

The Bee Line

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

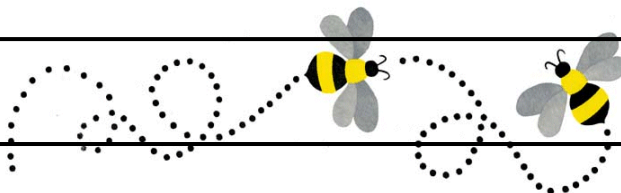
Next Meeting Thursday, October 13, 7:00 pm

Angelina Co. Chamber of Commerce

1615 South Chestnut, Lufkin

Volume 16 Issue 10

October 2016



October Program

Our PBA President, Mike Bordelon, will feature the construction and management of his Long Box Hive, a single-story horizontal hive utilizing fully enclosed Langstroth frames and worked in the manner of a Kenyan Top Bar hive. Also known as the New Idea Hive, Single-Story Hive, or Poppleton Hive, Mike will field your questions about this unique honey bee habitat!



Refreshments

Beverages: Robert Jones; Snacks: Charlene Ham and Rachel Payne

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 may supply them.

You're the Bee's Knees!

9/14 – Scott and Michelle Martin spoke at the Texas Extension Education Association convention. Scott spoke on Beekeeping and Honey to satisfy one of the requirements for the Texas Master Beekeeping Program. Michelle spoke on some of the things she made from the byproducts from the bees (soap and candles).

9/24 – Marie Kocyan for manning a booth and selling PBA honey with her observation hive, Angelina County Master Gardeners Fall Native Plant Sale, Angelina County Farmers Market. PBA Honey sales \$203.

9/27 – Marie Kocyan, Rachel Payne with Olivia and Jesse Payne for teaching 600 schoolchildren about Honey Bees and Pollination with two observation hives, Nacogdoches Farm Bureau Ag Day, Nacogdoches Expo Center. PBA Honey sales \$10.

9/29 – Scott Martin talked about bees, honey, and pollinator safety at the Tyler Co. Farm Bureau Ag Day.

10/1 – Marie Kocyan and Robert Jones for manning a booth and selling PBA honey to swarms of honey appreciators with her observation hive, Diboll Day, Orchard Park. PBA Honey sales \$503.

Assorted Buzziness

PBA 2017 officer elections are coming up! Here are the nominations. It's not too late to throw your hat into the ring!

President – Mike Kochanek
Vice President – Bob Love
Secretary – Joanie Kochanek
Treasurer – Terry McFall
Immediate Past President – Mike Bordelon
Newsletter Editor – Rachel Payne
Program Coordinator – Melony Jackson
Apiary Manager – Don Lymbery
SFASU Liaison – David Gallager

PBA 2016 Youth Program

Youth Program requirement reminder: Young beekeepers in our PBA Youth Program, be sure to create and schedule your 'Updates,' which can be as simple as a few minutes of reading a blog of your experiences/observations/beekeeping questions, or as creative as a scrapbook, or slideshow of your photos that we can help you place on our projection screen. Contact Youth Program Chairman Colin Bishop cbish@yahoo.com 409-466-4644

PBA Fall Family Picnic

Noon on Saturday, October 22, at the Hightower Cottage, Hightower Road, Lufkin (Moffett). You're invited to bring your family and friends to enjoy a noon covered dish buffet! PBA will furnish the entree and beverages - please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert, plus serving utensils, maybe a chair or two, and any table or lawn games or entertainment you wish. If you have a door prize to delight us, all the better! No honey bee hives to inspect but we'll have fun anyway - please rsvp total guests to Marie Kocyan redcutridge@yahoo.com 936-632-2272. See you there!

Directions: From Atkinson Road/Lufkin Loop 287 East Side go east 0.7 mi, to Left on FM 842, then 7.3 mi, to Left on Hightower Road, then 0.5 mi to Hightower Cottage.

Buy and Sell

For sale: Three 5-gallon buckets of 2016 East Texas wildflower honey (50 lb each). \$250 per bucket. Chandra Atholi atholic@gmail.com or 936-591-2990 cell

For sale: jars for honey; 1-gal are plastic, others are glass

30 cases of 1-gallon (4 per case), \$2 per case

20 cases of ½-gallon (6 per case), \$3 per case

10 cases of 8-oz jars, \$2 per case

5 cases of 8-oz taller jars, \$2 per case

50 jars without case (flat front and fluted sides)

Several single cases

75-frame electric extractor (pick up in Baytown, TX), will discuss price

Betty Hignite higniteb@suddenlink.net or 936-645-2014

For sale: Used beekeeping equipment in Lufkin – a Little Wonder 4-frame manual-turn honey extractor (\$350.00 cash), an electric 4-frame honey extractor (\$450.00 cash), and a solar wax melter with stand (\$250.00 cash). Contact Karl Lemke 936-875-4870 sslemke@consolidated.net

Wanted: Jesus Vasquez would like to buy several medium surplus honey supers. 409-594-4251 (cell)

Ongoing bulk white granulated sugar source in Tyler – approx 35 cents/lb by the 55-gallon drum or smaller portions to your container. Les Jeske 903-561-2085 PM 4011 Birdwell Drive, Tyler 75703.

