



Bee Line

www.cherokeebeeclub.com

May/June 2009

The Presidents' Corner

by Ryan Sarks
Happy Spring!

Flowers are blooming, bees are buzzing, and the honey season is well underway. Hopefully, this rainy weather that we have been getting will work towards our little friends' benefit in large quantities of nectar. The only problem with this scenario is that if it rains too frequent, the bees can't get out of the hive to collect it. Talk about the double edged sword! Oh well, at least it is filling the lakes and bringing the water table back up to normal.

I have heard that many of you have already had swarms leave your hives this year. It is of the utmost importance to go through your hives no less than every ten to twelve days to make sure they are queen-right and cut out those queen cells! Yes, I know it can be time consuming, however if you don't, you are not "keeping" your bees correctly. Yes, once in a while you will miss a queen cell under a clump of bees, she will emerge, and they will still swarm on you. But, the only way to "keep" your bees in the best situation possible is a little tender loving care. Keep in mind, that you should always make sure that your colony is queen-right BEFORE cutting out the queen cells; or at least make sure there are commercial queens available from a local beekeeper, before starting!

We have several exciting things in store for the Club in the near future. First off, the Club will be at the Canton Arts Festival in Brown Park, May 16-17, next to Canton City Hall. If you would like to sell a product from your hives, that YOU produced, please contact me.

Continued....

At our meeting on May 21st, Mike Elliott will be teaching us how to rear a perfect queen, explain how to start a queen rearing cooperative, and will show videos and tell what he has learned from his beecam! (Mike Elliott, Worth Green, and I ran a pilot of our queen rearing co-op a few weeks ago, reproducing our best queens. Several have emerged and should start laying by meeting time. They look VERY healthy!) We will be having our Summer Picnic in lieu of our regularly scheduled meeting in June. The picnic will be on June 20th and it will be a day of family fun. Don't forget to bring your favorite side dish!

I would like to remind everyone that the club offers extracting equipment for rent for only \$15 per use and it includes everything you will need except for bottles and jars! If you are interested in renting the equipment, please contact Hoyt Rogers at (770) 479-1731 to schedule a pick-up time. YOU MUST BE A CURRENT MEMBER! In addition, I would like to remind all members to bring your library books back to the next meeting and swap them out for a new one. We need to keep them circulating. Also, if you have any beekeeping books that you have already read and would like to donate for others to get some use out of, please bring them to Pat Sarks, our librarian. Thanks for reading and may each and every one of you reap loads of golden honey this spring!

Ryan A. Sarks

P.S. – The Young Harris Bee Institute will be holding their annual three-day workshop from May 14th -16th. The flier is available on the main page or calendar page at www.CherokeeBeeClub.com.

2009 Calendar of CBC Meetings
(Tentative)

- *May 14-16 UGA Bee School
Young Harris College
- *May 16 & 17th Canton Arts Festival
- May 21st Queen Breeding Cooperative
Mike Elliott
- *June 20th Summer Field Trip – Family Picnic
Debbie and Candler Ward
- July 16th To Med or Not to Med
Dr. Keith Delaplane, UGA
- August 20th Honey Exchange/Judging
Joe Schepers and Randy Tudor
- *September Cherokee County Fair
- September 17th Swarm Captures
Cindy Bee
- *Sept. 25&26th GA Beekeepers Assoc. Bi-Annual Meeting
Walker County Ag Center
- October 15th Russian Queens
Carl Webb
- *November 20st 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 *.

CBC ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

June 20th, 2009

Hosted by Candler & Debbie Ward

Invitation and Direction will be sent separately
Meat & Setups provided by CBC. Please plan to bring your special side item to share.

Subscribe to

***Bee Culture &
The American Bee Journal***

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

Quote of the Month

To make a prairie
it takes a clover and one bee.
One clover, and a bee, and Revery.
The Revery alone will do,
if bees are few.

Poet - Emily Dickinson



Members are welcome to participate in the
Canton Arts Festival
5/16 & 5/17
Contact Ryan for details.

BE A LOCAVORE!!!

Support your Local Farmers Markets...

RECIPE CORNER



Salsa Tomtillo

- 1 Tblsp Olive Oil 1 Clove Garlic
- 1 Cup Onion 1 Cup Tomatillos
- ¼ Cup Anaheim Chilies
- 2 TBLS Cilantro ¼ cup white Vinegar
- ¼ Cup Honey
- 1 Tsp Salt ½ Tsp Pepper
- ½ Cup diced Tomatoes, drained

Finely chop onion, tomatillos and chilies. In med sauce pan, heat oil, sauté onion until soft, add garlic until fragrant. Add tomatillos, chilies, cilantro, vinegar, honey, salt & pepper. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 5 mins. Add tomatoes and mix well.

