



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

September 2017

Officers

- President
Robert Neal
- Vice President
Maureen Jarrell
- 1st Director
Katie Newton
- 2nd Director
Larry Hupp
- 3rd Director
Bethanie Hannah
- Secretary/Treasurer
Nina Dabbs
- Program Chair
Phil Barfield

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, Sep 28 @
7:00pm

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Thursday, September 28, 2017 @ 7:00pm. Robert Neal will be our speaker. His topic will be "**Healthy bees are happy bees – Fall management, preparing for Winter**".

Past Meeting:

In our August meeting, we discussed the small hive beetle. Phil Barfield presented "**The armored intruder – small hive beetles**".

CCBA Booth @ Bright Leaf Hoedown:

Our booth this past Saturday was a success! Our presence was recognized throughout as kids and adults buzzed around the Hoedown with bees painted on their face and sporting bee antenna. The observation hive was a big hit and allowed our volunteers to engage visitors and educate the public about honey bees and beekeeping. Several visitors are interested in becoming beekeepers and have signed up for our course beginning in January. Our club made a positive impact on our community. More photos will be posted on our Facebook page.



Events:

NC State Fair. This year, the [NC State Fair](#) will be held from October 12th to the 22nd in Raleigh. Bee & honey exhibits will be located in the Expo Center. NCSBA is looking for volunteers to help set up and work their honey booth to sell honey during the Fair. Click [<here>](#) for more information and to sign up. The NC apiary inspectors are also looking for volunteers to man their bee information booth (1 times slot still available). Click [<here>](#) to sign up.

Michael Bush Apalooza (rescheduled) [NC BETI](#) has rescheduled an all day seminar event with [Michael Bush](#), organic beekeeper, author, and presenter at the [Johnston County Agriculture Center Auditorium](#) in Smithfield, NC from next month to February 28, 2018 from 9 AM – 5:30 PM. Click [<here>](#) for more information and to purchase tickets (\$40).

If you want to attend a Michael Bush appearance earlier, The [Toe Cane Beekeepers Association](#) will host Michael Bush for a two-hour presentation on Saturday, September 30 from 1 to 3PM at the [Burnsville Town Center](#) in Burnsville, NC. Admission is **FREE**. Click [<here>](#) for more information. Plan to check out the Old Timey Festival happening on Main Street before or after.

[Dixie Classic Fair.](#) Sept 28 through Oct 8, Winston-Salem fairgrounds. Visit the Bees and Honey competition.





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

In the bee yard:

- The queen's egg laying will slow this month and hive population will begin to drop – especially drones.
- Some areas may be experiencing a fall honey flow now. Sunshine with an occasional rain and cool nights helps the nectar to flow in flowering plants such as the goldenrod and aster. This is a great time for your bees to build up their winter stores. Keep a check on hive weight.
- If you are not experiencing a fall flow and your hives are light, feed sugar syrup inside the hive in a 2:1 ratio (5 lbs. sugar to 5 cups water) to ensure hives have adequate winter stores. Each gallon of syrup fed to the bees increases their reserves by about seven pounds. Do not use entrance feeders at this time of year due to potential robbing.
- Reduce entrances down to a small opening (3/4") to help the colony guard against robbing. The reducer cleat should be placed with the entrance up rather than down to prevent blockage by dead bees or debris during winter.
- If you use multiple deep or medium hive bodies for your brood chambers, rotate them, if needed, to place the brood on the bottom and honey stores on the top. Bees tend to move up in the hive during winter.
- Remove queen excluders between the colony and its winter stores.
- Only strong colonies should be overwintered. If you are going to combine weak colonies with strong colonies, do it now to allow time for the bees to arrange their brood nest and honey stores before winter.

2017 Beehive Grant

The North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund plans to provide money in 2018 to selected NCSBA Certified Beekeepers who purchase new hive materials.

- \$200/hive up to \$2,400 total awarded to each grantee from February 1 to June 30, 2018 in 2018 until the fund is depleted.
- Go to <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/north-carolina-beehive-grant-fund> for details.
- To be considered for the grant money, you must apply beginning in October.
- The website application will be available starting on October 16th, 2017 and close on December 15th. Their website is <http://www.ncadfp.org/index.htm>.

If you are a beekeeper with at least 4 months experience, there still may be enough time to take the written and practical exams to become a NCSBA Certified Beekeeper and be eligible for the grant. Information on becoming a certified beekeeper is located at <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/master-beekeeper-program/i-want-to-be-a-master-beekeeper>. You will need your certificate to apply for the grant.

September is National Honey Month. We salute the humble honey bee who pollinates much of our nation's agricultural crops.