

Spilling the Honey

GBA Monthly Newsletter

Editors: Gina Gallucci and Linda Tillman

August 2016



Gorgeous photo by Jody Christenson, a friend of Gina's

President's Message

This is August and the year has flown by. The weather is hot and humid and right now I am in waiting mode. I am making sure that the beehives are strong and have enough food supplement. I took very little honey this year as compared to past years, since I had so many swarms and they did not bring a lot in. The rain did not happen although it was a beautiful spring this season. Some of my club members just 30 miles south of the I-20 line had a banner year. Reminds of several years ago when I had a great year and my club members were complaining. It shows that microclimate is very important.

The October meeting is just about a go. The meeting committee members have put together an excellent program for this fall. Our headliners are Dr. Jamie Ellis, Shane Gebauer, Dwight Ellis, Tammy Horn and Michael Palmer. We have heard Dr. Ellis a couple of years ago and he was excellent. The reviews from our members were astounding and there was a lot of support to get him for our fall meeting and here he comes. I have only heard some of the other speakers at the Eastern Apiculture Society meeting or on YouTube. I am excited to get a chance to hear them.

We also have our own Georgia speakers presenting and will give the meeting a well rounded panel of

people from which to glean knowledge, including both the academic arena and practical experience. We will have the bee yard for the third year in a row and there will be sign up time for everyone who wants to participate. We have tried to staff the hives with Georgia Master Beekeepers so that you can ask questions that you have wondered about when in your own hives.

The honey show will be in full swing. This year the honey room will be monitored and you will sign in and out your entries. This way we will have everyone retrieve their own entries. Our Beekeeper of the Year will be announced and we will have our annual elections at the business meeting on Saturday. Randy Rolen and Derrick Fowler have done a great job chairing the elections process. We will be using a paper ballot this year and will share more details in an email to members and in our September newsletter.

I hope to see all my old friends and meet some new ones as well in October. I think that this will be an outstanding meeting and a great time to learn some helpful tips for my bees.

Mary Cahill-Roberts

GBA President



Upcoming Club Meetings

For club speaker ideas, GBA maintains a speaker list. If you would like to speak to clubs, [click here](#) to be added to the list. As a speaker, plan to know what your honorarium request will be if you are asked to speak. If you have invited speakers for your club, [click here to read an article](#) first published in *Bee Culture* about how to treat your speakers well.

Club Name	Speaker/Topic	When	Where	City
Effingham County Beekeepers	Jane Quattlebaum	Thurs 8-11 7 PM	Pot luck Dinner at 6p Fellowship Bible Church	Springfield, GA
Forsyth Beekeepers	Rodney Gardner: Honey Judging	Thurs 8/25 6:30 PM	UNG	Cumming, GA
Heart of Georgia	"Bear" Kelley - Honey, The Inside Story	Tues, 8/16 7 PM	Camp John Hope	Fort Valley, GA
Lake Country Beekeepers	Mary Cahill Roberts- Hive inspection and what to expect	Mon, 8/15 7 PM	UGA 4-H Extension Office	Sparta, GA
MABA	Julia Mahood - Tips & Tricks of Beekeeping	Wed 8/10 7 PM	Atlanta Botanical Garden	Atlanta, GA
SOWEGA	Linda Tillman: Fun and Facts about Wax	Thurs 8/11 6:30 PM	Chehaw Creekside	Albany, GA
Tara	Keith Fielder: 10 Mistakes Made by Beekeepers	Mon 8/15 7 PM	Georgia Power Bldg	Forest Park, GA
Tri County Beekeepers	Cindy Hodges Varroa mites	Mon 8/8 7 PM	Gillsville City Park 7864 County Line Road	Gillesville
West Georgia	Alan Bradd: Varroa, pests, and winter prep	Mon 8/22 7 PM	American Legion	Douglasville, GA

Club News and Notes

Forsyth Beekeepers Club

The Forsyth Beekeepers Club hosted their annual Disease and Disorders Class on July 16. Students learned how to collect bees for testing for multiple disorders (varroa and nosema), as well as identify disorders of the hive (American foulbrood, European foulbrood, wax moths, etc.) Those who attended did a sugar shake and completed a mite check, and dissected the gut of some honeybees to look for nosema spores in a microscope. Infected frames of AFB, EFB, and wax moths were shared to give students a visual of what we've heard so much about. This short course better educates our local beekeepers with hands on instruction and allows time for discussion and questions. For more information on the Forsyth Club and upcoming events, please see the website and/or Facebook.



