

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA JUNE 2005 NEWSLETTER

DATE: Saturday, June 25, 2005
TIME: 11:00--Registration; .12:00—Picnic; 1:00—Field Day Program
PLACE: Home of Gayle & Skip Shaw (see map/directions)
PROGRAM: See Program Schedule
HOSTS: **Deborah Castellano, Tasha Heisch, Ana Lerma**

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How many times can we say we had standing room only? Such was the case when our meeting was moved into the dining area of the Community Center last month because the air conditioner was not working in the regular meeting area. But we did have a good crowd and we appreciate the patience of those who had to stand. Jimmie Oakley presented a timely program on how to tell if your hives are ready to harvest the honey.

Our program chairman is planning activities of interest to our youngsters as well as presentations for novice beekeepers and those who are experienced. Cherie Miller has also ordered some craft kits and Lydia Miller (former scholarship winner) and Hannah Tutor will supervise those doing crafts. Check the program schedule printed later in this newsletter. And come prepared to have fun as well as learn more about beekeeping.

The list of names of members who gave door prize donations at the last meeting as well as those who won is missing. Please accept my apologies and our appreciation to all of you who donated an item and our congratulations to you who won a door prize. Robert was admitted to the hospital too late for me to make the last meeting. He is feeling some better now and we hope his recuperation will continue. Thank you for your prayers and concern.

Welcome to our new member, Sandy Don Sternadel of Round Rock, who saw our WCABA web page and downloaded the application for membership. We hope he will find our meetings and newsletters to be interesting and helpful. Have you checked out our website at www.wcaba.org?

Interestingly, I had calls from two people this past week offering their rural acreages to someone interested in locating their bees in a good forage area. Val Jean Bethke has a large garden, fruit trees, and wild flowers galore on her 143 acre farm home near Walburg with neighbors who have native pastures surrounding her. You can call her at 943-1211 press 5. The other woman, Ginger (Bishop) Wilson, is someone I've known all her life as her parents and Robert and I have been best friends for over 50 years. She lives on 23 acres of land six miles out of Florence, and it's all pasture land around her with a spring on her

place. Her address is 1548 Indian Lake Road, Florence 75627, phone number 254/793-3229. I hope some of you can take advantage of these offers.

We are hearing reports of good honey crops being made this spring and members are already calling to schedule the use of the club extracting equipment. If you plan to use this equipment and know a specific date you would like to have it, be sure to call and get your name on the list: it's first ask, first gets.

For the past two year, WCABA has donated \$100.00 to Heifer International, a humanitarian organization devoted to helping over 7 million families in more than 125 countries move toward greater self-reliance through livestock, training, and "passing the gift", by which the recipient families agree to pass on one or more of their animal's offspring, training or skills to another family in need. It was very interesting to me to pick up the latest Heifer magazine and read the number of countries that have had families receive beehives: Kenya; Uganda (375 families received 600 bee hives); Armenia (each year 9 trained families will receive at least 3 bee hives); Ukraine (40 families will receive 800 packages of bees); Guatemala; and Honduras. Impoverished areas in the United States have not been overlooked: in Dallas, a network of gardens has been developed and includes an apiary. I will leave this magazine in our library and you may enjoy looking at the various projects it describes.

Have you checked out the newsletter published by the Texas A & M Entomology Department? If not, check <http://honeybee.tamu.edu/about/indes.html>. You can download their chart, "Bee Safe Quick Guide" to post on your refrigerator or other conspicuous place. It has concise recommendations on what to do if you find bees on your property (for the non-beekeeper) and what to do if you get stung. It also had a chart for bee and wasp identification.

Honey Fudge Brownies

½ c. butter or margarine 2 squares (1 oz. each) unsweetened chocolate ½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla 1 c. honey 1/3 c. unsifted all-purpose flour 1 tsp. baking powder
2 eggs 1 c. coarsely chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In saucepan, melt together over low heat: butter, chocolate, salt, and vanilla. Mix well. Remove from heat, blend with honey, flour, and baking powder. Add eggs, beat well. Add nuts. Pour into greased pan. Bake for 35 minutes or until done in center. Cool on rack 15 minutes, then cut into squares.

Shelby Allen, 2004 Indiana Honey Queen Recipe Brochure

WCABA Field Day & Picnic

Saturday, June 25, 2005

Hosted by: Chip & Gail Shaw - Weir, Texas

Time

Registration

11:00 - 12:00 Arrival, Registration & Getting Acquainted.
Games and Crafts for Young and Old
Cherie Miller - Marble Falls

Picnic

12:00 - 1:00 Pot Luck Dinner "**Out on the Deck**"
Drinks provided by the Shaws. Meats, Salads, Vegetables, and Desserts provided by the Membership.
Include your serving spoons. Bring your own Lawn Chairs or Situpon.

