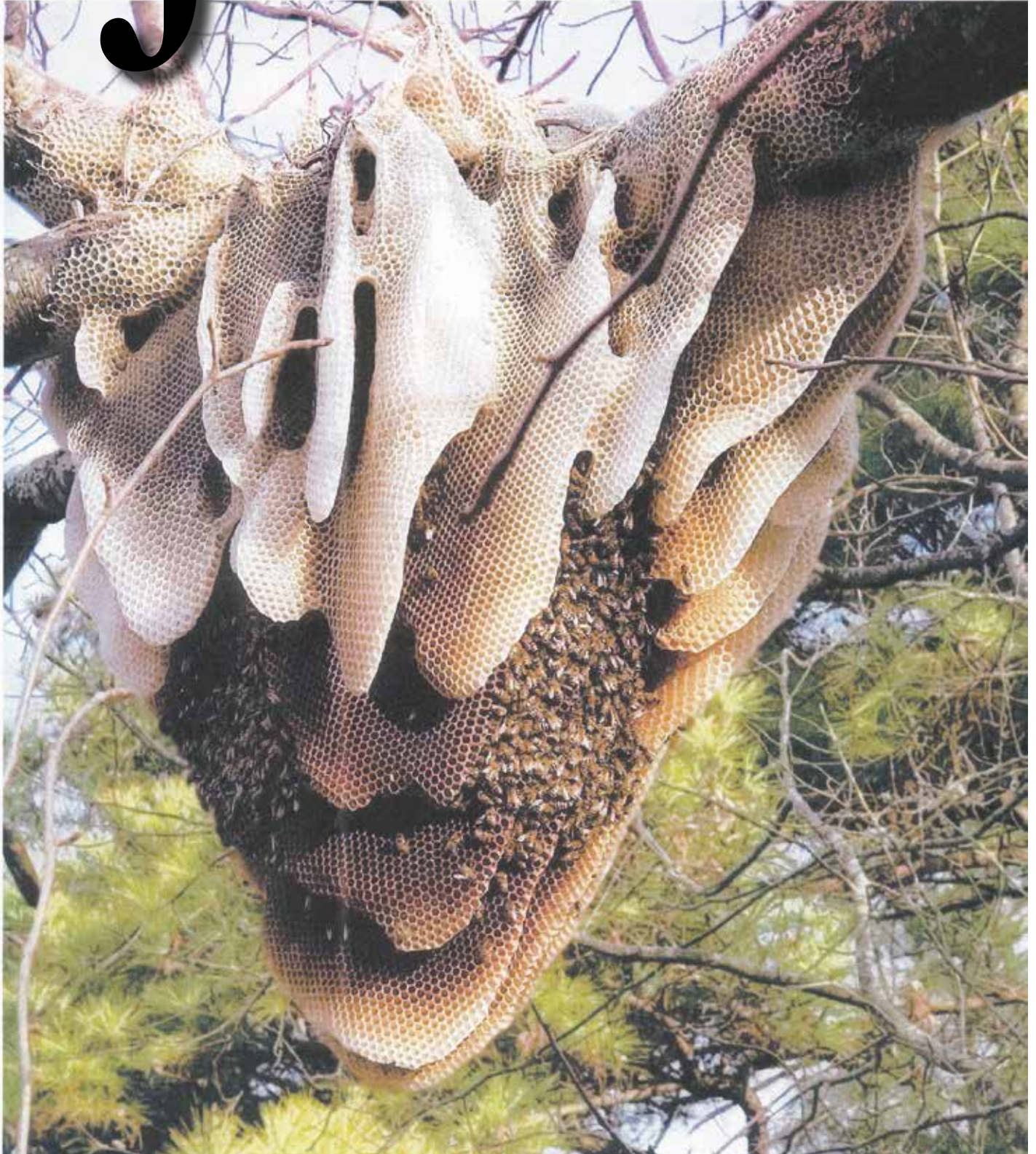


The

Texas Beekeepers Association



Journal



Mar / Apr 2020

www.texasbeekeepers.org

Issue 20-2

The advertisement is divided into three main sections. The top section features a collection of beekeeping equipment arranged around a central graphic that reads "MADE IN THE USA" in a stylized font. The equipment includes a wire mesh cage, a circular metal strainer, a rectangular metal frame, a circular metal mesh, a rectangular metal frame, and a rectangular metal frame. The middle section shows a photograph of four workers in a factory setting, with a large American flag on the right. The bottom section features the Dadant logo, contact information, and a photograph of a large metal beehive.

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President's Report from Ashley Ralph

I feel that as I write this (the week of March 23rd) I need to put a time stamp on this because things are so rapidly changing day to day in our world right now. So, it's March 23rd and I have updates on both TBA efforts as well as our experience in almonds this year.

Every day there are more alerts and closures. For our working beekeepers, business keeps moving and the fact that we are "essential" becomes more apparent. I see bee removers continuing to offer contractor service, beekeepers continuing to provide stores with valuable, local honey, flowers keep blooming and bees keep pollinating. It's been a reminder that farming and beekeeping are an essential part of our economy and society.

With great change comes opportunity and we're evaluating ways we can be of service to our members both physically and virtually at this time.

- We have a project team working on implementing video into our organization for both promotional and educational purposes.
- We have partnered with a group to create learning resources for beekeeping educators through a SARE Grant that can provide value to beekeepers in Southern Regions.
- As educational events cancel around us, we are creating contingency plans for our upcoming events.
- We are now members of the Western Apicultural Society and Eastern Apicultural Society, in addition to the Gold Level at the American Beekeeping Federation.
- We have appointed a Club Liason representative to offer more consistent communication between TBA and the local, membership clubs. Dodie Stillman has graciously accepted this position.
- The legislative interim studies slated for this summer have been put on pause amidst COVID-19. Our legislative committee will continue to monitor progress.
- The Queen Program is also expanding its reach virtually as face to face events are paused for the time being. Please support them with words of encouragement and by engaging in their content in the coming months.
- The speaker list has been maintained and updated by Katherine Sherrod and is regularly edited. This is a great resource - some speakers may even be willing to do digital meetings or send video.
- We have several working projects related to member and club resources. Including how to host a bee school - if you have content suggestions please reach out to Robin Young.

We're in the middle of doing grafts and splitting hives. We just got our bees back from California. The spring flow is quickly heading our way and that's a blessing. We had a fairly rough year in California. The bees came back looking great but suffered a pretty harsh freeze on their trip out to California. This knocked back some of our boxes and population suffered a bit. We took our first trip to the almond orchards this year and it was, to me, a very strange place. While in the almond orchards amongst blooming trees and working bees, there was peace and a sense of pride. These are our bees doing what they do best. It was still a bit of culture shock for me - I had been to California several times before, but not to the Central Valley where agriculture is the main event. Here in Texas we have land as far as the eye can see in many of our rural, farm areas. It gives the illusion of being endless and vast. In California, by contrast, the farms are very dense and while the towns are notably rural, there is a lot of farming activity all pushed into that Central Valley. While driving through plots of orchards, ripped up farm land that was in the process of being repurposed, cattle yards, and other agricultural ventures I doubled down on my hope for a more localized food chain in the future. While I know "Big Agriculture" is a necessary part of our food supply, there is, in my opinion, a reason to look for better, more sustainable practices for future generations.

Thank you all for continuing to support TBA and us as your board, we are here to serve you and look forward to when we can all get together again! Stay safe out there and spend some time with your bees!

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Cover Picture by S S Brantley



Vice President's Report from John Swan

Wow! What a crazy time we are all currently living in, no? The current effects of COVID19 can be seen and felt worldwide. By now, we are all feeling the crunch this is putting on our normal routines, daily lives, and even some pain in our pocketbooks. Know that you are not alone, and we are all right there with you!

Every day there are new challenges to face, and new cancellations for events that were planned for the coming month(s). We want you to know that TBA is monitoring the ever-changing landscape and staying up to date on the most recent reports from our Federal, State, and local governments. At this time no one knows how far reaching this will be, or how long the quarantines and social distancing will last. However, we want you to know that we are taking a "Hope for the Best, Plan for the Worst" type of approach to things as far as our upcoming events are concerned. What does that mean? It means that we are still too far out to know exactly what might happen 2-3 months from now. So, we are monitoring the situation daily, and coming up with potential contingency plans as well. But, all the while, we are still working behind the scenes on event planning for the Summer Clinic, which is currently slated for Saturday, June 20th, in Denton, TX. We are super excited about our Keynote speaker, Dr. Tom Seeley, and our other esteemed guests that have agreed to join us for this event to share their knowledge and love of beekeeping with Texas. The lineup for classes is really shaping up, and you can get a sneak peak of what we currently have in the works over in another section of this month's Journal. If you are as excited as we are, you can visit the TBA website to secure your tickets at the early registration price now!

