
North Carolina

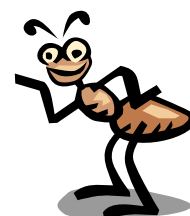
Bee Buzz

Official Newsletter of the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association

Vol. 26, No. 3



Foust Re-elected To Lead NCSBA



J. D. Foust was re-elected to a second term as President of the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association during the Summer Conference.

He expressed his appreciation to the attending members and pledged to continue the ambitious program of improving the craft of beekeeping in the Tarheel State that marked his first term as president.

Organizing existing chapters and

2004-05 NCSBA Officers

President, J. D. Foust, Wake County
1st Vice Pres., Norman Faircloth, Guilford
2nd Vice Pres., Billy Smith, Stanly
Treasurer, Paul Madren, Surry
Correspond. Sec. Audrey Moore, Alamance
Recording Sec., Joe Smith, Stanly
Dir. 1 Year, Mellie Swaney Craven-Pamlico
Director 2 Year, Ray Revis, McDowell
Director 3 Year, Jeff Knight, Union

forming new ones, improving educational opportunities for beekeepers, better communication with members and continuing the support beekeeping programs by NC State University and the NC Department of Agriculture were cited as major goals for the Association for the coming year.

'04 Honey Flow Looking Good

"Our honey flow ranges from good to excellent," says Chief Bee Inspector Don Hopkins. "Reports of the spring honey were excellent across the state," Hopkins added. "While the sourwood crop is better than last year's overall it is well below what was hoped for.

Buncombe County beekeeper Ed Buchanan echoed that estimate. "The sourwood crop is very spotty," he said. "There is some sourwood but it's dark. We had a very good early honey flow in this part of the mountains, especially from blackberry, locust, tulip poplar and white clover. It rained just about everyday which helped the white clover yield and hurt sourwood."

There is still a shortage of bees for pollination, according to Orange County beekeeper Jack Tapp. "We did not have enough bees to adequately pollinate the melon and cucumber crops," Tapp said. "We need approximately 8,000 more colonies available in North Carolina for pollination," he added.

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Raffle Produces \$805 For Zoo Apiary Exhibit

By Gayle Young

The NCSBA Zoo Committee wishes to thank all who contributed to the successful fund raiser that we sponsored at the recent Summer Meeting in Charlotte. Bill Waddell generously donated one of his beautiful handmade observation hives complete with bees. The raffle drawing was held at 11:10AM on Saturday July 10th and the winner was Larry Green of Wake County. When he was asked to produce the winning ticket stub Larry pulled a fist full of blue tickets from his pocket and flashed a very large grin. The proceeds totaling \$805 were submitted to Treasurer Paul Madren designated for the Zoo project.

In the near future we will be presenting a program entitled "NC Zoo Honeybee Exhibit" to each county chapter or group. This will explain the Zoo project to all members and allow and encourage each of us to financially support the proposed permanent bee exhibit at the NC State Zoo in Asheboro.

Any of the Zoo Committee members would be happy to answer questions and provide additional



Bill Waddell (left) donates an observation hive won by "lucky" Larry Green.

information upon request. The members are George Byrum, Janno Daniel, Norman Faircloth, Jerry Isley, Don Moore, Bill Sheppard, Bill Waddell, Gayle Young, and last but not least Chairman Irvin Rackley.

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Contributions to the *Buzz* are welcome.

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

Essay Contest Winner



Ten-year-old Adam Lawing, of Bostic, a small town in rural Rutherford County, is the winner of the 2004 NCSBA Essay Contest. He read his winning entry at the Summer Conference Banquet which he attended with this family as they proudly watched. A 4th grader at Sunshine Elementary School, in addition to his beekeeping interests, he also is active in the 4-H and raises Lambs. His essay, entitled "Buzzing Through History," is published in the current issue of the Yellow Book.

From The President

NC State Beekeepers Association

Summer Meeting – The NCSBA Summer Meeting was July 8 – 10 at Charlotte’s Holiday Inn Woodlawn and, **WOW**, what a great conference. Many of the 242 who attended the meeting told us how much they enjoyed having everything under one roof. The layout of the hotel was perfect for our meeting and the room rate of \$55 was very affordable. The conference program was outstanding – a program that one would expect to find only at a national meeting. To have a state conference with all of the following nationally recognized experts, each giving one or more general sessions is something one dreams of.

Dr. Dianna Sammataro, Research Entomologist, USDA Tucson Bee Lab.

Dr. Mark Winston, Professor of Biological Sciences, Simon Taylor University, British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Orley R. Taylor, Professor of Entomology, University of Kansas.

