

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA JANUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

DATE: Tuesday, January 27, 2004
TIME: 7:00 p.m.-Basic Beekeepers; 8:00 – Gen. Meeting., Program.
PLACE: Round Rock Community Center, 205 Main Street
PROGRAM: Bee Research at Texas A & M; Dr. Tanya Pankiw
HOSTS: **Kay Oakley and Jeann Schmidt**

PRESIDENT

Frank Hunt
512/478-8905
Huuutt@aol.com

We hope you have had a very enjoyable celebration of Christmas and the New Year and we hope you resolved to attend every WCABA meeting in 2004. Please start by marking the following dates on your calendar now:

1 st. V.P.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeann Schmidt
512/869-4107
jfwschmidt@juno.com

January 27

***May 25**

September 28

February 24

June 22

October 26

March 23

July 27

November 23

April 27

August 24

*Date may be changed

2 nd. V.P.

PROGRAM

Jimmie Oakley
512/388-3630
jloakley@juno.com

Our program this month will be given by Tanya Pankiw, Ph.D., Professor of Entomology and Bee Research at Texas A & M. Jimmie Oakley has asked her to speak about the plans and progress on the new Bee Research Facility on the Riverside Campus in College Station. Since most of us are not aware of what is taking place in this very important project that will affect all of us in the bee industry, this should be a very informative program.

3 rd. V.P.

NEWSLETTER

Mary Bost
512/863-3656
bostbees@juno.com

Frank Hunt will lead Basic Beekeepers Tuesday evening. His subject will cover those activities beekeepers should be doing to have their bees ready for Spring buildup. Be ready to ask any questions you may have at this time.

SECRETARY

Barbara Hunt
512/478-8905
Huuutt@aol.com

It's time to renew your WCABA membership. Our memberships are on a calendar basis, so we ask you to pay your \$10.00 membership dues to cover January through November each year. Members who paid their 2004 dues at the November meeting are Skip and Gayle Shaw; Wilbur and Donnie Brinkmeyer; Jeann and Olaf Schmidt; G.C. and Beth Walker; Mary and Robert Bost; James and Genevieve Friesenhahn; Doug Branch; and Harold Kind. Stephen Poldrack and Buddy and Cherie Miller had paid for their memberships in October.

TREASURER

Harold Kind
512/246-8455
haroldkind@cs.com

We are delighted to welcome new members James, Helen, and Desi Swenson, Bertram; Gloria and Elizabeth Batista, Round Rock; and Stephanie Leatherwood, Leander. We trust our members will make these new members feel welcome and will share their beekeeping experiences with them and help them get involved in beekeeping in whatever way we can.

HISTORIAN

Julie Hein
512/746-5117
wahein50@aol.com
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We had a good response when the Host sheet was passed around last meeting: two members signed up to bring refreshments to the January and February meetings and one member signed up for each of the other months except November. Now we need a few more people to fill in the slots for the other 9 months. Hopefully this can be accomplished Tuesday evening. Please check the banner information to know the program and to refresh your memory for when you are to be a host. Hosts bring goodies such as cookies, cupcakes, sliced quick breads, etc. and members "feed the kitty" to pay for the coffee and other beverage. The Oakleys bring the paper goods, coffee, etc. and they appreciate when someone graciously offers to make the beverages before the

meeting starts.

Some very interesting door prizes were donated at the meeting in November. We appreciate Debbie Jorden, John Howe, Julie Hein, Kim Arnett, Beth Walker, Jeann Schmidt, and Kay Oakley for their donations.

The lucky winners were Harold Kind, bee apron; James Swenson, Pooh Hunny set, Desi Swenson, lip balm; Beth Walker, honey cook book; G. C. Walker, Greg Pekar., and Chondie Martin, earrings; Friesenhahn, window ornament, Jimmie Oakley, apron; and Thomas McCoy, bee magnet, Jimmie Oakley, apron; and Thomas McCoy, bee magnet.

Officers for 2004 were elected at the November meeting. They are Frank Hunt – President; Jeann Schmidt – 1st Vice President (membership); Jimmie Oakley – 2nd Vice President (programs); Mary Bost – 3rd Vice President (newsletter editor); Barbara Hunt – Secretary; Harold Kind – Treasurer; Julie Hein – Historian. We appreciate these people being willing to serve; we always welcome ideas and suggestions of ways we can improve our association, so contact any of these officers when you see a way to make WCABA more effective. It's YOUR association.

Kay Oakley has spent many hours over the past eight weeks piecing together a quilt that was the primary raffle item for the ABF Queen Program at the ABF Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, the 13th – 18th of this month. The quilt, called “The Skeys of Autumn”, uses fall colors, has 64 individual blocks in the log cabin design, and at 74 inches by 90 inches, will cover a king size bed. If all the raffle tickets are sold, it will bring \$3,500.00 to the national queen program. Kay is to be commended for her diligence and ability to craft such a splendid item. We're proud of you, Kay!

