

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

## WCABA MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

[www.wcaba.org](http://www.wcaba.org)

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**PLEASE REMEMBER to RETURN YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS!**

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**DATE:** Thursday, March 27, 2014  
**TIME:** 7:00-9:00 PM: Beekeeping101 & Program  
**PLACE:** First United Methodist Church Georgetown (MMC bldg.)  
**PROGRAM:** Becky Bender: Beescapes; Scholarship Awards & Recognition  
**HOSTS:** Phil Ainslee, Steve Hoskins, George Scott

Our programs for Thursday promises to make a very busy evening. Zane Baird will present "Installation of Packages" at the Beekeeping 101 session; Jimmie Oakley will direct the scholarship winners, assisted by parents and last year's recipients in assembling their hives in a separate location while our guest speaker, Becky Bender, is presenting **Beescapes**: How to choose honey plants for gardens, landscapes and rural land based on honey bee biology and foraging habits. She will focus on using attractive, easy care, native Texas plants to enhance or establish nectar and pollen-rich habitat.

Becky Bender, a native Texan and Texas Master Naturalist, is an R.N. with a Masters degree in Science. She became especially interested in honey plants 6 years ago when she and her husband began beekeeping. She manages her own land and yard for wildlife, honey bees and other pollinators. Becky is an active member of the Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association and contributes "The Buds and the Bees" column for the Texas Beekeeping Association Journal. (Editor's note: I always turn to her article to read first when the TBA Journal arrives in my mailbox.)



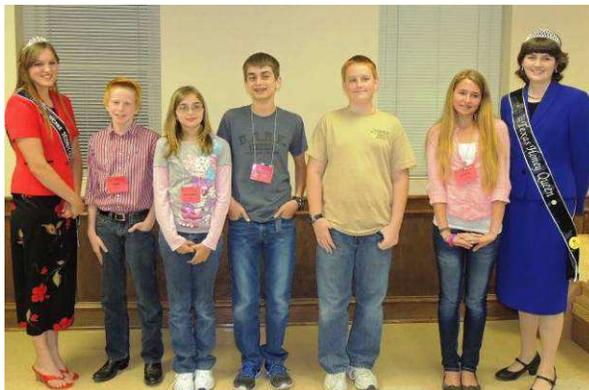
I imagine there has been much attaching, hammering and painting of hive equipment this week. A number of our newer WCABA members picked up their equipment on Saturday that Phil Ainslee and Chris Doggett had brought back from Dadant in Paris, Texas. It's good to see more bee hives prepared to accept the bees we will be receiving next month. The rest of us are probably taking advantage of some nice weather to refurbish any used equipment that needs repair or painting. If you missed out on ordering your bee hive equipment, look at Josiah Youngblood's ad on the last page.

Zane Baird has contacted those of us who had ordered queens to let us know of the expected increase in price. (If you ordered packages of bees, the queen in each package will not be affected by the price increase, the queen comes with the package). Be reminded that the pickup dates for bees and queens have been set: first package delivery

Saturday, April 26th, queen bees on Saturday, May 3rd, and second delivery of packages on Saturday, May, 10th. Zane said there are still some packages of bees available. He is still taking orders at: [wcaba.bee.order@gmail.com](mailto:wcaba.bee.order@gmail.com)

Texas Honey Queen, Hayden Wolf, will be presenting Certificates of Achievement to **2013** scholarship winners, **Sam Latham, Jordan Elizabeth and Taylor Foight, Aaron Brockett and Grace Hilscher**, and they will be granted full ownership of their hives at the same time. *Last year's recipients >>>*

Also, the **2014 scholarship recipients** will be recognized and introduced and assisted in assembling their wood ware and frames.



There were ten fine young people that submitted applications for the Ed Wolfe-Robert Bost Memorial scholarships for 2014. How we wished we could have awarded a scholarship to all of them! Two of our members donated money to extend our finances to include one additional scholarship but we couldn't stretch our finances to award scholarships to all the applicants. We hope those who weren't selected this year will continue to attend as many meetings as possible, learn as much about beekeeping as possible this year and will apply again next year.

We are pleased to welcome 23 new members who joined WCABA last month. They are Tracy Bahm, Timothy Falkenstein, Wesley Smith, Geoff Stewart, and John Ward, all from Austin; Barbi Benjamin, Jacob Gotta, Erik Kartzmark, and Nancy Young from Cedar Park; Chris Gagne and Stephanie Morriss from Leander; Will Koenig, Mary Marcotte, Phil Owens, Robert Ewing, and Jimmy Shields from Georgetown; Cindy Burleson, Burnet; David Crawford, Killeen; Donnette Dickerson, Junction; Doug Hearn, Round Rock; Robert Kruse, Taylor; Steve Mullins, Pflugerville; and Esther Wiley, Bastrop.

