

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WCABA May 2025 NEWSLETTER

[www.wcaba.org](http://www.wcaba.org)

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**QUEEN CHAIR:**  
(vacant)

**WEB ADMINISTRATOR:**  
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**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:**  
Ken Browning

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:**  
Ann Bierschenk

**4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025 @ 7PM**  
**Georgetown Library - Hewitt Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)**

## PROGRAM: Never Buy Bees Again!

**SPEAKER:** Randy Oakley - Elm Mott, Texas

We have all heard that bees are in trouble. Bees are dying. Many of us have experienced it firsthand, as we lose beehives annually and are forced to buy bees in the spring.

The good news is that bees are surviving in the wild. Our local feral populations have rebounded from the onslaught of *Varroa destructor* in the early 90's. Local bees have restocked bee trees by means of their ability to divide and multiply via the "spring swarm" and are once again prolific in Central Texas. How can we easily mimic this over-coming behavior?

**Randy Oakley** will teach you how to "Never Buy Bees Again!" by establishing a spring splitting practice via the "Piggyback Split". He has taught this technique to hundreds of beekeepers over the past ten years, enabling them to "Never Buy Bees Again!"

## SPEAKER BIO:

**Randy Oakley** has grown up around bees since 1975 when his dad bought 30 beehives and started the family beekeeping business. Three generations of the Oakley's now contribute to producing local bees and beehive products at Oakley Family Apiaries. They manage 400 colonies along the I-35 corridor between Austin and Waco.

**Randy** has spent the last ten years refining his holistic beekeeping protocol, "*Lessons from the Bee Tree*", which equips aspiring beekeepers to sustainably manage from two to hundreds of beehives. More information about his beekeeper training and beehive products can be found at [www.OakleyFamilyApiaries.com](http://www.OakleyFamilyApiaries.com)



Randy Oakley

We would certainly enjoy your presence at the next meeting on May 27th (**forth** Tuesday), but if you can't, then tune in to broadcast virtually via "Zoom".

If you are planning to join from an iPhone or iPad, be sure to download this application first: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/zoom-cloud-meetings/id546505307>

We look forward to seeing you there Tuesday night @ 7PM!  
GT Library - Hewlett Rm- 402 W 8th Street Georgetown 78626

## **Topic: WCABA Member Meeting**

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82475068933?pwd=aHRiRjc3bS9kYXJGS2g5THVpOEx2UT09>

Meeting ID: 839 7875 8570. Passcode: 986569One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83978758570#,,,,\*986569# US (Houston)

+12532050468,,83978758570#,,,,\*986569# US

# Central Texas Summer Beekeeping: Stay Cool, Stay Involved, Stay Informed

## ...a note from your President

Summer is a critical—and often intense—season for beekeepers in Central Texas. Our region's unique blend of wildflowers, mesquite, and brush provides excellent forage early in the season, but as temperatures soar, nectar flows slow, and hive management becomes even more important. Whether you're just getting started or managing multiple hives, staying connected through your local beekeeping club is one of the best ways to keep your bees—and your beekeeping skills—healthy.



Shannon Montez - President

### What's Happening in the Hive?

By early summer, Central Texas colonies are in high gear. Queens are laying heavily, and bees are foraging from sunrise to sunset. This rapid growth can lead to overcrowding and swarming. Inspect your hives every 7–10 days for swarm cells, full brood boxes, or signs of congestion.

*Want to learn how to prevent swarms or make a successful split? Join us at this month's meeting—we'll have a hands-on demonstration and Q&A session.*

### Central Texas Forage Patterns

May and early June usually bring strong nectar flows from wildflowers, mesquite, and horsemint. But by late June or early July, many areas hit a nectar dearth due to heat and drought. Bees may stop foraging and start consuming stored honey.