In happier news, guess who's not affected by COVID19? Our BEES!!! Now that we all have a LOT more time at home, and

our social schedules have been cleared for us, we have more time to focus on our fuzzy little flying friends. Feeling stressed out? Need a break from all the bad news on TV? Go outside and sit with your bees! Simply sitting and watching/listening to my bees has always brought me a sense of calm and peace. I think a lot of us need that now more than ever. Spring is upon us, and with our milder winter here in Central Texas, the bees are going crazy with growth and activity. There is plenty to be done in your beehives right now to keep you occupied and help keep your bees going strong. Are your beehives bursting at the seams like mine? Are your colonies raising drones? Are they out of room and ready for another box? Hopefully you can answer all these questions right off the top of your head, because if not, then you need to get out there and get reacquainted with your colonies. There is plenty of work to be done in the springtime with our bees every season, and right now a lot of us have plenty of time to give them the attention they deserve! Some of you might be stuck at home with the kiddos since everyone is out of school. Well guess what? Those kiddos don't want to be stuck inside the house all day either! Take them out to the bee yard with you. Take this opportunity to show them how amazing the bees are, and how they work together for the common good. Heck, you can even put them to work! Go out there and make those splits, add those boxes, feed the colonies that need fed, or just sit and be in awe of the beauty and wonder that is our Honeybees.

All in all, it is a strange time for each and everyone one of us right now. As mentioned at the opening of this, know that you are not alone! Remember to be kind and considerate to those around you. Take into consideration the needs and safety of others before you make decisions that could affect others. Stay safe out there! Bee Good. Bee Healthy. But most importantly, Bee Kind!!

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TBA Summer Clinic

Saturday June 20th., Denton TX



Dr. Tom Seeley will be our guest of honor, and our keynote speaker for this event. Dr. Seeley will be presenting on How Honeybees Choose Their Nest Site, Bee Lining, and The Lives of Bees. Tom will also be doing a meet & greet and book-signing at the event as well, so if you have a favorite book of his, be sure to bring it along! (Honeybee Ecology, The Wisdom of the Hive and Honeybee Democracy are his three book titles)

Dr. Seeley's Research

My scientific work focuses on understanding the phenomenon of swarm intelligence (SI): the solving of cognitive problems by a group of individuals who pool their knowledge and process it through social interactions. It has long been recognized that a group of animals, relative to a solitary individual, can do such things as capture large prey more easily and counter predators more effectively. More recently it has been realized that a group of animals, with the right organization, can also solve cognitive problems with an ability that far exceeds the cognitive ability of any single animal. Thus SI is a means whereby a group can overcome some of the cognitive limitations of its members. SI is a rapidly developing topic that has been investigated mainly in social insects (ants, termites, social wasps, and social bees) but has relevance to other animals, including humans. Wherever there is collective decision-making—for example, in democratic elections, committee meetings, and prediction markets—there is a potential for SI.

To better understand how a group is optimally structured to possess swarm intelligence, we can examine natural systems that have evolved sophisticated mechanisms for achieving SI. For the past 30 years, I have done so by investigating the mechanisms of SI in honey bee colonies. A colony of honey bees is a model system for studying SI because it solves collectively a variety cognitive problems with impressive skill and because its mechanisms of SI are accessible to experimental analysis. Specifically, one can describe the problem-solving abilities of the whole system (colony), characterize the behavioral properties of the system's components (bees), trace the routes of information flow between the components (signaling and cuing pathways), and manipulate the components' behavioral properties and communication processes to test their role in building swarm intelligence.

From 1980 to 1995, I directed most of my efforts at understanding how a honey bee colony solves the problem of allocating its foragers across an ever-changing landscape of flower patches so that it gathers its food efficiently, in sufficient quantity, and with the correct nutritional mix. This work is reviewed in detail in my book *The Wisdom of the Hive* (1995, Harvard University Press). Since 1995, I have concentrated on figuring out how a swarm of honey bees chooses a new home. This problem arises when a colony reproduces and the old queen bee and some ten thousand worker bees leave the parental hive to produce a daughter colony. The emigrating bees settle on a tree branch in a beard-like cluster and then hang there together for several days. During this time, these homeless insects do something truly amazing: they hold a democratic debate to choose their new living quarters. Exactly how they do so is reviewed in my book *Honeybee Democracy* (2010, Princeton University Press).

Remarkably, there are intriguing similarities between how the bees in a swarm and the neurons in a brain are organized so that even though each unit (bee or neuron) has limited information and limited intelligence, the group as a whole makes first-rate collective decisions. For examples, in both systems the process of making a choice consists basically of a competition between the options to accumulate support (bee visits or neuron firings). And in both systems the winner of the competition is determined by which option first accumulates a critical level, or quorum, of support. Consistencies like these indicate that there are general principles of organization for building groups with SI, that is, groups that are far smarter than the smartest individuals in them.

My analyses of collective decision-making by honey bee colonies indicate that a group will possess a high level of SI if among the group's members there is:

- 1) diversity of knowledge about the available options,
- 2) open and honest sharing of information about the options,
- 3) independence in the members' evaluations of the options,
- 4) unbiased aggregation of the members' opinions on the options, and
- 5) leadership that fosters but does not dominate the discussion.

Future explorations will examine when a group benefits from using the organizational mechanisms of SI (distributed data collection, collective information processing, and democratic choice) or when a group is better off being led by high-performing individuals.

TBA Summer Clinic

Saturday June 20th., Denton TX

We will also be joined by other wonderful guest speakers such as: **Dr. Ferhat Ozturk** from Alma College's Biochemistry department; **Les Crowder** of TopBar and Natural Beekeeping notoriety; **Dr. Juliana Rangel**, the Associate Professor of Apiculture for the Department of Entomology with Texas A&M University; **Dan Aurell** from the Tech Transfer Team of the Bee Informed Partnership; **Lance Wilson** who is a Master Craftsman from the Georgia Master Beekeeper program and a co-founder of our Texas Master Beekeeper program; and many other talented and inspiring individuals.

Presentations on:

The Biological Activities of Pure Honey on Wound Healing
Which Honey is Best for Medical Use
Apitherapy in Action
Choosing Your Hive Style
Anatomy of a Honeybee Colony
Learning How to Read Your Colony and Frames
Seasonal Hive Management
Marketing Your Bee Business
What it Really Takes to be a Commercial Beekeeper
... and many more!

Club Resources to include:

Starting a Bee Club
Expanding your Club and Retaining Membership
Creating and Hosting a Club Website

Panel Discussions on:

The Future of Beekeeping Pt1 – Young Researchers
The Future of Beekeeping Pt2 – Regenerative Agriculture
Commercial Beekeeping – Honey Production vs Pollination Services
Queen Rearing
... and many more!

Hands-On Demonstrations Covering:

Making Decorative Wax Bowls
Encaustic Painting
Candle Making with Beeswax
Cooking with Honey
Making Infused Honey
Honey Show Hands-On Prep Demo

These are just a few of the exciting things we have going on to give you an idea of what to expect during this day-long event. Regardless if you are a seasoned beekeeper, or just getting started, this is one event that you shouldn't miss! Online Registration is now open! Get your tickets now to take advantage of the early registration discount and reserve your place at this spectacular event before prices go up.

Register at www.texasbeekeepers.org

or contact Shirley Doggett at (512) 924-5051
sdoggett@mindspring.com



Stay at Home Beekeeping Series

Distance Learning for Beekeeping Clubs

Social distancing to resist COVID-19 doesn't mean you need to stop learning about your favorite social insect!

We're offering members of beekeeping clubs the chance to attend 'remote' meetings from the comfort of one's own home using a computer or mobile device. Each event will bring participants up to date on timely beekeeping topics. Time for Q&A included.

ALL ARE WELCOME! IT'S FREE!

Apr 2: Ten mistakes beginners make, with <i>Lonnie Funderburg (Blount Co. Beekeepers, AL)</i>	6:30 pm
Apr 7: Coping with pesticides, with <i>Jack Rowe (Alabama Extension)</i>	—
Apr 16: Learning from pandemics, with <i>Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda (University of Tennessee)</i>	7:30pm
Apr 30: Queen management essentials, with <i>Dr. Juliana Rangel (Texas A&M University)</i>	
May 14: Bee and parasite biogeography, with <i>Dr. Keith Delaplane (University of Georgia)</i>	Central
May 28: What's killing honey bees, with <i>Dr. Jamie Ellis (University of Florida)</i>	Time

Register at <http://www.aces.edu/go/1196>

or watch live at: <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/>

Questions? Email Allyson Shabel ams0137@aces.edu

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Bee Season is in Full Swing!

2nd Arrival of Packages Coming Mid April



Nucs are \$250 with an \$85 deposit

Each nuc comes with two to three frames of brood eggs and larva one pollen/nectar and one honey/nectar frame. All nucs will have mated queen and have gone through at least one brood cycle and had a spring mite treatment

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BeeKeepers Virus Free- a New Twist

Authors- Doug Stanley- Past President of MOCO (Montgomery County Beekeepers) and Advance level in TMBK program, and Andy Knight, current president of MOCO and current Leader, Organizer of the SWARM (a localized group of Beekeepers in Magnolia, TX) and general IT Nerd!

Hope this finds all Beekeepers safe and healthy- in these times I like to think about my BEES - there is something calming and stress free about working with your BEES, (most of the time!) and I am not talking (for once) about varroa mites, I'm talking about the coronavirus, since most Beekeeping clubs in the state of Texas have been shut down due to venues closing or the gathering of people.

