



Alamance County Beekeepers

Newsletter for August 2015

Monthly Meeting
SAT | AUG 15 | 3:00



**Ice Cream Social @
Don Moore's Apiary**

3634 Stoney Creek Church Rd.,
Elon 336-213-3138

Don and Shirley Moore will host our August meeting at their place on Saturday, the 15th. We'll get to learn about

- Hive inspections
- Starting NUCs
- And more!

Nancy Ruppert will be in charge of the program.



Please bring ice cream and your favorite toppings for social time!

Volunteers Needed on the 15th

Don could use the help of six volunteers to set up tents and get tables and chairs out @ 1:00. When everything's done, more volunteers are requested to help take the tents down and put everything back in place. Please contact Don @ **336-213-3138** or **dlmoore1@bellsouth.net** if you can help. Thanks!



FarmFest: Preserving our Heritage

August 22 | 10:00 am—4:00 pm
Cedarock Historical Farm

Enjoy bluegrass music while watching demonstrations of traditional crafts and trades such as basket-weaving, beekeeping, quilting, tatting, and more. Browse displays of antique tractors, trucks, and cars, and explore the historic farm at Cedarock Park to learn about Alamance County's rich agricultural heritage.

Volunteer Opportunity!

Mike Ross will head up the beekeeping segment of the day's programs. If you can help out, contact Mike @ mross953@hotmail.com.



Hosted by the Alamance County Recreation and Parks Department.

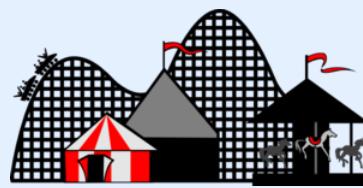
North Carolina State Fair

October 15-25

Volunteer Opportunity!

Randy Stinson will be coordinating the Alamance County Beekeepers display at this year's State Fair. It's not too early to start organizing.

Please contact Randy @ **336-228-7753** with your ideas and your availability if you would like to help out this year. It's a lot of fun, and you could help ACB be a winner again!



Bees in the News

■ **The blight of the honey bee**, David Wallace-Wells, New York Magazine, 6/15/2015. "They're dying of stress, which is stressing us out. But we've only got ourselves to blame." In this article, a sort of investigation into CCD, we get to know Dave Hackenberg, the man credited for first noticing bee die-off.

<http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2015/06/bees-are-literally-worrying-themselves-to-death.html>

■ **Japan's first lady is establishing a honeybee colony, taking a cue from Michelle Obama**, Steve Mollman, Quartz.com, 7/15/2015. Akie Abe, wife of Japan's prime minister, is working with the Ginza Honeybee Project to establish honeybee colonies at the official residence of the PM. Abe has a particular interest in agriculture and food safety.

<http://qz.com/454282/japans-first-lady-is-establishing-a-honeybee-colony-taking-a-cue-from-michelle-obama/>

■ **Examining the neonicotinoid threat to honey bees**, American Chemical Society News Service Press Release, 7/8/2015. "Researchers now report in the ACS journal *Environmental Science & Technology Letters* that although sunlight plays an important role in degrading pollutants, its effects on neonicotinoids can diminish dramatically even in shallow water."

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/pressroom/presspacs/2015/acs-presspac-july-8-2015/examining-the-neonicotinoid-threat-to-honey-bees.html>

■ **No shot needed, bees vaccinate their babies naturally**, ASU News, 7/31/2015. Scientists have figured out how a blood protein, vitellogenin, helps immunize bees against disease. This discovery will result in new efforts by humans to boost bee health.

<https://asunews.asu.edu/20150731-how-bees-vaccinate-their-babies>



This Month in the Bee Yard from Beekeeper Course Manual



- Colonies can start collapsing this month due to varroa infestation. Check for mites and treat as appropriate.
- There's not much nectar this month. Do you need to feed your bees?
- When opening hives, be sure to limit exposure in order to avoid damage from robbers.
- Check to be sure you have laying queens in all your hives. Might need to re-queen.

Notes from July's Meeting

Dr. Juengel's presentation on bee stings and allergies answered a lot of our questions and left us better informed about the various responses to stings, the dangers, preventions, and immunotherapies. Beekeepers came with lots of interest, and left with lots of useful information. One take-away: Keep Benadryl in the first-aid kit! Thank you, Dr. Juengel!



Ira heartily recommends that we consider attending the statewide NCSBA conferences. They take place in spring and summer. Next one will be in New Bern, probably in March.



Volunteers are needed to create the ACB beekeeping installation at the State Fair this year. Randy Stinson is our contact for this event. [more on p. 2]



Volunteers are also needed for the beekeeping event at Cedarock on Heritage Day, August 22. Mike Ross is the contact. [more on p. 2]



Winners of door prizes received a queen from John @ Triad, and a box of honey jars from Keith @ BeezNeedz. Thanks, donors!



Blooming in the Piedmont this Month

Hyssop * Blazing star * Passion flower * Asters *
Mountain mint * Butterfly weed * Milkweed *
Blanket flower * Beautyberry * Coneflower * Sumac *
Zinnia * Abelia * Crape myrtle *
Goldenrod



Why is Utah Called the Beehive State?

The State insect is the honeybee. The State motto is "Industry." The State emblem is the beehive. Why?

Mormon settlers who arrived in Salt Lake Valley in 1847 called their new home Deseret, which means honeybee in Mormon scripture. Settlers chose the honeybee as their symbol of industry, order, cooperation and community.

Over time, the secular connotations of the hive and honeybee symbols were endorsed by the State government, and so we have a Beehive State.

[http://www.saltlakemagazine.com/blog/2010/07/14/
behind-the-beehive/](http://www.saltlakemagazine.com/blog/2010/07/14/behind-the-beehive/)

[http://pioneer.utah.gov/research/utah_symbols/
motto.html](http://pioneer.utah.gov/research/utah_symbols/motto.html)



Officers for 2015

President : Ira Poston
Vice President : Mike Ross
Recording Secretary : Mary McGinty
Treasurer : Randy Stinson
Program Chair : Don Moore
1st Year Director : Randy Stinson
2nd Year Director : Larry McCauley, Jr.
3rd Year Director : Wayne Foulks

Appointments

Webmaster : Geoff Leister
Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce