

The Bee Line

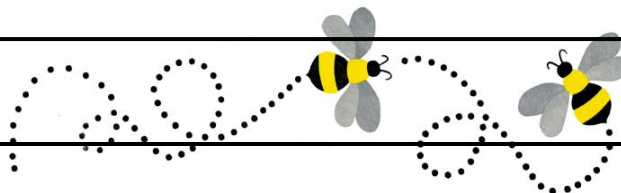
Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Next Meeting Thursday, March 10, 7:00 pm

Angelina Co. Chamber of Commerce

1615 South Chestnut, Lufkin

Volume 16 Issue 3



March 2016

March Program

If you've ever wished to trap your own free bees or wondered how to get them out of a building structure or tree without demolishing their habitat, be sure not to miss this program! PBA members Cecil Hunt and Bob Ham built a **Hogan Swarm Harvester Trap-Out Box** a few years ago and have successfully trapped bees out of bee trees. They will demonstrate their trap and its refinements and discuss their experiences in using it!

Refreshments

Beverages: Laurie Love; Snacks: Linda Bordelon and Al and Darlene Bryan

Bringing beverages or refreshments? If unable to attend, please notify Rachel Payne at 936-715-0362 (h), 903-288-0610 (c), or rachelpayne519@yahoo.com so that we may supply them.

Welcome to our Brood...

Dustin Cheatham, Ken and Roni Clegg, Gregg and Sammie Holmes, Joseph Messimer

You're the Bee's Knees!

Robert Jones for extracting and bottling the PBA 2015 honey and rendering the wax cappings, and Rita Hester for molding the wax into ingot samples for members at meetings.

2/10 – Cecil Hunt gave presentations to the Lufkin High School FFA and the Huntington Garden Club.

2/13 – James and Cindy Dotson gave a mead-making demonstration at their home and opened a bottle for guests to taste.

2/18 – Mike Bordelon and James Dotson discussed how to make splits at the Shelby Co. Bee Club Feb. meeting.

2/22 – Mike and Linda Bordelon presented "Beekeeping for Beginners" to the Hemphill High School Garden Club Jr. Garden Club.

2/23 – Scott Martin spoke at the first meeting of the Tyler County Bee Club in Woodville.

3/1 – Mike Bordelon discussed making splits at the Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association March meeting.

Assorted Buzziness

2016 PBA Dues now due! \$10 email membership or \$16 postal membership, per family. Don't miss out on our educational PBA Bee Line newsletter – pay your dues by April 1 to continue receiving issues. Contact Treasurer Terry McFall, 1700 FM 252, Jasper, TX 75951 tdmcfallclan@yahoo.com 409-384-3626

PBA 2016 Bee School – Get a solid foundation in beekeeping, including textbook, demos of regional beekeeping, hands-on bee yard practice, and an opportunity to purchase your own honey bee colony! Our annual Bee School will be held over three Saturdays, as usual: classroom April 23 & 30, and PBA Moffett Apiary May 7. For a Bee School Brochure, contact Marie C. Kocyan redcutridge@yahoo.com 936-632-2272.

PBA 2016 Youth Program – Do you know any enthusiastic friends, family, or community youth daydreaming of being a beekeeper? If they are between 12 and 19 years old by December 1 of this year and a resident of Angelina County or the immediate surrounding counties, have them request a PBA 2016 Youth Program Application. If they complete training this year, with a PBA mentor and including Bee School, they could be eligible to own a complete colony of honey bees with hive components and protective gear! Send name and parental email address (or mailing address) to Colin Bishop cbish@yahoo.com 409-466-4644(c)

Buy and Sell

For sale: Foundation – 142 sheets of 4 3/4 Duragilt small frame foundation for \$0.50 a sheet. 28 sheets of 5 5/8 crimped wire medium foundation for \$0.50 a sheet. 18 sheets of 5 5/8 Duragilt medium foundation for \$0.60 a sheet. These prices are about half price from Brushy Mountain Bee Farm. James Dotson cindydotson58@gmail.com 409-498-2225

For Sale: Varroa resistant queen cells (\$4) available possibly 3/5-6, 3/12-13, 3/19-20 and caged mated queens (\$18) starting ~4/2; nuc of 5 frames established bees and queen in your box (\$90) available early May. Call for availability and to reserve - pick up in Groveton. Rodger Floyd 936-831-2818 evenings.

Watch for March 2016 Grand Opening of Mann Lake LTD Beekeeping Supplier in Marshall, TX with major sales in March and September. Currently renovating a building to include a retail store, hive component boxes construction area, and dispensary for cane sugar syrup by the tanker or smaller containers. For info 800-880-7694 (corrected).

Beekeeping supplies now available at Atwoods in Nacogdoches, Lone Star Farm & Home Center in Nacogdoches and Corrigan, Lufkin Farm Supply & Nursery in Lufkin, and Circle Three Feed in Jasper. Ongoing bulk white granulated sugar source in Tyler – approx 35 cents/lb by the 55-gallon drum or smaller portions to your container. Les Jeske 903-561-2085 PM 4011 Birdwell Drive, Tyler 75703.

