

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

## WCABA OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

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

BE A GOOD BEEKEEPING NEIGHBOR!

DATE: Thursday, October 23, 2014  
TIME: 7:00-9:00: Bkg.101, Program  
PLACE: First United Methodist Church Georgetown (MMC bldg.)  
PROGRAM: Adrian Fisher, Texas A & M Honey Bee Lab  
HOSTS Gary Bible, Travis Fagala, Dodie Stillman

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### NEWSLETTER

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Zane Baird will lead the Beekeeping 101 session Thursday evening at 7:00 with a very timely subject, "Making Splits". After our snack break and brief business session, our speaker will be Adrian Fisher, a graduate student at the Texas A&M Honey Bee Lab. He did his undergraduate work at Cal Poly Pomona in zoology where he participated in studies comparing pollination services provided by honey bees and native bee species. Currently the focus of his research is on the effects of in-hive pesticides on drone fertility, threats to colony health, and insight into potential contributing factors.



Adrian Fisher

Have you considered attending the Texas Beekeepers Association Annual Convention in Houston **November 6-9th**? This event is always educational, interesting, fun, and inspirational. The TBA Journal for July/August has an overview of what one could expect if he/she attended. Plus you would get to hear some knowledgeable speakers, meet some interesting acquaintances, maybe even make some good beekeeping friends, and hear a lot of beekeeping stories and experiences. Registration this year is on-line. Go to the website: [texasbeekeepers.org](http://texasbeekeepers.org) and click the blog & events tab, then Annual Convention, and follow the instructions.

On the same weekend WCABA will have a Honey Booth at the 18th Annual Hill Country Arts & Crafts Fair at Sun City in Georgetown on **Saturday 8th and Sunday the 9th of November**. Our appreciation goes to Ginny Stubblefield for arranging with the Sun City Craft Show for WCABA to participate by donating the \$50 entry fee. We also want to thank Mary Bost and Rick Bost for their donations in memory of Robert H. Bost to the Wolfe/Bost Memorial Scholarship Fund. Money contributions (and donations) to the Fund comprise the funding for our scholarships. Please consider donating some of this year's honey to be sold at the craft show. Also, since the Doggett's, the Oakley's and Ginny Stubblefield will be at the TBA Convention the same weekend as the Craft Fair, we need adult leadership to work with 2014 scholarship youths in manning the booth, discussing the observation hive and promoting good beekeeping. Please contact **Phil Ainslie** if you can help (254)939-6240 or e-mail: [beuser46@gmail.com](mailto:beuser46@gmail.com).

The WCABA Taster's Choice Contest and Honey Judging at our September meeting was a fun event.

There were 25 entries in various containers available for tasting by club members who voted on the ones they liked best. The winners this year, "with the appropriate bragging rights", were: 1st. Blue Ribbon, Tracy Bahm of Austin(23), 2nd. Red Ribbon, Jimmie Oakley of Jarrell(20), and 3rd. White Ribbon, Holly Hand-Medina of Pflugerville(15). Other top vote noted vote getters were Elizabeth Exley(13), Teo&Nikko Mathieu(11), Quentin Ireys(11), Cora Schell(11), and Karen Walker(10). Thank you to all who entered honey in the tasting. 2014 Honey Tasting>>



We appreciate Kenneth Miller, Ralph Medina, and Derek Foight for acting as judges of the one-pound jars of honey that members brought for judging. Those whose honey was judged to be between 90 and 100 points according to the criteria were awarded blue ribbons and the honey has been taken to the State Fair in Dallas. Blue ribbon winners were Mary Bost-Georgetown, Jimmie Oakley-Jarrell, Emma Wall-Leander, Ann Bierschenk-Georgetown, Kristen and Jared Smith-Leander, Holly Hand-Medina-Pflugerville, and Red ribbons were awarded to Carl Seagren-Hutto, and Quentin Ireys-Hutto.



We welcome nine new members to WCABA, They are Jerry and Harriet Mikus of Pflugerville; Sharon Stephenson and Keith Kofoed, Hutto; Tony Moore, Georgetown; David Hess, Jarrell; Steve and Carla Benton, Jarrell; Dan and Roxanne Lowdermilk, Hutto; Charlie Brown, Jr., Leander; Mack and Ann Wither, Georgetown; and Tim and Donna Cox, Liberty Hill. There were no renewals of membership; however, you may want to consider paying your 2015 membership when you come to either of the next two meetings to avoid standing in line in January.

