



2023 FALL

CONFERENCE

COMBINED
HONEY
& ARTISAN SHOWS

UGA
MASTER BEEKEEPER
PROGRAM TESTING
(all levels)

WELSH HONEY JUDGE
(training & testing)

SEPTEMBER 21 - 23
GAINESVILLE, GA

SPONSORED BY



2023 Fall Conference Keynote Speakers



BROCK HARPUR is an Assistant Professor in the Entomology Department of Purdue. Brock arrived at Purdue after completing a National Science and Engineering Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the Donnelley Centre, the University of Toronto with Ben Blencowe. His work explores the evolution and genetics of honey bees. Brock completed his Ph.D. on population genomics of honey bees at York University with Amro Zayed as an Elia Research Scholar. He's been a beekeeper for 15 years.

KEYNOTE #1: HISTORY AND LESSONS ON HONEY BEE GENETICS THROUGH THE EYES OF A DRONE – Honey bee genetics can be complicated but it's important for you to understand it to keep your apiary healthy. Learn the basics of honey bee genetics using both historical and new research. We will outline how inheritance occurs in bees and how modern genetic techniques can be used to understand your bees better.

KEYNOTE #6: HONEY BEE GENETICS OF THE U.S. WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON GEORGIA – Learn where honey bees in the United States come from and what that means for beekeepers and bee breeders. This talk will focus on historical research and bring in new genomic data from around the country.



DR. DEWEY M. CARON is Emeritus Professor of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology, Univ of Delaware, & Affiliate Professor, Dept Horticulture, Oregon State University. Now retired, he remains active in bee education, writing and teaching all over the world. He is the author of many books, including *Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping*, and *The Complete Bee Handbook*.

KEYNOTE #2: WHAT SUCCESSFUL BEEKEEPERS ARE DOING TO COMBAT VARROA – How to get ahead and stay ahead of the curve of annual varroa growth. Tools for Varroa Management and Bee MD can help guide you toward reducing losses. Fighting the mite smarter not harder. How to enlist the bees and integrate a variety of weapons dependent upon our beekeeping objectives and philosophy.

KEYNOTE #7: DEFENSIVE BEES – Eventually we will have a colony that is defensive. What happened to that gentle colony we started with? Was it something we did? Could it be mites or just big colonies or just lack of experience? Diagnosing and dealing with defensive bees.



DR. ISAAC WEINBERG received his PhD in Biology in May of 2023 at Tufts University, where he studied how honey bees respond to chronic temperature stress in their hives. He now works at Dalan Animal Health, where he helps to develop vaccines to treat diseases that affect honey bee colonies.

KEYNOTE #3: COMB-REORGANIZATION IN RESPONSE TO TEMPERATURE STRESS IN HONEY BEE COLONIES – This talk will present findings from three field experiments which provide evidence that when exposed to long-term temperature stress, honey bees rearrange where they store brood, honey, nectar, and pollen within their hives. In addition, we will speculate on mechanisms that may be driving the reorganization of comb stores.





THERESA MARTIN has 23 colonies in southeastern Kentucky. She focuses on keeping healthy, alive bees by using more natural practices. She is a Cornell Master Beekeeper, President of the Whitley County Beekeepers Association and a Kentucky State Beekeepers Association board member.

KEYNOTE #4: DEAD BEES DON'T MAKE HONEY: 10 TIPS FOR HEALTHY PRODUCTIVE BEES

- In her five years of beekeeping with now 23 colonies, Theresa has never had a colony die or abscond! Theresa shares her sustainable beekeeping practices. By modeling what the bees teach us about balancing bee health with production, your bees can make more honey in the long run and bring more enjoyment and profit to you, the beekeeper.



DR. LEWIS BARTLETT is a research faculty professor at the University of Georgia with a mandate to work on Pollinator Health. He has been beekeeping for over 11 years since he started his training in Yorkshire, England, where he was born. He specialises in the biology of parasites and infectious diseases and the health of honey bees. Lewis has trained in York, Cambridge, Exeter, and Falmouth in the UK and in San Francisco California, Athens & Atlanta in GA while in America. His work started in understanding what drives outbreaks of honeybee diseases and has grown to cover everything from nutrition to pesticides in determining the health of honey bees.