Bee helpful and volunteer at a PBA educational booth at the following events! Volunteers welcome and needed to help present the world of honey bees and beekeeping to our communities!

Saturday, 4/2 – Must be the perfect Saturday as three events being held - if we have volunteers, we can have booths at all of them!

- ❖ Downtown Nacogdoches Farmers Market Spring Fling, 8am-12pm. Contact Rachel Payne rachelpayne519@yahoo.com 936-715-0362.
- ❖ SFASU Pineywoods Native Plant Center Spring Garden Gala Plant Sale & Earth Day, 9am till plants sold (Earth Day 10am-2pm), 2900 Raguet Street, Nacogdoches. Park at Raguet Elementary and at the Early Childhood Research Center - drop-off for people needing assistance available as well as shuttle service. Contact Rachel Payne rachelpayne519@yahoo.com 936-715-0362.
- ❖ Angelina County Master Gardeners Spring Plant Sale, 8am-2pm, Angelina County Farmers Market, Loop 287 next to AgriLife north of TX Hwy 69 South. Perennials, natives, fruit trees, and roses. Contact Marie Kocyan redcutridge@yahoo.com 936-632-2272.

Saturday, 4/23 – Ellen Trout Zoo Earth Day – Bears, Blooms, and Butterflies, 10am-2pm, Lufkin. Contact Marie Kocyan redcutridge@yahoo.com 936-632-2272.

What's Buzzing

Saturday, March 5 – **Angelina Beautiful Clean 'Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day,'** 9am-12pm, Lufkin Recycling Center, 500 Southpark Drive, Lufkin. A great opportunity to pick up free 5 gallon buckets of light or dark paint for hive components! For other items accepted/prohibited, see <http://www.angelinabeautifulclean.org/abc-events/household-hazardous-waste-collection-day/>

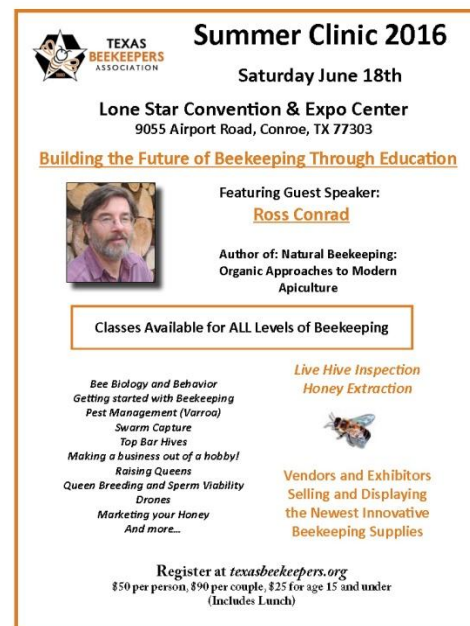
A member of the Fayette County Beekeepers Association has graciously donated a complete cedar top bar hive to their club. They are raffling it off at their next meeting, April 2, 5:00 pm at the Fayette County Extension Office, 255 Svoboda, La Grange, 78945.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and will be available at 840 N. Jefferson St., La Grange, TX, 78945 or you can call Jesse McDaniel at 713-408-3919 (he has offered to deliver it to Lufkin if one of our members wins).




6/18 – Texas Beekeepers Association Summer Clinic.
<http://texasbeekeepers.org/summer-clinic-2016/>


TEXAS AGRICULTURE SALES TAX EXEMPTION – All Texas beekeepers are eligible to apply for sales tax exemption on related agricultural purchases (see forms following). Fill out the attached form ‘ap-228’, or fill out online. When you receive your registration number, fill out the attached form ‘01-924 Texas Agriculture Exemption form’ and use locally or if ordering from any beekeeping retailer selling within Texas (now including all purchases from Mann Lake whether by catalog, phone, or retail store - place your ‘Ag/Timber number’ in the Comments section of your online order). Mann Lake is currently offering their big March sale – to receive email updates of sale items throughout the year, sign up and check the box ‘Mann Lake LTD - Bee Bucks Blast’ at http://www.mannlakeltd.com/SIGN_UP.html



TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION **Summer Clinic 2016**
Saturday June 18th
Lone Star Convention & Expo Center
9055 Airport Road, Conroe, TX 77303
Building the Future of Beekeeping Through Education

 **Featuring Guest Speaker:**
Ross Conrad
Author of: *Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture*

Classes Available for ALL Levels of Beekeeping

<i>Bee Biology and Behavior</i> <i>Getting started with Beekeeping</i> <i>Pest Management (Varroa)</i> <i>Swarm Capture</i> <i>Top Bar Hives</i> <i>Making a business out of a hobby!</i> <i>Raising Queens</i> <i>Queen Breeding and Sperm Viability</i> <i>Drones</i> <i>Marketing your Honey</i> <i>And more...</i>	Live Hive Inspection Honey Extraction  Vendors and Exhibitors Selling and Displaying the Newest Innovative Beekeeping Supplies
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Register at texasbeekeepers.org
\$50 per person, \$90 per couple, \$25 for age 15 and under
(Includes Lunch)

