

The Texas Beekeepers Association Journal



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“Bee on a Confederate Rose Blossom”
Photograph by Dan Eudy



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President's Report



Hello Friends,

Here we are in the dead of winter, it's 77 degrees outside and we're in shorts and a short sleeved shirt. A strangely warm winter follows on that very hot summer of 2011 - let's hope that doesn't signal another very hot summer and a continued drought.

Looking at our hives, a number of beekeepers are reporting seeing drones in their colonies still. As much as we research this extraordinary insect, there still seem to be behaviors that are new and different.

A number of publications have started to report on the effect of insecticides and pesticides on our bees and we can only hope that this begins to focus the regulatory authorities on the real dangers of a decline in the honey bee population.

For those of you that are interested in using HopGuard, our association has drafted a letter asking the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) to extend the experimental use of the product for another year. Please take the time to contact TDA yourselves and help us in this effort.

Here in my part of Texas we are seeing lots of wild mustard and other early blooming flowers that the bees are working. With the rain we've had recently and the unseasonable warm weather there's hope of a great honey crop this year.

Our next meeting is the Winter Delegates Meeting on February 18th in Salado at the famous Stagecoach Inn. Among other business we need to decide where to hold the Summer Clinic. So please join us there if you are able, enjoy the fellowship and explore Salado in the afternoon.

Take care everyone and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Eddie Priest
President

Winter Delegates Meeting

TBA Winter Delegates Meeting
will be held
Saturday, February 18, 2012
at the
Stagecoach Inn
401 S. Stagecoach Road
Salado, TX 76571
(254) 947-5111



We will get together at 11:00 am and welcome all TBA Members to attend and enjoy lunch with us as we finalize plans for the TBA Summer Clinic.

Please contact TBA Delegates Committee Chair,
Dick Counts, with any questions.
dickcounts@bigplanet.com
(903) 566-6789

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Vice President's Report *from Blake Shook*



Hello Fellow Beekeepers!

What a wonderful winter we have been having, right? For all those who love snow and cold weather it has been miserable this year; but as beekeepers we tend to forget about personal weather preferences and think only about what is best for the bees. I know here in North Texas it has been very warm. We have had several days in the 60's and 70's and, as a result, the bees are bringing in pollen and the queen is laying a lot of eggs. By the time you read this all our hives will be in California in the almond orchards where, hopefully, it is even warmer than it is here! Due to the warm winter and lots of fall feeding, our hives have done better than normal this year as far as overwintering goes. I hope yours are doing well too!

I recently attended the American Beekeeping Federation Conference in Las Vegas and would like to share a few quick things with you that I learned. These two particular things are issues I'm sure you have heard about. The first is in regards to the tropilaelaps mite. Don't ask me to pronounce it, but I can tell you a little about it. It is similar in some ways to the varroa mite, only it is worse...much worse. That is just what you needed to hear today right? The good news is that this mite is very sensitive to cold weather, so a cold winter will wipe them out. How

cold, no one could tell me, but coming from the tropics, I'm hoping even a Texas winter will kill them. There is still not a huge amount of information out there about these pests, but after talking to several scientists, I found that they are beginning to monitor for them. They do expect them to eventually make it into the USA, and everyone agrees they are worse than varroa. How much worse, no one could tell me. A bit of good news is that other countries have been dealing with them for years, so hopefully if they do make it here we can glean some knowledge from other countries on how to kill them.

The last thing I wanted to mention is the notorious "zombie fly" which I know many of you have read about recently. These flies reportedly lay eggs in the honey bee and cause them to die a slow and miserable death. These things look pretty bad at first glance, but according to all of "them" at ABF, these flies have been around for years, and are really not that big of an issue. The main thing seems to be the media just found out about them, and decided this was a perfect slow news day topic.

I look forward to sharing in future articles more about the conference. I also look forward to seeing all of you at our winter delegates meeting in February!

Editor's Note - 2012 TBA Convention

In case you didn't see Blake's note about this year's convention, he asks that TBA members let him know what they would like to see at this year's convention. What stays the same and what needs to be changed? The questions he asks are:

- 1) What topics would you like to hear about during the 2012 conference?
- 2) What are some suggestions you have for TBA overall so that we can better serve you as a beekeeper?
- 3) Are there any specific speakers you would like to hear at our next conference?
- 4) What is your least favorite thing about our conference?
- 5) How can we make our conference more applicable to you?
- 6) Do you have any other suggestions/comments about our conference?

Please get back to Blake at blake@desertcreekhoney.com - we really need to hear from you!



Director's Report

from Russell Swinney

*Collin County Concho Valley Permian Basin
Red River Valley*



Water. That's what we need. Preferably in the form of a long, slow, rain several days each month this coming year.

Checking in with beekeepers in the Concho Valley, Red River Valley and Collin County areas there is definitely a theme in North West Texas. The theme is that 2011 was a hard year for bees.

Recent rains in January have us encouraged for a good spring buildup of brood. This part of our fantastic state is not teaming with nectar prolific plants but we are fortunate to have Mesquite, which is known to bloom in May, June and often again in October. While the later bloom had very little nectar, the early bloom last spring was very prolific and provided good honey stores to help the bees survive a long summer with little else to feed on.

After spending a lifetime trying to kill mesquite trees, I can't believe I am sitting here hoping for a good bloom this year!

The Red River Valley area also has a significant

flow from clover. The Collin County area benefits some from a little more moisture and a larger variety of plants. Western areas also have the benefit of cotton to produce honey but some beekeepers have reported that the newer varieties of insect resistant cotton are producing less nectar and, therefore, less honey.

Beekeepers in area 2 that provide hives for local pollination focus on watermelon and occasional fruit tree orchards (primarily peach) with some cantaloupe contracts in the most western areas. We are seeing continued interest from our communities in beekeeping and locally produced honey. Bee clubs in this area are reporting efforts to increase visibility in the community for beekeeping as well as supporting youth programs and all have reported significant increases in meeting attendance this year.

I am prayerful and optimistic for 2012 and I look forward to serving beekeepers in the Great State of Texas.

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In Memoriam



Mrs. Mary Jo Brantley
(June 3, 1933 - December 12, 2011)

Mary Jo Riggs Brantley, age 78, of Jefferson, Texas, passed away on December 12th at Longview Regional Medical Center in Longview, Texas, due to heart complications.

Mary Jo was born on June 3rd, 1933 in Red Hill, Texas to Alma Beatrice Jones and William Joseph Riggs. She grew up in Jefferson, spending her childhood years with her younger siblings Alice Faye and Danny, enjoying the excitement and simplicity of life in a small East Texas town. In addition to other clubs and activities, Mary Jo played clarinet in the high school band, marching once in the Cotton Bowl Parade, before graduating in 1951.

She married Stanford Sewell Brantley of Jefferson on May 11th, 1952, shortly after he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. They began their twenty-plus year military career in Richmond, California and after living in Japan, Germany and numerous states, Mary Jo and Stanford once again settled in Jefferson after his retirement in 1971.