KEYNOTE #5: KNOWING YOUR BEE LAB: 2023 UPDATES ON THE YELLOW LEGGED HORNET AND BEE RESEARCH IN GEORGIA*

- The UGA Bee Lab has had a busy year! We're working on the new yellow legged hornet presence in Georgia, pest control and disease vaccination, and microplastics and honey quality. In this session we'll update you on what your bee lab has been up to, what funding is coming in, how GBA is helping, and celebrate that Georgia is a rising star amongst honey bee co-operative research in the USA.

**This program qualifies for one CEU for HBR licenses.*



DR. JORG MAYER grew up in Germany where he received his primary education. After he received his doctoral degree from the University of Budapest/Hungary, he studied in the US, Papua New Guinea, and the Royal veterinary College in London. Dr. Mayer is currently is a Full Professor in Zoological Medicine at UGA. He lectures regularly at large national and international conferences on all aspects of exotic animal medicine including honey bee medicine. He has published numerous scientific articles and books and is recognized as an outstanding speaker in the field of exotic mammal health.

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER TALK: COMPARING THE ART OF BEEKEEPING TO MICRO FARMING

KEYNOTE #8: APITHERAPY STUDIES AT THE UGA VET SCHOOL

- While Apitherapy or the use of honey bee byproducts is not a novel idea and has been used for thousands of years in human medicine, very little is known about the mechanisms of actions. This is most likely the reason why this exciting field in medicine is often not very well accepted in western medicine and often considered "quackery." This lecture aims to provide more insight into the variety of mechanisms on how honey, venom and propolis can have beneficial effects, with a few examples on how the apitherapy is used in animal patients and what kind of research is conducted at UGA in this field.



THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

Journeyman/Master testing takes place in the Deal building. The Certified test will be held at the main conference center. Testing information and schedule are available online at gabeekkeeping.com

| TIME | PRESENTATION / EVENT | SPEAKER | ROOM |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|
| 2:00 - 6:00 | Honey Show entries accepted | | Lanier |
| 4:30 - 6:00 | GBA Board Meeting | | Lyman |

