronize the honey bee biology with the goals of the beekeeper. Feeding and paying close attention to the season and signs of swarming are two practices to consider for honey bee colony survival.

In addition, the club held elections and after seven years, Bruce Morgan is finally getting a break as a club officer. The Lake Country Beekeepers Association is grateful for his leadership and the many ways he shares his beekeeping knowledge. Both Bruce Morgan and Mary Lacksen were recognized by the membership with a gift of a Georgia Historical Plate. The club elected Tim Bramblett as the 2020 President. Upcoming events for LCBA include: December 3rd Christmas Party and January 25th Beekeeping Short Course. Check out LCBA2020.eventbrite.com or email lakecountrybee@gmail.com for more information on the one-day beekeeping short course.

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Assoc.

Since the publishing of Dr. Tom Seeley's book, "*Following the Wild Bees*," beekeepers are learning how to hunt honey bees. In November, Dan Long educated members of the Lake Hartwell Beekeepers on both the history of bee hunting, or beelining, and the practice. He demonstrated how to use a beelining chamber box and gave his best tips and tricks based on his hunting experience.

Dan is always a popular and generous speaker. He gave one of his personally crafted beelining boxes to the club so members can try their hand at following the wild bees.

Several copies of Seeley's book were available as raffle prizes.



CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please *fill out this form* to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please *review the requirements*.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	Bee* School
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, December 2		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, December 17		marcushvac2@gmail.com	
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, December 12		pickensbeekeepers@gmail.com	February 8, 20120
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 26		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 17		arron_rob@me.com	
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 10	Christmas party	tawnalow@me.com	March 21, 2020
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 9		marymom51@gmail.com	February 8, 2020
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, December 12		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, December 18		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, December 9	Christmas party. Meeting will be at the UGA Extension Office. Bring a covered dish to share. Santa will be making a visit.	Jim Ellis	
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 10		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, January 16	No December meeting	spposey@gmail.com	February 8, 2020
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm	Monday, December 2		clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, December 9		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 9		cowetabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com	
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 24		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website *	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, December 2	Steve Esau, Supering Up - Going from a hobby to a sideline bee business	danielreidlong@gmail.com	
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 12		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm (<i>special date</i>)**	<i>Thursday, January 23</i>	No December meeting	baileysbees@gmail.com	
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 17		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 10		henrybeebug123@gmail.com	February 23, 2020
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 19		lakecountrybees@gmail.com	January 25, 2020

*Please note this month we placed **Bee School dates** in the County column. Many thanks to Kelley Campbell for compiling the bee school information. Please contact the Club directly to register.

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	Bee* School
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 5	Holiday party	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	March 7, 2020
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, December 24		info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	
Macon Beekeepers Association	Museum of Arts and Sciences, 4182 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, December 5		ganofs@cox.net	
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, **Dec. 10th** <i>Special date</i>	Holiday party, 6:30pm (12/10/19) Manuel's Tavern, 602 North Highland Ave, Atlanta	julia@mahoodstudio. com	January 25, 2020
Mountain Beekeepers	North GA Tech College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn Ln Blairsville GA 30512	1st Tuesday, 6:00pm	Tuesday, December 3		abletinker@wind- stream.net	
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 12		officers@negabee- keeping.com	
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 9		kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, December 26		secretary@oabees. com	
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd, Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 16	Linda Tillman; Fun & Facts about Wax	joecontibeas@aol. com	
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 9		victor@makinhoney. com	
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, December 12		polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, December 19		potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	January 18, 2020
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, December 12		info@sowegabee- keepers.org	
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, December 16		maryc7@aol.com	
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 3		threecountybees@ gmail.com	
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 9		info@tricitybee- keepers.net	
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, December 16		tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, December 16		neatermyer@aol.com	
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, December 9		twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, December 17		waltonbees@yahoo. com	
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, December 23		2nparker@bellsouth. net	

Please note this month we placed **Bee School dates in the County column. Many thanks to Kelley Campbell for compiling the bee school information. Please contact the Club directly to register.*



Spilling *The* Honey

APRIL 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Swarming season is upon us and bee swarms are in the air. I was quite lucky to capture my first swarm of the year in Decatur, Georgia, last week. The swarm was just about six feet up in a tree. The neighbors all gathered around and I used the occasion not just to show them my beekeeping magic (!) but also to educate them about bees. Swarm catching is always a public relations opportunity. By the time I finished with the swarm collection, there were four or five neighbors asking questions and one passerby who honked and yelled,

“Save some honey for me!”

I always ask if there are any beekeepers in the neighborhood. Luckily this swarm probably came from a house two doors down where bees have been living in the walls of the house for years. I am crossing my fingers. I don't treat my bees and work to have survivor bees but without knowing the origin of a swarm, I can't know the chances for survival.

With Tom Seeley's research on how fast bees evolve to live with the varroa mite, a hive of bees that has been living in a house for years probably has a good chance to be one of those survivor hives. [Here's a blogpost from GBA member George Andl](#) that references Dr. Seeley's work on the survivor honey bee and which includes several useful links. I recently finished reading a book recommended by Julia Mahood called [Never Home Alone](#) by Rob Dunn, an entomology professor at NC State. Dunn references the rapid evolutionary changes made by a family of cockroaches to the poison in roach traps. Seeley's research suggests that honey bees may follow the same evolutionary rapidity of adaptation to the varroa mite.

Currently I have three hives in my Atlanta backyard, two at SPARK elementary school, and one at the Morningside community garden which are all survivor bees. They make it through the winter, not just because I left almost all the honey on the hive for the bees over the winter, but also because they are good stock who have managed to live with the varroa mite for years.

In GBA news, the minute one conference is completed, we are working on the next. Our GBA Fall Conference will be held at the Lanier Conference Center in Cumming, Georgia, where our speakers include: Leo Sharashkin (who runs horizontal hives), Jennifer Berry (who will bring her humor and knowledge), Clarence Collison (whose book, [What Do You Know?](#) prepared me to pass my Master Beekeeper exam in 2010), Lewis Bartlett (who is doing research that he will share in his entertaining way), and Jaret Daniels (who convinced the state of Florida to plant bee friendly plants in the highway medians).

We are excited about the fall meeting which will include our business meeting, our election of officers, and the fabulous honey show. Keep the honey show in mind as you harvest this year!

Bee well,
Linda T



TALL Swarm Tales

– by **Daniel Tompkins**
Carnesville, GA

The most interesting swarm extraction I've encountered was taken from the Cal Ferrier farm in Canon, Ga. A friend of mine was rebuilding the rear wall of a 150+ year-old house. The owner was gone during the project and my buddy was called away to an emergency repair for eight days. During this time, a swarm moved into a floor cavity on the second floor. When the work crew returned and the hammering began, the bees greeted them with their usual contempt.

The crew sprayed two cans of flying insect poison in the entrance which barely touched the comb area and would have never effectively eradicated the colony. Frustrated with the carpenters standing around and the job now behind schedule, my buddy called me. I explained the futility of trying to kill the bees, not to mention the irresponsible nature of the act because of the contribution bees make to the environment. I also told him that if he killed the bees he might leave behind a bigger problem with rotten brood and unprotected honey, which would attract other vermin less desirable like roaches and ants. What would he tell the owner then and how would he solve the problem without tearing out the area and removing the comb and dead bees? I explained that it was best to remove and save the bees and the cost would be minimal compared to the negative long term effect of simply killing the bees. He agreed and I extracted the swarm.

This swarm was an amazing testament to the honey bees' ability to survive, multiply and create. When I opened up the cavity and found the colony, I couldn't believe my eyes. Keep in mind, this late May swarm is less than eight days old.

Where poison had been sprayed, the workers had sacrificially chewed down all the poisoned comb. Naturally, the

poison had killed them and they laid beneath the rim of comb while other workers continued working. The damaged comb was being rebuilt and new comb was being drawn out on the outer corner. While this repair was going on, other workers were building a brand new comb section in the back.

This colony had built six layers of comb that perfectly fit six medium frames. The outer rims were filled with pollen and nectar and the rainbow patterned cells were completely filled with eggs and larva. This queen had laid somewhere in the neighborhood of 12,000 eggs in eight days. I removed the comb, framed it and vacuumed almost 25 pounds of bees.

When I brought the bees home I split them by weight into three nucs. I put the queenright nuc at my apiary at Emmanuel College, and the others at my nuc location. Over the next week the queenless nucs raised 17 queen cells, five which I still have. I call them my Super Queens. The mama is starting to fail so I assume she is around three years old. I'll replace her with a daughter this spring.

Daniel Tompkins has only been beekeeping for about a year but has caught the bug. He catches swarms and performs cut outs around Franklin County, Georgia. This has helped him gather twenty-six hives so far with plans to build his apiary to fifty hives. He is a member of the Madison County and Lake Hartwell Beekeepers.



