



Bee Line

www.cherokeebeeclub.com

MAR/APR 2008

The Presidents' Corner

Waking up from a long winter nap:

Daffodils, budding maples, alders, elms, cedars as well as many others are welcoming the end of winter and preparing for entry into a promising new cycle of life. Whether or not we have graced our hives recently, the honey bees are preparing for the same type of renewal. Overwintered bees begin to be replaced by new and more vigorous offspring, ready to take on the task of growing the population to bring in a new harvest of pollen, and heavenly nectar. Flowery, you might say? Why yes it is; and so is springtime! Are your bees ready? What can you do to help them?

One of the most important things that you can do at this point is to evaluate your hives on a warm day. Get in there and say hello to the little ladies! This is the time of year, as populations begin to explode, that many bee colonies meet their demise due to starvation. You might say, "Well they have got food in the supers, why would they starve?" The answer is that they might not have a large enough population, on those warm days, to move enough honey into the cluster for those lingering winter nights. (Tip: Use a frame-top feeder for your small colonies that don't have adequate food stores). Are your hives queen-right? Is it time to replace the old gal? Are your bees still having persistent problems with varroa mites? Do you need to replace old comb with new foundation or just manipulate the frames that you already have? Does your colony need to be split to prevent swarming? Have you finished preparing your new equipment for your new package bees? It seems that every answer poses a new question. Each colony has its own personality.

Continued....

It is up to you to figure out what they are trying to tell you that they need help with. EDUCATION IS KEY!!!

The Cherokee Bee Club's One-Day Bee School was a great success with nearly 30 new beekeepers! Thanks to everyone that helped to make it a great start to a new year! Additional thanks go out to Jennifer Berry, who enlightened us, at our February meeting, on the most recent research and recommendations to the beekeeping world.

The Club will present a continuation of bee school at our Spring Field Trip on March 15, 2008. The itinerary will answer all of the above questions and many more. The intent of the Field Trip is to give newcomers additional hands-on training in the hive, from installing packages, frame manipulation, strategies on feeding, to making splits (No, we are not talking about Yoga here). We will also be having our annual raffle of a three pound package of bees!!! I hope to see everyone in attendance at this educational opportunity.

I would like to remind all members to submit beekeeping questions to AskProfessorBee@cherokeebeeclub.com as problems arise. It is a free service!

Many wishes of great success to you and yours!

Ryan A. Sarks

2008 Calendar of CBC Meetings
(tentative)

- *March 15th Spring Field Trip – Setting Up Packages
- *March 29th (Rainout Date)
Laney Cagle

- April 17th Queen Rearing
Value of Drones in the Hive
How to Become a Certified Beekeeper
Mike Elliott & Randy Tudor

- May 15th Creating a Bee Business/Marketing
GA Beekeeping Laws
Scott Tate & Trina Barron

- *June 21st Summer Field Trip – Family Picnic
- *June 28th (Rainout Date)
Scott Tate

- July 17th Medications &
Late Summer Hive Inspections
Worth Green

- August 21st County Fair/Honey Judging
Bud Champlin & Randy Tudor

- September 18th Winter Bee Survival
Bob Binnie, President
GA Beekeepers Association

- October 16th Apitherapy
BJ Weeks

- *November 21st Holiday Banquet
John Tackett

- *December* No Meeting - Happy Holidays!

Regular meetings held on the 3rd **Thursday** of each month at 7:00 PM at the Cherokee Arts Council building in Canton, except those noted with *.



Quote of the Month:

To Just Bee – The hive is sweet because of the honey in it, but you must be sweeter as you are the source & spring of the honey
- **A hornet to a bee:**

o from the poet Nazimi

Recipe Corner



Honey Caramel Corn

- 1/2 Cup Honey*
- 1/2 Cup Butter*
- 1/2 Cup packed Brown Sugar*
- Dash of Salt*
- 1 Tsp. grated Orange Peel*
- 1/4 Tsp. baking soda*
- 3 Quarts popped Popcorn*

Melt butter in lrg saucepan; stir in sugar, honey & salt. Cook and stir until mixture comes to a boil. Reduce heat to med; boil with out stirring 3 minutes to 265 degrees. Remove from heat; stir in orange peel and soda. Place popcorn in large oven safe bowl; slowly pour syrup over popcorn while stirring. Turn onto greased 15 X 10 X 1/4 inch baking pan. Bake at 250 for 45 minutes; stir every 15 minutes. Cool. Break into serving-sized pieces. Store in air-tight container. Makes 3 quarts (six servings of two cups each).

