

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

## WCABA JANUARY 2003 NEWSLETTER

DATE: Tuesday, January 28, 2003  
TIME: 7:00-Basic Beekeepers; 8:00-General Meeting/Program  
PLACE: Community Center, 205 Main St., Round Rock  
PROGRAM: Boll Weevil Eradication; Joe Hogan  
HOSTS: **Buddy & Cherie Miller, Jeann Schmidt**

### **PRESIDENT**

Frank Hunt  
512/478-8905  
[Huntu@aol.com](mailto:Huntu@aol.com)

1 st. V.P.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Jeann Schmidt  
512/869-4107  
[jfwschmidt@juno.com](mailto:jfwschmidt@juno.com)

2 nd. V.P.

### **PROGRAM**

Harold Kind  
512/246-8455  
[haroldkind@cs.com](mailto:haroldkind@cs.com)

3 rd. V.P.

### **NEWSLETTER**

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### **HISTORIAN**

Jimmie Oakley  
512/388-3630  
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I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to the New Year with good beekeeper experiences and a bountiful honey crop. I also hope you have resolved to attend all the WCABA meetings. Please mark the following dates on your 2003 calendar now so you won't forget them:

January 28	July 22
February 25	August 26
March 25	September 23
April 22	October 28
May 27	November 25
June 24	December (no meeting)

The Basic Beekeeper's program this month will be about pest management: how to tell whether you need to medicate for mites and when this should be done; what to do to prevent American foul brood; what other preventative measures should the beekeeper use to keep his/her bees healthy and the hive population strong. If you have questions, this is the time to ask them; if you've heard some of this before, it won't hurt to be reminded.

The program for the general meeting will be an update on the Boll Weevil Eradication Program by Mr. Joey Hogan who has been with this program since 1996, and is the Zone Manager for the Southern Blacklands Zone. He talked to our association last year. He had some very good information and was very helpful in assisting several of our members to identify their bee yards in relation to cotton fields that were being treated with pesticide spray. Even if you are a hobby beekeeper, it's important to know what is happening in the environment and precautions you need to take to protect your busy ladies. We hope to hear that the treatments for boll weevil were successful enough that less pesticide will be necessary this year.

Officer elections for 2003 were held at our November meeting. Frank Hunt will be President; Jeann Schmidt will continue as First Vice-President (Membership); Harold Kind will be Second Vice-President (Programs); Mary Bost, Third Vice-President (Newsletter); Barbara Hunt, Secretary; Deane Thomas, Treasurer; and Jimmie Oakley, Historian. Also, Jimmie will serve as coordinator for the Basic Beekeepers and Barbara will be WCABA

Librarian. Let's give these officers our support and help them continue to make our association one of the best!

Welcome to our new members who joined WCABA at our last meeting. They are **Gayle Shaw**, Georgetown; **Benjy and Lisa Cox**, Dale; and **Ian and Iris Kjos**, Georgetown. Also renewing their membership for 2003 are Rick and Mary Ann Schampers, Georgetown; Jeann and Olaf Schmidt, Georgetown; Mary and Robert Bost, Georgetown; Cara Walkup, Round Rock; Barry and Margaret Henson, Eddy; Jimmie and Kay Oakley, Round Rock; and Chuck and Sandy Wohl, Lago Vista. Since our dues are paid on a calendar basis (January through November), you will find a membership application blank below in case you cannot come to the meeting Tuesday night and want to send in your dues as Chuck and Sandy Wohl have done (NASA keeps "interfering" with Chuck's being able to be in this area on meeting nights).

Door prize donations at our last meeting were a sun catcher and a notepad by Karen Cantlon; a honey bear container filled with candy by Mary Bost; and a hive tool by Barry and Margaret Henson. Lucky winner of the hive tool was Buddy Miller; the candy-filled honey bear, Deane Thomas; the sun catcher, Robert Bost; and the notepad, Mary Bost. These door prize drawings are always fun; anyone can contribute door prizes and we appreciate your generosity in donating something, bee-related or not, when you find something you would like to donate to the club.

Thanks for your concern about my surgeries. Both cataract and carpal tunnel surgeries went well and I'm back almost to full speed again. John Howe has been having a bout with pneumonia but at last report was feeling better. Harold Kind is still having some problem with his post-shingles ailment but thinks it is better. We wish Good Health for each of you in 2003.

Jimmie Oakley, Barry and Margaret Henson, and some of the Walker family will be attending the ABF Convention in Kansas City this month, January 13-16 and Colleen Henson will be relinquishing her crown as American Honey Queen, a position she has served diligently and well. Texas is proud of her! A future(?) American Honey Queen, Vanessa Bounds, was crowned at the TBA Convention in November and will receive much benefit from Colleen's example and mentoring. We're looking forward to Vanessa coming to some of our meetings. She and her parents have attended several of our Field Day meetings.



At Convention: Colleen,G.C.,Beth,Margaret,Berry.&Jimmie

We recently learned that our son had donated a sum of money to the Georgetown Library to be used to buy bee-related books which will be dedicated to Robert and me. Julie Hein has given the librarian a list of titles and these books have been ordered and will be on display in February. The librarian, Eric Lashley, has sent me an e-mail detailing ways our members who live outside Georgetown can access the beekeeping collection.

First, WCABA members can always use the materials in the library free of charge, and may make copies of materials for 15 cents per page.

To check out the materials, you can either pay a non-resident fee of \$20.00 for an individual card, \$35.00 for a family card, \$15.00 for a senior citizen card (65 years or older), or \$25.00 for a senior family card.

A TexShare card may be obtained through your “home” library of Round Rock Public Library (across the street from the Community Center where we meet), Taylor Public Library, Cedar Park Public Library, or Austin Public Library. The TexShare card will allow you to borrow 5 books at a time at no cost.

