



# Wake County Beekeepers Association

## July 2007

### Editor's Notes

*My bees made pretty good honey this year. I split each hive and they swarmed multiple times so I was glad to get any honey. My son got 5 gallons from his hive, but I helped him out a bit by recombining the split into a strong hive that was almost higher with honey supers than we could reach.*

*I have heard rumors of the sourwood blooming and the bees bringing in that nectar now. My observation hive seems to be bringing in something, but they have thrown out all the drones which did surprise me.*

*I hope to see many of you at the summer meeting. Brief Information is on the second page and if you are a state member you should have received your Bee Buzz with details.. If you have any questions about it, contact me and I will be glad to try to answer them.*

Send articles, information, and classified ads to [barrycary@aol.com](mailto:barrycary@aol.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Michelle Barry, secretary WCBA

### July 10 Meeting Topic

Our speaker for July will be Theresa Lim. She sells herbs and honey and makes her own soaps, creams, and other body care items. Check out her website for a preview: <http://honeythymeherbfarm.com> Time: 7:30pm, Location: Wake County Commons Building, Cary Drive.

### June Meeting Recap

Larry Green brought his large extracting equipment and gave a hands-on demonstration of extracting frames. You really had to be there to gain the most from it, but here are a few tips worth remembering:

- Larry blows his bees out of the supers and puts them in black plastic bags. Do not leave them for long or you will have moth problems.
- Always wipe your hot knife after it is sitting for a few minutes.
- Do NOT use soap to clean extracting equipment. It will leave a residue that will ruin the next honey extracted. Use scalding hot water to rinse the equipment.

Jim Cook and Paul Strickland mentioned to me that they really like the uncapping plane rather than a knife.

### Raffles

At the May meeting the club raffled off two beautiful nuc boxes from Busy Bee. Stephen Magee and Danny Jaynes were the lucky winners. Sorry I misunderstood and advertised it as nucs of bees, instead of nucs boxes for bees.

### Refreshments

Thanks to Wendi Raig, John D. Mille, and Steve Hildebrand for bringing refreshments in June. Those signed up for July are: Steve Brown 269-5066, Ann Monte 832-4998, and Frank Borge 303-9774. Be sure to call one another and coordinate who is bringing drinks and who is bringing food.

### Door Prizes

Thank you to Steve Brown for fresh eggs, Larry Green for cute bee magnets, and Mitchell Wrenn for many bags of tomatoes.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2007**

**President**

Ricky Barbour 269-0108  
[RickyBarbour@nc.rr.com](mailto:RickyBarbour@nc.rr.com)

**Vice President**

Bill Herndon 934-4406  
[bherndon@nccommerce.com](mailto:bherndon@nccommerce.com)

**Secretary**

Michelle Barry 363-5458  
[Barrycary@aol.com](mailto:Barrycary@aol.com)

**Treasurer**

Whit Joyner 387-0164  
[vivnwhit@earthlink.net](mailto:vivnwhit@earthlink.net)

**Program Chairman**

Larry Williams 501-9507  
[larry.a.williams@usps.gov](mailto:larry.a.williams@usps.gov)

**Directors**

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

Freddy Gregory (2 year term)  
639-5758  
[fgre393@aol.com](mailto:fgre393@aol.com)

James Knox (1 year term)  
847-5098  
[James\\_Knox@bellsouth.net](mailto: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](mailto: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)

## **JULY 12-14, 2007 NCSBA SUMMER CONFERENCE IN KINSTON, LENOIR COUNTY, NC**

The detailed agenda is now on the website with the registration form. Registering on-line is so easy. I believe Wake County won the most "tech savy" last spring with the most on-line registrants so let's try to do it again.

If you are new to beekeeping, twice a year the NC state beekeepers put on a conference. Speakers talk about the latest beekeeping research, workshops give more information, and vendors display and sell equipment. You do not want to miss this opportunity. Kinston is close enough to make a day trip if you do not want to stay overnight. Here is the website for more information: <http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/meetings.htm>

### **Old Business from May Meeting**

- The club purchased a projector and wireless microphone from the proceeds of the bee workshop.
- Books left over from the bee workshop are available for \$4.25.
- The Beekeeping workshop had **61 attendees**.
- The hive raffle at the May meeting gained the Assn. **\$107.25**.
- Charles Heatherly donated plastic bottles that the club sold for \$41.

