



Wake County Beekeepers Association

January 2007

Editor's Notes

Happy New Year!

Remember to lift your hives to check for stores. Many hives did not bring in much honey this fall and may need to be fed. If you start feeding, you need to continue until the spring flow starts.

Be sure that the bottom entrances don't get clogged with dead bees.

Please take a look at the Golden Achievement sheet and see if you have done anything to give our club points. Give the filled out form to me at the January meeting or send it to me by January 15th. I have sheets from Larry Green, Cynthia and Denton Bell, Ham Morton, Mark Reep, and Jim Cook.

Now is the time to renew your membership for next year. I've included a membership form as the last page.

Thanks to everyone who has sent interesting articles they have come across. Keep those articles coming. Send articles, information, and classified ads to me, barrycary@aol.com by the 25th of the month.

Michelle Barry, secretary WCBA

December Announcements

Officers will be elected and the by-law change listed below will be voted on at the January 9th meeting.

Nominations for Officers

Steve Hildebrand presented those selected by the nominating committee to fill the offices for 2007. Those nominated include the following:

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

Further nominations will be taken during the January meeting.

Life-Time Members

A motion was made to change the WCBA by-laws. This change would be 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 life-time members. Life-time members will be considered voting members and will not be required to pay dues for as long as they desire to remain members.*

December Meeting

The pot-luck dinner was fantastic. There was so much tasty food and fabulous calorie-free ☺ desserts. It was great to see spouses, children and some members of the NC state bee lab. As an added bonus David MacFawn from Brushy Mt. brought some new equipment to show us.

Door Prizes

Thank you to Steve Brown for fresh egg sand WCBA for poinsettias.

Program for January 9th

TBD

Spring Meeting

The theme is Small Hive Beetle. See www.ncbeekeepers.org/meetings.htm

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2006**

President

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

Vice President

Pat Jones 362-7027

Secretary

Michelle Barry 363-5458
Barrycary@aol.com

Treasurer

Vivian Joyner 387-0164
vivnwhit@earthlink.net

Program Chairman

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

Directors

Freddy Gregory (3 year term)
639-5758
fgre393@aol.com

James Knox (2 year term)
847-5098
James_Knox@bellsouth.net

Bill Herndon (1 year term)
934-4406
bherndon@ncommerce.com

Website:

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

Yahoo group:

wakecountybeekeepers
to subscribe send mail to
[wakecountybeekeepers-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:wakecountybeekeepers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)
Back copies of newsletters, the
bylaws, and expanded versions of
articles that will not fit in the
newsletter 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)

December Program – Nabor Mendizabal

Nabor Mendizabal spoke about beekeeping in his country of Bolivia. He focused on two main topics: Africanized bees and products of the hive.

Africanized bees are more aggressive at lower coastal altitudes, but more gentle at higher altitudes of the mountains. Many beekeepers keep the hives on their roofs or in trees to avoid human interaction. Africanized bees are the only bees that produce a significant quantity of honey in a tropical climate. A European colony used to produce sixteen pounds of honey while the Africanized colony will produce forty to eighty pounds of honey.

No one treats for Varroa in Bolivia. The chemicals are too expensive or not available.

The Bolivian beekeeper has many ways to make money with his bees. The sale of the honey alone does not bring in enough to justify the hassle and expense of keeping bees. All products of the hive are considered medicinal: honey, pollen, propolis, royal jelly, and venom. The Japanese immigrants have recipes for drone larva. (Yum!) Pollination as a business is growing in Bolivia. Value-added products include blends, cosmetics, wound dressings, candy, and chapstick.

Nabor spoke about propolis. It is derived from resins of young buds or bark of trees. The bees go after specific compounds. There are 180 different compounds in propolis and it differs from area to area. The bees use it to seal cracks, make wax harder, sterilize the hive, and repel invaders.

Africanized bees use almost four times more propolis than European bees. In the U.S. bee breeders have selected against propolis. Could this be why European bees have more problems with disease?

Propolis use by humans is growing in Japan, Europe, and South America. Propolis inhibits 21 species of bacteria, 9 species of fungi, 3 species of protozoa, and viruses like herpes and influenza.

Despite the positive properties of propolis, it can cause contact dermatitis in a small percentage of people. Caution also must be taken to avoid contamination of the propolis. While out collecting propolis, bees can collect other items such as paint.

To get a low-quality propolis you can scrape different parts of the hive. A hive-top propolis trap gives a high quality propolis. If it is green, it is too early to harvest. Wait until the propolis is dark and hard before removing the trap. It can be put in a freezer to pop the propolis off. A beekeeper can sell it in chunks or ground to a powder.

Nabor spoke briefly about Royal Jelly and Pollen. Royal Jelly consists of an emulsion of proteins. A beekeeper can take the larva out and collect the royal jelly. The Chinese are very good at it. Royal jelly works against cancer cells.

Some people like to take pollen for allergies. Pollen needs to be mixed with honey for human use. The enzymes to digest the pollen are in the honey.

Nabor hopes to attend grad school in the U.S. so maybe we will be able to invite him back to our meetings in the future.

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)
If this applies to you, please wait until after the January meeting to turn in your membership form to be sure the by-laws are changed to allow this membership category.

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-\$24.95) (2YR-\$47.20) (3YR-\$66.40) \$ _____

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