



Caswell County Beekeepers Association

May 2018

Officers

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

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 24 @
7:00pm

Next Meeting:

Thursday, **May 24** @ 7:00pm. NC State Apiary Inspector **Will Hicks** will be our guest speaker and will talk to us about **bee diseases**.

Events:

May 10 - Pollinator Garden Tours. Thursday **May 10** at 10:00 am Chatham County Agriculture Agent Debbie Roos will be giving a tour of Chatham County Cooperative Extension's Pollinator Paradise Demonstration Garden at Chatham Mills in Pittsboro. The garden was designed to provide forage habitat for pollinators such as honey bees, native bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other beneficial insects. It features over 210 unique species of plants, 85% of which are native to North Carolina. These plants were all procured from local nurseries! No registration is required...just meet on the lawn in front of Chatham Marketplace at 10:00 am, rain or shine! The garden is looking great and has 30 different species in bloom this week. Visit the pollinator garden website at www.carolinapollinatorgarden.org! You can view photos of the garden on Extension's Growing Small Farms website. The garden is at 480 Hillsboro St. Pittsboro, NC 27312. The "What's in Bloom" section of the garden website features snapshots of the garden as well as photos of all the plants currently in bloom.

May 12 - Birds, Blooms, Bees and Butterflies Have you heard the buzz about these four b's? Learn more about our feathered friends, pollinators, pretty petals and more. Learn about migratory birds and how you can create gardens and habitats in your own backyard that bring the wings! Start by taking home a piece of the [North Carolina Zoo](#) by visiting their annual plant sale (8 am-4 pm) in near North America Admissions. Also, bring mom and enjoy a Zoo admission discount for Mom on Mother's Day (Sunday only). All activities are from 10 am -2 pm on **May 12**, excluding the plant sale, and are included in general admission. No admission is required to visit the plant sale only.

May 19 - Pollinator Day Celebration. Come join the Chatham County Center of North Carolina Cooperative Extension and the Chatham County Beekeepers' Association for their 11th Annual Pollinator Day Celebration on Saturday, **May 19**, from 9:00 am til 1:00 pm on The Lawn at Chatham Mills in Pittsboro, NC. The purpose of Pollinator Day is to raise public awareness of the importance of the bees and other pollinators that are needed to produce 80 percent of our flowering plants and one third of our human food crops. All Pollinator Day activities are free and open to the public. This event will be held rain or shine. Address for the event: 480 Hillsboro St. Pittsboro, NC 27312.

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.





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



Tulip Poplar Bloom

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:

- Nectar flow is happening now. Your supers should be on your strong, full size colonies. If you are experiencing a strong nectar flow in your area and your top super is about 2/3rd full (6 to 7 frames out of a ten frame super), it's time to add another super. You can either place it on top or raise the partial filled super and place underneath. There is a small benefit of placing it underneath to collect more honey, but it may be outweighed by physically manipulating supers if you have more than a couple hives.
- If you have purchased packaged bees or nucs, you will want to allow them to build comb, fill out a full size hive body, and grow their colony. You will most likely not be able to harvest excess honey from them this year.
- Keep grass and brush cut/trimmed around your hives.
- Prop up the outer cover to improve airflow during hot weather. Good air circulation improves both honey production and hive health.
- Remove the entrance reducers from your strong hives during the nectar flow.
- Feed any new splits, fresh caught swarms, new nucs, and light hives, especially if weather inhibits foraging. Make sugar syrup in a 1:1 ratio (5 lbs. sugar to 10 cups water) at this time of year. Note: If they are foraging, they may prefer nectar during the nectar flow, so they may not consume the sugar water as readily.

NCSBA Summer Meeting

The information for the summer meeting is now posted on the NCSBA website and registration is open. The event will be held on **July 19, 20, and 21** at Blue Ridge Community College which is located near Flat Rock and Asheville, NC. Our 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 Tapy; 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.

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.

Wolfpack Waggle. Greetings from the NC State Apiculture Program! You can now access our [latest issue](#) of the their program's newsletter, the Wolfpack's Waggle, which can also be found as usual through:

<https://entomology.ces.ncsu.edu/apiculture/wolfpacks-waggle-newsletter/>