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

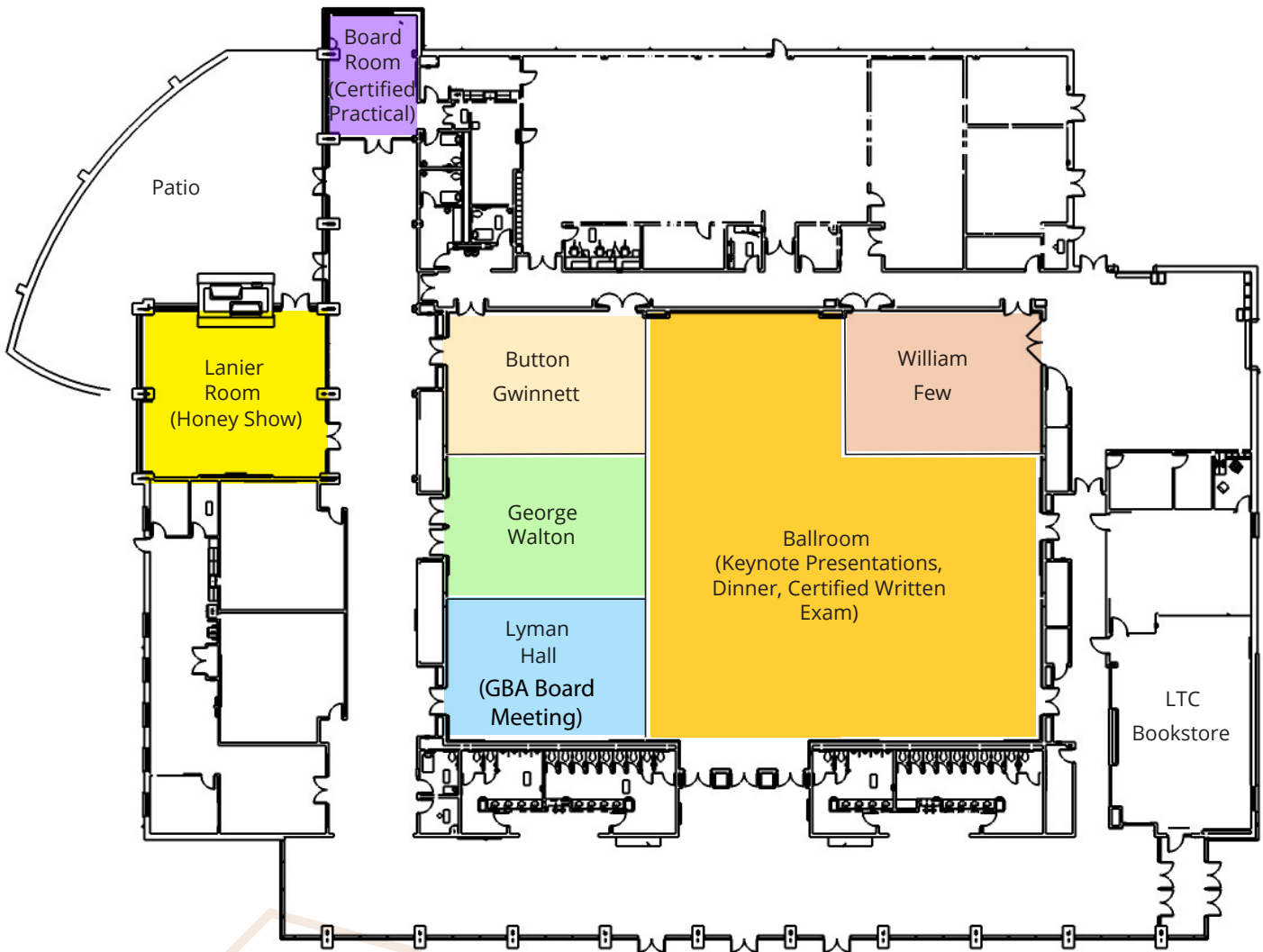
| TIME | PRESENTATION / EVENT | SPEAKER | ROOM |
|---------------|--|------------------------------|----------|
| 7:15 - 9:00 | Honey Show entries accepted | | Lanier |
| 8:00 | Registration opens | | |
| 9:00 - 9:15 | Opening Remarks | Gina Gallucci, GBA President | Ballroom |
| 9:15 - 10:00 | Keynote 1: History And Lessons On Honey Bee Genetics Through The Eyes Of A Drone | Brock Harpur | Ballroom |
| 10:00 - 10:45 | Keynote 2: What Successful Beekeepers Are Doing To Combat Varroa | Dewey Caron | Ballroom |
| 10:45 - 11:00 | Break / Visit Vendors | | |
| | MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS A | | |
| 11:00 - 11:45 | Bee Experience On The Airbnb Worldwide Platform | Ed Morgan, Jr. | Lyman |
| | Managing Beekeeping Equipment | David Hollomon | Walton |
| | The Buzz Around Golf | Scott Griffith | Few |
| | Bee-ginner's Track: Basic Bee Biology | Jennifer Berry | Gwinnett |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Lunch | | |
| 1:15 - 2:00 | Keynote 3: Comb-Reorganization In Response To Temperature Stress In Honey Bee Colonies | Isaac Weinberg | Ballroom |
| 2:00-2:30 | Break / Visit Vendors | | |
| | AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS B | | |
| 2:45 - 3:30 | Bee Experience On The Airbnb Worldwide Platform | Ed Morgan, Jr. | Lyman |
| | Managing Beekeeping Equipment | David Hollomon | Walton |
| | The Buzz Around Golf | Scott Griffith | Few |
| | Bee-ginner's Track: Honey Bee Pests & Diseases | Claressa Lucas | Gwinnett |
| 3:30 - 4:00 | Break / Visit Vendors | | |
| 4:00 - 4:45 | Keynote 4: Dead Bees Don't Make Honey: 10 Tips For Healthy Productive Bees | Theresa Martin | Ballroom |
| 5:30 - 6:00 | Beer & Wine Social | | Ballroom |
| 6:00 - 8:00 | Dinner / Talk: Comparing The Art Of Beekeeping To Micro Farming (Beekeeper of the Year, Honey Show awards, and new Journeyman and Master beekeepers presented after the speaker) | Jorg Mayer | Ballroom |