*At our next meeting, we'll discuss what's blooming, what's drying up, and when to expect the next nectar cycle in our area.*

### Managing Heat and Hydration

Central Texas summers are hot and dry. Bees need a reliable water source—provide one nearby with floating surfaces so they can safely drink. Ventilate hives by slightly propping the lid or using screened bottom boards to help keep temperatures down.

### Join Us at the Monthly Meeting

Your local beekeeping club isn't just a resource—it's your community. Each month, we cover real-time seasonal issues, share experiences, and bring in experts who know Central Texas conditions inside and out. You'll learn practical tips you can use in your own hives right away.

Don't go it alone this summer. Come to our next meeting, stay sharp, and keep your bees thriving in the Texas heat.

*Shannon*

# The Beekeeper's Calendar

Submitted by Phil Ainslie  
Compliments of Dadant Bee Supply

The beekeeper's calendar is directly linked to the seasons. Preparing your hives for changes in temperature and shifts in the weather — before they happen — is crucial for raising healthy, strong colonies. While there are a number of variables that affect the timing of these tasks, getting a head start and preparing your equipment is always a good idea.



This beekeeper's calendar can help you plan ahead for a successful year of keeping bees, but you may need to shift the dates for your area and current weather patterns. However, no matter where you are or what the local forecast holds, knowing what you'll need for the coming months is invaluable information. Be sure to take the time to inventory your tools and equipment so you can order needed supplies before the season changes!

## The Start of the Beekeeper's Calendar

### November

For many beekeepers, November marks the end of the yearly cycle. At Dadant & Sons, we like to think of it as the beginning of the new year. With cooling temperatures, bees limit their activity and flights outside the hive become practically non-existent. This is the perfect opportunity to check on your [tools and equipment](#) so you know what items need repairing or replacing.

If you're planning on ordering packages for the spring, this a good time to place orders for [woodenware](#), too. The colder months are also a great time to build and paint new hives for future use. It's always great to have an extra hive or two on hand for capturing swarms.

### December

As winter begins to set in, most of us will be hunkered down by the fire to keep warm. Bees will be doing the same, [clustering to maintain the central part of the hive in the mid-90s](#). Just like when your mother would yell at you to shut the door during cold winter days, you need to keep the cover on the hives this time of year. Don't peek, ever!

This is a good time to brush up on your beekeeping knowledge, too. Dadant & Sons offers some wonderful [new and classic publications to help you become a better beekeeper](#).



## January

If the new year brings snow to your area, be sure to keep the entrance of your hives clear. Inside the hive, the bees will expand and contract their outer perimeter to provide adequate warmth to the cluster. During warmer periods, they will move the cluster to new areas of comb that contain honey for feeding.

The queen stays at the center of the cluster and begins laying new brood to replace bees lost during the winter. In a hive with larger pollen stores, the queen is able to get a head start on rearing more brood. If pollen stores are low, this brooding process may be pushed into late winter or even spring when fresh pollen can be gathered.

If you are looking to add hives this year, check with your [local Dadant Branch](#) about ordering package bees.

## February & March

If you're lucky, you'll get a few warm days here and there during February. If not, you may need to hold off until March to begin inspecting your hives. No matter what month it is, wait until the temperature rises to around 50 degrees and you see bees begin taking flights, but keep your hive checks brief (30 seconds or less). Remove the cover to check for sealed honey in the top bars but leave the frames where they are. If you don't see a good supply, we suggest adding [Dadant AP23 Winter Patties](#) to help supplement the colony's remaining honey stores. Continue checking on the hives on warm days and feeding them until the first bloom. You can read more about [feeding bees in early spring in our Learning Center](#) article.

NOTE: As warmer temperatures become more consistent, switch to feeding [DadantAP23 Pollen Substitute](#). This high-protein feed helps boost brood development and hive population.

