

# North Carolina Bee Buzz



Official Newsletter of the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association    Volume 40, Number 1    Spring 2015

## The President's Message Rick Coor



### *From Your President...*












Hello NCSBA  
beekeepers!

It is an honor to  
serve as president of  
the NCSBA, the  
largest such  
organization of its  
kind with 4,200  
active members and

growing. Throughout my beekeeping travels of the last few years I have enjoyed the privilege of talking with and meeting many different folks who keep bees. I have encountered beekeepers from all walks of life; people of every trade, profession and various levels of education; folks of all ages, attitudes and abilities. Indeed, the people of our organization are its strength and are what make being a part of the NCSBA such a great experience.

Involvement with a local chapter makes beekeeping even more interesting than it already is, and like myself, I know a lot of people who absolutely love beekeeping and the honey bee. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all of us to be active in

### Look Inside!

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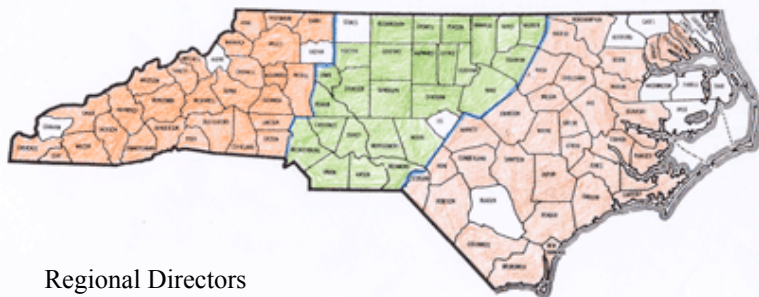
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North Carolina  
State Beekeepers Association  
329 Laurel Street  
Mount Airy NC 27030-2911

## North Carolina State Beekeepers Association

*The mission of NCSBA is to advance beekeeping in North Carolina through improved communication with members, improved education about beekeeping, and support of science enhancing the knowledge of beekeeping.*

President: Rick Coor  
1st Vice President: Paul Madren  
2nd Vice President: Lewis Cauble  
Secretary: Libby Mack  
Treasurer: Wade Lucas  
Membership Secretary: Carl Caudle  
Education Coordinator: Dr. David R. Tarpy



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Junior: Allen Blanton  
Sophomore: Doug Vinson  
Freshman: Eugene Brown

**Piedmont Region**  
Senior: Todd Warner  
Junior: Tim Hoffman  
Sophomore: Susan Fariss  
Freshman: Kim Underhill

**Coastal Region**  
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Junior: David Bridgers  
Sophomore: Lawrence Crane  
Freshman: Jeff Stone

*Contact information for the NCSBA Officers and Regional Directors can be found in your Yellow Book Directory and on the NCSBA website, [www.ncbeekeepers.org](http://www.ncbeekeepers.org).*

From the *Bee Buzz* Editors:

Please send subscription questions and address changes to Laurie Shaw at [lshaw@tyler-carter.com](mailto:lshaw@tyler-carter.com).

We enthusiastically accept article contributions. Tell us about your local association's latest events, your latest successes/failures, or anything else you'd like the NCSBA members to know. If your submission is not printed immediately, please do not resubmit the same article. We save all submissions and will print when appropriate or when space permits. We maintain the right not to print articles that we deem inflammatory or otherwise inappropriate.

Submit your article in **.doc, .odt or .pages format**. Photos should be high quality **jpg or tiff format**. Please include a caption for photos. Do not imbed captions in your photos or photos into your news article, but submit these as separate files. (This does not apply to advertisements, which must be **print-ready jpg, jpeg or .tiff** files. **We can not accept pdf files**. If you do not have access to a computer, we will accept typed or clearly handwritten articles. You can reach us here:

**PLEASE  
NOTE NEW  
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ADDRESS**

**NCBeeBuzz@yadtel.net**  
or  
North Carolina Bee Buzz  
Gregory and Susan Fariss  
142 Cemetery Road  
Mocksville, NC 27028

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our local chapters in order to learn more, have more enjoyment and help others keep bees.

The NCSBA at the state level needs volunteers also. Whether you are helping with your local chapter to host a state meeting, volunteering at the NC Zoo, helping bottle honey for the NC State Fair, or serving on one of the committees, your contribution is important to the NCSBA's success.

If I were to address a list of frequently asked questions in beekeeping, the list would be seemingly endless. The old adage of a "thousand different questions" would apply easily to the vast body of knowledge and notions generated by the honey bee. On the other hand, the questions I am asked concerning the NCSBA are more defined. The most frequently asked questions in the NCSBA concern the status of the Master Beekeeper Program. These questions result

from the setbacks that the program has suffered.

An evaluation of its condition in late 2014 revealed many urgent issues that needed attention. It was apparent that the first order of business was to “clear the logs out of the river” so to speak, in order to roll some more in. The newly appointed MBP committee set itself about the business of clearing the backlog of certificates that were due to certified beekeepers. To date more than 320 certificates have been mailed.

Missing materials on the Journeyman level and Master Beekeeper level are also being addressed. It is estimated the total number of certificates on all levels will approach or exceed 400. Some records unfortunately have not been located or are lost. If you are due a certificate or any other items and have not contacted Paul Newbold, the MBP chairman, please do so.

(Continued page 4)

## **NC BEE BUZZ and NC eBUZZ DEADLINES**

**You asked for it, now here it is!**

Until further notice, you can count on these deadlines for submissions to the NC Bee Buzz and NC eBuzz:

- January 2
- April 2
- July 20
- October 2

Newsletters will be available approximately five to six weeks after the deadline, as it takes the printer four to six weeks to print and mail them.

**Want your newsletter sooner?** The eBuzz is on the website the day the paper version goes to the printer!

## **NCSBA SUMMER MEETING**

**July 9-11, 2015  
LAKE JUNALUSKA, NC**



**MAKE YOUR PLANS  
NOW!**

Going forward with the program, test integrity and test administration will be addressed. The old tests floating around will be phased out with newly generated tests that will feature a mixture of the old test questions and the addition of many new ones. Our data manager is developing a test generating program that will produce different tests each time one is requested. Further, testing procedures that are more in line with the program prior to 2011 will be employed.

Communication within our organization for the MBP has improved. Our web site features detailed instructions on how become a certified beekeeper. Chapters that need testing are also instructed as to how to go about requesting materials and administering the test. Visit us on the web and you should find what you need to know if either just getting started or testing for a bee school.

