

The Bee Line

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

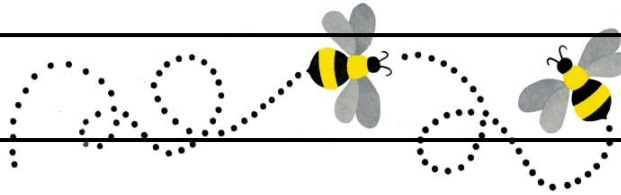
Next Meeting Thursday, May 11, 7:00 pm

Angelina Co. Chamber of Commerce

1615 South Chestnut, Lufkin

Volume 17 Issue 5

May 2017



May Program

Your Texas Apiary Inspection Service (TAIS), based at Texas A&M University, College Station, rates Varroa mite infestation as the #1 greatest threat to honey bee health and has partnered with the Honey Bee Health Coalition to provide practical step-by-step demonstrations on monitoring and controlling Varroa mites. PBA member Marie C. Kocyan tackles “**Tools for Varroa Management**” including TAIS online resources, guide, and videos of potential treatments. We'll walk beekeepers through the problem and a spectrum of solutions.

Refreshments

Beverages: Sean Todd; Snacks: Linda Bordelon, Joanie Kochanek, Roy Stark

Bringing beverages or refreshments? If unable to attend, please notify Rachel Payne at 936-715-0362 (h), 903-288-0610 (c), or rachelpayne519@yahoo.com so that we can supply them.

Welcome (and Welcome Back) to our Brood...

Philip Allison, Mike Baird, Pamela & William Barrow, Dennis Brown, Lloyd & Paula Duplant, Travis Groom, Janet Haney, Joe Parker, Kathy Pender, Joseph Pratt, Zeke Richey, Maggie Siber, David Smith, Mike Standifird, Kenny & Gaye Standridge, John Wall, Carla Williams

You're the Bee's Knees!

Bob & Charlene Ham donated 2 hives of bees to PBA.

4/8 – Marie Kocyan with observation hive, Maggie Forbes, and Rachel Payne manned a booth at the Nacogdoches Farmers Market Spring Fling.

4/20 – Rachel Payne took her observation hive and spoke with the Thomas J. Rusk Elementary School Garden Club about bees and pollination.

4/22 – David Gallagher presented an “Introduction to Beekeeping” at an SFA Gardens seminar at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center.

David Gallagher stocked 4 portable observation hives for SFA's Bugs, Bees, Butterflies, & Blossoms.

4/29 – Rachel Payne manned a table with observation hive at SFA's Breakfast on the Farm.

5/2 – Rachel Payne presented "Swarms and Bait Hives" to the Deep East Texas Beekeepers Association.

Assorted Buzziness

Join our group on Facebook! Follow Pineywoods Beekeepers Association on Facebook as Rachel Payne, our newsletter editor, initiated and contributes to educational beekeeping articles and information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/532642643606301/>

2017 PBA Dues - \$10 email membership or \$16 postal membership, per family. Don't miss out on our educational monthly PBA Bee Line newsletter – pay your dues to continue receiving issues. Contact Treasurer Terry McFall, 1700 FM 252, Jasper, TX 75951 tdmcfallclan@yahoo.com 409-384-3626

PBA 2017 Bee School and Youth Program

Another year of eager students, including four youth in our PBA Youth Program, are receiving a thorough beginner course in safe and challenging beekeeping in east Texas! We invite seasoned PBA beekeepers to join us the third and final day for hands-on hive evaluation Bee Yard Day, May 6, at the PBA Moffett Apiary at Don Lymbery's residence, starting at 9:30am. Contact Marie C. Kocyan for more details. redcutridge@yahoo.com 936-632-2272.

PBA Summer Picnic

PBA members, family, and friends are invited to our PBA Summer Picnic, Saturday, June 10, with a noon covered dish buffet at member Ken Clegg's Hightower Family Club House in Moffett. Details in the June Bee Line!