Over the last forty years, Mary Jo was active in the TFWC 1933 Study Club, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary and the First Baptist Church Choir. Mary Jo was initiated into the Order of the Eastern Star, Jefferson, Texas, Chapter #627 on February 28, 1961. She was a fifty year member of the Order and was presented the 50 year certificate and pin on April 5, 2011. At the time of her death, Mary Jo was serving her second term as president of the TFWC. She

was the only member of the club born in the year 1933. She was recently selected as a life member of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, Key District. She was a member and past president of the Jessie Allen Wise Garden Club and a desk clerk at the Historic Excelsior House Hotel for more than 20 years. She was known to cheerfully give impromptu guided tours of the Excelsior House or Jay Gould's Pullman railcar "Atalanta", both owned by the Garden Club in downtown Jefferson.

Starting as a den leader for her sons' Cub Scout activities, she actively supported the Boy Scouts of America, and helped two of her sons earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

In recent years, Mary Jo and Stanford were involved with both the East Texas Beekeepers Association and the Ark-La-Tex Beekeepers Association, traveling to fairs and festivals selling honey to promote those organizations and local beekeepers. She was also known for her support of the Texas Honey Queen Program through her enthusiastic participation locally and in the Queens' auction at the State Convention.

She is survived by her husband, Stanford, of Jefferson; and three sons: Maxey and his wife Blanche, of New Braunfels, Texas; Todd, of New Orleans, Louisiana; and Brooke and his wife Laura, of Bolingbrook, Illinois. Grandchildren include Travis, Casey, Kristi, Nick, Benjamin and Aidan, and great grandchildren John Douglas and Jake Allen.

Services were held on Friday, December 16th, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Jefferson, with the Reverend Joe Srygley and Jeff Taylor officiating. Visitation at the funeral home and attendance at the services was a testimony to her life, drawing family, friends and neighbors in the community, and beekeepers from across the state. Interment followed at Prospect Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Travis Brantley, Casey Brantley, Nick Brantley, Dick Counts, Randy Fair and Royce Pelham.

Memorial donations can be made to First Baptist Church of Jefferson, 523 Polk Street, Jefferson, Texas 75657; Carnegie Library, 301 West Lafayette St. Jefferson, Texas 75657; Texas Beekeepers Association, 1799 Goodson Court, Round Rock, Texas 78664; or a charity of choice.

Family and friends will remember Mary Jo as a loving wife and mother, caring friend and a giving person. She was a treasure to all who knew her and she will be missed.

In Memoriam



Lonnie R. Porter, Sr.
(July 27, 1939 - January 15, 2012)

Electric) as a Lineman and Crew Foreman. He proudly spoke of never being late to work during his 28 year tenure. Following full retirement in 1995 Lonnie stayed very busy with his many hobbies including hunting, fishing, gardening and beekeeping. He was an expert Indian artifact collector and avid arrowhead hunter. He was a precision artist in making arrowheads, bows and arrows, knife making and had unlimited woodworking abilities.

As a long time member of the East Texas Beekeepers Association in Tyler, one of the well remembered woodworking project was when he was asked by Mrs. Brantley to make little Cedar wood recipe boxes that looked like beehives. He faithfully built 32 of them for the TBA Honey Queen's Auction.

He was preceded in death by a brother Richard Porter and sister Zola Porter.

Survivors include wife of 52 years Alta J. Porter, Athens; sons Lonnie Ray Porter, Jr., Athens; Charles Glen Porter, Decatur; Audy Verl Porter, Frankston; daughter Wanda J. Newland; brothers Jimmy J. Porter, Sparta, Mo; Leonard A. Porter, Squires, Mo; sister Wanda J. Yerby, Peoria, Ill; 11 grandchildren and 2 great grandsons.

Pallbearers were Audy V. Porter, Charles G. Porter, Jimmy R. Harris, Audie Lynn Porter, Lonnie Ray Porter, Jr., Dana House, Logan Porter, Josh W. Porter.

Honorary pallbearers were Ashley Cutrer, Phillip Cutrer, Kalli C. Porter, Alex M. Porter, Lauren R. Porter, Lindsey R. Porter, Connor W. Porter.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, Texas 75701-6623.

Services for East Texas Beekeeper Association member Lonnie R. Porter, Sr., 72, Athens were conducted on January 19, 2012 in Carroll-Lehr Funeral Chapel in Athens with LaRon Branson and Tom Davis officiating. Internment followed in Shelby Chapel Cemetery.

Mr. Porter died January 15, 2012 in Tyler. He was born July 27, 1939 in Girdner, Missouri to the late Orba Walker and Neval Ann McKnight Porter and had been a resident of Athens 47 years. He worked 6 years for D. R. Florence Electric Construction Company in Rockwall then finished out his career with New Era Electric (now Trinity Valley

The Bee - a Poem by Emily Dickinson

Like trains of cars on tracks of plush
I hear the level bee:
A jar across the flowers goes,
Their velvet masonry

Withstands until the sweet assault
Their chivalry consumes,
While she, victorious, tilts away
To vanquish other blooms.

Her feet are shod with gauze,
Her helmet is of gold;
Her breast, a single onyx
With chrysoprase, inlaid.

Her labor is a chant,
Her idleness a tune;
Oh, for a bee's experience
Of clovers and of noon!

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

by Michael Kelling

The Central Texas Beekeepers is a small but growing association that meets monthly at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Brenham. Following a reorganization in 2008, the club has grown to 50 official members and an average attendance of 40 at each meeting.

Most of the members are beginning beekeepers that enjoy the “gentlemanly craft” of beekeeping as a hobby. Some do not yet have bees but are learning and plan on getting started as soon as possible. The membership is from a variety of small towns surrounding Brenham and even a few that attend every meeting that live on the west side of Houston. Some members drive 50 or more miles one way each month. Dues for the club are \$25 per year per family.



Central Texas Beekeepers Vice President E. T. Ash helps a group of students inspect a hive at the Annual Beekeepers School. Participants have the opportunity to “suit-up” and visit the apiary to experience the bee up close.

While the meetings begin at 7 p.m, a lot of the members begin arriving just after 6 to share a cup of coffee or soft drink while they visit and exchange ideas. New members find this a good time to meet other beekeepers and get their questions answered.

The meetings usually consist of a speaker on a bee-related topic for the first 45 minutes. Past topics have included the use of top-bar hives, a report on the situation with the Crazy Raspberry Ants in the Houston area, a discussion of mead and how it is made (complete with samples!), and a demonstration of antique

smokers. Perhaps the most popular demonstration was on the control of Multiple Sclerosis through bee-sting therapy.



Don Ivy demonstrates how to light a smoker and what types of fuel can be used that will not harm bees. Participants get the chance to practice lighting smokers, assemble their own equipment and a variety of other practical experiences.

Each meeting includes an abundance of food upon which members can snack. The refreshment chair, Melissa Yeldell, along with many other members, has provided a wonderful variety of goodies. A lot of the items are made with honey as one of the ingredients. Most members would come for the “eats” even if they weren’t interested in the topic of the month!

