



# WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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

**June Meeting:** Tuesday,  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at  
7:30 pm

**Location:** Wake County  
Office Park – 4011  
Carya Dr. Raleigh, NC  
27610

**Featured Program:**  
Honey extraction  
demonstration. Real  
frames of honey will be

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## May Meeting Summary

- Upcoming meeting dates:



June 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Tuesday,  
7:30 pm

- Hats and shirts are still for sale; contact Ricky Barbour to purchase them.
- The association is working toward setting up 4 hives at the Wake County Office Park for our use. The WCBA will form a committee to maintain the hives. The hives will be in a secured fenced in area. A WCBA is still looking into the cost insurance for the hives. Having a bee yard for the association will be a great benefit for educational use. More will be discussed at the May meeting.
- Volunteers are always needed at the Asheboro Zoo honey bee exhibit. Volunteers are allowed to sell honey while they are working the exhibit. Training will be provided for volunteers so beekeepers of all experience and knowledge levels are encouraged. For more information on volunteering please contact Judy Pick [JimJudy9@aol.com](mailto:JimJudy9@aol.com) or Janno Lewis [jpdaniel@embarqmail.com](mailto:jpdaniel@embarqmail.com).
- State Bee Inspector, Don Hopkins spoke at the May meeting. He discussed how to tell if a colony is queen-right. See page 3 for a brief recap on his presentation.

**2011 WCBA Officers:**

**President:**  
Ricky Barbour

**Vice President:**  
Andy Currin

**Secretary:**  
Sarah Pleasants

**Treasurer:**  
Dan Brubaker

**Program Chairman:**  
Kate Hanser

**Board of Directors:**  
Vivian Joyner  
To serve 3 years  
Marvin Pate  
To serve 1 year  
Danny Jaynes  
To serve 2 years

**Education Materials:**  
Ben Crawley

WCBA officer contact information can be found on the WCBA website:  
[www.wakecountybeekeepers.org](http://www.wakecountybeekeepers.org)

**Location of Club  
Extractors & Equipment:**

The club owns equipment that is available for members to borrow. Please contact the following people for equipment:  
Steve Hildebrand:  
Knightdale 919-266-9464; Vivian Joyner: New Hill 919-387-0164;  
James Knox: Raleigh 919-847-5098; Larry Hall: Central Wake 919-612-4499. See complete list on the WCBA website.

**Upcoming NCSBA Events**

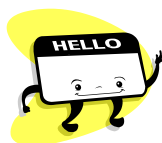
- Check the NCSBA website for detailed information on these events:  
<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/news.htm>
- Scheduled NCSBA Summer Meetings:
  - **July 7-9, 2011 NCSBA Summer Meeting** at Elon University in Elon, NC
  - **Summer meeting registration available on the NCSBA website.**
- **Summer meeting workshops include:**
  - Hive Evaluation – Colony strength to Queen Quality
  - Learning from African bees in Africa
  - Incorporating IPM Beekeeping
  - Microscope training for Nosema Detection
  - Heavenly Honey Culinary Creations
  - The Mighty Nuc
  - Designing your own Honey House
  - MBP Exams
  - In The Apiary
  - Pesticide Training Both “X” and “V”
  - Hive Tracks Software
  - Honey Plants – “Feeding your Bees”
  - Q & A for Beginning Beekeepers

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:**

**Remember to bring and wear your name tag to each meeting so we can easily identify one another.**

**Check off your name on the attendance sheet so we can track membership attendance.**

**We would also like Visitor's to check in and fill out a name badge.**



**Want to learn more the  
Master Beekeeper  
Program in NC?**

The **MBP** program was established in the fall of 1982 for the purpose of providing an infrastructure whereby beekeepers can improve their beekeeping skills and knowledge on a continuous basis.

To learn about the requirements for the certified, journeyman, master, and master craftsman levels visit:

<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/entomology/apiculture/mbp.html>  
and  
<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/master.html>.

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## Queen-Right Colonies by Don Hopkins

At the May meeting we had the pleasure of hearing from State Bee Inspector, Don Hopkins present on Queen-Right Colonies. Below are a few key points Don mentioned:

- Look for open and capped brood. The Queen will likely be working around the larvae at the youngest state (open, not capped).
- Multiple eggs laid in cells indicates a laying worker.
- Destroying queen cells won't guarantee you of problems. Always check for the queen when inspecting each hive.
- If you see a lot of activity of workers at the tip of a capped queen cell this indicates that she will emerge soon. This would be a good time to split a hive or make a nuc.
- If you see a frame with more pollen than brood you may have a problem with your queen.
- Nasanov scenting is a positive behavior. This indicates that the workers are happy in their home. The stick their butts in the air and fan their scent from the Nasanov gland around the hive.
- When catching a swarm be mindful of bee droplets or bees in a ball shape on the ground because the queen is likely in the center.
- After catching a swarm it is good to include a frame or 2 of open brood to entice the workers and queen to quickly accept their new home.
- If you see more drones relative to workers this indicates that the hive swarmed about 2-3 weeks prior.
- If a hive is truly queenless place the queenless colony on top of a strong colony with a piece of newspaper between the 2. They will eat through the paper and accept one another after a few days to a week.

## June in the Bee Yard



During the month of June you may consider extracting honey.

If your bees are in the Mountain honey or you are trying for Sourwood honey make sure your bees are in place in the mountains for the sourwood trees to be in peak blooming season toward the end of June.

When extracting your honey make sure you have all the proper equipment needed. Bottles and labels are just the start of equipment needed. The WCBA has extracting equipment available for members to borrow.

The June meeting will have a nice demonstration on how to extract honey. You can also look up videos on YouTube on extracting.

When pulling supers to extract be sure to leave one full super for your bees to eat off of. In the Piedmont region many nectar bearing plants for bees are out of bloom.

Information derived from Sarah Pleasants's own knowledge and understanding of beekeeping.



Check the **WCBA WEBSITE** for up to date information:

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

### Honey Tasting in November:

Last year's honey tasting went so well that we're going to do it again!

Save your favorite bottle of honey and bring it to our honey tasting in November. Kate Hanser, program chairman, will be accepting honey jars for the tasting starting in June.

If you travel over the summer pick up a bottle from the city you visited and share that with the group too!

Any and all honey entries are encouraged for the tasting.

This is a great way to interact with members and try each other's wonderful honey!