

# *The North Carolina* **BEE BUZZ**



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Editor: Charles Heatherly

Vol. 25, No. 2

June 2003

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**Make Plans Now!**  
**To Attend Summer Conference**  
**July 17, 18, 19**  
**Elkin, NC**

*the official newsletter of*  
*The North Carolina State Beekeepers Association*

# Summer 2003 NCSBA Meeting Agenda

## Thursday

- 12 (noon)— Registration  
1:30—4:20 pm Afternoon Sessions
- 1:30 Welcome
  - 1:40 Pesticides in the Hive (Credit for License Renewal)
  - 2:30 Bee Diseases and Pests
  - 3:10 Species and Races of Honey Bees
  - 3:35 Honey Plants of North Carolina

## Thursday Evening

- 6:30 Welcome and Door Prizes  
6:45—7:15 Goodness Grows in North Carolina  
7:15—8:00 Dr. Marion Ellis (Bees and Warfare?)  
(History of Beekeeping Through Stamps)  
8:00— Entertainment (RG Absher Blue Grass Band)

## Friday Morning

- 8:00 am Registration for Late Arrivals  
8:15 Welcome; Opening Remarks, Door Prizes  
8:30—10:00 Check in Entries for the Honey and Cooking with Honey Contests  
8:30—9:00 Dr. Kathleen Kidd (Apiary Report)  
9:00—9:45 Dr. David Tarpy to be introduced by Dr. James Harper  
9:45—10:15 Business Meeting  
10:15—10:40 Break  
10:40 Door Prizes  
10:45—11:30 Dr. Marion Ellis (Inert Dusts and *Varroa* Control)  
11:30—12:15 pm Bringing Bees to the public—what works, what doesn't (panel discussion)

## Contests

Check-in time for the annual contests for honey and Cooking with Honey will be 8:30 – 10 am Friday. Entries will be judged by the same rules as used by the NC State Fair Honey competition.

## **Friday (Cont) Lunch (12:15—1:45)**

### **Afternoon Workshops**

Bees and the Public  
Macro Pests  
Micro Pests  
Pesticides in the Hive  
(Repeat from Thursday Program)  
Honey Harvesting and Processing  
Comb Honey Production Management  
Certified Test for Master Beekeepers  
Bears

7 pm                      Awards Banquet\*

The awards banquet will be at the Holiday Inn, 1713 NC 67 Hwy, Jonesville at 7 p.m. on Friday night, July 18. The menu will be roast beef or ham; potato logs, green beans, tomato, cucumber, onion, green pepper rolls; assorted desserts, coffee or tea

Awards Ceremony:            Person of The Year, Extension Worker of the Year, Contest Winners

Special Ceremony:            Initiation Ceremony for new NC Master Beekeepers and new/re-certified Master Craftsman Beekeepers

\*Advance purchase of tickets required.

## **Saturday**

8:30 am                      Door Prizes  
8:45—9:10                  Irvin Rackley—Zoo Exhibit (25 minutes)  
9:10—9:35                  Dr. Marion Ellis—Bees at the Nebraska State Fair (25 minutes)  
9:35—10:15                Dr. Stan Schneider  
  
10:15—10:45                Break  
  
10:45—11:30                Dr. David Tarpy?  
11:30—12:15                International (Ann Harmon?)  
1 pm.                         Adjourn