We at MOCO are very proud of our club and strive to follow its mission statement -The Montgomery Country Beekeepers association's purpose is to enrich the lives of people and honey bees in Montgomery Country and surrounding areas, through the study and practice of Beekeeping. A bit of info about MOCO, it was established in 1975 and currently has approximately 245 family members, our meeting attendance is usually around 100- 140 people.

Our current president of MOCO is one of those advanced "IT" guys. He contacted the officers of the club with an idea- go online with the clubs March meeting (third Monday of the month). This sounds like a simple task in this day and age, but it opens all sorts of questions for the club-- do we have everyone's contact info, including email addresses? Would our membership have the want, equipment, knowledge to log in to something new? Andy began work and set the club up on Microsoft Teams, a quick description of Teams - *a unified communication and collaboration platform that combines persistent chat, video meetings, file storage and application integration*. I know that is a mouthful and of course not my words!

We conducted many test meetings/sessions between the officers, logins, test videos, test presentations- working out the bugs and procedures- Andy sent out emails to the membership describing what we were working on and how we hoped it would work. This provided direction to use the MOCOBees.com

website to have the latest information. The page provided some guidance for getting ready, like how to test your system, and some general guidelines for the attendee's, for example, everyone will be muted (initially), only presenter video, how to log in by a link on the website (www.mocobees.com).

After hours of testing, Monday at 6pm came--- first the mentor /mentee program- its working! members are logging on, interaction, power points and presentation are on the screen with perfect voices. We had a side bar with active questions and answers being typed. 7pm main meeting starting- 5, 20, 40 people are logging in and attending. We had a top of over 50 people, our presentations went smoothly, presenters could easily move through their presentation all while we were answering question in the side bar (see screen shot) .

We found out during the meeting and later online that it was a great success, and first of its kind for Beekeeping clubs in Texas. We had member's families watching and making dinner, members who could now listen and see clearly. We had lots of questions typed in as information was presented so members could get answers instantly. People loved the opportunity to log in from home and many hoped for the future that we would simulcast (after this crisis is over) the in-room meetings, so those that cannot get out can still participate.

Now for me, I love seeing my Beekeeping family, talk face to face, sharing our love of bees and the camaraderie of the club, but this was a great success and another tool for us to use to keep our sharing of bees to everyone. At this point it looks like our April meeting will be on line again- and i think we will have even a larger crowd and the sharing will continue- stay safe and healthy, hope to see you all at the next TBA function.
Doug and Andy



New TBA Position - Club Liaison

The TBA Leadership is always looking for ways to facilitate communications with all of the member clubs. The newly created position of Club Liaison will help in this area. We hope that by giving our club leaders a “one-stop-shop” person to reach out to, who will act as the point of contact for all questions, requests, and concerns will be helpful.

New Board Member, **Dodie Stillman**, was nominated and agreed to be the first to take on the position.

The Club Liaison will have quite a few job duties, some are listed below, but of course, as with all jobs the “other duties as assigned” will also apply as this position continues to evolve.

- Monitoring the new clubs@texasbeekeepers.org e-mail box.
- Being the first point of contact between the Member Clubs and the TBA Board. Play traffic cop and direct all e-mail to the correct person for the correct answer.
- Relaying relevant and important information to clubs when applicable.
- Soliciting Member Club feedback 2-3 times per year.
- Receiving edits to club information as published in the TBA Journal and website, the Club Liaison will direct that to the correct people for updates.
- Keeping a running tally of the visits to TBA Member Clubs conducted by Leadership and Board Members. The Club Liaison will “urge” visits to the clubs, as well as specifically advocating for underserved clubs.
- Keeping a record of RTH, THBEA and the Honey Queens’ visits to Member Clubs.

Editor’s Note:
To Contact Dodie Stillman as Club Liaison
Use the New Email Address: *clubs@texasbeekeepers.org*



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Life Lessons from the Bees

– Am I Listening?

"The Continuing Journey of Two Seventh-Year Small-Scale Beekeepers"
TBA Journal Article – March 2020

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

Pictures are by the authors unless otherwise indicated. Nicot system photo from amazon.com.

A lady contacted our local bee club secretary in late February and exclaimed, "I need a queen today!" The secretary quietly explained to the frantic lady that several beekeepers were just beginning preparations to raise queens, and cells could be available in late March. The lady was incredulous. "How could this be true?"

A good friend called a few weeks ago, to say a swarm had just formed on a tree outside his home; he asked if we wanted to come get it. Roger rounded up the proper equipment, got the swarm, brought it home, and properly established it in a hive filled with comb, nectar, and pollen. We opened the box the next day and saw two inches of dead bees across the entire bottom board. "What happened we wondered?"

We opened one of our hives in February and noted that it was weak. We rearranged the boxes to right-size the hive, fed them, installed an entrance reducer, and left them alone. Two weeks later, we opened the hive for a regular inspection and saw thousands of bees and frames of brood. "What did we miss?"

Roger and I were in our apiary Monday (March 16), creating cell builder hives to nurture the queen cells we hope the bees are capping this week. Hundreds – thousands? – of bees were in the air as a result of our disruptive work! Suddenly, a gentleman walked up in our bee yard, stopped about 30 feet from us, and asked, "Do you have any honey for sale?" I not-very-gently explained that this was not a good time to talk with him. The man swatted a few bees from his head and said, "But, I thought you said your bees were gentle!" "Yes," Roger and I both yelled, "but not right now!" "Why are the bees upset?"

It was time to buy sugar to feed our soon-to-be nucs. Roger purchased 20, 4-pound bags, a normal amount for our burgeoning apiary, and received puzzled looks at the checkout including several which seemed to say, "Why are you hoarding sugar?" "Is the entire world going crazy?"

Page 1 of 2



Photo - Hudson Old, East Texas Journal Photography



We are staying near home, enjoying spring, adding mulch to every plant bed and orchard row, and watching God bring green leaves to Vitex and Althea (primarily for *Bombus* – bumblebees) “sticks” we propagated last fall. We’re feeding the 9 of 9 hives we overwintered (yes, we had no winter losses), raising queens from 90 of the 110 eggs (larvae) our queen mother laid in the Nicot cassette, and making candles and lotion bars from last year’s wax harvest. We’re also positioning equipment and erecting temporary hive stands to create the 16 nucs and numerous queen cells we’re planning to sell in our local area.



The bees are busy even with our delayed spring. They’ve pollinated our plums, peaches, nectarines, pears, and other fruit trees. They even found the first flowers on our holly and soon they will find the flowers on our developing goji berry plants we put in the ground as “sticks” last year. Yes, goji (growing on the trellis) is pollinated by honey bees!



Our front “yard” is blooming with all sorts of wildflowers. The crimson clover is just now blooming and the white Dutch clover will come on in April. This is the time for the bees to have a feast as they brood up for our honey flow in April and May in northeast Texas.

We’re also keeping in touch with family in north Texas, California, Pennsylvania, and Nigeria. We’re reading, writing, discussing, cleaning, organizing, crafting, and learning. Like our bees, we’re busy, productive, and not-in-too-much-of-a hurry. If that gentleman comes back to our home, we’ll be glad to give him some honey and listen to his bee-related stories.

Learn from your bees. Listen to what they are telling you. We’ll all be better off for it. We’d love to hear about your beekeeping adventures!

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



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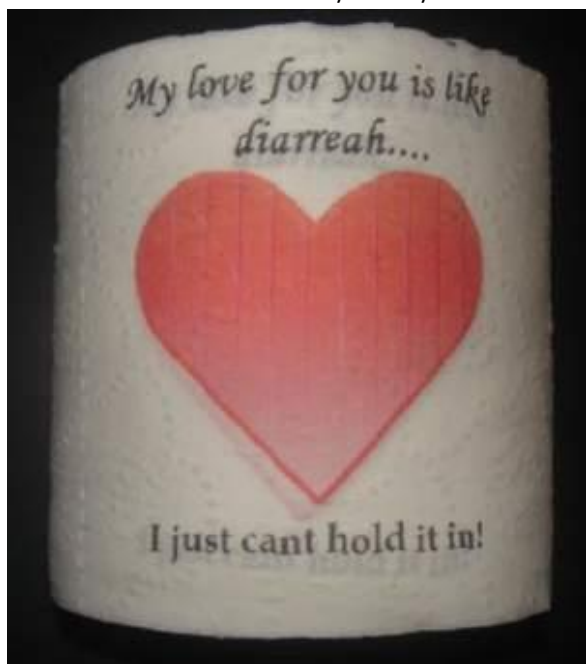
Keeping Your Family Safe & Your Bee Alive During COVID - 19

article by: Robin L-S Young, Metro Beekeepers Association



Photo from ChillOutPoint.com

My focus is on keeping my family healthy and my bees alive. The past two months, as my husband and I prepared for a worldwide shut down, whenever I felt low I kept thinking: "If I can just make it to you. If I can just hold on until it's time to write this article, it would be ok." Beekeeping has always been a refuge for me and all of you are bright lights in my life. I am thankful for each and everyone of you.



