



WAKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

www.wakecountybeekeepers.org

**December Meeting and
Holiday Dinner: Tuesday,
December 11th, 2012 at
6:30 pm**



LOCATION:
Wake County Cooperative
Building -
4011 Carya Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610

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Updates and Reminders

-  December Meeting & Holiday Dinner December 11th, Tuesday, 6:30 pm **LOCATION FOR MEETING:**
Wake County Cooperative Building -
4011 Carya Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610
- Please bring a side dish to share to the December meeting. Ham and Turkey will be provided by the WCBA. All family members are welcome to this event.
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- If you have not picked up your WCBA or NCSBA memberships please see Treasurer, Neil Woodcock at the December meeting.
- Volunteers are always needed at the Asheboro Zoo honey bee exhibit. Volunteers are allowed to sell honey while they are working the exhibit. Training will be provided for volunteers so beekeepers of knowledge levels are encouraged. For more information on volunteering please contact Judy Pick JimJudy9@aol.com or Janno Lewis ipdaniel@embarqmail.com.
- The WCBA will no longer renew member subscriptions in 2012 to the American Bee Journal and Bee Culture magazines. Members will still receive a discount to the magazines but will need to renew on their own for the New Year.
- You can pay your 2013 WCBA and NCSBA registration at the meeting or by sending it in the mail to Neil Woodcock, Treasurer. A 2013 registration form is included with this newsletter.

2012 WCBA Officers:

President:
Andy Currin

Vice President:
Steve Brown

Secretary:
Gordon Goeking

Treasurer:
Neil Woodcock

Program Chairman:
Raymond Goodman

Board of Directors:
Vivian Joyner
To serve 2 years
Danny Jaynes
To serve 1 year
Larry Williams
To serve 3 years

Education Materials:
Ben Crawley

WCBA officer contact information can be found on the WCBA website:
www.wakecountybeekeepers.org

Location of Club Extractors & Equipment:
The club owns equipment that is available for members to borrow. Please contact the following people for equipment:
Steve Hildebrand: Knightdale 919-266-9464; Ron Nickels: Apex 919-961-8032; James Knox: Raleigh 919-847-5098; Larry Hall: Central Wake 919-612-4499.
See complete list on the WCBA website.

Current NCSBA Events

- Check the NCBSA website for detailed information on upcoming events:
<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/news.htm>
- **NCSBA Spring Meeting:**
 - **March 1-2, 2013** – Rock Hill, SC. This will be a joint NC and SC meeting.

WCBA is Selling NUCs for April 2013 Delivery!

Please find attached the Nuc order form for 2013. We have ordered some Nucs for the club membership to purchase for Spring 2013 delivery. The attached form describes the ordering process. If you have questions about the process, please contact Neil Woodcock or Gordon Goeking. It is estimated that the Nucs will be delivered during the first half of April 2013.

Great Jobs Available with the WCBA!

The Wake County Beekeepers Association needs a few good men and women to step up to leadership positions in our Chapter. The continued excellence of our programs, schools and other contributions to beekeeping depends upon good volunteer leadership. Please contact the Nominating Committee if you are willing to serve or if you would like to nominate someone.

Contact: James Knox at our monthly meeting.



Minutes from November 13, 2012 Wake County Beekeepers' Association Meeting

President Andy Currin called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm

- The treasurer didn't have a report but the cash in the bank totaled \$10,856.34
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published on the web page

Old Business:

- Nuc order forms are available to be downloaded from the web page or from the treasurer in the back of the room
- December meeting will be pot luck with the association furnishing meat. It will be held at Carya Drive and begin at 6:30.
- The chair of the Nomination Committee, Mr. Knox, asked for volunteers or recommendations for officers for next year.

New Business:

- Charles Heatherly introduced the guest speaker—Barry Hines who touted the certification program and described the various varieties of honey he produced and the locations of some of his 500 pollinating hives.
- A fruitful question and answer session followed and then the membership tasted some of Mr. Hines' honey as well as some brought in by members of the association
- President Currin conducted the raffle for a screened bottom board and super.
- He announced that the association has already sold nearly 40 Nucs of the 100 that we have ordered.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm

Congratulations to all the Wake County winners in the Bee and Honey Categories at the NC State Fair. Below is a listing of names from the winners list. Many won in several categories:

- Foods cooked with Honey: Joshua Lallo, Margalit Mermelstein, Sydney McCoy, Mercedes Meranda, Katie Lallo, Joanna Vitullo, Walker Dowdle, Faith Dunbar, Baity Dowdle, Alisa Green, Kaylee Banks, Julia Hughes, Clayton Dowdle, Wesley Fowler, Felice Bogus, Jonathan Finch, Sharon Noles, Jackie Wilder, Jane Blanco, Virginia Harris, Gail Fuller, William English, Mary Lou Mitchell, Paul Gordy, Teresa Green, Hazel McCoy
- Photography: Daniel Hughes, Mattie Malone, Julia Hughes, Matlynn Malone, Alisa Green, Lawrence Green III, Joseph Malone, Anne Marie Green, Patrick Connelly, Larry Green Jr., Teresa Green
- Honey: Daniel Hughes, Lawrence Green III, Jerry Baker, Lori Hudson, Al Pleasants
- Coloring Book: Erika Berg, Daniel Hughes
- Beeswax: Lawrence Green III, Daniel Hughes
- Novelty Items: Alisa Green, Daniel Hughes
- Non-honey, bee products: Erik Mitran, Karen Wilson



Check the **WCBA WEBSITE** for up to date information:
www.wakecountybeekeepers.org

December in the Bee Yard



Once the hives have been prepared for winter, as recommended last month, there is very little that needs to be done during the month of December.

Even after a heavy snow or ice storm, you don't worry about clearing the hive entrances. If all hives

have good top ventilation, they will be fine until the snow or ice melts. At that point, check and make sure that the entrance reducer is still in place on each colony and that each entrance is open and not clogged with leaves or dead bees.

December, however, is a good time to do a little reading, make plans for next spring, assemble new equipment and make those needed repairs.

Information derived in part from the Alamance County Beekeepers Association:
<http://alamancebeekeepers.com/dec06.aspx>

Do bees operate a democracy?

As seen online

Rob Dunn writes for Slate.com's science blog.

The birds and the bees

It is hard to escape the sensation that our electoral process is broken. Perhaps we should turn to nature for insight, remedy, or just salve.

...

The idea that ants, honeybees, or other social animals might do a thing or two better than we do is ancient. The Bible, Torah, and Quran all invoke insect societies. ...

Cornell University entomologist Tom Seeley has written a lovely and compelling book titled "Honeybee Democracy" which suggests we turn to the bees to see how they make decisions. ... Honeybee hives really are democratic. When it's time to look for a new nest, options are weighted by the evaluations of many different bees about a site's qualities – its size, its humidity, the density of surrounding flowers. Individual bees vote with dances, and when the number of dances in favor of some particular site is high enough, the masses are swayed. Together, citizen bees choose, if not perfection, the best possible option.

In ants, choices about how to nest or feed also seem democratic, though a few experts influence the process. Some ants just know more than others.

Forms of democracy also exist in flocks of birds (who must decide when to fly) and troops of monkeys (who decide when to move). In each of these situations, consensus is necessary, and consensus is reached by some form of voting.

Other articles for your perusal:

[natures-secret-why-honey-bees-are-better-politicians-than-humans](#)

[Reports from the hive](#)

[HoneybeeDemocracy](#)

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Remember to bring and wear your name tag to each meeting so we can easily identify one another.

Check off your name on the attendance sheet so we can track membership attendance.

We would also like Visitors to check in and fill out a name badge.