Photos Credit: Joe Banister

To see more photos from the event, [click here](#).



Lake Country

The Lake Country Beekeepers Association hosted a club member panel at the July meeting. Bruce Morgan of Morgan Apiaries, Roger Kicklighter of Tip Top Honey Bees, and Dave and Angie Larson of Whiskey Creek Farm, shared their insights, mistakes and knowledge on beekeeping. LCBA is a 4 year old club with over 60 member families.

This is the first time a panel format was tried. The panel addressed issues concerning hive health and management, splitting hives, queen rearing and replacement, mite treatment, feed supplements and safety in the bee yard. These four members, each of whom is a GBA member, represent over 30 years of beekeeping experience and have played a vital role in the LCBA mission of promoting the interest of beekeeping.

GBA ANNUAL OFFICER ELECTIONS

Fellow Members,

Our annual officer elections will take place at the October State Meeting, October 7 - 8 in Milledgeville, GA. If you are interested in serving as an Officer or Director, or want to discuss the duties involved, please contact one of the Directors listed below. Thank you for considering serving in the GBA.

Randy Rolen randyrolen@hotmail.com
Derrick Fowler dfowler1965@hotmail.com

Fellow Georgia Beekeepers,

We are fortunate this year to have quite a number of officer candidates willing to serve the GBA. In order that you can better know the candidates, the Nominating Committee is publishing a short bio of each for your review. In addition, we asked each candidate to answer the question "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

All Candidates are listed in alphabetical order using last name.

Candidate for the office of **President**: **Andy Bailey**



Andy Bailey is passionate, knowledgeable, experienced, and a leader in his beekeeping hobby. He is highly respected in the community, easy to talk with, and gives his time willingly to help others. In 2008, he was elected president of the Forsyth Beekeepers club and served thru 2009. Beginning in 2010, he began serving as a director on the club board and still holds that position. In 2013, he was elected secretary of the Georgia Beekeepers Association and served until 2015, when he was elected the current vice-president of the association. Andy is a sideline beekeeper who began his hobby in 2005 with only five hives and has grown to manage approximately fifty colonies. As a member of the Forsyth Beekeepers club, he is very active in the club's annual spring bee school, queen rearing class, and the disease and disorder class. In addition, Andy mentors club members when called upon.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

I believe the best way we can improve the Georgia Beekeepers Association is to support and unify all beekeepers. Hobbyist, sideline and commercial beekeepers all have a common goal of enriching one's personal beekeeping knowledge and educating others about the importance of honeybees.

Candidate for the office of **President**: **Linda Tillman**



Linda Tillman is a beekeeper, a grandmother, a bread baker and a recently retired clinical psychologist. She has served as the co-editor of the GBA newsletter for the last four years and is secretary of GBA. She co-founded the Atlanta Beekeeping Meetup and is a member of MABA, where she served on the board for many years. Linda began keeping bees eleven years ago and worked through the UGA/Young Harris certifications, earning her Master Beekeeper. She keeps bees in her backyard, at community gardens, at an Atlanta inn, and in the mountains. Linda runs a blog that she started

at the beginning of her beekeeping. Her blog (www.beekeeperlinda.com) is widely read by followers from all over the world. She's made videos about skills like harvesting honey and melting wax, and has written about lots of beekeeping adventures. Linda loves sharing her beekeeping fun with friends, children, grandchildren, new beekeepers, bee clubs and anyone who will listen.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

- Establish structured communication between clubs and GBA officers through regional meetings with local club presidents
- Target Georgia towns for honey bee-awareness opportunities
- Support and expand current GBA programs in parks and prisons
- Keep openness, good communication, and transparency with members through Facebook, website, newsletter and emails

