

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

www.wcaba.org

Look for us on Facebook

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DATE: Thursday, January 22, 2015
TIME: 7:00-9:00: Bkg.101, Program
PLACE: First United Methodist Church Georgetown (MMC bldg.)
PROGRAM: Equipment & Bee order/ Speaker: Liz Walsh, "Queen Rearing"
HOSTS: Lori Esch, Dodie Stillman Steve Hoskins, and Lisa Hoekstra

BE A GOOD BEEKEEPER & RESPONSIBLE BEEKEEPER

How quickly time flies! We are already half way through January, and Spring will be here almost before we can say Jiminy Cricket. Also, if we don't make ready to receive new hives of bees, whether by buying packages, splitting hives, or retrieving swarms of bees, we may miss out on some good opportunities.

The program for our January WCABA meeting will be discussion of the club membership equipment orders as well as answer questions you may have regarding ordering bees.

Also on the program will be guest speaker **Elizabeth (Liz) Walsh**, a graduate student in the Entomology Department at Texas A&M University. She is from rural Wisconsin, and she did her undergraduate studies at Ripon College where she majored in Biology and English. She has been a beekeeper since she was a young high school student and she loves working with honey bees! "My research primarily focuses on in-hive pesticides, such as active ingredients in miticides, and how they impact queen health, physiology, and behavior". Her topic will be "Queen Rearing".



Liz Walsh

If you plan to buy one or more of the 3-pound packages of bees through our club arrangement with the R Weaver Apiaries in Navasota, you will find an order form at the end of this newsletter. The package will include three pounds of bees and an Italian queen that has been marked and clipped at a cost of \$125.00 per package. The first 100 packages of bees may be picked up at the Bost farm (4355 C.R. 110, Georgetown 78626) on Friday afternoon, April 18 or Saturday morning, April 19.

The second 100 packages will be picked up following the same schedule on April 24 & 25.

If you plan to buy queens for splitting of hives or for replacement of an old queen, the price in our group order will be \$20.00 per queen, Italian, and she will be marked and clipped.

Notice that March 26, 2015 is the deadline for ordering bees through WCABA. Zane Baird is the Bees & Queen order facilitator. Contact him at wcaba.bee.order@gmail.com or mail your order to Zane at 8418 Springfield Gorge, Round Rock, TX 78681. He will also be at the club meetings between now and March 26. Note: in order to take advantage of this money-saving group order, you must have paid your club dues (\$15.00) for 2015.

This year we have arranged with **Busy Bee Supplies** (www.busybeesupplies.com) in Florence, Texas to handle our club group order. They have graciously agreed to have the entire spring order sent to the Bost Farm free of transportation charges. By ordering on-line and using the "coupon code" **WCABA10**, you will get a 10% discount on your whole order and receive FREE shipping. Current members must place orders by February 28 for delivery and pickup at the Bost Farm on Saturday March 14th. Look for detailed order instructions and supply list in this newsletter.

You may also order (as you have in the past) from **Better Bee Equipment** in Liberty Hill, Texas (www.betterbeeequipment.com) for all your woodware and some equipment. See advertisement in this issue or website for more details.

Do you know a school-age boy or girl who is interested in learning more about bee-keeping? If so, encourage him/her to check out the information about the **The Ed Wolfe-Robert Bost Memorial Scholarship** at Opportunities--Scholarship on the WCABA website (listed above) and send their application with their hand-written essay to Ed Wolfe – Robert Bost Scholarship, 4355 C. R. 110, Georgetown, TX. 78626. Any school age youth may apply for a WCABA beekeeping scholarship, which awards the bees, hive body, and equipment (gloves, hive tool, veil, etc.) needed to start a bee hive. It is suggested that the recipient be between the ages of 12 – 16 in order to be able to handle the heavy equipment. The deadline for accepting these applications is February 10.

We thank Elsa Sorenson, David Rebeck, Lori Heisler, in memory Bill Heisler, and Robert O. Bost (son of Robert H. Bost) for their generous donations to the Wolfe/Bost Scholarship program. If you did not get to contribute to the scholarship program by donating honey for the Country Fair last November, perhaps you would like to make a donation of cash or a check. Ask Shirley or one of the other ladies at the registration counter where you can place your donation. They will be glad to assist you.

Welcome to our six new members who have joined WCABA since our last meeting. They are Darwin and Kay Karkoska, Granger; Eric Stephan, Florence; Charles and Jennifer Fowler, Hutto; Dale Huggins, Jarrell; Roger and Barbara Cheatham, Hutto; and Tracy Shaw, Florence.