Our Spring Meeting in Union County was a great success. The registration of 776 people means that it was the largest group of attendees to date. We had approximately thirty-five vendors and excellent food was served on site.

Paul Madren, our first vice president, assembled a group of speakers that did very good job with their presentations and connected very well with each other and the audience. A great measure of credit belongs with Dean Trull, President of the Union County Beekeepers, and a large group of unsung heroes who stepped in, worked together and did an excellent job.

From start to finish, the Union County Beekeepers took the task before them serious and managed the event as if they had done so many times before. The Union County Extension Service was a gracious host for our

## ***Advertisement Schedule for NC Bee Buzz/eBuzz and Yellow Book***

NC Bee Buzz: Full page (four annual issues **of the same ad**) \$400.00

Full page (single issue) \$125.00

Half page (four annual issues **of the same ad**) \$200.00

Half page (single issue) \$62.00

Yellow Book: Full page (single issue) \$75.00

Half page (single issue) \$40.00

Purchase ads by contacting NCSBA Ad Manager Jim Harvey at

[jh3d745h@yahoo.com](mailto:jh3d745h@yahoo.com) or 336-352-5514.

Submit NC Bee Buzz/eBuzz ads in JPG or TIFF format to Susan Fariss at [NCBeeBuzz@yadtel.net](mailto:NCBeeBuzz@yadtel.net) and Yellow Book ads also in JPG format to Amy

Moyle at [ncsba.yb.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ncsba.yb.editor@gmail.com)

*The NC Bee Buzz/eBuzz is issued four times a year.*

*Each NC Bee Buzz/eBuzz page is 6 1/2 x 9.*

*The Yellow Book is issued annually.*

*Each Yellow Book page is 4 1/2 x 7 1/2.*

event. Thanks to everyone who contributed and all who attended.

By the time we all get together again, it will be summer, we will be in the mountains, and the 2015 season of beekeeping will have afforded us new experiences, new friends and plenty to talk about and share. Please join us at Lake Junaluska over in Haywood County for our Summer Meeting 2015. It promises to be an excellent facility; one surrounded by unbound natural beauty. I hope to see you there!

*The NCSBA  
would like to  
thank the  
following  
vendors who  
generously  
contributed to  
the breaks at our  
Spring Meeting  
in Monroe, NC:*

*Miller Bee Supply  
Dadant and Sons  
Mann Lake  
Bees Needs, LLC*

## PEANUT BUTTER PIE

by Elaine Styers



### INGREDIENTS:

4OZ PACKAGE SOFTENED CREAM  
CHEESE (REGULAR OR REDUCED  
FAT)

½ CUP HONEY

8 OZ PEANUT BUTTER (CHUNKY OR  
CREAMY)

8OZ WHIPPED TOPPING (THAWED)

9 INCH CHOCOLATE COOKIE  
CRUMB PIE CRUST

### DIRECTIONS:

BEAT TOGETHER HONEY AND  
CREAM CHEESE UNTIL WELL  
MIXED. STIR IN PEANUT BUTTER  
AND MIX WELL. GENTLY FOLD IN  
WHIPPED TOPPING. SPOON INTO  
CRUST.

OPTIONAL - COVER PIE WITH  
ADDITIONAL WHIPPED TOPPING.

CHILL 4 HOURS OR OVERNIGHT  
BEFORE SERVING.

*THIS IS A FAVORITE DESSERT AT THE  
FORSYTH COUNTY BEEKEEPERS  
MONTHLY MEETING*



# SWARMS ARE VALUABLE!!

by Ann W. Harman

Swarming has held a curious spot in the history of beekeeping. Before the advent of the moveable frame hive back in 1851, swarming was a necessary and desirable part of beekeeping. Today we work very hard to avoid swarming. Why the switch?

Before Langstroth, bees were kept in skeps or logs cut from trees or in fanciful hives that did not work very well. When honey was harvested from such hives many times the bees were killed either on purpose or just lost in the mess of breaking combs out. Brood could even be damaged. To replace the loss of that colony, the beekeeper hoped that he would catch a swarm and install it in the harvested hive. Most beekeepers took honey and wax from only half their hives each year. The other half was allowed to live—and swarm.

Today we recognize that swarming reduces the colony strength significantly, so much so that in many areas of the country the honey crop is lost. If the main nectar flow is early the honey crop could be severely reduced. In areas with a summer flow the colony may recover enough to produce a crop but it too may be reduced. Therefore, today we try to prevent swarming. It's not too early to make



plans for Spring. The bees are making their swarming plans right now.

However, honey bees still swarm. We are disappointed when we see one of our own colonies swarming. But we respond with excitement and pleasure when we receive a call about a swarm that we know is not from our own hives. Now that we have captured a swarm what benefits will we receive from it?

A swarm is an excellent wax-producer. Beekeepers now are being advised to renew comb on a three-year cycle. An excellent way to obtain new comb is to install a swarm on foundation. No matter what type you use you will have better comb from a hived swarm than from package bees or a split.

Once the swarm is established and the population is increasing, you now have a source of bees. Keep in mind that the queen

from a primary swarm will be superseded within a couple of months. You can requeen with one of your choice, thereby increasing the value of the swarm.

The swarm can be thought of as a nuc to become a full colony to replace winter losses. Next spring this will be a large productive colony whether for honey production or pollination.

This swarm can be an emergency source of bees to boost a weak colony or for one whose queen failed or was accidentally killed. The new strong, populous colony is ready to take advantage of nectar flows.

Some beekeepers do not wish to do swarm-catching but may wish to purchase your swarm to increase their colony numbers. It is sort of like purchasing a nuc.

Autumn is the time to boost the strength of a weak colony for overwintering. Your swarm

with your selected queen is an excellent way to achieve a strong colony going into the winter.



Dear Wade:

Please apply the enclosed donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the **NCSBA Apicultural Science Fund** to be used by Dr. David Tarpy and Don Hopkins, at their discretion, in support of their efforts on behalf of NC beekeepers.