The last hour of the meeting is a “Beginning Beekeeping” lesson. Since most members are new to the craft, there are always questions that need to be answered or methods to share to make the job easier. Demonstrations on building equipment, different sizes of hives, purchasing and installing bees, and extracting honey are always popular and full of questions.

We also make sure that we have at least three door prizes each meeting. While these are small, the smile on someone’s face as they win an item is worth the small cost to the club.

Meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month except November and December. The decision to select the fourth Thursday did not take into consideration that Thanksgiving and Christmas are both on or near that date. So instead of a November meeting, the

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

club meets the second Thursday of December for a Christmas party and White Elephant gift exchange.

The club hosts an annual beekeeping school each spring. The school has grown from 35 attendees in 2009 to 174 in 2011. While the school emphasizes beginning beekeeping, there are classes for the intermediate level as well. The school is held by members of the club with some outside speakers invited to participate. A morning session is followed by lunch and multiple afternoon sessions on a variety of subjects.

Plans are being made to host a scholarship program in an attempt to promote interest in beekeeping among the youth. While the specifics have not been finalized, plans are to provide instruction, protective gear, equipment, bees and mentorship to as many young members as possible. The hope is to

attract applicants from 4-H groups, FFA clubs and even elementary schools. The first scholarships are planned for the fall of 2012.

The group also has a booth at the Washington County and Burleson County Fairs. The booth contains observation hives and literature about bees and provides fairgoers an opportunity get up close to ask questions about something that normally frightens them.

More information on the Central Texas Beekeepers can be found on their web page: www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org. You can also visit them on facebook at "Central Texas Beekeepers Association and Friends".

For more information, contact Michael Kelling at (979) 277-0411.

Central Texas Beekeepers Association Spring Beekeeping School - March 24, 2012

The Central Texas Beekeepers are hosting their fourth annual Spring Beekeeping School on March 24, 2012.

This is a full-day school that is mainly for beginning and intermediate beekeepers and is open to the public. There will be classes for adults and activities for children.



Jeff McMullen leads the Beginning Beekeeper Session at the 2011 school. He is scheduled to be the main instructor at the morning class again this year. McMullen is from the Fort Bend Beekeeping Assoc.

During the morning session the group will be divided into a Beginning and an Intermediate group. The Beginning session will be taught by Jeff McMullen of the Fort Bend Beekeepers Association. Jeff led this group last year and we received rave reviews from his students.

The Intermediate session will be led by a variety of speakers on topics that would interest someone who has had bees for more than a year. As of the *Journal* deadline, the main speakers and topics have yet to be determined.

Lunch will be a Texas Bar-B-Que meal with all of the trimmings that is included in the price of the school. For desert, we will have Blue Bell Ice Cream (after all, we ARE in Brenham!!!).

The afternoon sessions are 45 minutes in length and students may choose from 7 topics each time slot. Some of the sessions are offered several times in order to allow each person to customize what they want to experience. You will be asked to choose your sessions when you register so that we can better plan for the school. This does not lock you into a schedule but will give us an idea of how many to plan for in each location.

(Continued on page 11)

2012 Spring Beekeepers School

March 24, 2012

7:30 - 8:30 Registration / Trade Show / Donuts / Coffee / Meet & Greet
 8:45 Welcome VIP Room or Commercial Exhibit Hall
 9:00 - 11:30 Beginners Session VIP Room Mr. Jeff McMullen, Fort Bend Beekeepers Association
 9:00 - 11:00 Intermediate Session Commercial Exhibit Hall
 11:30 - 12:30 Lunch / Door Prizes / Trade Show Food Court

A Little Bee School (ages 3-10) will be open all day in the Gathering Place. Bee-related games/crafts/instruction will be offered under direct adult supervision.

Time	Session 1 Food Court	Session 2 Entertainment Center	Session 3 Beverage Barn	Session 4 Exhibit Hall Main Room	Session 5 VIP Room	Session 6 Exhibit Hall Room B	Session 7 Exhibit Hall Room C
12:30-1:15	Equipment Assembly for Beginners	Hive Inspection Beginners	Installing Packages/Nucs Lighting A Smoker	Top Bar Hives Dean Cook-Houston	Bee Diseases & Pests	Bee Venom Therapy	Chemical Free Beekeeping Dennis Brown Beginner/ Intermediate
Designed For	Beginners	Beginners	Beginners	Beginner/ Intermediate	Intermediate	Beginner/ Intermediate	
1:25-2:10	Construction Area	Hive Inspection	Installing Packages/Nucs Lighting A Smoker	Top Bar Hives Dean Cook-Houston	Bee Diseases & Pests	Information on the Internet- Where do I look? Michael Kelling	Stump The Chump Q & A Session Dennis Brown Beginner/ Intermediate
Designed For	Beginners	Beginners	Beginners	Beginner/ Intermediate	Intermediate	Beginner	
2:20-3:00	Equipment Assembly for Beginners	Hive Inspection	Installing Packages/Nucs Lighting A Smoker	Plants Bees Use For Pollen/Nectar	Making Increase with Splits	Widgets & Gadgets Neat things in the Beekeepers Toolbox Michael Kelling	Chemical Free Beekeeping Dennis Brown Beginner/ Intermediate
Designed For	Beginners	Beginners	Beginners	Intermediate	Intermediate	Beginners	
3:00-3:30	Break/Trade Show						
3:30-4:15	Equipment Assembly for Beginners	Hive Inspection	Removing Bees From Structures	Extracting Honey	Making Increase with Splits	What Should I Order? A trip through the Dadant Catalog	Raising Queens for Yourself
Designed For	Beginners	Beginners	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate	Michael Kelling Beginners	Intermediate
4:25-5:10	Construction Area Beginners	Hive Inspection Beginners	Packaging and Marketing your Honey/Wax	Extracting Honey	Products of the Hive Lip Balm, Soap, Tooth Paste	Beekeeping Experts Panel Answers to your Bee Questions	Raising Queens for Yourself
Designed For	Beginners	Beginners	Intermediate	Intermediate	Beginner/ Intermediate	Beginners	Intermediate
5:15	Closing Remarks / Suggestions / Trade Show						

CTBA Spring School

(continued from page 9)



Classroom instruction as well as “hands-on” experience awaits students in the Spring Beekeepers School. Even the smallest beekeepers are welcome to share the wonder of the inside of a beehive.

Different topics include Equipment Assembly, Installing Nucs and Packages, Extracting Honey, Chemical Free Beekeeping and Plants Bees Use. There is even a chance for the novice beekeeper to suit up and participate in actually opening a hive of bees. A complete schedule is shown on previous page (on page 10).

A Beekeeping School Notebook will be provided that will list each speaker with notes provided by that speaker. This will allow you to review the sessions you selected as well as get an idea of the content of those sessions you were not able to attend. The book will also contain a beekeeping glossary as well as a diagram of a beehive. We are considering the

possibility of offering audio/video versions of selected sessions.

We consider ourselves a “family-friendly” school. We will have a separate area called the Little Bees School where children will be allowed to participate in bee-related games, crafts and instruction. The children will be under direct adult supervision. We ask that the children be between 3 and 10 to be placed in the Little Bees School. Children are expected to be with their parents during lunch.