Candidate for the office of ***Vice President***: **Gina Gallucci**



Gina Gallucci continues to learn and love beekeeping after 11 years. She joined the Tara and Metro Atlanta clubs. She served on the MABA board and then was president of MABA. Working on the MABA short course, chairing the swarm calls and answering the MABA phone gives her the opportunity to interact with beekeepers and the public, sharing knowledge about the fascinating honey bee. Gina keeps bees at her home and a nature preserve. She moved to Georgia from Washington State, and began a career in recruiting. Married 28 years, Gina has stepchildren, and a large, close extended family. Reading for pleasure introduced her to beekeeping, for which she is forever grateful, not only for learning the art and science of beekeeping, but especially for the many friendships which have developed along the journey. Gina currently serves as co-editor of our GBA newsletter.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

- Promote increased beekeeping in public areas such as city, county, state and national parks, nature preserves, government buildings and privately owned properties, where apiaries can be viewed by the general public
- Increase intra-club communication with more informal meetups, and group discussions involving club's leadership, GBA's state Directors and officers within regions in Georgia

Candidate for office of ***Treasurer***: **Rose Anne Dorn**



Rose Anne Dorn currently serves as our Georgia Beekeepers Association treasurer. One of her proudest moments was 2015, when the membership voted her the "2015 GBA Beekeeper of the Year." She is a member of the GBA since 2002. Rose Anne is the first to volunteer at meetings doing whatever needs to be done. Whether it is assisting with registration, serving food or assisting with the final cleanup, she is always helping. Rose Anne has served as secretary of the GBA honey shows numerous times and served as the GBA newsletter editor. In serving the beekeeping community she taught classes at the Young Harris/UGA Beekeeping Institute and served as the secretary of its annual honey show. She supports local beekeeping associations by making numerous educational presentations. Rose Anne promotes the GBA association and beekeeping industry through school programs, and local Farm Bureau Commodity promotions.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

Among my goals as a board member of our association is to promote harmony between the ideological factions that have risen in beekeeping in recent years. We must stand together in our support if the GBA is to remain a viable and trusted voice for the beekeeper of Georgia.

Candidate for office of ***Treasurer***: **Bear Kelley**



Bear Kelley is retired from the US Army after 30 years as a logistics management officer. He is a Certified Beekeeper as well as a Certified Welsh Honey Judge. He earned a Master's Degree from Michigan State Univ. and is the past president of the Georgia Beekeepers Assn. His other offices include GBA vice-president, president of the Heart of Georgia Beekeepers Assn, Education Board of the American Bee Federation. He serves on the board of directors of several national organizations. He has been beekeeping for about 10 years and operates a small apiary in South Georgia. Bear was selected as the 2014 GBA Beekeeper of the Year and 2015 Heart of Georgia Beekeeper of the Year.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Bear Kelley's Answer:

Continue ongoing work to support the entire state in our beekeeping and pollinator efforts. Reach out to schools to attract more junior beekeepers and include them in our state level programs. Work closer with our members by visiting clubs and providing experts from the state and national beekeeping organizations.

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Candidate for office of **Secretary: Jane Quattlebaum**



Jane Quattlebaum started beekeeping four years ago after hearing a 45 minute presentation on beekeeping and, subsequently attending the "Fundamentals of Beekeeping" hosted by Coastal Empire Beekeepers Association (CEBA). She was swarmed, one might say, and hasn't looked back. She currently is on the board of directors of CEBA, mentors about 10 beekeepers, and is the go to person for Savannah Bee Company when a bee removal needs to be done. Although she lives in Georgia, she is a Certified Beekeeper in South Carolina where she

attended college at Furman University. She is also an active member of Beaufort/Jasper Beekeepers Association and the South Carolina Beekeepers Association. Her love for honeybees has infected those she mentors and her goal is to make people great bee "keepers" not just bee "havers." When not tending bees, she works full-time for Teva Pharmaceuticals as a senior executive sales specialist. Vote Yes! J

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

Continue education leading to better beekeeping. We need a push to encourage mentoring of new beekeepers. Beekeepers need to learn to share more and not be in a competition. God has given us an amazing assignment and we need to help each other in that assignment.