Mail your check payable to the NCSBA and mail it to:

Wade Lucas, NCSBA Treasurer  
2425 Trellis Court  
Raleigh, NC 27616



# AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION 2015

by Lewis Cauble

I attended  
The  
American  
Beekeeping  
Federation's  
North  
American  
Beekeeping  
Conference  
and  
Tradeshow at  
The  
Disneyland  
Hotel in  
Anaheim  
California  
from Jan 6  
through Jan  
10 and I  
would like to  
share some  
of the  
highlights of  
this great  
conference



*Lewis Cauble, NCSBA Delegate to the American Bee Federation with Goofy, at the ABF Conference and Tradeshow at Disney Land in California.*

with you. This was the first ABF conference that I have attended and I was quite impressed with the organization and the quality of the conference. I heard presentations from so many great folks active in the bee world including researchers, students, beekeepers, government officials, lobbyists, representatives from NGOs, and others. There was something for everyone at

this meeting  
as ABF  
organized  
breakout  
sessions for  
special  
interest  
groups. Beginners,  
serious  
sideliners,  
commercial  
beekeepers,  
and  
researchers  
each had a  
breakout  
session  
going on in  
the  
afternoons  
which can  
lead to a  
really good  
problem, one

I often face at our own NCSBA conferences:  
Should I go to this presentation or that  
presentation?

There were 4 things that I took away from  
the conference:

1. Nutrition. Honey bee nutrition is a hot  
topic in the research world these days.



While we have plenty of pollen substitutes on the market to choose from, many folks seem to be saying that there really is no substitute for fresh pollen. There is nothing better to support healthy bees than a good amount and a wide variety of fresh pollen. Researchers are working hard to fully understand bee nutritional requirements. I am sure we will continue to see new and improved supplements in the near future as our researchers continue to learn more.

2. Pesticides. Many folks are working hard to understand how pesticides affect our bees and how beekeepers and farmers can work together to promote healthy bees and healthy productive farms. One program in particular caught my ears as it was especially relevant to us in NC. The Bee Buffer Project is a Pollinator Partnership (P2) initiative, sponsored by Burt's Bees® Greater Good Foundation and is looking for partners: farmers, ranchers, foresters, and land managers and owners to take part in the U.S. Bee Buffer Project. They are creating a foraging habitat of pollen and nectar sources — land dedicated to honey bee health in California and North Carolina. They need our help. For those with .25 to 3 acres, the BeeBuffer program will provide free wildflower seeds and technical help. I hope many of you will stop by the website and learn

more about this program ([beebuffer.com](http://beebuffer.com)).

3. Varroa. Dennis VanEngelsdorp, representing the Bee Informed Partnership, was adamant about making sure we control varroa at all times. It is not sufficient to simply knock down varroa based on the season or when it is convenient. Colonies that exceed a threshold of 3 mites per 100 bees at any time during the season will be compromised. There is no such thing as having mites “a little out of control”. More than 3 mites per 100 bees is out of control. There is great interest in new varroa control measures so we hope to see and hear about those in the coming years.
4. Forage. This is really a combination of points 1 and 2 above. Bees need fresh pollen from a wide variety of plants. USDA is working with Midwest farmers to try and return some marginal farmland to prairie to provide good forage for honey bees and other pollinators and we are seeing similar efforts from NGOs like The Pollinator Partnership.

I hope you will stop by the ABF website and look around. They are a well-organized group with good leadership and they put on a great annual conference. Consider attending the conference in 2016. Your bees will thank you!

# ERRORS AND UPDATES TO THE 2014 YELLOW BOOK AS OF 1/2/15

by Amy Moyle, 2014 Yellow Book Editor

**The following errors have been reported from the 2014 edition of the Yellow Book:**

Page 7: Under Mountain Region Directors, Senior Director Kermit Holshouser's email should be kcholsh@charter.net.

Page 79 and 118: Johnny Max Mooneyham, Jr.'s name was incorrectly listed as Johnny Maxmooneyham, Jr.

**The following updates have been reported since information was compiled for the Yellow Book:**

Page 21: NC Apiary Inspectors: Some changes have been made in apiary inspector territories and a new map is available at <http://www.ncagr.gov/>

plantindustry/plant/apiary/apiarymp.html. Many counties have not been affected but please check the newest map before

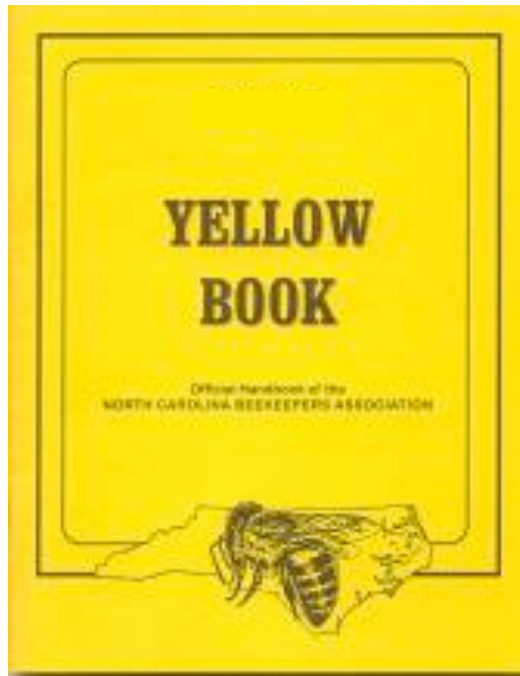
contacting the inspectors.

Also, the phone number listed for Greg Fariss was incorrect and has been updated on the ncagr.gov site. Greg's correct phone number is (336) 671-2883.

*Comments and corrections to the*

*Yellow Book may be sent to NCSBA Yellow Book editor at [ncsba.yb.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ncsba.yb.editor@gmail.com).*

*Please remember to send your 2015 chapter officer information to Laurie Shaw at [lshaw@tyler-carter.com](mailto:lshaw@tyler-carter.com) or send to Laurie through the mail at PO Box 1627, Clayton, NC 27528-1627.*



# 2014 WITH THE SCBA

by Tarie Haynie

The Scotland County BeeKeepers Association (SCBA) is doing their best to promote healthy beekeeping as well as provide community awareness. The SCBA finished off 2014 with a Big Buzz – their float took FIRST place at the Laurinburg Christmas Parade. If you were lucky enough to be in Laurinburg on Dec 6th, you saw the bees pulling the SCBA sleigh with association members dressed in their finest. A giant Bee, a little lady bee, beekeepers suits and SCBA shirts adorned the members as they rang bells and got the crowds to speak bee, “Buzza, Buzza, Buzz, Buzz, Buzz, Buzz.” As many of you know is bee language for Merry Christmas! What a great way to finish the year.