A Vendors Area will be open with items for purchase. Interested vendors should contact the club about spaces. The Central Texas Beekeepers will have a limited number of assembled, painted, ready-to-go hives available for purchase.

A link to the on-line registration form can be found at www.centralbeekeepers.org. The cost of the school will be \$35 per adult. Spouses will be \$25 but will not include an additional book. Children under 15 are \$15. If you cannot register on-line, you can call (979) 277-0411 to register.

The Central Texas Beekeepers started their school in 2009 with 35 people attending in the pouring rain. In 2010 we had 72 people and last year (2011) we had 174 in attendance. We are anticipating around 250 this year. Registrations have come from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, Waco, Austin, Corpus Christi, and much of the Houston area.

We would appreciate it if each organization would share this information with their members. If more information is needed, please contact us at: centraltexasbeekeepers@gmail.com or by calling Michael Kelling at (979) 277-0411.

Note from the Editor

This month is the first of a series of articles featuring the Associations that make up the TBA. If you feel able to write about the Association you belong to, please let the editor have your contribution, preferably with supporting photographs. All contributions will be received gratefully, however long or short. We have also begun to list news from our Associations gleaned from your various newsletters. If you have an event that you would like included then again, please let us know.

This newsletter is your window on the Texas Beekeepers Association - let's make it current and applicable to you all. Please send comments, good or bad, contributions and bee related news to the editor:

Email: ckdoggett@gmail.com

Phone: (512) 898 5500

Write: 400 County Road 440
Thrall, TX 76578

News from TBA Associations

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

The AABA are planning for a fund raiser at the San Antonio Stock Show. It will be all hands on deck as it's a long show - February 9th through February 26th.

In this month's newsletter AABA calls to our attention the Boy Scouts of America considering the reinstatement of a beekeeping merit badge. This could lead to a new interest from this area in our local associations.



*Shelby Kilpatrick and Shannon LaGrave
CCHBA Honey Queen and Honey Princess*

East Texas Beekeepers Association

ETBA had a very successful Christmas party with Honey Queen, Bekah Lenamond, Honey Princess, Hayden Wolf and 2012 Princess-in-waiting, Martha Jeske all in attendance. At their next meeting these young ladies will demonstrate their cooking skills.

Dan Eudy was recognized at the party as Beekeeper of the Year.

Metro Beekeepers Association

This association is busy working on tying mentors to "newbies" who need the help of veteran beekeepers. They will also be holding a seminar for beginning beekeepers.

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association

CCHBA were privileged to have their Honey Queen, Caroline Adams, recently crowned as Texas Honey Queen.

At the Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association Christmas Dinner on December 12, Miss Shelby Kilpatrick was crowned 2012 CCHBA Honey Queen, and Miss Shannon LaGrave was crowned CCHBA 2012 Honey Princess. Both served as Honey Princesses in 2011, and CCHBA is very fortunate to have them continuing to represent our club in 2012. Queen Shelby and Princess Shannon are looking forward to sharing their love of bees and beekeeping in

the coming year with both children and adults whenever they can. Ann Siep and Shirley Acevedo are co-chairs of the CCHBA Honey Queen Committee.

Fort Bend Beekeepers Association

FBBA have purchased an extractor for the use of their members, who will pay only \$20 for a week's use.

Many members at the November meeting had questions and comments after which they watched the movie "Pollination".

Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association

WCABA continue to increase their membership, having some 20 new members in the past two months.

The scholarship program at WCABA continues with applications being accepted through February 10th. Those young people who receive scholarships will be given all the basic equipment as well as a package of bees. A mentor from the association will oversee their first year and the young people will give a presentation at the association meeting in November.

The annual trips to Dadant in Paris, Texas and Avoyelles in Louisiana will bring equipment and packages of bees to the association members at much reduced shipping costs.

TBA Associations Support 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

from Dr. John G. Thomas, Extension Entomologist - Emeritus

Memorandum To:

Alamo Area Beekeepers Assn. (Ms. Wendy Riggs)

Central Texas Beekeepers Assn. (Dr. Jane Packard)

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn. (Mr. John J. Talbert)

Dino-Bee Beekeepers Assn. (Mr. & Mrs. Jack D. Davidson)

East Texas Beekeepers Assn. (Mr. Richard "Dick" Counts)

Harris County Beekeepers Assn. (Mr. Don L. Angle)

Trinity Valley Beekeepers Assn. (Dr. Alan J. Eynon)

Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn. (Mr. Jimmie Oakley)

Subject: 2012 Texas Awards Donors – Beekeeping Essay Contest

Since we have reached the deadline (January 13, 2012) for submitting the Beekeeping essays, I wanted to say "thanks" to each of you and the members of your local associations. After discussing my desire to increase the awards for the top three essay winners with John Talbert (CCHBA) and Jimmie Oakley (WCABA), they supported my proposal and suggested we offer the opportunity to be a donor to each local Texas beekeeper association. John and Jimmie were involved in this decision since both of their associations had been awards sponsors for nearly as long as I'd been involved in organizing, judging and supporting this 4-H Youth entomology program (40+ years).

On July 26, 2010, I contacted all of the active Texas beekeeping associations and offered them the unique opportunity to make a difference in the life of a Texas youth – and perhaps mentor a young man or woman in becoming a beekeeper. Each of you (and your association members) said, "We want to be a donor in the Texas awards program"

I hope each of your associations have multiple local youth who have submitted beekeeping essays this year. The financial incentives have tripled (both in Texas and nationally). We hope to see an increase in National winners from Texas. That means each Texas youth winner will realize a \$1,050 recognition for their effort. This, however is only a small benefit compared to the knowledge gained in understanding the enormous contribution to mankind by this incredible, six-legged creature.

Your support for the awards program will be \$630 annually; \$600 for the awards to the top 3 beekeeping essay winners and \$30 (5%) for the administration of the program (4-H Foundation). Your commitment is limited to a maximum of \$100 per year. There is no signed contract or guarantee; just a gentleman's agreement. This allows each association to look at their budget annually and assess the budget and interest in supporting this program.

About April-May of each year, you'll receive a "Thank You" letter from the 4-H Foundation and Staff. They will let you know the Texas and National Essay Contest winners and the Guidelines for the next year's competition. At that time you will be asked to indicate if your association plans to be a donor for the next year. If your decision is to continue your support, you'll be asked to send a check for the next year by September 1. This support level (maximum of \$100 annually) will be reduced proportionally as the Beekeeping Essay contest account reaches a level that will cover the cost of awards for the current year and next year. The sponsors of this program are "not –for-profit". They only need to cover costs and conduct a quality youth experience.

If you have questions or suggestions, contact me at 979-846-5068 or jgthomas@aggienetwork.com.

Let me say thanks again for your support of this youth program effort for the benefit of Texas youth interested in beekeeping and the Texas beekeeping industry!

Regards, John G. Thomas
Extension Entomologist – Emeritus

2012 Texas Honey Queen Report

from Caroline Adams

Hello, Beekeeping Friends,

I hope all is well with you and your bees and that you are enjoying this New Year!

