



January 2014

WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.wakecountybeekeepers.org

Club News

- 🐝 **Donation to the Apiculture Science Fund at NCSU:** The club donated proceeds raised from club activities at September's Bug Fest and October's State Fair to the Apiculture Science Fund at NC State University. In his letter to club president Sarah Myers thanking her for the \$150 donation, Dr. David Tarpy notes "these funds greatly add to our student research projects, thus supporting the long-term efforts for apiculture research...please pass along my heartfelt gratitude to the entire Wake County Beekeepers Association for their generosity."
- 🐝 **2014 WCBA / NCSBA membership renewals:** Forms will be available at the January meeting and **online**; please see treasurer Margie Gurganus for more information.
- 🐝 **Club shirt orders** - EXTENDED DEADLINE! Ricky Barbour is coordinating a club order for light yellow, short-sleeved collared polo shirts with the club logo embroidered on the chest. The unisex shirts range in price from \$15 for S - XL, \$17 for 2X and \$19 for 3X. Shirts must be pre-ordered and prepaid. Forms and payment must be received by the close of the January 2014 meeting for delivery by March 2014.
- 🐝 **FEBRUARY 2014 MEETING TIME CHANGE:** Guest speaker Dr. Larry Connor's presentation **will start earlier than usual at 6:30 p.m.**, but the **meeting has been reinstated to February 11**, our usual Tuesday meeting night. His talk will address how to read your hives signs to determine colony health, and will be comprised of an in-depth lecture followed by ample time for questions from the floor. Dr. Connor will also have some of his books available for purchase. Encourage beekeepers from surrounding counties to attend as well.
- 🐝 **2014 Bee School:** A class for new beekeepers is in the works for late March or early April. This two-day weekend course will be held at the Raleigh Police Club at 3500 Leonard Rd. More information will be made available as planning for the course continues. Please direct inquiries to club secretary Kate Hanser.



January meeting:

Tuesday, January 14, 2013
Social starts at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

REGULAR LOCATION

Wake County Cooperative Building
4011 Cary Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610

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January program: Webinar with David Tarpy



Dr. David R. Tarpy, an Associate Professor and Extension Apiculturist in the Department of Entomology at North Carolina State University will present a webinar demonstrating resources available to beekeepers including the Bee Informed Partnership and the online Beekeeper Education & Engagement System (BEES).

As Extension Apiculturist, Dr. Tarpy maintains an apiculture web site dedicated to the dissemination of information and understanding of honey bees and their management, spearheads numerous extension projects such as the 2005 New Beekeeper Cost-sharing program that created hundreds of new beekeepers within the state, and launched the new online Beekeeper Education & Engagement System (BEES)—an exciting new “learning community” for knowledge and understanding of bees and beekeeping.

His research interests focus on the biology and behavior of honey bee queens in order to improve overall health of queens and their colonies. Specific research projects include understanding the effect

of the polyandrous mating strategy of queen bees on colony disease resistance, determining the underlying factors of Colony Collapse Disorder, using molecular methods to determine the genetic structure within honey bee colonies, and the determining the regulation of reproduction at the individual and colony levels. More recently, his lab group has focused on the reproductive potential of commercially produced queens, testing their genetic diversity and mating success in an effort to improve queen quality.

Dr. Tarpy received a BS from Hobart College, an MS from Bucknell University, a Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Cornell University under Tom Seeley.

2014 OFFICERS

President: Sarah Myers

Vice President: Ricky Barbour

Secretary: Kate Hanser

Treasurer: Marjorie Gurganus

Program Chair: Kim Underhill

Sgt-at-Arms: Tom Underhill

Board of Directors:

Sue Carson (3 yrs)

Ken Cobb (2 yrs)

Larry Williams (1 yr)

Officer contact information is available at the club's website: www.wakecountybeekeepers.org/about

Cold Weather & Bees

With the recent exceptionally cold weather, several beekeepers have raised concerns about whether or not they should take special precautions to protect their hives. Here's some advice from Keith Delaplane's *First Lessons in Beekeeping*:

“Severe wind exposure can be more damaging than extreme low temperatures. If you live in an area with high winds, you should provide your hives a windbreak. For all but the warmest parts of the country it is advisable to reduce hive entrances to an inch or two. Make sure hives are located in high, sunny locations with good drainage so that they don't sit in cool, damp air. Provide some sort of upper ventilation in your hives so that warm, moist air from the cluster can vent out...if you use screen hive bottoms...it is advisable to close them over winter...Manufacturers provide a corrugate plastic floor that can slide in place for this purpose.” (Delaplane, pp. 102-103)

So: allow venting to let humid air escape the hive, make entrances small but don't block them completely, and put in your bottom board. If your bees are healthy, they should be just fine.