The SCBA meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Scotland County Annex, Laurinburg NC. We have a variety of events that spark the interest of many. The list is long so I will just highlight a few.

In March we held a beginner beekeepers workshop providing the basics to potential beekeepers and addressing issues like what equipment is required to get started and how to care for your new bees. Other great information provided includes the history and anatomy of bees and disease and pest control. Keep an eye out on the NCSBA

website for the 2015 workshop- there is always something to be learned.

July was brought in with a BANG as the SCBA held their First Annual Cooking with Honey Contest and, oh my goodness, the dishes were not only scrumptious, they were almost too beautiful to eat - almost. Outside judges were brought in to insure fairness to all. While everyone waited anxiously for the judges decision conversation flowed not only about the food that was

prepared, but also how everyone's hives were; loss of any bees this year, who has fed their bees already and what are they being fed. A good bit of discussion centered on ants. It seems ants are being quite pesky this season.

Finally, the results were in and the winners were as follows:

Main Dishes / Entrees --  
Addie Pratt's Honey & Garlic Meatballs

Vegetables / Side Dishes --  
Connie Coleman's Sweet

Potato Casserole

Breads & Snacks -- Shannon Newton's  
Cornbread

Desserts -- Jim Norfleet's Honey Nut  
Financiers

(Continued on page 12)



Beverages -- Addie Pratt's Strawberry Bliss

The OVERALL winner "Best in Show" -- Jim Norfleet's Honey Nut Financiers just barely beat out Connie Coleman's Sweet Potato Casserole. Recipe provided.

Another event the SCBA participates in annually is sponsoring an education booth at the John Blue Festival. Members man the booth and use the education hive to show the inner workings of a bee colony. Young and old alike enjoy finding the queen and discovering what the life of a bee is all about. Between monthly meetings, quarterly field days, beekeeper workshops, Cooking With Honey contests, group honey extraction, representation at state meetings, and attendance at various county events like the John Blue Festival and the Laurinburg Christmas Parade, the SCBA does its best to promote community awareness and provide guidance and mentorship to all who are interested in the wonders of beekeeping.

If you are ever in the Laurinburg area on the first Tuesday of the month pop on in; we would love to have you attend our meeting.

From the kitchen of Jim Norfleet:

Honey-Almond Financiers

10 Tbsp. unsalted butter, plus more, room temperature, for pans

1 ¼ cups of almonds, divided (You can substitute

pecans/hazelnuts in place of almonds or use combination of all three)

½ cup all-purpose flour

½ tsp. kosher salt

1 Vanilla bean, split lengthwise – if you don't have a vanilla bean substitute 1 Tbsp. Vanilla extract

2 Tbsp. honey, preferably raw

3 large egg whites

¾ cup (packed) brown sugar

Preheat oven to 350. Butter 8 3"x2" mini loaf pans, or a standard 12 cup muffin pan. Toast 1 cup of nuts on a small rimmed baking sheet, tossing occasionally, until golden brown, 8-10 minutes. Let cool. Pulse nuts, flour, and salt in a food processor until finely ground.

Place 10 Tbsp. butter in a small saucepan. If using Vanilla bean scrape in seeds from vanilla bean; add pod – (if using vanilla extract, add 1 Tbsp. to the butter in saucepan). Cook over medium heat stirring often, until butter

foams, then browns (do not let burn), 5-8 minutes. If using vanilla bean, discard bean and scrape mixture into small bowl. Whisk in the honey.

Increase oven heat to 400. Whisk egg whites in a large bowl just to break up, add brown sugar, and whisk until mixture is smooth. Fold in dry ingredients in 2 additions, then fold in butter mixture just until smooth.

Coarsely chop remaining ¼ cup of nuts. Scrape batter into prepared pans and top with chopped nuts. Bake financiers until golden brown and a tester inserted into center comes out clean, 15-20 minutes for loaves, 10-15 minutes for muffins. Let cool 5 minutes in pan, then transfer to wire rack. Let cool completely.

Additional insights: When you mix the honey/butter mixture into the flour/egg/brown sugar there will be a lot of liquid, continue to fold and stir until all liquid is absorbed. If you still have what appears to be some liquid still floating then add a pinch of all-purpose flour at a time and stir to aid in

absorption.

*Financiers can be made 1 day ahead. Store tightly wrapped at room temperature.*





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# A BIG THANK-YOU TO NC BEEKEEPERS ON BEHALF OF A GRATEFUL NC STATE APICULTURE PROGRAM

by Dr. David Tarpy, NC State Extension Apiculturist  
Department of Entomology, NC State University  
<http://entomology.ncsu.edu/apiculture>

It has been a while since I've written a column for the NCSBA *Bee Buzz*, a reflection of our changing job duties and the shifting priorities at NC State and Cooperative Extension. [When I first arrived at NC State, my Extension appointment was 70% of my job duties, which decreased to 50% when I started teaching full time, and it is now only 15%]. As a result, our extension efforts have been very much compartmentalized and streamlined into broad-scope, innovative delivery initiatives—specifically our Beekeeper Education & Engagement System (BEES) for online mini-courses on bees and beekeeping, our involvement in the Bee Informed Partnership and the associated launching of our Queen & Disease Clinic, and our regular online webinars in lieu of in-state travel to NCSBA county chapters.



Our change in emphasis has therefore flourished towards discovery and research, which of course requires outside funding. The NC State Apiculture Program needs ~

\$500k per year in external grant funding, mainly to hire our technicians and students (contrary to common perception, these positions are neither free nor covered by recurring state funds).

While salaries are obviously the largest expense and are typically covered by larger (six-figure) competitive research grants, any and all miscellaneous donations are welcomed and indeed important to the overall function of our program. In doing so, miscellaneous gifts and donations help to “grease the skids” of our program and enables us to be opportunistic where we otherwise might not be able, particularly when it comes to student research.

At the risk of sounding like this column is nothing more than me having my hat in hand, there are three means to donate to our program: (1) an [easy online link](http://go.ncsu.edu/apiculture) (<http://go.ncsu.edu/apiculture>) where anyone can make a simple donation of any size using their credit card; (2) donate directly to NC State's Apiculture Science fund as an unrestricted donation for the general support of our research and extension programs; and (3) through the NCSBA's Apiculture Science line-item in their budget, which is a centralized place for any donations to our program through the state association. I

mention this only because there has been some confusion and many questions about how and where donations go. In the end, all donations are channeled to the same place—the NCSU Apiculture Science Fund through our Agricultural Foundation—which directly supports our program and our program only.