Dr. David R. Tarpy, Assistant Professor and Extension Apiculturist, NCSU.

Mr. Charlie Harper, Russian Honey Bee Contractor, Carencro, LA.

Mr. David Westervelt, Florida State Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Honey Bee Research Inspector.

Ms. Jennifer Berry, Apicultural Research Coordinator and Apiary Manager, University of Georgia.

All of the presentations were so good and created so much discussion and questions it was hard to close them even for breaks and at meal time. The comments and evaluation survey indicated that the attendees gave them very high marks.

There were workshops covering ten subjects, each given at least two times. Workshop presenters were experts from our own ranks. The workshops were well attended and received high marks on the evaluation forms. Local chapters might look to some of those experts for chapter programs through out the year.

Congratulations to David Martin, winner of the NCSBA Person of the Year Award, Diane Ducharme, winner of the NCSBA Extension Worker of the Year Award, and to Adam Lawing, winner of the 4H Essay Contest. We thank all of them for the work they have done to earn those honors.

The officers and member of Mecklenburg, Gaston, and Union County Beekeepers did a great job with local arrangements and collecting door prizes.

J. D. Foust

We thank everyone in those chapters for the dedication and hard work that made this year’s summer meeting one of the best ever.

Registered attendance for the convention was 242 – about 50 less than expected. We think attendance was still good since it was July 4th week and some of those who usually attend may have been on vacation. We were also competing with the Heartland Regional Bee Keepers meeting in Tennessee. Most of the equipment dealers who usually attend our meeting and some of our beekeepers were attending the meeting in Tennessee.

Fund Raising Campaign for Zoo Exhibit – Zoo committee chairman, Irvin Rackley announced that the campaign to raise funds for a permanent display at the North Carolina State Zoo is underway. Campaign workers are being trained and presentations to local NCSBA chapters and Farm Bureau county chapters should begin soon. Bill Waddell donated one of his beautiful observation hives with bees for a raffle to benefit the project. \$805 was raised through the raffle. The excitement level for the project seemed to be increasing. The goal of \$160,000 will be require strong commitment from a lot of people. Let’s hope the project really catches on in the chapters and some significant donations come forth.

Golden Achievement Chapter Program – A program will be launched soon to give the chapters

President's Page, cont.

credit for some of the good things happening through out the State and encourage other chapters to adopt new ideas for improvement. Points will be given for: 1. Percentage of chapter membership belonging to NCSBA, 2. Mentor programs for new members, 3. Program planning and issuance of an annual program calendar for the chapter, 3. Chapter speaker's bureau with credit for programs and publicity about beekeeping. 4. Conducting Annual Bee Schools, 5. Having Annual field days, 6. Participating in Master Beekeeper Program, 7. Attending NCSBA Spring and Summer Meetings, 8. Sponsoring and assisting in the organization of a new chapter in another county, 9. Using a chapter email program to communicate with chapter members. A committee is being established to administer this program. The chapters may voluntarily participate in the programs. Points will be given for participation in each of the above areas and more may be added. When a chapter reaches a designated threshold of points, it will receive a certificate designating it as a Golden Achievement Chapter. The committee may identify additional areas for credit toward the program. The objective of the program is to strengthen the chapters and recognize those that excel.

Beekeeping Classes: We are getting lots of requests for help with beekeeping classes – beginner and advanced. Dr. Tarpy, in his role as NCSBA Coordinator of Education and Research, will work up a syllabus for training at the beginner level and one for training at the journeyman level. These materials may be used, as guides for bee keeping course organizers through out the state. Study guides will also be developed for the students. Tests for both levels of the MBP will be based on these materials.

Instructors are needed in many of the chapters. We need to hear from persons who are willing to teach a class on a particular subject in these courses. If you are willing to help with this important program, let us know by calling Dr. Tarpy at (919) 515-1660.

Honey Bee License Plate – The interest response for establishing a North Carolina Honey Bee License Plate was only about 10% of what the State requires for establishing a special license plate. The idea will be dropped for now.

New Chapters—We were pleased to present NCSBA Chapter Charters to two new chapters during the Awards Banquet. The new chapters are in Caswell and Cleveland Counties. Each received a check for \$50 to assist with start-up costs. Both have gotten off to a strong start and are showing lots of enthusiasm for beekeeping.