From the Hexagonal Office

by Mike Bordelon

Since our last meeting, Linda and I enjoyed the mead-making demo at James and Cindy’s home, presented programs on splits for the Shelby County Bee Club and the Deep East Texas Beekeepers, and presented a “Beekeeping for Beginners” program for the Jr. Garden Club at Hemphill High School. We continue to get phone calls from area residents who are interested in beekeeping. We have also planted 6 flowering quince bushes, a plant that bees love. In the meantime, I continue to build cypress hives for 7 new beekeepers.

President’s Project - The long hive is coming along, and I am procuring a nuc from Rodger Floyd to get it started.

BEE AWARE FOR MARCH

Spring is an exciting time in the bee yard and the time to make splits to increase your hives. Every beekeeper should learn how, and this is a good time to start. Should you not want any additional hives, then make a split and give or sell to a new beekeeper; it will be appreciated. There is good on-line (you-tube) info with additional info and methods on building a nuc. Talk to other beekeepers for help – that is one of the reasons we belong to PBA.

Be thinking of some ideas for future programs you would like to see. We will have a survey form for your input at our March meeting.

Comb-Grown Goodness

Homemade Gummy Bears

- ¼ cup fruit purée (thaw your fruit if it's frozen)
- ¼ cup purified water or coconut water
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons raw honey
- 2 tablespoons of unflavored gelatin

Add all ingredients to a small saucepan except gelatin. Whisk together over low heat until mixed well. Add gelatin slowly, continually whisking, making sure it doesn't clump while keeping it over the low heat. Don't allow it to boil! Once everything is mixed, let it cool a moment. Then, pour into silicon gummy bear mold that you've set in a cookie sheet. It's ok if you over-pour. Makes 50-60 gummies. Place in freezer on cookie sheet for 15 minutes. Pop out. Enjoy.

Honey Orange Glazed Almonds

(from www.almonds.com)

- 1 tablespoon butter
- ¾ cup honey
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 cups whole natural almonds
- 1 tablespoon fresh grated orange zest



Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper; lightly grease the paper and set aside. Melt the butter in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add the honey and salt. Bring to a boil. Stir in almonds; cook, stirring constantly 10 to 12 minutes or until honey becomes a dark caramel color. Stir in orange zest and quickly spread nuts in a single layer onto prepared baking sheet. Cool and break nuts apart. Cool completely and store in an airtight container.

Honey Strawberry Tea Cooler

<http://www.honey.com/print/honey-strawberry-tea-cooler>

- 1 pint fresh strawberries, stemmed and cleaned
- ¼ cup honey
- 1 can (6 oz.)- frozen orange juice concentrate
- 2 cups brewed green tea, cooled

In a blender or food processor container, combine strawberries and honey; process until smooth. Add orange juice concentrate; process until well blended. Stir into cooled tea. Serve over ice.





Meet the Members



Don Lymbery – Apiary Manager

Don is a beginning hobbyist beekeeper who got started in August, “so not very long, but very rewarding,” he says. He continues, “It kills me to lose a hive, but I'm beginning to understand that it is part of the learning process, and the point is to keep getting better and better, that comes with lots of learning and a greater understanding of the bees. They are the most fascinating little creatures that I have ever worked with. I love to feed them and sometimes I just sit down in the grass and watch them work at the hive and during their foraging. I started keeping bees because I noticed that one summer, there were fewer bees on my clover than I had ever seen before. This year that won't be a problem.”



His best beekeeping experience so far has been working with the experts at the Pinewoods Beekeeping Association. He says, “As they try to teach someone as thick-headed as myself and I always get my questions answered, it has really been a great learning experience. Any advice that would come from a novice like me might not be that great, but I would say - Don't give up and don't be afraid to try new ideas, have fun, and enjoy the bees.”

Don is retired from the United States Air Force Reserve and spends his time with his airplane, flying kids at the airport, or with the bees, getting more impressed with the little critters all the time.





Photo by Linda Bordelon



Photo by Tommy Dorsey



Photo by Linda Bordelon



Photo by Linda Bordelon



Photo by Rachel Payne

Clockwise from top left: Mike Bordelon presenting the check from the Evergreen Garden Club to Treasurer Terry McFall. Christian Dorsey and the top bar hive he made for a 4-H woodworking project. He won Best of Show at the Angelina County Youth Fair.

Mike Bordelon and James Dotson discussing how to make splits (Mike had a power-point presentation with videos of various methods of doing splits) to the Shelby County Bee Club.

Kacy Cole, Manager of Paris Branch of Dadant, presenting at the PBA February meeting.

Classroom teacher Kristi McDaniel, Hemphill Garden Club Committee Chairman Mary Ann Tompkins, and Mike and Linda Bordelon.