Three new members who joined in September were not available to me (when I was in the hospital); I apologize for the delay. They are Denise Wilkinson, Georgetown; Patricia and Benjamin Bruno, Pflugerville; and Carl Seagren, Hutto.

Door prizes at our September meeting were an orchid donated by Sally Horton, won by Elise Gardner, Pumpkin syrup donated by Lisa Hoekstra, won by Linda Franke; Swedish ivy donated by Linda Franke, won by Shirley Doggett; two honey bears donated by Steve Hoskins, won by Joan Lowal and Dan Loudermilk; one pound honey donated by Steve Hoskins, won by Travis C.; smoker fuel donated by Frank Hunt, won by Jared Smith; and a pint of honey donated by Moore Honey, won by Julie Fagala.

### **Book Nook, by Holly Medina**

We have now added a few **new books** based on the requests of some of the members. So please do stop by the library and check them out.

1. **Build Your Own Beekeeping Equipment:** *How to Construct 8- & 10-Frame Hives; Top Bar, Nuc & Demo Hives; Feeders, Swarm Catchers & More.*
2. **The Honey Connoisseur:** *Selecting, Tasting, and Pairing Honey, With a Guide to More Than 30 Varietals*
3. **The Fresh Honey Cookbook:** *84 Recipes from a Beekeeper's Kitchen*
4. **The Complete Meadmaker :** *This up-to-date title tells the novice how to begin and the experienced brewer or winemaker how to succeed in this newest of the beverage arts*
5. **Bee Products for Better Health:** *Here is the latest buzz on some of Mother Nature's most perfect remedies!*
6. **Honey Crafting:** *From Delicious Honey Butter to Healing Salves, Projects for Your Home Straight from the Hive*
7. **Wisdom for Beekeepers:** *500 Tips for Successful Beekeeping*

### **Latest News: WCABA Crowns Honey Queen**



On Wednesday evening, October 15th, Emma Wall, daughter of Lyle and Irma Wall of Leander, Texas, was crowned WCABA Honey Queen in a brief Coronation Ceremony at the Twin Lake Fellowship Church in Cedar Park. Officiating at the event was WCABA Honey Queen Chair, Jimmie Oakley and former WCABA Honey Queen and 2012 Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones, of Spicewood. The new Honey Queen will be representing our club at the Texas State Fair and will be performing cooking demonstrations for Fair goers in the Food & Fiber Building. She will be official presented to the membership at the October meeting. Come and welcome Emma in her new role. We also look forward to crowning Elise Gardner as our WCABA Honey Princess in 2015. Thank you ladies for representing us.

## Honeyed Peanut Butter Apple Tarts

(Emma Walls recipe for the State Fair)

1- sheet puffy pastry thawed      1/2 Cup Peanut butter      1/4 Cup Honey ( warmed)      2 apples sliced thinly  
2 tablespoons sugar                      1 tsp peanut butter                      jar of apricot jam warmed

Preheat oven 350 degrees

Slice 3 pastries into three rectangles and place onto a wax paper lined baking sheet

Warm peanut butter in microwave safe bowl until liquid like - Drizzle in 2 TBSP of honey, stir then spread evenly over

3 pastries - leave 1/2 in border around edges.

Layer apples slices neatly over the top of peanut butter, drizzle with warm honey, - Sprinkle with sugar & cinnamon.

Bake for 30-35 minutes or until lightly browned and puffy around edges.

Let cool completely drizzle with warm honey / apricot jam. Cut and serve (about 30)

*I have subscribed to two bee magazines, **Bee Culture** and **American Bee Journal**, for a number of years and have received much helpful information from their articles. I need to dispose of some of them so I will ask Ginny Stubblefield to begin making them available at the Library table for any members interested in taking a few of them (no returns, please) to read and enjoy.      Thanks. Mary Bost*

### **Important reminders:**

- \* The November regular meeting will move up to the 3rd. Thursday (20th) because of Thanksgiving.
- \* The election of officers for 2015 will be conducted at the November meeting, please be present.
- \* Scholarship recipient reports will be due, and given, at the November meeting, come and support.

# Beekeeping Equipment

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