

The Bee Line

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

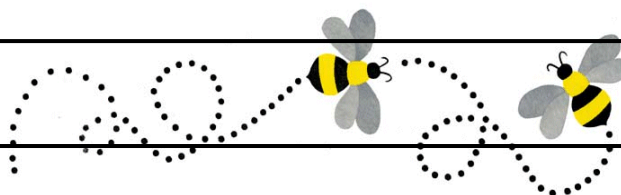
Next Meeting Thursday, June 14, 7:00 pm

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

919 S John Redditt Dr, Lufkin

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DIY Beekeeping Inventions

Gather up your homemade gadgets and bring them to the next meeting. It will be a show and tell on inventions you have come up with to help with your beekeeping. Tell about how you made it, where you got materials, and how it works. No invention too small!

Beverages: Karen Mitchell; Snacks: Bob Love and Rachel Payne

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

You're the Bee's Knees!

5/5 - Thank you to all who made our final Bee Yard Day of PBA 2018 Bee School a success - Hive Instructors Greg Alexander, Marie C. Kocyan, Rachel Payne, Trinity Smith, and Rodger Floyd who also led the nuc buyers to pick up their new bees, and Don Lymbery as our host and former Apiary Manager. The weather was perfect and the students were enthusiastic and took quite an interest in the honey bee colonies!

5/9 – Rachel Payne took her observation hive to Martinsville Elementary School and talked with 2nd and 3rd graders about honey bees. The students are participating in the “Learn, Grow, Eat & Go!” program.

5/10 – Rachel Payne took her observation hive and spoke with the TJ Rusk Garden Club about honey bees. These were also 2nd and 3rd graders.

5/18 – Marie C. Kocyan and Trinity Smith for manned a bee booth with observation hive at the Texas Forestry Museum ‘Sawmill Sampler’ in Lufkin – a wonderful event for the community to enjoy this season of outdoor fun, including community education focusing on honey bees and beekeeping in east Texas.

Assorted Buzziness

Board Meeting June 14th at 6pm, St. Cyprian's Parish Hall, before regular meeting at 7pm. According to the Bylaws, non-Board members are welcome to attend but may not vote in Board actions.



TEXAS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Summer Clinic

June 30, 2018 9am - 5pm Conroe, TX
Lone Star Convention Center



Keynote Speaker Dr. Jamie Ellis

Jamie Ellis is the Gahan Endowed Associate Professor of Entomology in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida and a PhD in Entomology from Rhodes University in South Africa. Dr. Ellis created the AFBEE program (African Bee Extension and Education Program), the UF, South Florida, Caribbean Bee Colleges, and the U of F Master Beekeeping Program.

Whether you're an aspiring beekeeper, a new beekeeper or an experienced beekeeper, there's a topic for you!



Getting Started With Bees: Hive Types
Managing Bees for Your Backyard Apiary
Common Pests and How to Cope
Honey Bee Health & Nutrition
Splitting Hives to Grow Your Apiary
Brood Diseases & Management
Utilizing Products of the Hive
Swarm Management and Capture
Pollen, Propolis, and Wax

Beekeeping as a Business: Honey Sales, Bee Removals, & Ag Exemptions
Honey Bee Hive Autopsy: How to Avoid Making the Same Mistake Twice

And Many More.....

\$60 Single Ticket/\$50 TBA Members

\$100 2 pack/\$90 for TBA Members

\$25 children under 16

Register early! Ticket prices increase at the door.

Register now online at texasbeekeepers.org or contact Shirley Doggett
sdoggett@mindspring.com, 400 County Road 440, Thrall, TX 76578

Buy and Sell

For sale: Electric uncapping knife with thermostat, \$45. Rachel Payne 936-715-0362 or rachelpayne519@yahoo.com

For sale: 50-lb buckets of honey. Call Chandra Atholi at 936-591-2990.

For sale: PBA member Rodger Floyd still has about 25 to 30 nucs consisting of 5 frames of established bees with new queen to go in your box in Groveton for \$120. Call 936-831-2818 (evenings).

For sale: Deep boxes with 10 frames, bottom boards, top covers, inner covers, all hand-made. Call for pricing. 409-423-4756

Beekeeping supplies now available at Atwoods in Nacogdoches, Lone Star Farm & Home Center in Nacogdoches and Corrigan, Lufkin Farm Supply & Nursery in Lufkin, Circle Three Feed in Jasper, Motts Hardware/TKC Knives in Spurger, and Tractor Supply in Lufkin.

What's Buzzing

6/30 – TBA Summer Clinic (see page 2)

7/17 – **Angelina County Master Gardeners 'Pollinators'** – free 12-1 pm luncheon program at AgriLife Extension Service, 2201 S Medford Drive, Lufkin. Bring your lunch and hear Dawn Stover, SFASU Mast Arboretum Research Associate, bring her wealth of knowledge about all kinds of pollinators, much more than honeybees and butterflies!

Some beekeeping-inspired toys are on the market! These are both available on Amazon.



Seasonal Tips from our Seasoned Beekeepers

There's little else to do right now besides be patient with your bees for a honey crop. If you have full honey supers, add another. Tallow flow should last a few more weeks.