### **New Business from May Meeting**

- The state association is raffling a 48" cut riding lawn mower. The club is looking for volunteers to sell raffle tickets
- Plastic Frames donated by the Jaynes were sold for \$1 each.

### **BUGFEST**

Write this date on your calendar. Larry Green and Denton Bell created the famous bee beards last year. Besides helping at the Wake County Beekeepers booth, members can also help selling hot dogs and drinks as a fundraiser for the club.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 9 A.M.-9 P.M.**

The 11th annual version of the world's biggest and most popular "buggy" event will offer outstanding displays, activities and compound-eye-popping shows. Experience the refreshing Garden and Kid Zones, enjoy delicious bug-filled delicacies at the Café Insecta, cheer on your favorite entry at the Roachingham 500 roach races, view incredible and bizarre live animals, and see the un-bee-lievable beard of bees! At 5 p.m. BugFest transitions into the Twilight Zone. Visitors will get into the evening groove with a fresh round of activities, entertainment and live music for the (slightly) more adult at heart.

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

## May Speaker: Hugh Nourse

Last Month I misspelled Hugh's last name in the e-mail version of the newsletter. It is Nourse, not Norris. Thanks to Debbie White for this summary.

The bee friendly herbs and shrubs:

- Chickweed
- Agastache (Hyssop) anise=licorice flavored leaves Bees LOVE this
- Catmint (stays where you put it) can get 3 "flushes" of flowers
- Catnip (spreads readily)
- Clovers - Alsike, Ladena, Red
- Dandelions
- Echinacae - cone flower
- Joe-Pye Weed
- Goldenrod
- Asters (mainstay fall nectar/pollen source)
- Baccharis (dioecious: male & female plants) flowers in November - great nectar/pollen source

Trees and larger shrubs increase nectar/pollen source exponentially. 1 tree can equal a 1/2 acre garden source of pollen/nectar plants. Trees mentioned:

- Red Maple
- Black Gum (Tupelo) - woodland tree
- Serviceberry (Shad?? berry??)
- Fruit trees
- Tulip Poplars
- Virginia Sweetspire
- Sourwood
- Witch Hazel - blooms Nov and Dec - good fall/winter source
- Holly was mentioned - good, but only blooms for 10 days.

He also said that pretty much anything growing here that has "weed" in the name is most likely a native plant. Plants here were named by 'settlers' and they brought the plants they were familiar with, those being the 'good' plants.

### Nectar Biology

Here is a nicely written article about "the nature of nectar" published by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. [http://www.bbg.org/gar2/topics/essays/2005su\\_naturenectar.html](http://www.bbg.org/gar2/topics/essays/2005su_naturenectar.html)

## Undergraduate Research Shows Leaderless Honeybee Organizing

This is a interesting article -- it is major research done by an undergraduate and was done in our own state at UNC-Charlotte.

<http://www.physorg.com/news100798568.html>

### Dr. Tarp in the News

Here is a link for a recent local broadcast of Radio In Vivo (<http://radioinvivo.net/>) on honey bees and beekeeping.

<<http://music.ibiblio.org/pub/multimedia/wcom/mp3s/RIVO6132007.mp3>>

A short interview with Dr. David Tarp concerning CCD, from The Independent Weekly, can be read at the following link.

<<http://www.indyweek.com/gyrobase/Content?oid=131848>>

Here is a local TV story with Dr. Tarp and Jack Tapp <<http://www.nbc17.com/midatlantic/ncn/news.apx.-content-articles-NCN-2007-05-10-0011.html>>

### More Natural Approach to Fighting Mites

Professor James Amrine of West Virginia University details an approach to fighting disease and pests using essential oils and formic acid.

<[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Professor\\_Helps\\_Develop\\_Techniques\\_To\\_Reduce\\_Threat\\_Against\\_Honeybees\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Professor_Helps_Develop_Techniques_To_Reduce_Threat_Against_Honeybees_999.html)>

### NC State ENT 203

The class that John Ambrose taught last semester is being rebroadcast this summer. It is shown at 9:30AM Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on Time Warner cable Channel 18.

### Summer Meeting Correction

In the Bee Buzz, the center fold, left page, the number for the hotel, West Park Inn, should be (252) 527-1500; and on the right side, the Advanced Registration form, the Hampton Inn should be (252) 523-1400 .