Buy and Sell

Wanted: Amy Richardson, science teacher at Mt. Enterprise High School, was accepted to the space teacher workshop at NASA this summer and has to take a "goody" for everyone that represents this area. She'd like to take local honey. If you have about a gallon to sell, contact her at candarichardson@gmail.com

Wanted: Dale Morton would like someone to keep bees on his property. In return, he would like to learn. He can provide super and other equipment if needed. dmorton@newlifencogdoches.com 936-674-7339

For sale: Used beekeeping equipment in Lufkin – a Little Wonder 4-frame manual-turn honey extractor (\$350 cash), an electric 4-frame honey extractor (\$450 cash), and a solar wax melter with stand (\$250 cash). Contact Karl Lemke 936 875 4870 sslemke@consolidated.net

Wanted: Rita Hester's friend is looking for cleaned or uncleaned beeswax at a good price to preserve and harden items made of rope. Send info to Rita at hestrhos@gmail.com
For sale: Honey. Contact Jesus Vazquez 409-381-8503 jesusvazquez99@yahoo.com

Beekeeping Supplies now available at Atwoods in Nacogdoches, Lone Star Farm & Home Center in Nacogdoches and Corrigan, Lufkin Farm Supply & Nursery in Lufkin, and Circle Three Feed in Jasper.

What's Buzzing

5/5 – Lone Star Farm & Home Center Spring Garden Sale. 9am – 3 pm. 608 W. Main St, Nacogdoches. Plants, seeds, mulch, fertilizer, potting soil on sale. Ask your gardening questions and learn techniques with SFA Horticulture Club. Discuss herbicides and pesticides with BWI Co. representative. Learn about ground nutrients and fertilizer from SFA Soils Lab.

5/6 – 5th Annual Spring Sting. 8am – 4pm. (See ad at right.)

5/13 – Nacogdoches Co. Master Gardeners' Spring Plant Sale. 9am – 2pm at County Extension Office, 203 W. Main, Nacogdoches. Gift arrangements, hanging baskets, bowls, handmade planters, etc.

6/10 – TBA Summer Clinic. 9am – 5pm, University of Texas at Arlington, 300 W First St, Arlington, TX, 76019. Randy Oliver will be

keynote speaker. Over 40 classes to choose from including swarm capture, queen rearing, varroa monitoring, honey bee biology and behavior, pollination and pollinators, sales and marketing, honey extraction, ag exemption, planting beescapes, TX Master Beekeeper Program, and products of the hive. \$50 per adult TBA member, \$60 per adult non-member, \$25 per child. Contact Shirley Doggett at 512-924-5051, sdoggett@mindspring.com or register at <http://texasbeekeepers.org/summer-clinic-2017/>

SFA's Bugs, Bees, Butterflies, & Blossoms program celebrates 20 years.

For those of you who aren't familiar with BBBB, PBA maintains the Win Day Observation Hive on the SFA campus from spring to fall and stocks 3 portable observation hives for this event. We also provide PBA

5th ANNUAL SPRING STING

5446 BEAUMONT DRIVE.
KOUNTZE, TX.

BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT 101.
HOW TO'S:

- TRAP OUTS.
- REMOVE BEES.
- SPLIT HIVES.
- SPOT A QUEEN.
- FORCE A SWARM.
- PULL A NUC.
- SPIN HONEY.
- BOTTLE HONEY.
- LABEL HONEY.
- CATCH A SWARM.
- USE IPM SYSTEM.
- FIGHT SHB'S.
- SUGAR SHAKE.
- FIGHT VARROA MITES.



BRING YOUR.....

- ICE CHEST WITH DRINKS.
- BEE GEAR: VEIL, JACKET, GLOVES, SMOKERS, HIVE TOOLS, ETC..
- CHAIRS.
- DONATIONS.
- CASH TO BUY RAFFLE TICKETS OR DONATE!
- FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT. EVERYONE WELCOME. KID FRIENDLY!!

WE OFFER BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY GRAHAM KILGORE OF PARKDALE MALL CHIC FIL A.

RAFFLE ITEMS ACCEPTED.

honey for the students to sample. Up until a couple of years ago, we also provided volunteers to man bee stations during this week-long program. Dr. Sowards decided a couple of years ago to just use SFA students. We continue to provide bees and honey.

From learning about the life cycle of trees to holding decomposers, more than 3,000 elementary school students from across East Texas participated in this collaborative program in which SFA elementary education students teach environmental science through hands-on activities.

The benefits of the BBBB program are twofold. Sowards said the participating school districts gain a great resource to help engage their students in science activities in the outdoors and also gain a greater appreciation for the beauty of nature firsthand.

http://www.sfasu.edu/9342.asp?utm_source=sfatoday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sfatoday

From the Hexagonal Office

Mike Kochanek

Hope everyone's enjoying the springtime weather. We've had a warm winter and extremely early blooming spring, causing the bees to be very active. Early swarms have been happening everywhere; in fact, we lost 2 swarms in our hives already. We had an excellent April program on Swarms and Trapping by Rachel Payne and Terry McFall, very informative. Two very good books on swarms are *Swarm Traps and Bait Hives* by McCartney Taylor and *Swarm Essentials* by Stephen J. Repasky. Our PBA Bee school is in session with quite a few newbies. 4/22, 4/29, and 5/6 are the dates for the classes and bee yard demonstration. Hopefully, we will have a few more new beekeepers in our midst. What's great about our club is that all the experienced people are more than willing to help the newcomers and answer questions anytime. PBA has a great group of people! See you May 11th.