## **From Our President**

**Don Moore**

**Spring Meeting, Richmond County.** Our spring meeting was held in the Cole Auditorium at the Richmond County Community College on March 14 & 15. The facilities were most adequate and from all the reports I have heard, the program was very well received. We kicked the meeting off with a very well organized and informative Introductory and Intermediate Level Beekeeping Short Course. You can see from the lineup of speakers that we spared no expense in bringing this Short Course to our spring meeting. Our speakers included Sally Ellis, Taylor Williams, Will Hicks, Glenn Hackney, Dr. Wyatt Mangum and of course, Bill Sheppard. At the evening banquet (which was well attended) we had a short Master Beekeeper Awards Ceremony and entertainment by the Drowning Creek Bluegrass Band. On Saturday morning, Dr. Mangum spoke on the *Giant bees of India and Other Exotic Beekeeping Adventures* and the bee inspectors brought us a report from across the state. Dr. Mike Hood (Clemson University) spoke on *Varroa Mite Integrated Pest Management (IPM)* and Dr. Jeff Pettis (USDA Beltsville Bee Lab) spoke on the *What's New with the Small Hive Beetle and Coumaphos and Queen Cups*. On Saturday afternoon we had three workshop sessions with each session offering four or five subjects. The subjects included: Rolled Candle Making, Making Candles with Molds, Understanding Queen Introduction, Small Hive Beetle Control Alternatives, Pollination Contracts and Pesticides, Varroa Mites - Bee Pest and Predators, Tracheal Mites and Bee Diseases, Assembling Bee Equipment and the Master Beekeeper Program Exams. As you can see, it was a very informative meeting, one of the best we have had. We are planning another good one for the summer meeting, plan to be there and enjoy the fellowship and learn more about beekeeping.

**NCSU Apiculturist Position.** The NCSBA was invited to attend the candidate seminars and interviews at the University. Six NCSBA members attended each of the three seminars and interviews in February and we made our recommendation to the Entomology Department. While the negotiations have not been finalized, the Department Faculty has selected Dr. David Tarpy, presently at Cornell University to fill the Apiculturist Position

formerly held by Dr. John Ambrose. Dr. Tarpy will speak at our summer meeting in Elkin and we expect him to be “on board” at NCSU in September or October of this year.

**Chapter Happenings.** The **Caldwell County** Beekeepers Association was presented their charter and \$50 start-up check on March 20, 2003 by Sally Ellis, one of the three NCSBA Directors. Inside sources tell me that 100% of the Caldwell members are also NCSBA members. That is great and it shows the chapter leadership’s strong support of the NCSBA.

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The **Onslow County** Beekeepers have recently organized, adopted a constitution and will be requesting a charter in the coming months. If you live in or around Onslow County and are interested in this new organization, their contact is David Wager and he can be reached at (910) 353-8957 or by e-mail at [wager@gibraltar.net](mailto:wager@gibraltar.net)

The **Caswell County** Beekeepers are meeting and had an Introductory Beekeeping Class in January - March. If you live in or around Caswell County and are interested in this new organization, their contact is Robert Neal and he can be reached at (336) 694-1872 or by e-mail at [yoneal@vnet.net](mailto:yoneal@vnet.net).

**Beekeeping Classes or Schools.** During the past six months or so we (County Chapters and the Extension Service) have sponsored many courses on beekeeping. Some have been at the introductory level and some at the intermediate level. Some have covered both levels. I believe these courses, this year and in years past, have not only spread the good word about honey bees and beekeeping but have allowed our local chapters and the NCSBA to grow. I also know that many of our members have also taken the courses and benefited. My record of information tells me that courses were taught in Alamance, Buncombe, Caswell, McDowell, Montgomery, Onslow, Surry, Wake and Watauga Counties, and I’m sure there were others. To those who have sponsored courses, I say keep up the good work. To those who have not, I encourage you to get one organized and see your chapter grow. I would be glad to share the Alamance County outline (agenda) with you. Just send me an email or give me a call. One more note about the classes. How do you get the word out about beekeeping and encourage people to take the course? We advertise at places where we “show” bees (civic groups, schools, fairs, special event days), on radio talk shows, and in newspaper articles. I recently received a newspaper clipping

featuring Roscoe Eller, Program Coordinator of the Iredell County chapter and long time NCSBA member. The reporter must have taken a lot of notes because the article was very informative about honey bees and beekeeping. It is publicity like this that helps the public understand the true value of honey bees and hopefully, encourages them to become beekeepers. Most newspapers seem very willing to occasionally do a feature article on beekeeping. What better time than in the spring. And don't forget, an article will count as one public service credit in the Master Beekeeper Program.

