

The Texas Beekeepers Association

# Journal



Sept / Oct 2018

[www.texasbeekeepers.org](http://www.texasbeekeepers.org)

Issue 18-5



*Beekeeping & Honey Bees - Our Business Since 1863*

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## President's Report

*from Chris Moore*

Texas Beekeeping has changed quite a bit over the past 60 years. Back then, Texas was a huge beekeeping state with some 800 commercial beekeepers that would meet at the TBA annual convention and visit about the past year. Thus, the tax designation TBA established in 1901 was a 501(c)7 nonprofit social club.

Some 10 years ago, when I got involved, TBA was still a social club of about 300 members with less than a dozen local clubs. The Summer Clinic was a social gathering of about 50 beekeepers. Fast forward. Now, TBA has well over 1000 members and over 55 local clubs. The Summer Clinic has evolved into one of the best educational opportunities to learn about beekeeping in the country with over 500 in attendance the past 3 years.

The publicity of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) that began in 2006, along with people desiring to be more self-sustainable, created a large interest in beekeeping. However, beekeeping today is challenging at best. In the past 20 years Varroa Mites and Small Hive Beetles have become a major issue as they spread diseases. Queen failure has also become a big issue in the past few years. An interesting thing about beekeeping is that most beekeepers do things a little different, making it even harder to learn. There really is no right and wrong way to take care of your bees, as long as you are actually taking care of them. Yes, they require you take care of them. There are a lot of "bee havers" that are unaware of the work

involved to maintain healthy hives. Pest and disease control and timely feeding are required in order to maintain healthy, productive colonies. These factors have led the TBA to have more educational programs, speakers and classes at both our Annual Convention and Summer Clinic.

TBA members also inquired about tax deductible donations. The TBA Board took action and created the Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit specializing in education, outreach and community support for honey bees. (which is tax-deductible).

Several years ago, a big issue numerous TBA members were complaining about was honey being sold in their area as local when it actually originated elsewhere. TBA listened and created the Real Texas Honey (RTH) program that only Real Texas Beekeepers can join. This program helps Texas beekeepers market their Texas produced honey as a "specialty" food. The RealTexasHoney.com locator map also helps consumers find real local beekeepers in their area.

During the business meeting at the annual conference this November, TBA will propose a tax designation change from the 501(c)7 nonprofit social club (as TBA has operated since 1901) to an Incorporated 501(c)5 nonprofit Agricultural Association. This new tax designation better describes what TBA has evolved into over the past six years.

Look forward to seeing you at the convention

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*Cover Picture by Robin Young*





## Vice President's Report

*Lisa Dittfurth*

Greetings Fellow Beekeepers:

The 2018 TBA Annual Convention is just around the corner and I'm confident this year's event will be our best convention ever! The Convention Planning Committee, which is comprised of several sub-committees, has been working hard for months to plan every detail. Much thought has gone into the content and agenda of this jam-packed three-day event. We have carefully considered our speaker selection and the topics on which each speaker will present for Thursday's workshops, Friday's general assembly and Saturday's full day of break-out sessions. We have developed a competitive, high-caliber Honey Show, our second Mead Competition, a Vendor Show, Silent and Live Auctions, coronation of the 2019 Texas Honey Queen and so much more. If you have attended previous conventions, you won't want to miss this year's event. If you have never attended one of our conventions you are probably wondering what it's all about. The TBA Annual Convention is a multi-faceted event where over the course of three days you can learn more about the Texas Beekeepers Association and the Texas Honey Queen Program, meet TBA Board members, attend unique and informative beekeeping educational discussions, network with beekeepers from around the state and participate in the TBA annual business meeting and Board election. If you are working toward the Texas Master Beekeepers certification, you can register with TAIS to take your certification test on Thursday, Nov 8 and stick around for the rest of the convention.

Talk about beekeeping conventions... you should know that the BEST beekeeping conference in the country, in

my opinion, is the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) annual conference held in January each year. The 2019 ABF Conference will be in Myrtle Beach, SC January 8 -12. If you can make time to go, it will definitely be worth the effort.

Remember to continue to monitor the Varroa Mite load in your hives. While forage and feeding, hive maintenance and disease control are essential, Varroa Mite management is critically important to the sustainability of your bee hive(s). All beekeepers should follow the Integrated Pest Management practices recommended by the Honey Bee Health Coalition, for the good of all honey bees and honey bees.

I searched for the latest information on the USDA's planned release of the Chinese Flea Beetle as a control for the Chinese Tallow Tree. I was not able to find an update with information on the status of the research or the official comment period but I did find two recent articles one that opposes the proposed release of the Chinese Flea Beetle and the other proposes it. I've included the links below to both articles.

<https://www.naturalnews.com/2018-08-06-scientists-consider-releasing-chinese-flea-beetles-to-fight-invasive-species-of-tree.html>

<http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/entnemdept/2018/08/31/a-reasonable-argument-in-support-of-the-chinese-tallow-flea-beetle/>

We hope you will join us in Temple November 8 – 10!!

For the love of bees!!

## Nominations Committee Update

*from Blake Shook*

We are having a wonderful surge of interest in serving on the Board of the TBA! If you have any interest in being nominated to a board position, please send an e-mail to [blake@desertcreekhoney.com](mailto:blake@desertcreekhoney.com) to let us know as soon as possible!

We are currently in the process of interviewing candidates. The candidates which the Nominating Committee feels will best serve TBA will be nominated for the position. The slate will be made public via e-mail by October 20th. Only one person will be nominated for each open position. Nominations can still be made from the floor during our annual business meeting at the TBA Conference. Candidates not nominated by the committee can still campaign, or work to garner support, and be nominated from the floor.

We look forward to seeing you all in November!

## Post-convention Tour at Walker Honey Farm



If you wish to attend a special “TBA Only” event at a local honey farm, please send an email to [info@walkerhoneyfarm.com](mailto:info@walkerhoneyfarm.com) or call Walker Honey Farm Store at 254.983.2899 to reserve your spot. There is no charge for the tours. Guided tours will leave the Honey Farm Store every 30 minutes in groups of 25 until all have toured who wish to.

You will see the extracting room, comb room, honey bottling, creamed honey making, peanut butter and honey process, mead making, and vineyard. If you fail to pre-register the early tours may be filled but you may still sign up at the Walker Honey Farm display in the exhibit area at the Convention. There will be no limit to the tours. There will also be an unlimited supply of honey and mead!!! Free tasting of 12-15 varietal honeys including the hard to find Appalachian Sourwood and Florida Tupelo as well as Basswood and Sorghum Honeydew Honey. Bring your empty jar(s) for 5 different varietal honeys on tap in our BYOB tanks. (Mead served and sold after noon only . . . thanks to Texas’ antiquated “Blue Laws”)

Walker Honey Farm is located at:  
8060 E US Hwy 190  
Rogers, TX 76569

FM 830

11680 Post Oak

Willis, Tx 77318

(936)-537-1952



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# Texas Beekeepers Association Annual Convention November 8th - 10th, 2018

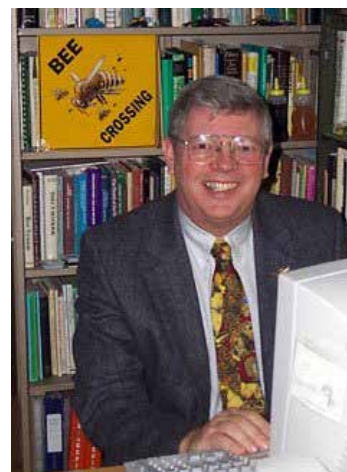
Mayborn Convention Center  
3303 N 3rd St., Temple, TX 76501

**Thursday Workshops - November 8th  
at the  
Cultural Activities Center (next to the Mayborn)**

## **9:15am - 5pm Intermediate to Advanced Beekeeping**

Dr. Dewey M. Caron is Emeritus Professor of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology, Univ of Delaware, & Affiliate Professor, Dept Horticulture, Oregon State University. He spent 40+ years teaching, doing bee extension and bee research at Cornell (1967-70), University of MD, College Park (1970-1981) and University of DE, Newark DE (1981-2009).

Since retirement in 2009, he spends 4-6 months each year in Bolivia, where he keeps Africanized bees and teaches beekeeping (in Spanish). The rest of the year he is in the northern hemisphere; his 5 backyard colonies in Tigard OR are docile European bees. He moved from Newark to Portland, Oregon following retirement to be closer to 5 grandkids. He manages to return to East coast several times each year to give Bee Short Courses and lectures to various bee clubs and state organizations.



## **1pm - 5pm Queen Rearing & Hands on Grafting**

Dr. Juliana Rangel is Associate Professor of Apiculture in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University. Her program revolves around conducting innovative and applicable research projects on the biology and health of the honey bee, *Apis mellifera*. In her laboratory she uses a combination of field and laboratory approaches to answer our research questions, and to produce results that are not only scientifically elegant and novel, but also applicable in apiculture. She works closely and collaboratively with colleagues at TAMU and at research centers throughout Texas to develop a world-class program in apiculture embodying scholarship, student training, and professional service.

**Texas Master Beekeeping Testing - 8am - 5pm  
Honey Show Registration Begins - 3pm - 6pm  
Conference Registration Begins - 2pm - 6pm  
Beekeeper's and Queen's Social - 5:30pm - 7pm**



**Friday - November 9th**  
**Various Lectures - 8am - 6:30pm**  
**Queens Luncheon and Awards Dinner**

**Keynote Speakers**



**Dr. Reed Johnson**  
**Ohio State University**

Dr. Reed Johnson earned his Ph.D. in Entomology in 2008 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Reed Johnson is responsible for research and publications on topics such as the use of sequencing to determine the floral origin of bee-collected pollen, and extensive honey bee toxicology research on the effects of fungus, pesticides, and the survival of immature bees. Dr. Reed Johnson hosts online classes and has frequently published videos to help educate the beekeeping community on an ongoing basis.

**Dr. Roger Hoopingarner**  
**Michigan State University**

Dr. Roger Hoopingarner, Michigan State University Professor Emeritus of Entomology, has specialized in Apiculture for 65 years. His teaching, Cooperative Extension, and research interests in the biology and management of the honey bee include seminal work in pollination of orchard crops. He has been the author, or co-author, of numerous research articles on bee diseases, varroa population dynamics and control, pollination systems, and more



**George Hansen**  
**Former President ABF**



After a short six-year career as a public school teacher, George and his wife Susan transformed a hobby beekeeping operation into a commercial endeavor. The business started from a few swarms and a collection of retrieved nuisance hives, but now runs 5000 + colonies in three states. Sons Matt and Joe are incrementally taking control of the business, as George moves towards an as yet undefined retirement. Although the name of the company never changed, the focus of the beekeeping is now primarily pollination service, with honey, wax and bee sales making up no more than 30 percent of gross revenues. George is an active member of the beekeeping community, promoting the industry's interests as past president of the American Beekeeping Federation. For a decade he served as a producer representative on the National Honey Board. He continues to serve as a trustee on the Foundation for the Preservation of the Honey Bee, and on the board of the Bee Informed Partnership. Currently George represents the industry on the national Honey Bee Health Coalition.

