



Featuring the
*MEAD & BEER
SHOW*
&
*WEBSITE AD
AUCTION*

**SPRING
MEETING
2015**

EDUCATING BEEKEEPERS *and*

SUPPORTING LOCAL CLUBS

Lake Blackshear Resort • Cordele, Georgia

February 13 & 14, 2015

To reserve a room at the special Georgia Beekeepers rate
call 1-800-459-1230 and use the code 200981



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

OFFICERS

President
Clay "Bear" Kelley

Vice President
Mary Cahill-Roberts

Secretary
Andy Bailey

Treasurer
Roseanne Dorn

News Letter Editors
Gina Gallucci
Linda Tillman

Past President
Jerry Edwards

Web Master
Bill Owens

DIRECTORS

North District Director
Arthur "Brutz" English

Northeast District Director
Slade Jarrett

Central GA District Director
Broadus Williams

Southeast District Director
Rhett Kelley



Cindy Bee was the first female Master beekeeper in Georgia. She spent 14 years as the only full time bee removal specialist in Georgia and has co-written a book on bee removal which is available through the A.I. Root Company. She worked for the University of Georgia's honeybee lab and has recently assisted in a SARE grant in Jefferson, Maine, studying northern vs southern raised queens. She has an MA in Professional Writing and an MFA in fiction as well as nonfiction. Currently she resides in Maine where she is the co-owner of a 10 acre farm raising livestock, vegetables, bee forage sources, and of course, tending honey bee hives.



Jennifer Leavey, PhD is the Integrated Science Curriculum Coordinator for the College of Sciences at Georgia Tech where she has been a faculty member in the School of Biology since 2005. Jennifer works to develop interdisciplinary connections in introductory undergraduate science courses and co-curricular opportunities with the goal of increasing enthusiasm for science and scientific literacy in Georgia Tech students. The Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project was founded in 2012 as part of the integrated science initiative and serves as a research model system in which Georgia Tech students can explore the effects of urban habitats on honey bees.



Gretchen LeBuhn, PhD is passionate about conserving and promoting "the little things that run the world"—our native pollinators. Since leaving a career in investment banking, Dr. LeBuhn has worked to understand when and why pollinator communities decline — and what we can do to conserve them. She has investigated the ecology of a variety of pollinators ranging from Andean hummingbirds to desert hawkmoths and San Francisco's native bumble bees. Most recently, she has worked with citizen scientists to understand what factors amplify the effects

of habitat loss and fragmentation on pollinator communities. She joined the faculty at San Francisco State University in 2001 and teaches ecology and conservation biology at SFSU. She has published over 30 papers on birds, plants and pollinators and two books. She is an avid gardener and the parent of twins.



Erin MacGregor-Forbes began her journey in beekeeping in 2004. Erin studied beekeeping in Maine and Georgia, earning her Journeyman level certification through Cornell University's Master Beekeeper program and becoming fully certified as a Master Beekeeper at the 2008 Eastern Apicultural Conference. Erin teaches beekeeping at all levels. Erin and her partner Cindy Bee currently manage 150+ colonies for honey, queen and nuc production. Erin anchors her

beekeeping practice and teaching in working with the super-organism to achieve mutual goals of the colony and the beekeeper. Erin is the only beekeeper we know of who currently maintains an observation hive in both her home living room and bedroom.

Friday, February 13

7:00 PM Board Meeting

8:00 PM Welcome reception for all conference attendees

Saturday, February 14

7:30 - 8:15 Presidential Breakfast: A meeting of all attending local club presidents to share ideas and connect with each other and with our GBA president, Bear Kelley. Margo Wimbish will give an update about the Jr. Beekeepers Program.

8:30-8:45 Opening remarks Bear Kelley, GBA President

8:45-9:30 Cindy Bee: *Successful Swarm Catching*

How to be prepared for collecting a honey bee swarm in the open: what to bring, how to approach the situation, what equipment to use, and how to have your new colony successfully.

9:30-10:15 Jennifer Leavey, PhD: *The Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project: Creating opportunities for research, education and community outreach*

Since its founding in 2012, the Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project has expanded its scope beyond providing undergraduate research opportunities for Georgia Tech students to creating partnerships with schools, urban farms and community gardens on the west side of Atlanta. This talk will highlight some of the projects and collaborations that have been established in this unconventional program.

10:30-11:15 Morning Breakout Sessions A

11:20-12:05 Morning Breakout Sessions B

12:05-1:00 LUNCH

1:00-1:45 Gretchen LeBuhn, PhD *Citizen Science and Bees*

The Great Sunflower Project has people all over the country collecting data on pollinators in their yards, gardens, schools and parks. After gathering information on pollinators since 2008, it now has the largest single body of information about bee pollinator service in North America. Dr. LeBuhn will walk us through this fascinating project.

1:45-2:30 Erin MacGregor-Forbes: *SARE Report: Honey Bee Colony Strength and Survivability*

Erin and her collaborators started 104 new colonies on new foundation and "ran them like a new beekeeper would in their first year". The colonies were split into groups of overwintered nucleus colonies, commercial packages, and requeened commercial packages. Colonies were monitored for health, parasite loads, and colony strength through the season and finally rated in spring. Erin will present the results of her work and provide insight into her theories regarding the differences between the groups.

2:45- 3:30 Afternoon Breakout Sessions C

3:35-4:20 Afternoon Breakout Sessions D

4:20 Show winners announced, Ad Auction, Closing remarks

MEAD & BEER SHOW

Entries will be taken Saturday from 8:00 am until 12:30.
Winners will be announced at the end of the day.