What's Buzzing

10/8 – **20th Annual Field Day at USDA Honey Bee Lab** in Baton Rouge, LA. Gates open at 9:30am; activities from 10am to 3:30pm. Nonrefundable pre-registration fee of \$30 required for attendees age 12+. Pre-register by Sept 30. Fee increases to \$40 on Oct 1. The registration fee covers expenses including coffee, pastries, and catered lunch. The Field Day will include courses for beginners and more experienced beekeepers as well as workshops for those interested in a variety of topics. For info, Dr. Lanie Bourgeois 225-767-9299, Sandra Hineman 225-767-9280, or Joe Sanroma 318-346-2805. For questions regarding online registration, David Ferguson 225-726-1664 or Robert Taylor 985-969-4647. <http://www.labeekeepers.org/>

11/3-5 – **2016 Texas Beekeepers Association Annual Conference** in Belton, TX. See website for links to Convention Program schedule, Speakers Bios, Honey Contest and Photo Contest rules and cash prizes, Registration and Tickets by email, and Hotel discount (reserve before 10/17 for TBA Annual Convention rate). Tickets may be purchased by the Day event, or for the Full Annual Convention admission. <http://texasbeekeepers.org/annual-convention-2016/>

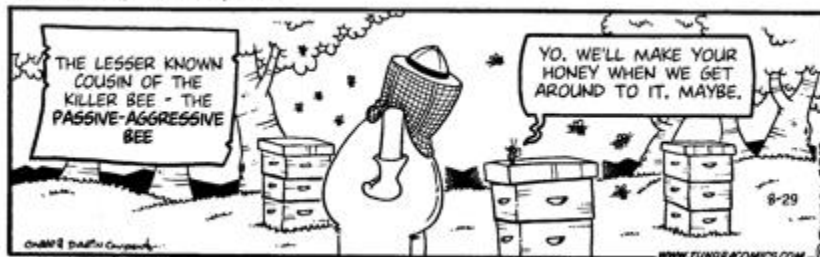
11/3 – **Texas Master Beekeeping exams** in Belton. Apprentice level at 8am, Advanced at 1pm. Register online by 10/27. See website for more info. <http://masterbeekeeper.tamu.edu/>

Glyphosate found in US honey

The FDA routinely tests foods for residues of commonly used pesticides but not glyphosate, the key ingredient in the herbicide Roundup. (Apparently, they haven't tested for glyphosate residues for decades.) Glyphosate was determined to be a probable human carcinogen by World Health Organization cancer experts in 2015. The look for glyphosate this year came about after the FDA was criticized by the US Government Accountability Office in 2014 for failing to test for it. All of the honey samples tested this year contained glyphosate residues, some double the limit allowed in the European Union; there's no legal tolerance level in the US. Glyphosate isn't used in the production of honey, but there's no way to prevent honey bees from foraging crops located within a few miles of its use.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/carey-gillam/fda-finds-monsantos-weed_b_12008680.html

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



Bee expert receives Golden Goose Award for “honey bee algorithm.” Excerpts from the article:

A system described by Cornell bee expert Thomas Seeley for how foraging bees in a honeybee colony distribute themselves among flower patches has been adapted and applied to the \$50 billion web hosting industry.

“The Golden Goose Award highlights federally funded basic research that yields seemingly unrelated results and ideas that are game-changing for society,” said Cornell Interim President Hunter Rawlings.

The research began in the 1980s when Seeley, funded by the National Science Foundation, investigated how a bee colony distributes its foragers among flower patches to maximize efficiency.

Nakrani and Tovey (engineers with whom Seeley will share the award) created the “honeybee algorithm” to help web hosting companies effectively allocate servers in the face of huge, unpredictable fluctuations in internet traffic and varying fees for services provided. To maximize profit, companies must keep their server computers busy at high-fee, high-demand websites as fees and demand fluctuate. Borrowing from the bee’s waggle dance in a hive, Nakrani and Tovey programmed an internal automated advertisement board that communicated with servers about traffic needs of different websites. When websites (flower patches) were in high demand and offered higher pay (nectar), those ads (waggle dances) were more frequent and lasted longer, thereby recruiting more servers (worker bees). Conversely, as demand and fees declined, so did the number and length of the ads. The system could be applied to optimizing high-network demand, energy use or price, for example.