**Saturday November 10th**  
**Breakout Sessions 9:15am - 4:30pm**  
**Conference Registration - 7:00am - 7:45am**  
**TBA Business Meeting - 8:00am - 9:00am**  
**Queen's Quiz Bowl and Box Lunch - 12:30pm - 1:30pm**  
**Wrap Up, Door Prizes and Raffle - 4:30pm - 5:00pm**

**Classes Include**

Agricultural Exemption for Personal & Business  
Comb Honey Production with Two Queen Systems  
Making Infused & Creamed Honey  
Pollination Services  
Population Management in the Bee Yard  
Best Management Practices for Texas Apiculture  
Growing Pains - Moving from Beginner to Sideliner to Commercial  
Varroa Control Using Organic Treatments  
Honey Bee Toxicology  
Lip Balms & Lotions  
Panel Discussions

**TBA Annual Convention Hotel**



**Holiday Inn Temple-Belton**  
**5247 S. General Bruce Drive**  
**Temple TX 76502**

- 1) Call 254-778-5511
- 2) Provide Group Code: **Texas Beekeepers Discounted Rate**  
**Block Code is TBA**
- 3) November 7th - 10th, 2018

**King Standard or Double Queen Standard \$96 (incl. Breakfast)**

Or click on the link: [Texas Beekeepers Association](#)

**Cutoff Date: Tuesday October 24th 2018**



# Fall Testing for the Texas Master Beekeeper Program

**When:** Thursday November 8th, 2018

**Where:** Frank Mayborn Event & Convention Center, Temple, TX

**Registration:** Online registration begins on September 1st

**Website:** <http://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/>

**Questions:** Email us at *TAIS@TAMU.edu*

## Texas Honey Queen Auction Fund Raiser

Most of our TBA Members are aware of how the Texas Honey Queen Program is financed. At the Convention each year, interested members bring beekeeping related items to be auctioned off, with the proceeds providing the funds to keep your Honey Queen Program going. This has proven to be a fun time at the Awards Dinner with many members having the opportunity to contribute to one of the best programs of any state.

Texas has had much success in providing very strong competitors in the selection for the American Honey Queen. It would not be so without your support. Your funds provide the ability for the Texas Honey Queen to travel extensively in Texas promoting honey. Most of our Queens travel 4,000 to 6,000 miles each year in the State of Texas and make presentations nearly every week.

This strong promotional schedule provides a good training ground and the opportunity for many local clubs and individual beekeepers to have first class promotional help with their only cost being the hosting of the Queen.

Your help is needed. With the continued increase in the cost of motor fuel and increased airfares, the travel budget gets tighter. If you are planning to attend the Annual Convention in Temple, November 10th - 11th, please bring a special beekeeping related item to contribute to the auction.

Bring your pocketbook also to bid on an item or two donated by someone else. If you are unable to attend, please send a contribution to the Treasurer, c/o Shirley Doggett for the Honey Queen Program. It will be very much appreciated.

# TBA Convention Program

## Thursday November 8th

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2018 TBA CONVENTION SCHEDULE				
Highlighted rows of this color are items in excess of the normal schedule (Require tickets, are optional, etc.) *Schedule is Subject To Change as Needed*				
START TIME	FINISH TIME	Topic	Person in Charge / Speaker	Location
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Texas Master Beekeeping Testing	Mary Reed & TMBP	Mayborn
9:15 AM	5:00 PM	Intermediate to Advanced Beekeeping Workshop	Dr. Dewey Caron	Cultural Activity Center
1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Queen Rearing & Hands On Grafting Workshop	Dr. Juliana Rangel	Cultural Activity Center
11:00 AM	5:00 PM	TBA Executive Committee Meeting		Hilton
2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Registration Opens		Mayborn
3:00 PM	6:00 PM	Honey Show Registration		Mayborn
5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Beekeeper Social 2019 Queen Selection Competition Begins		Mayborn

## Friday November 9th

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2018 TBA CONVENTION SCHEDULE				
Highlighted rows of this color are items in excess of the normal schedule (Require tickets, are optional, etc.) *Schedule is Subject To Change as Needed*				
START TIME	FINISH TIME	Topic		Location
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Conference Registration		Mayborn - Front Entry
7:30 AM	10:00 AM	Honey Show Registration		Mayborn - ROOM:
2:00 PM	5:00 PM	Black Jar Honey Judging		Mayborn
START TIME	FINISH TIME	Topic	Speaker	Location
8:00 AM	8:20 AM	Welcome	Chris Moore	Mayborn
8:20 AM	9:30 AM	Numbers, Boxcars, & Bees - Population Dynamics of Colony Growth	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	Mayborn
9:30 AM	10:30 AM	The Times, They Are A Changing	George Hansen	Mayborn
10:30 AM	10:45 AM	Break		Mayborn
10:35 AM		Texas Honey Show Participant Group Photo	Robin Young	Mayborn - ROOM:
10:45 AM	11:45 AM	Beekeeping in Urban and Agricultural Areas: Risks and Benefits	Dr. Reed Johnson	Mayborn
11:45 AM	12:45 PM	Swarming: Colonies by the Numbers	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	Mayborn
12:45 PM	2:00 PM	Queen's Luncheon or On Your Own		Cultural Activity Center
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	Honey Show Winners Announcement: Gadget, Photos, Wax	Honey Show Committee	Mayborn
2:30 PM	3:30 PM	Current Varroa Control And Prospects For New Miticides	Dr. Reed Johnson	Mayborn
3:30 PM	4:30 PM	The Importance of Good Queens	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	Mayborn
4:30 PM	4:40 PM	Break		Mayborn
4:40 PM	4:55 PM	American Beekeeping Federation Update	Blake Shook	Mayborn
4:55 PM	5:10 PM	Chinese Tallow - Control Update	Blake Shook	Mayborn
5:10 PM	6:10 PM	Beekeeping Meets Star Trek: Technical Applications in Beekeeping	George Hansen	Mayborn
6:10 PM	6:25 PM	Wrap Up, Door Prizes & Raffle	Chris Moore	Mayborn
6:30 PM	10:00 PM	TBA Awards Dinner: Honey Show Awards: Honey & Mead, Texas Honey Queen Coronation, & Live Auction		Cultural Activity Center

## Saturday November 10th

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2018 TBA CONVENTION SCHEDULE				
Highlighted rows of this color are items in excess of the normal schedule (Require tickets, are optional, etc.) *Schedule is Subject To Change as Needed*				
START TIME	FINISH TIME	Topic	Person in Charge / Speaker	Location
7:00 AM	7:45 AM	Conference Registration	Shirley Doggett	Mayborn
7:45 AM	8:00 AM	Welcome & Announcements	Chris Moore	Mayborn
9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Silent Auction Items Up for Bidding		Mayborn
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Business Meeting		Mayborn
9:15 AM	10:35 AM	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Expert Speakers</b>	Mayborn
		Castes, Parthenogenesis, Larva and Pupa Development	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	
		Best Management Practices for Texas Apiculture	Chris Moore	
		Proper Management of Varroa and other pests and diseases through Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Mary Reed	
		Honey Producing Plants	Jonathan Walker	
		Introduction to Beekeeping	Chari & James Elam	
11:00 AM	12:20 PM	<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Expert Speakers</b>	Mayborn
		Commercial Beekeeper Panel Discussion and Q&A	George Hansen, Clint Walker, Blake Shook, Chris Moore	
		Advanced Honey Bee Foraging & Nutrition	Dr. Reed Johnson	
		Bee Pests and their Effects on a Healthy Colony	Mary Reed	
		Honey Judging & Honey Show Participation	Ann Harman	
		Agricultural Exemption for Personal & Business	Joe Bader	
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	<b>Queens Quiz Bowl &amp; Box Lunch</b> or Lunch on Your Own		Mayborn
1:30 PM	2:20 PM	<b>Session 4</b>	<b>Expert Speakers</b>	Mayborn
		Honey Bee Toxicology	Dr. Reed Johnson	
		Why, When & How to Feed Bees	Chari & James Elam	
		Methods for Varroa Control	Lance Wilson	
		Making Infused & Creamed Honey	Pamela Yaemans	
		Encaustic Painting	George Hansen	
2:30 PM	3:20 PM	<b>Session 5</b>	<b>Expert Speakers</b>	Mayborn
		Growing Pains - Moving from Beginner to Sideliner to Commercial	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	
		Pollination Services	Blake Shook	
		The How and Why of Effective Queen Management	Lance Wilson	
		Recognizing and Reducing Stressors That Effect Bee Health	Ann Harman	
		How to Effectively Teach and Reach Youth About Bees	Matt Fuller	
3:30 PM	4:20 PM	<b>Session 6</b>	<b>Expert Speakers</b>	Mayborn
		Effect of Insecticide and Fungicide Combinations Applied to Almonds During Bloom on Honey Bee Workers and Larvae	Dr. Reed Johnson	
		Nutrition Management for Robust Populations	Lance Wilson	
		4 Seasons of Bee Management	Chari & James Elam	
		Comb Honey Production with Two Queen Systems	Dr. Roger Hoopingarner	
		Lip Balms & Lotions	Tanya Phillips	
4:30 AM	5:00 PM	Wrap Up, Door Prizes & Raffle		Mayborn
5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting		Mayborn



# 2018 Texas Beekeepers Association Convention Registration

Please register for the annual convention on-line at  
[www.texasbeekeepers.org/annual-convention-2018](http://www.texasbeekeepers.org/annual-convention-2018)

**Make Sure you are Logged in to get Membership Rates**

## Registration Form for Mail Registration

### **TBA Member Pricing**

	Register by November 5th	Register at Conference	Number	Total
Full Conference Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday Nov 10th	\$80	\$110		
Family Full Conference Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday Nov 10th	\$140	\$160		
Single Day Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> or Saturday Nov 10th	\$45	\$60		
Dr. Dewey Caron - Workshop Thursday November 8 <sup>th</sup> – 9:15am – 5pm	\$60	\$75		
Dr. Juliana Rangel – Workshop Thursday November 8 <sup>th</sup> – 1:00pm – 5pm	\$60	\$75		

### **Non-Member Pricing**

	Register by November 5th	Register at Conference	Number	Total
Full Conference Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday Nov 10th	\$95	\$125		
Family Full Conference Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday Nov 10th	\$160	\$180		
Single Day Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> or Saturday Nov 10th	\$60	\$75		
Dr. Dewey Caron - Workshop Thursday November 8 <sup>th</sup> – 9:15am – 5pm	\$75	\$90		
Dr. Juliana Rangel – Workshop Thursday November 8 <sup>th</sup> – 1:00pm – 5pm	\$75	\$90		

## 2018 Convention Registration Form

Please list attendees

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION TO:

SHIRLEY DOGGETT, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR,  
400 COUNTY ROAD 440  
THRALL, TX 76578

TBA Member Family means members who have a family membership and up to 6 children living at the same address

Please register for both the Convention and for the  
Meals you wish to attend

### Meal Pricing - Members and Non-members

	Register by November 5th	Register at Conference	Number	Total
Queen's Luncheon Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	\$18	\$25		
Awards Dinner Friday Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	\$25	\$30		
Box Lunch Saturday Nov 10th	\$15	\$20		

"The Smell, Taste, and View through the eyes of the Texas Beekeeper"



**Friday, November 9, 2018**  
**At TBA Convention in Temple, Texas**  
 Rules at [texasbeekeepers.org](http://texasbeekeepers.org)



Friday Honey Show

**No entry fee**

For TBA members or Convention attendees. If neither: \$5 per entry.