I have been very busy the last several weeks with many different promotions that I would like to share with you.

On November 30th, I visited a Latter Day Saints church in McKinney, TX. The church was hosting a “Preparedness” fair and had invited several people to set up tables with various items and to give a short presentation about what they had brought. I was invited to set-up a table with beekeeping supplies and spoke a little bit about honey bees, the reasons to become involved in beekeeping, and the vital importance of pollination. After my presentation, fair visitors had the opportunity to come by my table, look at posters, touch various hive products and supplies and ask questions. There was a lot of interest shown in what I had shared. You can imagine my delight a few weeks later when I learned that two or three of my local club’s new scholarship students came as a direct result of that one presentation! Those students are now receiving training and will be getting their hives later this spring. It is such a blessing to see firsthand the effect of the Honey Queen Program. I sincerely hope that these new beekeepers will become a vibrant and active part of our industry.

On December 1st, I had the opportunity to make a very special trip to Pineville, Louisiana, for the Louisiana State Beekeepers Association’s annual convention. My sister, Allison (2011 American Honey Princess) was a guest speaker at the convention.



Caroline and her table at the Preparedness Fair in McKinney, TX

Through an unexpected act of generosity, I was invited by Mr. Stanford and Mrs. Mary Jo Brantley to accompany Allison to the convention. The Brantley’s kindly paid my way and were wonderful hosts, making sure Allison and I were very well taken care of while



at the convention. Through their generosity, I had my first opportunity to visit another state’s Convention and I was able to meet and visit with many of the Louisiana beekeepers. They are a wonderful group of people and I am so very, very grateful for the Brantley’s thoughtfulness in sending me and hosting me at the Convention. Thank you so much – I had a very memorable time!

On December 19th, I had media training with my sweet friend 2012 Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones. Former Collin County, Texas and American Honey Queen, Rachael Seida; and former Collin County Honey Princess and Queen, Texas Honey Queen and American Honey Princess, Allison Adams, led the training for Rebekah and me. Rachael and Allison covered a wide number of topics including key messages, attire, working with the media and traveling. Media trainings are always very helpful and give us the instruction that we need to be effective representatives of this industry. Rebekah and I also had mock interviews in which we could practice working with an interviewer, getting important points across to the audience, and bridging from unimportant phrases such as “Aren’t you sweet?” to important ones such as “Speaking of sweet, did you know that honey....” The instruction and practice were extremely helpful and I know that they will be very useful this year. A special thank you goes to Rachael and Allison for leading the training

(continued on page 22)

Honey Queen Committee Chair Report

Greetings to All!

The past 2 months have truly been a flurry of activity for us all. First, let me say how excited we are for the upcoming year and our two new spokespersons, Caroline Adams and Rebekah Jones.

We began this program year with our bi-annual training session for the 2012 Texas Honey Queen and Princess. Both young ladies are eager to learn and we believe they will both do a fantastic job for the Texas Beekeepers Association this year.

We are also making excellent progress towards a 2012 Trifold and we plan to have the trifolds by the Feb 18, Delegates Meeting in Salado, TX. We hope you will join us there!

The 2012 American Beekeeping Federation Convention was held Jan 10-14 in Las Vegas, NV. And this year we were thrilled to send our 2011 TX Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker to represent us. She has been a marvelous spokesperson for the Texas Beekeepers Association this past year, and she was truly a credit to us at the ABF Convention, as one of

the six competing State Honey Queens. We are very proud of Kaylynn, and wish to thank her for her year of service to the industry.

The newly crowned 2012 American Honey Queen is Alyssa Fine from Pennsylvania and the 2012 American Honey Princess is Danielle Dale from Wisconsin. We look forward to meeting these two young women at the time of the State Fair of Texas Cooking Demos and the TBA Convention this fall.

If anyone has any promotions that they would like our new Queen or Princess to attend, please feel free to contact us! We are especially looking for new events in the Austin area, which is Rebekah Jones' home area. We are very much looking forward to the upcoming year and hope to be able to share some of it with you.

Shirley Acevedo
shirley@acebees.com
(214) 542-8276

Rachael Seida
rachaelseida@hotmail.com
(214) 578-3477

2012 Texas Honey Princess Report

from Rebekah Jones

Dear Beekeeping Friends,

Time is just flying by. It seems like yesterday I was crowned your 2012 Texas Honey Princess. As with the honey bees, the winter has been rather uneventful, but I would like to share what I have done and will be doing soon.

On December 19, my mom and I traveled to Dallas so that, Caroline and I could be trained in how to speak to the media. Ms. Shirley, Rachael and Allison Adams led the training. It was so informative and I look forward to speaking to the media in the future! On the same day we also went crown shopping and finished off the day by going to Glamour Shots to get pictures taken for the trifolds. It was so fun to go with Caroline and to get all fancied up for the pictures. A quick thank you to the Acevedos for being such a wonderful host family for my mom and me.

Some events that are coming up for me is the San

Antonio Livestock Show, a bee talk to a 4th and 5th grade Junior Master Gardeners club in Georgetown, and the Central Texas Beekeepers Assn Bee School in Brenham. I look forward to the new experiences these events will hold.

I came across this verse about bees from Proverbs in my reading and I thought I would share it with you. "Go to the bee,



(continued on page 22)

A New Threat to Honey Bees, the Parasitic Phorid Fly *Apocephalus borealis*

Andrew Core¹, Charles Runckel², Jonathan Ivers¹, Christopher Quock¹, Travis Siapno¹, Seraphina DeNault¹, Brian Brown³, Joseph DeRisi², Christopher D. Smith¹, John Hafernik¹

¹ Department of Biology, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California, United States of America,

² Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco,

California, United States of America, ³ Entomology Section, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, United States of America

Editor's Note: *The following research paper, which has had wide coverage in the media, was sent to me by Bart Drees amid concern that this phorid fly is not to be confused with the species being developed, imported and released to control red imported fire ants. There follows the abstract from the original paper, and a cautionary note from the Texas Agrilife Extension Service entomologists. Bastiaan M. "Bart" Drees is Professor of Entomology, Extension Specialist and Regents Fellow Department of Entomology, Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Research, 318 Minnie Belle Heep, Mail Stop 2475, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2475. Phone: (979) 845-7026.*

Abstract

Honey bee colonies are subject to numerous pathogens and parasites. Interaction among multiple pathogens and parasites is the proposed cause for Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), a syndrome characterized by worker bees abandoning their hive. Here we provide the first documentation that the phorid fly *Apocephalus borealis*, previously known to parasitize bumble bees, also infects and eventually kills honey bees and may pose an emerging threat to North American apiculture. Parasitized honey bees show hive abandonment behavior, leaving their hives at night and dying shortly thereafter. On average, seven days later up to 13 phorid larvae emerge from each dead bee and pupate away from the bee. Using DNA barcoding, we confirmed that phorids that emerged from honey bees and bumble bees were the same species. Microarray analyses of honey bees from infected hives revealed that these bees are often infected with deformed wing virus and *Nosema ceranae*. Larvae and adult phorids also tested positive for these pathogens, implicating the fly as a potential vector or reservoir of these honey bee pathogens. Phorid parasitism may affect hive viability since 77% of sites sampled in the San Francisco Bay Area were infected by the fly and microarray analyses detected phorids in commercial hives in South Dakota and California's Central Valley. Understanding details of phorid infection may shed light on similar hive abandonment behaviors seen in CCD.

