



Alamance County Beekeepers

Newsletter for November 2017

Monthly Meeting
November 16th @ 7:00

Lessons Learned

The November meeting is set aside every year for looking back at challenges and lessons.

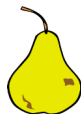
David Bristow, Steve Reynolds, and Zivon Price will tell us about their bee-keeping experiences this year.



Then everybody attending will have a chance to offer up advice and ask questions.

We always look forward to this evening of commiseration and learning.

Snacks will be provided.



Planning for 2018

There will not be an all-club meeting in December. Instead, ACB officers will meet to plan programs for the coming year.

Please let Ira or anybody in the [planning group](#) know if you have any suggestions for program topics or speakers. Your ideas are most appreciated! Thank you.



Unusual hover fly *Baccha elongata* (or Flower Fly) on Camellia. Geoff Leister's photo of a beautiful alternative pollinator.

Blooming in the Piedmont

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Welsh

Look for a photo from Jennifer in the Winter 2017 issue of *Bee Buzz*!



Honey bee and yellowjacket on
Camellia sasanqua

November in the Apiary

Thanks to Nancy Ruppert

- Combine hives that are weak/have failing queens.
- Ensure adequate ventilation near top of hive.
- Consider closing off screened bottom board to improve heat insulation.
- Feed thick syrup (2:1), if needed, for winter stores.
- Provide weights for tops of hives to limit wind-induced toplessness.
- Plant trees for future nectar/pollen sources (tulip poplar, maple, sourwood, etc.).



Bees in the News

Click on the title to read the article.

[Europe's Stone Age fishers used beeswax to make a point](#), Bruce Bower, ScienceNews.org, 10/6/2017. "Chemical analyses show that a barbed bone point from Germany dating to around 13,000 years ago contains remnants of a beeswax glue near its base. Either honeybees entered northern Europe earlier than thought, as glaciers retreated, or beeswax was traded over long distances, scientists say."

[Luring hornets: Scientists unlock sex pheromone of notorious honey bee predator](#), Phys.org, 10/12/2017. Asian hornets are spreading into Europe and Korea, and they prey on honey bees. Scientists have decoded the sex pheromone of the hornets, *Vespa velutina*, and developed a method of controlling them by luring males into traps baited with synthesized versions of the pheromones. Study was published in [Scientific Reports](#) @ Nature.com.



['Steady decline' in honey crop raises concern for honeybees' future](#), The Guardian, 10/23/2017. British Beekeepers Association survey reveals worrying drop in honey yield. Neonics, Asian hornets, varroa mites, loss of habitat, and climate change are all believed to be factors.

[A Potential New Tool in the Battle Against a Bee-Killing Bacteria](#), Meredith Swett Walker, 10/27/2017. Until now, AFB has been treated with antibiotics, and results have not always been sufficient. Scientists at UNLV are using a molecular approach, and are finding a way to prevent the *Paenibacillus larvae* spore from reproducing.

2017 State Fair

ACB entries at the State Fair did well this year! Congratulations to Mike Ross, Paul Jollay, Sylvia Willis, and Geoff Leister, and to the coordinators, Sheyenne Michelizzi and Zivon Price.

Place: HM
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 107 Bee Themed Crafts (handmade)
Lot: 00094 Jewelry

Place: 03
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 107 Bee Themed Crafts (handmade)
Lot: 00093 Paintings

Place: 01
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 102 Bulk Display
Lot: 00019 Pure beeswax single block

Place: 03
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00032 1 B&W print, honey bee/scene

Place: HM
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00033 1 color print, honey bee/scene

Place: HM
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00026 Cosmetic items w/beeswax

Place: 06
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00034 Display Booth

Place: 01
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00025 Novelty items w/beeswax

Place: 04
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00028 One gift package bee products

Place: HM
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00024 Pure beeswax candle display

Place: 03
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 103 Non Honey, Bee Products
Lot: 00023 Pure beeswax product display

Place: 02
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 101 Senior Honey Competiton
Lot: 00011 3 jars 14 oz., extracted, dark amb

Place: 01
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 101 Senior Honey Competiton
Lot: 00010 3 jars, 14 oz., extracted amber

Place: 02
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 101 Senior Honey Competiton
Lot: 00007 3 jars, 14 oz., chunk, comb, amber

Place: 01
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 101 Senior Honey Competiton
Lot: 00006 3 jars, 14oz., chunk, comb, light

Place: 04
Department: Bees & Honey
Class: 101 Senior Honey Competiton
Lot: 00001 Display 12 nectar-producing

Notes from October's Meeting

Lewis Cauble, State Apiary Inspector, talked to us about various methods and products for managing varroa mites, including use of oxalic acid. He referred us to one must-read writer, Meghan Millbraith, and also recommended publications at the Honey Bee Health Coalition, specifically *Tools for Varroa Management*. Thank you, Lewis Cauble!



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

Application for Membership in the Alamance County Beekeepers Association (10-16-17)

If this is a renewal and you are CERTAIN that all the requested information is what you have already provided to the NCSBA, please indicate only your **name, membership number, and local Chapter**, and **verify your email preferences**. Enter other information if it has changed or if you are unsure (especially your email address). The NCSBA may use email to communicate more directly with members this year, and so it is very important that we have a valid email address for you.

Check one: New Membership _____ Renewal _____ **MEMBERSHIP #:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: () - _____

Email address: _____

County of Residence: _____ **Local Chapter:** _____

You can be listed under only one local Chapter in the NCSBA "Yellow Book" membership directory.
If you choose to be designated "At-Large" with no Chapter affiliation, check here:

The NCSBA Privacy and Communication Policy is posted at:

<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/ncsba-privacy-and-communication-policy>

Please indicate your email preferences by checking the appropriate boxes below.

I want to receive the NCSBA quarterly **Bee Buzz** newsletter by (circle **ONLY ONE**):

EMAIL

US MAIL

NONE (I don't want it)

I want to receive notices of bee-related **EDUCATIONAL** opportunities by email: **YES** **NO**

I want to receive bee- and beekeeping-related **SOLICITATION** emails: **YES** **NO**

The annual membership year is JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

1. I am enclosing annual **County Membership** dues of **\$6.00** for the year: _____

2. I am enclosing annual **County + State Membership** dues of **\$21.00** for the year: _____

Please make your **check payable to Alamance County Beekeepers** and **mail** with this completed form to:

Alamance County Beekeepers, Zivon Price

421 Canterwood Dr. Mebane, NC 27302

Phone: 336-382-0343 Email: ZivonPrice@gmail.com