### Trophies

- Best of Honey Division
- Best Small Scale Honey
- Best Sideline Honey
- Best Commercial Honey
- Best of Non-Honey Division
- Best of Mead Division
- Sweepstakes

### Sponsors

- Dadant
- Dancing Bee Winery
- Moore Honey
- R. Weaver Apiaries
- Sabine Creek Honey
- Sweet River Honey
- Walker Honey Farm







# Texas Beekeepers Association

Serving beekeepers since 1880.

## Mead Amateur Division Competition Rules

By entering the competition you agree to be bound by the rules. Please read them carefully.

1. Only home-produced amateur meads may be entered.
2. All meads are required to have Texas honey. The source(s) of the honey or beekeeper name must be declared in the entry description. Entries made with non-Texas honey, or entries without the source(s) of honey disclosed, will be disqualified. All entries become property of the Texas Beekeepers Association Honey Show Competition. Entries will NOT be returned to entrants under any circumstances.
3. Entry Fees: 1) TBA members no charge to enter classes, 2) Registered TBA Conference attendees no charge to enter classes, 3) Not a TBA member, nor registered for the TBA Annual Conference, then a \$5 entry fee applies per class.
4. Online registration ends November 6, 2018. Please register your entry prior to the convention. This is our first year doing the judging in house and we want to be sure we have enough judges. We will take new entries at the convention, but PLEASE PLEASE register on-line by November 6, 2018. Our judges can only review so many meads. It is important to have enough judges to get the best results. The convention website is:  
  
<https://texasbeekeepers.org/events/annual-convention-2018/>
5. Two 12oz or larger bottles are required for evaluation. If entering smaller bottles, three bottles are required to qualify for Best of Show. If you send fewer bottles, we will do our best, but we cannot guarantee there will be a sufficient quantity to fully evaluate your entry.
6. Bottles MUST be labeled with the registration entry form named "Texas Beekeepers Association Mead Competition Form" and declared BJCP style category. It is strongly preferred you print the form from the registration website and affix them using rubber bands. (We recommend you put the form in a gallon zip lock bag to protect the document and use rubber bands to attach it to each bottle.) Please attach a copy of the filled out form to each bottle for identifying purposes. PLEASE DO NOT USE TAPE TO AFFIX LABELS OR DOCUMENTATION!!
7. Entries must be dropped off at The Mayborn facility at the TBA convention between November 8th (Thursday Noon - 6:00pm) and November 9th (Friday 8:00am - 10:00am); as the competition is Friday, November 9, 2018. Be sure to label your entries clearly as being for the Texas Beekeepers Association Honey Show Competition. The drop-off locations and Texas Beekeepers Association are not liable for lost or misplaced drop-off entries.
8. Entries must be dropped off at the Texas Beekeeper Association's Annual Convention. Entries dropped off the day of judging must be received by 10:00AM.
9. Entries will be judged against the Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) style guidelines for the category entered. The competition organizer, head judge, judges, and stewards will not re-categorize your entry for you. If you enter it in the wrong category it will be judged in the wrong category which will affect your score. If you are unsure what category to enter a mead into, contact the competition organizer using the form on the competition registration website prior to registering your entry or email Robin Young at [soulhoney.com](mailto:robin@soulhoney.com) and she will get you the answers you need.

10. We are NOT accepting any bottles by mail. It is ok if you cannot make the convention to send your entry with a friend or family member. Just be sure to have all your paperwork filled out and attached to each bottle. DO NOT SHIP VIA THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE. SHIPPING OF ALCOHOL VIA THE USPS IS ILLEGAL. ANY ENTRIES SENT BY US MAIL WILL BE DESTROYED TO COMPLY WITH POSTAL REGULATIONS.
11. Helpful information: <https://www.bjcp.org/mead.php>
12. If You would like to volunteer for the Texas Honey Show send an email to [soulhoney@pwhome.com](mailto:soulhoney@pwhome.com)

Entries may be shipped to:	Drop off locations:
We are not taking shipped entries. If you want to send your entry with a friend or family member, be sure to have your documentation filled out and attached to each bottle. We will accept entries: <b>November 8<sup>th</sup> (Thursday Noon - 6:00pm)</b> <b>November 9<sup>th</sup> (Friday 8:00am - 10:00am)</b>	<b>Frank Mayborn Event &amp; Convention Center</b>  3303 N 3rd St Temple, TX 76501

M1. Traditional Mead	<i>Honey, water, yeast</i> M1A. Dry Mead M1B. Semi-Sweet Mead M1C. Sweet Mead
M2. Fruit Mead	<i>Honey, fruit, water, yeast</i> M2A. Cyser – apple and honey M2B. Pyment – grape and honey M2C. Berry Mead M2D. Stone Fruit Mead – fruit with a pit and honey M2E. Melomel – any other fruit combinations not in A-D
M3. Spiced Mead	<i>Honey, spices, water, yeast</i> M3A. Fruit and Spice Mead M3B. Spice, Herb or Vegetable Mead
M4. Specialty Mead	<i>Honey, fruit and/or spices and/or grains, yeast</i> M4A. Braggot and Honey Beer M4B. Historical Mead Recipes M4C. Experimental Mead
<b>Max Points: Judging Criteria for a maximum of 50 points</b>  10 BOUQUET AND AROMA 6 APPEARANCE 24 FLAVOR 10 OVERALL IMPRESSION	



## Texas Beekeepers Association Mead Competition Form

Serving beekeepers since 1880.

Please fill out a form for each bottle of mead submitted, put the filled out form in a zip-lock bag, and use rubber-bands to attach it to each bottle of mead before you get to registration.

### Vintner(s) Information .....

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(cell) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Beekeeping Club You are a Member of \_\_\_\_\_

### Entry Information .....

Name-of-Vintner (Mead Maker) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category (No. M1-M4 found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcategory (A-E found in Mead Rules) \_\_\_\_\_  
Category/ Subcategory (print full names) \_\_\_\_\_  
Honey Varietal \_\_\_\_\_  
Location Produced (County in Texas) \_\_\_\_\_  
Apiarist Who Produced/Harvested the Honey \_\_\_\_\_  
Start Date (When did you make the must and pitch the yeast) \_\_\_\_\_

Cut Here .....Cut Here



## Texas Beekeepers Association Mead Competition Form

Serving beekeepers since 1880.

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Location Produced (County in Texas) \_\_\_\_\_  
Apiarist Who Produced/Harvested the Honey \_\_\_\_\_  
Start Date (When did you make the must and pitch the yeast) \_\_\_\_\_



# Texas Honey Bee Education Association Update

September 2018 TBA Journal  
by Roger Farr - Chairman



Howdy, fellow beekeepers!

The Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA) is a non-member 501(c)(3) non-profit "controlled entity" of TBA governed by a Board of Directors. THBEA's current directors, appointed by the TBA Executive Committee, are Lisa Dittfurth, Chris Doggett, Roger Farr, Larry Hoehne, Leesa Hyder, Chris Moore, and Blake Shook.

The board of THBEA has been hard at work during August and September of 2018 making progress on several of our 2018/19 initiatives. I'd like to highlight two of these initiatives this month, both seeking to improve beekeeper education. Also, I want to highlight THBEA's forward moves with the Texas specialty license plate program to make available a TxDMV (Texas Department of Motor Vehicles) produced honeybee-themed plate.

The first initiative to improve beekeeper education is to **produce a reference card summarizing best practices for Texas beekeepers**. We are deliberately targeting beekeepers who have one to three years of experience in keeping bees, since this is usually the time frame when new (unsuccessful) beekeepers give up beekeeping. We believe we can help these new beekeepers become successful and stay involved in beekeeping by providing them with a simple reference card that summarizes what they need to do with their bees, when they need to do it, and how to do it. You can imagine that every Texas beekeeper has his or her own idea of what those best practices are, so several drafts of this publication are in beta-circulation. We hope to have the final product produced on foldable heavy card stock for all attendees at the November TBA convention and annual meeting. We'll also make copies available to all TBA-member associations to give out to their members. Donations to THBEA will fund this initiative.

The second initiative to improve beekeeper education is to **assist TBA-member associations with their education programs**. Most associations have monthly meetings with speakers making beekeeping-related presentations to the attendees. Generally, these education programs are good; however, the quality and cost of those speakers varies widely. THBEA has several ideas in the works which could improve the educational value and reduce the cost of providing these monthly programs. The THBEA board expects to finalize the ideas in October and begin implementing them with TBA-member associations early next year. Again, donations to THBEA will fund this initiative.

**THBEA has a great opportunity to begin receiving funds as a part of the TxDMV specialty plate program.** Simply put, anyone required to register a motor vehicle in Texas will be able to purchase a honeybee-themed license plate for \$30 over their yearly regular vehicle registration fee. THBEA would receive up to \$22 of this fee to use toward accomplishing its organization purposes. This could provide a substantial financial boost to THBEA and allow us to do more, faster, in future years. Right now, THBEA is reviewing designs for the plate and will soon select a design to submit to TxDMV for their approval. We expect to have the specialty plate available in mid-2019. Donations to THBEA funded the start-up costs for this project. We are still in need of approximately \$1000 to complete the payment to TxDMV.

THBEA needs your support to continue improving beekeeper education. I'd love to talk with you about these initiatives and any other honey bee education projects. Please contact me at [rdfarr@gmail.com](mailto:rdfarr@gmail.com).

You make support THBEA financially in three ways:

- Send a cash contribution, by check made out to the Texas Honey Bee Education Association, to THBEA, 400 County Road 440, Thrall, TX 76578,
- Donate publicly-traded marketable securities by contacting Leesa Hyder, THBEA treasurer, at [Execsec@texasbeekeepers.org](mailto:Execsec@texasbeekeepers.org), for details, or
- Visit the THBEA website at <http://texasbeekeepers.org/thbea/>, to make a donation via PayPal.

I hope you will join me and our board in making THBEA a success for beekeeping and beekeepers' education in Texas!

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## The Brantley Column

*from S. S. Brantley*

*2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association*

*2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association*

October in East Texas should mean the end of hot, dry weather and a burst of fall forage. For beekeepers, it is a time to ensure your hives are prepared for the coming winter. Goldenrod, asters and horsemint will provide your bees a last opportunity to forage and store nectar and pollen for winter feeding. You should be checking your hives to ensure that stores are present and you have a viable queen. Hives with poor performing queens will probably not survive the winter.