I have been asking myself, "How can I help you with what is going on during this time of trial?". For starters, how did I know this was going to be bad...really bad. There are several broadcasts I follow. I shared some of it in the previous articles. There is only one place I have been getting reports

from local newspapers in China, South Korea, Italy, Israel and many other countries.



I have been listening to www.trunews.com (true with no "e") for several years now. I never thought I would be sharing this with you, but you need to know what is coming and the flow of COVID-19. I give this information with one caveat: some of the views of Trunews are not my views. The value I get from the show I can't get anywhere else or in such a short compact show. I could watch CNN or Fox for hours and not even get a smidgen of the information I get in an hour and a half of Trunews.

I've been thinking about your health along with my family's health. One of the items I came across in my travels is a "Propolis Vaporizer". I have been looking for one in America that has a dish where I can use my own propolis. I purchased mine in Slovenia and had to purchase a plug adapter for it to work here in the states pictured below. It has a tray where I can use my own propolis.



I use it with out the mask and tubing. I let it flow freely into the air and it disinfects the air. It has been very useful during the flu season and I have it running now. You may not elect to go this route, but if you have not made a propolis tincture

Keeping Your Family Safe & Your Bee Alive During COVID - 19

article by: Robin L-S Young, Metro Beekeepers Association

out of Vodka or Everclear now is the time. During this time, you don't want to find yourself going to the hospital. Work to handle your medical needs at home if possible.

When I informed all the teachers, parents and staff at my preschool that we will not be coming back until possible fall 2020, it was so shocking the outpouring of tears being shed. It reminded me of how special human contact is and how important it is to our happiness and wellbeing. My five-year-old son made a video for his teacher about what he did during spring break and was crying by the end of it. My kids miss their teachers and classmates. It really hit home the effects of isolation and I'm sure you are feeling them too. My sister, Elizabeth, introduced me to an App that her husband and her used when he was overseas in the military. It's call "Glide". You can make a recording of what you are doing and when ever the person you are sending it to has a chance, they can watch the video when it is convenient for them. When you are overseas, you can record a "good morning" video and hours later when the person you send it to wakes up in their time zone, they can watch it. When ever you go out to your hive, you can make a short video of what you are doing and share it with family and friends. The people you are sharing it with must have the app as well, but like I said it's free. This way, you can keep in touch with all your friends, family, apprentices, and such daily. Sharing your life with others is such a part of us all. Don't let this virus isolate your heart and mind while you isolate your physical body.



Glide is so awesome and it's free. The photo above is what the App icon looks like.

During all the preparing we did, I forgot one thing...sugar. I'm still kicking myself for not at least buying ten bags of 25lb. sugar. Here is the reality and what all beekeepers need to consider.

- 1) My farmers market is not going to open in April, so what am I going to do with the honey I harvest?
- 2) I have no sugar or anything to feed my bees and the likely hood of being able to purchase any is little to none. Should I even harvest honey at all?

We have decided only to harvest honey if the bees have enough honey to get them through summer without feeding them. We will cut back on harvesting, and we may need to take frames from one hive and give it to another. As to what to do with the harvested honey, we have decided to give it away to people around the area. You might think this is crazy, but my family needs something positive to focus on. Blessing others can lift your spirits. We all will get through this, but the grace and generosity we show will bring a brighter future. I encourage you to bless others with your honey if you can. We are Texans and even if we have to break open that last roll of toilet paper, we will be ok.



Photo: "John Wayne Toilet Paper" It's rough! – It's tough! And it doesn't take crap off anyone

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

THBEA Youth Scholarship Program

from Mark de Kiewiet, Bees in the East Beekeepers Association

At the beginning of this year, the Bees-in-the-East club in Guadalupe County teamed up with the Agrilife Junior Master Naturalist and the 4-H Natural Scientist programs to create a wholistic approach to Beekeeping. THBEA provided the foundation sponsorship for the program, other contributors are Farm Credit Bureau, Gretchen Bee Ranch, Bat Conservation International and members of the Bees-in-the-East club.

February saw the NUCs established, hive bodies being assembled and personalized by the kids, frames assembled and lessons on the equipment used by a beekeeper. Wax from old comb, cutouts and wax capping were obtained from club members and the kids learnt how to melt, and win the wax. This wax was used to coat foundation to be used later in the hives. They also learnt how to use Slumgum in swarm traps and for plant growing.



Learning About Beekeepers Equipment



Started the NUC's in Early February



Assembled and Painted Brood Boxes

In March, the NUCs were moved to the Apiary and installed into the personalized hives. Each child has started a journal (logbook) for the hive they are managing. Watching the progress of each hive and learning to read the frames will be an ongoing focus during March and April.



Showing Off Results - No Blue Thumbs!

On April 25th, the kids will be teamed up with Master Naturalists and participate in the Global City Challenge Bio Blitz being run through iNaturalist. Each person will photograph the living Fauna and Flora they find at the BCI Nature Preserve or the Schertz Crescent Bend Nature Park. We are going to try and ensure that San Antonio is near the top of world cities with the number of observations and number of species identified.

Lessons and field trips have been arranged for the kids by the Texas Native Plant Society, the Guadalupe Master Naturalists and the Comal Master Gardeners.



Installed Colonies at the Apiary

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Look for this Seal



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.

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The Brantley Column

from S. S. Brantley

2016 Life Member Texas Beekeepers Association

2017 Life Member Louisiana Beekeepers Association

April is the month when nectar is becoming readily available for bees to collect. Check the top bars of your hive to see if white wax is showing. Add at least one super to any hive with considerable white wax buildup on the top bars. If you do not have any drawn comb for your honey supers, you can get the bees to begin building wax on the plastic foundation faster by not installing a queen excluder right away. After the bees begin to draw the foundation, check carefully to locate the queen before installing the excluder. You do not want to trap her above the excluder. Check the super about five days later for the presence of eggs and larvae. If you find evidence that the queen is "upstairs" in the super, remove the excluder and smoke her back into the brood boxes. Pull off the excluder and set the super back on the hive. Smoke the super for one or two minutes and then wait another couple minutes for the smoke to move the queen down into the brood box. Reinstall the excluder and the super. Any eggs or brood in the super will hatch and the bees will use those cells to store honey.

April will also see an increase in swarms. Make a practice to look around your apiary upon arrival for swarms, high, low and even on the ground.

If you have ordered packages and have no experience installing them, I suggest that you check out some of the methods of installing packages before yours arrives. There are numerous tutorials and videos on the Internet covering the various techniques used to hive a new package.

Before you package arrives, select your hive location, prepare your hive to receive bees, and have liquid feed ready for use. When the package arrives, have a spray bottle ready to spray a light sugar/water solution on the bees. Place the package in a cool, dark place until later in the day. Installations in the evening (but before dark) tend to have less drifting of bees than those done in the middle of the day.

Make room for you to work in the brood box by removing five of the frames and laying them beside the hive body. Remove the queen cage from the shipping container (cover the hole to keep the bees confined) and suspend the queen cage from the top of a frame. Shake a double handful of bees on the area over the queen cage. Shake the rest of the bees into the area of hive where you removed the five frames. Get as many bees as possible out of the container before you place it on the ground at the hive entrance.

Replace the five removed frames. Because of the queen cage, you may not have room to get them all in place. You can add the last one after the queen cage is removed. Place the frames gently in the hive on top of the pile of bees on the bottom board. As the bees move out from under the frame, it will slowly settle in place on the frame rests. After all of the frames are settled, add the top cover and liquid feed in a Boardman feeder. Finally, install an entrance reducer. The entrance should be reduced to about a half inch to help protect the new colony.

In five days, check to see that the queen has been released from her cage. If so, remove the queen cage and add the tenth frame if you could not get it in before. Use the minimum amount of smoke while doing this. Check the hive again in ten days to make sure the colony is settled and happy. Feed 2-to-1 sugar syrup until the bees have drawn at least eight frames of wax.

If you plan to make the hive a double brood, you can now add the second brood box. Continue to feed until the bees have drawn at least eight frames in the second box.

If the honey flow is still on, you could add a super and queen excluder. Do not continue to feed sugar syrup if you have supers on the hive because the bees will probably store it and you will end up with "sugar-water honey".

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Look for the Honey Locator and Events Calendar

Texas Honey Bee Education Association Update



Moving Forward - Picking Up Speed

March 2020 TBA Journal

by Roger Farr – THBEA 2019/20 Chairman

Howdy, fellow Texas beekeepers!

The Texas Honey Bee Education Association (THBEA) has been very busy in the first three months of 2020! Let me share some of the accomplishments and our future plans.

Grant Awards

THBEA awarded \$2500 divided amongst three Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA)-member associations to assist them in developing and implementing youth beekeeping education programs.

THBEA also awarded a grant to TBA to partially fund their 2019/20 Honey Queen program. THBEA through this program makes progress in two of its target areas, 1) educating the public regarding the important role honey bees play through their pollination services, and 2) advancing beekeeper and youth education efforts.

THBEA is considering like-minded partners with whom we can combine our available research finances for greater impact. Stay tuned as we make grant awards to these partners.

