

February, 2016

Volume 1, Issue 2



Lincoln County Beekeepers Association Newsletter

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"The honey bee is more honored than other animals, not because she labors, but because she labors for others."

-St John Chrysostom

Officer contact info:

President - Rick Monroe
rick@monroegen.org

V President - Chad Williamson
blackrockfarms@aol.com

Treasurer - Eddie White
cewhitebeekeeper@charter.net

Secretary - Beth Noles
bethnoles@bluebikerealty.com

Extension Rep - Tom Dyson
Tom_dyson@ncsu.edu

We are Beekeepers...

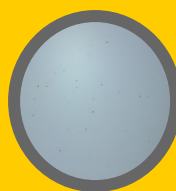
This is the official newsletter for the Lincoln County Beekeepers Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to the well-being of honey bees and to the fields of beekeeping, apiculture, research, and education. We are a diverse bunch of individuals who share a fascination for the honey bee and its workings. Our members range from full-time beekeepers and pollinators with thousands of hives to hobbyists involved in back-yard beekeeping. Some members do not even keep bees, but are fascinated by the six legs and four wings of *Apis mellifera*.

February Meeting Notes

Jill Tipton and Burton Beasley joined us to share some recipes and new ideas for feeding your bees. Jill shared several of her "Bee Tea" recipes and how she typically feeds her girls. She has noticed significant results in mite count on sticky boards in her own bee yard after feeding her hives bee tea. Tea recipes attached separately.



No tea fed



after feeding tea

Bees love honey bee healthy and will eat anything you give them containing it. If the bees don't initially flock to the tea you prepare add HBH and watch them get excited!

Jill's Honey Bee Healthy Recipe:

1 cup distilled water
1 tsp wintergreen oil
1 tsp tea tree oil
1 tsp spearmint oil
1/2 tsp lemongrass oil
Mix well for 5 minutes
use 1-2 tsp per quart sugar water.



****ALWAYS make sure you use ONLY food grade 100% essential oils when feeding bees. Find them at many local health food stores or order from Young Living through Beth Noles @ bethnoles@bluebikerealty.com.**

NEXT MEETING: March 10th @ 7pm

James Warren Citizen Center, 115 West Main Street, Lincolnton, NC 28092

Volunteer Opportunities:

February 25-27 - NCSBA Spring Conference in New Bern, NC. Free admission to any and all volunteers who give 4 hours or more of their time.

April 22 - Pumpkin Center Primary School will be hosting a Spring Fling event for grades K-2, about 350 students. This will be an all day event from 7:45 am to 2 pm. They have asked for a 20 minute presentation to groups of about 60 kids and an observation hive. If anyone is interested in helping out with this event let Beth Noles bethnoles@bluebikerealty.com know asap.

July 7-9 - NCSBA Summer Conference in Hickory, NC. Free admission to any and all volunteers who give 4 hours or more of their time to help.

September 17 - Lincolnton Apple Festival. This is an all day event where we have 2 vendor booths: one for education and the other for members to sell their honey and honey products. Volunteers are always needed and in short supply! Make sure to join the Apple Festival Committee later this summer to help plan the events for this years booths.

****Any events, programs, etc you would like announced need to be emailed before the next monthly meeting****

Announcements:

Lincoln County Extensions office 2016 Plant Sale is now through February 27th. Place your order now for:

Blueberry	\$7.00
Blackberry	\$7.00
Grapes	\$7.50
Raspberry	\$8.00
Elderberry	\$20.00

Journeyman / Master Beekeeper practice tests are now on the NCSBA website home page, at the bottom. Test your knowledge and then check your score. New test questions each month.

