



Wake County Beekeepers Association

February 2007

Editor's Notes

This newsletter is a hodge-podge of interesting information in no particular order so don't stop reading until you get to the end.

Look near the end for the spring meeting (conference) information. Every beekeeper in NC should attend these meetings because the information given at them is so good. Figure out what you need to do to get there and then register, which you can even do on-line. If you can only come up for Saturday, it would still be worth your time.

I've included information about an apitherapy conference that may be of interest since it is right in our backyard. Notice the price is a bit higher than the NC beekeeping meeting. Did I mention what a good deal the NCSBA meeting was?

If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time. Notice the lower price for ABJ on this membership form.

Send articles, information, and classified ads to barrycary@aol.com by the 25th of the month.

Michelle Barry, secretary WCBA

January Announcements

2007 Officers

Officers were elected at the January meeting. They are as follows:

- President – Ricky Barbour
- Vice President – Bill Herndon
- Secretary – Michelle Barry
- Treasurer – Whit Joyner
- Program Chairman – Larry Williams
- Board of Directors – Jim Cook

Permanent Members

The motion change to the WCBA by-laws passed. This change is an addition to Article 3 Members: *Members who are seventy years old who have been paying members for the past two years can elect to become permanent members. Permanent members will be considered voting members and will not be required to pay dues for as long as they desire to remain members.*

Membership Report

In 2007 we had 131 members with 78% of those belonging to the state organization. Forty members did not renew membership, but we got 50 new.

North Carolina State Beekeeping Association

We encourage all members to join the state organization. Besides supporting this great group, you will receive a yearly calendar about beekeeping in NC and the yellow book which is a directory of NC beekeepers. Get your membership in right away so you can be included in the yellow book.

Beekeeping Videos

The NC State Beekeeping Association owns videos about beekeeping that you can borrow. Contact Vicki Pyle in Dr. Tarry's office to have them mailed to you.

Door Prizes

Thank you to Steve Brown for fresh eggs, Mary and Danny Jaynes for chocolate and Jack Tapp for a hive stand and moth crystals. Remember to contact Steve at sbrown@trianglerentacar.com before the meeting to purchase farm-fresh eggs that he will bring to the meeting. Also bring empty egg cartons that he can re-use.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2007**

President

Ricky Barbour 269-0108
RickyBarbour@nc.rr.com

Vice President

Bill Herndon 934-4406
bherndon@nccommerce.com

Secretary

Michelle Barry 363-5458
Barrycary@aol.com

Treasurer

Whit Joyner 387-0164
vivnwhit@earthlink.net

Program Chairman

Larry Williams 501-9507
larry.a.williams@usps.gov

Directors

Jim Cook (3 year term)
919-321-0217
jimcook@operamail.com

Freddy Gregory (2 year term)
639-5758
fgre393@aol.com

James Knox (1 year term)
847-5098
James_Knox@bellsouth.net

Phone Mentor:

Jerry Brantley 919-269-9333

Website:

<http://www.ncneighbors.com/wcba>

Yahoo group:

wakecountybeekeepers
to subscribe send mail to
wakecountybeekeepers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
Back copies of newsletters and
the bylaws are available on this
yahoo group.

Club Extractors:

The club owns extractors that are
available for members to borrow.
Electric extractor: Ricky Barbour
(in Zebulon 269-0108)
Hand extractor: Raleigh Myers (in
Raleigh 787-0058)

January Program

In January we did not have a formal program. James Howard and Jack Tapp shared their extensive knowledge with us as they answered questions.

One item discussed was swarming. The recent cold weather may have slowed down brood rearing, but the mild winter up to the middle of January has caused an increase in bee populations. This early build-up may result in increased swarming. If brood is all the way across you can break it up by moving outside frames in, putting on another hive body, or reversing the hive bodies.

