



Alamance County Beekeepers

December 2019 Newsletter

Planning Meeting

December 3 | 7:00 p.m.
Conference Room | Ag Building

Ira and officers for 2020 met to plan activities for the coming year. Look for programs on the following topics in 2020:

Queen Castles, Pesticides, Agricultural History of Alamance County, Gadgets & Crafts, Beekeeping in Other Countries, Plant Toxicity, and more!

Also, we are going to apply to be [Golden Achievement](#) Chapter of the year for 2019. If you have done any beekeeping program, event, or workshop in 2019, please let Caitlin know at caitlin.bateson@gmail.com so our chapter can get credit. More info on the Golden Achievement Program is [here](#). Thank you!

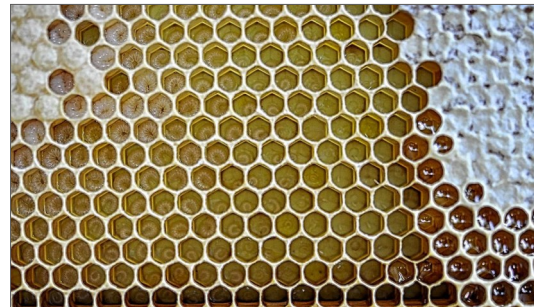


Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!
See you in 2020!

Winning Entry

Vita Bee Health has chosen a photo by Geoff Leister to be the image for March in their 2020 calendar! The photo of exquisite young larvae was taken in Paul Jollay's apiary. Good going, gentlemen!

You can download the calendar [here](#), if you wish.



November Meeting Notes

Mike Ross announced four local Christmas parades and asked for volunteers to walk along and be a beekeeper presence in the parades. Mike will lead the Burlington (11/23) and Gibsonville (12/14) parades, and Zivon will head up the ones in Mebane (12/6) and Graham (12/7).



Don Moore introduced Ron Petree, whose name you can find on the Alamance County Beekeepers Association Charter hanging on the wall in the front lobby.

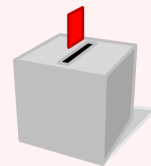
Don also mentioned that he has two dozen bee-friendly Golden Rain Tree seedlings growing in his yard that are available for anyone who would like to come dig one (or more) up. Bring supplies for digging and transporting. He also has a couple of crape myrtle volunteers (crimson flowers) available for digging.

Geoff Leister received an ACBA lifetime membership award as thanks for his continued work and mentorship with the club. Good going, Geoff! And thanks from us all.

Chip Allen announced the screening of *How to Bee* @ [Regal Timberlyne](https://us.demand.film/how-to-bee/) on January 8 *if* enough people buy tickets ahead of time. Purchase your tickets here: <https://us.demand.film/how-to-bee/>.



The slate of officer candidates for 2020 was announced and votes were cast. Officers will be Ira Poston, President; Mike Ross, Vice President; Sheyenne Michelizzi, Secretary; Sarah Stevens, Treasurer; Chuck Couch, One-Year Director; Johnny Mills, Two-Year Director; Paul Jollay, Three-Year Director; Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson, Program Chair; Geoff Leister, Webmaster; and Cynthia Pierce, Newsletter Editor. Thank you, Zivon Price, for the work you've done as Treasurer for the last four years. And thanks to Paul and Sarah for stepping up for 2020.



For the evening's program, we heard from Jeff Telander, David Bristow, Tom Montgomery, and Sarah Stevens about their year/s in beekeeping. Jeff had a good range of experiences in his first year and was very appreciative of the mentorship he received from members of the ACB. David had a good year and is working hard to see his colonies through this winter. He made the point that beekeeping is NOT an inexpensive hobby. Tom experienced the wrath of bees, but had the final word. Sarah's adventures included robbing, swarming, absconding, and healing bee stings. She also learned that watching bees while drinking a morning cup is a great way to start a day. Thanks to all speakers for sharing your insights and experiences.





The Ross family — Luther, Mike, Judy, and Charlie — as well as Jeff Telander represented the Alamance beekeepers in the Burlington Christmas parade on a rainy November 23.

This Month in the Bee Yard

Courtesy of Nancy Ruppert

- Combine hives that are weak/have failing queens.
- Feed thick syrup if needed (i.e., if not more than one super of honey stored up).
- Consider insulating smaller hives (those with 4 or fewer frames of bees).
- Sell honey to Christmas gift shoppers.
- Year-end review/assessment of apiary success/challenges.
- Leave bees alone, if possible.



<https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CALENDAR-FOR-BEEKEEPING-IN-CENTRAL-NORTH-CAROLINA.pdf? fwd=no>

Calendar

[Beekeeping Classes for 2020](#)

ACB beekeeping classes begin 1/21/2020. If you would like to take the classes again, the returning member fee is \$10. Also, if your skills are coming along, and you'd like to be a mentor, please let Ira know.

[Membership Renewal for 2020](#)

It's time!



Officers for 2019

President : Ira Poston
Vice-President : Mike Ross
Recording Secretary : Sheyenne Michelizzi
Treasurer : Zivon Price
Program Chair : Caitlin Vatikiotis-Bateson
One-year Director : Paul Jollay
Two-year Director : Chuck Couch
Three-year Director : Johnny Mills
Webmaster : Geoff Leister
Newsletter : Cynthia Pierce

Application for Membership in the Alamance County Beekeepers (11-04-19)

Check one: New Membership Renewal MEMBERSHIP #: _____*

(* Look up your membership number if needed at <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/member-number-recovery>)

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:

If you want your membership letter/card mailed as a hard-copy rather than by email, CHECK HERE:

The "Yellow Book" membership directory is mailed to active members as a printed copy. It is not available electronically. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE THE "YELLOW BOOK", CHECK HERE:

The NCSBA Privacy and Communication Policy is posted at
<http://www.ncbeekeepers.org/ncsba-privacy-and-communication-policy>

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

EMAIL POSTAL MAIL NONE (I don't want it)

I hereby agree and consent to all uses of electronic communications by and between me and the Association, including emails providing notice of meetings and matters before the membership by using the email address that is associated with my name.

NOTE: Email **will not** be used to advertise products or services but only for communication from the leadership. One can opt out of receiving emails at any time. By NC law, emails can be used to send general information to members but not to conduct official business. A member **must specifically grant the ACBA and NCSBA permission** to be notified by electronic means in order to conduct business. Such business would include a notice of a vote to amend the constitution and bylaws.

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

1. I am enclosing annual **County Membership** dues of **\$10.00** for the year:
2. I am enclosing annual Individual NCSBA **Membership** dues of **\$15.00** for the year:
3. I am enclosing **Permanent** (one-time payment) NCSBA **Membership** dues of **\$300.00** (if under 55 years of age):
4. I am enclosing **Permanent** (one-time payment) NCSBA **Membership** dues of **\$150.00** (must be 55 years of age or older and furnish age-verification (e.g., copy of drivers license)):

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

Alamance County Beekeepers - PO Box 215, Elon, NC 27244

Email address: alamancecountybeekeepers@gmail.com