

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA NOVEMBER 2005 NEWSLETTER

DATE: Tuesday, November 22, 2005
TIME: 7:00 P.M.—Basic Beekeepers; 8:00—Gen. Mtg./Program
PLACE: 205 Main Street, Round Rock
PROGRAM: Reports: Scholarship Winners, Wesley Fest, TBA Convention
HOSTS: **Lynne Thompson, Buddy & Cherie Miller**

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.Our Ed Wolfe Memorial scholarship youths will have some interesting experiences to relate as they close out their first year of beekeeping with their reports Tuesday night. They probably will have pictures for us to look at, too. And Jimmie Oakley will have a brief report on what transpired at the TBA Convention in Corpus Christi. November is also officer election month. President Hunt appointed a committee to select nominees for the various offices and they will have a slate of candidates for your consideration Tuesday night. Remember that this month has a fifth Tuesday, so don't be confused: **come to WCABA on fourth Tuesdays.**

Jimmie Oakley enthusiastically told me about the Wesley Fest, how well our youth (and their parents) participated as well as several of our members. This fund raising activity could not be accomplished if it were not for the willingness of a number of people to donate their time, their honey, and their donations of money; consequently, if we didn't have the funds to support this very worthwhile program, our association would lose much of its vitality. Thank you to all who supported it in any way.

Saturday and Sunday were both fair weather days and the crowds turned out to tour the Wesley Fest booths. Frank and Barbara Hunt helped Jimmie Oakley set up the WCABA booth and stayed to help sell honey. New members William Scott and his son came to work the first shift and at noon, Amanda and Suzan Gibson worked until mid-afternoon. By that time Aaron Lerma and his mother, Chat, came and soon afterward Ana and her dad, Tom Lerma, came to help. Randy Oakley and his sons, Joshua, Caleb, Samuel, Daniel, and Benjamin came to close out the day and turned the money box and observation hive over to the Medranos. On Sunday morning Haven Medrano and his dad, Santos, came with their family to work the booth. Kim Arnett came after Church and by the time Jimmie got there Mike, Deborah, Michael and James Castellano were there and stayed to help Jimmie tear down the booth and load all the paraphernalia in Jimmie's truck. Now that's team work!



Honey donations were made by Harold Kind, Frank Hunt, Stan Timmerman, Randy Oakley, G.C. Walker, John Howe, Jimmie Oakley, Donnie and Wilbur Brinkmeyer, Ana and Aaron Lerma, and Robert and Mary Bost. The Bosts also bottled additional pints and quarts of honey at wholesale price that was sold after the donated honeysold.

Pledges of money donations were made at the last meeting by Greg Pekar, William Scott, Joshua Wheatley, Mike Castellano, Rick Lattanzio, and Juanita Duel. If you would like to contribute money to the scholarship fund it will be gratefully accepted at the meeting Tuesday night (or by mail to Robert Bost, Chairman, 4355 C.R. 110, Georgetown, TX 78626).

Congratulations to our members who won prizes at the TBA Convention with their entries. Gayle Shaw entered a gift basket and a photograph and both won third place prizes, with the photo prize being a \$10.00 cash prize. Caleb Oakley and Jimmie Oakley each won fourth place for their light amber honey entry. We're proud of you!



It's time to be thinking ahead to next year. WCABA dues are \$10.00 for the calendar year, January through November, and if you want to pay your dues now instead of waiting in line at the January meeting, Jeann Schmidt will be happy to accept your membership renewal. Also, we need to start the Host List for next year, so it will be available for you to choose the month you would prefer to bring refreshments—cookies or other tempting snacks—to a meeting. Also, it would be very helpful if the hosts can assist in making the coffee or other beverage. The Oakleys bring the “makings”, the Kitty provides the money for the beverage ingredients, but someone needs to assist in getting it ready.

Door prizes were donated last month by Melanie Medrano and Juanita Duel. The lucky winners were Mary Bost, handmade gift tags; Harold Kind, cards and envelopes; and Haven Medrano, plush pink and white lamb.

In Kim Flottum's column, “Inner Cover” in the November '05 issue of Bee Culture magazine, he brings up a subject that many of us, including myself, may not have considered as we were barraged with news and scenes of the recent hurricane devastations: destruction of bee yards, equipment, and honey houses. He states, “Wind and water destroyed, we are told, many colonies in the storm's worst areas. Commercial, sideline and hobby beekeepers lost not only colonies, but homes, honey houses, vehicles, stored equipment and even beeyards. Should you, or your local organization feel that helping a fellow beekeeper is the right thing to do, but don't know how.....officers in their State organizations have agreed to forward donations from you to those in their states that most need help. About a year from now we'll hear back to see how this was used.” Listed are beekeeper association officers from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and from Texas, our own Jimmie Oakley. Perhaps he can tell us more about this at our meeting.

Two fun reads in the same issue of Bee Culture are “Bottom Board” by Peter Sieling, a clever telling of his experience of working some queen nucs with 11-year-old Emily peering over his shoulder as she made her first trip to his beeyard, and “Christmas Dinner 2005” by Michael Young, an Irishman who spins a charming tale while leading up to telling how he cooks a goose and gives his recipes using honey. No way can I excerpt either of these articles; you need to read them for yourself. In case you don’t have access to this magazine, I’ll leave my copy on the registration table for you to read. Also, there will be some subscription blanks there for Bee Culture and for American Bee Journal. WCABA members get a 25% discount on the subscription price of each magazine, so if you need to subscribe or renew, take one of the blanks. Several of our members are also members of TBA, and that same paper has a blank for joining or renewing membership in TBA. If we should run out of blanks, let me know and I’ll see that you get one in the mail.

Want to Buy: If anyone has a few colonies of bees for sale, I’m interested.

Doug Branch (512) 288-1123 e-mail: jr.branch@sbcglobal.net

I found this timely recipe in a National Honey Board brochure. It sounds delicious.

Honey-Cranberry Oat Bread

2/3 cup honey	1/3 cup vegetable oil	2 eggs, beaten	1/2 cup milk
2 cups flour	1 cup quick-cooking rolled oats	1 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt	1/2 tsp. cinnamon	1 cup fresh cranberries	1 cup chopped nuts

Combine honey, oil, eggs and milk; mix well. Combine flour, oats, baking soda, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Mix well. Stir into liquid. Fold in cranberries and nuts. Spoon into three 5 1/2 x 3 x 2 1/4 inch prepared pans. Bake at 350 degrees F. 40 to 45 minutes or until toothpick inserted near center comes out clean.

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