Conference Speakers



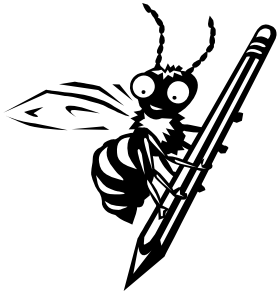
Dr. Mark Winston



Dr. Dianna Sammataro



Charlie Harper



Master Beekeeping Program Upgraded

By Dr. David Tarpay

One of the cornerstones of the Extension program in Apiculture at NCSU is the Master Beekeeper Program. Its purpose is to provide an infrastructure whereby beekeepers can improve their beekeeping skills, knowledge, and public service on a continuous basis within a system that objectively and formally acknowledges those accomplishments. It is particularly attractive to beekeepers who enjoy working with others to promote the importance of honey bees and beekeeping. This program has been a tremendous success and is an invaluable resource to the public and beekeepers statewide.

I wish to take this opportunity to outline some administrative changes that the program is currently experiencing. Let me assure you, however, that these changes will affect only the logistic and managerial aspects of the program, and not its original mission or core purpose.

The changes can be divided into several stages. The first stage is to establish a MBP computer database. Until recently, all of the records in the program were kept on 3" x 5" index cards. This format made it exceedingly difficult to summarize the current status of the program, determine how many participants were at the various levels, even how many people were currently active. We have now completed the database, enabling us to quickly and easily generate summary statistics from it. For example, as of August 2004, there are 2,879 people that have been participants in

the program over the last 22 years. About 46% of these are currently active (that is, having participated within the last 10 years). This database has already streamlined our ability to keep track of individual participants.

The second stage will be to implement a new reporting system for public service units. Since one of the fundamental aspects of the program is to educate the public and other beekeepers about the importance of honey bees and beekeeping, it is critical that we keep track of the various services that beekeepers are providing. In the past, these activities were recorded by each participant on a single form and submitted only when the required number were completed. Moreover, there was no systematic means for the program administrators to compile this information. To address this, we have recently implemented a new reporting system for MBP participants or other beekeepers who provide public service. Beekeepers who provide a presentation, lecture, workshop, or other service simply fill out some basic information on a post card and send it back to the program administrator. We will then have a running record of such service, so that we can demonstrate the important work that beekeepers are doing across the state. Copies of the post cards are available on both the NCSBA and NCSU web sites.

The third stage of the MBP restructuring is to create detailed study guides for the various levels. Many beekeepers, particularly those conducting bee schools or other educational programs, have been asking "What do I need to know to be successful on the test?" We hope to develop outlines of questions to

help participants and instructors determine the topics they need to cover in their studies. Associated with these questions will be detailed reading lists covering these same topics, so that participants will have the opportunity for self study, if they so wish. These outlines will provide a standard of topics covered, yet permit flexibility among different instruction styles for the many successful bee schools that are already being taught across the state.

The final stage will be to restructure the tests themselves. The Appointed Master Beekeepers have been doing an excellent job at administering the tests, and their important role will not change. However, we will reformat the Certified and Journeyman tests so that the exams will be different each time they are given. This will be accomplished by creating a large database of questions from which we will draw randomly a certain number for each test. This will accomplish many things simultaneously. First, it will maintain the integrity of the program by preventing extra test copies from being circulated. Second, it will maintain fairness across MBP members by drawing the questions from the same pool. Third, it will require participants to truly understand the breadth and depth of beekeeping. We hope to have this system up and running next summer.

These changes are all designed to help streamline how the program is implemented. Our hope is to make each participant's experience as enjoyable, and productive, as possible. We are all very proud about the NC MBP, and we only hope to serve you better.

Highlights, NCSBA Summer Conference

Current Research at the Tucson Bee Lab, Dr. Dianna Sammataro, Research Entomologist USDA, Carl Hayden Honey Bee Research Facility

- ***Bee Sweat: Is It Important,*** Dr. Diana Sammataro, Research Entomologist, USDA, Carl Hayden Honey Bee Research Facility
- ***Biology of Swarming,*** Dr. Orley R. Taylor, Professor of Entomology, University of Kansas
- ***Writing About Bees,*** Dr. Mark Winston, Professor of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada
- ***The Essence of Royalty: Honey Bee Queen Pheromones,*** Dr. Mark L. Winston, Professor of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada
- ***What Is Next: Problems As Seen Through The Eyes of a Research Inspector,*** David Westervelt, Florida State Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Honey Bee Inspector
- ***Comparing New and Old Comb,*** Jennifer Berry, Apicultural Research Coordinator and Apiary Manager, University of Georgia
- ***The History and Management of Russian Queens,*** Charlie Harper, Carencro, LA, Russian Honey Bee Project Contractor