The reason I bring this up is because 2014 was a banner year for miscellaneous gifts to our program. Indeed, we received \$15k from the NCSBA and its member chapters this year. To put that into perspective, since 2003 (when I first became the NC State Apiculturist) the NCSBA has donated on average ~\$1,547 per year to our Apiculture Science Fund. That's almost a full 10-fold increase in one year!

In particular, I would like to thank the extraordinary generosity of the Craven-Pamlico Beekeepers Association, Person County Beekeepers Association, Johnston County Beekeepers Association, McDowell Honey Bee Club, Hoke County Beekeepers Association, and Chatham County Beekeepers Association. Importantly, this list does not include the individuals and other clubs who donated through the NCSBA (#3 above) or anonymously through our online system (#1 above), as I do not receive notification of donor information through those routes. But in any event, **thank you, thank you, thank you to each and every one of you** for your support!

I would be remiss if I didn't specifically thank Lewis Cauble for his tireless efforts in



highlighting the importance of the Apiculture Science Fund. Indeed, all of the donations to the fund this past year have come after his presentation at the 2014 July NCSBA meeting in Wilkesboro, where he demonstrated the online link and deftly argued the importance of bolstering honey bee science at NCSU. It is extremely comforting to have such excellent support from Lewis and all other beekeepers like him.

So again, on behalf of a very grateful NC State Apiculture Program, many thanks to all of you for your generosity. I am hopeful that together we will embrace this new emphasis on such public-private partnerships and continue our positive trajectory going forward.



# DR. JOHN T. AMBROSE 1944-2015

by Charles Heatherly

The ink was barely dry on his Cornell Entomology PhD when a young New York native, John T. Ambrose, showed up at NC State University early in 1975 to apply for a new job he had heard about through the grapevine. The job was so new that the folks at NCSU had not heard about it.

During the previous year, in response to a strong grass roots effort by the North Carolina Association of Beekeepers, the NC General Assembly had

proclaimed the honey bee as the official state insect. More important, the State Legislature had funded the first full time apiculturist position at NCSU.

There were two apiculturist jobs available at that time, this one and another one in California. Dr. Ambrose preferred this one because it was near the home of his wife's family. After a three-year stint in the Navy he had considered going back to school for a



degree in history but the pay for that job, he learned, was less than his military pay.

Dr. Ambrose got the NCSU job and began a productive 39-year history with the university and North Carolina beekeepers that ended January 8 with his death due to complications from brain cancer.

During a career in which he estimated teaching some 5,000 students, he was awarded the University's Outstanding Teacher Award along with

the Entomology Society's Outstanding Teacher Award. In 1995 he received the NCSBA's Lifetime Achievement Award and in 2013 was named the Association's Person of the Year.

Along with the legislature's money for the job came the requirement that in addition to teaching and conducting research, the professor would also be available to the state's beekeepers to help with their problems



and organize the state association. That part of the job was called “cooperative extension.”

The year following his arrival, Dr. Ambrose was elected to a new association position, Executive Secretary. In that role, he became the sole administrative officer, keeping the membership records, organizing the two annual meetings, visiting the existing 25 chapters in 23 counties throughout the state and helping to organize new chapters.

Excerpts from the minutes during several years prior to 1975 depict the group as a quarrelsome swarm of several hundred extremely devoted honey bee enthusiasts. They talked about the pests of the day, the wax moth and foul brood. They complained about the high price of sugar and that the government didn’t do enough to help them. But mostly, they argued about increasing the \$2 annual dues and voted again and again not to do it.

During his 25 year career as NCSU Apiculturist he witnessed many beekeeping achievements.

In 1982 he started a Master Beekeeping Program to elevate the knowledge and skill of members. It became a model for others around the nation and by the time he retired from the teaching and extension job, some 10,000 North Carolina beekeepers had enrolled and matriculated through at least one of the four levels of expertise (certified, journeyman, master and master craftsman).

The Inspection Program housed in the NC Department of Agriculture was expanded from two to six time positions and two part time employees.

In addition to the traditional pests (wax moth and foul brood), new challenges arose; the trachea mite in 1984 and the varroa mite, 1990. A devastatingly cold spring in 1985 destroyed an estimated 90 percent of the favorite honey plants.