We are also proud of Joel Jorden, and Meghan Cantlon, two Ed Wolfe Scholarship recipients, for entering the 4-H essay competition on swarming. We hope to hear good news from them.



We are pleased to hear that Jimmie Oakley took first place honors in the photo contest at the TBA Convention in November. Other WCABA winners were Joshua Oakley and Jimmie Oakley in the light amber honey contest. G. C. Walker, who has been attending TBA Conventions for 50 years, was presented the President's Award by Danny Weaver, TBA President. Randy Oakley conducted a Beginning Beekeeper Introductory Session at the TBA Convention.

We extend our condolences to Jimmie and Kay and the Oakley family on the death of Jimmie's father, Lon D. Oakley, on January 15. Services were held in Dallas on January 17.

Congratulations to David and Diane Forfia on the birth of their first-born, David Donovan Forfia, who weighed in at 8 pounds on December 4, and to Randy and Amy Oakley whose daughter, Hanna Mae, was born on December 29, weighting 6 pounds, 11 ounces.

I was very pleased to see a practical tip for raising tomatoes in a magazine, “Backyard Living” that had been submitted by one of our members, Mary Beth Hall of Leander. She scares off birds by winding rubber snakes into the tomato cages and by placing children's pinwheels in the garden.



Two things to be remembering in the next two months: (1) school age youngsters who are interested in beekeeping and want to apply for the Ed Wolfe scholarship should contact Robert Bost or Jimmie Oakley as soon as possible; and (2) orders for queens and packages of bees through the club should be made in February and March. We will start a sheet for you to indicate your order.

When reading the article, "Royal Jelly and Human Health" in the May 2003 American Bee Journal, the following excerpt caught my eye. "Queen bees are, on average, 42% larger and weigh 60% more than the worker bee. They can live 40 times longer, 4 - 5 years compared to 7 weeks. She will produce 2,000 - 3,000 eggs per day with each day's brood equal to 2 ½ times her own body weight, all solely due to her developmental diet of Royal Jelly."

It's a little late to be making New Year's resolutions but the article, Beekeeper's Resolutions in the January 2004 issue of American Bee Journal has some good thoughts. "Beekeeping is a journey. It's cumulative, in that your knowledge grows, and wisdom results," states the author, Howard Scott. He suggests that we

- *Resolve to enjoy the season, whatever the difficulties or outcome, for beekeeping is a lifetime pursuit.
- *Resolve not to let frustrations or disappointments overtake you.
- *Resolve to get really excited this year whenever something remarkable occurs: when your hives have survived the winter, your hives are boiling over with bees, you catch a swarm, and when you see that golden liquid pouring from the spout when you extract.
- *Resolve to become more active in your local bee club.
- *Resolve to volunteer for something you don't usually do: bring snacks, help with setting up and cleaning after the meeting, helping the librarian or with basic beekeeping or with the field day.
- *Resolve to obtain another reference book, and to become familiar with it.
- *Resolve to take another small step in your quest to become a better beekeeper.

Honey Cornbread (Honey Board Marketing Kit)

1 cup cornmeal	1 cup all-purpose flour	2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. salt	1 cup 2% low-fat milk
¼ cup honey	2 Tbsp. vegetable oil	1 egg

In a large bowl, combine cornmeal, flour, baking powder, soda and salt. In a small bowl, whisk together milk, honey, oil, and egg. Pour honey mixture into dry mixture and mix until just combined. Spoon batter into well-greased 9 x 9 inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

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CLASSIFIED AD: New hive and frame parts (knocked down); 4-frame extractor used but in good shape; smoker, 2 bee suits, gloves - all one year old. Call Al Bryan at (512)559-2356, Dale, Tx 78616.

Bees

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Janice Glisson Walker
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FOR SALE NEW & USED BEE SUPPLIES

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New deep frames, \$.70 each; 6 ¼ new frames, \$.65 each.

New 6 1/4 Boxes; New Western Cedar bottoms and tops.

Used 8 and 10 frame bottoms and tops, \$1 each; in lots of 100;

Used 5 3/8 Boxes w/frames, \$2 each; Used 5 3/8 Boxes w/fdn.

6 Frame Deep Nuc Boxes; Baby Nuc Boxes w/Frames

Nose Trucks and Barrel Trucks; Crimp Wired Foundation, 25# for \$95

Bee Suits w/zipper veil, Smokers, Helmets, Uncapping Knives, Bee Veils.

G.C. WALKER, 8059 E. U.S. HWY 190, Rogers, TX 76569

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**Williamson County Area
Beekeepers Association
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