



Alamance County Beekeepers

November 2019 Newsletter

Monthly Meeting

November 21 | 7:00 p.m.
Auditorium of the Ag Building

Lessons Learned

Presented by AC beekeepers
in their first three years:
David Bristow, Tom Montgomery,
Sarah Stevens, Jeff Telander

This is always a spirited evening of give and take, as we hear how new and relatively new beekeepers have fared this year. We offer pats on the back, condolences, and tips for future.

Come share your experiences and your knowledge with your fellow beekeepers, and learn something new!

This will be our last full membership meeting of 2019.



Message from Ira

November is our last Official Club Meeting of the year. This is a good meeting to attend though.....We or I learn by making mistakes. We will have a couple of new beekeepers and a couple of seasoned beekeepers tell us how their year went, good and bad. Like I said, we learn by listening to others and sometimes ourselves, so don't miss this educational opportunity.



Jeff Telander, Sarah Stevens, David Bristow and Tom Montgomery are our speakers for November.

This is also when we vote for Officers and Directors for the 2020 year. Come vote and enjoy the fellowship and more importantly, learn about taking care of your bees.

See you soon,

Ira

Officers for 2020

Please volunteer, nominate, vote.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time;
they just have the heart."

— Elizabeth Andrew

October Meeting Notes

Ira urged members to volunteer or nominate others to the officer positions for next year. All positions are open to change if folks are willing to step up and help. Voting will take place at the November meeting.



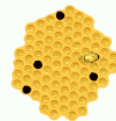
Ira thanked everybody who has turned out to represent beekeeping at the various events in the area: Smith Elementary School's Science, Tech, and Health Day; Farm to Table; Fall Festival; Teacher Leadership Day; the State Fair. Whenever there's a chance to help members of the public learn more about bees and plants, it's good when folks take the time to help. There's a lot of misinformation out there, a lot of fear, and it's good to have an opportunity to help people learn. Remember when you're called upon, you know more than you realize, and certainly more about honey bees than people who haven't kept bees. Thanks for showing up.



Sheyenne announced, with cake, that we won a blue ribbon for our display at the State Fair! Congratulations all around. Thanks, mighty Sheyenne, for your competitive drive, and for all the work contributors have done to make it a good show at the Fair. Nothing *could* be finer!



Whitney Barnes brought a dandy PowerPoint presentation and items for show and tell and helped us learn about things we could do with products of our bee hives. She gave first-hand info on what her buyers are looking for, and folks in our audience went home with some great ideas and inspiration. Thanks for the presentation, Whitney, and thanks for staying after so we could chat with you!



Bees in the News

Click on the headline to read the article.

[Blind Beekeeper Relies on Sound to Keep Her Hives Happy](#), Sam Harnett, KQED, 10/4/2019. "When Gilbert went blind in 1988, beekeeping was one of the hobbies she figured she'd have to give up. But in the years since, she has found ways to do the things she used to before losing her sight. And that has meant relying a lot more on the power of sound."

[Thanksgiving Delicacies from the Hive](#), Randall Austin, 11/1/2019. Randall gets recipe inspiration from a publication by The United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO). Hint: If your chickens get excited when you give them a frame of wax moth larvae, they might be on to something tasty ...

[What Could Come Between These Two Allies? A \\$100 Jar of Honey](#), Jamie Tarabay, New York Times, 11/2/2019. "Manuka-branded honey is so valuable that New Zealand producers have gone to court to argue that they alone should have the right to sell it ... They say they are the only source of guaranteed authentic manuka honey, from a single species of bush; their Australian counterparts have marshaled a point-by-point rebuttal that stretches all the way back to the Cretaceous Period."

[The World's First Bee Influencer Is Trying To Raise Funds To Save Her Species](#), Hidrélèy and Vējūnė Rimašiūtė, BoredPanda.com, 10/31/2019. Check out this honey bee influencer. What a life!

[Bees, Please: Stop Dying in Your Martian Simulator](#), Daniel Oberhaus, Wired, 10/29/2019. "Future space colonists will need pollinators to grow food on the moon and Mars. But first scientists need to figure out how to keep them alive."

AC Beekeepers Out and About

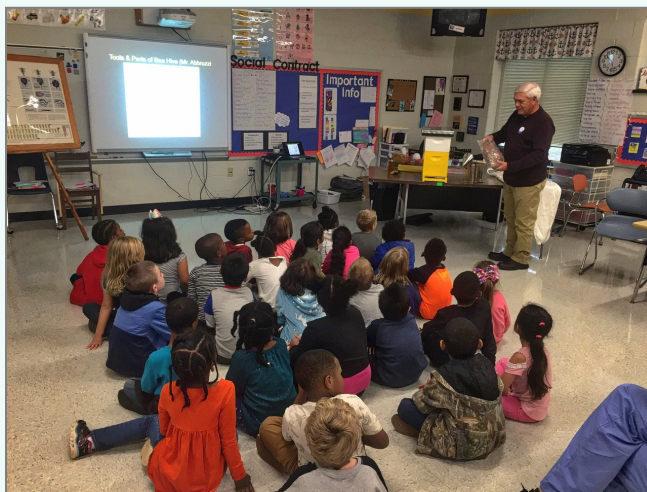


Mike Ross (pictured) and Ira Poston spoke about bee-keeping to a group of educators attending Impact Alamance's [Teacher Leadership Academy](#) on 10/8. What the teachers learned on Ag Day will be brought back to their classrooms to inform and inspire their students.

