



MEETING!!



Monday
March 16th
7:00 pm

Artificial Swarming Technique
Keeping your bees at home!

Speaker:
Kim Underhill
Big Oak Bee Farm

JCBA Officers 2015

President – Chip Braswell 919-810-7547 barbermillbees@hotmail.com
Vice-President – Ray Hunt 919-585-5775 shadwin@earthlink.net
Secretary – Jordan Myers 828-310-0698 jordanblaine.myers@gmail.com
Treasurer – Chris Stark 919-331-9078 cfs@rogersstark.com
Program Chair – Kim Underhill 919-272-4450 bigoakbeefarm@gmail.com
Executive Board (Year 3) Jim Dempster 919-257-3289 jrdempster@hotmail.com
Executive Board (Year 2) Ronnie Fish 919-669-9892 ronniefish@gmail.com
Executive Board (Year 1) Kathy Sommese 919-395-6796
beetlebug1968@gmail.com
Web Master – Charles Kneeshaw 919-424-7060 cbkneeshaw@gmail.com
Public Relations – Billy Wiggs

**If you have not already done so, please do!
Thank you!**



A printable [membership form](http://www.jocobee.org/membership/) (PDF) to join the Johnston County Beekeeper's Association can be located on our website. Copy and paste: <http://www.jocobee.org/membership/>

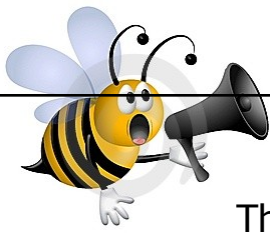
Please print out the form and bring it to our next meeting along with your check made out to: Johnston County Beekeepers.

Or you can mail your completed form to:
Johnston County Beekeepers
c/o Chris Stark
100 N. Sunset Ridge Drive
Willow Spring, NC 27592

Membership dues:

Individual memberships—\$10.00

Family memberships—\$15.00—Family members to be included



What you need to know

The Johnston County Beekeeper's Association meets on the
third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm
at the Johnston County Agricultural Center
2736 NC 210 Hwy.
Smithfield, NC.

Website: www.jacobee.org

Our website is a great resource for information, upcoming events and beekeeping help.

Johnston County Beekeeper's 2015 Program Agenda

(programs/speakers may be subject to change)

March 16th: Artificial Swarming Techniques: Keeping your bees at home: Kim Underhill

April 20th: TBD

May 18th: Will Hicks – Apiary Inspection

June 15th: Dr. Tarpy– IMPORTANT—Webinar on Pesticide Re-labeling

July 17th: FRIDAY: Tour de Hive: Field Trip to Bayer Bee Care in Clayton, NC

August 17th: Mite Treatments up close and personal

Sept 21st : Master Beekeeper Charles Heatherly: Overwintering Hives

Oct 19th: TBD

Nov: 16th: Al Hildreth Making Mead—The nectar of the gods.

Dec 21st: Annual Christmas Banquet



Big Oak Bee Farm is now taking orders for spring packages.

Contact: Tom & Kim Underhill for details
919-272-4450

What's the Buzz?

News from Down Under, Mate Flow Hive

Now harvesting honey is easier on the beekeeper and so much easier on the bees. Flow is a revolutionary beehive invention, allowing you to harvest honey without opening the hive and with minimal disturbance to the bees. Of course, there is much more to beekeeping than harvesting honey.

It's the beekeepers dream...Turn the tap and watch as pure, fresh, clean honey flows right out of the hive and into your jar. No mess, no fuss, no expensive processing equipment and without disturbing the bees.

Read More about it and decide for yourself at:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/flow-hive-honey-on-tap-directly-from-your-beehive>

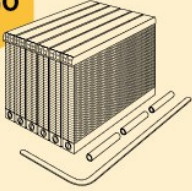


FLOWTM FULL

FOR 8 FRAME LANGSTROTH HIVE

↓

\$350

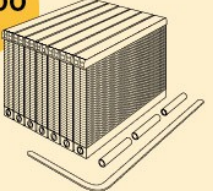


**6 FLOWTM FRAMES
NO BOX**

FOR 10 FRAME LANGSTROTH HIVE

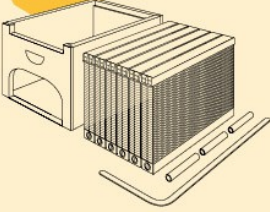
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\$400