## April

In most areas, April in the beekeeper's calendar means spring is finally here. As daytime temps reach the upper 50s, your bees continue to clear out the hive and begin bringing in new pollen from the first blooms while the queen is rearing brood. This is the time to begin testing and treatments for Varroa mites. Thankfully, there are a number of new options for Varroa treatments that weren't available in years past. When deciding on treatments in the spring, watch the temperature for a number of days before the first honey flow in your area. We've covered several of these treatments such as [formic acid](#), [Apiguard](#), [oxalic acid](#) and [Apivar](#) in our article, [Spring Mistakes to Avoid in Beekeeping](#).

Be sure to have plenty of spare hives and supers on hand for the upcoming season, too. If you plan on picking up package bees or catching a swarm or two, it's always best to be prepared ahead of time.

## May

By May, your mite treatments should be completed and removed from the hive before adding honey supers. You may also add queen excluders at this time, and supers can be placed on top of your brood box. Other tasks on the beekeeper's calendar include [installing package bees](#) and conducting your [first hive inspection](#) a week or so later. Make a habit of inspecting all established hives weekly.

As the queen begins laying eggs at a greater rate, hives with a larger population may prepare for swarming. By keeping an eye out for queen cells, you may be able to [tell if a swarm is in the making](#). Late May into June is a great time to [catch a swarm of bees](#), too, so be sure to have a hive ready in case you have the opportunity.

**TIP:** Joining a local beekeeping association or club is the best way to learn about the particulars of beekeeping for your region. It's one of the first things we suggest to anyone looking to become a beekeeper.

## June

The month of June on the beekeeper's calendar is a busy time for most colonies, so it's important to continue your hive checks on a weekly basis. Identify the queen, check the overall health of the hive and add honey supers as needed. Let those amazing little creatures do what they do best!

If you intend to pull honey from the hives this season, June is a good time to check on the [necessary tools for extracting](#) and [containers for storing your honey](#) harvest.

## July

While we enjoy modern amenities like air conditioning in our homes, bees aren't quite as fortunate. During July's hot and humid days, you may notice bees resting outside of the hive. Don't be alarmed, this is just their way of cooling off.

You may need to add another super to your hives at this time, although it's less likely if this is your hive's first year. Continue inspecting your hives weekly, looking for the queen and checking on the overall health of the hive. You may also wish to add an entrance reducer to limit honey robbers such as wasps.

## August

As the season starts to slow, it's important to continue weekly checks on your hives. This includes looking for robbers, identifying the queen and checking for diseases and pests. During the months of August and September on the beekeeper's calendar, colonies do the important work of building up populations to prepare for the winter, and it's a good time for you to begin winter preparations, too.

[Learn more about the importance of proper winter prep and how it begins in the summer.](#)

## September

This is one of our favorite parts of the beekeeper's calendar: It's time to harvest that sparkling liquid honey! Deciding how much honey to remove from a hive is one of the most important decisions in beekeeping. Depending on the colony size and your local winter climate, you may need to leave anywhere from 60 to 90 pounds of honey in a hive for your bees to survive through the spring. It's always best to err on the side of caution, though, as leaving more honey increases your hive's chance of survival.

After the honey harvest, it's important to continue inspecting your hives. Check and treat for mites now that supers have been pulled for human consumption. Healthy, strong hives have a greater chance of surviving harsh winters. A lack of nectar during late summer and early fall can greatly reduce a queen's egg-laying ability, so be sure you've introduced feed to your hives before temperatures start to drop.

## October

Bee activity will be at minimum as temperatures begin to drop this time of year, so feed your colonies to prepare them for the cold months ahead and install mouse guards at the hive entrances. If necessary, move the hives to a location protected from the wind and harsh winter elements, and be sure to have proper ventilation and moisture control in place.

## The Beekeeper's Calendar Starts Anew

Congratulations, you've made it through another year! Remember, this is a general guide and the exact timing of each task may differ in your region. What will always ring true, though, is that proper inspection, low mite counts and adequate feedings will help build and maintain healthy colonies.