North Carolina Bee Researchers

Congratulations to our own State Apiculturist, Dr. David Tapy whose recent study about the mating habits of the queen and their impact upon the diversity of the colony is a major subject of an article in the January '07 issue of Bee Culture Magazine. Dr. Tapy and associates also have an article in February 07 issue of American Bee Journal comparing Russian and Italian bees.

Upcoming February Program

David MacFawn is lined up to be the speaker for the February 13, 2007 meeting. He is going to plan his talk around several subjects:

- New beekeeping products
- Research Dr. Harbo from the bee lab in Baton Rouge has done on the "Magic Rule" concerning space needed for bees to try to avoid swarming
- Getting ready for the spring
- Benefits of 8 Frame Hives
- Plastic versus Beeswax Foundation

David MacFawn joined Brushy Mountain Bee Farm as manager effective July 10, 2006. David started in beekeeping more than 45 years ago when his Grandfather gave him a hive of dark German bees. Over the years David has kept Germans, Italians, and Russian bees in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Colorado. David is a NC Master Craftsman Beekeeper, he incorporated the SC Beekeepers Association as a 501c3, co-founded the SC Master Beekeeping program, and was awarded the 1996 South Carolina Beekeeper of the Year. In addition David has published approximately 8 beekeeping articles.

David received a BS in Electrical Engineering from NC State and an MBA in operations research and finance from UNC-Greensboro. He spent 12 years in engineering and marketing computer defense equipment positions. For approximately the next 16 years David held senior management and program management positions with Sun Microsystems, NCR, Intel, and Lowes Home Improvement Warehouse.

National Apitherapy Conference to Be Held in North Carolina

The American Apitherapy Society (AAS <<http://www.apitherapy.org/>>) has named the Raleigh/Durham area of North Carolina as the location of its April 26-29 Charles Mraz Apitherapy Course & International Conference (CMACC).

Now in its 12th year, the annual apitherapy training course focuses on the therapeutic use of products of the beehive, including honey, pollen, propolis, royal jelly and bee venom. One of the most ancient of all healing modalities, apitherapy is gaining increased attention worldwide from medical professionals, academic researchers and lay practitioners as the efficacy of the hive products and treatments becomes better known.

Course: An in-depth course running from Thursday night through Saturday morning will provide a comprehensive training by AAS faculty in the use of beehive products and bee venom therapy; includes extensive course manual. Those who pass a final exam will receive a Certificate of Knowledge.

Conference: Recent advances in apitherapy worldwide will be presented from Saturday afternoon through Sunday afternoon.

Venue: Radisson Hotel Research Triangle Park, 150 Park Drive, Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina.

Fees: Course and Conference: \$225 by March 26, Late Fee: \$275; Students with Valid ID: \$175

Fees include a one-year, \$45 AAS membership.

Visit www.apitherapy.org <<http://www.apitherapy.org/>> for updated conference details.

The AAS is a nonprofit membership organization established for the purpose of advancing apitherapy. The organization makes no claims about the safety or efficacy of specific honeybee products and does not endorse any specific type of apitherapy. The CMACC has been named in memory of Charles Mraz, an American pioneer in the use of bee venom to treat diseases.

Media Contact: Frederique Keller, Vice President, American Apitherapy Society

Phone: (631) 351-3521; E-Mail: Kellerf@optonline.net <<mailto:Kellerf@optonline.net>>

Conference Info & Registration Contact: The American Apitherapy Society 4835 Van Nuys Blvd. Suite 100, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

Upcoming Bee Movie

<http://www.beemovie.com/>

"Bee Movie" is a buzz-worthy comedy that will change everything you think you know about bees. Barry B. Benson (Jerry Seinfeld) may only be a bee, but he is destined for bigger things in life.