I have been checking my hives these last couple weeks of September. So far, I have been finding good brood patterns in all of the checked hives. As a general rule, I am finding the honey, bee bread and pollen is stored on the front half of the frame, closest to the hive entrance. Capped brood is located toward the back of the frame, away from the entrance. Most capped brood patterns have been really solid. I have been a little surprised how good the hives looked, considering the hot, dry summer we have enjoyed this year.

I am sure most beekeepers reading this column are tired of my almost constant comments about doing mite checks. But once again, I do remind you to check the mite loads in your hives. If you did not do mite checks in September, October is your last chance to check and treat for varroa before we move into the colder weather of November. I was asked, "How do I know I have mites?" The answer – if you have bees, you have mites. Varroa is now a part of the beekeeping landscape. The real question is not if your hive has mites but how many mites does your hive have. The only way to answer that question is to do a mite check. If your mite count is above the acceptable threshold, do a mite treatment. Hives entering winter with high mite loads have a greater chance of failure. Follow manufacturer's instructions carefully. Many of the mite treatments require supers to be removed from the hive. After completing treatment, do another mite count to verify the treatment was successful.

There is an increasing interest in using Oxalic Acid to treat for mites. In the United States, the currently approved modes

of treatment are spraying or trickling a solution of the acid into the hive or to use an oxalic acid vaporizer to blow the heated vapors into the hive. If you are not familiar with using oxalic acid, here is a link to a Q&A article published by Dadant:

[www.dadant.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/2011/09/Dadant\\_OxalicAcidVaporizer\\_QandA.pdf](http://www.dadant.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/2011/09/Dadant_OxalicAcidVaporizer_QandA.pdf)

Randy Oliver (ScientificBeekeeping.com), well-known and respected beekeeper and author of a regular column in American Bee Journal, has recently published on his website and in ABJ some information about an experimental technique for treating mites without having to vaporize or drip the oxalic acid. Please note that this method is experimental and has not been approved for use in the US. Until the results are confirmed and the technique is approved for general use by EPA, you should not be trying this in your hive. At this time, the technique looks promising but the long-term effects on the hive are not yet known. Randy is still experimenting with proper oxalic acid strengths and other additives to make the process work better. However, it seems to offer the promise of an easier way to administer oxalic acid. Randy's technique involves soaking blue shop towels in oxalic acid, allowing them to dry, then placing them on top of the frames. The bees chew the shop towel to remove them from the hive, causing the oxalic acid to come into contact with their bodies and kill the external mites. You can read more at: <http://scientificbeekeeping.com/oxalic-shop-towel-updates/>

Two final comments about oxalic acid: It kills only external mites and does not affect mites in capped brood. It offers a quick drop in adult mite loads but is not a long term solution. Second, it is dangerous to work with and must be handled with care – dangerous to you and also to your bees. If you plan to use oxalic acid to treat for mites, make sure you study and practice safe handling and dosing methods.



# What's In A Name

## Proposed Change from TBA to TBA, Inc.

*from Leesa Hyder, Executive Secretary and Roger Farr, Director*

Names are important. They communicate identity, and in the case of organizations, their legal status. Texas Beekeepers Association ("TBA") is proposing to change its legal structure by incorporating and with that change will become Texas Beekeepers Association, Inc. ("TBA, Inc.")

TBA was formed in 1901 as an unincorporated, nonprofit association. In 1966, TBA qualified as a tax-exempt organization under 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code as a "Social Club." TBA has grown rapidly in recent years and broadened its scope in terms of representing beekeepers and beekeeping in Texas. The "social club" tax-exempt classification no longer adequately represents TBA.

It is in the best interest of TBA to formally incorporate as a domestic, nonprofit corporation, and seek tax exemption status under 501(c)(5) as an "Agricultural Organization" promoting the common interests, the betterment of conditions, and the general welfare of Texas beekeepers and the beekeeping industry.

At the annual meeting in November, a resolution will be presented to the TBA membership to approve a "Plan of Incorporation." This will enable the leadership of TBA to do the necessary administrative items to create TBA, Inc. and seek tax exemption status under 501(c)(5). The exact wording of the resolution and Plan of Incorporation are available elsewhere in this TBA *Journal* edition.

To summarize for simplicity, the Plan of Incorporation to create Texas Beekeepers Association, Inc., effective January 1, 2019 (the incorporation date), includes the following:

- TBA, Inc. will operate and be governed by the **same Constitution and Bylaws** duly adopted by TBA and in effect on the incorporation date.
- TBA, Inc. will obtain a new federal taxpayer identification number and operate with the **same fiscal year and accounting method** as TBA.
- **All members** on the membership rolls of TBA in good standing on the incorporation date will become members of TBA, Inc. with the **same rights and privileges** as in TBA.
- All **officers and directors** of TBA on the incorporation date will become officers and directors of TBA, Inc. with the **same duties, authority, and terms of office**.
- All acts, plans, policies, resolutions, approvals, and authorizations of TBA which were valid and effective on the incorporation date will be taken for all purposes as the acts, plans, policies, resolutions, approvals, and authorizations of TBA, Inc.
- TBA, Inc. will become the custodian of record for all books and records of TBA on the incorporation date.
- **All assets, receivables, funds, liabilities, and obligations of TBA** on the incorporation date will be **transferred and assigned to TBA, Inc.**, and will be taken upon the books of TBA, Inc. at the same values as carried on the books of TBA.



# **Proposed Resolution at TBA Convention Business Meeting, 8am on Saturday November 10th**

## **TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION APPROVING PLAN OF INCORPORATION**

Whereas Texas Beekeepers Association (“TBA”) was formed in 1901, and has continued to operate in Texas without interruption since its formation as an unincorporated, nonprofit association; and

Whereas TBA qualified in 1966 as a tax-exempt social organization under 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

Whereas given the growth of TBA and its activities in recent years, it is in the best interest of TBA to formally incorporate as a domestic, nonprofit corporation and seek tax exempt status under 501(c)(5) as an agricultural association promoting the common interests, the betterment of conditions, and the general welfare of Texas beekeepers and the beekeeping industry; and

Whereas a Plan of Incorporation has been approved by the Executive Committee and presented to TBA members for consideration and approval at the duly called annual meeting in Temple, Texas on November 10, 2018;

Now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the members of TBA do hereby consent and approve the Plan of Incorporation annexed hereto, to be effective January 1, 2019; and

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the officers of TBA are authorized and empowered to execute, deliver and file with appropriate agencies, such documents, instruments and papers, as necessary to effectuate the Plan of Incorporation.



## Continued Adventures of a Growing Apiary

*from Ashley Ralph, TBA Director, Prime Bees*

This year has been a crazy year of growth and opportunity. While we push through building a profitable business in bees, Justin quit his full time job and is now a full-time beekeeper. It's such an exciting and scary thing to take that leap of faith. While he continues to work crazy long hours, it's great to see him doing it in the industry he enjoys so much.

All of the growth this year has really made me take a moment and reflect on how we've continued to build our business primarily by keeping an open mind and meeting the needs of our clientele and area. Our "pollination" bee business goals have taken on a pretty wide range of services and products from honey production to cosmetics all the way to agricultural valuation help and bee removals.

I remember listening to a talk from Clint Walker at last year's Annual Convention about keeping your mind open and listening to the market as you grow your business and nothing could be closer to the truth for us. His example was his "pecan pie in a jar" which I stand by as one of the more brilliant offerings - something I admitted to him I would likely use to partner with a friendly pecan farm near me. This conversation was exactly the type of conversation I've been so thankful for over the past few years. As we meet new beekeepers and new community partners, we brainstorm together and continue to learn from each other. We've partnered with local coffee shops, chocolatiers, orchards and farms, restaurants, and so many more partners that have been supportive of our local honey and community outreach.

Some "hard lessons" we have learned this year for those of you on a similar journey:

- Technology is our friend for keeping track of business expenses, mileage and our calendar. We use apps and programs like QuickBooks, MileIQ, Google Suite and Social Media to share our adventures with our friends and followers.

- Storing honey in barrels is becoming more sensible than our trusty 5 gallon buckets and that's pretty exciting.

- Making strong local connections is a must - our fans have helped us continue to grow through their support of our products and their ability to recruit new fans!

- Storing product labels where you can easily see when you're about to run out is a good idea... running out right before your next market or large order is a bad idea.

- Invest back into your business - equipment that makes your job easier will pay back ten fold.

- Keep learning and keep an open mind - business opportunities and new partnerships are literally everywhere!

I'm looking forward to this year's TBA Annual Convention knowing that if I take home even one gem of knowledge, new information, or connection I will have an even better year next year.

Hope to see you all there!

***Renew your Membership, or Join Us.***

*www.texasbeekeepers.org*

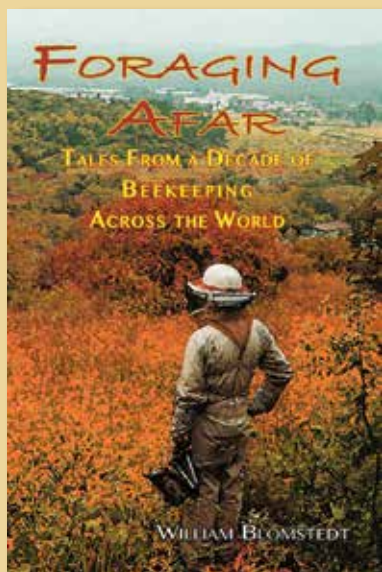
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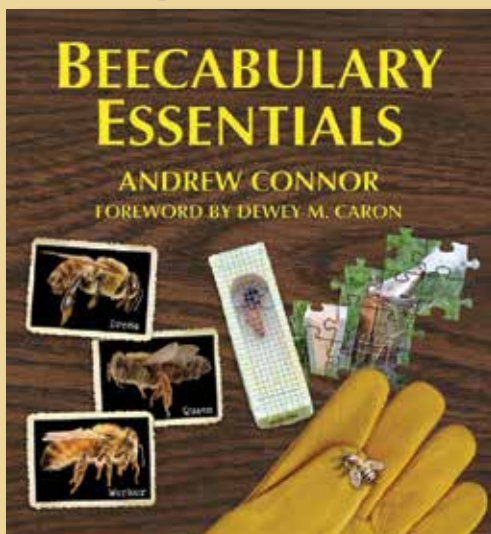
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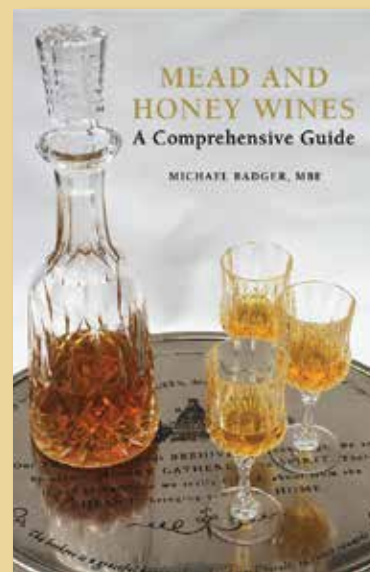
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This project was supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service through grant 16SCBGPTX0025. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the USDA.