If you have a tall (or short) swarm tale to tell, please share it with the Spilling the Honey readers.
gbanewsletters@gmail.com



Swarms on the Move



A Little Swarm Catching Help



Sam Alston caught his first swarm of the season near the Thumbs Up restaurant in East Point. He said “Kevin was walking by after we shook the swarm onto drawn comb. He was thrilled to get a chance to vacuum the flyers as they landed on the screen where they smelled the queen’s pheromones”.



Sam Alston (above) rescues a swarm.

Backyard Bonanza

It's swarm season in our backyard in Cumming, GA! This picture is of two separate swarms converging on one swarm trap. I used an old nuc box that had some propolis in it, added some frames of drawn comb and homemade swarm lure to attract a swarm from our own hives. The swarm landed 50 feet up in a pine tree. The swarm stayed in the tree for two nights until one afternoon I noticed the swarm was moving in a downward trajectory towards the old nuc box! I stared in disbelief that I had gotten so lucky...but wait there's more. As I stood there proud of my accomplishment, one of our other hives started percolating bees from the front entrance and they too were headed for the old nuc box. Oh No! Once the bees all settled, I was able to scoop the second swarm up into a new nuc box. I found the queen and saw her walk into the new box. I never sit idle over the winter months making sure I have all the extra equipment ready to go once spring arrives and swarm season begins. The girls keep me busy as a bee too!



Photo and story by: Melinda Wilkens, Master Naturalist, Master Gardener and 3rd yr. Beekeeper. Forsyth County Beekeepers Club

(continued on next page)

Swarms on the Move



Medieval Bees

We got a call from Gina Gallucci, GBA vice president, that a swarm of bees was at a local park in Augusta, Ga. We got there in ten minutes and met a local man, Jr. Gonzales and a couple, Arasin and Rayanne McClellan Staubly from Sumter, SC. They were at Lake Olmstead Park with the East Wind Castle Medieval Society practicing faux fighting, archery and other medieval activities. They said they “saw a bee with a big butt flying around and other bees chasing her”. Then a ball of bees formed in the air and eventually landed about five feet high in a magnolia tree. They were so excited that they witnessed the honey bees doing their thing!



Photos and story by: Lisa and Michael Hogue



Repeat Catch

This is a swarm trap I put out this year in my yard. As you can see, it was successful. I have placed them in a hive, put the trap back up and have activity in it again!

Photo and story by:
Emily Heath



Thank you to everyone who sent in stories about swarms, swarm catching and swarm tips and tricks!

– The editors

Swarm Catching



The Cluster Catcher

For a while I've been hearing about different techniques to lure a swarm cluster to an object rather than them just "hitting the trees." One of the names I heard was Russian scion so of course I googled it. A scion is commonly used in Russian apiaries to provide a place for an exiting swarm to hang out until they find a new home. The scion gives the beekeeper a chance to spot the cluster quickly and easily move it into a hive.

I decided to put one out to see what happens. The design is simple and you can use a variety of materials. Basically, you provide some type of small roof that you then attach an item for the bees to cling to in their swarm cluster. Propolis, old brood comb, or lemongrass oil is usually used as an attractant. The cluster catcher (that's my name for it) hangs either in a tree or on a pole by the bee hives. Some people just use pieces of PVC pipe or short branches that are hung in the trees.



I saw an old garbage can lid in my shed and immediately thought it would make a good cluster catcher. I attached a short piece of wood and wrapped it with a burlap rag. I also attached material to the roof and soaked it with propolis that had been sitting in alcohol. A hook was fashioned on top and then it was hung in a pine tree by my hives.



The "catch" to this method is that you have to be able to check it almost daily but it's a good addition to your swarm traps. I'll let you know what happens.

Photos and story by: Kathleen Bourn,
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers



Photo courtesy of Beesource.

Swarm Catching



Tips and Tricks

Here are just a few good swarm catching ideas from your fellow beekeepers.

Spray them with sugar water as soon as you see them. They're more likely to "stick" around until you can get them in a box. – *Shairon Kerlin, Lake Hartwell Beekeepers*

Keep a swarm catching kit in your car during the season because you never know when you'll get the call.

– *Linda Tillman, Metro Atlanta Beekeepers*



If you have to get on a ladder to get the swarm, the lighter the container the better. I use a Styrofoam cooler with a hole drilled in that I can plug. It's big



enough to put some frames in if they need to stay in there for a while. Also, the lid fits on tightly and quickly. Just be careful not to leave on a windy day (I only made that mistake once). This makes it easy to just dump them in the hive and you can use the lid as a ramp for the stragglers. Don't leave them in there long because there's not enough ventilation. The box you get copy paper in works well too.

– *Kathy Bourn, Lake Hartwell Beekeepers*

Sue Barnes, first year beekeeper in Oak Park Georgia says "I just listen to the old timers as to what they do and copy it. Seems to work". She used the nuc box she got her bees in as a trap with a little Swarm Commander in it. She hived this nice sized cluster too.

– *Sue Barnes, Altamaha Beekeepers Assoc. and Ogeechee Area Beekeepers*



(continued on next page)

Swarm Catching



Tips and Tricks *(cont'd)*

Getting the bees out of the trees without using a ladder is a challenge. Randall Kerlin likes his homemade catcher made from the cut out top of a five gallon bucket. He just attached a pole and a net and he gets all the free bees he can grab.

–Randall Kerlin, Lake Hartwell Beekeepers



A painter's pole that is sold at hardware stores works great too for those high swarms because it can extend to different lengths. Nothing beats a good bee vacuum, especially for those clusters on odd objects like cars.

–Bobby Chaisson, Georgia Bee Removal



Save the Date

The GBA Fall 2019 Conference

September 26-28

at

Lanier Tech / Forsyth Conference Center

Cumming GA

Wednesday - Saturday, May 22 - 25

2019 YOUNG HARRIS BEEKEEPING INSTITUTE

– by *Jennifer Berry*
UGA Bee Lab

The UGA Honey Bee Program offers an annual Georgia beekeeping event in cooperation with Young Harris College. This event provides a vast amount of information in the form of lectures, workshops and demonstrations from esteemed local, regional, national and international beekeeping practitioners, authors, and researchers. The event also features hands-on training classes, beekeeping and honey judging certification programs, a distinguished regional honey show, and many other educational opportunities. Since 1992, the **University of Georgia and Young Harris Beekeeping Institute (YHBI)** has been the single most comprehensive opportunity



in the Southeast for concentrated training in all aspects of practical beekeeping. This four-day event is held on the beautiful campus of Young Harris College, situated in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains,

This year's special guest instructors for the 2019 program are Dr. Francis Ratnieks from the University of Sussex, Dr. David Tarpy from North Carolina State University, Dr. Wyatt Mangum from the University of Mary Washington and Dr. Lewis Barlett, Emory University.

CERTIFICATIONS

In addition to hosting classes for beekeepers at all levels of experience, the Institute sponsors the Georgia Master Beekeeper Program (GMBP) and

partners with the Welsh (U.K.) National Beekeepers Association to provide one of only two licensing programs for honey judges in North America.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday is dedicated to training and certification examinations for the GMBP Journeyman, Master, and Master Craftsman levels as well as the Welsh Honey Judge qualifications. Schedules for Thursday, Friday and Saturday are split into two tracks—one for experienced beekeepers and another for beginners. Training and certification for the GMBP Certified (beginner's) level are incorporated into the normal activities for the beginners' track Friday and Saturday.

IMPROVED HONEY SHOW

One of the most rewarding opportunities of the Institute is the annual honey show. Besides categories in honey, the honey show includes classes in photography, art, candles, section comb honey, mead, and beekeeping gadgets. Students are urged to participate in



the Institute Honey Show, even if you've never competed before. Come join the fun!

To register and see the program go to www.ent.uga.edu/bees. For any questions specific to the YH/UGA Beekeeping Institute please contact Bear and MaryBeth Kelley. (229) 322-5025 greenabaco@gmail.com

Temperature and its effects on Honey



– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

PROCESSING HONEY: A CLOSER LOOK



We all know the warmer honey is the easier it flows but what happens to it when its heated. Millions of pounds of honey flow at Blue Ridge Honey Company in Lakemont Ga. and owner Bob Binnie can tell you how heat affects it.

This information was first published in the March 2018 issue of *Bee Culture Magazine*.

– Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Co-editor

For better or for worse, heat is often used in honey processing

Most operations handling more than a few buckets usually use heat in one form or another, even if it simply means warming honey to facilitate bottling. We should, however, be mindful that heat degrades honey and has an effect on many things including enzymes, color, flavor, and aroma.



Enzymes

Enzymes are important and all are affected by temperature. Merriam-Webster defines enzymes as complex proteins, produced by living cells, that catalyze or increase the rate of biochemical reactions. Simplistically put, enzymes can be thought of as energy. The presence of active enzymes is a part of what defines food that is alive and enzyme activity must be present in honey labeled “Raw.”

Let's take a look at three notable enzymes in honey.

Invertase converts sucrose in nectar to glucose and fructose, which helps make nectar able to hold more solids thereby making it more stable.