Dissatisfied with being stuck working in the hive, Barry longs to be one of the cool "Pollen Jocks" because they get to fly out into the world, stopping only to smell the flowers, so to speak. He gets his wish, leaves the hive and is shocked to find out that humans have been stealing and eating the bees' honey for centuries. Stung by the discovery, Barry sues the sticky-fingered humans and wins. Victory is sweet...that is until the ensuing chaos upsets the very balance of nature. Now it is up to Barry to get busy setting things right and prove that even a little bee can spell big changes for the world

Cast: Jerry Seinfeld, Renée Zellweger, Matthew Broderick, John Goodman, Megan Mullally, Kathy Bates, Alan Arkin, Patrick Warburton, Oprah Winfrey

Bee Movie will be in theaters November 2007

Busy Bee Apiaries

Jack Tapp, a member of WCBA, has a beekeeping supply business near Chapel Hill. He carries wooden ware that he makes and also is a distributor for Brushy Mountain. This means you can buy equipment without paying expensive shipping. Jack has said that he will bring equipment to meetings to save you the trip out to his place. While he has quite an inventory, if you want anything special you might want to call him a week ahead so he can pick up items on his weekly trips to Brushy Mountain.

Jack also sells bees and queens. Bees are already sold out for this spring unless weather really, really cooperates. He has Minnesota Hygienic queens and will try to have them available for local beekeepers this spring. He may have queens available by the middle of March, but once again it depends on the weather cooperating for mating.

Full Bee Course on Cable TV

Dr. Ambrose's NC State bee course ENT 203 An Introduction to the Honey Bee and Beekeeping is being broadcast on cable TV

This course is televised on cable (CRC Channel 18). Broadcast times are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:00AM with a repeat broadcast at 5:00PM beginning January 18th and ending May 3, 2007 The full syllabus for this class is on the wake county beekeepers yahoo group under files.

Bee Die-off Alarms Keepers, Growers and Researchers

<http://live.psu.edu/story/21979>

Monday, January 29, 2007 An alarming die-off of honey bees has beekeepers fighting for commercial survival and crop growers wondering whether bees will be available to pollinate their crops this spring and summer.

Researchers are scrambling to find answers to what's causing an affliction recently named Colony Collapse Disorder, which has decimated commercial beekeeping operations in Pennsylvania and across the country.

"During the last three months of 2006, we began to receive reports from commercial beekeepers of an alarming number of honey bee colonies dying in the eastern United States," said Maryann Frazier, apiculture extension associate in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences. "Since the beginning of the year, beekeepers from all over the country have been reporting unprecedented losses.

A working group of university faculty researchers, state regulatory officials, cooperative extension educators and industry representatives is working to identify the cause or causes of Colony Collapse Disorder and to develop management strategies and recommendations for beekeepers. Participating organizations include Penn State, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the agriculture departments in Pennsylvania and Florida, and Bee

Alert Technology Inc., a technology transfer company affiliated with the University of Montana.

"Preliminary work has identified several likely factors that could be causing or contributing to CCD," said Dennis vanEngelsdorp, acting state apiarist with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. "Among them are mites and associated diseases, some unknown pathogenic disease and pesticide contamination or poisoning."

Initial studies of dying colonies revealed a large number of disease organisms present, with no one disease being identified as the culprit, vanEngelsdorp explained.

The beekeeping industry has been quick to respond to the crisis. The National Honey Board has pledged \$13,000 of emergency funding to the CCD working group. Other organizations, such as the Florida State Beekeepers Association, are working with their membership to commit additional funds.

This latest loss of colonies could seriously affect the production of several important crops that rely on pollination services provided by commercial beekeepers.

Frazier said to cope with a potential shortage of pollination services, growers should plan well ahead. "If growers have an existing contract or relationship with a beekeeper, they should contact that beekeeper as soon as possible to ascertain if the colonies they are counting on will be available," she advised. "If growers do not have an existing arrangement with a beekeeper but are counting on the availability of honey bees in spring, they should not delay but make contact with a beekeeper and arrange for pollination services now.

"However, beekeepers overwintering in the north many not know the status of their colonies until they are able to make early spring inspections," she added. "This should occur in late February or early March but is dependent on weather conditions. Regardless, there is little doubt that honey bees are going to be in short supply this spring and possibly into the summer."