Projects

The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) holds a special education opportunity each spring for their first- and second-year veterinary students. This year CVM reached out to THBEA for potential funding of their programs. However, after some discussion, THBEA decided to financially sponsor a hands-on activity. THBEA worked with the Texas Apiary Inspection Service (TAIS) to develop a laboratory session to teach the students a bit about apiculture and let them learn about honeybee pests and diseases.



Mary Reed, TAIS Chief Apiary Inspector, contributes the following:

Earlier in February I provided a wet lab training for veterinarian students who were interested in learning more about honey bees, the beekeeping industry, and how they play a part in prescribing antibiotics to beekeepers due to changes to the Veterinary Feed Directive law. Two groups of students (about 15-17 students each) visited our office where I first spoke to them about the basics of beekeeping, an introduction to honey bee biology, a more in-depth overview of the two foulbrood diseases, as well as Parasitic Mite Syndrome since beekeepers can often confuse this with either of the foulbrood diseases.

For the second half of the training I had every student gear up in veils and gloves, and we headed out to look through some honey bee colonies. I wanted to provide them an opportunity to see some of what we had just discussed in an active colony. Both groups had a great time studying frames of bees, identifying different stages of the brood cycle, finding honey and pollen stores, hunting for the queen, and even spotting a couple of Varroa mites.

Near the end of each session I had several students tell me how much they enjoyed the training and ask how they can become more involved in the beekeeping community. A few have already reached out to local beekeepers to learn more about honey bees and how to work a colony. Many of them asked several questions about what they can do now as a student so that they are prepared to work with beekeepers when they become practicing veterinarians. It was a rewarding experience, and I hope to continue working with the university's veterinary school so that we can provide these trainings again in the future.

THBEA is currently working a brochure and video campaign to describe how everyday Texans can assist the honey bees in their pollination and honey production services. The goal is to have information available for beekeepers to use in educating the public on honey bees whenever and where ever they have the opportunity to share their beekeeping stories. We will be reaching out to private foundations and donors to fund this project.

Fund Raising

THBEA now has a new updated introductory brochure. The brochure is designed to share the THBEA story and vision so as to increase donations from a wider audience of beekeepers and the general public. Request brochures from Rebecca Vaughan at rebeccavaughan2@gmail.com to share THBEA's message with your contacts.

The honeybee-themed TxDMV Specialty License should be available for purchase in September! You may order one at <https://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/license-plates/specialty-license-plates>, or you can do so through your local motor vehicle registration office. The local offices will have a printed book with the specialty plates available for purchase. Remember that you'll pay \$30 more than your normal registration fee; THBEA will receive \$22 for each plate purchased or renewed.

We've approved the final design and the proof license plate. All that remains is formal management approval by TxDMV and a public posting comment period. You should be able to soon comment at <https://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/license-plates/eview>.

We are moving forward and picking up speed! Please support the work of THBEA by donating at www.thbea.com/donate/.



THBEA 2019/20 Board - Chris Doggett (Vice-Chair), Roger Farr (Chair), Chris Moore, Ashley Ralph, John Swan, Rebecca Vaughan, and Terry Wright
Executive Secretary - Leesa Hyder, Treasurer - Barbi Rose

Bee Informed Partnership Dedicated to Beekeepers

from Catch the Buzz

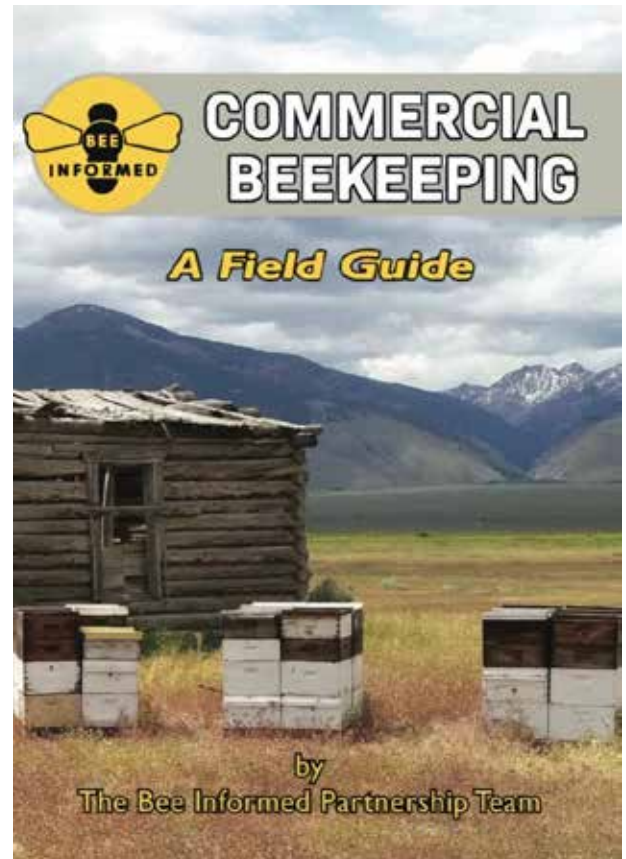
The Bee Informed Partnership is dedicated to working with beekeepers to improve colony health and increase colony survivorship. BIP achieves this goal by collaborating with many of our nation's leading research laboratories and universities to provide timely colony health data to beekeepers. These data allow beekeepers to make informed, proactive management decisions. Our collaborative, cross-sector efforts have improved our understanding of honey bee declines and identified ways to increase colony survival.

BIP also produces educational resources freely available to the general public that impart the importance of honey bees for our food supply. Through our research, education and outreach efforts we explain the critical issues affecting honey bee health to the public and to beekeepers. We are passionate about making that happen.

BIP is proud to announce the release of two new publications this year. This includes our 2nd edition of *Diagnosis and Treatment of Common Honey Bee Diseases*, a 66-page spiral bound manual that includes large detailed color images of diseases, disease descriptions and how to treat or address some of the major diseases that honey bees face. This manual is in both English and Spanish, and is a great resource for clubs, crew training, or just having on hand for in-field diagnosis.

Brand new this year is *Commercial Beekeeping: A Field Guide*. This book is a full color pocket guide and has been three years in the making with over 260 pages of information. This comprehensive publication includes a wealth of material that covers everything beekeepers want to know to improve their beekeeping and take their operation to the next level.

If you are interested in obtaining these publications, please check with your favorite bee supplier.



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Update from Texas Apiary Inspection Service

from Mary Reed, Chief Apiary Inspector

Greetings Texas beekeepers!

What a strange spring it has been so far, and I'm not just referring to the weather. This coronavirus situation has really thrown a wrench in many plans, including several beekeeping events that had been planned for the coming months. I don't think the issues surrounding the pandemic have quite affected our commercial beekeepers just yet, but all of that may come to a head when it's time to move bees to another state for pollination and honey production purposes. Time will only tell how this will impact the apiary industry. For the time being, our office will continue to do inspections, however I have asked my inspectors to pay attention to their health and cancel any scheduled inspections if they feel the slightest bit sick. In addition, I have established health and safety protocols for my inspectors to implement while they are traveling around the state and visiting beekeepers to prevent the sharing and spreading of any disease. Also, I would ask that any beekeeper who has an inspection scheduled with us to practice social distancing when an inspector comes out to visit and to cancel the inspection if they are not feeling well. I will keep you posted if we are restricted from conducting inspections or going to our office. If there is any paperwork you need done with our office, I would recommend that you send it in sooner rather than later so we can get it processed for you before any changes are set in place.

If you are stuck at home, and are craving some beekeeping information, there are quite a few webinars that are planned for the next few weeks that may be of interest to you. I've also provided a couple of my favorite go-to presentations to help you pass the time.

1. **Varroa Mite IPM: Four-Part Series for a Healthy Hive in 2020**

This is a 4-part webinar series geared around managing Varroa mites in honey bee colonies.

- The first part of this series was held on March 9th and covered Varroa mite biology and life history. A recording of this presentation can be found here: <https://www.northeastipm.org/ipm-in-action/the-ipm-toolbox/varroa-mite-ipm-part-1-varroa-mite-biology-and-life-history/>
- Monday, March 23, 1:00–2:30 pm (EST) - Varroa mite treatments
- Monday, April 6, 1:00–2:30 pm (EST) - Creating a Varroa mite IPM plan
- Monday, April 20, 1:00–2:30 pm (EST) - Demonstration and Q&A of how to perform alcohol wash using the Varroa mite IPM kit as a critical step in monitoring mite populations

Main webpage: <https://www.northeastipm.org/ipm-in-action/the-ipm-toolbox/varroa-mite-ipm-four-part-series-for-a-healthy-hive-in-2020/>

Webinar registration:

https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FwNfRD6pRgWgHArjghWvYg

2. Thursday, March 25th - **Bee Health Webinar: Use of Cold Storage for Varroa & Hive Management**

<https://www.projectapism.org/project-apis-m-blog/bee-health-webinar-use-of-cold-storage-for-varroa-hive-management>

This webinar is hosted by the California Almond Board and will cover the research and commercial application of cold storage as a hive management strategy, as well as its impact on Varroa mite populations. The webinar will take place from 11:00 – 12:30pm

Pacific Time (1:00pm – 2:30pm Central Time).