From the Hexagonal Office

Roy Stark

While it may have subsided a bit, swarm season is still in effect. Monitor hives for queen cells, eggs, and brood. If you find hives with a swarming tendency, remove the uncapped queen cells, rotate the brood

boxes, or pull a couple of frames of sealed brood and use to fortify weaker hives. Place foundation in their place. It should be noted that swarm cups are a natural condition in the hive; their presence does not necessarily mean the hive will swarm. However, if a queen cell is capped, there is a good chance the hive has already swarmed. If they have not swarmed, one method to try and prevent it from swarming is to split it hard and make nucs.

Some of us just pull the queen, a frame or two of capped brood and some a pollen frame and make up a nuc to locate in another location. If you have questions about this, ask someone who knows how to make splits.

The [USDA Beltsville Bee Lab](#) has reported that the lifespan of a queen has declined in recent years, with average longevity within the colony decreasing from 1.5 years to as short as 6 months. Therefore, more beekeepers are beginning to advocate late Summer and early Fall requeening. The rationale for this is based on several factors:

1. A young queen during late Summer/early Fall will lay more prolifically, producing more bees at this critical stage of the year.
2. A newer queen will be more effective in the Spring when early buildup is key, and at the same time will be less likely to swarm than an older queen. One method for requeening is to make summer splits and nucs using OTS ([on the spot queen rearing](#)) methods.

Add supers as needed or reshuffle supers away from hives that are lagging behind and give them to stronger hives. Remove and extract supers containing well ripened honey. Avoid harvesting frames of uncapped honey early in the season or risk having too much moisture. Check the ripeness of uncapped honey in a given frame by giving it a hard downward shake. If there is a shower of nectar then clearly it is too wet to extract. Expect the nectar flow to taper off and stop towards the end of July or first of August.

Look ahead and prepare for a dearth in August before the Golden Rod blooms. In a dearth, be cognizant of robbing activities. Consider open feeding with sugar water and pollen. Open feeding will help to prevent robbing. Reach out and ask experienced beekeepers in our club to advise you on what they do.

Varroa mites will peak in July-August. So it's a good time to evaluate your mite levels and decide on your method for controlling them if it is needed. The Purdue University Bee Lab suggests the following 'rule of thumb' for determining if your mite load is too high: 50 or more mites drop on a sticky board in a 24-hour period or 5 mites per 100 bees are found using a sugar shake or [alcohol wash](#).

It's hot out. Overheating and dehydration can be fatal to the beekeeper. Keep yourself hydrated and take breaks. Also make sure the bees have a steady supply of water. You can find them around swimming pools because they like the salt in the chlorinated water. Take a gallon of water and add a teaspoon of salt, mix thoroughly and put in a birdbath, or chicken water/feeder. Bees can drown easily. Add rocks to the birdbath or chicken waterer so the bees can climb out if they fall in the water.

Even though it is hot out, toward the end of summer is the time to start thinking about winter. The bees are now raising bees that will rear the bees that go through winter. Consolidating hives, requeening, feeding pollen (or protein substitutes), supplementing food stores, and boosting hives that are lagging are all techniques that you might consider.

Comb-Grown Goodness

Pork Chops with Honey-Garlic Sauce

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/pork-chops-with-honey-garlic-sauce>

- 4 bone-in pork loin chops (6 ounces each)
- ¼ cup lemon juice
- ¼ cup honey
- 2 tablespoons reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1 garlic clove, minced

In a large nonstick skillet coated with cooking spray, cook pork chops over medium heat until a thermometer reads 145°, 5-6 minutes on each side. Remove; let stand 5 minutes. Combine remaining ingredients; add to pan. Cook over medium heat 3-4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve with chops. Yield: 4 servings.



Honey-Pecan Kiwi Salad

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/honey-pecan-kiwi-salad>

- 5 cups torn Boston lettuce
- 3 medium kiwifruit, peeled and sliced
- ¼ cup chopped pecans, toasted
- 2 tablespoons vanilla yogurt
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon honey

Combine lettuce, kiwi, and pecans. In a separate bowl, mix yogurt, lemon juice, oil, and honey until smooth. Pour over salad and toss; serve immediately. Yield: 6 servings.

To toast nuts, bake in a shallow pan in a 350° oven for 5-10 minutes or cook in a skillet over low heat until lightly browned, stirring occasionally.



Honey Raspberry Sweet Tea

<https://www.honey.com/recipe/honey-raspberry-sweet-tea>

- 2 cups freshly brewed tea
- 2 cups cranberry-raspberry juice
- ¼ cup honey

In large, heat-proof pitcher, whisk together all ingredients until thoroughly combined and honey is dissolved. Chill until ready to serve. To serve, pour over ice.





Marie Kocyan and Trinity Smith at the Sawmill Sampler and a close-up of the observation hive.

Several folks sampling honeycomb at Bee School. Roy Stark welcoming students to Bee School on the first day. Students examining hives.

Rachel Payne at the Martinsville Elementary School's garden.



Cake at May's meeting made by Theresa Guy.

As always, feel free to send recipes and pictures for inclusion in the newsletter!