'Apprentice' Features Sue Bee Honey in Feb. 11th Episode

Sue Bee Honey will be among the sponsors integrated into the sixth season of NBC's "The Apprentice."

In the reality show, teams of contestants are challenged to promote a brand that receives significant exposure throughout the episode. Sue Bee Honey will be featured in the fifth episode of "The Apprentice: Los Angeles," scheduled to air, Sunday, Feb. 11.

http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/articles/2007/01/11/news_business/local/846b526a285dadf18625725f007dde9b.txt

Update on Fred Deer

A few days following the November meeting Golden Pennington and Jerry Houle ventured out together to pay Fred Deer a holiday visit. We stopped on the way to buy his favorite roasted (chocolate covered) peanuts. We also brought a pint of this year's honey, which he was grateful for.

While there is not much evidence of further progress in recovering from his stroke of a few years ago, Fred seems to be eager to continue with his life, albeit with limited abilities.

We found Fred being fed his lunch by his day nurse. His wife was out Christmas shopping. Fred was totally alert but limited in his use of speech. He easily understood who we were, and a few times while we were reminiscing old times in his presence, he managed to get out a short phrase or two to add something we left out. He smiled a lot and other than being quite limited in body movements he seemed to enjoy the company and looked fairly comfortable.

Anyone who remembers Fred well would not find it awkward to visit with him. He is pretty well confined to the bedroom he uses, and his activities are mostly being engaged with a nearby television set. There's not much doubt he misses his bygone beekeeping activities, and he warms to having the visitor discuss his recent experiences with bees. The visit need not be a morbid affair and one can enjoy

talking to him with him talking back occasionally. Nevertheless, he is quite alert and has no trouble following your discussion.

Just remember to keep your visit limited to a half-hour or so as the excitement of being visited eventually tires him out. Midday-midweek would be best.

Beekeeper's Affordable Liability Insurance

The full policy form is on the yahoo group files section, but here are the nitty-gritty details: You must be a member of AHPA or EAS, \$770 yearly cost, coverage: \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate.

Drawn Out Plastic Small Cell Frames

This came from Greg Clements, president of Mecklenburg Beekeepers: "We recently got a notice of a pallet load of the frames – fully drawn deep supers having 4.9 mm combs - A pallet load is 640 frames. The price is \$3.95, more than a dollar off each frame. We hope that if enough beekeepers order them we can have them at the reduced price." This product is called Honey Super Cell and is a fully drawn out plastic frame in 4.9 size. The smaller cell size is supposed to help the bees fight Varroa. Because the bees aren't fond of plastic you need to spray it with sugar syrup and not mix it in a hive with wax combs. It would be ideal for starting a package on.

Bees for Sale

(This is not an endorsement, just passing on information that may be useful)

5-frame nucs, ready 1st of April, \$65 each
Taking orders now, call to get your name on the list.
Next orders will be ready 1st of May

Billy Smith
20553A US 52 Hwy South
Albemarle, NC 28001
704-982-1861

2007 North Carolina State Beekeepers Association

Joint Meeting with

South Carolina Beekeepers Association Spring Conference, March 2 & 3, 2007

Union County Agricultural Services and Conference Center

3230 Presson Rd, Monroe, NC 28112

*(Off US 74 east of Monroe,
between Monroe and Wingate)*

Friday, March 2

11:00 AM Registration – Union County Agricultural Center

Pick-up Registration packets (“Walk-in” registration is \$5 additional.)