3. **Pollinators: The Glue that Connects Sustainability Issues**

This webinar was originally held on March 4th, but the recording of the entire presentation is now available through the Sustainability Leadership Presentation Series (SLPS) YouTube page here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2yRHFGlkCU&feature=youtu.be>. This presentation discusses how pollinators and their habitats can be integrated into other aspects of sustainability.

4. **Dr. Tom Seeley – Honey Bee Democracy**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnnjY823e-w&feature=youtu.be>

In this presentation, Dr. Tom Seeley discusses foraging and swarming behaviors of honey bees.

5. **Dr. Keith Delaplane – The Honey Bee "Superorganism"**

<https://youtu.be/hPRyrWMUSOQ>

In this presentation Dr. Keith Delaplane discusses the many factors that play a part in the honey bee colony, the "superorganism".

6. **Honey Bee Health Coalition Varroa Videos**

<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/Varroa/#videos>

What better time than now to brush up on how to monitor for Varroa mites, learn about Integrated Pest Management, and how to apply the different Varroa treatments that are approved for use in honey bee colonies? If you also wanted to play a "game" after watching these videos, check out the Varroa Management Decision Tool (<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroatool/>). This tool helps you narrow down what treatment options are recommended based on a series of 5 questions. I like to play around with this tool by creating different potential hive scenarios and seeing what the results will be based on my answers. I encourage you to do the same!

Well my lovely beekeepers, I hope you all stay safe out there. Our office will remain open for the time being, so if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us via phone or email (979-845-9713; tais@tamu.edu). In the meantime, get some fresh air and practice your social distancing by going to see your bees.

Happy Beekeeping!



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Locating Information on the Internet

from Michael Kelling, President of Central Texas Beekeepers Association

When I started beekeeping in 1979, I had to get all of my information from the local library.

Fortunately, today, we have the internet and have LIBRARIES full of information at our fingertips. The problem is that a lot of time we just don't know where to look.

Here are a list of places that you can find information about bees and beekeeping. PLEASE keep in mind that ANYONE can put ANYTHING on the internet. Even folks who have NO IDEA what they are doing can sound important. Also, beekeeping practices vary by location. Beekeeping in Texas will have some totally different practices and dates from beekeeping in Maine. Adapt what you read for your area.

The Central Texas Beekeepers Association does not endorse any of the following list (except our own facebook page) and is not responsible for any of the content on those pages. The following list is to help you locate information.

Happy hunting!

YOUTUBE - A video that can be watched on your computer.

Just type in:

www.youtube.com and then search for "Beekeeping". I quit scrolling after 500 different youtube videos!!! But you can start with these:

Barnyard Bees
Don the Fat Bee Man
Mike Palmer
Randy Oliver
Apimondia 2019 (World wide bee convention)
Kirk Webster
Michael Bush
Backyard Beekeeping
University of Guelph (Ontario, Canada) Honey Bee Research Centre

FACEBOOK - A place to post your thoughts and see what other folks of like mind are thinking. Type the following link into your face book search line. This list is GROUP facebook pages, not individuals.

CentralTexasBeekeepersAssociationandFriends
Brazos Area Texas Beekeeper Forum
Fatbeeman's group
Beekeepers, Builders & Woodworkers
Travis County Beekeepers Association
Texas Beekeepers
Texas Beekeeping
Texas Friendly Beekeepers
Texas Hill Country Beekeeping Association
BarnYard Bees Inc.
Queen Breeders Forum (Not from Texas but good information on Queens)

WEBSITES - Home "page" for a company or individual. A website can contain vast amounts of information.

TexasBeekeepers.org
Scientificbeekeeping.com
University of Florida Jamie Ellis (search this on google)
www.paulmikkelsen.com/personal/bees (he has links to all of Jamie Ellis's articles that have appeared in the American Bee Journal)
Michael Bush (Bush Farms) - A VERY extensive website of practical beekeeping!

FORUMS - A discussion group where you can "lurk" (read without joining) or join to become a member. Joining allows you to ask and answer questions.

Beesource.com
Beemaster.com
Beekeepingforum.com

PODCASTS - Audio files that you can download on to your phone or other digital format. You can listen to these files while you drive or work your bees.

The Hive Jive - Originates in Austin. Hosted by John Swan.
The Well Managed Hive
Beekeeping Today Podcast
The Beekeeper's Corner
Hive Talk
Big Bears Beeholligans

For more, go to your podcast app and search for "beekeeping".

ON-LINE LESSONS - Lessons that can teach you beekeeping

TheBeekeeper.org (By the Flow Hive folks)
Most on-line lessons are in the form of youtube videos.
A lot of on-line lessons cost money. I'm not sure of their content.

OTHER INTERESTING FOLKS AND ITEMS - This is a list of other interesting authors and ideas that I have found over the years. You can generally find them by googling the name.
Georges Pink Pages - George Imirie lived in New England. He approached beekeeping through observation and science. Very interesting.

Walt Wright - A NASA scientist turned beekeeper.
Walt approaches beekeeping problems from scientific observation. His articles are best found at Beesource.com under "Articles".
Dave Cushman's Website - Out of England but a LOT of interesting items.

In conclusion, this list is not at all complete. There are literally THOUSANDS of sites and more are being added each day. Explore. Search. But, above all, BEE CAREFUL on the internet!

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

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

Dear TBA members,

I write this column from the comfort of my home office during a warm March afternoon. The new realities of the COVID-19 pandemic are only but beginning to sink in, at least for folks in the United States, and I TRULY hope that everyone in our beekeeping community is staying indoors as much as possible, and most importantly, is SAFE. As many of you, I am following closely the updates, developments and recommendations regarding what we all must do at the local, regional, national, and international level to “flatten the curve” in terms of number of infections and casualties. As such, our university is recommending that only essential activities that are “mission critical” can be undertaken, and thus, a lot of our research projects have to be put on a hold for now. Thank goodness our apiary colonies can more or less take care of themselves. That way, in the likely event that the university has to shut down temporarily all together, we at least should be ok in terms of our colonies surviving unsupervised for some weeks. The slowdown of all research activities will mean that a lot of our research goals will need to be postponed, but that is ok. It is more important to follow all the civic ordinances and be safe, so that we can continue where we left off later on this spring or summer.

On the research grants front, I want to let you know that Pierre Lau, Alex Payne and I recently received a grant from the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign to look at the optimization of diets to improve disease symptoms in honey bees. Congratulations guys!

As I mentioned in my last column, I am on Faculty Development Leave (a.k.a. “sabbatical” leave) this semester. My family and I recently got back from Australia from a month-long trip. The main purpose of the trip was to visit Australia’s National University in Canberra to collaborate with Dr. Sasha Mikheyev (<https://biology.anu.edu.au/people/academics/alexander-mikheyev>), Associate Professor in the Research School of Biology. Our project is related to the genetic underpinnings of Africanization in honey bees. I gave a Departmental Seminar on the Behavioral Ecology of Swarming that was very well received by the 20+ people that attended the talk!

While in Australia, I was also a guest speaker for the Southern Tablelands Beekeepers Association’s Field Day on 22 February (<https://www.facebook.com/Southern-Tablelands-Beekeeping-Association-NSWAA-2866830940010225/>). The other guest speakers at the meeting were Drs. Doug Somerville and Elizabeth Frost, Technical Field Specialists for honey bees in New South Wales. I had a rare but wonderful opportunity to meet with beekeepers from the New South Wales region whose beekeeping operations have suffered horrible losses due to the recent brush fires in Australia. I am especially grateful to our host Therese Kershaw, who transported us around and made the presentation possible. This would have normally been

a small meeting; but because there was a need for community gathering amid all the sad news, there were over 120 beekeepers participating in this regional meeting.

Something that I thought was interesting was the presentation given by Somerville. He gave a field demonstration on how to feed bees. He explained the different types of in-hive and communal sugar and protein feeders, and gave tips on what to feed in terms of sugar and/or pollen/protein supplements. I was surprised at the amount of interest from sideliners and commercial beekeepers on what I would consider a “beginner” beekeeper type of presentation. Then someone in the audience reminded me that that area of New South Wales is fortunate enough to have forage available to the bees almost year-round. Well, at least that used to be the case before the devastating brushfires. So now a lot of those beekeepers are going to need to feed their colonies for the months to come, and so they need to re-learn how to do so properly and efficiently. This was, without a doubt, a highlight in my professional career so far... I made new friends and had the opportunity to learn some of the ways that apiculture is practiced in that part of the world.

We got back to Texas just in time to self-isolate for a while due to the new travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic... we are now trying to adjust to the new reality. Now that I am back in Texas, I am doing what I was going to do for the rest of the sabbatical semester anyway. The “shelter-in-place” ordinance means that I will not get to undertake the five to seven work trips that I had planned for the rest of the semester, but instead I will be working from home. This will give me a much-welcomed opportunity to catch up on my writing and reading of scientific literature, and hopefully write up grant proposals to secure funding for our research program in the next few years. I did get to do one talk that was purposely organized to be done remotely: I was one of two keynote speakers for the University of Florida’s Summer 2020 Bee College. There were over 150 people in attendance, and there were no technical glitches with the presentation, which is always a plus!