Glucose Oxidase creates a chemical reaction which, among other things, lowers the pH of honey to an average of 3.9 and produces hydrogen peroxide. Both of these help stabilize nectar while ripening and contribute to the antibacterial properties of honey.

Diastase, as with all enzymes, is destroyed by heat, and because its activity is easily measured, it has been used by some importers and packers to tell how much heat honey has been exposed to.

The effects of heat on an enzyme are commonly measured by the time it takes to reduce half of the enzyme's activity or its “half-life” at a given temperature. For instance, the half-life of diastase in honey is 1,000 days at 68°F, 14 days at 122°F, and 30 seconds at 176°F. The other enzymes in honey are affected similarly. Enzyme activity stops when honey is held at freezing temperatures but returns when warmed back up. It does not return when destroyed by heat.

Two interesting side notes are that almost all the enzymes in honey are introduced by the bees, and all break down when liquefying crystallized honey in a microwave.

(continued on next page)

Temperature and its effects on Honey – (cont'd)



Flavor, Aroma and Color

Although the chemistry behind flavor and aroma is complex and not very well understood, flavor, aroma, and color are part of what defines high quality honey, and care should be taken not to cause unnecessary deterioration. One thing we know for sure is that they, along with color, are sensitive to high temperatures and deteriorate with time.



For instance, the color of honey is very slow to change when stored cold, but as it warms back up, the rate that honey darkens (and it will darken), will triple with every increase of 10°F. Flavor and aroma deteriorate in a similar fashion when temperatures rise. Something as simple as prolonged warming in a bottling tank, a hot warehouse, or even a hot spot in your kitchen will have a degrading effect on honey.

Flavor, aroma, and color are especially affected in honey that is heated while containing debris such as dead bees, old comb containing cocoons, hive trash,

and much of the menagerie of things that can come out of an extractor.

Some go so far as to say that honey processed with any heat at all can no longer be called raw. We might be careful not to rush to judgment here, however. This could turn into a debate with Mother Nature considering the fact that the top tiers of a beehive, in full sun, on a hot summer day, can get quite warm. I submit that care and moderation are the key for those that want to produce a good, wholesome product.

National Geographic has recently reported that honey found in an ancient tomb in Egypt was still edible, but I'm not sure I would want to be the one to eat it. Just because it hasn't spoiled (fermented), and is still edible, doesn't mean it's still good food. Although not all honeys will deteriorate at the same rate, all eventually do. As with many foods, fresh is best and time is not your friend.

On another note, the internet has more than a few articles written by celebrated food experts stating that it is harmful to put honey in the refrigerator. This is not true. Cold honey degrades slower than warm honey and freezing temperatures are actually your best defense against deterioration.



Honey Show, Here we Come!



– *by Marilyn Parker
Welsh Honey Judge*

“Enter your honey,” they said. “It will be fun,” they said. “You’ll learn a lot,” they said. Well, I did just that. I entered at Young Harris Beekeeping Institute Honey Show several years back. While I was waiting on the results, I sat in on a class of “How to prepare for a Honey Show.” Yikes, I wish I had done that first. I prepared for the worst and it came just as fast. My jars were not perfectly polished, my jar lids had honey on them, there were bubbles and of course my fill lines were all over the place. OK, now I sort of knew what I needed to do the next time I should chance to enter another honey show. Well, that was a long time ago. I have entered many honey shows and traveled many miles. I figured out and was actually taught how to

polish my jars perfectly. I have now sat under the tutelage of many a master. I know exactly how to prepare my jars at home and to use “cling film” (we know it as Saran Wrap) and to bring new lids to change out just before entering any jar required. And those bubbles, I have that figured out too! Fill lines, no problem any more. I have actually expanded my areas of interest to include wax block, candles, lip balm, furniture polish and poetry. Who knows, I am somewhat interested in doing comb honey. Maybe that is next.

I suppose you have guessed by now that I have taken the Welsh Honey Judge Course. I have actually taken it at Alabama, Georgia and Florida. Through the expert guidance and teaching of Michael Young, Brutz

English, Mary Cahill-Roberts, Bear Kelley and Barbara Philips, I was able to judge for my first time at the Georgia Spring Artisan Honey Show. Thoughts of my first entry came to mind. There were two new judges and four senior judges. And of course more amazing entries than ever before. I did get to help in several areas and judge solo on two classes. I was so honored and somewhat horrified. Trust me, it is an awesome responsibility. With calm assurance, I was pleased with my first judging experience. And just like they said, “Enter your honey, it will be fun and you will learn a lot!”



Above: Marilyn Parker and Gail Dean judging entries. Below left: With fellow judges at the Spring 2019 GBA Conference in Augusta. Right: Judges award the winners at the Spring Conference.

Beekeepers to the Rescue



— by Kelley Campbell
Forsyth County Beekeepers

Even though it's been a couple weeks now, I marvel at how a few beekeepers banded together to help a complete stranger, with nothing in it for themselves. A frantic 911 call came in about a beekeeper who had fallen and needed emergency care. As if that weren't stressful enough, the couple got to the ER and were extremely upset that the hives had been left scattered in the yard.

The man was trying to capture his swarming bees, and must have been pulling eggs from the parent colony for the swarm. It was a mess. Thankfully, the 911 dispatcher knew a beekeeper and that beekeeper knew some beekeepers. A couple quick Facebook posts on the Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association Mentoring and Exchange page, and the Forsyth Beekeepers Club page found four knowl-

edgeable and willing beekeepers ready to go in five minutes. Within 45 minutes of the first phone call, a beekeeper was at the home reassembling hives.

Numerous thanks to Mark Revill for dropping everything at 9 o'clock on a weeknight to drive to Marietta to assess the situation in the dark and make it right. There were no bees for him to collect, and no monetary gain to be had, yet he and Jimmy Gatt, Scott Elder, and Mike Vaughn were happy to rush to the home and secure the bees. No one knows the beekeeper who fell; he wasn't a relative, a friend of a friend, or a club member. Lending a hand to others like this was such a strong sign of plain old good people.

BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR

It's time to nominate outstanding members of your beekeeping community for the Beekeeper of the Year award.

The GBA Beekeeper of the Year is a GBA member who has not only demonstrated and promoted good beekeeping, but who is also an outstanding volunteer. Traditionally, past Beekeepers of the Year are not awarded the honor again. Past recipients are [listed on the GBA website](#).

The nominated beekeepers will be evaluated based on what is written about them on the nominating forms. It's not a matter of how many nominations come in for that person, but of the qualities of that person as described by those who submit the forms. So it's important to do your best to tell the committee why you think this person deserves the award.

To nominate someone, [fill out this form by clicking here](#).

It's important to know that **both the person filling out the form and the person being nominated have to be current GBA members.**

This year's committee is composed of members from different quadrants of the state: Julia Mahood, Chair, Bill Norris, Bob Binnie, Steve Esau and Steve Nofs

The committee will first ensure that all nominations are eligible. Then after July 15, when nominations close, they will select three people as finalists, *based on what is written about them*. The GBA board of directors will then vote by secret ballot to select the Beekeeper of the Year.

We encourage you to honor your members by nominating them. All nominated beekeepers will be informed that they were nominated, so even if not selected for the award, it's a nice way to honor those you respect and admire. The committee is looking forward to learning about outstanding members of our community from across the state.



A MEETING OF THE MINDS

– by *Kathy Bourn*
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers

What happens when you get bee club presidents together? Do they share beekeeping tips...sometimes. Maybe they organize a conference...maybe. Or they compare notes about their hives...they could. Better yet...they could plan a party.

The GBA spring conference presidents' breakfast offered a great opportunity for the club presidents in each region to put their heads together and talk about what their clubs need. They talked about how to get speakers, fundraising ideas and future club projects.

During the session with the clubs in the Northeast corner of the state the subject of summer activities came up. It was determined that each club usually

plans some type of summer “non-meeting” meeting. Usually it takes the form of a picnic, ice cream social or BBQ.

Then the idea came up...why not do it together.

So, on August 17th, National Bee Day, members from all the clubs directed by Bobby Chaisson will cluster together. The clubs include Tri-county, Oglethorpe County, Eastern Piedmont, Amicalola, Lake Hartwell and Northeast Ga. Mountain Beekeepers.

What happens when you get bee club presidents together? A good time and great ideas.

What's in a Label?



The final draft of the 2018 farm bill was passed by congress in December but the labeling of honey was a sticking point.

A previous draft by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration proposed to update the “Nutrition Facts” label on all products. The goal was to inform consumers better about the added sugar. This requirement included honey.

Both honey and maple syrup producers said the labeling requirement was misleading since these products do not contain sugar.

The new farm bill exempts “any single-ingredient sugar, honey, agave, or syrup” that is packaged and offered for sale as a pure product from the “sugar added” labeling requirement.



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here to fill out a simple form.](#)

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Appalachian Beekeepers Association of Georgia

At our March monthly meeting we were pleased to have Dan Long, Master Beekeeper and observation hive designer/build-er, join us to share his experience and knowledge regarding the educational uses of observation hives. He also pointed out that they are a wonderful tool for learning bee behavior without affecting their routine.