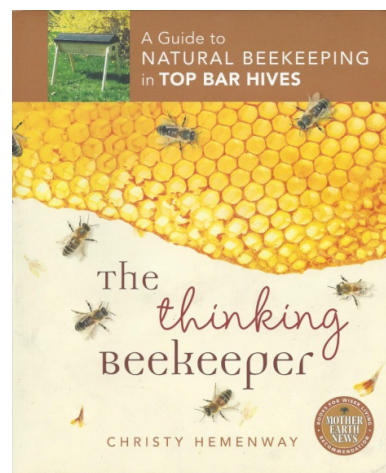
Also, nine members have renewed their membership in WCABA over the holidays. They are Ann and Tom Bierschenk, Georgetown; Wayne Hayes, Austin; Travis and Maureen Lane, San Angelo; John Horrigan, Burnet; Ray Bizzell, Bertram; Patrick and Anita Lyons, Muldoon; Shannon Rector, Leander; Vicky Kennedy, Burnet; and Jason and Denae Collar, Georgetown.

Derek Foight has agreed to write a Management Calendar for the newsletter each month. He suggests that in January beekeepers should feed colonies if needed, and repair/paint equipment. Blooming plants this month are clover and vetch.

Book Nook by Holly Medina

The Thinking Beekeeper is the definitive do-it-yourself guide to natural beekeeping in top bar hives. This book speaks about simplicity, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of Top Bar Beekeeping. It walks the reader through the important elements of a Top Bar Hive. (The Cavity, Top Bars, Entrance, etc...) The author even touches a little on Warre hives.

This is a great book for club members who have been asking if we had any resources on Top Bar Hives.



It is always reassuring to read about the merits of honey but especially when it appears in a non-beekeeping publication such as *Healthy Living*. In the January/February issue, it states, “Around the world and through the centuries, honey has always been with us—sweetening our foods, healing our wounds and curing our ailments. You might call it the original superfood, nourishing our bodies inside and out.” Besides being an aid to fighting outdoor allergies by building your resistance to outdoor allergens, honey is nature’s perfect substitute for sugar. At “17 grams of carbohydrates per tablespoon (and only 64 calories), honey is a great energy booster for your body.”

Furthermore, “Honey is a natural humectant—attracting and retaining moisture. So look for honey in commercial beauty products or simply add a little to your moisturizer, shampoo or soap. For older children and adults, a spoonful of honey can soothe a sore throat. Or, combine honey with a hot tea and lemon for use as a cough suppressant.” During_ this season of flu, colds, allergies, and other respiratory ailments, this is good advice.

No Bake Energy Bites (from *Healthy Living*)

1/3 cup honey	1/2 cup peanut butter	1/2 cup mini chocolate chips
1/2 cup ground flaxseed	1 cup oatmeal	1 tsp. vanilla
	1 cup coconut flakes	

In a large bowl, mix the first six ingredients until well-blended. Pour coconut flakes into a small bowl. Shape honey mixture into balls, roughly the size of a golf ball, and roll in coconut flakes. Chill until firm. (Makes about 20)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



Dues **\$15.00** per year - individual or family membership
New Member / Renewing Member
(circle one)

Date: _____

Name: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ e-mail: _____

(please print)

To save postage cost may we send your Newsletter via e-mail? Yes[] No[]

Instructions: print , fill out, and bring to club meeting , or mail with check to:
Mrs. Shirley Doggett - Membership - 400 C. R. 440 - Thrall, TX 76578

W.C.A.B.A Club Package & Queen Order Form - 2015

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____

Phone _____ e-mail: _____

please print

I want to order:

No. _____ **3 # Package: R Weaver Bees with Italian queen \$125.00/ Pkage.**

Packages with marked & clipped queens available for pickup Bost Farm April 18th & 25th.

No. _____ **Honey Bee Queen (Based on group order of 100 Q's) \$20.00/ Queen**

Italian queen, marked and clipped same as packages.

How will you pay? CASH or Check # _____

TOTAL \$ AMT

Mail remittance to: _____ Check Preferred

OF ORDER

WCABA Order/ Zane Baird - 8418 Springfield Gorge,-Round Rock, TX 78681

*>>> Package & Queen order **deadline** is the March 26, 2015 WCABA meeting.*

>> No resale or ownership transfer permitted on pkage or queens once ordered.

>All secondary transactions must come through the club for tracking & delivery.

Special Instructions:

WCABA Club Equipment Order Process

This year we have made arrangements with **Busy Bee Supplies** (www.busybeesupplies.com) to handle our spring order. In the past we would drive over 3 hours to Dadant to save shipping fees for the spring order. In addition we have never received a discount through Dadant. Busy Bee Supplies has graciously agreed to have the entire spring order sent to the Bost Farm. The advantages are as follows: (1) No shipping on any size order by using the coupon code WCABA10 (2) Club members receives a 10 % discount by using the WCABA10 coupon code. Members must place their order by Feb. 28th. to take advantage of the free shipping and 10% discount for this offer. Orders going through the Mann Lake site will not get the extra 10% discount. Any item carried in the Mann Lake catalogue can be ordered through Busy Bee Supplies. The pick up date is Saturday March 14th. Members that don't take advantage of the club spring order can still get free shipping on orders over \$50.00 from the busybeesupplies.com distributor.