That is all for now... I wish you all a safe and sane couple of months, as our globe faces this devastating pandemic. I am hopeful that we will come out of this stronger and more united than before. As always, 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>.

Thank you for your continuous support, and stay safe!





Field demonstration on how to feed bees by Dr. Doug Somerville, Technical Field Specialists for honey bees in New South Wales, during the Southern Tablelands Apiarist Association field day on 22 February.

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Dr. Rangel presenting a virtual talk at the University of Florida's Bee College in March 2020.





Bruce Wallace

Beetle Buster™ base board
Patent # 2015238870



Returning home to Beerwah from an amazing year travelling around Australia 6 years ago I was hearing about the small hive beetle (SHB) destroying hives and the disastrous effects it was having to fellow beekeepers so I set out to take control of the small hive beetle infestation.

My father and my 2 brothers were builders and I was always on job sites working along side them. I joined the Australian Army as a tradesman carpenter exiting as a Corporal.

Creating my own plastering & carpentry company and won many awards for Excellence over the years & employing 132 tradesmen for one particular project in Brisbane.

Now successfully retired from the building industry I had time to research and study the SHB.

After countless hours and experimenting with angles, hole sizes, sourcing timber & suitable materials, I came up with a unique design and effective way to control the beetle, an exciting new baseboard which stops the beetle from entering up into the hive.

Beetle Buster™ the small hive beetle trap, was invented in my backyard workshop in Beerwah, Queensland by me Bruce Wallace.

My research indicates 80% of the time the hive beetles land at the entry to the hive, the guard bees chase them down through the special entry design, before they even crawl onto the baseboard. Any that enter are prevented from traveling up into the hive as they are unable to scale the specially designed angle around the top edge, so they head down the precise sized holes or are chased down through the holes by the bees where they fall onto the inspection tray sprinkled with diatomaceous earth and die quickly.

The beetle lava also land in the tray and die instead of being tossed out the front of the hive onto the ground where they pupate and start another cycle.

The inspection tray is removable allowing the beekeeper to check it any time for small hive beetle or any other problems by inspecting the results on the tray. Also seeing piles of brood cappings and detecting which way the queen is working



The Beetle Buster™ also helps the bees to keep a cleaner hive

Holes in the baseboard allow for ventilation in the warmer months.

Every base board is individually hand made by me and are detailed to perfection prior to leaving my workshop.



*Brood Cappings
Queen working left to right*



*Results after Oxalic Acid treatment
for Varroa Mite*



My baseboards are now in Mauritius/Hawaii/USA & Australia also in Saudi Arabia even though Saudi Arabia does not have a SHB problem.

As Beetle Buster™ is becoming increasingly popular with beekeepers in the USA I now have a distributor in Dallas TX & also a supplier in Brandon FL

Editors Note: Bruce was scheduled in April for a tour of parts of the USA, speaking to a number of bee clubs in Texas. Health and Safety concerns have postponed this trip until August of this year.

Borntrager Bee Farm
4036 Gaitan Lane, Beeville, TX 78102
(361) 362-3283
(361) 362-3281

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	1-9	10-24	25-99	100 up
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Bee Removal / Relocation for Chevron Corp.

from Kim Townsend

A refreshing tale about big oil... and little bees!

Recently, a gentleman called to inquire about having some bees removed from an abandoned pump shed in Van Zandt County, asking if I would come fetch them... and would there be a fee involved. (For the record, the answer was “yes”, to both.) We arranged for a mutually agreeable day and time, and he gave instructions on how to get out to the job site.

On the day of the removal, my Dad decided to come along - as he had never attended a bee extraction. We drove for about an hour, went a little past Canton, then followed the given instructions, and came to a g-o-r-g-e-o-u-s piece of land surrounded by a chain-link fence. I called Dan Dittfurth (the gentleman who hired me) to announce our arrival. There were allll kinds of heavy equipment being used, a lot of pickups everywhere, and the site was bustling with activity. He drove up and told me to follow his truck to the shed.



Here's the cool part:

CPL brought in GHD (the company Dan works for) to completely eradicate ALL things man-made from this magnificent piece of land! So, that heavy equipment I saw wasn't there to b-u-i-l-d... it was there to remove: houses, foundation(s), wells, pumps, sheds, pipes, electrical wires, concrete... EVERYTHING man-made is in the process of going away and the land will be restored to its pristine, natural origins! By the way, there is also a nine-acre pond on the property stocked with catfish and bass – which was intended to provide water for use should a potential fire break out.

To say that I was DEEPLY impressed by this revelation is the understatement of the century!



The Pump Shed in a Beautiful Setting

We parked out in a field under a huge oak tree (so my Dad could have shade while I worked). Dan proceeded to tell us that this beautiful, 320+ acres of land was purchased by a small oil company decades ago, and when Chevron Pipe Line Company (CPL) bought that oil company, they inherited the land, the pumps... and the mess. There had been a couple of small houses, multiple oil wells, several pump sheds, and more over the years, but now the wells were no longer in use and some of the pump sheds (like the one where I would be) hadn't been touched in over fifty years!



Starting from the Bottom Up

Furthermore, when it was discovered that there was a colony of bees living in one of the pump sheds, GHD c-o-u-l-d have just bulldozed the structure and killed the bees in the process. After all, who would know?! HOWEVER, the project and construction managers (Mindi and Terry) gave Dan the 'okay' to take the time to locate and pay someone who could do a live bee removal/relocation (a.k.a. yours truly)!

I can't begin to express how deeply moved I was (and am) to learn of the efforts put forth to save the bees AND restore the land! It's my understanding that CPL has been quietly doing this all over the country... for many, many years! Who knew?!!

BRAVO to GHD and Chevron Pipe Line Company for their dedicated service and preservation in undertaking the East Texas Van System Decommissioning Project.... and a heartfelt THANK YOU (specifically) to Dan Dittfurth, Mindi Kral, Terry M. Price and Warren Herrington for going the extra mile in this most excellent and worthwhile endeavor!

God bless y'all for taking responsibility, restoring natural habitats, AND (of course) for saving the bees!!!



The Whole Hive Exposed



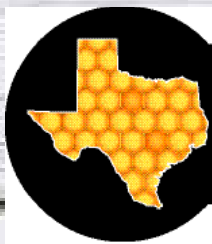
More Exposed



Apparently I need a lot of Supervision



*A Tub of Comb and Two Buckets of Live Bees
This Picture by Dan Dittfurth*



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Mushroom Extract for Honey Bees

from Catch the Buzz by Sierra Dawn McClain

Life is tough for the honeybee, but new research may save colonies by using mushroom extracts as feed additives to combat a devastating virus.

Researchers from Washington State University are working on a field experiment with 72 hives this month in California's San Joaquin Valley, where beekeepers have hauled their hives for the annual almond orchard pollination.

Honeybees, worth almost \$20 billion to American agriculture, are dying at alarming rates, threatening honey production and crop pollination. According to the Bee Informed Partnership, from 2018 to 2019, U.S. beekeepers lost 40% of their colonies.

Researchers call this "colony collapse disorder" and attribute much of it to the deformed wing virus, so-named because of how it disfigures bees' wings. The virus, according to entomologist Laura Lavine of Washington State University, undermines a bee's immune system, robs it of flight and halves its lifespan.

"It's a tragedy for our bees," said John Jacob, a beekeeper at Old Sol Apiaries in Rogue River, Ore.

The deformed wing virus is transmitted by a parasitic mite called the varroa destructor, a tiny, button-shaped, eight-legged creature that latches onto bees and feeds on their tissues.

Scientists say their California experiment may offer a solution to the virus: mushrooms.

Walter Steven Sheppard, lead researcher on the project and an entomologist at WSU, said the fungi he's using are classified as *Ganoderma lucidum*, also called lingzhi or reishi. These are rust-colored, kidney-shaped "shelf" mushrooms that grow like fans on trees. Sheppard said he has also experimented with the genera *Fomes*. Both belong to the fungi order polypores, and their extracts have long been prized in Asian medicine for supposed antiviral properties.

The researchers say the idea of using mushrooms to cure bees was the brainchild of Paul Stamets, a prominent mycologist and founder of Fungi Perfecti, a medicinal mushroom business in Olympia, Wash.

In 1984, Stamets noticed bees from his personal hive landing on mushrooms and sipping droplets of liquid from each mushroom's mycelium, the delicate web of filaments. Decades later, around 2016, he had an epiphany: perhaps the bees had not just been seeking sugar, but were self-medicating.

Sheppard, one of the world's leading bee experts, said Stamets approached him with his theory a few years ago and a partnership was born. They soon collaborated with scientists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and WSU.

The researchers dosed sugar-water feeders with mycelium extracts from several mushroom species, analyzing the effect on bees.

In field and lab studies, treated bees fared better when infected by the virus. In cages, treated bees had an 800-fold decrease in virus level; in the field, the decrease was 44- to 79-fold, still significant.

Sheppard said it's not yet clear how the extracts reduce virus levels. He said the mushrooms are either bolstering the bees' immune systems or restraining the virus directly, and it will take more lab work to find out.