Citation: Core A, Runckel C, Ivers J, Quock C, Siapno T, et al. (2012) A New Threat to Honey Bees, the Parasitic Phorid Fly *Apocephalus borealis*. PLoS ONE 7(1): e29639. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0029639

Editor: Nigel E. Raine, Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom

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Competing interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

E-mail: acore13@yahoo.com

Possible Case of Mistaken Identity

The following Extension resources have been updated to make it clear that the phorid flies used for biological control of fire ants are not the same as the phorid fly that was found to attack honey bees. One of the things we did was start using the term “Pseudacteon phorid flies” to refer to the flies that are specific to *Solenopsis* fire ants. The first resource on the list mentions the honey bees and provides a link to the journal article that reported the honey bee phorid attack.

<http://www.extension.org/pages/34794/will-pseudacteon-phorid-flies-decapitating-flies-sting-or-bite-are-decapitating-flies-harmful>

<http://www.extension.org/pages/30546/natural-enemies-of-fire-ants>

<http://www.extension.org/pages/34819/what-happens-when-the-pseudacteon-phorid-flies-decapitating-flies-run-out-of-fire-ants-to-eat>

<http://www.extension.org/pages/34579/what-can-we-expect-from-pseudacteon-phorid-flies-decapitating-flies>

A deadly fly parasite reported for the first time recently in honey bees in California and South Dakota has Texas AgriLife Extension Service entomologists concerned.

The discovery might hamper biological control efforts on the red imported fire ant through a case of mistaken identity or even “guilt by association,” according to Dr. Paul Nester, Texas AgriLife Extension Service entomology program specialist in Houston.

Nester is part of a team of scientists at Texas A&M University, the University of Texas, the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Gainesville, Fla and land grant university entomologists in other states that since 2000 have been working to control red imported fire ants using several species of phorid flies that specifically target that pest.

“There are over 3,000 described species of phorid flies found around the world and perhaps as many as 50,000 phorid species that haven’t even been catalogued yet so it wouldn’t be surprising if the species reportedly now killing honey bees becomes confused by the public with the species we are using to control fire ants,” Nester said.

“The main phorid fly species, including *Pseudacteon tricuspidis* and *P. curvatus*, that parasitize the fire ant are not the same species or even in the same genus as that reportedly parasitizing the bees, though their life cycle appears similar.”

An online report at Physorg.com, a science, research and technology news website, <http://www.physorg.com/news/2012-01-deadly-parasite-honey-bees.html>, notes that *Apocephalus borealis*, a phorid fly native to North America, that is known to

parasitize bumble bees and paper wasps, also attacks the non-native honey bee causing them to abandon their hives at night.

“Honey bees are in serious decline for no specific reason that has yet been found,” Nester said.

“Anything that hurts the honey bee also has the potential for damaging our food supply since these wonderful insects are our main crop pollinators.

“It’s easy to see how one could jump to conclusions when the common name of ‘phorid fly’ comes up even though the two parasitic insect species in question are not closely related.”

Nester said Texas A&M University’s fire ant work utilizes *Pseudacteon* phorid flies from South America.

“Field and lab experiences over the past 15 years have demonstrated these phorid fly species to be highly specific to red imported fire ants and not honey bees or other beneficial insects.”

For more information on phorid fly research on red imported fire ants, go to:

<http://www.extension.org/pages/30546/natural-enemies-of-fire-ants>

Also visit the following websites:

<http://insects.tamu.edu>

<http://fireant.tamu.edu>

<http://eXtension.org/fire+ants>

<http://landscapeIPM.tamu.edu>

<http://bughunter.tamu.edu>

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1799 Goodson Court / Round Rock, TX 78664-3706

(512) 388-3630 (e-mail: jimmie.oakley@att.net)

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The Honey You Should Never Buy - It May Be Tainted with Lead and Antibiotics

Selections from an article of the same name at Mercola.com

<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/01/28/bees-death-destroy-food-supply.aspx>

Bee Very Afraid...

While much has been made over the "mystery" surrounding CCD, the problem began shortly after neurotoxic pesticides, which are known to be particularly toxic to honey bees, took over the global insecticide market. These relatively new pesticides are called neonicotinoids. Two prominent examples, imidacloprid and clothianidin, are used as seed treatments in hundreds of crops.

Virtually all of today's genetically engineered Bt corn is treated with neonicotinoids. A Purdue University study found multiple sources of pesticide exposure for honey bees living near agricultural fields, including high levels of clothianidin in agricultural machinery exhaust, in the soil of unplanted fields near those planted with Bt corn, and on dandelions growing in those fields. The chemicals were also found in dead bees near hive entrances and in pollen stored in the hives.

Bee colonies began disappearing in the U.S. shortly after EPA allowed these new, toxic insecticides to be used. Even the EPA itself admits that "pesticide poisoning" is a likely cause of the collapse of bee colonies.

These insecticides are highly toxic to bees because they are systemic, water soluble and very pervasive. They get into the soil and groundwater where they can accumulate and remain for many years and present long-term toxicity to the hive. They enter the vascular system of the plant and are carried to all parts of it, as well as to the pollen and nectar.

These chemicals affect insects' central nervous systems in ways that are cumulative and irreversible. Even minute amounts can have profound effects over time. Foraging insects may become disoriented and unable to find their way back to the hive.

Jim Frazier from Penn State sampled hives from across the U.S. and found an average of six different pesticides in each hive, with one hive testing positive for 31 different pesticides, some of which are of the systemic varieties. Beekeepers everywhere are concerned for their own livelihood, in addition to being fearful of the broader implications of CCD. But one small Colorado beekeeper has served as a one-

Story at-a-glance

Bees have been dying off around the world for a decade now from a phenomenon called Colony Collapse Disorder, or CCD. A third of the U.S. food supply depends on the honey bee

The collapse of bee colonies is probably multifactorial, rather than a response to one type of toxic assault; one major factor is the toxicity of systemic pesticides, such as clothianidin (made by Bayer)

One Colorado beekeeper named Tom Theobald exposed the EPA's complicity with Bayer in allowing Clothianidin to market without honey bee safety studies

An average of six different pesticides were found in hives across the country, with one hive testing positive for 31 different pesticides, in one recent study

More than 75 percent of the honey on American supermarket shelves is not honey at all, but rather an ultra-processed mixture of sugar-water, malt sweeteners, corn or rice syrup, jaggery, barley malt sweetener and other additives, smuggled in from China and tainted with illegal antibiotics and heavy metals, such as lead

man sting operation in exposing the EPA's negligence on this issue.