Also, on Sat. March 23, the club apiary at Talking Rock Nature Preserve was used to demonstrate hive inspection, making splits and queen notching. Club member Sammy Hause shared his vast knowledge with new and veteran beekeepers who took advantage of this learning experience, and it was a great day to be outdoors.



Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County

Our March speaker was Keith Fielder and as usual he kept the members entertained. Keith presented "13 Things Beekeepers Do Wrong" and you could just see the heads nodding their concurrence with his list. Keith will be presenting this same talk at Young Harris and we think it will be well received there as well.

We just wrapped up another successful bee school this past weekend. The attendees were excited about the presentation material and our live bee demos. Luckily the weather held out and we were able to demonstrate how to transfer a nuc to a hive body. This is always the most enjoyed activity of the school along with the many door prizes donated by generous vendors. The three grand prizes were a super donated by Lanier Bee Barn, and two nucs donated by Blue Ridge Honey and the Flippin' Bee Company. Everyone seemed to have a good time and this also helps our membership drive. We told them that they are now hooked on bees and will forever be "Beedazzled"!

Next month Cindy Hodges will present her research with GBA about "The Benefits of Propolis In Your Hive." Cindy was featured in a recent *Bee Culture* article about her work with GBA and the benefits of leaving propolis in the hive. We look forward to hearing the results of her research and to once again have her speak at our club.



Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association



Our first Junior Beekeeping class was March 9th. Although we only had two participants, they had a wonderful time learning about and getting up close to the bees. The next Junior Beekeeping class will be April 13th from 10 am to 3 pm at Oxbow Meadows.

There is only one more class for the adult beekeepers this spring. The participants love being in the bee yard and getting comfortable around bees. Just look at this enthusiasm – pink suit and yellow boots with bees on them!



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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association



In March, Dr. Lewis Bartlett spoke on risks to honey bee colonies from spraying mosquitoes for Zika mitigation. He provided plenty of scientific information and practical advice.

In May Julia Mahood tells us about The Secret Life of Drones.

Forsyth Beekeepers Club

The Forsyth Hands On, Hive Side bee school follow up date is Saturday, April 27. Class covers smoker lighting, full hive inspections, signs of trouble, and swarm collecting. For those that have kept bees a couple years, we break into groups and do an intermediate class, as well. No matter your number of years in beekeeping, this is a fabulous way to improve your skills alongside more experienced keepers at your side, and an unbeatable way to practice for the certified exam! Details will be updated on the [sign up here](#). Directions to the field for the second day will be e-mailed to those that are signed up. It's only \$15 for members! 2018 hive side class pictures can be [seen here](#).



Join the Forsyth Beekeepers Club on May 4 for a few hours and learn more about how queens are reared in the hive, and how to graft your own. Each participant will be given the chance to make 4 of their own queens at essentially no cost. Even if you're not

looking to expand your apiary, this class will give you much insight into being a sustainable beekeeper. There's always someone wanting queens, so don't fret about having an extra bug with your name on it – someone will happily take it off your hands.

Payment will be accepted at the monthly meetings (see Kelley Campbell or Teri Meyer), and at the door for the class (if there's still room). [Sign up is online here](#).

Lake Country Beekeepers Association



The LCBA group enjoyed hive time on March 16th while attending the Spring 2019 Open House sponsored by Morgan Apiaries in Sparta, Georgia. Besides having enjoyed “beeing” with our friends, attendees learned hive basics, the “how to” of installing packages and queens, identifying stages of brood development and much more. Lunch was provided as well.

LCBA's March meeting at the Hancock County Library in Sparta hosted guest speaker Keith Fielder. Keith addressed the “13 Failures Beekeepers Experience.”

Lake Hartwell Beekeepers Association



A big thanks to Jim Alexander and his beekeeping partner Tom Hankins for their March 7th presentation on capturing swarms and how to make splits following the “Jim Alexander” method. Jim is owner of Harden Hill Honey and co-owner of H&H Beekeeping

Supplies. Jim and Tom are the founders of the Madison County Beekeepers Association. Jim comes with tremendous experience since he started keeping bees when he was eight years old and comes from a multi-generational family of beekeepers that started over 140 years ago. Jim and Tom also provided one of their swarm traps as a door prize which Mark Mitzelfeldt was fortunate enough to win!

(continued on next page)

CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Northeast Georgia Mountain Beekeepers



We have arranged for a lecture on Thursday, April 11 at 7pm, open to all beekeepers, by Dr. Jamie Ellis. Tickets are only \$5 and can be obtained by sending a check made out to NEGMBA. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to: NEGMBA c/o Katie Goodman, 3864 Nub Garland Road Toccoa GA 30577

Tara Beekeepers

In March, the Tara Beekeepers welcomed Lewis Bartlett to talk about Varroa, Viruses and What Makes an Enemy Dangerous.

Taffee Oakes recently passed the Welsh honey judge test in Florida. Evelyn Williams, one of the first Welsh honey judges in Georgia, now retired from judging, presented Taffee with her personal hat and jacket.



Stephen Boalch was the winner of our quarterly door prize, a nuc of bees.



On April 15th at 7pm, Emily Ferrell, a wildlife technician with the GA DNR will speak on What Gardeners Can Do for Bats. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about other pollinators and we'll have a surprise guest.

Three County Beekeepers Club

Students, faculty and staff at Middle Georgia State University in Cochran inspected their hives March 8th and saw many bees carrying pollen into the hive (*below, left*).

Clint Ready, president of Three County Beekeepers in Cochran, captured this picture (*below, right*) of a honey bee feeding on a holly blossom.



The next meeting for the Three County Beekeepers Club is Tuesday May 2nd at 7 p.m. in Cochran. We will demonstrate how to make products using beeswax and honey, such as lip balm and lotion. Participants will be able to make their own products from the hive. For more information, email threecountybees@gmail.com

West Georgia Beekeepers Association

On Monday, April 22nd, our guest speaker is David Kelton, owner of Lookout Mountain Honey Bees from Gadsden Alabama. His topic is "Spring Begins". He will also be talking about his commercial beekeeping experience. Our annual club picnic is on May 4th. This year the picnic is held at Union Grove Christian Church in Douglasville, Georgia. We meet every 4th Monday of the month at the American Legion Hall, Post 145, 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, Georgia 30134. The mentoring session begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting to follow at 7 pm. Hope to see you there.

Thank you...



**This is a very busy time for beekeepers.
We appreciate that you took time to
contribute to *Spilling the Honey*.**

Your editors – gbanewsletters@gmail.com.

CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday 6:00pm	Monday, April 1		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday 6:30pm	Tuesday, April 16		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, April 11		wnorris5@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 25		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 16		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 9	Cindy Hodges; Benefits of Propolis in the Hive	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 8		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday 6:00pm	Thursday, April 11		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday 7:45pm	Wednesday, April 17		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday 6:00pm	Monday, April 8		Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 40 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 9		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	1st Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pky, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, April 18	Bees are installed. Now what? – Panel Discussion	sposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months 7:00pm	Monday, June 3	Greg Cowling will speak at our June meeting.	clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday 6:30pm	Monday, April 8		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 8		danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	1400 Parker Rd SE, Conyers, GA 30094	4th Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 23		thezechmans@yahoo.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website *	1st Monday 7:00pm	Monday, May 6	Julia Mahood; Secret Life of Drones	danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 11		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 25	Paul Arnold, Pollination and Honey Bees	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 16		Jonathan.Hayes@cox.net	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 9		hartfieldmonty@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 18		lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	New Location: Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 4	Dave Miller, Beekeeping in other countries and keeping stingless bees	lakehartwellbeekeepers@gmail.com	Franklin
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday 6:30pm	Tuesday, April 23		info@littleriverbeekeepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday 6:00pm	Thursday, April 4		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 16		julia@mahoodstudio.com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	Blairsville Campus of North GA Technical College, GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, April 9		abletinker@windstream.net	Union
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, April 11	Jamie Ellis: Why are Bees Dying and What Can We Do About It? *Ticketed event*	officers@negabeekeeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 8		kaizen.thornberry@gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday 5:00pm	Thursday, April 25		secretary@oabees.com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd Crawford, GA 30630	3rd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 15		joecontibeas@aol.com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 8		victor@makinhoney.com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes.k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, April 11		polkcountybeekeepers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday 7:00pm	Thursday, April 18	TBD	potatocreekbeekeepers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Education Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday 6:30pm	Thursday, April 11		info@sowegabeekeepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 15	Emily Ferrall, What Gardeners Can Do For Bats	maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, May 2	Demonstration: Making beeswax & honey products, lip balm and lotion, etc.	threecountybees@gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 8	Julia Mahood; Secret Life of Drones	info@tricitybeekeepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 16		tristatebeekeepers1@gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday 7:00pm	Monday, April 15		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday 6:15pm	Monday, April 8		twinriversbeekeepers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday 7:00pm	Tuesday, April 16		waltonbees@yahoo.com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday 6:30pm	Monday, April 22	David Kelton, of Lookout Mountain Honey Bees in Alabama. His topic is "Spring Begins".	2nparker@bellsouth.net	Douglas



Spilling The Honey

AUGUST 2019

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
HOLLY BAYENDOR & KATHY BOURN



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Registration is open for the fall meeting! We have a great lineup of speakers and vendors. The meeting is sponsored by Pigeon Mountain, Mann Lake, Blue Ridge Honey, and Rossman Apiaries.

