

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA MAY 2004 NEWSLETTER

DATE: SATURDAY, May 22, 2004
TIME: 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
PLACE: Home of Gayle and Skip Shaw (Weir, see Map & Directions)
PROGRAM: Pot Luck Picnic, Beekeeping Sessions (See Program)
HOSTS: **Beth Walker, Jody and Marcus Young**

PRESIDENT

Frank Hunt
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We had another good group in attendance at our April WCABA meeting—58 people registered and we had several newcomers. Let's all be helpful; when someone you don't know comes, please greet them, ask them to register, and make them feel welcome.

1 st. V.P.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeann Schmidt
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We were pleased that Dr. Rodney Holloway could be present to tell us about the 4-H program, sponsored by the American Beekeepers Federation, which awards monetary prizes to those youths who enter and win the essay contest. He said he received about a dozen very good essays, from which he had to choose first, second and third place winners. We are very proud that two of our Ed Wolfe scholarship youths, Meghan Cantlon and Joel Jordan, won the first and second place prizes, respectively, for their essays on swarming; we enjoyed hearing them read their essays.



First place winners of the State contest had their essays submitted for national competition and Meghan's essay won Honorable Mention. Congratulation, Meghan and Joel!

3 rd. V.P.

NEWSLETTER

Mary Bost
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SECRETARY

Barbara Hunt
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We will have our annual Field Day/Picnic this month instead of the regular meeting. Gayle and Skip Shaw have invited us to meet at their home halfway between Weir and Walburg — you will find a map and directions later in this newsletter. We will begin arriving and registering about 11:00 Saturday, May 22, and each member family is asked to bring two dishes to share from the three choices: salad, vegetable, or dessert. The club will furnish meat, bread, plates and cutlery; however, it would help if you would provide whatever serving spoon, etc., is needed for your food contribution. Remember to bring your own lawn or folding chair and if several people would bring folding card tables, it would help. We may be looking at bees, so if you would be more comfortable wearing a veil while around the bees, bring yours; however, Jimmie says the Shaw's bees are very gentle.

TREASURER

Harold Kind
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HISTORIAN

Julie Hein
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Jimmie Oakley is arranging for several people to give demonstrations on various beekeeping activities. Check out the program sheet later in this newsletter. We think there will be enough variety to interest all beekeepers, whether novice or experienced. This would be a good opportunity to invite someone you think may be interested in learning about beekeeping, so bring someone with you and let them see what a fun time we have on Field Day.

Thank you for cooperating with moving chairs at the Community Center. We had to pay extra for cleaning expenses after the March meeting as we pulled chairs across the new tile floors and left marks that had to be cleaned. We appreciate our members who help set up and also replace tables and chairs at our meetings. Many hands make quick work. Thanks a bunch!

Visitors at our April meeting were Tom Eckdale of Georgetown, Wade Wheatley, Liberty Hill, and Ted Costuros, Manchaca. We hope they enjoyed the information they heard and will join WCABA. We are pleased to receive the membership renewal from Dan Eynon of Georgetown, also. Although they are officially WCABA members, Travis and Maureen Lane live in San Angelo so it is a treat whenever they come to one of our meetings. We're lucky that they have family living in this area.

The Batista family (Gloria, Jose, and Elisabeth) surprised us with a donation to the club of a large honey bear, the big brother to the one Jeann Schmidt has had sitting on the registration table. Thank you, Folks. Door prize donations last meeting were from Maureen Lane, Barbara Hunt, Nial and Darla Chase, Karin Cantlon, Dorothy Rowland, Beth Walker, Abigail Miller, and Marcus and Jody Young. We appreciate these donations: they make the meetings more fun.

Lucky winners of the door prizes were Clyde Anderson and Elisabeth Batista, bee tie-ons for gift packages; Deborah Jordan, crocheted cover for Kleenex box; Mary Bost, fridge magnet; Katelyn Heisch, bee motif apron; Jill Robbins, skin cream; Rodney Holloway, bird house; Gloria Batista, bee shower curtain hooks; and Jose Batista, honey bear with honey dipper.

Someone gave Stephanie Leatherwood a five dollar bill when he/she registered last meeting, but we don't know who or what it was for. If you can give us the necessary information, please e-mail me or contact me at the next meeting.

Our members have a rare opportunity to attend the TBA Summer Clinic and Workshop at a location near us. It will be held at the Clint Walker Honey House between Rogers and Heidenheimer, about 12 miles southeast of Temple on Saturday, June 26. There will be a catered BBQ lunch, cost \$12.00, and you need to RSVP to Alan Eynon, TBA Delegates Committee Chairman by June 5th, at 972-231-5702, ext. 104. This is a very interesting honey operation and the Walkers are always gracious hosts. Plan to attend if possible. Jimmie Oakley can give you more information if you plan to attend.