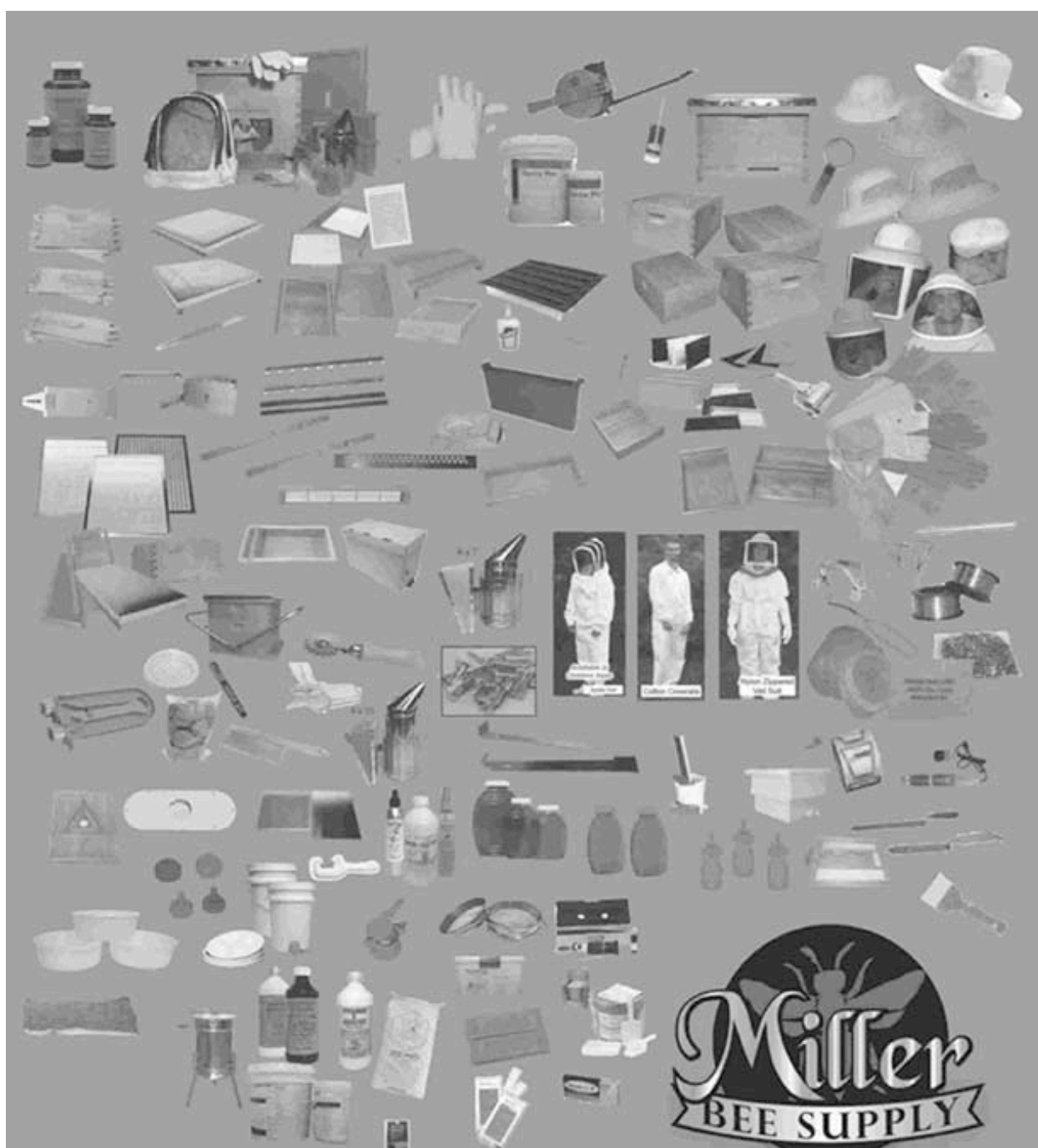
An effort to raise \$250,000 without any government funding to design and build a honey bee exhibit at the North Carolina State Zoo was begun in 2003 and completed in 2006. The exhibit now draws more than a million visitors each year.

In 2000, he was promoted from his teaching and extension duties to become an assistant vice provost of undergraduate affairs and director of NCSU’s First Year College Program. However, he stayed involved with state beekeepers. NCSBA membership at that time was around 800.

One of Dr. Ambrose’s favorite missions was to get the FDA to adopt a national honey standard which they promised to do in the mid 1970s and then refused to do. As an alternative the NC State Beekeepers association adopted a standard in 2011 and created a North Carolina Honey Board with Dr. Ambrose as co-chair to encourage the state’s beekeepers to adhere to a standard to keep their honey pure and label it correctly.

During the 2014 summer meeting, Dr. Ambrose was elected president for the following year. At the time of his death, he had been NCSBA President for 8 days.

He is survived by wife, Judith; daughter, Caroline; son, Zach, his wife, Jill and two grand children, Catherine (NCSU ‘17) and John.



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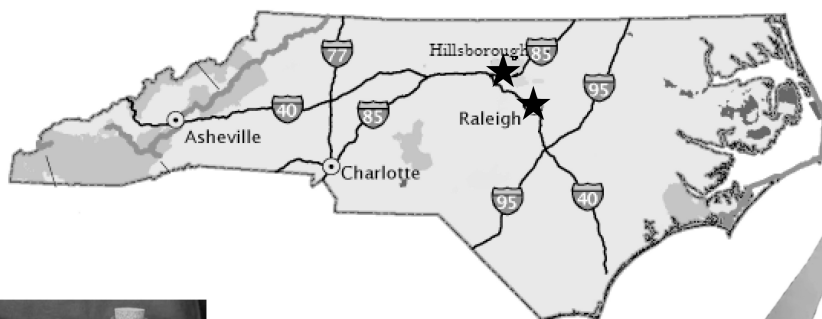
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## 2014 Permits to Sell Bees

The following dealers have been approved to sell bees in North Carolina and are permitted to sell or ship bees of the said apiary.

### In State Companies Permitted to Sell Bees

The inspectors' report forms for these apiaries are public records and are on file at the Beneficial Insect Lab, 950 East Chatham Street, Cary, NC 27511, (919) 233-8214.

Company Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Status	Spring Inspection	Phone Number
1 SweetWings Honey Bee Farm	2014 Coddle Creek Hwy	Mooreville	NC	28115	Active	+	(704) 904-6725
7 Stands Bee Farm	1885 Middle Fork Rd	Hays	NC	28635	Active	+	(336) 957-4744
Albemarle Bee Co.	32586B Austin Rd.	New London	NC	28127	Active	+	(704) 463-1233
Bailey Bee Supply	359 Ja-Max Dr	Hillsborough	NC	27278	Active	+	(919) 241-4236
Bailey Bee Supply	1724 South Saunders St.	Raleigh	NC	27603	Active	+	(919) 977-0901
Bee Delight Honey Farm	510 Flower House Loop	Troutman	NC	28166	Active	+	(704) 450-1703
Beech Mountain	2775 Beech Mountain Rd	Elk Park	NC	28622	Active	+	(828) 733-4525
Bell's Bees	2809 Campbell Rd	Raleigh	NC	27606	Active	+	(919) 417-1506
Betsey's Bees	1226 Mt. Olivet Church Rd.	Franklinton	NC	27525	Active	+	(919) 495-1450
Big Oak Bee Farm	2633 Branch Road	Raleigh	NC	27610	Active	+	(919) 272-4450
Billy R. Boyd	5803 Old Monroe Rd.	Indian Trail	NC	28079	Active	+	(704) 821-7310
Billy Searcy	P.O. Box 451	Columbus	NC	28722	Active	+	(828) 817-0266
Blanton Apiaries	1844 Back Creek Ct	Asheboro	NC	27205	Active	+	(336) 683-7390
Bob Doty	6325 Stirewalt Rd.	Kannapolis	NC	28081	Active	+	(704) 934-2640
Bridges Bee Supplies	121 Parkdale Circle	Kings Mountain	NC	28086	Active	+	(704) 739-6435
Brushy Mountain Bee Farm Inc	610 Bethany Church Rd	Moravian Falls	NC	28654	Active	+	(336) 921-3640
Bryan Fisher	712 Deaton St	Kannapolis	NC	28081	Active	+	(980) 521-8642
Busy Bee Apiaries	1201 New Hope Church Road	Chapel Hill	NC	27516	Active	+	(919) 904-7128/ (919) 516-6621
C & L Bee Farm	795 Crawford Rd	Salisbury	NC	28146	Active	+	(704) 640-8108
Calvin B. Terry Jr.	P.O. Box 702 / 105 Johnson Street	Vass	NC	28394	Active	+	(910) 528-1153
Carl Chesick	22 Cedar Hill Road	Asheville	NC	28806	Active	+	(828) 779-7047
Charles D. Revis	921 East Court Street	Marion	NC	28752	Active	+	(828) 925-1430
Charles Dean Trull Jr.	1428 Trull Place	Monroe	NC	28110	Active	+	(704) 201-3520
Chris Mendenhall	5703 Midway School Rd.	Thomasville	NC	27360	Active	+	(336) 442-9835
Danny H Lashus	556 Stephens Road	Providence	NC	27315	Active	+	(434) 710-4344
David Bridgers	118 Wellington Dr	Wilmington	NC	28411	Active	+	(910) 686-1947
David Link	157 Crepe Myrtle Circle	Winston Salem	NC	27106	Active	+	(336) 251-3427
Donnie Smith	599 John Russell Rd.	Raeferd	NC	28376	Active	+	(910) 875-5640
Ed & Ruth Whitley	1247 Salisbury Ave	Albemarle	NC	28001	Active	+	(704) 982-3136
Fred Merriam	221 Bryson Drive	Hamlet	NC	28345	Active	+	(480) 209-2098
G&S Beefarm	900 Honeysuckle Lane	Albemarle	NC	28001	Active	+	(704) 982-0698
George C Page	2686 Piney Grove Rd.	Kernersville	NC	27284	Active	+	(336) 317-4681