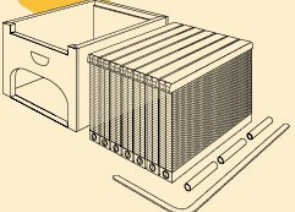
**7 FLOWTM FRAMES
NO BOX**

\$410



**6 FLOWTM FRAMES
WITH FLOWTM BOX**
Box comes flat packed

\$460



**7 FLOWTM FRAMES
WITH FLOWTM BOX**
Box comes flat packed

All options include:

- 3 x tubes to drain 3 frames at a time
- 1 x stainless steel 'key' tool to open Flow frames

Does not include:

- bees
- brood box

No super box is supplied unless you choose the "with box" option.

We do provide a template for the simple modification (only 2 cuts) required to standard boxes.

Mark Your Calendar

Hello Johnston County Beekeepers!

Would JCBA be interested in setting up an educational table/tent at our annual open house event, Howell Woodstock? I have some really great organizations coming out to offer a variety of educational booths, and would love it if I could get someone out to talk about bee-keeping! The date is April 18th, from 1pm-6pm.

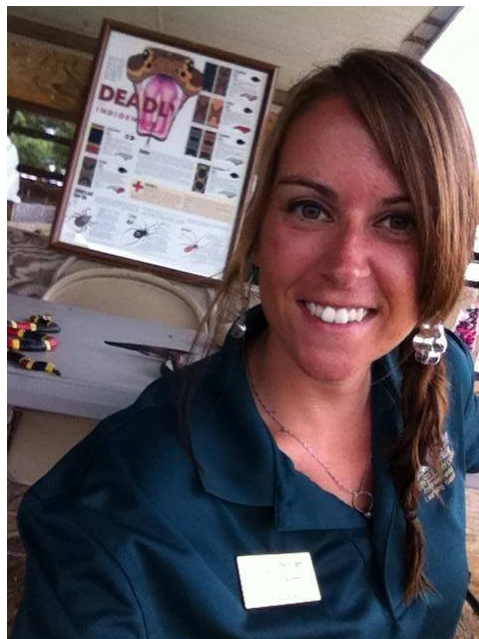
Thanks,

Brittany G. Brenner

Museum Caretaker- Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center

bgbrenner@johnstoncc.edu

[\(919\) 938-0115 ext. 225](tel:(919)938-0115)



Howell Woods is a 2,900 acre wildlife learning center focusing on education, recreation and conservation, and is a branch of Johnston Community College. We are a short 10 minutes from highway 95, and 5 miles from Bentonville Battlegrounds. At our main building, you will find our offices, classroom and reptile room where we exhibit native species of snakes, turtles, frogs and lizards. We hold short Saturday morning programs in our classroom bi-weekly; topics range from Soaring with Raptors to Long Leaf Pine Restoration. Right outside of our learning center you will find our raptor exhibits, where we currently have a black vulture, red-shouldered hawk, red-tailed hawks, barred owl and great horned owl on display. Around the building, you'll find a native wildflower garden, several small ponds, and the entrance to our Diversity Trail System, which spans over 300 acres.

We offer a variety of recreational activities on our property, including: hiking, biking, camping, fishing and water sports such as kayaking/canoeing. We hold hunts regularly for squirrels, hogs and deer, just to name a few. (These hunts happen far back on the property; the Diversity Trail System is always open to visitors.) We also have an orchard that we are in the process of expanding; we are hoping that honeybee's will help us to pollinate this year!

Howell Woodstock is our open house event that we hold annually. Admission is free, and we offer live music, food, children's rides and educational booths/activities. The event will begin at 1pm and vendors normally close down around 5pm. Our classroom will hold free programs on the hour, every hour from 2-7pm. Some of our educational booths will include: Randolph County Rattlesnake Refuge and Research Center, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (mobile aquarium), and the NC Museum of Natural Science (NC fossils). Merchant booths are available for \$25. This year we are also offering free camping and will roast marshmallows at 8pm! We expect for there to be over 1000 people in attendance this year, so it's a perfect opportunity to get information and/or goods out to the immediate public.

Hope you will be able to be part of our event!