Comb-Grown Goodness

Deodorant for Sensitive Skin

<http://www.thankyourbody.com/homemade-deodorant-stick-recipe-sensitive-skin/>

1/3 cup coconut oil
3 Tbsp beeswax, grated or pellets
2 Tbsp shea butter
1/3 cup arrowroot powder
2 Tbsp baking soda (reduce to 1 Tbsp if still too harsh for your skin)
10 – 15 drops essential oil (author uses 5 drops tea tree or Purification and 10 drops tangerine)
fills two deodorant containers

Melt coconut oil, beeswax, and shea butter in a small saucepan over low heat. Stir continuously until melted. Once completely melted, remove from heat and whisk in arrowroot powder and baking soda, then add essential oils. Mix thoroughly but



quickly as mixture will start to thicken. Pour into two empty deodorant containers and let your homemade deodorant sit until completely set (give it a couple hours for good measure). Place lids on and use as you would any other deodorant.

Editor's note: I need 3 containers when I make this. Be aware this is a deodorant and NOT an antiperspirant.

Lotion Bars

<https://wellnessmama.com/4770/lotion-bars/>

1 cup coconut oil

1 cup shea butter, cocoa butter, or mango butter (or a mix of all three)

1 cup beeswax

Optional: 1 teaspoon Vitamin E oil



Combine all ingredients (except essential oils if using) in a double boiler, or a glass bowl over a smaller saucepan, with 1 inch of water in it. (Alternately, combine in a quart size glass mason jar with a lid instead and place this in a small saucepan of water until melted. This will save your bowl and you can just designate this jar for these types of projects and not even need to wash it out.) Turn the burner on and bring water to a boil. Stir ingredients constantly until they are melted and smooth. Remove from heat and add the essential oils. Gently stir by hand until essential oils are incorporated. Carefully pour into molds or whatever you will be allowing the lotion bars to harden in. I used these silicone baking cups, though any mold would work. Allow the lotion bars to cool completely before attempting to pop out of molds. Note: This recipe can be adjusted to make any quantity that you'd like. I made with equal 1 cup measurements. The recipe I used made exactly 12 lotion bars with my molds. For a small batch, this recipe could be cut in half or even one fourth.

Peppermint Lip Balm

<https://wellnessmama.com/25459/imitation-burts-bees-lip-balm/>

2 tablespoons beeswax pastilles

2 tablespoons shea butter

2 tablespoons coconut oil

30+ drops peppermint essential oil

Melt beeswax, shea butter, and coconut oil in double boiler or small glass bowl over small pot of boiling water, stirring constantly until melted. Remove pan from heat but keep over the still-hot water to keep mixture melted. Add essential oils to your preference. I recommend adding a few drops at a time and testing a tiny amount on your arm to make sure the scent is to your liking. Once you've added the essential oils, use the pipette or a dropper to fill the lip balm tubes (must be done quickly since mixture will start to harden when removed from heat). Let tubes sit at room temperature for several hours until cooled and completely hardened before capping them. Notes: Use an extra teaspoon or two of beeswax if you prefer thicker and longer-lasting lip balm, slightly less for smoother and softer lip balm. Since there are no water-based ingredients, you can re-melt and add more of each ingredient during the melting process until you get the exact texture you want. This makes 12-14 tubes.





Top: Marie Kocyan and Rachel Payne manning a booth at Spring Fling.

Middle: PBA April meeting: New PBA members and future beekeepers, Hannah Leigh and Laurie Love, and Leticia Darlene and Randi Yoder. Rachel Payne speaking about swarm experiences.

Bottom: Robert Jones teaching new beekeeper students and youth at PBA 2017 Bee School. Rodger Floyd giving tips during his "Spring Splits" PBA March program. Photos submitted by Marie Kocyan and Rachel Payne.



Top: One way to water honey bees during warm weather. Rachel Payne at TJR Elementary School.

Middle: A frame from Pam & William Barrow's hive. William working on bee boxes.

Bottom: Rachel Payne's brother-in-law was feeding bees old honey. Rachel Payne at Breakfast on the Farm.

Photos submitted by Pamela Barrow, Marie Kocyan, and Rachel Payne.