The field work, Sheppard said, will last until mid-March. "We're down here today feeding some of the bees one type of mushroom extract, some another type and the control group just sugar syrup," Sheppard said Monday. "This experiment is keeping us pretty busy. It's exciting."

After field tests, the team will bring back samples and analyze them in the lab for another month or longer. Nick Naeger and Jennifer Han, pollinator researchers at Washington State, will lead lab work.

Sheppard said mycelium extracts might become available for beekeepers to use in 2020. His team, he said, is working with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and other groups to get the extracts registered as a feed additive for bees.

"I'm encouraged," said Sheppard. "I think what we're doing has the potential to be commercial soon. Beekeepers I talk to are really looking forward to using the material. I think we'll get approval this year."

Jacob said, as a beekeeper, he's honored to be part of the experiment.

"The beekeeping industry is in deep trouble right now," said Jacob, "and I think this is going to make a big difference."

https://www.capitalpress.com/ag_sectors/orchards_nuts_vines/mushroom-extract-might-rescue-bees-from-deadly-virus/article_6ea225da-51de-11ea-b658-f70bea196741.html

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2020 Texas Honey Queen

Virginia Allen



Turn Beekeeping History into a Modern-Day Marketing Success

Over the next several months, I will be sharing a series of articles on how to market your honey and give you valuable information and takeaways that you can apply to your own business and share with your customers! Let's start with a brief history of honey and learn how you can use it to your marketing advantage.

When King Tut's tomb was discovered in 1922 AD, the archeologists found clay pots filled with wine, olive oil, and honey. All of these delicacies were very scarce during 1300 BC and were buried with the king to aid him in the afterlife, proving the riches he had obtained on earth. As they opened the pots, they found that the wine and olive oil had spoiled and fermented, leaving it unfit for use. However, when they opened the honey, they found it unaltered from the day it was placed in the tomb. Experts claim that this is due to the natural preservative nature of honey and the method that the Egyptians used to seal the honey pots. Because honey is hygroscopic, meaning that it absorbs water, it scientifically seeks to come to equilibrium by attracting more water, above its usual 16-18% moisture content. By sealing the pots of honey, the honey could not absorb or release any moisture, keeping it intact, natural, and unaltered. Interestingly, because of honey's moisture content, it can also be used as a moisturizer. Cleopatra in 30 BC was famous for her extensive beauty regimen and incorporated honey in her facial masks and daily washing routine.

Years later from King Tut in 69 BC, it was discovered that honey could cause adverse effects if the bees collected pollen and nectar from plants such as Rhododendrons and laurel species. This toxic honey became known as Mad Honey and was commonly found in Nepal and Turkey. It was even strategically used in wars by the Greeks by stashing honey in plain sight and vacating the city. The Roman army would plunder the town, and upon consuming the honey, they would become delirious and nauseated, at which time the Greek army would strike their adversary in a surprise attack!

Bonus Fact ~ In 479-1453 AD, the Romans got their revenge on the Greeks by catapulting whole beehives into and out of towns, as well as onto ships at sea in battle! ~

During the more recent World Wars I and II, sugar was rationed and honey was used as a substitute. Medium amber honey was sent to the troops as it was believed to have more antioxidants and provide a longer-lasting energy burn. Today, we know that in general, darker honey does contain more

antioxidants, which help reduce the risk of some diseases and even certain cancers. All honey is antibacterial, antiviral, and antifungal, and contains vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants although the proportions vary by floral content. An easy way to use honey is by cooking with honey, which we will discuss later in this series. As they say, "Necessity is the mother of invention." This was especially true in wartime, as many recipes were adapted to use honey and the communities' ingenuity was encouraged, pushing the limits of hive products to discover more than 350 uses for beeswax alone! Even after sugar was reintroduced after the war, honey remained a valuable, flavorful treasure, making it an attractive career for war veterans.

For your business, here are some tips from history to incorporate into your marketing strategy.

1. Quality storage - When bottling your honey, use glass jars instead of plastic because glass can be warmed, while plastic runs the risk of becoming deformed or melting. Also, use a gasket-type lid system to prevent fermentation. Tip: If honey gets into the threads of your jar, and the lid is really stuck, try inverting the jar in warm water for a few minutes to dissolve the honey and loosen the lid.
2. Beauty products - Honey can be used in raw or combined forms for beauty treatments, topical medical treatments, and overall health improvement when taken orally.
3. Potential risk - Remind your customers that while honey is safe for adults to consume, honey should not be fed to children under one year of age. While this reminder is not required by labeling laws, some beekeepers place this reminder on their labels, allowing for in-store customers to be informed about this danger without having to be present to inform them.
4. Be creative - Your hive products are one of a kind. Consider decorating your products with seasonal decorations to increase customer interest. Feature crystallized honey as a specialty item. Teach your customers about the different colors and flavors of honey, which are determined by the local foliage and weather.

Next time we will cover what real honey is and how to spot honey impostures. See you next time!

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

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Rick Fink - (210) 872-4569

president@alamobees.org

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 - (512) 560-7550

austinareabeekeepers@gmail.com

facebook.com/groups/Austin/AreaBeekeeperAssociation

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

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

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

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

Big Country Beekeepers Association

Ken Hobbs - (325) 665-4045

paniolobee@icloud.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month except December at 6:30pm

Ben E Keith Company Beverage Distributors (Budweiser Co.)

2141 Cottonwood St, Abilene

(entrance on Cottonwood St next to flagpole)

Brazoria County Beekeepers Association

Steve Brackmann - (832) 884-6141

stevenbrackmann@yahoo.com

bcba@brazoria-county-beekeepers-association.com

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

Nathan Krueger - (979) 324-1160

info@bvbeeks.org

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

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

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

Schlotzsky's, 3715 19th St., Lubbock

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

Michael Kelling - (979) 277-0411

CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com

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 or chisholm-trail-beekeepers@googlegroups.com

Meetings: Last Monday of each month

United Cooperative Services, 2601 S Burleson Blvd, Burleson

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.

Russell Dittfurth - (972) 542-4418

president@cchba.org

www.cchba.org

Honey Queen Program: honeyqueenchair@CCHBA.org

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

Collin College Conference Center, (Central Park Campus)

2400 Community Dr., McKinney

Colorado County Beekeepers Association

David Behlen (832) 230-5740

coloradocountybeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm

316 Spring Street, Columbus

Comal County Beekeepers Association

Julie Morgan - (210) 475-2924

e.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

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

Denton County Beekeepers Association

Gary Barber - (972) 768-5505

board@dentonbees.com

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

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 Area Beekeepers Association

Jerry Lee - (917) 710-6072

elginbeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday 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

Kay Purcella - (325) 330-0745

kaysyellowrose@hotmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month, Texas Agrilife Research and
Extension Center, 1229 N US Hwy 281, Stephenville at 7pm

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@fortbendbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:30 pm

Bud O'Shields 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

Harris County Beekeepers Association

Jeff McMullin - (713) 203-6348

jefferylmc@yahoo.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

Vista Brewing, 13551 FM 150, Austin, TX 78737 at 6:30pm

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

Gary Bowles (254) 214-4514

gm.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

Kathi Murphy-Boley (972) 467-5092

kdbmurphy@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

Robin Sliva - (254) 205-0534

rs.plumleeplace@gmail.com

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 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

2099 W FM 917, Joshua

Lamar County Beekeepers Association

Randall Childres - (903) 652-5912

lamarcoba@gmail.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Lamar County Fairgrounds, Bldg B, 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

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

James Elam

mocobees@gmail.com

www.mocobees.com

Meetings: 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Montgomery County Extension Office, Tom Leroy Education Bldg., 9020

Airport Road, Conroe

North East Texas Beekeepers Association

Connor White - (903) 360-2253

connor.white.1969@gmail.com

netbacantontexas@outlook.com

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

Canton Fairgrounds, 24780 TX 64

Canton, TX 75103

Palo Duro Bee Club

Paige Nester - (806) 678-8048

nesterpaige@gmail.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month

Creek House Honey Farm, 5015 4th Ave, Canyon

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Terry McFall - (409) 289-7387

tdmcfall@hotmail.com

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm

St. 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 7pm

Bolin Science Hall Room 209, Mid West State University,

310 Taft Blvd., Wichita Falls

Rusk County Beekeepers Association

John Stewart - (903) 842-4433

jes.stewart@gmail.com

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at 6 pm

Church of the Nazarene, 906 W Main St, Henderson

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

Linda Williams - (830) 688-0560

texashillcountrybeekeepers@gmail.com

facebook.com/TXHillCountryBKAssn/

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 pm

Schreiner University, 2100 Memorial Blvd, 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

Tyler County Bee Club

Scott Martin - (409) 283-4507

tcclub16@gmail.com

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Nutrition Center, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Larry Fuchs - (936) 661-0633

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

Bill Zimmer - (469) 222-3901

woodcountybeekeepers@gmail.com

Meetings: First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm

The Red Barn, 100 CR 4830, Winnsboro

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Picture: "Cute Little Bees"
by
Kim Townsend