AUCTION Saturday Afternoon

Boost your sales by advertising on the GBA website! Only four ads will be sold. You must be present to bid.

BREAKOUT SESSION SPEAKERS



Bob Binnie

Owner of Blue Ridge Honey in Lakemont Georgia, Bob has been a commercial beekeeper since 1981 and has been involved in commercial beekeeping in seven states. Bob was GBA President in 2008-2009, and received the 2003 Georgia Beekeeper of the Year award.



Jennifer Berry

As the Research Coordinator and Lab Manager for the UGA Honeybee Program, Jennifer has a wealth of knowledge about the latest honeybee research. She also has her own queen and nuc business and is one of our state's most popular speakers.



Julia Mahood

An Atlanta artist, Julia is a sideline beekeeper with hives in metro Atlanta and Blue Ridge, Georgia. As a Master Beekeeper, she enjoys sharing her passion for natural beekeeping as a mentor and speaker.



Randy Rolan

A Master Beekeeper from Ringgold, Randy is passionate about pursuing the never ending quest for knowledge about honeybees. One of his favorite things to do is share knowledge about honeybees with new beekeepers. He has taught "Introduction to Beekeeping" at local colleges, clubs, and other organizations. Randy is a charter member of the Chattooga Beekeepers and an active member in the GA, TN, and AL Beekeepers Associations.



Linda Tillman

Master Beekeeper Linda Tillman is a sideline beekeeper with hives in several locations in Atlanta and in Rabun County. She is the author of the popular blog www.beekeeperlinda.com where she has chronicled her beekeeping experiences from 2006 until now. Linda is also the co-editor of the GBA newsletter, *Spilling the Honey*.



James Wilkes

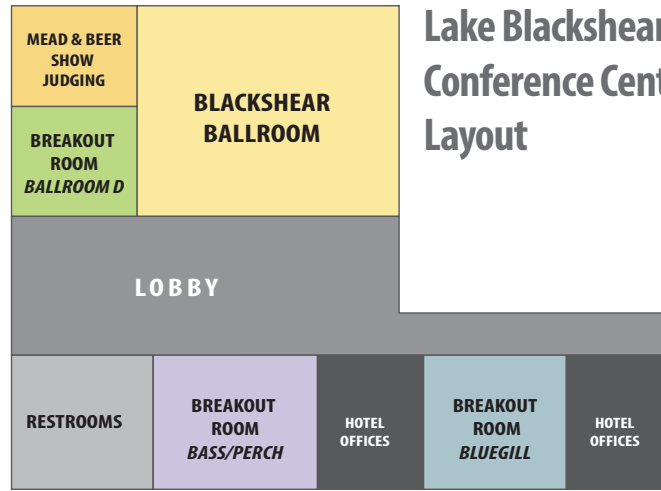
Co-founder and part owner of Hive Tracks, James also owns and operates Faith Mountain Farm, a family farm (wife and eight children) that includes about 100 honey bee colonies. James is also a Professor of Computer Science at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC.



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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Descriptions and Locations



Lake Blackshear Conference Center Layout

10:30-11:15 Morning Breakout Sessions A

Queen Bees 101 - All about her majesty: how to spot her, care for her, basics and little known facts.

Jennifer Berry • Location: Bass/Perch conference room

Swarm Traps in Your Apiary - The necessity of catching the swarms in your own bee yard. Different types of equipment to use, set up, and optimum locations for your traps.

Cindy Bee • Location: Blackshear Ballroom

Fun and Facts about Wax: A look at wax through history. Explore ways to use your wax to make candles, pour lip balm, or enter wax blocks into honey contests.

Linda Tillman • Location: Ballroom D

How to get started in Commercial Beekeeping

Learn the steps and pitfalls of making the leap into commercial beekeeping.

Bob Binnie • Location: Bluegill conference room

11:20-12:05 Morning Breakout Sessions B

Queen Bees 101 - All about her majesty: how to spot her, care for her, basics and little known facts.

Jennifer Berry • Location: Bass/Perch conference room

Swarm Traps in Your Apiary - The necessity of catching the swarms in your own bee yard. Different types of equipment to use, set up, and optimum locations for your traps.

Cindy Bee • Location: Blackshear Ballroom

Besides Honey- Making lip balm, lotion bars and propolis tinctures.

Julia Mahood • Location: Ballroom D

How to get started in Commercial Beekeeping

Learn the steps and pitfalls of making the leap into commercial beekeeping.

Bob Binnie • Location: Bluegill conference room

2:45-3:30 Afternoon Breakout Sessions C

How to run a beekeeping course at your bee club

Learn how to Increase your club membership and build membership cohesion by running a successful beekeeping course at your club.

Randy Rolen • Location: Bass/Perch conference room

What science can tell us about gardening for bees

A fascinating perspective on an age old topic.

Gretchen Lebuhn • Location: Blackshear Ballroom

Applying for a SARE grant Get an overview of the SARE program and its goals. Learn about the grant application process and get insight into how to develop a promising project idea into a project application.

Erin Macgregor-Forbes • Location: Ballroom D

Record keeping is for Everyone! It can be challenging to remember what you observe in each hive from visit to visit, but you need that information to make informed management decisions. Learn practical record keeping advice and get motivated to keep better records.

James Wilkes • Location: Bluegill conference room

3:35-4:20 Afternoon Breakout Sessions D

How to run a beekeeping course at your bee club

Learn how to Increase your club membership and build membership cohesion by running a successful beekeeping course at your club.

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