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Candidate for office of **Director: Brutz English**



Brutz English has served on the GBA board of directors since 2013, and would very much like to continue to serve in this capacity. He currently serves as president of both the Henry County Beekeepers Association and the Potato Creek Beekeepers Club. Brutz earned a Master Beekeeper Certification as well as a Certified Welsh Honey Judge through the Young Harris/UGA Beekeeping Institute. He holds a commercial beekeepers license and a honey house license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture. In 2009, Brutz began keeping bees and over the following years his apiary has grown to over fifty colonies. The primary focus of his

beekeeping operation is honey production. However, he also does agricultural pollination. He is active in several local bee clubs in the middle Georgia area. Brutz enjoys volunteering and public speaking almost as much as he does beekeeping.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

As a GBA Board member I have witnessed the importance of continuity of leadership. For years essential information has been lost as officers have come and gone. I would like to see the GBA establish a formal procedure to facilitate and insure a more seamless transition for officer successions.

Candidate for office of **Director**: **Tim Hoffman**



Tim Hoffman has been a beekeeper for five years. He is a Certified Beekeeper living in Effingham County, GA. During the early part of 2015 he helped form the Effingham County Beekeepers Association. Along with helping start the Effingham Club he was elected as vice-president for 2015. Tim and his wife keep 10+ hives in their backyard. Not scared of a power tool, Tim enjoys building a lot of his own equipment including boxes, inner and outer covers, as well as screened bottom boards. His latest build was a simple top bar made from some scrap wood in the garage and says the bees are just booming in it. His next challenge in the wood shop will be an AZ hive, if he can only find the time. For a day job Tim is a professional instructor and teaches his fellow technicians how to maintain and repair airplanes.

GBA:

"What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

I would like to see an educational advertising campaign to raise honeybee awareness in areas outside of venues directly related to bees. For example: landscaping, agriculture, even home improvement venues, etc. The vast majority of people I've spoken with outside of beekeeping have no idea we exist as an organization.

Candidate for office of **Director**: **Terry Moore**



Terry Moore is a member of the Lake Country Beekeepers and the Heart of Georgia Beekeepers. He is a Certified Beekeeper by the Young Harris Bee Institute. As a beekeeper, Terry does a lot of public speaking to local garden clubs, public school classrooms, and in churches for the Gideons. Terry is 68 years old, and been married to Joyce, for 47 years. Terry and Joyce are Master Gardeners. After retiring from Southern Nuclear Company in 2005, they moved to Gray, Georgia. There they grows blueberries, muscadines, figs, apples, pears, plums, strawberries, blackberries, flowers, and maintain a large vegetable garden. A USAF veteran, Terry served during the Vietnam War. He holds a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and a master's degree in business administration. He was also licensed as a senior reactor operator by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

GBA:"What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

I would like to see us find ways to encourage manufacturers and vendors to take known and dangerous bee toxins off the shelf. I would like to see us do this in a very cooperative and supportive manner, advising the Ag Chemical companies and showing appreciation for their efforts.

Candidate for office of **Director**: **Robert Quarterman**



Robert Quarterman and wife Liz started the Effingham County Beekeeping Association in February of 2015 with a friend. The club joined GBA in September of the same year. He was the charter president and re-elected president for the 2016-17 year. Robert is a Certified Beekeeper in Georgia and South Carolina and is working on his Journeyman certification in both states. Robert is currently mentoring 30 plus local beekeepers. He is continually enamored by bees and beekeepers. Robert

(Robert Quarterman, cont)

became interested in honeybees in 2014 and bought one hive in the spring of that year. Enthusiastically he grew his apiary from 8 hives to 50 in his next year. Robert is a sustainable beekeeping advocate as is proven in his apiary. He is currently pastor of Fellowship Bible Church since 2006 and is married to Liz who grew up in Thomson, Georgia since 1997. They have four children and 13 grandchildren.

GBA : "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

I don't have much to say about changes now.

Candidate for office of **Director: Dale Richter**



Dale Richter has served as a Director for the GBA several times over the past forty years and looks forward to the opportunity to serve the beekeepers of Georgia and neighboring states once again. Dale, 59, is a resident of Leesburg, GA and is a second generation beekeeper with over fifty years of beekeeping experience. He has been a Georgia Master Beekeeper since 1987, and owns and operates The Buzz Fuzz, a honey bee and stinging insect removal business. Dale is a media consultant/contact for honey bee related information and is active in education and advisory activities for several local schools, industries, and associations. He has been an emergency

responder for honey bee related incidents for several years. On October 11, 2011, Dale became the first beekeeper to encounter Africanized honey bees in Georgia while responding to an incident in which a Dougherty County resident was fatally stung.