If you have a library card at other area libraries you can also request the materials through interlibrary loan. I will have a list of the books that have been donated in the next newsletter.

Do you have a youngster who is interested in entering the 2003 American Beekeeping Federation 4-H Essay Contest? WCABA is helping to sponsor the Texas contest, and money prizes will be given the top three winners. The contest is open to active 4-H members only, and the topic is “Beekeeping in Colonial Times”. Essays will be judged on scope of research, accuracy, creativity, conciseness, and logical development of the topic. Mailed entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2003 and sent to State 4-H Office (Beekeeping Essay), c/o Toby Lepley, 7607 Eastmark Drive, Suite 101, College Station, TX 77840. For further information, contact your county Extension agent or check out the article in the TBA Journal, page 15 (or call me, Mary Bost, 512-863-3656 or Jimmie Oakley, 512-388-3630, to receive a copy of the TBA article).

It is time to be encouraging school-age youngsters who are interested in learning about beekeeping to apply for the Ed Wolfe Memorial scholarship award. The winners will be recognized at our March meeting and will receive their materials for the hive body and frames which we help them construct, the equipment to work with their bees, and in early April, the package of bees which also contains the queen. Also, Jimmie Oakley gives a very good instructional orientation program when they receive their bees. Applications for this program may be obtained by contacting either Jimmie Oakley (512-3883630) or Robert Bost (512-863-3656).

Have you checked your bees to see if they have sufficient honey stores to carry them through this changeable weather—record high temperatures followed by near freezing temps, rainy weather when they can’t get out to forage, and not much forage for them to find? Warmer weather will soon be the norm and trees will begin to bud, providing pollen for the bees to mix with honey and feed the young brood. If you want your hives to have a strong population of worker bees, you will need to **FEED, FEED, FEED NOW**. A good feed you can make is a 2:1 ratio of sugar to water. We also have some honey that has turned dark and is mixed into the sugar syrup to feed back to the bees. If your bees have varroa mites (find out how to check for them at Basic Beekeepers), you need to medicate them at least 6 weeks before the honey flow starts. Also, treat to guard against American foul brood.

Caleb Feeding the Bees:



This is the time of year when many of us are besieged by sniffles, sore throats, and colds. Honey can be a quick and helpful way to soothe and coat your throat. Take a spoonful straight to relieve the irritation. Keep up your liquids with a steaming cup of tea sweetened with honey. I like to make a hot lemonade with a spoonful of honey, lemon juice, and hot water (I used to carry a thermos of this to school when I became hoarse—it relieves and relaxes the throat). For more information about the health benefits of honey, send for a free *Honey for Health* leaflet from the National Honey Board, Dept. HFH, 390 Lashley St., Longmont, CO 80501; enclose a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope. More information may be obtained from the Honey Board website-- [www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com).

I apologize to Darryl Smith for not putting his ad in the November newsletter. I shall include it here and hope that if any of you are interested in any of the items listed, that you will call his mother, Mrs. Carson Smith, to inquire about them. Also, if any of our members have items for sale, you may place a free ad in the newsletter without cost; non-members will be charged 10 cents per word.

**For Sale:** Used deep and shallow supers. Frames available. Hive bottoms, inner lids, tops, and other equipment available at reasonable cost. Call Mrs. Carson Smith at (512) 255-2600 for information.

I found the following recipe in the Bee Buzzer newsletter that I receive. I plan to make it soon and use the beautiful wooden spoon carved and given to me by 10 year-old Caleb Oakley.

### FRESH APPLE CAKE

Dice 4 cups of cored apples with peel on. Add 1 cup honey and mix with wooden spoon. Then add ½ cup oil, 1 cup nuts (your choice) and 2 eggs. Mix well.

After sifting together, add 2 cups whole wheat flour, 2 tsp. baking powder, 2 tsp. cinnamon and 1 tsp. salt. Mix well. Pour into greased 9"x11" pan. Bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees.

### POPCORN SNACK

3 qts.. Orville Reddenbacker's Kettle Corn (2 bags)

2 C large pecan pieces

½ C butter

½ C **Texas Premium** honey

1 Tbsp. orange or lemon peel

1 Tbsp. Cinnamon

Pop the popcorn and put in a huge bowl, add pecan pieces, heat remaining ingredients, add to popcorn mixture and mix well. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spread popcorn mixture on cookie sheets and bake until it is dried out but not burned. Watch it closely because it burns. Remove from oven and allow to cool.



Texas Honey Queen: Vanessa Bounds



ABF Honey Queen Katie Danuser Crowned by Colleen Henson

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL TO WCABA

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Bees

Queens

Honey

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Clint Walker III, Ph.D.  
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Janice Glisson Walker  
Fax (254) 893-2337

## **FOR SALE NEW & USED BEESUPPLIES**

**...If You Need It, We probably Have It ...**

New #1 deep frames, \$60 per 100 or in lots of 500, \$55 per 10;

New 6 1/4 Boxes; New Western Cedar bottoms and tops.

6 1/4 budget-grade frames, \$45 per 100 or in lots of 500, \$40 per 100.

Used 8 and 10 frame bottoms and tops, \$1 each in lots of 100;

Used 5 3/8 Boxes w/frames, \$2 each; Used 5 3/8 Boxes w/fdn.

Nose Trucks and Barrel Trucks; Crimp Wired Foundation, 25# for \$95

Bee Suits w/zipper veil, Smokers, Helmets, Uncapping Knives, Bee Veils.

**G.C. WALKER, 8059 E. U.S. HWY 190, Rogers, TX 76569**

Phone: 254/983-2891 E-mail: [Walker2bee@aol.com](mailto:Walker2bee@aol.com)

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