Bee Club News

June 2010

Hands-on Training and Potluck this Month (Please RSVP by 10 June)

We will meet at the Logsdons home (see below for directions) at 6 PM. [Note the time, place and format change for this month only.] We will have three beekeepers giving demonstrations on hive inspections. Hale Young, Marvin Holland, and Eric Hudgins have agreed to show us how they personally go through a hive. Please bring your own protective gear if you plan on participating. You can also view the procedures from the upper deck if you prefer.

We will eat at 7 PM. The Logsdons will provide pulled pork and pulled beef. Please call, Kathleen or George (862-3275) to let them know how many people will be attending (family members welcome) and what covered dish you will be bring. You also can call and ask for suggestions on what to bring. A cold refrigerator and warm oven will be available for holding foods. Please RSVP by June 10th so they can plan for the proper amount of meat.

Bee Club Meeting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tr>
<td>14-June</td>
<td>Hale Young, Marvin Holland, Eric Hudgins</td>
<td>The Logsdons have invited the club to their home for a tour of their apiary led by fellow beekeepers. Learn from three different beekeepers what they look for when doing a hive inspection. Please bring your own protective gear. A pot luck to follow.</td>
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<td>12-July</td>
<td>Gary Kauffman (from the Park Service)</td>
<td>Local plants and pollination. Gary has also been a beekeeper.</td>
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<td>9-August</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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Please let George or myself know if you have any suggestions for guest speakers this year. As you can see we do not have any speakers lined up past July!

June Beekeeping Tasks

We still plan to eventually provide a bullet list of basic beekeeping tasks for each month that are specific to Transylvania County (in reality this may not happen until next year). This month we again borrow mostly from the Buncombe County Beekeepers Website:

- Tulip Poplar flow to continue through early to mid June.
- As flow comes to a close, prepare to extract fully capped frames from supers or cut comb. Frames with uncapped honey will lead to a product with a high moisture content and possible fermentation.
- Prepare supers for sourwood flow, replace foundation if necessary
- Sourwood flow to begin mid-late June and continue through mid July.

I got to talk to Hale a little bit when he and Marvin came over to help Kate inspect our hives.
- Continue to be on the lookout for swarming
- If you are heading west, keep an eye for extreme weather conditions.
- Have a good June!
• Continue to be on the lookout for swarming
• If you see swarm cells, you need to remove the frame and start a nuke or new hive. If you only cut out the swarm cells, while leaving the frames in the hive, they will create more swarm cells within 24 hours
• So far, it does not look like it will be a good honey crop.
• A notable exception, are George and Marvin’s hives, whose bees seem to be pollinating something growing on/near a neighboring farm.

Some Random Notes
• I spent some time figuring out why some folks were not getting the newsletter formatted properly (thanks to a member who let me know that the formatting was jumbled). The newsletter defaults to send from my work email. Not wanting to use my work email to send the newsletter, I first send it to my personal email account. I then forward that email to club members, and this is where the formatting problems begin. So, beginning with this issue, you will receive the newsletter from my work email account. Please let me know if you still experience problems.

• While trying to figure out the formatting issues, I found out that I had left part of an item out of the last newsletter (must not have been important because only one person mentioned the mistake). Unfortunately, I can not guarantee that these types of errors will not happen again. It’s 1 a.m. and I have to drive to DC tomorrow morning. That’s an example of the conditions I am often doing this under. If someone would like to help me co-edit/proofread the newsletter please send me an email with an offer I can’t refuse!

• Mapping. Unfortunately for me, I’ll be coming late to the meeting next week and will be out of town for the July and August meetings. I have not seen the map yet, but I assume that we could have 2-4 “clusters” within the county where hives are grouped together. An initial benefit of the map is to simply know who the beekeepers in your “cluster” are. In addition to potentially helping each other out in the byyard, sharing basic information such as what’s in flower, what are the bees bringing in, how much honey is being produced, pest/disease problems, etc. can help increase our overall understanding of what is happening in our area. We could also use a few minutes at each beecub meeting to share and compare major observations from each cluster.

Directions to George and Kathleen’s Home
From downtown Brevard:
Take Route 64 East. Go past K-Mart and veer right onto Old Hendersonville Hwy. Follow that through two stop lights. **Go past Pisgah Forest Re-cycling. Take the first Right (Everett Rd). Go 1.4 Miles. Turn right into Fox Crossing Development. Stay on the main road as it veers left and up 2/3 of the way to the top on the Right: Black Mailbox with 306 on side and 37 on Front two Brick pillars at top of drive/Brick Ranch Home. If able park on the main road and walk down to home. If not park in driveway if available.

From Connetee:
Follow 276 toward Brevard. Turn right on Williamson Creek Rd. Turn Right on Old Hendersonville Highway go straight at stop Light Then go to ** above and follow to home

From Hendersonville:
Follow 64 west toward Brevard. Turn Left onto Crab Creek Rd/stop light and triangle stop gas station. Go about 1 mile. Turn Right on Everett Rd.. Follow that road 1.6 miles. Turn left into Fox Crossing Development. Stay on the main road as it veers left and up 2/3 of the way to the top on the Right: Black Mailbox with 306 on side and 37 on Front two Brick pillars at top of drive/Brick Ranch Home. If able park on the main road and walk down to home. If not park in driveway if available.

Purchase Bee Supplies Locally!
Contact TC Bee Club members Marvin or Sheila Holland at:

BEE COOL BEE SUPPLY
828-883-4140
beecoolbeesupply@yahoo.com

Questions or comments? Email Tom at comencopiafarm@yahoo.com.