Courageous Beekeeper Battles Negligent Regulators on Behalf of Bees

Colorado beekeeper Tom Theobald became concerned about the effects systemic pesticides were having on his bee colonies. Theobald discovered that EPA allowed Bayer Crop Science, manufacturer of clothianidin, to market its pesticide for public use without safety studies. clothianidin has been used commercially for eight years now, with no good safety studies to back it up. Theobald uncovered the documents proving that Congress gave Bayer a thumbs-up to market their product while awaiting

the results of a safety study, promised to be complete within 18 months.

And guess who conducts and funds honey bee studies?

The pesticide companies themselves... the fox is again guarding the henhouse. The EPA merely receives the report from the pesticide company, has its scientists make a recommendation, and then EPA administrators make a decision about product safety, supposedly based on good science. In this case, there is NO good science to be found—at least coming from Bayer.

The supposedly scientific research by Bayer proved to be woefully inadequate. Bayer performed the study on one 2.5-acre plot of land planted with canola seed. However, this is a mere fraction of the area foraged by a typical bee colony. In fact, the average area foraged by such a colony is 28,000 acres! Theobald called Bayer's study a "mockery of science" because it was nowhere near an accurate representation of the bees' natural habitat.

So, Theobald wrote an article for the July 2010 issue of Bee Culture, which created quite the buzz. The EPA changed their tone in response to his article, admitting the Bayer study was deficient. Nevertheless, they haven't pulled clothianidin from the market. According to the Pesticide Action Network:

"Governments in Italy, Germany, France and elsewhere have already taken action against neonicotinoids to protect their pollinators. And beekeepers there are reporting recovery. Yet regulators in the U.S. remain paralyzed, apparently captive to industry-funded science and a regulatory framework that finds chemicals innocent until proven guilty."

No Simple Answers—Persistence is Key

Saving the honey bee will require much more than removing one or two pesticides from the market. It will require a complete change in the mindset and values of industry, and the regulators they hold captive. There is no force for change greater than that fueled by public outrage, so I encourage you to spread the word. Educate your friends, your family... your grocery bagger!

If the goal of pesticides is to increase food yield to more easily feed 7 billion human beings, this goal falls flat on its face if it leads to the collapse of our food chain.

As Tom Theobald says, we can eliminate this one product, maybe, but that won't solve the problem. In a year or two, there will just be another equally dangerous chemical, unless we can change the conditions that lead to the problem. And this means we must yell loud enough to awaken our government from its stupor.

Some folks are doing just that. Honey bee sanctuaries are springing up everywhere, as the award-winning documentary *Queen of the Sun* shows. Many city dwellers are becoming smalltime backyard beekeepers.

Editor's Note:

For more on this subject go to Mercola.com and the link in the article header. Also, there is a report at Reader Supported News, titled, "Dying Honey bees: It was the Insecticides All Along". Go to: <http://readersupportednews.org/news-section2/312-16/9659-dying-honeybees-it->

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2012 Honey Queen Report

(continued from page 14)

and to Mrs. Shirley Acevedo for so kindly hosting us in her home. Cindy Jones (Rebekah's mother) also joined us at the training, as did Anne Siep (Collin County Honey Queen Program Co-Chairperson).

Later that afternoon, Rebekah and I went to Glamour Shots to have our picture taken for our trifold. Even an outing such as that can turn into a promotion! While at the studio, we shared with the workers at Glamour Shots about bees, honey and our roles as representatives. They were interested, enjoyed honey sticks and gave us a good platform for conversation. The photo turned out beautifully and the trifolds should be finished soon. A very special thank-you goes to Mrs. Joan Coplin for assisting with the trifolds; she always does a wonderful job and I am looking forward to seeing them!

Finally, on January 12th, I had the opportunity to visit the Prosper Garden Club in Prosper, Texas with Mrs. Shirley Acevedo. I was invited to attend the club's monthly meeting where I gave a presentation about honey bees, pollination and the products of the hive. There were about twenty women present at the talk; they seemed very interested in what I had to say. After my presentation, numerous questions and a luncheon and fellowship with the ladies, Mrs. Shirley and I were packing up to leave when the hostess' husband came into the room. His wife asked us if we would tell her husband about the bees, which we did. The best part was when the wife



Caroline talks with future beekeepers at Preparedness Fair in McKinney, Tx

started telling the husband all the different facts she had learned throughout the talk. It was wonderful to see her excitement and interest in what I had shared. She kept thinking of new things to tell him; it was such a pleasure to see her enthusiasm. She had clearly soaked up what I had said and I hope my presentation gave her and her fellow club members a new appreciation for honey bees.

Coming up, I am looking forward to two special beekeeping courses, some potential school presentations and a talk at a Master Gardeners Club, as well as the TBA Delegates Meeting. I sincerely hope to see you all in Salado, TX, on Saturday, February 18!

Have a wonderful month – I look forward to visiting with you soon!

2012 Honey Princess Report

(continued from page 15)

and learn how diligent she is. And what a noble work she produces, whose labors kings and private men use for their use, she is desired by all, and though weak in strength she values wisdom and prevails.” Proverbs 6:8 [Septuagint]. Isn't it so amazing how long honey bees have been respected and admired? May we all learn something about diligence from these amazing creatures God created.

Thanks again for your support of Caroline and me. And may God bless you and your bees as we prepare for spring.



Honey Queen Media Training, Allison Adams and Rebekah Jones with Cindy Jones watching

Listing of Local Beekeepers Associations in Texas

Please forward any changes and/or additions to

John J. Talbert, Executive Secretary, john@sabinecreekhoney.com

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Edward Priest - 210/722-7380

edward_p@sbcglobal.net

9570 Maidenstone - San Antonio, TX 78250

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday on odd # months; at Helotes Ind. Baptist Church

15335 Bandera Rd; Helotes @ 7 pm

Concho Valley Beekeepers Association

Travis Lane - 325/653-7226

6427 Goodland Lp - San Angelo, TX 76901

cvbeeassoc.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month Jan-Nov

Texas A&M Research and Extension Center

7887 US Hwy 87 N, San Angelo @ 7:30 pm

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

Michael Kelling - 979/277-0411

CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com

www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org

1997 Tonckawa Hills Ln - Brenham, TX 77833

Meetings: Monthly on the 4th Thursday

(except November and December) at the

Washington County Fairgrounds

Brenham @ 7 pm

Coastal Bend Beekeepers Association

Tom W. Stewart - 361/852-4218

daletoms@aol.com

411 Catalina Place - Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Meetings: Not currently meeting.

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.

John J. Talbert - 972/843-8084

john@sabinecreekhoney.com

P O Box 6 - Josephine, TX 75164

www.northtexasbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month;

Heard Craig Hall, 306 N. Church St,

McKinney @ 6:30 pm

Dino-Beekeepers Association

Dwain Cleveland - (254) 396-0655

dwaincleveland@windstream.net

www.dino-bee.com

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of month

Chachi's Mexican Restaurant

Highway 67 in Glen Rose @ 7pm

East Texas Beekeepers Association

Richard Counts - 903/566-6789

dickcounts@bigplanet.com

16239 Audrey Lane - Arp, TX 75750

www.easttexasbeekeepersassociation.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month;

Room 104, RTDC Building; 1530 NE Lp 323

Tyler @ 6:45 pm

Fort Bend Beekeepers Association

Jeff McMullan - 281/980-2363

cell: 281/615-5346

jeffmcmullan@comcast.net

74 Hessenford St. - Sugar Land, TX 77479

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month (except

December) Conference Room, Fort Bend Co.