Bee Culture & The American Bee Journal

at reduced rates (25% off),
as Association Members through the club.

CBC Community Volunteering Opportunity

The Canton YMCA has asked the club to man a booth during their “Healthy Kids Day” program on Saturday, April 19th from 10am to 12:30pm. There is a hive set up at the site. They are looking us to share the importance of the honey bee on crop pollination and health aspects of honey and other hive products. If anyone would like to take products to sell, they can or if you can man the booth but need hive product props, those can be furnished thru the club. The club encourages these type promotional activities. Please contact Laney Cagle for additional information on 770-893-2635 or email lane714@tds.net.



For the CHEROKEE BEE KEEPERS Spring Outing

*We will be installing packages, splitting hives, and enjoying fellow beekeepers company!
Refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own veil and jackets if needed.*

MARCH 15, 2008

10am to 2pm at the home of Laney & Harold Cagle

178 Amicalola Forest Drive, Dawsonville, GA (H) 770-893-2635 © 404-906-9909

Directions:

North 515 to the first red light – HWY 108 – turn right. Go approx 2 miles and you will come to a four-way stop. Go straight and you will be on HWY 53E. Stay on 53E for approx 12.8 miles; you will pass the Foothills IGA and the turn to Big Canoe on your left, then the Handy Corner Store/Cowart Road on the right. Slow down – this is a curvy section of 53! Our road is the only gravel street on the right between Cowart Road and the Amicalola River (if you get to the Amicalola River Bridge you have gone too far!). Turn right onto Amicalola Forest Drive. Look for the 2nd mailbox (third drive) on right - #178 / Cagle. Keep coming up the drive until you see the house.

South 515 – HWY 53 E – go thru Jasper to the four way stop at Tate. Turn left. Stay on 53E for approx 12.8 miles; you will pass the Foothills IGA and the turn to Big Canoe on your left, then the Handy Corner Store/Cowart Road on the right. Slow down – this is a curvy section of 53! Our road is the only gravel street on the right between Cowart Road and the Amicalola River (if you get to the Amicalola River Bridge you have gone too far!). Turn right onto Amicalola Forest Drive. Look for the 2nd mailbox (third drive) on right - #178 / Cagle. Keep coming up the drive until you see the house.

GA 400 – HWY 53 W – Traffic light north of outlet Mall – turn left. Stay on 53W. 7 miles past downtown Dawsonville, you will cross over the Amicalola River Bridge. Slow down – this is a curvy section of 53! Our road is the only gravel street on the left between the Amicalola River and the Handy Corner Store/Cowart Road (if you get to the Handy Corner Store you have gone too far!). Turn left onto Amicalola Forest Drive. Look for the 2nd mailbox (third drive) on right - #178 / Cagle. Keep coming up the drive until you see the house.

JANUARY 17, 2008
Meeting Minutes

- Held at Cherokee Arts Council @7:00. 29 people in attendance.
- Board of Directors recommended an increase of 2008 dues from \$12 to \$15. Please complete 2008 application after meeting and pay 2008 dues if possible.
- New program of new members this year will be a “mentoring” type of program where an experienced beekeeper will offer answers and hive evaluation to first year members. Mentors are needed. Please contact Randy Tudor. More information to follow on website and in the Beeline.
- One more “value-added” benefit for members will be “Ask Professor Bee”, a new service on the website that will encourage beekeeping questions. Answer and comments will be posted in the Beeline. This program will help the club to build a frequently asked questions database.
- **A very special thanks to Ryan for these new ideas and his enthusiasm!!!!** Please check the website for calendar of upcoming club events. At least two guest speakers are planned.
- Worth presented a budget. Motion was made to accept the budget. Motion was passed by vote of voice. Summary:

Checking Balance 12/08/2007	\$2,313
Income	\$2,245
Expenses	\$2,245
Projected Balance 2/31/2008	\$2,178