Most wood ware and some miscellaneous bee supplies are also available from the **Better Bee Equipment**. See the Better Bee Equipment advertisement last page of the newsletter. Better Bee Equipment supplies are available for viewing at the monthly meeting, see Josiah Youngblood.

Busy Bee Supplies website...

Step 1 Coupon Code
Insert WCABA10
For spring order discount of 10%

Step 2 Shipping Option
Select WCABA Spring Order

Step 3 Additional Items
Enter any Mann Lake products that we do not carry on our website in this box.
Include:
Mann Lake Item # - Quantity - Item Price

Step 4 Paying for additional Items
If you order any products that are not on our website Select *Pay over the phone*. We will call you to confirm items ordered and take Credit Card payment over the phone.
Payments must be made in full at time of order.

Anyone who does not want to pay online
If you would prefer not to pay online with a credit card, please Select *Pay over the phone*. We will call you to confirm the items ordered and take Credit Card payment over the phone. **Payments must be made in full at time of order.**

Your Shopping Cart

Delete	Quantity	Name	SKU	Each	Total
Remove	1	10/F Starter Hive Kit w/ Plastic Foundation	BB0013	\$150.00	\$150.00
Update					
Remove		Coupon Applied WCABA Spring Order Discount (Coupon)			-\$15.00

Discount applied to order

Ship to Zip/Postal Code: 76527
Ship to Country: United States

Choose a Shipping option

- Pick-Up - Florence, TX - Free \$0.00
- Georgetown Delivery (Sat. 11am) - Free \$0.00
- Round Rock Delivery (M-F 3:30pm) - Free \$0.00
- WCABA Club Spring Order - Bost Farm Delivery \$0.00
- Free Shipping \$0.00
- Priority Mail® \$35.85
- UPS Ground \$52.90
- UPS 3 Day Select® \$89.20
- Priority Mail Express® \$138.45

Subtotal: \$135.00
Shipping: \$0.00
Tax: \$11.14
Total: \$146.14

Your total savings: \$15.00

Ordering Instructions
EXAMPLE:
HH150 - 2 - \$19.95

Select payment type:
PayPal
Pay in person at pick up location
Pay over the phone

Pay with Amazon
or
Continue Checkout

WCABA (Basic) Beekeeping Equipment List
The Equipment Listed Below is the suggested Minimum Needed to Keep Bees

Qty	Unit	Item Number	Description	<i>Busy Bee Supplies</i> 2015 Price	Total Price
1	1	WW600	9 5/8" Deep Hive Body Commercial Grade	\$20.50	\$20.50
1	1	FR801	9 1/8" Grooved Top Bar & Grooved Bottom Bar Frames (case of 10)	\$12.50	\$12.50
1	1	FN710	8 1/2 x 16 1/4 Rite-Cell beeswax coated sheet (black, case of 10)	\$14.00	\$14.00
1	1	WW690	Varroa Screened Bottom Board (assembled)	\$28.95	\$28.95
1	1	WW365	Flat Wood (Migratory) Cover	\$11.95	\$11.95
1	1	FD-11-WD	Wooden Entrance Feeder	\$5.95	\$5.95
1	1	CL100	Square Folding Veil w/Elastic	\$15.50	\$15.50
1	1	CL130	Plastic Sun Helmet	\$9.50	\$9.50
1	1	CL620	Economy Leather Gloves (Medium)	\$12.95	\$12.95
1	1	HD584	9" Hive Tool	\$4.50	\$4.50
1	1	BM847	First Lessons in Beekeeping	\$15.95	\$15.95
1	1	HD660	Bee Brush	\$4.95	\$4.95
1	1	HD556	4x7 Stainless Steel Smoker w/Shield	\$26.95	\$26.95

\$184.15
 \$ 15.19

Taxes 8.25% on \$184.15 = \$15.19

Be sure to enter the "discount code": **WCABA10** if you want to receive the 10% club discount.

Total = \$199.34

Beekeeping Equipment

Serving the Williamson County Area

Available Assembled
and Painted

BetterBeeEquipment.com
BetterBeeEquipment@gmail.com
 512-963-3954



Williamson County Beekeepers Club Only Special: available until 3-31.

Assembled Expanded hive kit:

- 1 Assembled deep box with frames
- 1 Assembled medium box with frames
- 1 Screened Bottom Board
- 1 Hive cover

Regularly price is \$115 WCABA member price is **\$109**