- ***NCSBA Update,*** Adolphus Leonard, NCSBA Bee Inspector
- ***NCSU Update,*** Dr. David Tarpy, State Apiculturist

Workshops and Testing

- Honey bee mating biology
- Gadgets from around theWorld
- Soaps, cosmetics and non honey products
- Mead Making
- Skep making
- Apitherapy
- Honey Bee Anatomy
- Pesticide Safety
- Pesticide testing
- Lab diagnostics
- In the bee yard
- MBP practical tests

Special Events

- Visit with Speakers
- NCSBA Business Meeting
- Banquet
- NC Master Beekeeper Award
- 4-H Essay Contest Winner
- Extension Worker of the Year Award
- Person of the Year Award
- Contests: Honey, Cooking with Honey, Gadgets, and
- Photography
- Door prizes
- Observation Hive Raffle
- Vendors Exhibits

Honey Competition at Summer Conference '04

by Jennifer Keller

Although there were fewer entries than normal, all were exceptionally well prepared which made judging a very difficult task this year. The most popular category was extracted honey with the majority of those entries in the light category. The other entries included chunk honey, mead, and gift baskets as well as entries in the photography contest. Ribbons were awarded to the top three entries in each category and a monetary award of \$25 was awarded to the winner of the photography contest and the winner of Best in Show.

Thanks to all that entered, and I would like to encourage more people to enter their honey next year. This is good practice for those that are planning to place entries in the state fair, as the criteria used for judging is the same at both events. Congratulations to all the winners.

Extracted Honey (Light)

- 1st Freddy Gregory
- 2nd Paul Madren
- 3rd Chip Stowe

Extracted Honey (Amber)

- 1st Paul Madren
- 2nd Ralph Johnson
- 3rd Jimmy Odum

Extracted Honey (Dark)

- 1st Martha Boren

Chunk Comb Honey (Light)

- 1st Paul Madren
- 2nd Chip Stowe



Champs — Martha Boren was a double winner, claiming top awards in both the honey and cooking with honey competition, as well as getting her Master Beekeeper medal. Paul Madren won Best in Show in the honey competition.

Mead (Dry)

- 2nd Jerry Isley

Gift Package of Bee Products

- 1st Angie Stowe

Photography

- 1st Martha Boren

Best in Show – Paul Madren

Theirs Was the Best. Summer Conference Winners of the Honey Competition are shown (right) l-r: Jimmy Odum, Martha Boren, Freddy Gregory, Jerry Isley, Chip Stowe and Paul Madren.

It Was A Tough Job, But Jennifer Keller enjoyed every moment of it.



Scenes

From the Summer Conference

Dr. Orley Taylor, Professor of Entomology at the University of Kansas, takes questions from a Tarheel beekeeper. Dr. Taylor, an expert in research on the Africanized Honey Bee, and swarming, was one of the favorite presenters at the Summer Conference



Dr. Kathleen Kidd, head of the State Bee Lab and Bee Inspector Adolphus Leonard review a presentation.



Dr. Terry Harris' Honey Berry Pie was a favorite with the judges, as well as conference attendees during the break which featured cooking with honey entries, pictured at left below.

NC Honey
It not only looks good,
It is good.



...tell me once again, how these little critters deserve to be called, "Man's best friend.?"



Cooking with Honey Competition At The Summer Conference

A good time was had by all the judges in the cooking with honey competition at the 2004 Summer Conference. It was their treat to taste the entries and let their palates do the talking.

Quick Fruit Bread

- 1st Angie Stowe
- 2nd Arlene Samford

Honey Bars & Brownies (one entry)
Susan Dulmage

Cakes

- 1st Ukranian Honey Cake
Martha Boren
- 2nd Apple Crisp Cake
Gene Cain
- 3rd Honey Potato Cake
Terry Harris

Pies

- Honey Berry Pie
1st Terry Harris
- Pecan Pie
1st Gene Crain

Dressings

- 1st Honey Mustard
Susan Dulmage
- 2nd Poppy Seed
Martha Boren
- 3rd Honey Dressing
Angie Stowe

Candy (one entry)

Toffee, Gail Young

Pickles

- 1st Artichoke, Martha Boren
- 2nd Ice Pickles, Gene Crain
- 3rd Squash Pickles, Judy Faircloth



Cooking Winners: (l-r) Angie Stowe, Susan Dulmage, Gene Crain, Gayle Young, Terry Harris, Judy Faircloth, Arlene Samford and Martha Bowen.

