



# Alamance County Beekeepers

Newsletter for August 2017

**Monthly Meeting**  
Saturday, August 19th, 3:00 p.m.

**Hive Work and  
Ice Cream Social @  
Breezy Acres**

3634 Stoney Creek Church Road  
Elon, NC 27244

Don and Shirley Moore welcome us to their apiary for some up-close reviewing and learning. We'll spend about an hour and a half opening up hives and seeing what's going on inside, and we'll talk about re-queening and other hive work for the season. Nancy Ruppert and Don Hopkins will be our excellent guides.

Then we'll make our way to the shade and enjoy some home-made ice cream and social time. Such a good way to end the summer season.



Bring your favorite ice cream or other goody, and a chair!



If you can help set up tents and tables around 1:30, please let Don know at 336-213-3138.

## Equipment Available

Don Moore has slowly scaled back his number of hives and equipment over the last few years. He plans to reduce his hives by another 9 this year, leaving him with 5 hives to manage. He will offer those 9 hives for sale at the August meeting for \$150 each. Each hive consists of a solid bottom board, two 10-frame deep supers, a screen inner cover, a telescoping lid and a full staff of honey bees. Queen excluders are not on the hives, but will be provided when you pick up the bees. Other equipment will also be offered for sale on meeting day (8/19) and will be appropriately priced. These include hive top feeders, division board feeders, excluders, spacers, honey supers with drawn comb, etc. The equipment is used, but in serviceable condition. The price of new woodenware for a hive as described is more than the \$150 price advertised.



FOR SALE:

- 4 complete hives with bees. 3 are double deep hives and 1 is a deep/medium super.
- 1 complete deep hive with drawn comb, empty but ready for bees.
- 3 medium supers with drawn comb
- 2 shallow supers with drawn comb
- 2 shallow supers with partially drawn comb
- 3 shallow supers and 29 shallow frames with foundation
- Feeders, entrance reducers, etc...
- \$1300.00 for everything (price negotiable)
- Prefer to sell altogether and will entertain all offers.
- Chuck Perkins ([336](tel:3363800781)) 380-0781

## Bees in the News

Click on the title to read the article.

[FEATURE-Amid drought and conflict, Kenyan women try new livestock: bees](#), Moraa Obiria, Thomson Reuters Foundation, 8/2/2017.

[Honeybees Ravaged by 'Colony Collapse Disorder' Are Making a Huge Comeback](#), Alan Bjerga, Time, 8/3/2017.

Randall Austin, Master Beekeeper in Orange County, writes an excellent monthly beekeeping column that you can read here: <https://www.baileybeesupply.com/articles/>



## August in the Apiary

- Nectar flow is scarce.
- This is the time of year when the varroa mite and SHB loads can overwhelm a hive. Check your levels.
- Feed hives that need it.
- Minimize exposure of frames that contain honey during times of dearth. You can attract robbers to a hive if not careful. Consider using robbing screens.
- Be sure you have a laying queen in each hive.



Note sources: Nancy Ruppert & ACBA Beginning Beekeeping Course manual.

## Notes from July's Meeting

It's time to start thinking about the [State Fair](#). Zivon would like to hear from folks who are willing and able to represent Alamance beekeeping in October. There are many categories for competition: honey and beeswax, photography, mead, gift packages, coloring books, foods, junior honey competition, and more. And, of course, you'll have a chance to work a shift at the our installation|display. To read more about the competitions: <http://www.ncstatefair.org/2017/Competitions/Entering/documents/neBeesHoney.pdf>



We have copies of the NCSBA's *A Taste of Honey: Celebrating Our Centennial* now. You can pick up one from Zivon for \$20. Jennifer Welsh had submitted two recipes. You can see the one for honey-ginger salad dressing from Alamance County Beekeepers on page 126 (and here). Yum. Thanks, Jennifer!

Kim Huntzinger, of [Bayer Bee Care](#), spoke to us about just a few of the 4,000 North American bee species that are *not* honey bees (of which there are seven species). From Kim, we learned about her heroes of melittology, and we learned about the evolution of the honey bee (the vegetarian wasp). She spoke about the lives of some fascinating bee creatures, and about efforts to manage bees other than honey bees, such as *Osmia cornifrons* and *Megachile rotundata*. Thanks, and come back any time, Kim! We are friends of honey bees, but not exclusively!

### Honey Ginger Salad Dressing

4 teaspoons canola oil  
1/4 teaspoon minced fresh ginger  
1/2 cup raw honey  
1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice

Combine all ingredients in a jar.  
Shake and serve.



## Bees in the Garden

Photos courtesy of Geoff Leister



Honey bee nectaring on sweet fennel  
(*Foeniculum vulgare*)



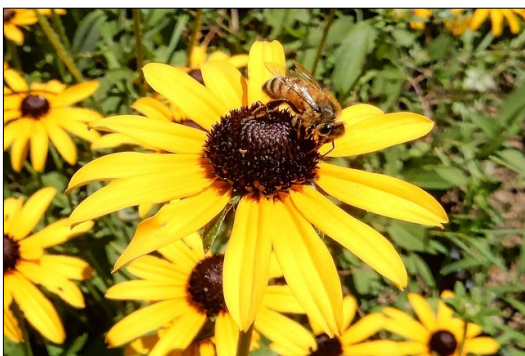
Long-horned bee (*Melissodes bimaculatus*)  
on Mexican sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)



Female cuckoo leafcutter bee  
(*Coelioxys porterae*) on anise hyssop  
(*Agastache foeniculum*)



Spider wasp (*Entypus unifasciatus*) nectaring on  
mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*)



Honey bee nectaring on  
black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)



American (queen?) bumblebee  
(*Bombus pensylvanicus*) nectaring on  
great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

## Honeybees as Gifts

Did you know there are relief organizations that provide, through financial donations, honey bees to people in developing countries as a way for them to make money? Here are just a few:

- [Heifer International](#)
- [Oxfam](#)
- [World Vision](#)
- [Samaritan's Purse](#)



Credit Watch and Credit Navigator are two websites where you can look at the donation-worthiness of organizations.

## Calendar

[National Honey Bee Day](#), August 19

[Beekeeping the Foxfire Way](#),  
September 16, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fall Festival, October 7  
Cedarock Park, 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

[North Carolina State Fair](#)  
October 12-24

If you are out and about sharing your beekeeping love and know-how with others, please tell, so we can share the good news!

## Blooming in the Piedmont



After some recent lean months, Mother Nature is starting to offer up some wild blooms. We welcome our late summer friend, *Solidago*, goldenrod.



And a few *Verbesina occidentalis*, yellow crown-beard, are starting to come into blossom, as well!

Both are members of the Asteraceae family, and are a needed source of nutrition for honey bees this time of year.



Officers for 2017

President : Ira Poston  
Vice-President : Mike Ross  
Recording Secretary : Sheyenne Michelizzi  
Treasurer : Zivon Price  
Program Chair : Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson  
One-year Director : Wayne Foulks  
Two-year Director : Randy Stinson  
Three-year Director : Paul Jollay

Appointments

Webmaster : Geoff Leister  
Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce