



# Alamance County Beekeepers

July 2021 Newsletter

## Message from Ira



Welcome to the Dog Days of Summer. Yep, it's hot and the bees don't have a lot to eat. That usually spells disaster in the bee yard for me. You should stay hydrated all of the time, but especially during the summer.

Most of us have extracted our excess honey. Don't forget that club members have access to the use of the club extractor. Just text or email me about availability and to reserve a date to use it.

Now is the time to check the mite load and treat. It is also a good time to replace a queen if you need to. It's a whole lot easier to find/buy a queen now than, let's say ..... January.

Yes, you need to check out the health of each hive. If you need to feed, a robbing screen is not a bad idea. Just remember, winter is not far away.

See you soon,

-Ira

## July Meeting Info - July 15th 7pm [link](#)



Now that the Summer Solstice is behind us, the daylight hours have already begun to shrink and our bees will soon recognize that Winter is coming.

As beekeepers, our winter preparations generally begin at summer's end as temperatures peak but now is the time to start planning.

At our Zoom meeting this month, State Apiary Inspector Adolphus Leonard will discuss the steps that beekeepers need to take to help our bees prepare for Winter.

*The officers would like to remind everyone that not only is Adolphus Leonard the State Apiary Inspector for Area 6, he is also the Superintendent of the Bees and Honey Competition at the NC State Fair.*

Click above link to join or, Meeting ID: 879 3670 0255

Passcode: 000617. Past meetings can be found in the members section of our website. Can't log in? Find your local dial in number here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87936700255>

## Notes from the May Meeting

Our June meeting had Dr. Jamie Ellis walking us through effective online resources and search tips for finding reliable beekeeping information. There's a whole world of information out there!

Don't forget - as a member of Alamance County Beekeepers, you have access to past zoom recordings - we strongly encourage you to watch this one! The members only section of our website can be accessed [here](#), and the password is in the email sent to members with this newsletter.

As always, if there's something you would like to see in the newsletter, or you have photos, articles, accomplishments, questions, etc, you'd like to add - email us! We can always be reached at [alamancecountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:alamancecountybeekeepers@gmail.com) or now at [newsletter@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:newsletter@alamancebeekeepers.org)



*THE STATE FAIR IS COMING!!!*



We are so excited about being able to put together a ribbon-getting, eye-catching, educational booth this year at the State Fair and we want YOU!! If you're interested in entering anything in the 2021 State Fair, the Premium Book (the list of all the categories) has been released. You can check out all the categories [here](#) (Bees and Honey Competition info starts on page 88).

If you'd like to have your entry included in the Alamance County Beekeepers display booth (instead of with the individual entries), or are interested in helping with the display booth, please fill out [this](#) Google form so we can plan for including your items. The more the merrier!

Can't decide? Please feel free to reach out to [Sheyenne](#), [Caitlin](#), or any of the ACB officers - we would be more than happy to toss ideas around with you. Chances are there's something you've already dabbled in that can be entered!

We look forward to an awesome booth this year!!

**In-person Meetings are on Hiatus, But Virtual Learning Isn't!**

Beekeeping Webinars: Live and recorded online presentations by the NC State Apiculture Program, <https://entomology.ces.ncsu.edu/apiculture/beekeeping-webinars/>

Stay at Home Beekeeping Series: Distance Learning for Beekeeping Clubs, Alabama Extension, <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/bees-pollinators/stay-at-home->

## From Geoff's Apiary...

I have eliminated the drowning of bees in my Miller Top feeders by the addition of one or two 5/16 diameter dowels cut to fit behind screened enclosure. If by chance the feeder runs dry, just make sure the dowels are free to float when resupplying syrup by using a length stiff wire through the screen, like coat hanger wire, to free up the dowels. Or spray water onto dowel, since that will sometimes help free up the stuck dowel.

Please see the recent Backyard Beekeeping article entitled "A Slatted Rack and Robbing Screen Can Improve Your Hive Entrance." These are extras for your Langstroth hives.

My 6 eight frame hives are now configured with a slatted racks and robbing screens.



*Thank you, as always, for your insight and helpful tips, Geoff!*

## **This Month in the Bee Yard**

- Attend NCSBA annual Summer Meeting, if possible (usually mid-July)---great learning opportunity!
- Get supers on for cotton honey, if hives near cotton fields.
- Replace failing queens; consider replacing any queen that is two years old or older.
- Can begin annual varroa mite assessment, and treat if needed/practical.

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



*Pollinator busy busy at work on a Rose of Sharon in Caitlin's yard.*

*We'd love to see yours! Send us those pics!*

## Membership Renewals and Contact Info

Don't forget to renew your membership so you can keep receiving the newsletter and club updates from us! You can do it online through our website [here](#), or you can download the application and mail us a check. Our club relies on our dues to keep our programs available!

As a 501(c)3, we are also able to accept donations. Donations can be accepted a few different ways, feel free to reach out for more information.

*Our club has a new mailing address! If you should have any need for a mailing address for the club, it is:*

Alamance County Beekeepers  
PO Box 512  
Snow Camp, NC 27349

It is now even easier to get in touch with us! While our main email address ([alamancecountybeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:alamancecountybeekeepers@gmail.com)) remains in effect, each of our officers has their own club email address. We hope that this makes it easier for you to get in touch with who you need to quickly. They should be fairly intuitive, but they are:

[president@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:president@alamancebeekeepers.org)  
[vp@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:vp@alamancebeekeepers.org)  
[secretary@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:secretary@alamancebeekeepers.org)  
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[twoyear@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:twoyear@alamancebeekeepers.org)  
[threeyear@alamancebeekeepers.org](mailto:threeyear@alamancebeekeepers.org)  
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### Officers for 2021

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Recording Secretary : Sheyenne Price  
Treasurer : Sarah Stevens  
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