



# WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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

**Location:** Wake  
County Office Park –  
4011 Carya Dr.  
Raleigh, NC 27610

**Featured Program  
Speaker:**  
Bill Lord on Candle  
Making

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

## Dr. Tarpy Awarded EAS Research Award



*Dr. David Tarpy (left) was presented the  
Prestigious EAS Research Award at the 2010 EAS Convention in Boone, NC*

Dr. David Tarpy was presented the prestigious James I. Hambleton Memorial Award for Outstanding Research in August during the annual Conference of the Eastern Apicultural Society in Boone, NC.

Dr. Tarpy wears two hats in our North Carolina apiculture program. He is an Associate Professor of Entomology at North Carolina State University, and also serves as Extension Apiculturist for state beekeepers.

Since arriving in North Carolina just seven years ago, Dr. Tarpy has made a big influence on the honeybee program in NC. During his first year, he applied for and was awarded a grant from the Golden Leaf program that funded a cost sharing program in which 250 beginning beekeepers were awarded two hives with bees. That program received national recognition and resulted in the doubling of membership doubling in our NC State Beekeepers Association which now totals nearly 2,500 members and is the largest of its kind in the nation.

Dr. Tarpy administers the state's Master Beekeeping Program which now includes some 3,000 active participants.

His recent research, which has also received national acclaim, focuses on the biology and behavior of honey bee queens, including field manipulations, behavioral observation, instrumental insemination and molecular genetics. As a direct result of that research, we know that healthier hives result from queens which mate with a larger number of drones—a fact that produces greater diversity in the colony.

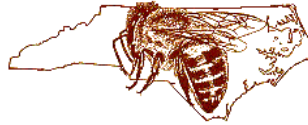
More recently, his lab group examined the viability of commercially produced queens, testing their genetic diversity and mating success in an attempt to improve queen quality.

In addition to these achievements, Dr. Tarpy teaches a full schedule at NCSU and is constantly available to NC beekeepers to advise and assist with the challenges we face.

Congratulations, Dr. Tarpy. We're very fortunate that you're our Apiculturist!

*Featured article and photo submitted by WCBA member Charles Heatherly*

## Upcoming NCSBA Events



- Check the NCBSA website for more information on these events: <http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/news.htm>
- **September 10-19, 2010** -- Mountain State Fair [Honey Competition](#), Fletcher, NC
- **September 18, 2010** -- [Honey Bee Festival](#), Kernersville, NC
- **October 14-24, 2010** -- [NC State Fair](#), Raleigh, NC



## August Meeting Summary



*Bug Fest is September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010!*

- We thank all the WCBA members who have volunteered with Bug Fest and invite everyone to come out and enjoy the Bug Fest activities!
- The beginning beekeepers class was held on August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Raleigh Police Club. About 31 new beekeepers took the class. A fully equipped hive with bees was given away as a door prize.
- Thanks to all the instructors and volunteers who helped with this beginning beekeepers class.
- The annual Summer cookout was held at the August meeting. The evening featured plenty of food, fun, and beekeeping fellowship! Thanks everyone for bringing delicious side dishes and to Ricky Barbour for preparing the chicken and pig!

**The State Fair is quickly approaching!**

**We need volunteers to help with the design and set up of the Wake County Display booth and to work the NCSBA honey stands and educational areas. If you are interested in volunteering for one or more of these areas please contact the display coordinator Ben Crawley at 919-368-5217 or contact Mitchell Wrenn at 919-306-2735.**

## Wake County Sheriff Encounters Bees

A Wake County sheriff's deputy found himself in the middle of a swarm of bees Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, when he went to check on a report of a disabled truck near the Smithfield Road exit off U.S. Highway 64.



The truck, pulling a trailer of honeybee hives being moved from Mount Airy to Rocky Mount, broke down before dawn, said Phyllis Stephens, a spokeswoman for the sheriff's office. When the sun rose and the bees became active, they began to fly around.

The deputy took shelter in his car, which was quickly covered with the bees.



The sheriff's office called for help from a local beekeeper and the apiculture department at North Carolina State University. The experts coaxed many of the bees back into boxes for transport. Those that remained on the deputy's car were scattered as he drove away, Stephens said.



*Pictures courtesy of WCBA member Steve Hildebrand*

See story on WRAL website dated August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010:  
[http://www.wral.com/news/news\\_briefs/story/8148337/](http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/8148337/)

### 2010 WCBA Officers:

#### President:

Mitchell Wrenn  
 919-306-2735  
[wrennbees@yahoo.com](mailto:wrennbees@yahoo.com)

#### Vice President:

Ricky Barbour  
 919-269-0108  
[rickybarbour86@yahoo.com](mailto:rickybarbour86@yahoo.com)

#### Secretary:

Sarah Pleasants  
 919-880-8208  
[sarahpleasants@piedmontliho.com](mailto:sarahpleasants@piedmontliho.com)

#### Treasurer:

Vivian Joyner  
 919-387-0164  
[vivnwhit@earthlink.net](mailto:vivnwhit@earthlink.net)

#### Program Chairman:

Kate Hanser  
 919-387-7631  
[kahanser@ncsu.edu](mailto:kahanser@ncsu.edu)

#### Board of Directors:

Danny Jaynes  
 919-567-9568  
[djaynes@nc.rr.com](mailto:djaynes@nc.rr.com)

Dan Brubaker  
 919-387-6731  
[jdrubaker@yahoo.com](mailto:jdrubaker@yahoo.com)

Tim Hoffman  
 919-269-6790  
[timjoehuffman@aol.com](mailto:timjoehuffman@aol.com)

#### Phone Mentor:

Jerry Brantley  
 919-269-9333

#### Education Materials:

Bill Cole  
 919-522-5733  
[wcole@nc.rr.com](mailto:wcole@nc.rr.com)

#### 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 WCBA website:**

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

- Up to date information on the WCBA events
- Educational resources
- WCBA Newsletters
- Valuable information on what the WCBA has available for you!

## September in the Bee Yard



Be sure to treat your hives for varroa mites if you have not done so already.

The asters should start blooming on or about September 21<sup>st</sup> and should continue blooming through most of October. They continue to bloom even after a light frost. This honey is usually all stored in the brood chamber.

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 you feed your sugar water bees.

Also check that the queen and colony is in good health as the fall season approaches.

Information derived from: The Alamance County Beekeepers Association - <http://alamancebeekeepers.com/sep06.aspx>

## Honey Tasting at the WCBA



The WCBA would like to hold a club "honey tasting" at the October meeting. This will be a fun and interactive way for members to try different varieties of honey.

We are requesting that members submit 1 or 2 1 lb. jars of honey from their honey harvest or from other people's honey harvest.

Members are asked to bring the 1 lb. jars labeled with the name of the person who is submitting the honey, what honey variety it is, and from what area the honey was

harvested from. Please submit the 1 lb. jars to Program Chairman, Kate Hanser on or before the September meeting. You will find Kate at the name badge table where she faithfully sets out the name badges and hands out the door prize tickets.

We appreciate all who can contribute in submitting 1 lb. jars for our honey tasting and hope that all members enjoy this exciting event!



**Do you know a high school or middle school with an FFA, 4-H, or Science group that would like to start a beekeeping program?**

**If so, contact the association President, Mitchell Wrenn and let him know how the WCBA can help support beekeeping interest in our local youth. If there is a particular school or group that may be interested please let us know!**

**← There has only been 1 jar submitted for the honey tasting!**

**If we don't have more jars of honey submitted then we will cancel the honey tasting.**

**Please remember to bring the jars to the September meeting.**