We are so excited to invite you to hear **Clarence Collison** and **Leo Sharaskin** speak at our GBA fall meeting. In addition you'll have the opportunity to learn from **Jennifer Berry** and **Lewis Bartlett**. Along with these nationally known people, we have an outstanding line-up of Georgia speakers for our breakout sessions and keynotes, including **Jennifer Leavey** who runs the Georgia Tech bee program and our own **Julia Mahood**, who is both a Master Beekeeper and the designer of our state bee license plate. We have a special guest from Florida, **Jaret Daniels**, a champion of pollinators, who got the state of Florida to plant their highways with bee friendly forage plants.

In addition to talks presented by our main speakers, additional breakout sessions will be presented by Paul Berry, Selina Bruckner, Marilynn Parker, Sophia Price, and Linda Tillman. Also, we have a new caterer coming this year and should have wonderful food.

The GBA Board of Directors meets on the late afternoon of the 26th, followed by a dinner where Jennifer Berry will share her humorous stories of her twenty years in beekeeping. If you'd like to be with your beekeeping friends from around the state, be sure to check the box to come to the dinner on Thursday night, the 26th.

The actual conference begins on Friday, September 27th. We are meeting in our location from last fall at the **Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Tech in Cumming, GA**. Registration at the conference includes lunch on both Friday and Saturday and attendance at the honey ice cream and cookie social on Friday afternoon. Forsyth Beekeepers again will be baking cookies for us!

Registration is \$75 for members and \$90 for nonmembers. Beginning September 9th, registration will be \$95 for everyone. We are offering a one day registration fee of \$45. Beginning September 9th, a one day registration will be \$60.

Discounted hotel rooms are being held for us at the Fairfield Inn and at the Holiday Inn Express. All activities of the conference will take place at the Lanier Conference Center.

A great feature of the GBA Fall Conference is the **fall honey show**. To see the categories for the honey show, [click here](#). Enter in many categories! Everyone should enter the black jar contest which is just about the taste of your honey. **The honey show is *only open to current dues paid members of GBA who attend the conference.***

The officer election is held at the fall meeting. Members must have their **dues paid** up to date to vote by paper ballot in the election. If you are not sure when your dues should be paid, check on your personal profile page. We will be electing a secretary, a treasurer and three directors in this election. Watch for names of those running both by email and in the September newsletter.

See you at the Lanier Conference Center in Cumming in September!

Meanwhile, bee well,

Linda T



The State of the PLATE

– by **Linda Tillman**
GBA President

As of this writing, exactly one month has passed since we opened the sales of the **Save the Honey Bee license plate**. We have to sell 1000 plates to make back the \$25,000 we invested to start the ball rolling. As of today, in four short weeks, we have sold **521 plates!**

Have you bought yours yet? Join the many cars in Georgia that will be sporting this lovely plate by [clicking here](#). Even if it is not your birthday month, you can still buy the plate. We pay an annual registration fee of \$20 which by definition is only due once per year. For example, my birthday is in November so I paid GBA my \$25 and then paid the county \$35 which is the specialty plate fee. I won't owe the \$20 until my renewal date in November.

The county offices are unevenly trained (to say the least) in how to handle specialty plates. Here are the guidelines for how to get yours:

1. You order the plate through the **GBA site**
2. You will receive a receipt from GBA that you have paid us which simply confirms that you did register with GBA and paid \$25



Got your tag? They've got theirs! Linda Tillman (above), Gail Dean (left), Kelley Campbell (center), Bobby Chaisson (lower left) and Julia Mahood (bottom).



Below: In Joy Wallace's bee yard, her GBA plate adorns her truck.



3. Within a week you receive a confirmation email from the state. That confirmation email has a **receipt ATTACHED** to the email
4. **Download the attachment** (if you click on it, it will not open) and **print what you downloaded**.
5. Take that printed receipt for the \$25 (that you just printed from the attachment) to the county tag office
6. At the county tag office, the clerk needs to check a box that says you have prepaid the \$25 and he/she will then enter the Lxxxxx number on your printed receipt.
7. You pay \$35 for the privilege of having a specialty tag. If it is your birthday month, you also have to pay the \$20 annual registration fee.
8. If it is not your birthday month, some offices still expect the \$20 fee – you do not have to pay that so take your registration in with you to prove that you have paid the annual fee and will not need to pay it again until your birth month.
9. The tag office gives you a temporary tag to put on your car until the permanent tag is mailed to you in a few days.

Thanks to those of you who have bought the tag and are supporting GBA and the honey bee in this way!

Georgia Beekeepers You Should Know...



PN and Evelyn Williams

– by Kathleen Bourn
GBA Newsletter Editor

When we start this beekeeping journey, and go to a few meetings and conferences, we quickly learn who the beekeeping rock stars are. They're the ones people talk about using only their first names (as if everyone knows them), the ones people tell you that you should meet, the ones that have the best stories.

Some of these beekeepers come as a couple. PN and Evelyn Williams are two Georgia beekeepers you should know.

Recently the Tara Beekeeping Assoc. sat them down to get an oral history of their 64 year marriage and 55 year beekeeping adventure.

PN told how he got started in beekeeping in 1979 through a co-worker at Delta Airlines where he worked for thirty-one years. Evelyn said it wasn't the hobby she would have chosen but she realized that PN was hooked and "If I didn't join him, I wouldn't see him".



Since at that time packages cost an outrageous thirty dollars, the couple decided to try to get free bees. In the



early days it was Evelyn who did most of the swarm catching while PN was at Delta. This quickly grew their apiary to sixty hives since back then swarms were plentiful. Evelyn said they would always seem to get the calls during dinner but they'd go get the bees anyway.

PN was once called upon to grab a swarm off an airplane at Delta and he told how it almost got him fired. The ground crew knew he was a beekeeper so they asked him to get the bees off the plane. Everyone dropped what they were doing to watch PN hive the bees. That made his boss object to all the work stopping.

The next step for the couple was to start attending bee club meetings. At that time the Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association met in the courtroom of Fulton County Judge Brooks, who was a beekeeper. In 1981 PN and Evelyn got the idea to start a bee club closer to home in Forest Park and the Tara Beekeepers Association was born. It started with 15 members that rapidly grew to a peak of 149 family memberships. This was a golden

(continued on next page)

PN and Evelyn Williams – (cont'd)

A Beekeeping Journey 55 years in the making.

– by **Kathleen Bourn**
GBA Newsletter Editor

time for beekeeping when PN said “the only thing you had to worry about was wax moths and foulbrood”.

He knew another thing area beekeepers worried about was having the right equipment at the right time. To help solve that problem, the Williams decided to start carrying supplies from Dadant. They’ve since given away the supply business but continue to step in whenever equipment, advice or encouragement is needed.

Over the past 55 years the accomplishments of this beekeeping power couple include: PN’s GBA presidency; Evelyn becoming one of the first Welsh Honey Judges in the United States; being contributing founders of the Young Harris Beekeeping Institute; starting the Clayton County Adult Short Course; and encouraging future beekeepers at Panola Mountain State Park and Reynolds Nature Preserve; along with hundreds of school visits.

They talked about the best and worst times in their beekeeping experience. PN thinks that in the 1980s tracheal mites were a “time of terror”. He explained that Tommy Irvin, the then head of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, wanted to depopulate

honey bees in Georgia. PN said, “People didn’t realize what that little bug does for us”.

PN and Evelyn agree that the best thing about beekeeping is beekeepers. Even though, as they say, “Beekeepers can talk the horns off a billy goat,” they love meeting them all. They’ve hosted beekeepers from around the world including Egypt and Russia.

Every Christmas PN builds beautiful and unique hives that benefit the Tara club. They’re functioning hives that resemble buildings like churches or hardware stores.

He said the hive this year will look like an outhouse. Evelyn is partial to the observation hive she got from PN for their 25th wedding anniversary.

When asked for their advice, PN says to monitor your bees because “You can’t starve your workforce” and “Learn from your mistakes.” Evelyn

encourages everyone to attend beekeeping meetings. She said, “Even after 55 years of beekeeping, every meeting I go to, I learn something.” PN’s message is “If you keep bees you have to be tenacious. Continue to fight. We need the bees because we have a bad habit called eating.”

He does have a warning about keeping honey bees. He says, “It’s like the drugs the young folks use”.