Have you noticed the good crop of Indian Blanket wildflowers springing up along the roadsides and in undisturbed pasture land? Last year we had a few plants here and there around the fringes of our yard, but this year there is a beautiful abundance of this excellent nectar-producing plant. When I notice a pasture full of them, I wish we could just pick up our bees and set them down in the middle of this "bee feast". Jimmie Oakley reported that his bees and ours are on a good honey flow. Let's hope these

occasional spring showers continue to prolong the blooming season and our bees can pack their hives with beautiful, mild honey. There is also a plethora of yellow flowers that I can't name. If you know what they are called, I would appreciate knowing.

The TBA Journal printed the following news item: "On March 30, ABC's Good Morning America ran a segment on the virtues of honey. It was done in the 'News Headlines' section of the program by Robin Roberts, the news anchor. Here is the complete text of the short segment included in the show transcript:

"New research seems to be backing up the old wives' tale that honey is good for you. Scientists report honey could boost your levels of healthy antioxidants. According to researchers, honey contains a compound that can help fight cancer, other diseases and damage to the arteries."

Perhaps sharing our favorite honey recipes with friends will help them with their health. The following recipe was found in a Guideposts magazine. I made it and added sliced peaches for a light lunch.

Orange-Cinnamon French Toast

2-4 tbsp. butter or margarine 2 tbsp. honey ½ tsp ground cinnamon 3 eggs
½ C orange juice 1/8 tsp salt (optional) 6 slices bread
Additional honey (optional)

In a bowl, combine butter, honey and cinnamon. Pour into a greased 13x9x2-inch pan; spread to coat bottom of pan. In a shallow bowl, beat eggs, orange juice and salt. Dip bread into egg mixture and place in prepared pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown. Invert onto a serving platter; serve with honey if desired. Yields 6 slices.

Recently Jimmie Oakley gave a bee talk to a herb garden group and Kay made these delicious tarts using honey to pass around. Luckily, there were a few left over and Robert and I got to taste them. Good!

Honey Pecan Tarts

3 oz. cream cheese ½ C butter 1 C flour

Cream together cream cheese and butter. Add flour and mix to make dough. Pat or tamp small balls of dough into miniature cup cake tins. Makes about 36 tarts.

Filling: 3 eggs 1 T. butter melted & cooled 1 C Honey
1 t. vanilla ¼ t. salt 1 C chopped pecans

Beat eggs. Add cooled butter and Honey in a fine stream to eggs. Add vanilla and salt. Add pecans last. Fill each uncooked tart shell with a tablespoon of filling. Bake at 400 degrees for 10 min., 350 degrees for 10 min., and 325 degrees for 10 min. It may be necessary to alter your temperature and cooking time according to your oven. The tarts should bake about 25 to 30 minutes. The tarts are done when the edge of dough starts to turn a golden color. Remove tarts from tins to cooling racks immediately.

WCABA Field Day & Picnic

Saturday, May 22, 2004

Hosted by: Skip & Gail Shaw – Weir, Texas

Time

Registration

11:00 – 12:00 Arrival, Registration & Getting Acquainted.
Sign up and get information under the Car Port.

Picnic

12:00 – 1:00 Pot Luck Dinner “**Out on the Deck**”
Drinks provided by the Shaws. Salads, Vegetables and Desserts provided by the Membership. Meat & Paperware by WCABA.

Demonstrations & Presentations

1:00 – 1:30 Extracting At Home – Hot Knife vs. Scratcher
The Shaw Family – Weir

1:30 – 2:00 Mite Controls – Screened Bottom Boards, Mite Counts
Mark Jones – Leander