Extension Office, County Fairgrounds

Rosenberg @ 7 pm

Golden Triangle Beekeepers Association

Wallace Commander - 409/982-0907

2445 Green Avenue - Port Arthur, TX 77642

Meetings: Not meeting regularly.

Harris County Beekeepers Association

Derek Furstenwerth - 713-946-9497

bluemarble@furstenwerth.net

614 Vista Road - Pasadena, TX 77504

www.harriscountybeekeepers.org

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month

Golden Acres Center - 5001 Oak Avenue

Pasadena @ 7 pm

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

Butch Trigleth - 254/733-1880

combowelder76@aol.com

511 Edwards St., Riesel, TX 76682

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month

(except December) Mama Baris Restaurant

1201 Hewitt Drive, Hewitt @ 6:30 pm

Houston Beekeepers Association

Rita Willhite - rwillhite@seitel-inc.com

7611 Fondren Rd - Houston, TX 77074

www.houstonbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month; Bay-

land Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St.

Houston @ 7:30 pm

Metro Beekeepers Association

Stan Key, President

stankey.texas@gmail.com

www.metrobeekeepers.net

87413 Castle Creek Rd., North Richland Hills,

TX 76182

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month; United

Co-op Services Community Room, Bethesda

Rd at I 35 W., Burleson @ 6:30 pm

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

John Hicks - (936) 756-9708

johnhicks12003@yahoo.com

www.mocobees.com

Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month at

Montgomery County Extension Office @ 7 pm

El Paso Beekeepers Association

Sarah Downing - 915/859-7725

1030 N. Zaragosa, Ste A; El Paso, TX 79907

Meetings: Not meeting regularly.

Permian Basin Beekeepers Association

J.C. and Dean Brittingham

915/332-2215

2312 N. Adams - Odessa, TX 79761

Meetings: Not meeting regularly.

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Cecil Hunt - 936/632-5357

clh12@consolidated.net

301 Carriage Dr. - Lufkin, TX 75904

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month

Chamber of Commerce Building, Highway 287

and Highway 58 Intersection

Lufkin @ 7:30 pm

Red River Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Bennie J. Watson - 940/767-0207

1952 - A Hines Blvd.

Wichita Falls, TX 76301-7961

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except

December) Bolin Science Hall, Room 209

Midwestern St. University

Wichita Falls @ 7 pm

Rio Grande Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Billy Wright - 956/464-5042

Route 5, Box 74 - Donna, TX 78537

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month; TAMU

Res. and Ext. Center, 2401 E. Highway 83

Weslaco @ 7:30 pm

Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association

Alan Eynon - 672/231-5702, Ext. 104

abees@swbell.net

9702 Vinewood Drive - Dallas, TX 75228

www.tvbees.org

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of each month

(except August), Science Building Rm S100,

Eastfield College; 3737 Motley Drive

Mesquite @ 7 - 9 pm

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Mark Short - 936/291-1879

mshort5150@yahoo.com

34 Davis Road - Huntsville, TX 77320

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at

Walker County Extension Office, #1 Tam Rd.

Huntsville @ 7 pm

Williamson County Beekeepers Assn.

Jimmie Oakley - 512/388-3630

jimmie.oakley@att.net - www.wcaba.org

1799 Goodson Ct. - Round Rock, TX 78664

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month

(except December) 1st United Methodist

Church - 410 E. University Ave

Georgetown, TX 78626 @ 7 pm

Membership Report 12-1 *by Jimmie Oakley*

2012 New Members

12/12	Pineau Jr.	Raymond	Springtown, TX	40	12&13
12/14	Bonnet Jr.	Glen E.	Marion, TX	20	
12/31	Shoup	Ron	Freeport, TX	20	

2012 Renewing Members

12/14	Henson	Barry	Eddy, TX	20	
12/14	Henson	Margaret	Eddy, TX	20	
12/14	Henson	Colleen	Chilton, TX	20	
12/22	Breedlove	Jerry W.	Wichita Falls, TX	20	
1/5	Knight	Shirley W.	Ft. Worth, TX	20	
1/5	Johnson	Don	Winona, TX	20	13
1/6	Garner	James L.	San Antonio, TX	20	
1/6	Bounds	Rosanna	Moody, TX	20	13
1/9	Meier	Curtis	Paris, TX	20	
1/9	Winkler	William B.	Moody, TX	20	
1/9	Morgan	Frank S.	Coppers Cove, TX	20	
1/11	Buchanan	Douglas L.	Plano, TX	20	
1/11	Davidson	Jack	Glen Rose, TX	20	
1/11	Davidson	JoAnn	Glen Rose, TX	20	
1/12	Baldwin	Christopher	Belvidere, SD	20	
1/12	Crenwelge	Jane	San Antonio, TX	20	
1/12	Wilson	William T.	Summit, UT	20	
1/13	Sharp	David W.	Burleson, TX	20	
1/13	Etheridge	J. W.	Mabank, TX	20	13
1/14	Baughman	Christi	Garland, TX	20	
1/14	Smith	Linda	Spring, TX	20	
1/17	Sollenberger	T'Lee	Burleson, TX	20	
1/19	Lane	Travis	San Angelo, TX	20	



2012 Renewing Associations

1/5	Metro Beekeepers Assoc.	75	10,11,&12
1/9	Pineywoods Beekeepers Assoc.	25	
1/12	Walker County Area Beekeepers Assoc.	25	
1/19	Concho Valley Beekeepers Assoc.	25	

Mail All Renewals/Inquiries to: **Jimmie L. Oakley**

1799 Goodson Ct.

Round Rock, TX 78664-3706

Phone: (512) 388-3630

e-mail: jimmie.oakley.att.net

Explanation of Membership Status as shown on label:

***12.....2012 Membership dues paid
***11.....2011 Membership dues paid, but not 2012

If label reads:

Mr. and Mrs. (Name) = Both are members
Mr. (Name) = Only Mr. is member
Mrs. (Name) = Only Mrs. is member

NC.....Non-Commercial
CEN.....Century Club
COML.....Complimentary Copy
COM.....Commercial
LFM.....Life Member

Beekeeping Classification:

Commercial.....(301 plus colonies)
Sideline.....(26 to 300 colonies)
Small Scale.....(0 to 25 colonies)

Membership Category:

Century Member.....\$100.00
Individual Member.....20.00 (a person)
Beekeeper Association.....25.00 (an organization)
Associate Member.....20.00 (nonbeekeeper person)

Membership Renewal is due January 1 of each year. If the renewal date on your label is not ***12, please renew today.

Please Send All Membership Inquiries to:

Texas Beekeepers Association

Mr. Jimmie Oakley
1799 Goodson Court
Round Rock, TX 78664-3706
Phone: 512/388-3630
jimmie.oakley@att.net

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