# Practical Experiences in the Bee Yard

**MAY** is almost a repeat of April except there will be more blossoms and more nectar for foraging bees as the weather warms. Hopefully we will avoid extended stretches of rain that washes nectar out of the blossoms while the bees are confined to their hive. When the bees are confined by the weather, they probably draw comb using resources stored in the hive or perhaps they contemplate swarming. In any event, there seems to be a rash of swarms about two days after bees have been confined by several days of bad weather.



*Stanford Brantley*

In the mid-April time frame, Crimson Clover begins to bloom on highway right-of-ways though it does not turn the hayfields red until early May. Rattan Vine and Virginia Creeper begin to bloom in the woods, followed by Poison Ivy and Poison Oak. English Ivy is a prolific bloomer and can draw numerous bees if there is a good stand of the plant.

In my area of the Ark-La-Tex, before a big freeze killed most of the Tallow trees a few years ago, I could count on May 23 as the date the first Tallow nectar would be available. Tallow has been making a comeback, sprouting from the stumps of the dead trees but has not yet become a reliable nectar source again. I will be watching this year's growth and hoping for continued recovery.

If you were not able to get package bees, now is a good time to start new colonies from swarms. Captured swarms will perform better if you feed them at least one gallon of 1-to-1 syrup as soon as you put them in a hive. Check in few days to see if they have drawn out eight of the ten frames in the hive. If not, feed them another gallon of syrup. When eight of the ten frames are drawn, it is time to add supers or a second brood box, depending on whether you want to try to make honey this season.

Honey bees normally begin to draw comb in the middle frames of a super of foundation. They progress toward the outside frames as they draw more comb. I will observe the progress and move into the center the outer frames that not being drawn. As the bees begin to cap the center frames, you can move the capped frame to the outer edges so all frames will become completely capped and ready to be extracted. My experience has been that a nine frame super will produce a bit more than three pounds of honey per frame. That is about twenty-seven to thirty-five pounds per super.

If you are able to extract frames early in the season, be sure to put the supers back on the hives. The bees will begin filling the extracted frames again as long as nectar is available. You may be surprised to find a second crop of honey waiting to be extracted in early July.

If you are returning wet supers to your hives, do it as late in the day as your schedule allows. Bees are highly attracted to the smell of wet honey and will try to rob the hive. Adding the supers as late in the day as possible reduces the chance of robbing and gives the hive bees time to clean up the wet honey overnight.

If you have a weak colony, add an entrance reducer to give the weaker colony a chance to fight off robbers looking for a free meal.

When separating double brood boxes in early spring, look at the drone larva found between the bottom bars of the top box and the top bars of the bottom box. The drone larva should not have numbers of red varroa mites attached to them. Varrora is still considered the number one threat to our hives. Be diligent in your mite counts and medicate as necessary. Miticides are available that can be used while the supers are on the hive.

I recently read an article in one of the national publications about a new style attempt to capture the swarm that issues out of your hive. The apiarist will cut a leafy limb six to twelve feet long and "plant" it in a hole dug about fifteen feet in front of the hive. This gives the queen a place to bivouac (settle) as the swirling mass of swarming bees will settle in the planted limb rather than high in a nearby tree and out of safe reach. This is an interesting theory that I have never tried. Hopefully, we will hear more about whether this proves to be an effective swarm catcher.

*Stanford*

# Simple Apiary Growth: OTS Splits for Experienced Beekeepers

by Sean O'Neil – Vice President

Looking to grow your bee yard without buying packages or diving into complex queen-rearing? **On-The-Spot (OTS)** splits are a no-graft, low-cost method that lets your bees raise their own queens and helps control swarming at the same time.

## Quick Guide to OTS Splits

### Step 1: Move the Queen

Start with a strong hive—at least five frames of brood. Move the queen and two brood frames into a new hive and relocate it at least two miles away to prevent drifting. This relieves pressure on the parent hive and sets up your new colony.

