



# Caswell County Beekeepers Association

June 2018

## Officers

- President  
Robert Neal
- Vice President  
Phil Barfield
- 1<sup>st</sup> year Director  
Scott Oakley
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year Director  
Katie Newton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year Director  
Larry Hupp
- Secretary/Treasurer  
Nina Dabbs
- Program Chair  
[vacant]

## NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 28 @  
7:00pm



To all you drones out there, *Happy Father's Day!*



## Next Meeting:

Thursday, **June 28** @ 7:00pm. Come meet and talk bees and beekeeping with fellow beekeepers.

## News:

**Beetle Banisher.** A new, experimental cover lets in only red light, and keeps small hive beetles out. The cover is a transparent, red piece of acrylic shaped like a lid. It fits over a hive, which almost looks like a small set of drawers. As sunlight shines through the acrylic, it creates red light inside the hive that disturbs small hive beetles and deters them away. Since bees see the color red as black, the red light doesn't bother them. The cover is currently being sold by [Superior Hive Solutions](#) for \$65. [source: [Bee Culture](#)]

**Monsanto.** Bayer, the German pharmaceutical giant and pesticide powerhouse, announced in 2016 it would be buying Monsanto in an all-cash deal for more than \$60 billion. Now, as the merger approaches, Bayer has confirmed what many suspected: In the merger, the politically charged name "Monsanto" will be disappearing. The combined company will be known simply as Bayer, while product names will remain the same. [source: [NPR](#)]

## Events:

### **June 18-24 – National Pollinator Week**

**June 23 - Heritage Festival.** The Caswell County Historical Association will hold its 6th Annual Heritage Festival on Saturday, **June 23** from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Step back in time with the Caswell County Historical Association's Heritage Festival! Several historic buildings will be open and available to walk through. CCBA will have a booth at the event and is seeking volunteers to help.

**June 23 – Bee Jubilee.** The Granville County Beekeepers Association invites you to the [3rd Annual Bee Jubilee](#) on **June 23** at the [Granville Expo Center](#) (4185 US Hwy 15 South in Oxford). Home grown, handmade, local, and of course bee, agriculture and nature too! The Bee Jubilee is a day-long event, filled with bee and pollinator-related speakers and demonstrations, local arts and handmade crafts, children's activities, a silent auction, honey, North Carolina grown produce and more! They are seeking vendors, speakers, demonstrations, and sponsors.

**July 19, 20, and 21 – NCSBA Summer Meeting.** The meeting will be held at Blue Ridge Community College which is located near Flat Rock, NC. Speakers will include: noted author and researcher, Dr. Tom Seeley of Cornell University; the President of the American Apitherapy Society, Fredrique Keller; NCSU researcher and North Carolina State Cooperative Extension Apiculturist, Dr. David Tarpy; and Phil Craft, the author of the "Ask Phil" column which appears in Bee Culture magazine. There will be expanded outdoor programs in the green spaces of the campus. Visit <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org> for complete information. Nearby hotel space is in high demand during the summer so make your reservations early.



We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00pm (except November and December) in the basement of the Agriculture Building next to the Historic Courthouse in downtown Yanceyville, NC

If you or someone you know would like to receive the monthly newsletter via e-mail, or you have questions, comments, suggestions, photographs etc. that you would like to see published, please send an email to [ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org](mailto:ccba@caswellcountybeekeepers.org)

### In the bee yard:

- Spring nectar flow is over. Your bees will be working hard to reduce the water content of the honey and cap the cells with wax. Afterwards, you can extract the honey from your honey supers while leaving enough for them in their hive bodies.
- If you are harvesting honey, put your extracted ("wet") supers back on your hives late in the day to prevent or limit robbing.
- Keep grass and brush cut/trimmed around your hives.
- Continue measures to control small hive beetle population (maintain hive strength, reduce excess space, use beetle traps, squish)
- Hive population will peak late June- early July and then begin to decline.
- Prop up the outer cover to improve airflow during hot weather. Good air circulation improves both honey production and hive health.
- Ensure there is a constant supply of water nearby for your bees.
- Feed any new splits, fresh caught swarms, new nucs, and light hives. Make sugar syrup in a 1:1 ratio (5 lbs. sugar to 10 cups water) at this time of year.

**Brushy Mountain Field Day** Join Brushy Mountain Bee Farm in Moravian Falls, NC for a full day (9:00AM - 5:00PM) of beekeeping seminars and hands-on workshops on Saturday, **June 23<sup>rd</sup>**, that bring together some of the best and brightest beekeepers and honey bee researchers throughout the nation. Whether you're an experienced beekeeper, a new-bee or someone who has always been intrigued by beekeeping, there will be something new and exciting for everyone. Tickets include full access to the event, refreshments & catered lunch. Tickets must be purchased in advance to guarantee catered lunch. See [brushymountainbeefarm.com](http://brushymountainbeefarm.com) for details.

**Almonds** More orchards and more bees means more almonds. According to the NASS 2018 Almond Subjective Forecast issued in May, California almond orchards are expected to produce 2.30 billion pounds of nuts this year, up 1.3% from last year's 2.27 billion-pound crop. This forecast is based on opinions of selected growers on how good production will be this year. A second, objective report based on actual almond counts is being compiled and will be released in July. [source: [Bee Culture](#)]

**EAS 2018** The Eastern Apiculture Society will deliver another amazing Honey Bee Conference, **August 13-17**, all under one roof at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA. The week long event will offer a 2 day short course on beekeeping (beginning and intermediate classes and advanced workshops) and a 3 day conference. See [easternapiculture.org](http://easternapiculture.org) for details.

**Robot bees** Walmart filed a patent in March for autonomous robot bees that can pollinate like their real insect counterparts. Tiny cameras on the robots — also called pollination drones — not only detect and spot the locations of the crops that need pollinating, but the sensitive sensors on the drones will assure that successful pollination occurs. [source: [Bee Culture](#)]

**VSBA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** The Virginia State Beekeepers Association will hold their Spring meeting on their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, **June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>** at Roanoke College in Salem, VA. See [virginiabeekeepers.org](http://virginiabeekeepers.org) for more information.