Best in Show

Honey Berry Pie, Terry Harris



Judging Cooking Entries Was A Fun Job:

(l-r) Darlene Phillips, Misty Howard, Sandra Sheppard, Betty Isley, Greg Clements, Dr. Betty Jean Foust and Bill Sheppard.

David Martin
Person of the Year

David Martin, Wake County Beekeeper and creator of the NCSBA Web Page was cited for developing one of the best web pages in the country that has enabled NCSBA state and county officers to communicate effectively with each other and beekeeper constituents.

“ His efforts on behalf of the North Carolina State Beekeepers have significantly benefited the Association and its members and has moved us into the age of modern technology,” said Dan Kirby in presenting the award.



Diane Ducharme
*Extension Agent
of The Year*

Diane Ducharme has been selected to receive the 2004 NCSBA Extension Worker of the Year Award. As the Commercial Horticultural Extension Agent for Buncombe County, she is responsible for vegetable production, nursery and green house management, Christmas trees and forestry, pesticide education...and beekeeping. She has been an Extension Agent for four years and has developed a personal interest in beekeeping and presently maintains two hives of her own

Diane is a member of the NCSBA and she has been active in the Buncombe County Chapter monthly meetings. She has organized pesticide certification classes especially tailored to beekeepers, she helps print and distribute the bi-monthly newsletter and she directs educational and community outreach efforts. She is also responsible for TV and newspaper coverage of beekeeping activities.

Each year she not only actively participates in planning and setting up the Exhibition booth for the 10 day run of the Mountain State Fair, she also volunteers her own time to staff the booth.

Diane has taken a leadership role in growing the annual bee school into a first class event, which draws more than 120 participants from all over Western North Carolina.

It is because of Diane's outstanding work with the Buncombe County Beekeepers that led to her being nominated and then receiving the 2004 NCSBA Extension Worker Award. Diane received a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from University of North Carolina in 1994 and a Master of Science degree in Plant Pathology from Clemson University in 1999.

2004-05 NCSBA Committees



(Person listed first is committee chairman.)

ANNUAL MEETINGS: Norman Faircloth, Bill Smith, Don Moore, Paul Madren, Scott Jewell and Don Hopkins, David Tarpy, Charles Heatherly, J. D. Foust Ex-Officio

EXTENSION WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD: Claiborne Holtzman, Bobby Davidson, and Ken Pipes

NCSBA DOCUMENTS: Paul Madren, Don Moore, Bill Sheppard, Irvin Rackley, and Dr. John Ambrose

NCSBA HISTORY: Dr. John Ambrose, Don Moore, Bill Sheppard, and Irvin Rackley

ZOO BEE EXHIBIT: Irvin Rackley, Norman Faircloth, Bill Sheppard, George Byrum, Bill Waddell, Jerry Isley, Janno Daniel, Gail Young, Don Hopkins, and Don Moore

PUBLICITY: Audry Moore, Bill Smith, and Charles Heatherly

PUBLICATIONS: Norman Faircloth, Charles Heatherly, Bill Smith, Paul Madren, Don Moore, and J. D. Foust- Ex-Officio

EDITOR N. C. BEE BUZZ: Charles Heatherly

PUBLICATIONS BUSINESS MANAGER: Richard H. Flannagan

PERSON OR ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD: Dan Kirby, Tim Gentry, Bill Waddell, and Martha Boren

GOLDEN ACHIEVEMENT CHAPTER : Chris Mathis

CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS: Paul Madren, Dr. John Ambrose, Don Moore, and J. D. Foust

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Fountain Odum, Charles Heatherly, J. D. Foust-Ex-Officio

WEBSITE: David Martin and Bill Herndon

AUDIT (Directors): Mellie Swaney, Ray Revis, and Jeff Knight

AWARDS/CONTEST COORDINATOR: Bill Smith

PARLIMENTARIAN: Ken W. Bailey

FINANCE/BUDGET: Paul Madren, Norman Faircloth, and Bill Smith

NOMINATING: Sally Ellis, John Brittle, Joe Smith, and Ed Buchanan

McIVER-HAAS LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Appointed by President as required

HONEY, GADGETS, AUDIO/VISUAL JUDGING: Jennifer Keller

SPECIAL PROJECTS:, Larry Green

COOKING WITH HONEY: Bill Sheppard, Janno Daniel, Martha Boren, Joe Smith, Betty Jean Foust

NCSBA CALENDAR: Dr. John Ambrose

MASTER BEEKEEPING PROGRAM: David Tarpy, Sallie Ellis, Bill Smith, Janno Daniel