# Update from Texas Apiary Inspection Service

*from Mary Reed, Chief Apiary Inspector*



Hello Texas Beekeepers!

It may be wishful thinking, but I can feel cooler weather is around the corner! Depending on where you're located you may experience one last burst of pollen and nectar resources for your bees in the last remaining months before winter kicks in. Believe it or not, this is the time to start preparing your hives for winter. I know it feels like you have plenty of time, but your bees will need that time to build up their numbers and their stores to survive through to the spring. You'll also want to make sure that your hives are not exhibiting any signs of pests or diseases. Yes, you know what that means...it's a perfect time to check for Varroa mites! Every colony has them, so every beekeeper should be monitoring for them. If you need help monitoring or figuring out if you have a problem, check out the resources that are available on the Honey Bee Health Coalition website (<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/Varroa/>).

While we're on the topic of Varroa mites, I want to thank all of the beekeepers that participated in the 2018 Annual Mite-A-Thon. This is a citizen science project run by the Pollinator Partnership and MiteCheck that gathers Varroa infestation information from across the United States and Canada and provides a snapshot at a critical time of year. If you weren't able to participate this year, that's okay! MiteCheck is open year round, so every time you sample your colonies, consider inputting your data into the national log. This information helps researchers visualize trends across the nation throughout the year and spur on new research. For more information, check out the MiteCheck website (<https://bip2.beeinformed.org/mitecheck/>).

Here at TAIS we are gearing up for our fall inspection schedule and are looking forward to getting back out into the field. Near the end of August I had the opportunity to visit beekeepers and growers in North Dakota through a workshop organized by the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC) and

the Entomological Society of America.

This workshop was geared towards bringing industry stakeholders together to interact with each other and see the collaboration that is occurring between these beekeepers and growers. One program that was highlighted was the Bee Integrated Demonstration Project that was spearheaded by the HBHC. This project invites growers to implement practices that are beneficial for honey bees, as well as other pollinators and wildlife. The project involves establishing forage sites, managing the use of pesticides, managing Varroa mites and utilizing pollinator protection plans. This project is currently being piloted in North Dakota, but has the potential to be implemented in other states. More information about the project can be found here: <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/bee-integrated-demonstration-project/>.

As a final note, I'd like to announce that the Fall 2018 Texas Master Beekeeper Exam is coming up soon! It will take place Thursday, November 8th at the Frank W. Mayborn Convention Center in Temple, TX in coordination with TBA's Fall Convention. As I'm writing this article, we have a few spots left for the Apprentice level exam, but seating for the Advanced and Master level exams will be open until a week before the exam. If you're interested in learning more about the program, check out its website here: <https://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/>. More information about the exam day, as well as where to register, can be found here: <https://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/2018-fall-exam-registration/>.

As always, don't hesitate to reach out to our office at any time ([tais@tamu.edu](mailto:tais@tamu.edu); 979-845-9713). In the meantime, I hope you all have a wonderful fall season and that we see you soon at a future beekeeping event!



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TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH



# Leaving on a Jet Plane

(preparing our small-scale apiary to thrive without us for three weeks)

"The Continuing Journey of Two Fifth-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers"  
TBA Journal Article - May 2018

by Roger and Sue Farr, Caddo Trace Beekeeping Association (CTBA), Mount Pleasant, Texas;  
Master Level Beekeeper - Texas Master Beekeeper Program (Roger)



Photo - Hudson Old, *East Texas Journal Photography*

Pictures are by the authors unless otherwise indicated.

Fixin' to leave the U. S. for three weeks; here's the to-do list:

- Mow lawn
- Key and cat feeding instructions to a close friend
- Irrigation systems on automatic
- Washing machine water turned off
- Stop mail
- Set autopay for bills
- Etcetera...

Yes, we're heading overseas tomorrow, and we do a lot to prepare. One of those items on our to-do list is to make sure that our apiary is in great shape to continue without us. We are small-scale beekeepers, and we probably fuss a bit more over our bees than those who have many more hives. That's because our bees have so much to teach us!

Our apiary to-do list before a 3-week September/October trip looks like this:

Check:

- Varroa measurement and control
- Honey stores as the hives come out of the summer dearth and into the fall honey flow
- Brood levels
- Pollen reserves
- Space requirements

Here is what we did to get ready to leave in each of these five areas

**Varroa control** is first and foremost at this time of year. The bees in our hives right now are those that will take care of producing the winter bees that must survive winter and rear the first brood in late winter. They must not be compromised by varroa and the viruses the mites bring. The action level for treating our hives is 3%, 3 mites per 100 bees. (On inspection days, we sample one-half cup of bees and look for fewer than 9 mites per 300 bee sample.) Thankfully, all of our hives were at 1% or less levels of varroa, so no treatment was necessary. However, if we did have to treat, our only option would have

been *Apivar* since we would be away for more than the 14 days between recommended treatments for many products. Also, our temperatures are still above 90 degF, so some of the “fumigant” style products are not an option.

**Honey stores** is the next item to check. Our bees are just coming out of the northeast Texas summer dearth, so we want to see at least four (and better six) medium frames of capped honey. Each hive will need ten medium frames of honey by November in order to make through our average winter. Two of our hives had the minimum six frames of honey, while the other three had a surplus up to as much as 16 frames. We did not take honey in July as we prefer the taste of fall honey, so we will harvest in October when we downsize the hives for winter.

**Brood levels** is the third concern. All five hives have excellent queens and had five to eight frames of brood, which is appropriate for this time of year. Two of the queens were just outstanding in the amount of brood produced and their laying pattern. They also head the two strongest hives. If they survive winter, we will have two queens to choose from to produce our 2019 queens. Last month we found one hive queenless and decided it was too late in the season to raise a queen since there are not many drones. We placed the queenless hive on top of a sheet of newspaper laid on top of the top box of a strong hive. That combined hive appeared to be thriving, with new brood even in the top box!

**Pollen reserves** deserves a quick check. Normally, low pollen is not a problem in our area, but with the near absence of flowers the last four weeks, we needed to check. All five hives had several frames of pollen to keep her majesty and the nurse bees supplied in resources to produce fat, healthy winter bees.

**Hive space** issues come last. We just had a little rain, so we expect the fall flowers to bloom soon marking the beginning of our fall honey flow. The hive entrance activity level is definitely picking up, so we wanted to make sure there was sufficient room for the incoming nectar. We wanted each hive to have at least six empty frames with or without drawn comb. In one case we added a box of foundation-only frames. We’d love to have comb drawn in the fall to jump start our nucleus hives production. Sometimes the bees surprise us and draw comb just because they can!

Our apiary is set, and our bees are productive. We will pack our bags, prepare appropriate documents, clean the fridge, and gather our passports and money. Oh, yes, we have to buy another 30-lb bag of cat food; 12 outside cats will eat it all during our three-week absence.

We’ll see you at the November TBA conference!

We’d love to hear about your beekeeping adventures.

Roger and Sue Farr  
rdfarr@gmail.com; sue.farr1@gmail.com

## In Memoriam



### John "Jack" T. Thomas September 27, 1936 - September 17, 2018

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*"The thoughtful little things you do each day have an accumulated effect on all our tomorrows"*

- Alexandra Stoddard -

Jack was almost 82 years young when he passed away after a hard fought battle with pancreatic cancer. He lived a life of entrepreneurship, with a passion for learning and curiosity.

He was born September 27, 1936 in Northeast Minneapolis and attended DE LaSalle High School. Jack spent three years as an intelligence officer in Taiwan in the late '50's. He attended the University of Minnesota and Mankato State University. The field of engineering and an air hydraulics business filled the following years.

In 1972 Jack moved to Mann Lake, near Hackensack, to live in a 100 year old log cabin where he had spent many childhood summer hours.

Mann Lake Ltd., a commercial beekeeping manufacturing company, was co-founded by Jack and wife, Betty in 1984. The hobby business; started in their garage on Mann Lake; has grown to an international company, employing hundreds of individuals in Hackensack and at the U.S. branch locations. Jack's goal was to make people smile as he walked through the facilities. He was an icon of the industry. He innovated products and techniques that made keeping bees easier. Jack and Mann Lake have been recognized by the industry for the many contributions made.

Jack and Betty have traveled throughout the world, but

there was never a place better than home. Jack spent many summers enjoying his antique boats, a 1934 runabout Gar Wood and a 1915 Fay & Bowen motor-launch. They have been donated to the Maritime Museum in Alexandria, MN so others may enjoy these rare boats.

Animals have always been a part of Jack and Betty's life. In 2012 they decided to work towards building an animal shelter. They co-founded Paws and Claws Rescue & Resort, just south of Hackensack, that opened its doors in 2017. Jack felt that it was important to give back to the community he lived in.

Jack touched many lives in many ways, he is survived by his wife, Betty, and their three feline companions. Jack said many times that "when he died, he wanted to come back as a cat, taken care of by Betty."

Jack asks that no flowers be sent. Any memorials should go to Paws and Claws Rescue & Resort, P.O. Box 175, Hackensack, MN 56452, Attn: Jack. Memorials will go towards establishing a service dog program using candidate rescue animals that will aid Veterans with PTSD. This was very close to Jack's heart as he was a disabled Veteran.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held Saturday, September 29 from 1pm to 3pm, Paws and Claws Rescue & Resort community room, Hackensack. # 218-675-7297.



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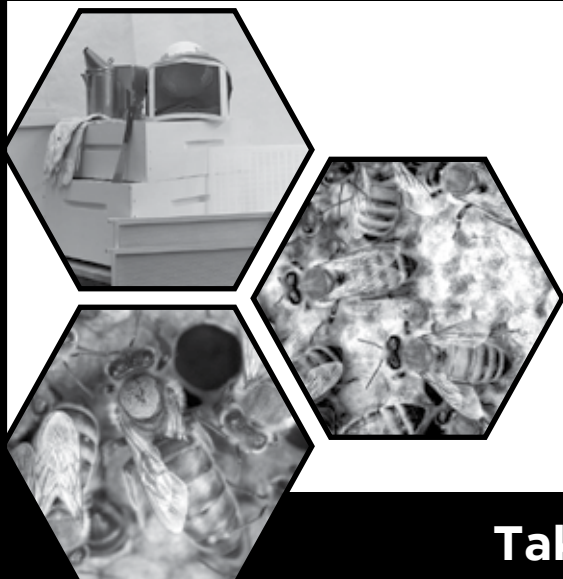


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## World Bee Day 2018

*from Robin Young, Metro Beekeepers Association*



These past two years have been the toughest in memory for the Young family. About every forty years, the city gets a little too close to home, we get tired of people skinny dipping in our front pond, and it's time to start making a change. Basically, we sell one piece of land and do a trade for a whole lot more land. If it's done right, the Young family is able to continue living our ranching way of life and have extra for the kids as they grow. If it's done wrong, we all have to go get day jobs with bosses and such. At the same time, my mother-in-law was running for re-election. She had been in office for 19 years...it was not looking good. I knew only one thing: when all the land swapping was done, I'm grabbing my husband and we are leaving town! The question was, "where to go?" I finally landed on a site:

<http://www.slovenianbeekeeping.com/suzanne.html>

That's where I met Suzanne Brouillette. She is an AZ Beehive owner of a beekeeping business called "Slovenian Beekeeping". She used to live in Slovenia and would organize tours for our US military families when they were stationed overseas. Currently, she was offering a tour to Slovenia May 17<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2018. The cost was \$2,850 per person not including air fare. I booked the trip and got back to work knowing no matter how hard the days got, there was a trip waiting at the end.