Post-it
for Local
Club Presidents

THE IMPORTANCE OF NURTURING YOUR CLUB MEMBERS

Keeping your members happy and satisfied is key to a successful bee club. Here are some ways many clubs use to accomplish this:

- **Greeting people at the door:** Many clubs have a table at the entry with someone there to say hello to those who arrive. Some clubs use name tags to make it easier to remember the names of your beekeeping buddies.
- **Mentoring both at meetings and away from meetings:** Providing helpful information is a wonderful way to nurture your members - the purpose of most clubs is education of their members. Having a portion of the meeting time dedicated to mentoring newbees is very nurturing.
- **Thanking people publicly and privately for the jobs they do:** We are volunteers and every time a volunteer effort is noticed both publicly and

privately, the person being thanked always feels nurtured and cared about. Recognize contributions large and small.

- **Listening to people's ideas, complaints:** Make a point of really listening to the ideas and concerns of your members. Let them talk through what is bothering them. Even if it's not something easily fixed, being heard by another person is very nurturing.
- **Feeding your members:** Many clubs provide actual nurture - Tara used to have members bring an entire potluck dinner to enjoy. Homemade cookies or snacks are an easy way to nurture your meeting attendees.

Bring as much nurture into your meetings as you can, and your members will be delighted to be there!

– Linda Tillman
GBA President

Spend a weekend immersing yourself in beekeeping knowledge

Whether you're a new beekeeper or a seasoned professional
you will leave this weekend energized and inspired!



with
*Clarence
Collison*
...and
Jennifer Berry
Leo Sharashkin



Fall Meeting 2019

September 26-28
CUMMING, GEORGIA

For more information and to register, visit: www.gabeekeeping.com

Preparing Bees for Winter

Winter Survival

– by **Bob Binnie**
Blue Ridge Honey Company

I believe a beekeeper's calendar year begins in August and what we do then sets the stage for success in winter, spring, and beyond. Most seasoned beekeepers will tell you that many winter losses can be attributed to a lack of attention at this time of year. The process of dealing with mites, old queens and light colonies should definitely begin in August if one hopes to have a high level of overwintering success.

Studies show that the best time for treating mites (if you treat) is in early August. If you only treat for mites once a year and that treatment is done at any other time it will result in a lower spring population and a lower percentage of winter survival. Controlling high mite populations in August insures that a colony is clean and healthy before beginning the fall buildup process in September. This period is crucial for a colonies preparation for winter and the last thing they need is to be exposed to a high mite infestation and the problems associated with it. I came to this conclusion decades ago and believe this concept is especially important today. The fall buildup period is when a colony begins rearing bees that will have to survive the winter, and they will need to be healthy if they are going to make it.

Checking for and replacing poor queens is also one of the most important things that can be done to increase a colonies colony's chances for winter

survival. Also consider that even the best queens from the previous year will become middle-aged by a year and a half and what they are doing right now may not be a good indicator of what they will be doing in the fall or early spring. A queen from the present calendar year will usually outperform an older one by laying eggs later into the fall, laying eggs earlier in the spring, and doing a better job of it. A younger queen that is one year or less definitely gives a colony a much better chance to make it through the winter.



Sam and Bob in the bee yard, in Florida.

Additionally, if a colony is light, the feeding of thin syrup can be helpful during the dearth that usually occurs in August. When goldenrod starts blooming in late August or September, it is the perfect time for getting colonies heavy for winter. Feeding during this late pollen flow also further encourages the brood rearing that provides healthy young bees for winter. Ideally, this feeding should be finished by mid-October so the bees are not still processing sugar syrup going into winter.

Providing a good overwintering site is also important. Plenty of sunshine, good air drainage, and a windbreak to block the cold arctic wind blasts that come from the north by northwest each winter will help. Conditions that make us uncomfortable also make our bees uncomfortable.

Do these things and your percentage of winter survival will definitely go up.

HOW TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES

...without killing Honey Bees and other beneficial insects



– Tom Rearick
Master Beekeeper, beehacker.com
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers

Selective Mosquito Control Techniques Every Homeowner Should Know

How does one reconcile the need to control disease-spreading mosquitoes and ticks while also protecting honey bees, native pollinators, and beneficial insects? Most homeowners assume the two goals are mutually exclusive. They will *logically* sacrifice an abstract, long-term goal to reduce a concrete, near-term threat. However, these two things are not mutually exclusive. The attached PDF article details what every homeowner needs to know in order to control mosquito populations effectively, minimize the likelihood of mosquito bites, and protect honey bees and other beneficial insects from harm. I hope you will read it and share it with as many homeowners as possible.

[Click here to download the Selective Mosquito Control article.](#)

Mosquito control is like vaccination in two ways. There is a lot of misinformation about it, and it is most effective when everybody does it. The misinformation comes from self-serving mosquito control



companies that tout “safe and natural” pesticides that come from chrysanthemums. Their non-selective technique of fogging an area with fine mist pesticide has become the standard practice for controlling mosquitoes. The attached document provides a more effective, less costly, and more selective approach to mosquito control. The article is provided as a PDF document so that you can distribute it as widely as possible in either paper or electronic form.

One more PLATE story

– Gina Gallucci
GBA Vice President



When your friends see your gorgeous Honey Bee license plate, don't be surprised if they want one, too.

Will Kendricks, a non-beekeeper and friend of the bees is going away to college and wanted to get the new “Save the Honey Bee” plate on his car before he left. He picks a specialty plate every year or so and he liked the bee plate because of the subject and the art.

2020 GBA 100TH BIRTHDAY



Celebration

– by Virginia Webb
Chair, 100th Year Committee

In 2020 the Georgia Beekeepers Association will be celebrating our 100th Year, and we have a lot to celebrate. While we are still planning some of the events and special programs, I am looking for any historic documents you may have to share with us in documenting the history of the Georgia Beekeepers Association:

- Old newsletters
- Published articles,
- Lists of past GBA officers or meetings
- Any other item you may have on the GBA.

We do not need the original documents as copies will be sufficient for our research.

As we get closer to the new year, more information will be published on events the GBA will be sponsoring.

We are also looking for GBA members who can help out with the committee. If you would like to help in planning our GBA 100th Birthday Celebration please contact me, [Virginia Webb](mailto:VirginiaWebb@windstream.net).

2020 is going to be a sweet year for GBA.



– Virginia Webb
Chair, 100th Year Committee
MtnHoney@windstream.net
706-754-7062 L.L.

GBA Elections in September

Annual elections for officers and director positions will be held at the September meeting of GBA. Would you like to run for secretary or treasurer? Or would you like to serve on the Board of Directors? The secretary and treasurer positions are up for election this year as well as three director seats.

We are seeking qualified candidates to run for each of these positions. A complete list of the various officers and directors as well as their respective duties [can be found here](#). Please submit your nominations by August 20th so we can publicize your wish to run in the newsletter and so we can print your name on the paper ballot.

GBA is an active, dynamic organization and we are growing every day. GBA needs the support of its members from all over the state to step up and lead our organization. We appreciate new and diverse ideas, viewpoints, and skills to help us continue to grow and succeed as we move into the future.

If you are willing to serve and are willing to run for a GBA officer or director seat, please contact one of our committee members. If you know someone who is capable and would make a good officer or director, please forward that person's name to the committee so we can reach out to them.

The nominating committee is currently chaired by [Bobby Chaisson](#).

Please share this information with your local club members. If you are a club president, please announce this opportunity to run for GBA positions at your club meetings.

The GBA could not be what it is or what it has the potential to become without you! Thank you for your support of and commitment to the GBA. We look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Conference in Cumming, GA on September 26th - 28th. – *The GBA Elections Committee*

WANTED

PRISON BEEKEEPING VOLUNTEERS

If you have one or two years of beekeeping under your belt and the desire to share, please consider volunteering with the Georgia Beekeeping Prison Program.

A new beekeeping program is starting at Georgia State Prison in Reidsville, GA and they are in need of volunteers.

If you're interested in this very rewarding work, contact Julia Mahood:

julia@mahoodstudio.com
or 678-448-2576



GBA NEEDS YOU!

- To send in the name and contact information of your new club president!
- To send us the name of anyone in your club who falls seriously ill or has a death so we can send a card from GBA.

Please share this info by [clicking here](#) to fill out a simple form.

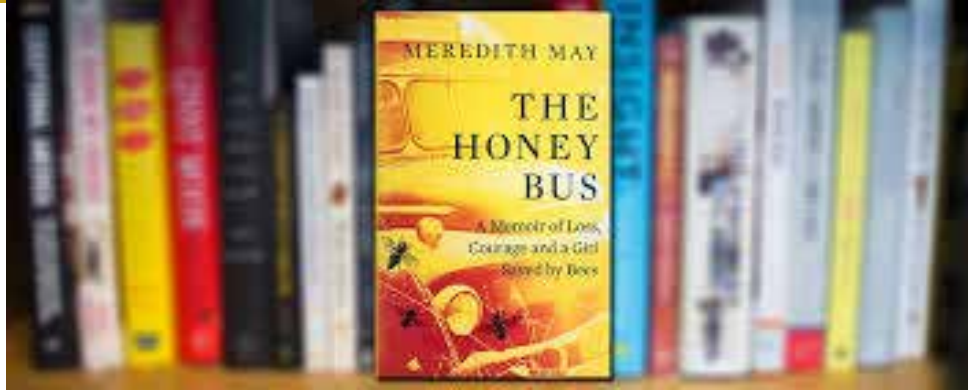
4th of July fun!