GBA: "What improvements should we make to improve our Georgia Beekeepers Association?"

Answer:

One improvement I would like to see by GBA is more proactive policies regarding possible negative incidents involving honey bees in Georgia. For example: AHB incidents, overturning of bee trucks, and killing by pest control companies. Also, I would like to see more public education on bees.

Candidate for office of **Director: Broadus Williams**



Broadus Williams has served on the GBA Board of Directors for the past two years, and would very much like to continue to serve in this capacity. He has played an active part in the success of the GBA prison beekeeping program. Broadus is a leader in Beekeeping 101 courses. Most recently he helped the Heart of Georgia club in its April beekeeping course. He is always found helping those new beekeepers getting started with their nucs or speaking in schools to our future beekeepers. Broadus is vice-president of the Heart of Georgia Beekeepers Association.

NOTE: In order to vote in the election of officers for GBA, you must be a member whose dues are paid. If your dues are scheduled to renew on October 1, be sure to pay your dues before the meeting so that you can vote as a member in good standing. The vote this year will be with a ballot, not by show of hands, so you will not be able to get a ballot to vote if your dues are not paid up. To check on your dues renewal date, [click here](#) and log in with the email address where you received this newsletter.

GEORGIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
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FALL MEETING 2016

Keynote Speakers:
Jamie Ellis, PhD
Michael Palmer
Dwight Wells
Shane Gebaeur

Featuring the Annual HONEY SHOW
Best in Show prize \$250

Make your plans now to come to the fall meeting. Registration is open and the hotel is waiting for your reservations. To register for the meeting, [click here](#). We are using a new hotel this year, the Fairfield Inn. When you register, your confirmation email will give you contact information to make your reservation there. We will be having our reception after the board meeting on Thursday night at the Fairfield Inn. The main meeting, speakers, honey show, etc. will take place on Friday, the 7th and Saturday, the 8th. Be sure to come to talk to your beekeeper friends and to learn from our great speakers, both from across the country and from our GBA membership.

FIRST YEAR FLASHBACKS AND MENTORING

By Jane Quattlebaum
Savannah, GA

When I think back on my first year as a beekeeper, I'm amazed that I am still keeping bees. I took a one-day class, purchased two nucs from someone I thought would be a great "go to" guy (not), and was totally clueless. My best friend and I started this journey together and quickly became very frustrated. Despite attending local bee meetings, we weren't getting answers to our "newbee" questions. Also, very few beekeepers were willing to come to a first-year beekeeper's apiary to help them check their hives. Thankfully, we did have one neighbor who knew just enough to get us through until the next spring. That is when my world changed. I met two amazing beekeepers who both had been keeping bees for a very long time. Rob Potts was the first knowledgeable beekeeper to take an interest in me and my desire to learn how to be a successful beekeeper (as opposed a "bee-haver") and to offer his time to answer phone calls and naïve questions. Rob then gave Harold Ward my

phone number because Harold needed help with a bee removal. Harold called and I said yes. Well, these two men have helped me and my best friend become very good beekeepers. I made a promise to myself at the end of my second year of beekeeping that I would never forget what it was like to be a first year beekeeper! I also decided that I would be as available as possible to any beekeeper that needed a mentor.

My question has always been: Why are some beekeepers so secretive about their methods? Aren't we all in this together? Don't we all want honey bees to survive and thrive? Well, I made a decision to share with others everything these two great men have taught me! God has given us a wonderful responsibility in taking care of one of His most amazing creations, and I feel like every beekeeper with any time under their belt should mentor at least one new beekeeper each season. Thankfully, over



the past few years, I've had the opportunity to mentor quite a few. Some succeed, some don't. Interestingly, I find out quickly that those who succeed are those who fall in love with bees more than the honey they produce. Honey is the beautiful by-product the Lord gives us as being the keeper of the bees. Please never forget those times of "is my queen alive...what is that brown beetle...why are there a huge amount of bees hanging from my hive entrance...is that honey or brood...Is this honey ready for harvest...should I feed my bees?" Never forget! Always teach and help fill the world with better beekeepers. Lord, thank you for bringing honey bees into my life. And Lord, thank you for my two great "Bee-Dads."

(Todd Foster did also come out to check that we still had queens. Thank you, Todd).