### Step 2: Notch the Brood Frames

Back at the original hive, identify larvae younger than 36 hours. Notching means gently cutting the bottom rim of those cells with your hive tool, which triggers the bees to raise new queens. You're mimicking emergency conditions to prompt queen cell development—no grafting required.

### Step 3: Split Again Using Queen Cells

After a week, return to find sealed queen cells on the notched frames. Pick the healthiest ones, and make new nucs with two brood frames and one queen cell each. Remove extra queen cells to avoid conflict or swarming.

## Tips for Success

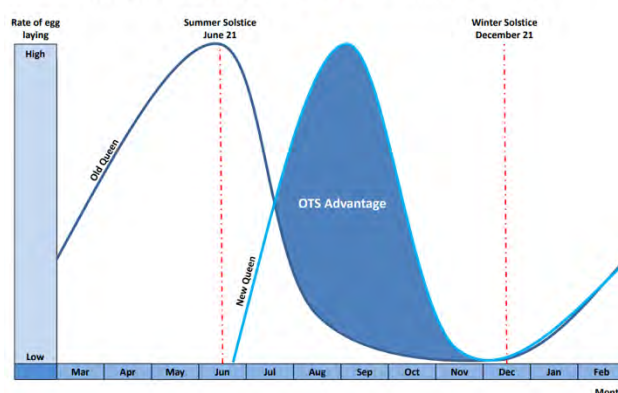
- Make sure drones are flying—spring is best.
- Feed new splits sugar syrup if nectar's low.
- Check back after a couple weeks to confirm queen success.

## Why It Works

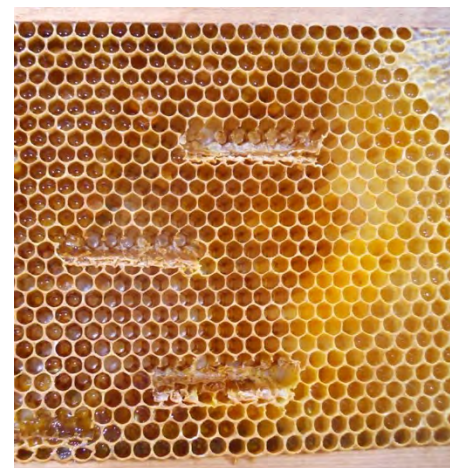
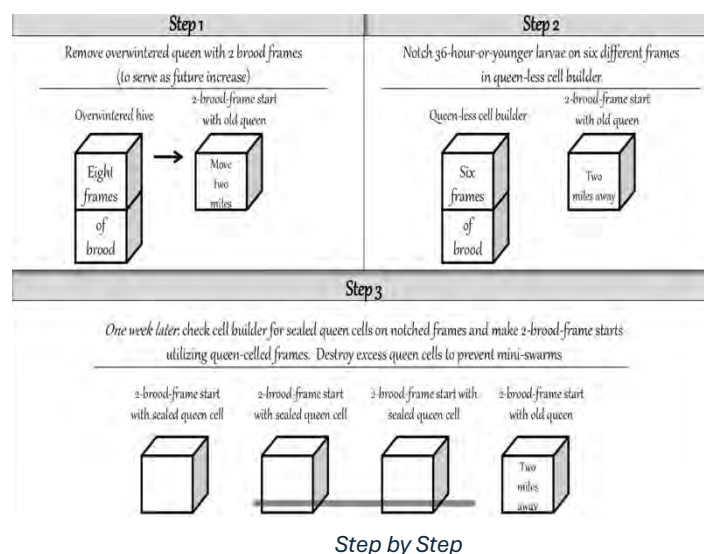
- Natural queen-raising without special tools
- Locally adapted queens for better survival
- More hives, less money spent

OTS splits are a reliable, beekeeper-friendly method to grow your operation using what nature already provides. Simple tools, practical steps, strong results.

