



# WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

**Next WCBA Meeting:**  
 Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>,  
 2010 at 7:30 pm

**Location:** *Raleigh*  
 Police Club -  
 3500 Leonard Rd.  
 Knightdale/Raleigh,  
 NC 27545

**Featured Program**  
**Speaker:** Honey  
 Tasting and TBD

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## Bug Fest 2010

Bug Fest was a huge Success!  
 An estimated 30,000 people  
 swarmed downtown on September  
 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Families and children of  
 all ages enjoyed learning about  
 bugs and other insects.



The Education tent featured  
 observation hives, photos, and a bee  
 suite for kids to try on. Volunteers  
 enjoyed answering questions from the  
 eager children and adults who almost  
 always asked, "do you get stung a  
 lot?"



Education Tent brought Many Visitors

The food tent was busy all day fixing  
 the best hot dogs and hamburgers  
 around! Thanks to all who helped  
 cook and serve food to the hungry  
 patrons at Bug Fest.

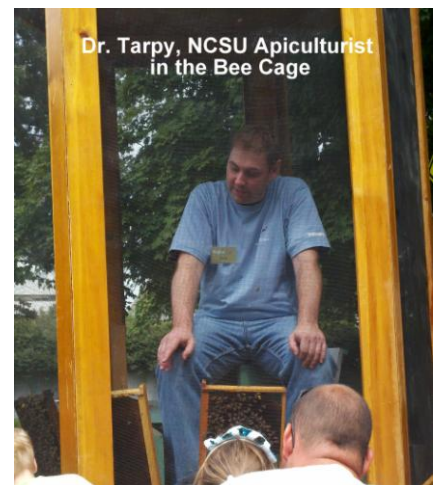


Food Tent Volunteers Hard at Work

Organizing Bug Fest takes a lot of  
 work but with the help from our  
 coordinator, Tim Huffman and all the  
 other 50+ volunteers, the hard work  
 paid off and the event went off without  
 a hitch! We appreciate everyone who  
 helped with Bug Fest 2010 and look  
 forward to an even better year in  
 2011!



Local Honey Sales



Dr. Tarpy, NCSU Apiculturist  
 in the Bee Cage

**The N.C. State Beekeepers Association needs volunteers to sell honey at the N.C. State Fair.**

The honey sold is used as a fundraiser for the NCSBA.

There are 4 hr. time shifts available to work during the fair. The time shifts are 9 am-1 pm, 1 pm-5 pm, and 5 pm-9 pm.

If you would like to volunteer call State Bee Inspector, Don Hopkins at (H) 336-376-8250 or (C) 919-218-3310. Don will coordinate the time shifts that volunteers sign up for and tickets for admission to the fair.

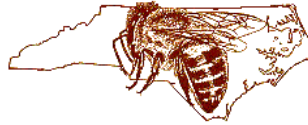
Volunteering credits can be used towards the Master Beekeeper Program.

**Don't forget! The honey tasting will be held at the October meeting!**

**If you didn't get a chance to submit a jar in time, simply bring it with you to the October meeting. The honey tasting should be a fun treat for everyone!**



## Upcoming NCSBA Events



- Check the NCBSA website for more information on these events: <http://www.ncbeekkeepers.org/news.htm>

- **October 14-24, 2010 -- [NC State Fair](#), Raleigh, NC**



- **November 13, 2010 -- [New Frontiers in Beekeeping](#) symposium,**

Folk Art Center, milepost 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway in Asheville NC. Sponsored by [Western North Carolina Center for Honeybee Research](#).



## September Meeting Summary

▪ Bug Fest 2010 was a success! Thanks to all who helped with the event.

▪ The program speaker at the September meeting was Bill Lord, beekeeper and USAID coordinator. Bill spoke about his work completed around the world to educate 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries on safe and hygienic beekeeping techniques. His most recent work took place in Malawi and has helped many

villages and families gain economic stability by becoming successful beekeepers. Bill also presented on candle making. He showed some great techniques for making the perfect pair of tapers. If anyone has questions for Bill about his presentation, please contact him at: [wglord@att.net](mailto:wglord@att.net) or at 919-496-8823. See page 4 for more details and photos from his presentation.

▪ Ben Crawley has volunteered as the Fair Coordinator. Please contact Ben if you would like to help with the WCBA display booth. Wake County has always had a great display booth and we would love to keep up the trend. To volunteer at the fair, contact Ben Crawley at: 919-368-5217 or [ben.mrbuzz@gmail.com](mailto:ben.mrbuzz@gmail.com).

## September Brought Big News for Honey Bees and Beekeepers in North Carolina

September was a busy month for N.C. beekeepers and honey bees alike. The honey standard was adopted and Governor Perdue announced September as honey bee appreciation month in North Carolina.