- Two more directors are needed due to oversight at the November meeting. The board recommends Debbie Lomax and Bob Tuck. The floor was opened for additional nominations. No other nominations were made. Motion was made to vote these two members as directors. Motion passed by vote of voice.
- Bee School is scheduled for 2/2/08. There will also be a regular meeting on the third Thursday of February. BJ spoke on the various workshops that are currently being organized. Anyone who wants to volunteer please call BJ.
- Our speaker for tonight was BJ Weeks. His timely topic was entitled “Winter Jobs at the Bee Hives”. Thanks to BJ for sharing his expertise and helping us to hopefully over winter our bees successfully.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

FEBRUARY 21, 2008
Meeting Minutes

- Held at Cherokee Arts Council @7:00. Approximately 35 people in attendance.
- Special Guest Speaker for the night is Jennifer Berry from UGA Bee Research Lab. Jennifer shared much new information relating to the recent loss of bees in the United States.
- The new uncapping tank which the club purchased was presented. It will be available for rent along with the recently upgraded 9-frame extractor.
- Ryan reported that Bee School was a huge success, with approximately 28 students in attendance. Bee school resulted in over \$600 going to the club. BJ thanked all club members who participated in bee school. Bee school would not be possible without the contributions and teamwork of members.
- Bud has asked that we start thinking about a theme for the county fair. It’s never too early to start planning this event as it comes at a busy time of year.
- Meeting adjourned around 9pm.

Dear Master Gardeners, We have just launched The Great Sunflower Project, a community science project with the goal of increasing our understanding of where bees are doing poorly and how the pollination of our garden and wild plants are being affected. We're hoping you will join us by planting sunflowers in your garden. Community, demonstration, and school gardens are invited to participate. We'll send you some free native sunflower (Helianthus) seed and twice a month, we'd like you to time how long it takes for 5 bees to visit one flower on that sunflower. This information will give us an index of pollination that we can compare across the United States. Once we know where bees are in trouble, we can start developing a plan to help them. You can see the details about the project and register at <http://www.greatsunflower.org> or contact us at sfbee@sfsu.edu. Do join us!

Thanks so much,
Gretchen LeBuhn
Associate Professor
San Francisco State University

CBC Library



A Year in the Life of an Apiary	How to Keep Bees and Sell Honey
Beekeeping - A Complete Owner's Manual	Increase Essentials
Beekeeping - A Practical Guide	Observation Hives: How to Set Up, Manage, and Use an Observation Hive
Bees - Lectures By Rudolf Steiner	Queen Management
Bees in America - How The Honey Bee Shaped a Nation	Queen Rearing and Bee Breeding
Bees Were Their Business	Setting Up a Package Swarm
First Lessons in Beekeeping	Small Scale Honey Harvesting
Following The Bloom - Across America w/ Migratory Beekeepers	The Candle Maker's Companion
Health and The Honey Bee	The Class Room
Hive Management: A Seasonal Guide for Beekeepers	The Healthy Taste of Honey
Honey - From Hive to Honey Pot	The Joys of Beekeeping
Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping	The Life and Times of the Honeybee
Honey Bee Pests, Predators, & Diseases	The Queen Must Die
How Do Bees Make Honey	

"If anyone has outstanding library items, please return them to the next meeting"

Notes from the Editor

Thanks to all who assisted with Bee School '08. It was another great day for promoting Bee Keeping. We were blessed with beautiful weather and the school drew a good crowd. I encourage all of the new-bee's to attend our regular meetings and outings. The information provided is invaluable in learning the ins & outs of beekeeping. Most all of the long time members will be glad to mentor the new folks.

If any of you are not on the distribution list from UGA, they will be having their Bee Institute at Young Harris College on May 15-17. I've attached their adobe doc for registration, or you can contact Detsy Bridges on 706-542-9035, or detsyb@uga.edu.

Please see the note on pg 4 regarding the sunflower project. You do not have to be a Master Gardener to participate.

If you have any articles you'd like to share, or if you would like to list anything for sale, please send them to me or call. Laney Cagle, lane714@tds.net, 770-893-2635

The opinions expressed in articles in the BeeLine are of the writer & not necessarily of the CBC Membership

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