### POST-SOLSTICE EGG LAYING: OLD QUEENS SHUT DOWN BUT NEW QUEENS MAINTAIN PEAK BEYOND SUMMER SOLSTICE



*New Queens mean more egg production*



*Notching-cutting bottom rim of cells triggers bees to make new queens cells*

Sean

## **BEE PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR SWAN SONG AND REQUEST**

submitted by Gary Bible

My wings are tattered, and as an old foraging bee may do, I will fly away and not return, at least not to the Bee Procurement Coordinator position. I hope you feel I have been useful.

I am honored to have worked in this position for 5 years. Where have they gone? Wow. I have precious memories of meeting and working with many of you, procuring and delivering 500+ queens, thousands of nucs, staying up all night, working side by side with many of you in the wee hours of the morning, and spending many productive hours at the Bost Farm.

I give thanks to about fifty of you Executive Board and club members for collaborating with you via monthly meetings and/or the “Nuc Team” at Bost. You have displayed commitment and incredible love for beekeeping.

### **MY REQUEST TO CLUB MEMBERS IS TO CONSIDER FILLING and WORKING THIS POSITION.**

We have knowledge of “the ropes” and pre-made forms available to you, should you step forward. Though my wings are tattered, I plan to work at the Bost Nuc Room as a helper if my health permits.

The Bee Procurement position starts in October with a reminder that nucs and queens will be delivered in April. You put the word out to members to order nucs and queens in December, January, and February. The Procurement Coordinator needs skill in entering requests into the Nuc and Queen Matrix. They also field emails, texts, and calls from club members. They work with Wes Card of the Evergreen Honey Company (nucs), and with Bee Weaver (queens). The position also involves a Friday trip to Navasota to pick up 100s of queens in their cages. Nuc and queen delivery day is a day of controlled chaos of unloading nucs for club pickup and recording the nuc and queen deliveries onto the Nuc and Queen Matrix. You will be remarkably busy. Many “bee pros” will help you in the Nuc Room and the Nuc Yard. The Nuc Room resembles the insides of a beehive; many things are done by many people! What a team!

Is the job hard? Yes. Is the job rewarding? CERTAINLY! All told, this job is a 6 month “essential process” in our club bee year. It is now mid-May. I still receive calls asking if queens are available, and all the nucs are delivered. Yes. Whew!

### **WANT TO MAKE AN ESSESNTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO WCABA? VOLUNTEER!**

Our Executive Board and I are waiting to help you work and learn this position.

Again, I am honored to have done this for 5 years. I have made many good bee friends.

Questions about doing this position? Email me at [glbible@austin.rr.com](mailto:glbible@austin.rr.com) or call me at 512-923-0410. Happy beekeeping!

*Gary Bible*, WCABA Bee Procurement Coordinator (Ret)



# Second Year Scholarship Recipients Complete Split and Perform Artificial Swarm Procedure (part 2)

Jimmie Oakley – Scholarship Chair

One of the primary goals of the advanced WCABA Youth Scholarship Program is to teach the recipient to not only keep bees and make honey, but to become a sustainable beekeeper by increasing the number of hives to cover winter losses and/or grow their apiary.

The 2024 recipients achieved that goal through their efforts at the Bost Farm on April 19<sup>th</sup> when the club order of queens arrived from B Weaver Apiaries in Navasota. Caged queens had been reserved in the order for the girls to use to insert into the nuc hive the ladies had created earlier in the month (April 8). Once the caged queen was insert into the nuc box and accepted (April 29<sup>th</sup>) it was time to set the hive bodies apart and switch the nuc and parent location on the hive stand (artificial swarming – May 13<sup>th</sup>).

