



# Caswell County Beekeepers Association

January 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, Jan 25 @  
7:00pm

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Thursday, January 25, 2018 @ 7:00pm. Our topic will be about pests to beekeeping.

## Calendar in 2018:

CCBA officers and members met last month and developed a list of meeting topics, proposed speakers, workshops, and events for 2018. The results were:

### Monthly meetings:

Jan 25	Pests
Feb 22	Wild hives and moving bees
Mar 22	Splits and swarms
Apr 26	Bee behavior
May 24	Diseases
Jun 28	Marketing
Jul 26	Treatments
Aug 23	Seasonal management
Sep 27	Feeding
Oct 25	Cooking with honey and mead

### Workshops:

Sugar shake demonstration  
Wooden ware  
Soap, lip balm, beeswax products

### Outings

Starrlight Meadery trip  
Bayer tour

## Beekeeping course:

Our CCBA beginning beekeeping course will start next Wednesday evening (Jan 10). We have a limited number of seats left in the class. The cost is \$70.00 which includes instruction, book, binder, and handouts and \$35.00 for each additional accompanying family member or friend who will be sharing the book and materials. For more information, registration, and list of topics go to our website at <http://caswellcountybeekeepers.org/bee-school/>.

## 2018 CCBA and NCSBA Membership Dues

It's time to renew your membership to the Caswell County Beekeepers Association. Memberships **expired** on December 31. Membership dues are \$10 for 2018. The CCBA membership form can be found on our website at <http://caswellcountybeekeepers.org/membership/>. You can either mail in your dues or print out the form and bring it with you to our January meeting. [Note: Students in our beginning beekeeping course receive a complimentary CCBA membership for 2018]

CCBA members are also encouraged to join the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association (NCSBA). Dues are \$15. You can join NCSBA online at <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org/join-or-renew-your-membership-to-the-ncsba>.





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:

- Ensure proper ventilation by propping up the outer telescoping top cover slightly to allow moisture vapor to escape the colony. Dripping condensation inside the hive during cool weather can dampen and kill bees.
- Provide wind blocks or breaks for your hives to protect against brutal winter winds.
- Check weights of your hives by tilting from the rear. If light, consider feeding dry sugar, sugar candy, or fondant.
- If the cluster is at the top of the hive, then the bees may have run out of stored food and you should begin emergency feeding with dry sugar, candy or fondant just above the cluster.
- Conduct visual inspections of your bee yard to insure debris is not obstructing the hive entrances and tops are secured (normally weighted down with a rock)
- Ensure your entrance reducer is at its smallest setting (about 3/4" wide) to help the bees guard against robbing and mice intrusion.
- Visually inspect your stored comb for wax moth damage.
- Inspect, repair, or replace stored hive equipment.
- Determine what equipment you will need this year. Order and receive before spring so not to be disappointed by sold-out suppliers.
- Place your order with suppliers early if you are considering increasing your number of hives in the spring with nucleus (nuc) colonies or package bees.
- Increase your knowledge over the winter by subscribing to and reading bee magazines ([Bee Culture](#), [American Bee Journal](#)), following or joining forums and blogs ([Beesource](#), [ScientificBeekeeping](#)), subscribing to newsletters and lists ([ABJ Extra](#), [Catch the Buzz](#), [Bee Buzz](#), [Bailey Bee](#), [OCBA](#), [PCBA](#)), and joining or renewing your club memberships ([CCBA](#), [NCSBA](#))

### NCSBA Spring Conference

Join the beekeepers of the NCSBA down east in the historic district of New Bern for a three day meeting, **March 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>**, that features renowned speakers, educational workshops, major vendors of the region and much more. See the NCSBA's website at <https://www.ncbeekeepers.org> for online registration, cost, and information.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Liz Freudenberger on becoming a [NCSBA Certified Beekeeper!](#) She passed both the written and practical exams this past November and received her certificate in December from the NCSBA Master Beekeeper Program.

### Michael Bush Apalooza

[NC BETI](#) is hosting an all day seminar event with [Michael Bush](#), organic beekeeper, author, and presenter at the [Johnston County Agriculture Center Auditorium](#) in Smithfield, NC next month, February 24, 2018, from 9 AM – 5:30 PM. Click [<HERE>](#) for more information and to purchase tickets (\$40 each).