Exhibitor Set-up & Hotel Check-in

1:00 PM **Call to Order**, Charles Heatherly, President, NCSBA

Invocation

Welcome – TBA

1:15 PM **Presidents’ Reports**

Charles Heatherly, President, NCSBA

Henry Chasserau, President, SCBA

1:30 PM **Surviving the Winter** – Dr. Dewey Caron, Professor, Extension Entomologist, University of Delaware

2:30: PM **North Carolina Update** – Dr. David Tarpy, Professor, NC State University

South Carolina Update – Dr. Mike Hood, Professor, Clemson University

3:15 PM **BREAK**

3:30 PM **Healing Powers of the Honeybee** – Dr. Theodore Cherbuliez, MD, American Apitherapy Society

4:15 PM **African Honey Bee in Florida, An Update** – David A. Westervelt, Environmental Specialist, Tavares, Florida

4:45 PM **Putting It All Together Panel Discussion** – Dr. Dewey Caron, Dr. Tom Webster, Dr. David Tarpy, Dr. Mike Hood

6:00 PM **Adjourn**

7:00 PM **Banquet** – Advance Tickets Required
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tom Webster, Professor, University of Kentucky

9:00 PM **Adjourn for Evening**

Spring Conference Agenda (Continued)

Page 2 of 2

Saturday, March 3, 2007

8:30 AM Announcements and Door Prizes

8:45 AM **The Small Hive Beetle, an**

Overview – Dr. Dewey Caron

9:15 AM **Diet of the Honeybee** – Jennifer Keller

9:45 AM **BREAK** Visit Exhibitors

10:15 AM **Small Hive Beetle** – Dr. Mike Hood

10:45 AM **Question & Answer** Period – All Presenters on Panel

11:30 AM **NC, SC Associations meet for Business Sessions**

12:00 Noon **Lunch**

1:00 PM **Controlling Pests Without Chemicals** – Dr. Tom Webster

2:00 PM **Workshops – 45 minute** concurrent, rotating at **3:00 PM** and **4:00 PM**

- o Apitherapy – Dr. Theodore Cherbuliez, MD, Dr. Frederique Keller,

American Apitherapy Society

- o Small Hive Beetle Traps Dr. Mike Hood

- o MBP/Agent Training on the AHB Dr. David Tarpy

- o Building Local Chapter Membership Johnny McCracken, Mike Barbee

- o Boutique Creams & Lotions Marlene Thomas

- o Honey for Show Virginia Webb

- o Russian Bees Carl Webb

- o Beginners Short Course David MacFawn

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM **In the Apiary with the Experts** – Dr. Dewey Caron and

Dr. Tom Webster

5:00 PM **Conference Ends – Drive Home Safely**

Make hotel reservations on your own. Tell them you are with the "beekeepers convention" to get a reduced room rate.

[Best Western Inn & Suites](#)

2316 Hanover Drive

Monroe, NC 28110

Phone: (704) 283-4746

[Holiday Inn Express](#)

608 E. West Roosevelt Blvd

Monroe, NC 28110

Phone: (704) 289-1555

Wake County Beekeepers and/or North Carolina State Beekeepers Associations

Registration 2007 – Memberships run January 1st 2007 to December 31st 2007

Please complete and return this form at the next Wake County Beekeepers meeting in order to register for membership in either or both the County or State Beekeepers Associations. We encourage all county members to register for State membership in order to support that organization. You may also register by mail to:

Vivian Joyner, Treasurer
2829 Old U.S. 1
New Hill, NC 27562

Please print all information legibly. One wrong letter will make the e-mail not work. Please use the name you would like printed on your name tag.

Date _____ Name _____

Phone _____ Address _____

Number of beehives _____ E-Mail _____

Memberships

Wake County Beekeepers (\$10.00) \$ _____

Free life-time WCBA member (over 70 years old and paying member for the last two years)

NC State Beekeepers Assoc. (\$15.00) \$ _____

New Member? (Y/N)

Publication Subscriptions – Coupons from the NCSBA Yellow Book can be used for savings

American Bee Journal
(1YR-\$18.70) (2YR-\$35.40) (3YR-\$49.80) \$ _____

New Subscription? (Y/N)

Bee Culture
(1YR-\$19.00) (2YR-\$36.00) \$ _____

New Subscription? (Y/N)

Total \$ _____

Make Checks payable to Wake County Beekeepers Association