**Want an Overseas Assignment?** I obtained the following information from a recent e-mail. An organization located in Washington, DC, Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs (CNFA) is a non-profit organization that promotes agricultural development in developing countries. The CNFA Agribusiness Volunteer Program sends volunteers from the US agricultural sector on three-week overseas assignments. They cover the costs of the assignments (including but not limited to airplane tickets, lodging, meals, and transportation), and provide a translator. They also make all logistical arrangements in preparation for the trip (tickets, visas, hotel reservations, etc). Since these are volunteer assignments, CNFA does not pay any consulting fees or honorariums. The volunteer donates his/her time and skills. Participation in this program is open only to US citizens who currently reside in the US. They are currently working with a small beekeeping company in Ukraine (a country located in the western part of the former Soviet Union) and are seeking U.S. beekeepers as volunteers for this project. The subjects of interest for this project are Improving Honey Production and Developing a Honey Marketing Plan. If you want more information, you can reach their web site at [www.cnfa.org](http://www.cnfa.org) or you can contact Kristina Gribovskaja at [KGribovskaja@cnfa.org](mailto:KGribovskaja@cnfa.org).

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1. "North Carolina State Beekeeper's PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD" . This award is designed to reward and acknowledge efforts by individuals on behalf of beekeeping, beekeepers, and the bee and honey industry in general. Please direct questions and send nominations to Dan Kirby, 759 South Main Street, Hudson, NC 28638, Phone: (828) 728-4301
2. "North Carolina State Beekeepers's Association CORPORATIVE EXTENSION WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD". This award is designed to reward efforts by Extension workers on behalf of beekeeping, beekeepers, and the bee and honey industry in general. Your assistance in nominating a deserving individual for this award would be greatly appreciated. The North Carolina State Beekeeper's Association is very aware of the importance of support from the Extension workers on behalf of beekeepers and our industry. Please direct questions and send nominations to Ken Pipes, 3047 Isely Drive, Snow Camp, N. C. 27349. Phone 336-229-5622.
3. "North Carolina State Beekeeper's PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE OF MERIT". This certificate is for outstanding, creative, or sacrificial contribution to the betterment of the beekeeping industry. Contributions may be material, monetary, aesthetic or educational. The certificate may be awarded to: (a) individuals or partners in beekeeping, (b) groups or associations, (c) companies or corporations, (d) government agencies, (e) colleges or universities, (f) scientists and engineers. The number of nominees the committee may submit to the President is not limited. Please direct questions and send nominations to Jack Tapp, 1201 New Hope Church Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27516, Phone (919) 942-2006

4. "North Carolina State Beekeeper's McIVER-HAAS LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD". This award is designed to acknowledge those individuals whose dedicated service to the NCSBA and achievements in support of beekeeping are of true and long lasting significance. This award is not intended to be an annual presentation, and it will be made to only one individual who is widely acknowledged as a worthy recipient. Please direct questions and send nominations package to Donald L. Moore, President North Carolina State Beekeepers Association, 3634 Stoney Creek Church Road. Elon College, N. C. 27244-9514 , Phone 336-584-3195.

**Directions to Summer Conference  
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# Bee Quiz!

## *Test your honeybee IQ.*

1. The scientific name of the honey bee is:
  - A. April melanoma.
  - B. *Apis mellifera* L.
  - C. Ape minogra.
  - D. Appalachian Spring.
  
2. There are:
  - A. Approximately 120,000 beekeepers in the U.S.
  - B. Three million bee colonies in the U.S.
  - C. 12,000 beekeepers average 10 hives each in North Carolina.
  - D. All of the above.
  
3. The primary value of the honeybee is:
  - A. Making honey.
  - B. Pollinating essential food crops.
  - C. Stinging other pests.
  - D. Creating a pleasant buzz.
  
4. Honey is:
  - A. Sweeter than sugar.
  - B. Digested directly into the blood.
  - C. Once available only to Kings and the wealthy.
  - D. All of the above.
  
