

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA JULY 2012 NEWSLETTER

www.wcaba.org

DATE: Tuesday, July 24, 2012
TIME: 7:00 PM- Beekeeping 101 7:20 PM-Business Meeting
PLACE: First United Methodist Church Georgetown (basement)
PROGRAM: Extracting Honey using WCABA Club Equipment
HOSTS: Jan Tucker, Martha Lawson, Ana & Chat Lerma

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Our WCABA club members and guest listened with rapt attention last month as Clint Walker, using power point illustrations, talked about his experiences helping groups of people in Swaziland learn about beekeeping and making top bar hives inexpensively. His description of the life and challenges that the African people experience emphasized how fortunate we are here in America.

If you would like to help support the Swazi Bee Project you may send a donation to Walker Honey Farm/Swazi Project, 8060 E. US HWY 190, Rogers, TX 76569. Clint says, "100% of your [money] donation will go to Swaziland to help support sustainable beekeeping and spread hope and opportunity through apiculture." There will be opportunity at the meeting to make a personal donation to the project also.



Guest Speaker: Clint Walker of Walker Honey Farm, Rogers, Texas



The program this month will be extracting honey. Although this is primarily intended to show our scholarship youths what to expect when they extract honey, all new beekeepers are encouraged to attend in order to know what to expect and how to proceed when they are ready to extract honey. Experienced beekeepers are encouraged to lend a hand, and their expertise by adding suggestions or a story or two about their experiences when harvesting honey. There will be opportunity for 'newbees' to get hands on experience at this meeting.

Chris Doggett's Beekeeping 101 presentation will follow the business meeting this time and will offer a question and answer session in the adjoining Parlor room for those who have observed the extraction process before and have 'questions' that won't wait another month to get an answer. Join him.

The club extracting equipment has been very busy all during June.—each weekend was reserved and others arranged to use it during the week. Now July is also filling with reservations. If you know a date when it is most convenient for you to use it, email me at bostbees@gmail.com or phone me at 512/863-3656. As a reminder here are the rules for checking out and using the club extracting equipment: 1) reserve the extractor (see above), 2) fill out the checkout form when you pick up the equipment indicating all the items you are taking, 3) you have three days to make use of the setup and return it to the Bost Farm, 4) thoroughly clean all items used with warm / hot water to remove stickiness as a courtesy to the next user, 5) check to make sure you return all the equipment to the Bost Farm in the agreed timeframe, being sure to check in all items initially picked up.



Welcome to our new members: Mike & Linda Hill, Round Rock; John & Debbie Hooper, Georgetown; Jeremy Johnson, Austin; Charles & Loren Powell, Lago Vista; Carl & Stacey Robinson, Austin; Ty Simpson, Salado; Teresa Skinner & family, Burnet; Dr. Drue Neel Ware, Georgetown. Also, we're glad Don Parsons, Georgetown, renewed his dues.

Door prizes last month were donated by Harold Kind, Holly Medina, Zane Baird, Judy Haller, David Voelter, Youngblood Family, Shirley Doggett, Mike Payne, Robert Horton, Gary Wende, Steve Gardipee, Elmer Goertz, and Mike Slaughter. We appreciate your generosity. We regret that we don't have a list of the winners; there was an unexpected mishap. We'll hope this won't happen again.

Do you receive the [wcaba@yahoogroups.com](mailto:wcab@yahoogroups.com) emails? If not, you might like to contact Elizabeth Exley at lizexley@msn.com to join this group. One recent email from Clyde Anderson had some very pertinent information for not only beekeepers but others concerned with their health and food supply. Some of the important statements in the article were the following:

- A study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimated that “perhaps one-third of our total diet is dependent, directly or indirectly, upon insect-pollinated plants.
- Honey bees pollinate over 70 out of 100 crops that in turn provide 90% of the world's food.

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