Our family celebrated the 4th of July as both beekeepers and astronauts. This was the Nantahala Lake Annual 4th of July Parade on Nantahala Lake, NC. The parade this year coincided with NASA's 50th anniversary celebration of the historic Apollo 11 moon mission. Everyone thought we looked like both. We were all thrilled to win 2nd place out of about thirty entries!



– Gail Dean
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers

BOOK REVIEW: THE HONEY BUS



Sonya Bamberg, Journeyman Beekeeper reviews “The Honey Bus: A Memoir of Loss, Courage, and a Girl Saved by Bees” written by Meredith May.

This is a truly wonderful and inspiring book about a small girl’s struggle to overcome the loneliness and loss caused by her mother’s depression and her parents’ divorce. This book is filled with the hope and wisdom of an intuitive old man and his honey bees.

At times amusing, often profound, this book addresses the long-term effects of child abuse and divorce. It shares with the reader the confusion and grief children endure when a marriage breaks up. We see how one child coped with a terrible loss as she survives and grows into a strong individual.

A deeply moving read, I recommend this book to everyone as an inspirational book that is filled with accurate facts and observations of bee colonies. It is not necessary to be a beekeeper to understand or appreciate this story,

but anyone who works with bees will identify quickly with the knowledge and wisdom May learns from her grandfather and the ways of bees. May offers a child’s view of the honey bee world and its hidden truths.

More than a memoir, this book is a memorial to Franklin Peace, an exceptional man who shared his knowledge and wisdom and his honey bees with a lonely little girl. The lessons in loyalty, family, and survival, all illustrated by the honey bee, make this book a unique and pleasurable read.

Hopefully this book will inspire others to share their beekeeping skills and expertise with their children and grandchildren. With great appreciation for her honesty and courage, I thank Ms. May for sharing her story with us.

REMINDER! NEW GBA PAYMENT SYSTEM

GBA is switching payment systems and it will affect your dues payments with us going forward. We are not using PayPal any longer. If you are set up with auto pay for your membership, Wild Apricot (our membership software) will no longer bill PayPal. Wild Apricot will automatically charge a credit card for you but not PayPal.

Please sign into **your own PayPal** account and **delete your automatic GBA payment.** PayPal should no longer do this but to be sure, we encourage you to delete the auto pay. We can't do it for you because it is set up in your personal accounts. Thanks for your understanding.

Linda Tillman, President, GBA

CLUB NEWS

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers Association

At CVBA June meeting, Randy Hamann, Apiary inspector for the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, spoke about the Alabama honeybee regulations and how to inspect your hives for diseases and pests. It was very interesting to see how Alabama and Georgia laws differ.



(Left) Randy Hamann speaks at our June meeting. (Right) Honey harvest at the Oxbow Meadows Harvest Festival.

On July 13th, CVBA held its honey harvest in conjunction with Oxbow Meadows' Harvest Festival. Honey from the hives located at Oxbow Meadows was extracted during five different demonstrations for the public. The weather was dreary, but a good crowd came in spite of the weather. As the final class for the spring Beekeeping Course, the class participants were able to take an active part in the extraction of the honey.

Our very own member, Marty Mitchell, will be our speaker at the next meeting on August 12th at Oxbow Meadows. She will share the experiences she had on an European Bee Tour.

Lake Country Beekeepers Association

LCBA received approval for a grant from the non-profit arm (Bee Cause Project) of Savannah Bee Company in January of 2019. This grant has allowed LCBA to partner with the Uncle Remus Regional Library System and install a bee observation hive in the Hancock County library in Sparta, Georgia.



(Left) Bruce Morgan, LCBA President, spearheaded the observation hive installation. (Right) This Brazilian family enjoyed the observation hive as their grandfather kept stingless bees in southern Brazil for 40 years.

This project has been an incredible success in helping educate the local community, young and old alike, about the value of honey bees and pique interest in this hobby. Various LCBA members volunteer weekly to host a "Meet The Beekeeper" session at the library to tell others about the bees and their role as a beekeeper. Recently, a "Name the Queen" contest was held where over 40 names were submitted - our queen bee is officially named HONEY!. LCBA has also worked with the library in ensuring there are books for young and old, new and experienced on beekeeping and related topics. Anyone can check out these books with a PINES Library Card. Our thanks again to the Hancock County Library and the Bee Cause Project for making this possible.

One of the many awesome things about being a beekeeper is that there are many different peripheral interests one can pursue beyond producing honey. The Lake Country Beekeepers Association learned first hand from one of its members, Karen Palmer of Honey Please in Swainsboro, GA about her beekeeping related passion: Bee removal and rescue. She and her husband created Honey Please which specializes in bee removals, nucleus colonies, local honey production and more. Her highly informative and interesting lecture focused on experiences they've walked through and the things one needs to factor in when attempting to remove bees from buildings made of various construction materials. I believe the club walked away with a better understanding of the complexities involved in bee removal and from comments overheard after the meeting, I believe most members are grateful there are others skilled and willing to provide such services!

Honey Please can be found on Facebook or visit their website at <http://savannahbeeremoval.com>.

Northeast Georgia GBA Clubs – Honey Bee Jamboree

This year the presidents for the six northeast Georgia GBA clubs decided to have a summer Honey Bee Jamboree together.

On August 17th, National Honey Bee Day, members from NE Ga. Mountain, Amicalola, Eastern Piedmont, Ogelthorpe, Lake Hartwell and Tri-county clubs will cluster together at Hurricane Shoals Park from 11a.m. to 3p.m.. Club members are encouraged to bring a potluck dish as the clubs will provide the main meat and drinks. There will be games, contests, hive demonstrations and a chance to get to know beekeepers from around the NE Georgia region.

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CLUB NEWS

– (cont'd)

Please help us by sending your meeting information facts through the [Wufoo form](#) (that's the who, what, when, where and why of your upcoming monthly meeting). Send the news about your club (description of a speaker's talk at your club's meeting, short course announcement, photos, events, etc.) to gbanewsletters@gmail.com

Oglethorpe County Bee Club



Dan Harris of Booger Hill Bee Company (<http://boogerhillbee.com>) presented a talk on preparing midsummer splits at the Oglethorpe County Bee Club's meeting in July. He mentioned tricks for queen replacement and various pitfalls that can occur when making bees in the later part of the season. After his talk, the black jar honey tasting competition was held.

In August, artist, environmentalist, explorer, Edie Morton <http://www.ediemorton.com/sacred-pollinators/> will be speaking on Encaustic Art & Sacred Pollinators. Edie is concerned about the urgency we face to protect honey bees and all of our pollinators. To her, these creatures are not just important to us and our planet in pragmatic terms, they are also sacred.

Saturday August 17th, we will be offering our Introduction to Beekeeping for Young People from 9 am to 12 pm at the Reynolds Nature Preserve. Details can be found at <https://www.tarabeekeepers.org/copy-of-annual-short-course>

Tri-State Beekeepers Association

****New Meeting day****

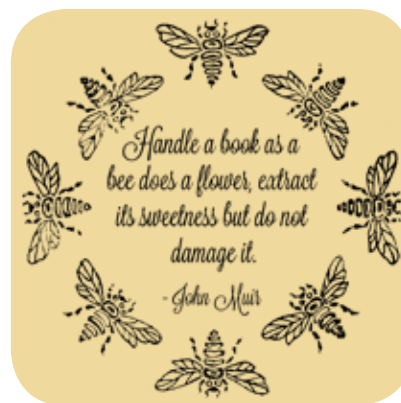
The Tri-State Beekeepers Association is now meeting on the third MONDAY of each month.. This a change from our long-standing Tuesday meeting day. Our next meeting will be **Monday, August 19**. We welcomed FIVE new members at this month's meeting!

Tara Beekeeping Association

In July, PN and Evelyn Williams shared their experiences of over 50 years of beekeeping with us.



(Left) Evelyn and PN with Kief Schleifer. (Right) Evelyn speaks with members of the Tara Beekeeping club.