Attendees at the declaration of the N.C. Honey Standard and September as Honey Bee Appreciation Month

The N.C. State Beekeepers Association has been hard at work in cooperation with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to prevent the sale of honey products containing additives, such as corn syrup, that are marketed as pure honey.



N.C. State Beekeepers Association Honey Board

When honey is suspected of being adulterated, representatives of the N.C. State Beekeepers Association Honey Standards Board will sample and test the honey for purity and advise the seller of any potential violations detected. If sellers fail to comply with the honey standards they will be fully reviewed by the Honey Board and referred to the FDA for further review and potential action.

The mission of the honey standard is apparent: to protect the integrity of the honey produced in N.C. so that consumers know they are buying pure honey and to address the increasing problem of honey imported from foreign countries that frequently contain corn syrup and or other containments.

Governor Perdue declared September as honey bee appreciation month. A

proclamation was signed and celebrated at the Governor Mansion in front of the executive bee hives. Governor Perdue along with N.C. honey producers, state bee inspectors, apiculturists, and members of the N.C. State Beekeepers Association gathered for the honorary event for honey bees in North Carolina.



Governor Beverly Perdue and Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troster

According to Dr. Tarcy, state apiculturist at NCSU, N.C. Beekeepers produce an estimated \$15 million worth of honey each year and that the value of honey bee pollination for North Carolina crops is estimated at \$185 million. With few natural honey bees surviving in the wild it is up to beekeepers to keep the honey bee population rising. A large part of the public increase in beekeeping in N.C. has in part been credited to the N.C. State Association of beekeepers raising awareness and general interest to the public on beekeeping. Local county chapters associated with the N.C. State Association also host meetings and classes held for the public to learn and become certified through the Master Beekeepers Program that the state association has implemented. See the official proclamation of September Honey Bee Appreciation Month (below).



The official honey standard news release can be seen on the NCDA&CS website: <http://www.ncagr.gov/paffairs/release/2010/9-10honeystandards.htm> or the N.C. State Beekeepers Association website: <http://www.ncstatebeekeepers.org>.

### 2010 WCBA Officers:

#### President:

Mitchell Wrenn  
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#### Treasurer:

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#### Program Chairman:

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#### Phone Mentor:

Jerry Brantley  
919-269-9333

#### Education Materials:

Bill Cole  
919-522-5733  
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#### Location of Club Extractors:

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 at: <http://www.wakecountybeekeepers.org/equipmentList.html>

**WCBA  
Announcements:**

- If any member of the WCBA would like to submit pictures, articles of interest, honey recipes, or any other valuable beekeeping information in the monthly newsletter please contact the WCBA Secretary: Sarah Pleasants at 919-880-8208 or [sarahpleasants@piedmontlitho.com](mailto:sarahpleasants@piedmontlitho.com)
- Also if any member of the WCBA would like to suggest a speaker or a topic to be presented at the meetings, please contact the WCBA Program Chair: Kate Hanser at 919-387-7631 or [kahanser@ncsu.edu](mailto:kahanser@ncsu.edu)

We look forward to hearing from you!



Check out the **NEW LOOK and FEATURES** of the **WCBA website:**  
[www.wakecountybeekeepers.org](http://www.wakecountybeekeepers.org)

## October in the Bee Yard



Heft your hives and make sure the bees have enough honey to eat through the winter. If the hives feel light and are in need of food, make sure to feed your bees a thick sugar water mixture. The ratio of sugar to water for the winter should be a two part sugar to one part water mixture.

To make that mixture, fill your container to the half way mark with water.

Pour the water into a pan to place on stove to warm up or boil. Completely fill your container with sugar. Add sugar to hot water and stir. Hot or boiling water will help to dissolve the sugar better. Allow mixture to cool before feeding your bees.

The hive activity will begin to slow down as the bees prepare for fall. Check that the queen and colony is in good health as the fall season approaches.

Information derived in part from the Alamance County Beekeepers Association: <http://alamancebeekeepers.com/oct06.aspx>



## Beeswax Candle Making

Making beeswax candles can be an excellent way to use your left over wax after you have processed your honey. See helpful tips below from our September program speaker, Bill Lord.

- Pure beeswax is white and becomes a yellow or gold color because the bees tract pollen and propolis on the wax.

- The melting point of beeswax: 145°-148°F.



- Beeswax burns longer than other waxes and with a clean clear smoke.

- The correct wick size is very important when making candles. Use a 2/0 square braid wick for 10" tapers.

- Wax is hot and can be very messy. Be sure to have an area where you can safely heat and pour the wax.

- Never leave melting wax unattended because it is highly flammable.



- When pouring the wax in your molds, let the candle cool for 1 hour at room temperature and then freeze the wax for about an hour for easy removal of candles.

- Making candles can make a great gift or item to sell at a local farmers market.

For more tips, contact Bill Lord: [wglord@att.net](mailto:wglord@att.net) or at 919-496-8823.