<http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2016/09/golden-goose-award-honors-bee-experts-impact-computing>

More info about can be found at <http://www.goldengooseaward.org/awardees/honey-bee-algorithm>

From the Hexagonal Office

by Mike Bordelon

Bees are pollinating weeds at this time. If the blossoms offer a beneficial reward, bees will visit plants that are deemed “weeds” by human standards. Even if they try, beekeepers cannot prevent bees from visiting plants we call “weeds.” Many of these plants are excellent honey producers and may even have some beneficial attributes, but they, nonetheless, also have characteristics that are highly undesirable. Spirited discussions have sometimes occurred when various honey plant lists present flowering dates and plant attributes of undesirable plants. Bees and beekeepers may at times profit from the honey crops; these plants should never be propagated and dispersed.

Bee Aware for October

Our bees are in for a good fall. Fall plants, including weeds, are in bloom with the promise of a strong nectar and pollen flow. This is the time for bees to fill their stores for the winter. By the end of October, they should have at least 8 to 10 frames of honey as food for the winter. Even with a good supply of stores, bees will on occasion ignore a frame of honey and starve during the winter months.

Comb-Grown Goodness

Honey Whole Wheat Pumpkin Bread

<http://cookieandkate.com/2011/whole-wheat-pumpkin-bread/>

⅓ cup melted coconut oil or extra-virgin olive oil
½ cup honey
2 eggs
¼ cup milk
1 cup pumpkin purée
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon cinnamon, plus more to swirl on top
½ teaspoon ginger
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¼ teaspoon allspice or cloves
1¾ cups whole wheat pastry flour or regular whole wheat flour
⅓ to ½ cup rinsed millet, optional
turbinado (raw) sugar for sprinkling on top, optional



Preheat oven to 325° and grease a 9x5-inch loaf pan. In a large bowl, beat oil and honey together. Add eggs, and beat well. Stir in milk, pumpkin purée, and vanilla, then the salt, baking soda, and spices. Stir in flour, just until combined. If you're adding millet, stir that in as well. Spread batter into the greased loaf pan. Sprinkle with cinnamon, and swirl with the tip of a table knife for a pretty marbled effect. Sprinkle a big pinch of turbinado sugar on top for a light, sweet crunch. Bake for 55 to 65 min., or until a toothpick comes out clean. Let the bread cool in the loaf pan for 5 minutes, then transfer it to a wire rack to cool for 30 minutes before slicing.

Simple Almond Flour Muffins (Gluten Free)

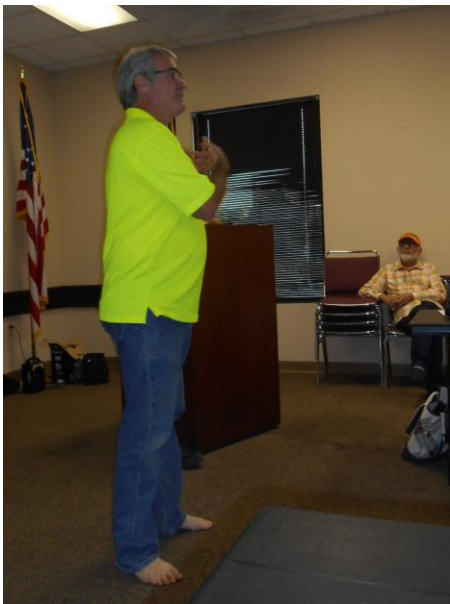
<http://heavenlyhomemakers.com/simple-almond-flour-muffins>

2 cups almond flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/8 teaspoon sea salt
4 eggs
1/2 cup melted butter
1/3 cup honey
1/4 cup water
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract



Mix together almond flour, baking powder, and sea salt. Add eggs, melted butter, honey, water, and vanilla and whisk until smooth. Spoon batter into 12-15 paper-lined muffin cups. Bake in a 350° oven for about 20 minutes or until muffins are golden brown.

Editor's note: Several people have expressed interest in gluten-free recipes, so I'll be including some now and then.



Brian Muldrow (sans shoes) spoke about natural beekeeping at our September meeting. Youth Program participant Levi Wilson, with father Tim, reported on his hive. Jesse Payne drew names for door prizes. Robert Jones won a pot of mums. Michelle Martin spoke about making soap and candles at the Texas Extension Education Association convention. Chris Morgan removed bees from a house. Bees in Mike Bordelon's long hive.

Pictures submitted by Linda Bordelon, Scott Martin, Chris Morgan, and Rachel Payne.





Top: Setting up PBA educational booth, Angelina Co. Master Gardeners Fall Native Plant Sale and curious children observing honey bees.

Middle and bottom: Marie Kocyan and Rachel Payne talking about beekeeping and honey bee pollination with two observation hives, Nacogdoches Farm Bureau Ag Day.

Photos submitted by Marie Kocyan and Rachel Payne.