Thank you,

Brittany G. Brenner

Museum Caretaker- Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center

bgbrenner@johnstoncc.edu

(919) 938-0115 ext. 225

Mark Your Calendar



got to be NC
FESTIVAL



★ MAY 15-17, 2015 ★



July 2015

NCSBA Summer Meeting: July 9-11th
Lake Junaluska

Conference & Retreat Center

Visit web: www.ncbeekeepers.org for more
details coming soon



In and Around the Bee Yard

This section is to highlight some considerations for your apiary this time of year. For specifics, it is suggested that you read, research, talk to other beekeepers as well as document what you do so you can refer back and decide what works best for you and your bees.

Honey Bee Activity: March (Honey Bees)

Queen: Increases her rate of egg laying with the increase in day length

Workers: Flying more & bringing in a fair amount of pollen

Drones: I love my Drones! The boys are back in town

Swarming season begins!

Beekeeper Duties:

-Reversing hive bodies: This time of year in most hives the queen and bees have moved up into the second hive body, leaving the bottom box virtually empty; therefore, reversing the hive

bodies will provide more room for the queen to lay. This measure also helps reduce swarming. **Caution:** be careful not to split up clusters of brood when you do this. Two to three weeks after this reversal, it is likely that you will need to reverse them again

-Assess for pest and/or disease problems (especially Varroa mites, American foulbrood, Nosema and European foulbrood) and treat if needed.

Treatments should be completed by early April to limit risk of contaminating honey.

-Check honey stores; feed (1:1 or thinner syrup) if needed.

-Look closely at the brood pattern. Order a new queen if current one failing.

-Continue to replace a few old frames with new frames and foundation.

-Near end of the month, add at least one honey super; remove entrance reducers; equalize hives.

Beekeeper Activities:

-Pay your Club & NCSBA dues for the year

-Equipment: supers, frames, foundation should be READY NOW !

- Attend the annual NCSBA Spring Meeting: March 6-8th

-Attend Beekeeping Club Meetings

-Call your State Bee Inspector and set an appointment for later in the year for them to come out and inspect your hive WITH YOU. - Great Learning experience!

-Implement a record keeping system and keep it up to date

-Have fun & Hug your bees!

What's Blooming?

Piedmont:

Red Maple: - Feb thru mid March - **Pollen color: gray/drab green**

Sugar Maple: - Mid March thru end of March - **Pollen color: light yellow**

Dandelion: - Mid March thru Mid May - **Pollen Color: yellow/orange**

Red Dead Nettle: Dec thru March - **Pollen Color: Red**

Coastal Plains

Red Maple: - Feb thru mid March - **Pollen color: gray/green**

Sugar Maple: - Mid March thru end of March - **Pollen color: light yellow**

Dandelion: - Mid March thru Mid May - **Pollen Color: yellow/red**

Blackberry: - Early March thru Mid April - **Pollen Color: light gray**

Tree of the Month

By President, Chip Braswell

Red Maple Acer Rubrum

Red Maple is an important source of nectar and pollen for bees and the first tree to bloom in central North Carolina each year.

Generally (depending on the weather) Maple will start to bud in January and bloom in February. Some years the weather is favourable for bees to utilize this important food source, other years, such as 2014 and 2015 the weather is not so favourable and bees have limited access to Red Maple blossoms.

In the Clayton area much of the Red Maple bloom was killed by the hard freeze the second week of February and what blossoms were available the bees had limited access to due to poor weather for foraging.

Red Maple is one of the most common trees in our area. It is usually a medium-sized tree, but it can grow up to 90 feet. This tree can be found just about anywhere, including forests, stream banks, and fields. It is a pioneer tree, which means it is one of the first to take over a field. It is also often an understory tree, growing beneath larger trees.

Red Maple leaves are three-lobed, with small teeth. They are dull green on top, and pale green or whitish on the bottom. Leaves grow up to four inches long.

Red Maple flowers are reddish-orange, and droop in clusters.

Fruits are called samaras. Samaras have a red, pink, or yellow "wing." They come in pairs.





Red Maple blossom buds



**Red Maple trunk,
smooth silver bark**



Red Maple Blossom

**Red Maple Seeds,
helicopter type, eaten
by many different
animals**



Johnston County Agricultural Center
North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
2736 NC 210 Highway
Smithfield, N.C. 27577
(919)989-5380
Official Business