Grandpa Davis



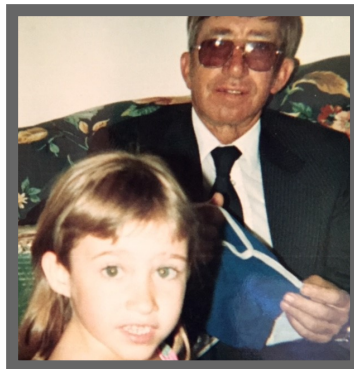
By Ashley Worley

"Grandpa looks so funny in his strange white suit. I wonder what he has inside of that white box, must be something serious for him to cover his face. Grandma says I cannot go any closer. I must stay here if I want to watch. How does Grandpa know everything about taking care of everything? There is nothing he can't do. I want to know everything he knows and go everywhere he goes. Maybe Grandma won't notice if I go a little closer so I can see exactly what he is doing. He would want me to watch him carefully so I can learn."

This is my first memory of beekeeping. My grandfather, who was my personal super hero, was a beekeeper, as was his mother, and her mother, and her mother. My grandmother would not go anywhere near the hive but Grandpa did not seem to mind. Sometimes, he did not even wear his funny white suit, and he never complained about the bees. The man could do anything, and I wanted to be just like him. Admiring the man my grandfather was; his love for nature, wisdom in farming and listening to the Earth, and devoted dependence on his personal relationship with God; fueled my desire to imitate his strengths. I saw his ability to keep bees as a strength, and so I decided to become a beekeeper before I had even started school. Looking back on it now I think beekeeping was in my blood, and I would have found my way to them eventually.

Our family has had at least one beekeeper for as far back as anyone can remember. I like to believe it is a gift passed down from one generation to the next, which reminds me I need to start figuring out who I am supposed to pass it to. I think I'll just teach both of my children and any family member around me I can convince to put a suit on, just in case.

A lot of life happened between watching Grandpa in his funny white suit and getting my own funny white suit. There were times I wondered how I got so far away from my roots and how I would ever get back. But God has a way of working all things out and making something beautiful out of mixed up pieces that would otherwise be incomplete. I no longer have my hero to teach me everything he knows about keeping bees but God was kind enough to replace him with some amazing people who love the bees and love to share their experiences with me. I am so thankful to be in a place in my life when I can keep bees. I have come to absolutely adore those beautiful, tiny creatures. They have taught me more than I ever imagined they would. It is my heart's desire to never stop being with the bees.



If you have a beekeeping story, a favorite beekeeping memory or you would like to share why you became a beekeeper, we would love to include it in our monthly newsletter. Newsletters so out just after the monthly meeting. Please send a picture if possible.

New Members & Renewals

New Member ☐

Renewal ☐

Membership #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

County of Residence: _____ Local Chapter: _____

1 year dues: NCSBA (state) \$15 + LCBA (local) \$5 = **\$20 total**

You can only be listed under one local chapter in NCSBA "Yellow Book" membership directory. If you choose to be designated "**at-large**" with no chapter affiliation, **check here:** ☐

I want to receive the NCSBA quarterly **BEE BUZZ** newsletter by (check only **ONE**):

Email ☐

US Mail ☐

NONE (I don't want it) ☐

I want to receive notices of bee-related **EDUCATIONAL** opportunities by email: YES ☐ NO ☐

I want to receive bee- and beekeeping-related **SOLICITATION** emails: YES ☐ NO ☐

This form may be turned in during our monthly meetings to the treasurer or by sending with payment to:

Eddie White
6576 Lineberger Road
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673

Make checks out to LCBA or Lincoln County Beekeepers association

“The Sustainable Apiary” with Michael Palmer



SPONSORED BY HENDERSON COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Spend a day with the internationally known commercial beekeeper
Michael Palmer.

Michael will be discussing techniques for raising bees, raising queens for bee production
and strategies for producing honey.

His apiaries thrive in Vermont's challenging northeast climate.

Mike has become known worldwide for his sustainable methods in beekeeping.

When: Saturday, March 26, 2016

9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Flat Rock Playhouse Downtown

125 S. Main St

Hendersonville, NC

Ticket Prices: \$25 in advance

\$35 at the door

Seating is limited ... reserve your seat now!

For more information go to

www.hcbeekeepers.org