Hive Loss

By David Shipp

While I don't pretend to be an expert I wanted to share some thoughts on hive loss. Every year we talk about winter loss and preparing for winter then we lose more hives in the summer than the winter? What gives?

Last year Georgia had a loss of 34.9% of its hives. Nationally the rate was 44%. So way to go Georgia. The interesting thing is summer losses exceeded winter losses. While it is not scientific, common sense tells us the problem is queen loss after swarming. This time of year we are checking our hives, shrugging our shoulders that we cannot find the queen. We might even see some larvae (being fooled by a laying worker).

Time is not on our side. Some of the hive flew off with Momma; some are dying off fast, the rest are wondering what to do. Most of the time when we finally figure out there is a big problem, the other hives have robbed them out (it is a summer dearth) and wax moths have moved in.

The other part of the story is we open the hive, we notice less bees and we find a capped queen cell. Now we know they swarmed but, now what? We hope the queen cell hatches, mates and starts laying, right? Well, yes, but what are the odds? I have read studies that say 10-20% of queens are lost in mating flights but in talking to commercial beekeepers in south Georgia, they are saying more like 30%.

One said as soon as I put out the nucs, the robins line up to have dinner.

I tend to believe the higher number because that is what is correlating to hive losses.

So let's do a little calendaring. In the good case, we see a capped queen cell and we can say she has about a week before hatching. Since we have no idea when it was capped it could be one to ten days before she hatches (big range). Then once hatched, there will be five to ten days before she starts mating flights (another big range). Mating flights could be two days up to eight-ish (another big range); then up to two weeks before she starts laying (another big range). So adding all of the ranges up three to six weeks before we can actually (with old man eyes) see something.

The point is that we like to say "Bam, this is the time," and the bees don't agree. I am, like many,

guilty of hurriedly buying a queen just to go put her in and then to see brood. The problem happens when we sit back and say the bees will take care of it. We might put in a frame of larvae from another hive. If they have been too long without the queen, they will have a laying worker and they will not make a new queen no matter how much we pull down cells.

The crux of the problem is we have to be in the hives at least every other week seeing what is happening. (In this heat not fun). When we see a problem, we need to do something and then follow up. When we see they are queenless, we have to act. Without a queen too long, go ahead and combine them with a strong hive. Manage the loss. If you combine, you have strengthened the hive and protected the hardware and comb from predators.

Don't worry about numbers of hives. Split more. Follow The Coweta Method. Steve Page's ideas on splits and queens are great. But get into your hives!

Dear Aunt Bee,

I have 2 hives in my backyard. One hive swarmed, and my neighbor showed me a hive in his tree in his front yard. The tree was struck by lightning years ago, and there is a nice split in it where the bees seem to have nestled. From the activity, it seems to be quite strong. Without cutting down this beautiful tree, how can I get my bees back?

Thanks!

Lonely for my bees

Dear Lonely,

It's so frustrating when a hive swarms and you can't collect the swarm. Sounds like your bees found a natural home and are happy there.

It's possible to get the bees (but not usually the queen) by doing what's known as a trap-out. I have never done one, but many beekeepers have. It takes time and patience. You make a funnel exit from the hive in the tree from # 8 hardware cloth and cover the opening into the tree so that all of the bees leaving the tree have to go out of the funnel. Place a hive box very near the opening to the funnel and put in the hive box a frame of brood and eggs from another hive.

If you are lucky, the bees will leave the tree and when

they can't return through the funnel, they will move into your box and raise a queen. Michael Bush who spoke to GBA at the last fall meeting says that he has never gotten the queen to leave the hive and move to the capture box in a trapout.

If you want to try to do a trap out, there are many sites on the Internet with photos and explanations.

I think I would just try to get excited that at least my bees were in a tree near me where I could watch them and I would hope to get a swarm from them next year.



Good luck with the tree,

Your Aunt Bee

(thanks to Priscilla Summers for the question)

“Every saint
has a bee in his
halo.”

– Elbert Hubbard

Honey Bee Day August 20, 2016 in the USA

National Honey Bee Day is observed on August 20, 2016. National Honey Bee Day (formerly National Honey Bee Awareness Day) is an awareness day started by beekeepers in the United States to build community awareness of the bee industry, through education and promotion.