Cherokee BeeKeepers Club Monthly Meeting Minutes

No regular meeting in March.

On March 21st the Spring Outing was hosted by Harold and Laney Cagle. There were approximately 46 folks in attendance. We installed two new packages. Examined a weak year old hive, and demonstrated two splits. (Thanks Austin, for the loan of the bees.) A good time was had by all!

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Cherokee BeeKeepers Club Monthly Meeting Minutes

For April's CBC meeting we played Queen/Swarming Jeopardy and had a lot of fun!

Trina Barron was our MC, with Pat Sarks as her trusty assistant and Scorekeeper. Two teams, Bud and Laney on one team, and Jim and Hoyt on the other, battled it out with help from audience participation. Hoyt & Jim won, however the win is being protested by the other team, as rumors are flying that one of the contestants is sleeping with the Scorekeeper!!!! Hmmm.... Wonder who that could be - MR. SARKS?

All kidding aside... it was a fun and informative evening. Ryan took us thru the regular business meeting stuff with nothing new to report.

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Would you be a Cherokee Bee Club Meeting Hospitality Volunteer?

The Club has purchased a coffee pot and would like to start having Coffee and "Honey Snacks" at our regular monthly meetings.

If you could volunteer to bring a Honey Snack, please contact Lane Cagle. This will be for the months of May, July, August, Sept, & Oct.

CBC Library



A Year in the Life of an Apiary	How Do Bees Make Honey
An Introduction to Beekeeping –video	How to Keep Bees and Sell Honey
Beekeeping - A Complete Owner's Manual	Increase Essentials
Beekeeping - A Practical Guide	Just Add Honey
Bees - Lectures By Rudolf Steiner	Observation Hives: How to Set Up, Manage, and Use an Observation Hive
Bees in America - How The Honey Bee Shaped a Nation	Practical Beekeeping
Bees Were Their Business	Queen Management
First Lessons in Beekeeping	Queen Rearing and Bee Breeding
Following The Bloom - Across America w/ Migratory Beekeepers	Setting Up a Package Swarm
Health and The Honey Bee	Small Scale Honey Harvesting
Hive Management: A Seasonal Guide for Beekeepers	The Candle Maker's Companion
Honey - From Hive to Honey Pot	The Class Room
Honey and Your Health	The Healthy Taste of Honey
Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping	The Joys of Beekeeping
Honey Bee Disease and Pests 2 nd Edition	The Life and Times of the Honeybee
Honey Bee Pests, Predators, & Diseases	The Queen Must Die
Honey Bees and Beekeeping- A Year in the Life of An Apiary	75 th anniversary Tribute to Walter T. and Ida Babin Kelly

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

Notes from the Editor

It's almost time for the Summer Picnic. I will send a separate invitation with the directions. Mark your calendar for June 20th. Several of us will be calling all members to get a count for attendance and to coordinate the food/side items. We are planning on BBQ cooked on site. The meats and paper goods will be provided by the club.

I found the "pollen trivia" quite interesting. I'll try to include more in the next edition.

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

I found this very interesting site that talks about Bee Pollen being a "Perfect Food" – check it out - <http://www.alternativescentral.com/beepollen.htm> Here are just a few of the facts listed:



The science involving the study of Bee Pollen is known as Palynology.

Bee Pollen is one of the richest and purest natural foods ever discovered, and the incredible nutritional and medicinal value of pollen has been known for centuries.

Pollen grains contain the male germ cells (elements) that are produced by all plants, flowers or blossoms. This is essential in order to ensure that plant life throughout the world continues by a process involving fertilization and plant embryo formation.

One teaspoonful of pollen contains approximately 1,200 pellets or 2.5 billion grains, each of which has the capacity to supply those factors that are necessary in order to fertilize and reproduce the particular species that it represents (such as a fruit, grain or tree). Pollen is composed of myriads of microspores that are produced in the anthers of flowers and in the cones of conifers. Each grain measures approximately .002 inches in diameter (although the representative diameter is somewhere near one-half millimeter), and each bee-collected pellet contains approximately two million grains of pollen.

Pollination consists of the transfer of pollen from the anther of a stamen to the stigma of a pistil. This, in turn, produces a fertilization of the ovules in the ovary, which subsequently develops into the growth of seeds. A single spike of Ragweed or a single strobile of Pine may produce up to six million grains of pollen, and as many as four million grains may be found in a head of rye. Many plants are pollinated by wind, rain or water-currents, while colorfully attractive or scented flowers containing nectar are largely pollinated by insects (including flies, bees, wasps, butterflies, beetles and moths).

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