*Jimmie*

## Installing the Caged Queen into the Nuc Hive



*Alys prepares hive for new queen*



*Remove cork from the candy end*



*Cage is placed between the frames*



*Feed the hive before closing up*



*Riley opens her hive to install the new queen*



*Riley pushes queen cage down between frames*



*Riley feed her hive too*



*Alys and Riley finish up the first step in the increase process*



## Artificial Swarming of Parent Hive to Complete the Process



*(two weeks later) Alys and Riley's hives after Vertical Split and caged queen in place for two weeks, ready for Artificial Swarm Procedure*



*Top Nuc hive set beside of Parent hive*



*Alys' Hive inspected for queen rightness*



*Riley does the same to her hive*



*Artificial Swarm Procedure calls for Parent hive to move to the right and Nuc hive to set in Parent colony location to pick up field force. **DONE!***



# Scholarship Recipients Check Nuc Hive and Add Second Box

Jimmie Oakley - Scholarship Chair

The WCABA Scholarship Recipients for 2025 gathered at the Bost Farm on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> to check the nucleus hive they installed on April 15<sup>th</sup> and add another box (brood chamber) if the hive was ready.

After going through the hive frame by frame to inventory the resources (bees, brood, pollen, honey) it was decided that both Anna and Liam should add an additional box of foundation for the bees to work on as they build up. As the worker bees draw out the foundation it gives the queen additional places to lay and the bees somewhere to store nectar brought in by the foragers.

Feeding is still very important to the new hive because it encourages the worker bees to draw out the foundation to expand the brood nest and it gives the nurse bees the resources to feed all the baby bees the queen is producing. *Jimmie*



*Randy and Anna look at her hive*



*Anna finds plenty of bees, yea!*



*Liam opens his hive for inspection*



*Checking for hive resources*



*Anna gets an assist from her Dad*



*Liam finishes checking his frames*



*Liam feeds hive and closes*



*Both hives inspected and second box added, all done!*



*Anna does the same*



# WCABA Club Raffle ...

Support our club by purchasing tickets for two different raffle packages. These items were donated to WCABA and pricing is one ticket for \$5 or five tickets for \$20.

Package 1 includes a Beekeeping Vest with fencing veil (New retail price \$33.95) and a pair of beekeeping gloves (New retail Price \$19.95).



Beekeeping Vest w/ Fencing Veil



Beekeeping Gloves

## BEE a WINNER !

Package 2 includes Mann Lake Beekeeping pants size Med (New retail Price \$33.95) and Honey Lane Harvest Beekeeping jacket with fencing veil (New retail price \$65).



Med. ML Beekeeping Pants



Honey Lane Harvest Beekeeping Jacket

## BUY a TICKET !

Each package will have a container for you to drop ticket(s). You may enter one ticket, all tickets or any combination for the package you are trying to win. Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the meeting.

Tickets will be available at the May 27th meeting for CASH.



# Membership Report: Shirley Doggett

## May 2025

### New Members

Chad and Stephanie Crutchfield. Georgetown

### Renewing Members

Danica Bingham	Georgetown
Amber Chun	Georgetown
David W Gold II	Midlothian
Steve Hoskins	Belton
Jimmy and Bandi Johnson	Coupland
Michelle Klingemann	Round Rock
Chris and Melissa O'Dell	Round Rock
Sherry Morrey and Pat Painter	Burnet
Scott and Julia Peterson	Austin
Martin and Becky Warnasch.	Georgetown



**\*New members-** please remember that Texas Beekeepers Association still gives one-year free membership to those people that are new to beekeeping. Let me know if you are interested in this.

*Shirley*

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Dues \$20.00 per year - individual or \$25.00 - family membership

New Member / Renewing Member

(circle one)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

To save postage cost may we send your Newsletter via e-mail? Yes [ ☐ ] No [ ☐ ]

Instructions: print, fill out, and bring to club meeting , or mail with check to:

Mrs. Shirley Doggett - Membership - 400 C. R. 440 - Thrall, TX 76578

# **Williamson County Area Beekeepers' Association Minutes, March 20, 2025**

Attending: Phil Ainslie, Shannon Montez, Judee Brimley, Sean O'Neal, Nan Helmke, Matt Ludlum, Gary Bible, Jimmie Oakley, Ken Browning

The committee approved the January minutes.

