

FEBRUARY 16 & 17, 2024 • MACON, GA



2024 SPRING

# Conference

& TEACHING  
HONEY SHOW

MIDDLE GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ROBERT F. HATCHER, SR. CONFERENCE CENTER

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# Keynote Speakers



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## Dr. Keith Delaplane,

is a professor of entomology at UGA and has served as the director of the honey bee program there since 1990. He has a long association with honey bees, beginning when his father bought him a beginner's kit when he was 13. Dr. Delaplane has authored, co-authored, or edited more than 200 publications, books and research articles on honey bees.

**Keynote 3: The Geographic Natural History Of Honey Bees: How We Got The Races We Use In Beekeeping**

## Dr. Jamie Ellis

is the Gahan Endowed Professor in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida, where he has responsibilities in extension, instruction, and research. Jamie and his team have over 30 active research projects in the fields of honey bee husbandry, conservation, and ecology.

**Keynote 1: The Science Of Using Pollen Subs**

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

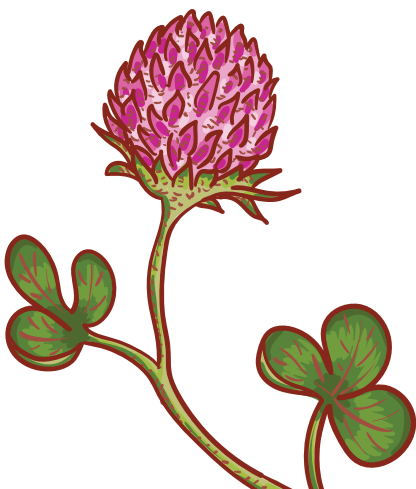
**Keynote 4: Keeping Bees Alive**



## Megan Mahoney

has been fascinated by honey bees ever since being introduced to them in Dr. Marla Spivak's lab in 2003. She has worked in the commercial bee industry, produced queens in Northern California, led a tech team for the Bee Informed Partnership in Texas, and worked as a technician for the varroa sensitive hygiene (VSH) breeding program in Hawaii. In 2019, she and her partner Ross Klett founded "Mahoney Bees & Queens," a company specializing in instrumental insemination, breeder queens, and cell production. They currently manage a migratory, Carniolan-based breeding population in addition to helping maintain about 2,000 colonies.

**Keynote 2: 50 Shades Of Grey – Carniolan Breeding In A Commercial Operation**



# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

P.M.	Presentation / Event	Room
3:30 - 4:30	Honey Show entries accepted	132, 134, 136, 139
5:00 - 6:15	GBA Board Meeting	
6:30	Beer & Wine Social	
7:00	Dinner and speaker Megan Mahoney: <b>A Life (So Far) In Beekeeping From A Woman Obsessed!*</b>	

\*You must register and pay for the dinner in advance

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

A.M.	Presentation / Event	Speaker	Room
7:15 - 9:00	Honey Show entries accepted		132, 134, 136, 139
8:00 - 8:45	Presidents' Breakfast <i>(For local club presidents and GBA officers)</i>		

## CONFERENCE:

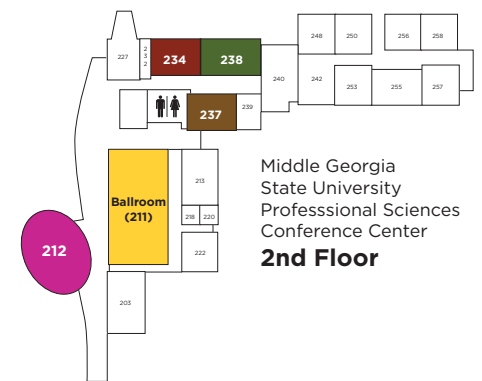
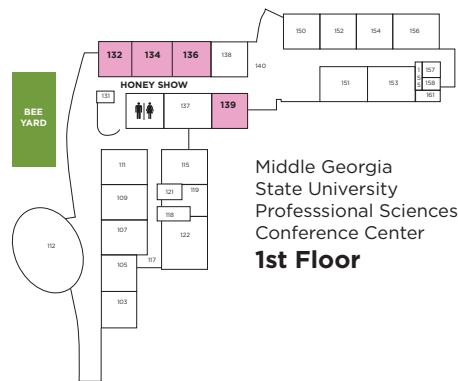
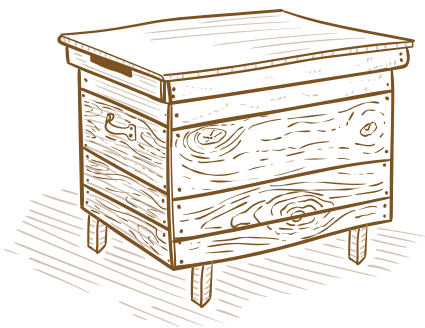
8:50	<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	<b>Gina Gallucci, GBA President</b>	Ballroom (211)
9:00	KEYNOTE 1: <b>The Science Of Using Pollen Subs</b> <i>NOTE: This program qualifies for one CEU for HBR licences</i>	<b>Dr. Jamie Ellis</b>	Ballroom (211)
10:00	KEYNOTE 2: <b>50 Shades Of Grey – Carniolan Breeding In A Commercial Operation</b>	<b>Megan Mahoney</b>	Ballroom (211)
10:45	Ad Auction		
11:00	Break		