My husband and I flew in to Slovenia two days early to get over the jet lag. (I recommend you do this on any trip overseas.) This gave us time to recover from the flight and I was able to get some really good photos of honey bees.



Once the rest of the group showed up (around 10 people from around the US, Canada, and England) we found out that the United Nations had approved Slovenia's petition for "World Bee Day" and we were all going to get a front row seat to all the events. We also received a personal invitation to attend the World Bee Day Conference.

By now you're thinking, "Is she really going to make us watch a slide show of her vacation...really?" The answer is no. Yet I wanted to give you some background information in case you wanted to plan a trip, in the future, to Slovenia. I'm going to give you information about "World Bee Day" in this article and then share all the information I learned over following articles. During the two weeks, we visited an average of two AZ beekeepers a day. The ability for beekeepers to invent and problem solve always amazes me. I will share some solutions they shared with me.

First, "What is all this World Bee Day about and why May 20<sup>th</sup>?" Per the literature on 20<sup>th</sup> of May World Bee Day:

*"20 May is the birth date of Anton Janša (1734–1773), a Slovenian beekeeper, the pioneer of modern beekeeping and one of the greatest authorities on the subject of bees."*



*The Austrian Empress Maria Theresa appointed him to the post of permanent teacher of apiculture at the new School of Beekeeping in Vienna. He became well known even before his death in 1773. After 1775, all state beekeeping teachers had to teach the subject in accordance with his teachings and methods. He was by no means the only expert of his kind – renowned apiculture experts include Peter Pavel Glavar, Anton Žnideršič and Janez Anton Scopoli.”*

Anton Janša’s first AZ hive was refurbished for the event and pictured below.



The Conference started on May 19 in a convention type setting that allowed only 100 people to attend.

The first speaker of interest was Pushpendra S. Bhandari (Senior Business Development Manager at SAC RESEARCH India) pictured below. He discussed “The use of bee products in nutrition and apitherapy.”



Pushpendra went through all the products from the hive, their properties and uses for the human body. He also informed us that apitherapy is now being offered in India Universities as a specialty field when becoming a doctor.

May 20<sup>th</sup> was filled with a trip to a museum put together for “World Bee Day”.



There was a huge gathering to celebrate with all of Solveina. A member from each beekeeping club was represented.



After all the fanfare and speeches were complete, they unveiled the Monument to complete the day.



When you stand by the monument pictured above, you can hear bees buzzing.

The night was capped off with live music (a lot of 80’s US top 40’s music), goulash, shish kabobs, and mead. They really know how to party in Slovenia.

’Til next time friends, you might want to mark your calendar for May 20, 2019 and plan your “World Bee Day” event. Whether it’s a talk at a school or a shared bottle of mead with friends. This one is for you and all you do for our sweet honey bees!

Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb sweet to the soul and healing to the bone.



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- Winter Is Coming

### Intermediate Topics

- *"Texas Bee Law"* By Mary Reed
- *"Products of the Hive"* By Michelle Kerr-Pankonien
- *"Nothing New"* By Michael Bush
- *"Nutrition Management For Robust Populations"* By Lance Wilson
- *"Pitfalls of First-Year Beekeeping"* By Dennis Gray
- *"Top Bar Hives & Naturalistic Management"* By Les Crowder
- *"Beescapes"* By Becky Bender
- *"Splitting Your Hives"* By Michelle Kerr-Pankonien
- *"Harvesting Honey"*
- *"Varroa Mites"* By Mary Reed
- *"Beekeeping Seasons"* By Christi Baughman
- *"Sustainable Beekeeping w/ Nuc"* By Joe Lewis
- *"Queen Rearing"*
- *"Top 10 Best Beekeeping Practices"* By Lance Wilson
- *"Swarms, Swarming, & Swarm Management"* By Ryan Giesecke
- *"4 Simple Steps to Healthier Bees"* By Michael Bush

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# Greetings from Dr. Juliana Rangel at Texas A&M University

*Assistant Professor of Apiculture, Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University*

Dear TBA members, as the last official day of summer came and went, temperatures in the Brazos Valley are more forgiving for keeping bees, and that means fall is coming. I hope you and/or your beekeeping club took the time to participate in this year's Mite-A-Thon, which took place between 8 and 22 September of this year. If you did not participate this year, you can do so again next year! As their website states, "the annual 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](http://www.mitecheck.com). The parasitic mite, *Varroa destructor* (*Varroa*), and the viruses it vectors is a significant driver 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." The two objectives of the program are: 1) To raise awareness about honey bee colony *Varroa* infestations in North America through effective monitoring methods. 2) To develop management strategies will be made available for discussion within bee organizations utilizing Mite-A-Thon partner developed information and outreach materials. All beekeepers in North America are encouraged to participate, and there is no cost associated with participating. You can create your own test materials or kits can be purchased online and at your local bee supply store. Participants were asked to monitor the level of mites (number of mites per 100 bees) using a standardized protocol utilizing two common methods of assessment (powdered sugar roll or alcohol wash) 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. You can see a recap of the 2017 data on their website.

On Saturday, 22 September, the Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association and our Bee Lab co-organized for the second year in a row the Brazos Valley Bee School at TAMU's AgriLife Center. This year we had over 400 participants and dozens of volunteers, which coordinated lectures and hands on activities from 8am to 5pm, including classes for beginners and intermediate beekeepers. Our lab had a very nice table spread and was staffed by our graduate and undergraduate student volunteers, who spent most of their Saturday answering questions about our research program and giving out honey samples for tasting. There was a very nice article on The Eagle newspaper featuring the bee school ([https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/annual-brazos-valley-beekeeping-school-scheduled-for-saturday/article\\_6faf8b84-f2fe-5814-8ced-686aaf3fe0ee.html](https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/annual-brazos-valley-beekeeping-school-scheduled-for-saturday/article_6faf8b84-f2fe-5814-8ced-686aaf3fe0ee.html)).

As part of the Real Texas Honey™ grant that the TBA and the Texas A&M University Honey Bee Research Program received from the Texas Department of Agriculture, we have

recorded the first of a two-part webinar series titled "**Real Texas Honey™: How honey is tested to identify the floral sources of nectar.**" The webinar was presented live on the internet by Pierre Lau and Dr. Juliana Rangel on Wednesday, 19

September 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can now watch a recording of the webinar by visiting the home page of our bee lab's website and clicking on the webinar's image (<https://honeybeelab.tamu.edu/>).

The second webinar will be presented by Dr. Marco Palma, Professor in Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University, and Dr. Deborah Delaney, Associate Professor of Entomology at the University of Delaware. Their webinar titled "**Real Texas Honey™: Increasing the economic value of Texas honey through consumer willingness to pay and marketing studies**" was presented live on Thursday, 27 September 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. On October 1st you will be able to watch a recording of the webinar by visiting the home page of our bee lab's website and clicking on the webinar's image (<https://honeybeelab.tamu.edu/>).

One of the coolest outreach projects that I have been involved in recently is a joint collaboration between the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, and the Harris County Beekeepers Association. After almost one year of communication, logistics, and purchasing, we finally installed four packages of bees on 24 September on one of the balconies of the convention center's second floor, overlooking the Hilton of the Americas Hotel. The original idea was conceived by Mr. Chris Bupp, Executive Director of the Levi Restaurants, the company that caters all the food services at the venue. Chris held a similar position in Cleveland, OH before moving to Houston. While there, he started this project of keeping bees in the convention center to raise awareness about the important of honey bees in our food supply, and to organically teach folks, including those working under him, about the importance of reducing food waste in the catering industry. A nice article about the original project can be found at <https://www.tsnn.com/news/osu-beehive-project-and-urban-farm-create-local-buzz-huntington-convention-center>. We thank Mr. Gary Parks and Mr. Harrison Rogers for helping us to coordinate this project, which will increase the visibility of both the Harris County Beekeepers Association and the TAMU Honey Bee Research Project.

**Aggie Honey™ is back!** After two long years without any success in gathering a worthwhile amount of honey from our research colonies, we are excited to announce that this summer





we were able to pull honey from about 30 colonies from our apiary at the RELLIS campus and from a couple more local apiaries and are now selling Aggie Honey™ out of our lab at the Heep Building (you can call for pick up at 979-845-1079) or at the Texas A&M University Rosenthal Meat Market. Feel free to contact Rosenthal Meat Market directly if you have questions about their products. Rosenthal can take orders for Aggie Honey™ over the phone and also via email. However, please do not send your credit card information in an email, as their e-mail address is not secure. Rosenthal is open during business hours: M-F, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Phone: 979-845-5651, Email: [meat@tamu.edu](mailto:meat@tamu.edu). Remember, all proceeds from honey sales go back to fund our research program, especially graduate and undergraduate student salaries in the summer months, so your purchase goes to a great cause. Thank you for your support!

Lastly, I am thrilled to be one of the invited speakers at the Georgia Beekeepers Association Fall Meeting, joining Dr. Maryann Frazier, Dr. Geoff Williams, Jerry Hayes, and many other notorious bee scientists. The event will take place from 27 to 29 September 2018. You can access the full schedule by visiting their website at <http://www.gabeekeeping.com/Documents/PastEventPrograms/2018Fall.pdf>

That is all for now. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email me at [jrangel@tamu.edu](mailto:jrangel@tamu.edu). I am more easily reached via email than the phone. For up-to-date information regarding our program, or for new and interesting posts regarding bees and beekeeping, please visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TAMUhoneybeelab>. We now have 3,225 followers, thank you all for your continuing support! I wish all of you and your bees a productive fall!

As part of the Real Texas Honey™ grant that the TBA and the Texas A&M University Honey Bee Research Program received from the Texas Department of Agriculture, we invite you to attend the second of a two-part webinar series titled  
**“Real Texas Honey™: Increasing the economic value of Texas honey through consumer willingness to pay and marketing studies.”**

The webinar will be presented live on the internet by Drs. Marco Palma (Texas A&M University) and Debbie Delaney (U. of Delaware) on Thursday, 27 September 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. On October 1<sup>st</sup> you will be able to watch a recording of the webinar by visiting the home page of our bee lab’s website and clicking on the webinar’s image (<https://honeybeelab.tamu.edu/>). Here are the details on how to access the webinar live:

Link: [https://applauncher.gotowebinar.com/#notStarted/5579992217717139458/en\\_US](https://applauncher.gotowebinar.com/#notStarted/5579992217717139458/en_US)



**TO USE YOUR COMPUTER'S AUDIO:** When the webinar begins, you will be connected to audio using your computer's microphone and speakers (VoIP). A headset is recommended. –OR–

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# Young Beekeeper Award

The Young Beekeeper Award, sponsored by the North American Bayer Bee Care Program, provides an opportunity to support the beekeeping industry's brightest young talent in their initiatives to make an impact in their communities through beekeeping. With the number of applicants doubling from that of 2017, the judges had a tough job in selecting from such an amazing pool of contestants. This year's winners stand out for their efforts to find permanent solutions for the issues facing bees. They go beyond their local communities to make a greater impact across the country, and they pay it forward by ensuring others will be afforded the same opportunities they have been.