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

| TIME | PRESENTATION / EVENT | SPEAKER | ROOM |
|---------------|---|-------------------------------|----------|
| 7:30 | Registration | | |
| 7:30 - 8:30 | President's Breakfast (<i>current club presidents only</i>) | Eric Malcom, BIP | Ballroom |
| 8:30 - 8:45 | Election / Visit Vendors | | |
| 8:45 - 9:45 | GBA Business Meeting & Beekeeper of the Year Announcement | | Ballroom |
| 9:45 - 10:45 | Keynote 5: Knowing Your Bee Lab: 2023 Updates On The Yellow Legged Hornet And Bee Research In Georgia* | Lewis Bartlett | Ballroom |
| 10:45 - 11:15 | Break / Visit Vendors | | |
| | MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS C | | |
| 11:15 - 12:00 | Better Beekeeping Using Broodminder T2SM Temperature Sensors | Theresa Martin | Lyman |
| | Tips and Tricks for Running a Successful Bee Club | Bobby Chaisson | Few |
| | License Plate Grants Demystified | Julia Mahood | Walton |
| | Bee-ginner's Track: A Year in the Apiary | Mary Cahill Roberts | Gwinnett |
| | Bee Structural Removal Licensing Requirements | GA Dept. of Agriculture Staff | Ballroom |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Lunch | | |
| 12:45 | Announcement of election results | | |
| 1:00 - 1:45 | Keynote 6: Honey Bee Genetics Of The U.S. With Special Emphasis On Georgia | Brock Harpur | Ballroom |
| 1:45 - 2:30 | Keynote 7: Defensive Bees | Dewey Caron | Ballroom |
| 2:30 - 3:00 | Break / Visit Vendors | | |
| | AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS D | | |
| 3:00-3:45 | Better Beekeeping Using Broodminder T2SM Temperature Sensors | Theresa Martin | Lyman |
| | Tips and Tricks for Running a Successful Bee Club | Bobby Chaisson | Few |
| | Arts and Crafts Categories at the Honey Show | Brutz English | Walton |
| | Bee-ginner's Track: Mistakes New Beekeepers Make | Deb DeWitt | Gwinnett |
| | Now That You're Licensed For Honey Bee Removals, What's Next? | GA Dept. of Agriculture Staff | Ballroom |
| 3:45 - 4:00 | Break | | |
| 4:00 - 4:45 | Keynote 8: Apitherapy Studies at the UGA Vet School | Jorg Mayer | Ballroom |
| 4:45 - 5:00 | Raffle Drawings | | Ballroom |
| 5:00 | Conference Concludes | | |



RAMSEY CONFERENCE CENTER



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gabeeking.com

SEPT. 22ND: BREAKOUT TALKS (SESSIONS A & B)

LYMAN

BEE EXPERIENCE ON THE AIRBNB

WORLDWIDE PLATFORM – Hosting Bee Experiences is a great way to add to your beekeeping income and introduce people to the fascinating world of honey bees.

Edward Morgan, Jr. is a Certified Beekeeper and an active board member of Metro-Atlanta Beekeepers Association (MABA). He currently works as a full time beekeeper doing Bee Experiences on the Airbnb platform, licensed bee removals and managing more than one hundred beehives within an 80-mile radius of metro Atlanta.



WALTON

MANAGING BEEKEEPING

EQUIPMENT – One thing that most beekeepers do not enjoy is managing the ever growing volume of equipment that we all end up with. David will share storage and organization options that have worked for other beekeepers in a variety of situations.

David Hollomon is a Georgia Master Beekeeper. He volunteers at Arrendale State Prison's beekeeping program. He is an active member of the Tri-county Bee Club. David has several hobbies and is currently studying bladesmithing and leather work.



FEW

THE BUZZ AROUND GOLF

Why golf courses are great habitats for honey bees and pollinators in general.

Scott Griffith has been in the golf course maintenance business for 25 years and serves as the Golf Course Superintendent/Director of Agronomy UGA. He led the effort of the UGA Golf Course being certified as a cooperative sanctuary through Audubon International.



BEE-GINNER'S TRACK

These talks are geared for new beekeepers who are still gaining foundational knowledge and building their beekeeping practice. (Beginner's Track sessions do not repeat.)

GWINNETT

BASIC BEE BIOLOGY

(morning session A)

Jennifer Berry has been the Apicultural Research Professional and Lab Manager for the University of Georgia Bee Program for more than 23 years. She has spent decades researching ways to control Varroa destructor and ways to keep bees healthy and alive. Her latest research has involved what best to plant in non traditional and traditional landscapes to enhance pollinator populations and diversity.