ACB at the State Fair



The ACB display was a [blue-ribbon](#) winner! Is it too soon to talk about next year? Sheyenne?



Tony Abbruzzi (pictured) and Linda and Geoff Leister participated in the Marvin B. Smith Elementary School's Science, Technology, and Health Day on 10/16/2019. Five separate groups of kindergarteners and third grade students attended the 25-30 minute PowerPoint and demonstration sessions during the morning.



Congratulations to Linda and Geoff Leister who won a [blue ribbon](#) for their Nectar and Pollen Producing Herb Plants display!

Alamance County Beekeepers Association State Fair Results

Place: 1 County Display Booth (Sheyenne Michelizzi, Zivon Price, Johnny Mills)

Place: 1 Display 12 nectar-producing plants (Linda Leister & Geoff Leister)

Place: 2 Pure beeswax dipped candles (Catherine Parsons)

Place: 2 Chunk honey (Mike Ross)

Place: 4 Quilts-suitable for wall hanging (Roma Lloyd)

Place: 5 3-jars, 14 oz., Honey extracted, dark amber (Jennifer Welsh)

Place: 5 3-jars, 14 oz., Honey light amber (Paul Jollay)

Place: 6 3-jars, 14 oz. Honey extracted extra light (Mike Ross)

Sheyenne Michelizzi

Place: 1 Pure beeswax dipped candles

Place: 3 Novelty Items Beeswax

Nancy Montgomery

Place: 1 Quilts-suitable for wall hanging

Ira Poston

Place: 1 3-sections cut comb honey

Place: 3 1-comb for extracting

Place: 3 3-jars, 14 oz., extracted amber

Paul Jollay

Place: 1 Special Awards Best in Show: Senior Division

Place: 1 3-jars, 14 oz., extracted, extra light

Place: 1 2-bottles non-carb. dry mead

Place: 2 2-bottles sweet mead

Place: 6 3-jars, 14 oz., extracted amber

Place: 6 3-jars, 14 oz., honey, light amber

Mike Ross

Place: 1 Sweepstakes Awards Senior Sweepstakes

Place: 1 Bulk Display Pure beeswax single block

Place: 1 3-jars, 14 oz., chunk, comb, light

Place: 2 1-comb for extracting

Jennifer Welsh

Place: 4 Cookies - plain, any flavor

Place: 4 Pure beeswax product display

Ariel Welsh

Place: 1 Sweepstakes Awards Junior Sweepstakes

Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition 1 B&W print honey bee/scene

Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition 1 color print honey bee/scene

Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition Beekeeping Coloring Book

Place: 2 Junior Honey Competition Display pure beeswax products

Place: 5 Foods cooked w/Honey- Juniors Cookies - any variety not list

Amber Welsh

Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition 3-jars, 14 oz., extracted, light

Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition 3-jars, 14 oz. extracted, dark

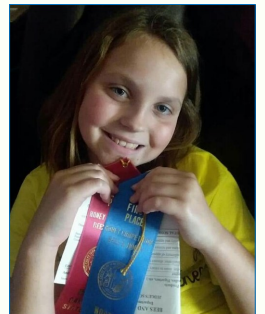
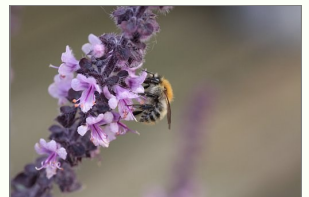
Place: 1 Junior Honey Competition Display pure beeswax products

Place: 2 Foods cooked w/Honey-Juniors Cookies - Chocolate Chip

Place: 4 Junior Honey Competition 1-color print honey bee/scene



Ariel Welsh



Amber Welsh

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

Calendar

Planning Meeting for 2020

Officers will meet 12/3 to plan monthly programs for next year. If there's a topic you'd like to see covered in any of our monthly meetings, please share your idea with Ira or one of the officers!

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.



This Month in the Bee Yard

Courtesy of Nancy Ruppert

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

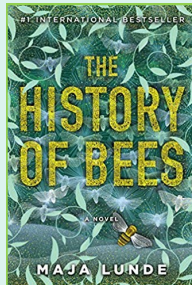


<https://growingsmallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/CALENDAR-FOR-BEEKEEPING-IN-CENTRAL-NORTH-CAROLINA.pdf?pwd=no>

Reader's Corner

The History of Bees | Maja Lunde

This novel is set in three different time periods, in three different places in the world. We see the development of the modern bee hive (Europe), the beginning of CCD (American Midwest), and what happens to society when there are no more bees to pollinate (China). The action shifts back and forth across time, as the families in each cope with personal challenges and changes in the world around them. We see strength, weakness, and foibles that we all recognize. I found the author's image of the future to be most intriguing. She suggests that our survival might be dependent on our own ability to work as a superorganism. See what you think. The book is available through the small but growing ACB lending library.



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