2:00 – 2:30 Swarm Retrieval and Bee Removal
Frank Hunt - Austin

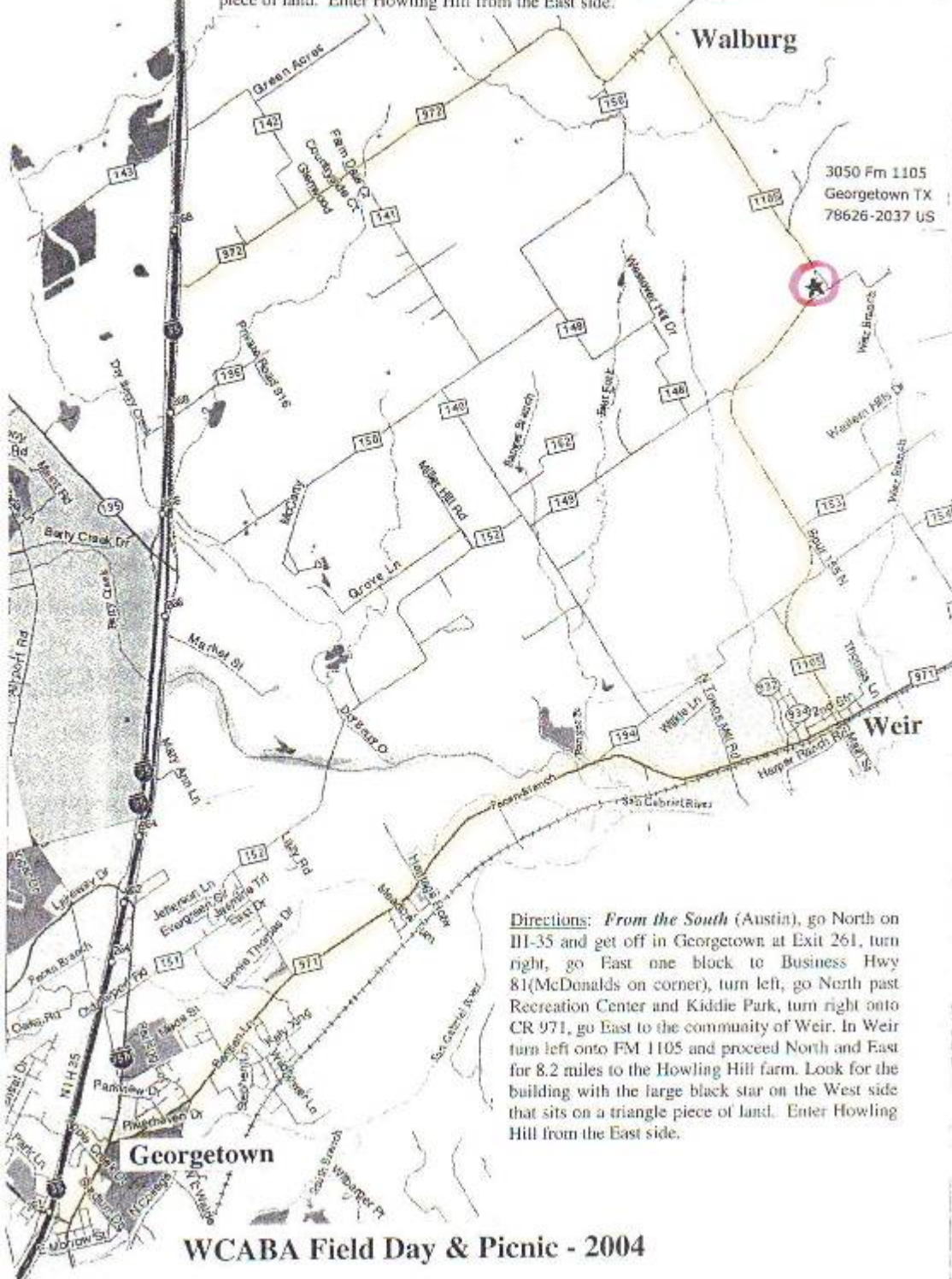
2:30 – 3:00 Meet the Queen (honey bee) Caging and Marking
G. C. Walker – Rogers

3:00 – 3:30 In the Beeyard – A Look Inside
Jimmie Oakley – Round Rock

3:30 – 4:00 Queen Marking & Clipping (Drone substitutes?)
Jimmie Oakley – Round Rock

4:00 **Clean Up**

Directions: From the North (Temple-Belton) go South on IH-35 and get off at Exit 268 and go East on CR 972 to the community of Walburg. When you pass the Wells Fargo Bank turn right on CR 1105 and go South to where the road turns back West. On your left look for the building with the large black star on the West side that sits on a triangle piece of land. Enter Howling Hill from the East side.



Directions: From the South (Austin), go North on IH-35 and get off in Georgetown at Exit 261, turn right, go East one block to Business Hwy 81 (McDonalds on corner), turn left, go North past Recreation Center and Kiddie Park, turn right onto CR 971, go East to the community of Weir. In Weir turn left onto FM 1105 and proceed North and East for 8.2 miles to the Howling Hill farm. Look for the building with the large black star on the West side that sits on a triangle piece of land. Enter Howling Hill from the East side.

WCABA Field Day & Picnic - 2004

Bees

Queens

Honey

Walker Apiaries

WALKER HONEY COMPANY
PO BOX 615 ROGERS, TEXAS 765690165
"a texas family concern since 1928"

Clint Walker III, Ph.D.
(254) 983-BEES

Janice Glisson Walker
Fax (254) 893-2337

FOR SALE NEW & USED BEE SUPPLIES

...If You Need It, We probably Have It ...

New #1 deep frames, 70cents each.

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

6 1/4 budget-grade frames, 65 cents each.

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.

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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