

Joco Beekeepers

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the
Johnston County Beekeepers Association



JOHNSTON COUNTY
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION

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- President** Al Hildreth
- Vice President** Barney Biles
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- Treasurer** Lisa Velasquez
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- 1st Director** Janice Turrisi
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- 3rd Director** Ken Gossett
- Extension Agent** Brandon Parker
- Webmaster/Social Media** Adam Pendergrass

Meeting Information & Agenda

[May Markoff – Phase 2: Did we get honey](#)

May will discuss her second phase with her Flow Hive.


Businesses and Services

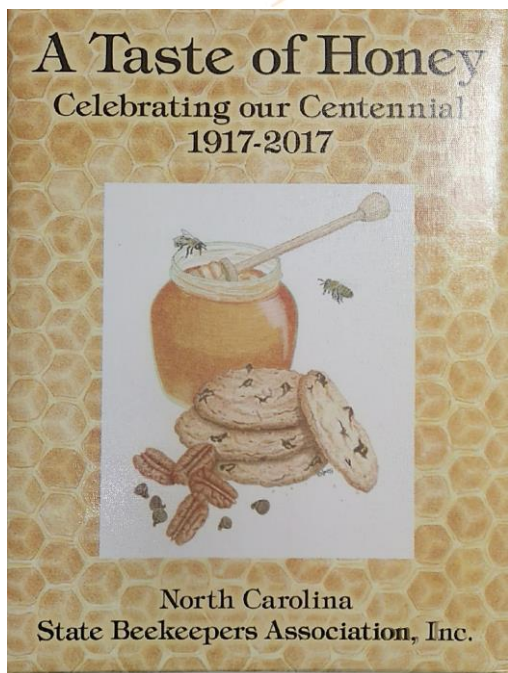
Businesses and Services offered by JCBA are listed on our website at [\(click here\)](#)

NC State Beekeepers Association Centennial Cookbooks are here!

Our club pre-purchased 20 books for club member to purchase. We had 8 people sign up before the purchase, but we believe more members will want a 100th Anniversary Cookbook. They are \$20 each and the profits from the book help fund the planned NC State Apiary Lab in Raleigh. It's a state of the art facility that is well-needed by the school.

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Have a story? Would you like to be featured in the newsletter?

Please submit your request to Newsletter@jacobee.org

Native Plants for Bees!

Link for native plants good for bees [\(click here\)](#)

Like us on social media 

This Month's Bee Tips!

From: Nancy Ruppert, Apiary Inspector, NCDA & CS

August

- ☑ If not in area of significant cotton bloom, harvest remaining desired honey by mid-month to keep bees from eating it.
- ☑ Pest control is critical this month: hive beetle populations are peaking, varroa mites are nearing their peak populations, some factors increase risk of damage from wax moth larvae, and yellow jackets/hornets tend to be plentiful.
- ☑ Careful assessment of queen performance---this month is usually last chance to replace queens until the following spring. Can still make late-season splits early in August if using mated queens.
- ☑ Keep water available for bees constantly.
- ☑ Be prepared for "badly behaving bees": because nectar flow is so scarce, bees may become more defensive and more likely to rob other hives—install robbing screens or entrance reducers (but be aware of need for ventilation), and keep hive inspections as brief as possible.
- ☑ Completing honey harvest + decrease in queen's egg-laying = extra empty supers of drawn comb; store them using method that prevents damage from wax moth larvae (freezing, keeping open to light/ventilation, using paradichlorobenzene [PDB] crystals).

NC State Fair Bees & Honey Competition

The 2017 State Fair runs from Oct. 12 – 22. They are accepting entries for the competition online until 11:59 on September 15th. If you want to enter by paper, it must be postmarked by 5 pm or hand-delivered by 4 pm on September 15th. Here is a link to register online as well as read the rules:

<http://www.ncstatefair.org/2017/Competitions/Entering/BeeandHoneyCompetition.html>

JCBA has been invited to put up a booth for competition. Please come to our meeting with some ideas about a theme. It shows our support of the NCDA and NCSU Apiculture folks.

Honey bee pollinator stamps released Aug 3rd

Thanks to member Sharon Noles for the tip! The U.S. Postal Service® pays tribute to the beauty and importance of

pollinators with stamps depicting two of our continent's most iconic, the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) and the western honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), each shown industriously pollinating a variety of plants native to North America. ([click here](#))

North American Mite-A-Thon will take place on September 16, 2017 and all beekeepers are invited to help!

This will be the first annual Mite-a-thon. Sponsored by the Pollinator Partnership, and many other honey bee-dependent companies, organizations, and universities. This is an effort to collect information from beekeepers during the timeframe September 9 through September 16th. By participating, you will be helping the study to determine how varroa populations are distributed through north America. At the same time, you should be doing a fall mite count to determine if treatment is necessary. This way, you get two tasks done at once.

For more information visit:

<http://www.pollinator.org/miteathon>

For information on methods to check mite count:

<http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

2017 Solar Eclipse

I'm sure you have heard by now but there will be a solar eclipse on Monday! I'm left wondering how the bees and other wildlife will react to the eclipse. What do you think will happen? Take pictures of your hives and observe how they are reacting. P.S. **Please DON'T BURN YOUR EYES OUT!**

On Monday, August 21, 2017, all North America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. The eclipse's path will stretch from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. Observers outside this path will still see a partial solar eclipse. NASA will cover the eclipse live from coast to coast, beginning at noon EDT. Get more details on [NASA's Eclipse Site](#).