5. Beeswax:
  - A. Makes a smokeless candle.
  - B. Is an effective lubricant.
  - C. Brings a higher price than honey.
  - D. All of the above.
  
6. Royal Jelly:
  - A. Is a nutrient that nurse bees feed the larvae.
  - B. Is used as an expensive cosmetic.
  - C. Is the sole food of queen larvae.
  - D. All of the above.
  
7. Beekeepers in general:
  - A. Make more money than other farmers.
  - B. Are usually hobbyists.
  - C. Are eccentric.
  - D. Are handsome.

Answers: 1B, 2D, 3B, 4D, 5D, 6D, 7B.

## **Hotel Information**

for the 2003 NCSBA Summer Meeting in Elkin, North Carolina

The hotels for the 2003 NCSBA Summer Meeting are located at Exit 82 - I-77 in Jonesville. The meeting place is across the Yadkin river about 4 miles from the hotels at the Elkin High School Auditorium (see map). All hotels are of comparable quality, fairly new, and very nice. The regular rate is \$79 plus tax per night but we were able to negotiate special rates for the NCSBA meeting. Difference in price does not mean difference in quality. Please ask for beekeepers rate when you make your reservation.

Comfort Inn  
Highway 67 & I-77, Exit 82  
P.O. Box 126  
Jonesville, N. C. 28642  
Phone: (336) 835-9400  
Beekeeper rate: \$55 + tax  
1 King or 2 Double beds

Hampton Inn  
I-77 - Exit 82  
1632 N. C 67 Highway  
Jonesville, N. C. 27642  
Phone: (336) 835-1994  
Beekeepers rate: \$55 + tax  
1 King or 2 Queens

Holiday Inn Express  
I-77 Exit 82  
1713 NC 67 Hwy  
Jonesville, N. C. 27642  
Phone: (336) 835-6000  
Beekeepers rate: \$65 plus tax  
1 King or 2 Double beds

Please make your reservations immediately. The block of rooms will not be held beyond June 30. Rooms may not be available during July and would be subject to their regular rate of \$79.

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM**

**NCSBA SUMMER MEETING--2003**

**ELKIN, NORTH CAROLINA JULY 17,18 & 19, 2003**

Host, NCSBA Local Chapter, SURRY AND WILKES COUNTY Beekeepers

Please complete and send with your check, to: Paul L Madren, Treasurer  
NCSBA (Make Check payable to NCSBA) 818 Little Snake Creek Rd,  
Fancy Gap, VA 24328  
Phone (276) 728-7531

NAMES (s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Children) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE** (Note: These are ADVANCED mail-in fees,  
WALK-IN fees at the Conference will be \$5.00 higher on Individual and Family  
AMT. PAID

Individual Registration (NCSBA Member)-\$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Registration (NCSBA member) \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

NON-NCSBA member Registration \$30.00\* \_\_\_\_\_

NON-NCSBA family Registration \$35.00\* \_\_\_\_\_

(Note this Includes 2003 NCSBA membership dues)

**BANQUET TICKETS ----- \$10.00 each**

Banquet Tickets (how many) @ \$10.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES** (if non-pay for YEAR 2003 or new NCSBA member)

\*(If not included above with registration)

Annual NCSBA Membership - \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Commercial Membership - \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL amount of Check** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
This for Treasurer use:

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ How Paid: Cash \_\_\_\_\_ or Check \_\_\_\_\_

(check # and date

of Banquet Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
**Hotel Reservations** are your responsibility.

Three hotels have Special rates for Beekeepers: Directions:

= Comfort Inn, (336) 835-9400

= Hampton Inn, (336) 835-1994

= Holiday Inn Express, (336) 835-6000

Hotels are at the 177- Exit 82

Meeting is at the Elkin High

on NC 67 into Elkin (2 mi)

cross the river to stop light,

Left on Market St. to Elkin

High School on right.

A Publication of  
The North Carolina State Beekeepers Association

Charles Heatherly, Editor  
The North Carolina Bee Buzz  
P. O. Box 33803  
Raleigh, NC 27636-3803

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