George Mackel	298 Timbuktu Rd	Sylva	NC	28779	Active	+	(828) 332-0576
Gerry and Libby Mack	121 Hermitage Rd	Charlotte	NC	28207	Active	+	(704) 358-8075
Gommin Acres Farm	1945 Davis Mtn Rd.	Hendersonville	NC	28739	Active	+	(828) 693-1966
Gregs Honey Hive	125 Yamasee Rd.	Waxhaw	NC	28173	Active	+	(704) 400-8965
Happy Bees Apiary	347 S. Wharton Station Rd	Washington	NC	27889	Active	+	(252) 945-1730
Harris Apiaries	10055 Hwy 53 West	White Oak	NC	28399	Active	+	(910) 988-6227
Holbert Bee Supply	P.O. Box 217	Saluda	NC	28773	Active	+	(828) 749-2337
Jeff Ritchie	3901 Piney Rd	Morganton	NC	28655	Active	+	(828) 438-1720
Jeffrey C. Hinson	16331 Philadelphia Church Rd.	Oakboro	NC	28129	Active	+	(704) 438-8760
Jeremy Tyson	742 Eagle Falls Rd.	Madison	NC	27025	Active	+	(336) 453-1281
Jesse M. Josey	7090 Wishing Well Rd	Plafftown	NC	27040	Active	+	(336) 407-1553
Jim's Bees	1106 Mohawk Ave	Fayetteville	NC	28303	Active	+	(910) 273-2782
Joey Lee Bullin	2633 Woodruff Rd.	Boonville	NC	27011	Active	+	(336) 244-1415
Kathy Webb	308 Webb Farm Rd	Salisbury	NC	28147	Active	+	(704) 637-8043
Kenneth G. Knight	3259 River Forks Rd.	Sanford	NC	27330	Active	+	(919) 545-1166
Lee's Bees Inc.	1818 Saddle Club Rd	Mebane	NC	27302	Active	+	(919) 949-6140
M&B Honey Farm	2265 Baptist Grove Rd	Fuquay Varina	NC	27526	Active	+	(770) 654-7535
Margaret Canterbury	3336 Startown Rd	Newton	NC	28658	Active	+	(828) 855-6942
McCoy Feed & Farm Supply Inc.	4420 Hwy 24-27 East	Midland	NC	28107	Active	+	(704) 888-2298
Michael Wallace	11460 Peach Orchard Rd	Harrisburg	NC	28075	Active	+	(704) 737-3947
Mike Bourn	1104 Arbor Drive	China Grove	NC	28023	Active	+	(704) 857-7699
Miller Bee Supply, Inc.	496 Yellow Banks Rd.	N. Wilkesboro	NC	28659	Active	+	(336) 670-2249
Orr Bee Supply	323 Morris Hollow Rd.	Old Fort	NC	28762	Active	+	(828) 581-4494
Penny Apiaries	501 Penny Rd.	Beulaville	NC	28518	Active	+	(910) 290-4186/ (910) 290-2663
Plank Road Apiary	3350 S. Plank Rd	Sanford	NC	27330	Active	+	(919) 776-9517
Queen Bee Honey Farm, LLC	119 Terry Springs Ln.	Statesville	NC	28677	Active	+	(704) 682-4018
Ralph Harlan	1295 Brevard Place Road	Iron Station	NC	28080	Active	+	(704) 807-6207
Rayon Locklear	2883 South Duffie Rd	Red Springs	NC	28377	Active	+	(910) 843-5561
Revis Russian Apiaries	PO Box 2520	Marion	NC	28752	Active	+	(828) 652-3524
Richard John Wright	134 Maggie Drive	Mt Gilead	NC	27306	Active	+	(910) 439-1879
Rick Tindal	24164 Cedar Ridge Lane	Albemarle	NC	28001	Active	+	(704) 985-6236
Robert E. Baucom	2518 Hamiltons XRd	Marshville	NC	28103	Active	+	(704) 624-5116
Robert M. Dennis	1040 High Meadows Drive	Concord	NC	28025	Active	+	(704) 721-5630
Roger Walker	13965 US 64 AL T. Highway West	Rocky Mount	NC	27801	Active	+	(252) 442-4065
Ron Kinney	3970 Tennyson Ct	Concord	NC	28027	Active	+	(704) 453-1131
Sam Frogge	232 Antietam RD	Statesville	NC	28625	Active	+	(704) 585-2004/ (704) 929-6868
Sapony Creek Apiaries	3542 Collie Road	Nashville	NC	27856	Active	+	(252) 443-6471
Shaken Creek Farms, Inc	7429 Old Maple Hill Rd	Burgaw	NC	28425	Active	+	(910) 540-4611
Silver Spoon Apiaries, Inc	P.O. Box 4486	Wilmington	NC	28406	Active	+	(910) 352-7868
Spring Bank Bee Farm	298 Spring Bank Road	Goldsboro	NC	27534	Active	+	(919) 778-0210
Sweet Betsy Farm	3947 Mudcut Rd	Marion	NC	28752	Active	+	(828) 724-4444
Tate's Apiaries	2241 Union Cross Rd.	Winston-Salem	NC	27107	Active	+	(336) 788-4554
The Carolina Bee Company	237 Jason Way	Youngsville	NC	27596	Active	+	(919) 728-0827
Timothy A Frye	PO Box 761	Liberty	NC	27298	Active	+	(336) 549-7358
Timothy R. Holt	132 Holt's Ln	Siloam	NC	27047	Active	+	(336) 710-4904
Todd Eury	1753 Liberty Ridge Rd.	Concord	NC	28025	Active	+	(704) 791-3015
Triad Bee Supply	4062 Evergreen Dr.	Trinity	NC	27370	Active	+	(336) 475-5137
Triple J Farms	595 Duke Whittaker Rd	Mocksville	NC	27028	Active	+	(336) 492-7564