According to its organizers, the National Honey Bee Day program started with a simple concept: "Bring together beekeepers, bee associations, as well as other interested groups to connect with the communities to advance beekeeping. By working together and harnessing the efforts that so many already accomplish, and [by] using a united effort one day a year, the rewards and message is magnified many times over. We encourage bee associations, individuals, and other groups to get involved. The program is free and open to all."

The event was started in 2009 by a small group of beekeepers who petitioned for and obtained a formal proclamation by the USDA honoring honey bees and beekeeping. (With material from: Wikipedia)

Where is the event?
Nationwide
USA

When is the event?
Saturday, the 20th of August 2016

-submitted by Bear Kelley

My bees and Pesticides by Rick Moore

A few weeks ago the pecan grove which surrounds my subdivision sprayed their trees with the tractor drawn jet engines that push a mist into the tops of the trees. The noticeable chemical smell was distinctive. Soon I noticed a very steep drop in bee activity around my hives. A few days later, I'd lost 50% of my hives. There were no bees in the hives; no dead bees, no invading pests, no visible reason for the multiple colony deaths. After finding the pecan grove office in the next town, I visited the owners of to find they had used the pesticide [Chlorpyrifos](#) on their pecan trees. In part the article at Wikipedia concerning bees says:

"Bees

Main article: Pesticide toxicity to bees

Acute exposure to chlorpyrifos can be toxic to bees, with an oral LD₅₀ of 360 ng/bee and a contact LD₅₀ of 70 ng/bee.^[22] Guidelines for Washington state recommend that chlorpyrifos products should not be applied to flowering plants such as fruit trees within 4–6 days of

blossoming to prevent bees from directly contacting the residue.^[63]

Risk assessments have primarily considered acute exposure, but more recently researchers have begun to investigate the effects of chronic, low-level exposure through residue in pollen and components of bee hives.^[64] A review of US studies, several European countries, Brazil and India found chlorpyrifos in nearly 15% of hive pollen samples and just over 20% of honey samples. Because of its high toxicity and prevalence in pollen and honey, bees are considered to have higher risk from chlorpyrifos exposure via their diet than from many other pesticides.^[64]

When exposed in the laboratory to chlorpyrifos at levels roughly estimated from measurements in hives, bee larvae experienced 60% mortality over 6 days, compared with 15% mortality in controls.^[65] Adult bees exposed to sub-lethal effects of chlorpyrifos (0.46 ng/bee) exhibited altered behaviors: less walking; more grooming, particularly of the head; more difficulty righting themselves; and unusual abdominal spasms.^[66] Chlorpyrifos oxon appears to particularly inhibit acetylcholinesterase in bee gut tissue as opposed to head tissue.^[66] Other organophosphate pesticides impaired bee learning and memory of smells in the laboratory.^[67]"

Because I had not spoken earlier with the grove owners, I lost ten hives to a sprayed pesticide. When I met with the owners they explained the chemical to me and told me they had changed their pesticide to [INTREPID](#) which states on the label: "*Registered methoxyfenozide insecticides have not been found to cause any threat to aquatic environments, birds, fish, or bees when used according to label instructions.*"

Three weeks later the grove owner called to say they would be spraying the Intrepid the next morning. I thanked him for the call and his consideration. I have bees, he has trees. We are locked together as neighbors who because of the dialogue opened, communicate and will peacefully get along with each other. That night I locked my bees in their hives for 36 hours, the trees will be sprayed, and hopefully, I will not lose any more bees.

Do not think another person knows what you have, or is concerned about you. I do not blame the grove owner for running his business; he did not intentionally kill thousands of my bees, he is protecting his business. Because of communicating with him I can protect my business also. One short visit (and I will give him honey when I extract) and we both are happier. Know what is being sprayed where your bees not only forage, but the areas they pass through on the way to their foraging areas. We need to ask questions. Know what is being sprayed near your bees, and the route they take to water and forage.

The Final Buzz

Gina and I are looking forward to seeing many of you at the fall meeting - October 6 - 8 in Milledgeville, GA. Be sure to register so you can go and have a great time with your fellow beekeepers.

Thank you for all of your contributions to this newsletter. Keep the articles and photos coming. We want to hear from more clubs about who is speaking and what you are doing with your meeting times.

Deadline for the next newsletter is August 21st at midnight, so get your material in to us!

Linda and Gina

