

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA OCTOBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

DATE: Tuesday, October 26, 2004
TIME: 7:00 – Basic Beekeepers; 8:00 – Gen. Meeting/Program
PLACE: 205 Main Street, Community Center in Round Rock
PROGRAM: Using Products of the Hive, by Kay Oakley
HOSTS: **Brian Rogers; Mary Bost**

PRESIDENT

Frank Hunt
512/478-8905
[Huunt@aol.com](mailto:Huntu@aol.com)

1 st. V.P.

MEMBERSHIP

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

2 nd. V.P.

PROGRAM

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

3 rd. V.P.

NEWSLETTER

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

SECRETARY

Barbara Hunt
512/478-8905
[Huunt@aol.com](mailto:Huntu@aol.com)

TREASURER

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

HISTORIAN

Julie Hein
512/746-5117
wahein50@aol.com

Kay Oakley will present the program this month by demonstrating using products of the hive (beeswax, honey, etc.) to make items that are healthful and useful, and if one so desired, would make excellent gifts or could be included in gift baskets. Kay has a recipe for lip balm that is printed on page 3, and she will have other recipe print outs at the meeting. Fellows, this would be an excellent program to encourage your wives to come to the meeting with you.

For Basic Beekeepers, Jimmie Oakley will show how to set up the canopy and sales booth for Wesley Fest. He'll be happy to take names of volunteers who would like to be involved in this activity, either this year or in the future.

Our WCABA honey judging and Taster's Choice program had a good story with pictures in the Williamson County Sun following last month's meeting. The Sun has given our youth program some excellent coverage this year. A copy of the story will be on the registration table; take a few minutes to look at it when you register Tuesday evening.

There were 16 samples of honey submitted in the Taster's Choice contest: Kim Arnett, Doug Branch (2), Wilbur Brinkmeyer (3), Suzan Gibson, Katelyn Heisch, Harold Kind, Lanie Robbins, Dave Phelps, Jimmie Oakley, Randy, Joshua, and Caleb Oakley (2), and G.C.Walker. The winners of the tasting contest were G.C. Walker, blue ribbon; Randy, Caleb, and Joshua Oakley, red ribbon; and Doug Branch and Wilbur Brinkmeyer tied for white ribbons. Lynne Thompson assisted in accepting the samples and helping with the contest.

The three club members who judged the two-pound jars of honey were Randy Oakley, Doug Branch, and Clyde Anderson. Nine members submitted jars of honey, and all 11 jars earned a blue



ribbon according to the criteria for judging. They were Wilbur Brinkmeyer (3), Robert and Mary Bost, Nial and Darla Chase, Suzan Gibson, Katelyn Heisch, Lanie Robbins, Joshua Oakley, Caleb Oakley, and Jimmie Oakley. The criteria by which the jars of honey were judged were container appearance, level of fill, density, free of crystals, free of air bubbles and foam, free of wax, free of lint, free of other foreign matter, flavor, and brightness. These jars of honey were sent to the Texas State Fair TBA honey booth in the Food and Fiber building, and following the end of the Fair, will be donated to the Happy Hills Children's Home.

Jimmie Oakley will be accepting entries of honey to go to the TBA Convention, November 11 – 13 in Arlington. Each entry should be in a one-pound queenline jar with no label on the jar. Each entry requires a \$2.00 entry fee. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded to the winners. Check with Jimmie if you have questions or would like to send an entry.

Don't forget Wesley Fest!!! WCABA always has a honey booth at the Fest, as this is the way we raise funds to finance our scholarship program. Wesley Fest will be held November 6 & 7 in Georgetown on the beautiful grounds of the Wesleyan Retirement home on Highway 29 West. We have had a booth facing the highway for over 15 years and have had very good sales there. We need donations of honey as well as workers in the booth. Those who have worked in the booth previously report having a good time selling honey and talking about bees and when not working, visiting the many other craft booths set up on the grounds. Two people have already volunteered to work ahead of time, bottling and labeling jars of honey and Joel is also enthusiastic about working in the booth. If you can give three or four hours to help at Wesley Fest, please sign up for the time you prefer on the worksheet Jimmie will have at the meeting, or if you can't be at the meeting Tuesday night, call him to arrange a time. We need several workers to set up the canopy and sales area (7:00 a.m. Saturday, November 6), workers in the booth, 2 or 3 people for periods of 3 or more hours Saturday from 9 to 5 and Sunday from 10 to 5, and a crew to dismantle and return unsold honey to our farm Sunday evening.