Demonstrations & Presentations

1:00 - 1:30 Extracting at Home - "Hands on Operation"
Learn how to use the club's basic hand operated extracting equipment to bring your crop in.
The Shaw Family & friends - Weir

1:30 - 2:00 Beehive Equipment - From Bottom to Top.
See all the beehive pieces come together to create a safe and dry home for our little friends, the bees.
The WCABA Youth

2:00 - 2:30 Fun with Bees - Keeping it Interesting.
Hear how to have fun keeping bees from an old hand that makes it interesting everyday.
Frank Hunt - Austin

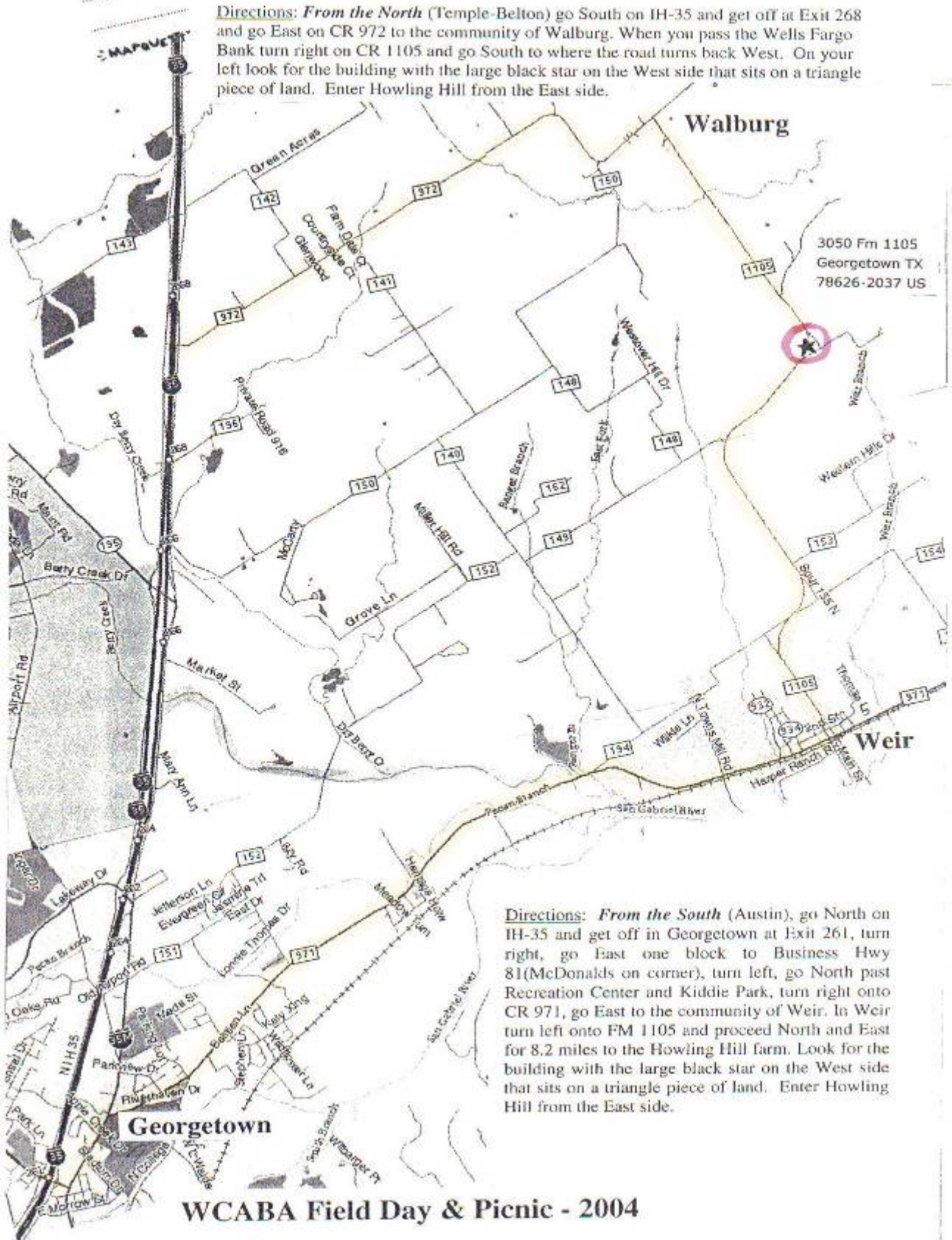
2:30 - 3:00 Increasing Production - Two Queen System and Other Techniques.
Get tips on how to make your bees more productive and make beekeeping more profitable.
Randy Oakley - Mustang Ridge

3:00 - 3:30 Meet the Queen (honeybee) - Inside the Mating Nuc.
Learn the inside story of the mating nuc and what it takes to produce Queens.
Compliments of G. C. Walker - Rogers

3:30 - 4:00 In the Beeyard - A look Inside the Hive.
Look over the shoulder of an experienced beekeeper as we do a hive assessment and hunt for the queen.
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.



3050 Fm 1105
Georgetown TX
78626-2037 US

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.

Looking Back at Last Year's Field Day (2004)



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 Commercial 6 1/4 & 9 1/8 Frames, .65 cents each.

New 6 1/4 Boxes, Nailed & Painted

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

Used Tops, \$2 each, Used 5 3/8 Boxes with or without frames, \$2 each.

New Kelly 2-frame Reversible Stainless Steel Extractor.

Nose Trucks and Barrel Trucks; Crimp Wired Foundation, 25# for \$105
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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