Announcements, Requests, & Reminders

Raleigh Store Now Open:

In November 2013, **Bailey Bee Supply** of Hillsborough opened a store in Raleigh.

Address:

1724 South Saunders Street

Hours:

Mon - Fri 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Telephone: 919-977-0901

www.baileybeesupply.com

Help out during meetings!

If you regularly arrive early for the meeting social time, one way to meet & greet new faces is to assist at the sign-in table! Also, we can always use assistance with club raffles and handing out door prize tickets. Talk to any officer for more information!



Licensed to sell bees in NC!

The NCDA's Apiary Services maintains a list of individuals and businesses licensed to sell bees in North Carolina. This list is updated at least annually - the current list was updated this past November - and includes suppliers from across NC.

[Click here to see the most recent list.](#)

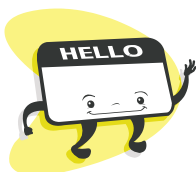
MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2014

It's time to start thinking about renewing your WCBA and NCSBA memberships for 2014. Renewal forms will be available at upcoming meetings and at the club website. Please contact treasurer Margie Gurganus for more information. Renewals are due by March 31, 2014.

Club logo ball caps:

Ricky Barbour has khaki cotton ballcaps with the club logo embroidered in navy blue available for \$9 each. Only 35 or so caps remain, first come, first served - get yours today!

NAMETAGS & SIGN-IN



Please **bring your club nametag** with you to every meeting! Wear it so we can easily identify each other. New members can collect their badges at the treasurer's table.

Also, please **check next to your name on the sign-in sheet** at the treasurer's table when you attend meetings so we can maintain accurate attendance records.



CARYA DRIVE HIVES CLOSED UNTIL SPRING

These hands-on guided sessions will resume in March 2014 - many thanks to all those who participated, and to Ben Crawley for leading them!

Connect with fellow Wake County beekeepers on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/BeekeepersofWakeCounty/

This open group is NOT WCBA controlled; simply ask group administrator Theresa Bowen to add you as a group member & join the conversation!



Calendar of Events



January 2014

Tuesday, January 14

Club Meeting: Webinar with Dr. David Tarpy, NCSU *Resources for beekeepers, new and experienced: the Bee Informed Partnership, BEES network and the NC State Apiculture Program* 7 - 9 p.m., 4011 Carya Drive, Raleigh

February 2014

Tuesday, February 11

Club Meeting: Dr. Larry Connor on *Reading Your Hive* Lecture, Q&A & Book Signing 6:30 - 9 p.m., 4011 Carya Drive, Raleigh



March 2014

Tuesday, March 11

Club Meeting: Debbie Roos, Agricultural Extension Agent, NC Cooperative Extension - Chatham County Center *Gardening for Pollinators* 7 - 9 p.m., Carya Drive, Raleigh

For more information, visit the club website:

www.wakecountybeekeepers.org



December meeting summary

The December banquet featured the fine cooking of many club members, including pork barbeque prepared by Ricky Barbour, Kate's collards and an out-of-this-world coconut cake from Mary Jaynes, among many other wonderful dishes. The honey tasting included several local honeys plus two from South Korea - acacia and chestnut! Program Chair Kim Underhill gave a recap of club activities for 2013, including programs every month, two banquets, and several breakout sessions, plus club activities at Bug Fest and the NC State Fair. 2014 looks promising as well. Departing Treasurer Neil Woodcock gave the December financial report, and he and departing vice president Ken Cobb were recognized for their excellent contributions to the club in 2013. Their service is greatly appreciated by all.

After eating much and well, several door prizes of honey, poinsettias and items donated by Bailey Bee Supply were distributed. Clean up went smoothly and the meeting ended by 9 p.m.

Local bee suppliers

While there will be a more complete list of bee suppliers circulated shortly, these individuals provided information before the end of December. Also check out Bailey Bee Supply (see p. 3)

Tom & Kim Underhill
Big Oak Bee Farm, Raleigh NC
Bigoakbeefarm@gmail.com
919-272-4450
Limited supply of nucs, going fast. Various lines of queens available, tested for hygienic traits and behaviors.

Steve Hildebrand
cool.bees@live.com
919-266-9464
Plans to have 10 nucs available in early April 2014 - \$130 for 5 deep frames of brood, honey, pollen and a laying queen. No deposits, no guarantees.

A & J Honey Farm, LLC
John Redmond
3243 South Chipley Ford Rd.
Statesville, NC 28625
704-876-1244 or 704-252-0684,
leave a message or text.
Will have nucs available spring 2014.