Although we always buy honey at wholesale price in order to meet customer demand at Wesley Fest, honey that is donated means a clear profit for the fund. Kenneth Miller has donated 3 two-pound jars of honey already, and Doug Branch has offered to donate some jars. I hope to make and donate some apricot honey spread. Baked goods cannot be sold as it conflicts with the sales of the Wesleyan Volunteers, but if you have another honey or beeswax related item, it would be welcome. And CASH donations are always acceptable. We appreciated the money donations made last year by several of our members who were unable to help otherwise.

A heads-up reminder to our four Ed Wolfe Scholarship recipients, Katelyn, Lance, Lanie, and Daly, next month is your month to shine. A requirement of the scholarship is that you give a report at the November WCABA meeting of your experiences with your bees this year. Reports have taken various forms: posters with pictures and commentary, scrapbooks with pictures and journal accounts, written reports that are read aloud, one family even performed a skit. So be creative, and know that we will appreciate hearing what you have learned, and hopefully will want to continue learning about bees.

Several members bought Apistan strips last meeting to put in their hives to control Varroa mites. We will have them available again Tuesday night, but all unsold strips will be returned to G.C. Walker who brought them for our convenience. It's not too late to put the strips in now, and fall medicating is preferable to spring control.

Richard Bost, a 2004 new member to WCABA, has already renewed his membership for 2005 and while he was at it, he paid dues for his friend and co-worker, Carleton Colmenares. We welcome both these members. I'm sure Jeann Schmidt will be happy to take your membership renewal at any time. Last year several members renewed in October with more members renewing in November. This way they avoided waiting in line to pay their dues in January.

November is officer election month. The nominating committee is composed of Jimmie Oakley, Barbara Hunt, and Wilbur Brinkmeyer. If you are willing to serve in any of the offices, please contact one of these people; they will appreciate it and you will get to be involved in a dynamic association. We always get more out of any organization when we take part in making it work effectively.

Some very interesting items were donated last month for door prizes, and we thank the following people for their donations: Jimmie Oakley, Kay Oakley, Jeann Schmidt, Harold Kind, Barbara Hunt, Clyde Anderson, and Wilbur Brinkmeyer. The lucky winners were Suzan Gibson and Robert Bost, bee appliqué hand towels; Amanda Gibson, Randy Oakley, Caleb Oakley, and Tasha Heisch, lip balm; Lynne Thompson and Steve Poldrack, bee key rings; Wilbur Brinkmeyer, beaded bee coin purse; Barbara Hunt, bee on bird house; Alvin Boley, bee figurine; and G. C. Walker, bee puppet.

An article in the October '04 issue of American Bee Journal really caught my eye; it's entitled "Creating a Profitable Sideline Business" by Mary and Bill Weaver. It tells how one beekeeper's wife, Cindy Howland, developed a sideline to her husband's honey business by developing products made from their beeswax that would bring a better return than the current low prices for beeswax. After much painstaking experimentation, Cindy developed a soap that smells good, is very good for dry skin, and even has a nice lather. She also has developed hand creams, lip balms, and furniture polish as well as various beeswax candles and uses these items in gift baskets. She has created a good market by selling at festivals, farmers markets, and a few small stores. If you are interested in using your beeswax in any of these creative products, reading this article would be very informative.

NHB - Honey-Kissed Lip Balm *Courtesy of Kay Oakley*

1 cup sweet almond oil *

½ cup Beeswax**

2 tablespoons Honey

Place almond oil and beeswax in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave on high for 1 minute or until mixture melts. Whisk honey into beeswax mixture: stir well. Set aside to cool completely. When cool, pour into small containers with lids. Apply to lips as a moisturizer or on top of lipstick for extra shine. Makes about 1 ½ cups.

*Sweet almond oil can be found at natural food stores. **Beeswax can be purchase at craft and beekeeping stores.

Bees

Queens

Honey

Walker Apiaries

WALKER HONEY COMPANY
PO BOX 615 ROGERS, TEXAS 76569-0165
“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, .70 cents each

New 6 ¼ Boxes; New Western Cedar bottoms and tops.

6 ¼ new frames, .65 cents each.

Used 8 & 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

Phone: 254/983-2891 E-mail: Walker2bee@aol.com

**Williamson County Area
Beekeepers Association
4355 County Road 110
Georgetown, Texas 78626**