CLUB MEETINGS

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Altamaha Beekeepers	UGA Research Center, 8167 Hwy 178, Lyons, GA 30436	1st Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, August 5		Carmen_K9@yahoo.com	Tattnall
Amicalola Beekeepers	Dawson County Extension Office, 298 Academy Ave, Dawsonville, GA 30534	3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, August 20		marcushvac2@gmail.com	Dawson
Appalachian Beekeepers	Pickens County Senior Center, 400 Stegall Dr, Jasper, GA 30143	2nd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, August 8	Bill Farr, "You Picked a Fine Time to Leave Me Lucille!" A beekeeper's journey.	pickensbeekeepers@gmail.com	Pickens
Augusta Beekeeping	CSRA Regional Commission, 3626 Walton Way Ext., Suite 300, Augusta, GA 30909	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 29		Augustabeekeeping@gmail.com	Richmond
Bartow County Beekeepers	Olin Tatum Agricultural Bldg, 320 W Cherokee Ave, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 20		arron_rob@me.com	Bartow
Beekeepers Club of Gwinnett County	Hebron Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Rd Module G, Dacula, GA 30019	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 13	Jimmy Gatt, Bee Friendly Trees	tawnalow@me.com	Gwinnett
Beekeepers of Gilmer County	Gilmer County Recreation Cntr, 1561 S. Main, Ellijay, GA 30540	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, August 12		marymom51@gmail.com	Gilmer
Brier Creek Beekeepers	Burke County Office Park, main auditorium	2nd Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, August 8		tjsturdivant61@gmail.com	Burke
Cartersville Beekeepers Guild	241 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120	3rd Wednesday, 7:45pm	Wednesday, August 21		cartersvillebeekeepersguild@gmail.com	Bartow
Chattahoochee Valley Beekeepers	locations alternate: Oxbow Meadows Environ Learning Cntr, 3535 S. Lumpkin Rd. and GA & the UGA Cooperative Extension office, 420 10th St, Columbus	2nd Monday, 6:00pm	Monday, August 12	Marty Mitchell shares European Bee Tour	Jim Ellis	Muscogee
Chattooga County Beekeepers	Chattooga County Agri Bldg 32 Middle School Rd, Summerville, GA 30747	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 13		beemaster@chattoogabeekeepers.com	Chattooga
Cherokee Beekeepers Club	First Baptist Church Holly Springs, 2632 Holly Springs Pkwy, Holly Springs, GA 30142	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, August 15	Jennifer Berry of the UGA bee lab	spposey@gmail.com	Cherokee
Clark's Hill Beekeepers	Columbia County Extension Office, 6420 Pollards Pond Rd, Appling, GA 30802	1st Monday of even months, 7:00pm			clarkshillbeekeepers@gmail.com	Columbia
Coastal Empire Beekeepers	Oatland Island Wildlife Center 711 Sandtown Rd, Savannah, GA 31410	2nd Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, August 12		CEBA.OIWC@Gmail.com	Chatham
Coweta County Beekeepers	Coweta Extension Office, 255 Pine Rd, Newnan, GA 30263	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, August 12		danssweetbees@gmail.com	Coweta
East Metro Beekeepers	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1275 Flatshoals Rd, Conyers, GA 30013	4th Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 27		eastmetrobees@gmail.com	Rockdale
Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers	Wilson Pharmacy Bldg, Rm 120, Athens, GA 30602 *Use directions on website*	1st Monday, 6:45pm	Monday, August 5		danielreidlong@gmail.com	Clarke
Effingham County Beekeepers Assoc	Fellowship Bible Church 841 Old Dixie Hwy Springfield, GA 31329	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 8		EffinghamBees@gmail.com	Effingham
Forsyth Beekeepers Club	University of North Georgia Cumming Campus- 300 Aquatic Cir, Cumming, GA 30040	4th Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 29	Bobby Thanepohn, Your Bees Survived the Winter... Now What?	baileysbees@gmail.com	Forsyth
Heart of Georgia Beekeepers	UGA Extension Building, 801 Main Street (old courthouse), Perry, GA 31069	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 20		heartofgabeekeepers@gmail.com	Houston
Henry County Beekeepers	117 Racetrack Road McDonough, GA 30253	2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 13		henrybeebug123@gmail.com	Henry
Lake Country Beekeepers	Sparta Hancock Library, 8984 E. Broad St, (Hwy 15 South) Sparta, GA 31087	3rd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 15	LCBA 4th Annual Honey Show and a presentation on 'Nucleus Hive Tips' by Mary Lacksen.	lakecountrybees@gmail.com	Hancock

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CLUB MEETINGS

– (cont'd)

Is your club's information wrong or missing? Please fill out this form to let us know. Do you have a brand new club that would like to be affiliated with the GBA and added to this page? Please review the requirements.

Club Name	Meeting Location	Meeting Schedule	Meeting Date	Speaker & Topic	Club Email	County
Lake Hartwell Beekeepers	Hart Co. BOE AgriScience Center 1951 Bowman Hwy, Hartwell, GA 30643	1st Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, September 5	Jim Alexander of Harden Hill Honey, Winter Prep: It's better to begin preparing for winter sooner than later.	lakehartwellbeekeep- ersassoc@gmail.com	Hart
Little River Beekeepers	Cook County Ag Extension, 206 E. 9th St, Adel, GA 31620	4th Tuesday, 6:30pm	Tuesday, August 27		info@littleriverbee- keepers.com	Cook
Macon Beekeepers Association	The Wellness Center in Macon, 3797 Northside Dr, Macon, GA 31210	1st Thursday, 6:00pm	Thursday, August 1		ganofs@cox.net	Bibb
Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA)	Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, Heritage Hall, 3180 Peachtree Rd, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 20	Rachael Bonoan PhD, why bees like dirty water.	julia@mahoodstudio. com	Fulton
Mountain Beekeepers	North GA Tech College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn Ln Blairsville GA 30512	2nd Tuesday	Tuesday, August 13		abletinker@wind- stream.net	Union, Townns, Fannin
Northeast GA Mountain Beekeepers	Habersham Agri. Cntr 555 Monroe Ave #50 Clarkesville, GA 30523	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 8		officers@negabee- keeping.com	Habersham
Northwest Georgia Beekeepers	Walker County Agriculture Center, 10052 US 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, August 12		kaizen.thornberry@ gmail.com	Walker
Ogeechee Area Beekeepers	Fordham's Farmhouse Restaurant, 23657 US-80, Statesboro GA 30461	Last Thursday, 5:00pm	Thursday, August 29		secretary@oabees. com	Bulloch
Oglethorpe County Beekeepers	[Farm Bureau Bldg, 925 Athens Rd, Crawford, GA 30630] **416 Hurricane Shoals Rd, Maysville, GA 30558**	3rd Monday, 7:00pm	Special date: *8/17/2019*	No Aug meeting. Instead, 11am Honey Bee Jamboree in Maysville, GA.	joecontibeas@aol. com	Oglethorpe
Paulding County	Dallas Primitive Baptist Church, 227 Legion Rd Dallas, GA 30132	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, August 12		victor@makinhoney. com	Paulding
Pine Grove Middle Beekeeping Club	Pine Grove Middle School Valdosta, GA 31601				bethbaker@lowndes. k12.ga.us	Lowndes
Polk County Beekeepers	Cedartown High School 167 Frank Lott Drive Cedartown, GA 30125	2nd Thursday, 7pm	Thursday, August 8		polkcountybeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Polk
Potato Creek Beekeepers	Spalding County Extension Office, 835 Memorial Dr, Griffin, GA 30223	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	Thursday, August 15		potatocreekbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Spalding
Southeast GA Beekeepers	Lake Verne	Annually in January			Barry Hart	Clinch
SOWEGA	Chehaw Park Creekside Educa- tion Cntr, 105 Chehaw Park Rd, Albany, GA 31701	2nd Thursday, 6:30pm	Thursday, August 8		info@sowegabee- keepers.org	Dougherty
Tara Beekeepers	Kiwanis Room, GA Power Bldg, 752 Main St. Forest Park, GA 30297	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, August 19		maryc7@aol.com	Clayton
Three County Beekeepers Club	416 GA Hwy 126 Cochran GA 31014	1st Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 6		threecountybees@ gmail.com	Bleckley, Pulaski, Dodge
Tri-County Beekeepers	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road Gillsville, GA 30543	2nd Monday, 7:00pm	Monday, August 12		info@tricitybee- keepers.net	Banks
Tri-State Beekeepers	UGA Extension Office 114 Pace Dr, Trenton, GA 30752	3rd Monday, 7:00pm *New*	Monday, August 19	**We are now meeting on the 3rd Monday of every month.	tristatebeekeepers1@ gmail.com	Dade
Troup County Beekeepers	Agriculture Building, 21 Vulcan Materials Rd, Lagrange, GA 30241	3rd Monday, 7pm	Monday, August 19		neatermyer@aol.com	Troup
Twin Rivers Beekeepers	Ware County Library, 401 Lee Ave, Waycross GA 31502	2nd Monday, 6:15pm	Monday, August 12		twinriversbeekeep- ers@gmail.com	Ware
Walton County Beekeepers	Center Hill Baptist Church 6372 GA-20 Loganville, GA 30052	3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm	Tuesday, August 20		waltonbees@yahoo. com	Walton
West Georgia Beekeepers	American Legion Hall, Post 145 6449 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville, GA 30134	4th Monday, 6:30pm	Monday, August 26	Allen Bradd, Winter Prep	2nparker@bellsouth. net	Douglas