Members who have renewed since our last report are Clyde Anderson, Jennifer Gray, Rory and Tasha Heisch, Joey Hollifield, Lynn Kelch, Travis and Maureen Lane, Harold Miller, Kari Simmons, Jim Houstoun, and Jeann Schmidt.

We appreciate those of you who have signed with Gary Bible to be a host at one of our 2014 meetings. We are in need of an additional host in May, July, August, October and November plus 3 hosts for September. Please consider whether you can bring snacks (cookies, relish dish, etc.) and check with Gary regarding being a host.

Susan Philpott reports that the door prizes last month were won by David Kohn, Karen Walker, Nikko Mathieu, Nancy Young, Carmen Cagne, Christian DeRuitter, Steve Hoskins, Wayne Grimes, and Quentin Ireby. The prizes were donated by Raul Vergara, Rob Zurovec, Ginny Stubblefield, and others who did not leave their names.

## HONEY COCOA

Wendy Riggs, '95 Texas Honey Queen

4 tsp. cocoa

4-5 tsp. HONEY

1/3 cup hot water

Pinch of salt

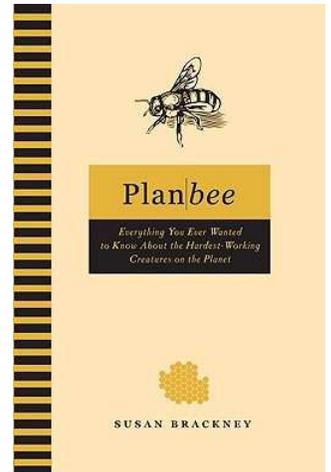
2 cups milk

Mix the cocoa, honey, salt, and water in a pan. Cook, stirring constantly until the mixture boils. Continue to cook for about two minutes. Place over hot water in a double boiler and stir in the milk. Heat thoroughly. Pour into cups and top with marshmallows if desired. Makes two servings.

## BEES BOOK NOOK

Originally written by Ginny Stubblefield & refreshed by Holly Medina

In **Plan/Bee** by Susan Brackney the author, an organic gardener, explains how she became a keeper of bees instead of a keeper of chickens. She explains the world of the beekeeper through humorous stories. Ms. Brackney has a true gift in explaining commonly known facts and experiences in a most engaging way. There is a discussion of basic knowledge of bee history, tools of the trade and even a section in the back of the book with recipes and crafts. The book is very well written and a joy to read. You may even read it cover to cover in one sitting because you will enjoy it so much. The next time you use honey in something, you will know that it took bees 2,600 stops and 850 miles to give you a teaspoon of honey.



### W.C.A.B.A. MEETING MINUTES – February 27, 2014

1. **Beekeeping 101 Class – 1<sup>st</sup> Session** – Chris Doggett gave two sessions of classes since the January meeting was cancelled due to icy road conditions. The First Session was “The World of Bees”
2. **Announcements:**
  - a. The Texas Beekeepers Association is having their Summer Clinic on Saturday, June 7, at the Janice and John B. Thomas Bee Facility at Texas A&M University on the Riverside Campus, 3100 State Highway 47, Bryan, TX 77807. There will be more details shared as we get closer to the meeting date. Put this on your calendar for June 7.
  - b. If you are a new beekeeper and join the W.C.A.B.A. this year, you are eligible to receive a one-year complimentary membership in the Texas Beekeepers Association. Applications are available at our meetings.
  - c. Central Texas Beekeepers – The 2014 Beekeeping School will be held on Saturday, March 29, at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E. Blue Bell Road, Brenham, TX. [www.centraltexasbeekeepers.com](http://www.centraltexasbeekeepers.com). You can select from approximately 15 classes. There will be a catered barbecue lunch with Blue Bell Ice Cream – yes!
3. **Treasurer’s Report** – The current balance is \$4,641.65.
4. **Meeting Attendance** – there were 118 attendees
5. **Door Prizes** – Chris Doggett handed out door prizes.
6. **Beekeeping 101 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Session** - Chris Doggett had a session on “The World of the Beekeeper”
7. **Date for Next Meeting** – March 27, 2014
8. **Other Business** –
  - a. Zane Baird and Phil Ainslee took orders for bees.



Scholarship recipients building frames and assembling boxes last year. Join us this year.

**Hive Bodies and Supers for Sale**

All Boxes Available with Assembled Frames

9 5/8 Deep

Available Assembled & Painted

6 5/8 Medium



*New and Improved Joint Design*



**New Joint**

**Old Joint**  
Industry Standard

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Josiah Youngblood

✓ Deeps as low as \$13

✓ Supers as low as \$10

Order in Advance for Delivery at Bee Meeting!!

**Williamson County Area  
Beekeepers Association  
4355 County Road 110  
Georgetown, Texas 78626**