Bayer Bee Care is thrilled to announce the 2018 winners: Leo Schriokauer, Daniel McSween and Jonathan "JD" Murphy. These young apiarists go above and beyond in exemplifying what the Bayer Bee Care Program hopes to inspire in the future of beekeeping.

## 1st Place – Leo Schriokauer

Leo Schriokauer's fear of bees turned into passion in the fourth grade when his school librarian brought her hive to school. Shortly after, Leo enrolled in a beekeeping course and later won his first hive as a prize by submitting an essay to the Lorain County Beekeepers' Association. A few years and several hives later, Leo was able to start again with a hive that thrived and began selling honey, beeswax-based hand creams and lip balms in his community.

Now 17 years old, Leo spends most days after school in a research lab at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine working to develop a treatment for American Foulbrood disease. The treatment focuses on harnessing the power of a good bacterium that naturally occurs in the honey bee gut to produce a protein that kills *Paenibacillus* larvae, the bad bacteria that causes the American Foulbrood disease. Leo thought of the potential cure himself, and he emailed a dozen professors at three different universities until he found two mentors: Professor Laura Romberg and Professor Diana Ramirez-Bergeron.

We are thrilled these professors were able to see what an amazing breakthrough Leo has the potential of achieving, and we can't wait to see all he accomplishes!

## 2nd Place – Daniel McSween

Daniel McSween, now 17 years old, has always had a love of bees. While in elementary school, he even taught himself at recess how to slowly cup his hands to hold one. He convinced his parents to get the family's first hive five years ago. He started attending local bee clubs to learn the craft, which over time led him to study hive failures. When he set out to conquer Varroa mites, Daniel was able to recruit participants from around the country. His first experiment surveyed 23 hives for Varroa mites from eight different beekeepers, and his second experiment grew to 60 hives.

With the help of mentoring apiarists and a scientific expert, Daniel has learned far more than he set out to. He feels more confident in his beekeeping abilities, determined to continue studying Varroa mites to develop a method to eliminate them from hives and thankful that he now understands statistics! Daniel was able to present his findings from his two experiments at the Science & Engineering Fair of Houston (SEFH), the International Sustainable World (Engineering, Energy, Environment) Project (ISWEEEP) and the Texas Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

We are thankful for Daniel's passion and determination to continue his scientific research to find a method to eliminate Varroa mites from hives!

### 3rd Place – Jonathan “JD” Murphy

Jonathan “JD” Murphy’s young career as a beekeeper started as a father-son project after a chance run-in at the local farmer’s market led to him winning a scholarship from a nearby beekeeping association. JD and his father started tending to their bees and would drive more than 40 miles to the association’s meetings for the first few years. Their hives were thriving, producing more than 300 pounds of honey by their third harvest. Eventually, they partnered with another local beekeeper to start their own association closer to home.

JD also began sharing his passion and knowledge with his community, speaking at schools and local events. His commitment to spreading his love for the craft continued to grow with the creation of his YouTube channel. Now at age 17, JD’s foray into the beekeeping industry has now come full circle, as he is currently establishing his own scholarship – through the beekeeping association he helped co-found – so that other kids like him can have the opportunity to learn about beekeeping.

We are inspired by beekeepers like JD, who pay it forward!

### The Buzz Doesn’t Stop Here!

Thank you to this year’s applicants for sharing their efforts in beekeeping, and congratulations again to Leo Schriokauer, Daniel McSween and Jonathan “JD” Murphy for winning this year’s Young Beekeepers Award! We are especially grateful for the actions these winners are taking to support honey bee health and look forward to seeing all the progress they will continue to make. Keep an eye out for more news from these young leaders in pollinator health throughout the year.

Entries for next year’s Young Beekeeper Award will open in March 2019.

#### Editor’s Note:

*Daniel McSween is from Montgomery County Beekeepers Association*

*Jonathan “JD” Murphy is from Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association*

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## Bee Hive Thermal Industries, Breaking News, Saving Honey Bees Organically

John Hicks

936.718.3471

[john@beehivethermalindustries.com](mailto:john@beehivethermalindustries.com)

An organic and noninvasive solution targeting and killing *Varroa* mite infestations, that are killing honey bees, developed by joined forces of, Bee Hive Thermal Industries ([www.beehivethermalindustries.com](http://www.beehivethermalindustries.com)) and OVEN Industries ([www.ovenind.com](http://www.ovenind.com)), experts in temperature control.

You may have heard that "honey bees are in trouble". There are a few reasons we could list in this dilemma and most experts will most likely agree that the *Varroa* mite is at the top of that list. Bee Hive Thermal Industries designed this Thermal System utilizing an industrial grade heater blanket and electronic controls which are easily installed and removed from the hive. The end goal of the product is to raise the temperature of the hive to a programmed temperature, killing the mites without harming the bees based on studies done in Europe. To see the game changing product in action, click the link and view the video. <https://youtu.be/D3l4G2Ws91o>

In the fight against today's *Varroa* mites, beekeepers are often, if not always, resorting to pesticides as the solution. Bees have many other predators and hardships to endure, including weather related issues such as cold temperatures, moisture and diseases. The effect of the *Varroa* on the overall colony is paralyzing to both general activity and honey production within the hive. This revolutionary product is showing positive results in killing and controlling mites and hive beetles, with only a few applications annually.

Bee Hive Thermal Industries, located in beautiful Pageland, SC, is recognized as a global leader in the design, development and distribution of organically suitable products for the bee industry globally. The company strives daily to provide unique and safe solutions for beekeepers everywhere, providing them with high quality, value and reliability. Caring for our bees is very important to the mission of Bee Hive Thermal Industries. Visit our website [www.beehivethermalindustries.com](http://www.beehivethermalindustries.com)



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# Listing of Local Beekeepers' Associations in Texas with TBA Delegate and Regular Meeting Information Shown for Each

Please forward any changes and/or additions to  
Leesa Hyder, Executive Secretary, [execsec@texasbeekeepers.org](mailto:execsec@texasbeekeepers.org)

---

## **Alamo Area Beekeepers Association**

Rick Fink - (210) 872-4569

[president@alamobees.org](mailto:president@alamobees.org)

[www.alamobees.org](http://www.alamobees.org)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday on odd # months

Helotes Ind. Baptist Church

15335 Bandera Rd., Helotes at 7 pm

## **Austin Area Beekeepers Association**

Dodie Stillman

[austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation](https://facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation)

[www.meetup.com/Austin-Urban-Beekeeping/](http://www.meetup.com/Austin-Urban-Beekeeping/)

**Meeting:** 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm

Frank Fickett Scout Training and Service Center

12500 N I-35, Near Parmer Lane, Austin

## **Bees in the East Club**

Mark de Kiewiet (210) 863-8024

[beesintbeeast@att.net](mailto:beesintbeeast@att.net)

**Meetings** 4th Saturday of each month at 10am

Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Road, Marion,

## **Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association**

Frank Morgan - (254) 423-2579

[bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com](mailto:bellcoryellbeeclub@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at

Refuge Ministries, 2602 S. FM 116, Copperas Cove - 7pm

## **Brazoria County Beekeepers Association**

Kenneth Nugent - (979) 922-9725

[knugent@gmail.com](mailto:knugent@gmail.com)

[bcba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com](mailto:bcba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com)

[www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com](http://www.brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month

Brazoria County Extension Office, 21017 CR 171, Angleton at 6:45 pm

## **Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association**

Ashley Ralph - (979) 777-2529

[info@bvbeeks.org](mailto:info@bvbeeks.org)

[www.bvbeeks.org](http://www.bvbeeks.org)

**Meetings:** 3rd. Tuesday of each month (except Dec.)

First Christian Church, 900 S Ennis St., Bryan from 6pm

## **Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association**

Terry Wright - (903) 856-8005

[tcwright7021@yahoo.com](mailto:tcwright7021@yahoo.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month

Titus County Agrilife Ext. Bldg., 1708 Industrial Rd., Mount Pleasant at 7 pm

## **Caprock Beekeepers Association**

David Naugher - (806) 787-7698

[caprockbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:caprockbeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Lubbock Memorial Arboretum, 4111 University Ave., Lubbock

## **Central Texas Beekeepers Association**

Michael Kelling - (979) 277-0411

[CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com)

[www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org](http://www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org)

**Meetings:** Monthly on the 4th Thursday (except November and December)

Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E Bluebell Rd., Brenham at 7pm

## **Chisholm Trail Beekeepers**

Scott Zirger (682) 385-0008 or (510) 301-5796 (cell)

[scott@zirger.us](mailto:scott@zirger.us) or [chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com](mailto:chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com)

**Meetings:** Last Monday of each month

United Cooperative Services, 2601 S Burleson Blvd, Burleson

## **Coastal Bend Beekeepers Association**

Dennis Gray (361) 877-2440

[CoastalBendBeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:CoastalBendBeekeepers@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** First Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

City of Corpus Garden Senior Center, 5325 Greely Dr., Corpus Christi

## **Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.**

Mary-Ann Allen (214) 543-5597

[president@cchba.org](mailto:president@cchba.org)

[www.cchba.org](http://www.cchba.org)

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Collin College Conference Center, (Central Park Campus)

2400 Community Dr., McKinney

## **Comal County Beekeepers Association**

Julie Morgan - (210) 475-2924

[julie.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:julie.morgan@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 1st Thursday of each month

Beefy's on the Green Restaurant, upstairs room

12910 US Hwy 281N at 6:30 pm

## **Concho Valley Beekeepers Association**

Rex Moody - (325) 650-6360

[cvbeekeeper@gmail.com](mailto:cvbbeekeeper@gmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month Jan-Nov at 6:30 pm

Texas A&M res. & Ext. Center, 7887 US Hwy 87 N, San Angelo

## **Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association**

Ellen Reeder - (337) 499-6826

[ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenswartz@sbcglobal.net)

## **Denton County Beekeepers Association**

[board@dentonbees.com](mailto:board@dentonbees.com)

[www.dentonbees.com](http://www.dentonbees.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm

Please see calendar for location

## **Dino-Beekeepers Association**

Chip Hough (817) 559-0564

[dino-beeclub@hotmail.com](mailto:dino-beeclub@hotmail.com)

[www.dino-bee.com](http://www.dino-bee.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of month at 6:30 pm