Triple S Bee Farm	270 Farin Ward Rd	Stella	NC	28582	Active	+	(910) 787-2577
Valle Crucis Bee Company, LLC	488 Tom Ward Rd	Sugar Grove	NC	28679	Active	+	(828) 773-7081
VetHealth Concepts inc.	P.O. Box 102	Richlands	NC	28574	Active	+	(910) 330-0481
Wagram Apiary	24560 McGill St.	Wagram	NC	28396	Active	+	(910) 318-1202
Wayne Hansen	8004 Southway Rd	Charlotte	NC	28215	Active	+	(704) 536-4805
WG Bee Farm	P.O. Box 4563	Eden	NC	27289	Active	+	(336) 635-5821
Wild Mountain Apiaries	875 Will Arrington Road	Marshall	NC	28753	Active		(828) 689-4095
William Trivette	10500 McFarland Rd.	Laurel Hill	NC	28351	Active	+	(910) 610-3369

#### Out of State Companies Permitted to Sell Bees

Company Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Status	Health Certification	Phone Number
Blue Ridge Honey Co	PO Box 15	Lakemont	GA	30552	Active	+	(706) 782-6722
Bordelon Apiaries, LLC	615 Yvette Marie Dr	Lafayette	LA	70508	Active	+	(337) 988-6644
Deep East TX Queens Rulers's Apiaries Inc.	Box 394	Milam	TX	75959	Active	+	(612) 325-1203
Gardner's Apiaries / Spell Bee LLC	510 Patterson Rd	Baxley	GA	31513	Active	+	(912) 367-9352
H & R Apiaries	2700 South Macon Street Ext	Jesup	GA	31545	Active	+	(912) 427-7311
Hardeman Apiaries	P.O. Box 214	Mt. Vernon	GA	30445	Active	+	(912) 583-2710
JJ's Honey	5748 Chancey Rd	Patterson	GA	31557	Active	+	(912) 647-3726
Kona Queen Hawaii	P.O. Box 768	Captain Cook	HI	96704	Active	+	(808) 328-9016
Kutik's Honey Farm	1204 Holladay Rd	Manning	SC	29102	Active	+	(607) 316-0474
M&N Apiary	264 Tillman Anderson Rd	Jesup	GA	31545	Active	+	(912) 294-6123
Nina Bagley	1062 Jaeger St.	Columbus	OH	43206	Active	+	(614) 783-7868
Ridge Top Apiaries	1475 Thompson Ridge Rd.	Baxter	TN	38544	Active	+	(931) 858-5280 / (931) 319-650
Rossman Apiaries Inc	3364-A GA Hwy 33 N	Moultrie	GA	31768	Active	+	(229) 985-7200
Strachan Apiaries Inc.	2522 Tierra Buena Rd.	Yuba City	CA	95993	Active	+	(530) 674-3881
VP Queen Bees	P.O. Box 99	Frederick	MD	21705	Active	+	(301) 662-4844

It is unlawful to market queens, packages, nucs or hives before the Permit to Sell Bees in North Carolina has been issued. For North Carolina residents, a permit is not required for : (1) the sales of less than 10 bee hives in a calendar year; (2) a one time going out-of-business sales for less than 50 bee hives, or (3) the renting of bees for pollination purposes or the movement of bees to gather honey.

Information or application forms for the Permit to Sell Bees in North Carolina are available by writing: Attn: Tammy Morgan, NCDA&CS, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699, calling (919) 233-8214, contacting your local county extension office, or accessing the following site:  
<http://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/plant/apiary/sellbees.htm>

## A Honey of a Find!

by Susan H Fariss

Who doesn't like jewelry? Except for my wedding rings and a very special necklace from my husband, I don't wear mine on a day to day basis. But, I certainly love every piece of it.

And among our readers, who doesn't like items that remind us of beekeeping? Our membership in the NCSBA is indicative of how important beekeeping is to us. Having something that reminds us of this when we aren't actively working with our bees can bring happy thoughts to an otherwise uninspiring day.

If you ask me, combining these two, jewelry and beekeeping reminders, is among the best of ideas. I often look for jewelry at

beekeeping conferences. Its so hard to find other places and several vendors bring jewelry to sell at conferences.

I found these charming little bees with flowers at the BeezerkBelts table at EAS in 2012. Bob Talkiewicz and Sue Garing have attractive jewelry, beekeeping tools and their original product, the Beezerkbelts which prevents loss of tools.

Do you have a suggestion for a beekeeping find that could be featured? If so, we want to know about it! Send a photo, description of the item, what makes it special and where it can be purchased to [NCBeeBuzz@yadtel.net](mailto:NCBeeBuzz@yadtel.net) and you will be credited for the find!



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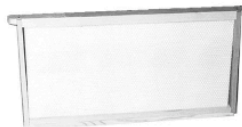
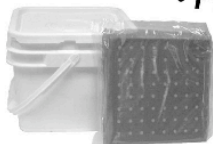
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