### 11:30 MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

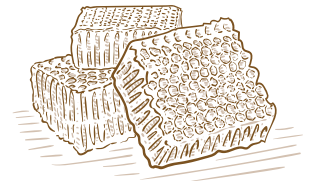
	How To Properly Set Up A Honey House	<b>Savannah McGuire</b>	234
	Pollinators: They Need Us And We Need Them!	<b>Jennifer Berry</b>	237
	The Buzziness Of Beekeeping	<b>Marcus Pollard</b>	238
	The Hunt For Premium Carniolan Drones In Slovenia	<b>Megan Mahoney</b>	212
	Not Quite A New Bee	<b>Keith Fielder</b>	Ballroom (211)
	Hive Dives	<b>Bobby Chassion</b>	Bee Yard

### P.M.

12:15	Lunch		
1:10	KEYNOTE 3: <b>The Geographic Natural History Of Honey Bees: How We Got The Races We Use In Beekeeping</b>	<b>Dr. Keith Delaplane</b>	Ballroom (211)
2:00	<b>AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	Morning breakouts repeat during afternoon session	See rooms above
2:45	Break		
3:15	Honey Show award winners announced		
3:30	KEYNOTE 4: <b>Keeping Bees Alive</b>	<b>Dr. Jamie Ellis</b>	Ballroom (211)
4:15	Raffle Drawings / Closing Remarks	<b>Gina Gallucci, GBA President</b>	Ballroom (211)
4:30	Conference concludes		



# Breakout Sessions & Speakers



## ROOM 234

**HOW TO PROPERLY SET UP A HONEY HOUSE** – Learn all the ins and outs of state regulations regarding facilities that process and bottle honey.

**SAVANNAH MCGUIRE** has been with the Georgia Department of Agriculture since January 2023. She has a degree in biology from Jacksonville State University. Her background includes eight years as a Wildlife Technician with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, including four years teaching environmental education.



## BALLROOM (211)

**NOT QUITE A NEW BEE** – Learn honey bee management tactics and strategies for those who would like to step up their game from the beginner level. Topics include splits, mite management, nutrition and feeding, equipment, supering for a better honey crop, as well as in season and off season management suggestions.

**KEITH FIELDER** is a senior Welsh honey judge and a Georgia Master Beekeeper. He has served as President of the GBA and was named GBA's Beekeeper of the Year in 2009. Keith currently serves as Chair of the Georgia Farm Bureau Honeybee commodity group.



## ROOM 237

**POLLINATORS: THEY NEED US AND WE NEED THEM!** – A discussion of the many ways each of us can help support our pollinators.

**JENNIFER BERRY** has been the apicultural research professional and lab manager for the University of Georgia Bee Program for more than 23 years. Her extension duties include pollinator protection, and teaching beekeeping to folks all over the world, including those incarcerated in Georgia's medium and maximum security prisons. She is hoping to wrap up her PhD this spring.



## ROOM 212

**THE HUNT FOR PREMIUM CARNIOLAN DRONES IN SLOVENIA** – Megan had the opportunity to travel to Slovenia last summer with a group of scientists from Washington State and helped collect "pure" Carniolan honey bee semen from various beekeeping operations around the country as part of WSU's importation program.

**MEGAN MAHONEY** has been fascinated by honey bees ever since being introduced to them in Dr. Marla Spivak's lab in 2003. She has worked in the commercial bee industry, produced queens in Northern California, lead a tech team for the Bee Informed Partnership in Texas, and worked as a technician for the varroa sensitive hygiene (VSH) breeding program in Hawaii. In 2019, she and her partner (Ross Klett), founded "Mahoney Bees & Queens," a company specializing in instrumental insemination, breeder queens, and cell production. They currently manage a migratory Carniolan-based breeding population in addition to helping maintain about 2,000 colonies.



## ROOM 238

**THE BUZZINESS OF BEEKEEPING** – Starting a bee business can be daunting. Discover some matters you may want to consider when starting your business. This talk will cover subjects relating to business formation, products, and marketing to help you succeed in your beekeeping business ventures.

**MARCUS POLLARD** is a Master Beekeeper, accounting and finance manager, and the founder and CEO of Pollards Produce LLC, a small farm that produces vegetables, honey and wax products. He enjoys sharing his passion with others by mentoring, teaching, and creating content on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube on his channel "Bee Pimprn."



## BEE YARD

**HIVE DIVES** – Experience a hands on hive inspection with a professional beekeeper. This is an excellent opportunity for folks in their first years of beekeeping. Participants must bring and wear a veil to participate.

**BOBBY CHAISSON** is a Master Beekeeper and the owner of Georgia Bee Removal. A current GBA director, he has been a beekeeper since 2007 and is active in several local clubs. Bobby was awarded the Georgia Beekeeper of the Year in 2019.