Glen Rose Citizens Center, 209 SW Barnard St., Glen Rose

**East Texas Beekeepers Association**

Richard Counts - (903) 566-6789

*dick.counts4450@gmail.com*

*www.etba.info*

**Meetings:** 1st Thursday of each month at 6:45 pm;  
Whitehouse Methodist Ch., 405 W Main (Hwy 346), Whitehouse

**Elgin Beekeepers Association**

Sarah Jones - (512) 567-1410

*sarah@campsunflower.com*

**Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm  
Various Locations

**Elm Fork Beekeepers Association**

Jan Hodson - (940) 637-2702

*janrhodson@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of each month  
Landmark Bank, 1112 E California St., Gainesville, TX 76240  
at 6:30 pm

**Erath County Beekeepers Association**

James K Gray - (254) 485-3238

*grayjamesk@jkgray.com*

**Meetings:**

**Fayette County Beekeepers Association**

Mike Mathews (713) 805-9673

*mmathews324@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** First Saturday of the month, Feb, April,  
June, August, October and December at 5 pm  
Fayette County Ag. Bldg., 240 Svoboda Ln., La Grange

**Fort Bend Beekeepers Association**

Lynne Jones - (713) 304-8880

*info@fortbendbeekeeping.org*

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:30 pm  
Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg

**Fredericksburg Beekeepers Association**

Joe Bader - (830) 537-4040

*joebees@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** Third Thurs. of even number months (excl. Dec) at 6:30 pm  
Gillespie County Ext. Off., 95 Frederick Rd., Fredericksburg

**Golden Crescent Beekeepers Association**

Joe Swaney (361) 293-0472

*pmbamilton@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm  
Victoria County 4H Activity Center,  
459 Bachelor Dr., Victoria

**Harris County Beekeepers Association**

Gary Parks (713) 906-1805

*gparks@geparkslaw.com*

*www.harriscountybeekeepers.org*

**Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm  
Golden Acres Center, 5001 Oak Ave., Pasadena

**Hays County Beekeepers Association**

Nathalie Misserey (512) 699-0605

*hayscountyba@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 3rd Wednesday of each month at  
Driftwood Volunteer Fire Station, 15850 FM 1826, Austin, TX 78737  
at 7pm

**Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association**

Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514

*gw.bowles@yahoo.com*

**Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month (except Dec.) at 7 pm  
in Lecture Hall  
MCC Emergency Services Education Center, 7601 Steinbeck Bend  
Road, Waco

**Henderson County Beekeepers Association**

Elizabeth Hudson - (330) 881-8008

*bushyomouth55@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm  
Faith Fellowship Church, 5330 Highway 175, Athens, TX 75762

**Hill County Beekeepers Association**

Art Wharton (254) 221-5325

*ohyougotit@aim.com*

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 pm  
Hill County Courthouse Annex, 126 S Covington St., Hillsboro

**Hopkins County Beekeepers Association**

Jon Dalzell - Secretary, (214) 395-1730

*dalzelljon@aol.com*

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm  
Hopkins County Agrilife Bldg., 1200 W Houston St., Sulphur Springs

**Houston Beekeepers Association**

Shelley Rice - (832) 545-7178

*info@houstonbeekeepers.org*

*www.houstonbeekeepers.org*

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm  
Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston

**Houston Natural Beekeepers Association**

Dean Cook

*houstonnaturalbeekeepers@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** Second Saturday of the month at 11 am  
1702 Rothwell, Bldg C, Houston

**Johnson County Beekeepers Association**

Don Russell or Bruce Watts, Jr.

*boatshop6@yahoo.com or bruce.jr@sbcglobal.net*

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm  
Seven Day Adventist Church, 1912 Conveyor Dr., Joshua

**Lamar County Beekeepers Association**

Scott Brinker - (501) 307-5111

*lamarcoba@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm  
Lamar County Fairgrounds, 570 E Center St., Paris

**Liberty County Beekeepers Association**

Cameron Crane - (409) 658-3800

*info@libertycountybeekeepers.org*

*www.libertycountybeekeepers.org*

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm  
Liberty Agrilife Extension Office, 501 Palmer Ave., Liberty

**Longview Beekeepers Association**

Gus Wolf - (903) 746-9256

*glwolf@gmail.com*

**Meetings:** 4th Thursday of each month at 6 pm  
Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 405 E Marshall St., Longview



**Marshall Beekeeping Association**

Beth Derr - (936) 591-2399

*marshallbeekeeping@gmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 501 Indian Springs Dr., Marshall

**Metro Beekeepers Association**

Keegan Olsen, President - (682) 225-0862

*keeganolsen@yahoo.com**www.metrobeekeepers.net***Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month

Southside Preservation Hall, 1519 Lipscomb St., Fort Worth

**Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.**

Brian Stroud

*mocobees@gmail.com**www.mocobees.com***Meetings:** 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pmMontgomery County Extension Office, Tom Leroy Education Bldg.,  
9020 Airport Road, Conroe**North East Texas Beekeepers Association**

Jim Burt - (469) 371-4542

*burt.b@sbcglobal.net**netbacantontexas@outlook.com***Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pmGrace Bible Fellowship Church,  
17897 FM 1255, Canton**Pineywoods Beekeepers Association**

Terry McFall - (409) 384-3626

*tdmcfall@hotmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pmSt. Cyprian Episcopal Church Hall  
919 S. John Redditt Dr. (Loop 287), Lufkin**Red River Valley Beekeepers Assn.**

Larry Roderick (940) 237-2814

*roderickwaterwells@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7pmBolin Science Hall Room 209, Mid West State University,  
310 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls**San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers**

Leslie Patterson - (830) 305-3493

*smabeeWranglers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday of the month (June through February)2nd and 4th Wednesdays (March through May) at 7 pm  
Pecan Park Riverside RV Park, 50 Squirrel Run, San Marcos**Southwest Texas Beekeepers Association**

Cynthia Schiotis (210) 317-5596

*swtexasbeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of odd numbered months at 6pm

Sutton County Public Library, 306 E Mulberry St., Sonora

**Temple Area Beekeepers Association**

Jim Billings (254) 760-2053

*holly21351@aol.com***Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm

Troy Community Center, 201 East Main Street, Troy

**Texarkana Beekeepers Association**

Sarah Clinesmith - (903) 490-1080

*texarkanabeekeepersassociation@gmail.com***Meetings:** 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm

Texarkana Public Library, 600 W 3rd St Texarkana

**Texas Hill Country Beekeepers Association**

Elaine McMurray - (830) 777-7845

*texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 pmWild Birds Unlimited, Nature Education Center,  
857 Junction Hwy., Kerrville**Travis County Beekeepers Assn.**

John Swan - (512) 677-7404

*ontact@TCBeeks.org**www.TCBeeks.org***Meetings:** First Monday of the month at 7 pm

Zilker Botanical Gdns., 2220 Barton Springs Rd., Austin

**Tri County Beekeepers Association**

Erin Davis - (903) 389-3436

*erin.davis@ag.tamu.edu***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm

Sam's Restaurant, Fairfield, TX

**Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association**

Ryan Giesecke - (214) 577-9562

*info@tvbees.org**www.tvbees.org***Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of each month (except August) at 6:45 pmC C Young Facility, Continuing Education Center,  
4847 W Lawther Dr., Dallas**Tyler County Bee Club**

Scott Martin - (409) 283-4507

*tcbclub16@gmail.com***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Nutrition Center, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville

**Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.**

Mark Short - (281) 387-8124

*walkercountybeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at 7 pm

Walker Education Center, 1402 19th St., Huntsville

**Williamson County Area Beekeepers Assn.**

Jim Colbert - (512) 569-7573

*colbertj@hotmail.com* *www.wcaba.org***Meetings:** 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm (except December)

Georgetown Public Library, 402 W 8th St., Georgetown

**Wise Texas Bee Club**

Donny Johns - (817) 939-3249

*info@wisetexasbeeclub.org***Meetings:** First Thursday of the month at 6pm

Public Library, Bridgeport

**Wood County Beekeepers Association**

Mary M Smith - (903) 342-3438

*woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com***Meetings:** First Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm

First National Bank, 315 North Main St., Winnsboro

## Directors -at-Large

### Area 1

#### Chris Doggett

*ckdoggett@gmail.com*  
400 County Road 440  
Thrall, TX 76578  
(512) 914-2794

Elgin Beekeepers Association  
Bell/Coryell Beekeepers Association  
Fayette County Beekeepers Association  
Williamson County Beekeepers Association  
Dino-Beekeepers Association  
Hill County Beekeepers Association  
Temple Area Beekeepers Association  
Southwest Texas Beekeepers Association  
Bees in the East Club  
Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

### Area 2

#### Tanya Phillips

*tanya@beefriendlyaustin.com*  
9874 Wier Loop Circle  
Austin, TX 78736  
(512) 560-3732

Travis County Beekeepers Association  
Coastal Bend Beekeepers Association  
Alamo Area Beekeepers Association  
Fredericksburg Beekeepers Association  
Texas Hill Country Beekeepers Association  
Austin Area Beekeepers Association  
Hays County Beekeepers Association  
Erath County Beekeepers Association  
Comal County Beekeepers Association  
San Marcos Area Bee Wranglers

### Area 3

#### Ashley Ralph

*ashley@primebees.com*  
3605 Midwest Drive  
Bryan, TX 77802  
(979) 777-2529

Montgomery County Beekeepers Association  
Central Texas Beekeepers Association  
Walker County Beekeepers Association  
Brazos Valley Beekeepers Association  
Concho Valley Beekeepers Association  
Caprock Beekeepers Association  
Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association  
Johnson County Beekeepers Association  
Tri County Beekeepers Association

### Area 4

#### Roger Farr

*rdfarr@gmail.com*  
6073 Farm Road 2348  
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455  
(979) 436-5310

Caddo Trace Beekeepers Association  
Hopkins County Beekeepers Association  
Lamar County Beekeepers Association  
North East Texas Beekeepers Association  
Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association  
Denton County Beekeepers Association  
Metro Beekeepers Association  
East Texas Beekeepers Association  
Chisholm Trail Beekeepers Association  
Elm Fork Beekeepers Association  
Wise Texas Bee Club

### Area 5

#### Harrison Rogers

*brooksidebees@gmail.com*  
5402 Greenhill Road  
Brookside Village, TX 77581  
(281) 468-0019

Harris County Beekeepers Association  
Houston Beekeepers Association  
Houston Natural Beekeepers Association  
Fort Bend Beekeepers Association  
Brazoria County Beekeepers Association  
Red River Valley Beekeepers Association  
Golden Crescent Beekeepers Association  
Texarkana Beekeepers Association

### Area 6

#### Cameron Crane

*cameron@cameroncrane.com*  
2300 Belvedere Dr.  
Baytown, TX 77520  
(409) 658-3800

Liberty County Beekeepers Association  
Longview Beekeepers Association  
Pineywoods Beekeepers Association  
Tyler County Beekeepers Association  
Wood County Beekeepers Association  
Marshall Beekeeping Association  
Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association  
Henderson County Beekeepers Association

## Texas Beekeepers Association

Chris Doggett, Editor  
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#### Publications Director

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