- Membership: Reported by Judee Brimley: 142 paid-up members, 14 new.
- Nuc and Queen acquisition report by Gary Bible:
  - A waitlist of 6 nucs.
  - 306 nuc are currently on order.
  - Queen orders at 144
  - The health permit is pending.
  - The distribution of nuc on pick-up day will be busy. Gary calculated ~ 23 per hour. We may have enough volunteers for the distribution, but we may need more for the unloading.
  - The board declined to combine our NUC order with the Brenham, Texas, club. The committee feels it would become a logistical problem.
- Treasurer's report: Tabled until the next meeting.
- Program report by Nan Helmke:
  - April: Phil Ainslie will do 101, "The First Inspection." The 201 will be "Splits "
  - May: Sean O'Neal will facilitate the "Rotation Program."
  - Tentative Programs:
    - June or July: Dr. Rangal
    - August: "Honey Queen Presentation"
    - September: "Honey Tasting"
    - October: "Wintering Your Colonies"
- Topic survey results:
  - 1st was Varroa & small hive beetles, 2<sup>nd</sup> was growing your apiary, 3<sup>rd</sup>- plants and trees for bees, 4<sup>th</sup>- swarm prevention, 5<sup>th</sup>- Technology and beekeeping.
- Scholarship report by Jimmie Oakley:
  - The applications have been received. Randy will be conducting the interviews at the March meeting.
  - The scholarship recipients from last year were working to regain their hive strength.
  - Georgetown Gardens Bee Colony enclosure:
    - Jimmie reported that he hopes to have placement this spring if the parks department gets control of the crazy ant problem. Sean O'Neal suggests using bee stand leg bowls with oil to keep the ants out.
- Donations: The committee approved continuing with our current donation levels.
- Bost Farm:
  - Jimmie reported that the property is for sale, but no offer has been accepted yet. Further discussions will be necessary to determine when and where our future club bee distributions will occur.
- Website: Sean O'Neal and Matt Ludlum are working on completing it.

## Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association

### Treasurer's Report - As of May 24, 2025

#### Profit and Loss

ACCOUNTS	Year to Date
<b>Income</b>	
Program Income - Bee Procurement (2025)	\$58,620.00
Program Income - Membership Dues	\$2,770.00
Program Income - Scholarship Program	\$20.00
Total Income	<u>\$61,410.00</u>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Bee Procurement Program Nucs	<u>\$48,900.00</u>
Total Cost of Goods Sold	<u>\$48,900.00</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>\$12,510.00</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Bank Charges	\$25.00
Dues	\$50.00
Insurance	\$1,873.00
Meeting Supplies and Refreshments	\$369.72
Permits	\$206.26
Travel Expenses	\$709.00
Website and Zoom	\$280.51
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$3,513.49</u>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<u>\$8,996.51</u>

#### Balance Sheet

ACCOUNTS	As of May 24, 2025
<b>Assets</b>	
Total Cash and Bank	\$60,032.41
Total Assets	<u>\$60,032.41</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Bee Purchase Commitment	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Assets &amp; Liabilities</b>	<u>\$60,032.41</u>
<b>Equity</b>	
Retained Earnings - Prior Years	\$51,035.90
Retained Earnings - Current Year	\$8,996.51
Total Equity	<u>\$60,032.41</u>

#### Bee Procurement Program - 2025

<b>Income</b>	
Program Income - Bee Procurement	\$58,620.00
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Bees	<u>\$48,900.00</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>\$9,720.00</u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Permit	\$206.26
Travel Expenses	\$709.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$915.26</u>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<u>\$8,804.74</u>

#### **Notes (as of January 31, 2025):**

Evergreen Purchase 300 Nucs	\$43,500.00
• Evergreen Commitment = \$52,500	
• Less Volume and in-person pick-up discount = \$9,000	
• Net Evergreen Amount = \$43,500	