GWINNETT

HONEY BEE PESTS AND

DISEASES (afternoon session B)

Claressa Lucas has been an avid backyard beekeeper since 2007. The current Treasurer of MABA, and a Georgia Journeyman Beekeeper, she is also the on-call swarm catcher for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Atlanta campuses and helps to promote pollinator friendly practices in the federal built environment.



See color-coded map for room locations.



SEPT. 23RD: BREAKOUT TALKS (SESSIONS C & D)

LYMAN HALL

BETTER BEEKEEPING USING

BROODMINDER T2SM TEMPERATURE SENSORS

– "Precision beekeeping" uses technology that improves decision making and revolutionizes beekeeping decisions to enable healthier, more productive colonies. In this presentation, Theresa shares five real life examples and the improved outcomes enabled by Broodminder T2SM temperature sensors.

Theresa Martin has 23 colonies in southeastern Kentucky. She focuses on keeping healthy, alive bees by using more natural practices. She is a Cornell Master Beekeeper, President of the Whitley County Beekeepers Association and a Kentucky State Beekeepers Association board member.



FEW

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR RUNNING

A SUCCESSFUL BEE CLUB – If you are in a club leadership position, this is the talk for you. Bobby will share leadership strategies and programming ideas to help get your local club to the next level.

Bobby Chaisson is a Georgia Master Beekeeper who has over 15 years experience with bees all over the southeast as part of his work for Georgia Bee Removal. He is the President of Tri County Beekeepers and a GBA Director. Bobby was the Georgia Beekeeper of the Year in 2019.



WALTON

LICENSE PLATE GRANTS

DEMYSTIFIED – How to best apply for license plate grants for your club or project, with Q and A. (NOTE: Morning Session C only; does not repeat)

Julia Mahood is a Georgia Master Beekeeper and the 2018 Georgia Beekeeper of the Year. She teaches beekeeping at Arrendale State prison and created a citizen science drone mapping project at mapmydca.com.



WALTON

ARTS AND CRAFTS CATEGORIES AT

THE HONEY SHOW – Learn from a senior honey judge what the ins and outs are of preparing entries for the arts and crafts categories in honey shows. (NOTE: Afternoon Session D only)

Brutz English is a Georgia Master Beekeeper and Senior Welsh Honey Judge. He is in charge of the Honey Judge program at the YHBI. A long time GBA director, Brutz was the Georgia Beekeeper of the Year in 2017.



BEE-GINNER'S TRACK

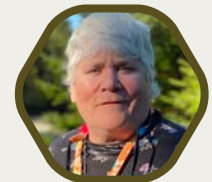
These talks are geared for new beekeepers who are still gaining foundational knowledge and building their beekeeping practice. (Beginner's Track sessions do not repeat.)

GWINNETT

A YEAR IN THE APIARY

(morning session C)

Mary Cahill Roberts is a Georgia Master Beekeeper and Senior Honey Judge. She is the owner/manager of Swarm Chasers Apiaries, where she maintains 1-15 hives throughout the season through the Certified Naturally Grown method. She is a Past President of the Georgia Beekeepers Association and the Tara Beekeepers Association.



GWINNETT

MISTAKES NEW BEEKEEPERS MAKE

(afternoon session D)

Deb DeWitt fell in love with bees in 2018. A Master Beekeeper, she keeps bees at her home in downtown Atlanta, as well as in Chattahoochee Hills, Mt Arabia, and Brevard NC, and manages the Tara Beekeepers' teaching apiary in Decatur, where she also teaches a beekeeping class to high school students. Deb is Vice President of Tara Beekeepers, and a MABA board member.



BALLROOM

BEE STRUCTURAL REMOVAL LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

– By Georgia Law you must obtain a license to do bee removals from structures. This session will cover what is involved in obtaining this license. (NOTE: Morning session C only; does not repeat)

Presented by Georgia Department of Agriculture Structural Pest Control Division Staff

BALLROOM

NOW THAT YOU'RE LICENSED FOR HONEY BEE

REMOVALS, WHAT'S NEXT? – An update on the new certification program and what's involved to keep your license current. (NOTE: Afternoon Session D only)

Presented by Georgia Department of Agriculture Structural Pest Control Division Staff