SC Beekeepers to Meet at Clemson

The summer meeting of the South Carolina Beekeepers will be held at Clemson University, Clemson, SC on July 12-14. The meeting will begin at 1 PM on Thursday, 12 July in the Poole Agricultural Center Auditorium with an advanced beekeeping short course which is open to all beekeepers. Mike Hood will be the primary instructor. The short course will break for dinner at 5:00 and session 2 of the short course will begin at 7:00 and last till 9:00 PM. Session 3 will begin at 1:30 on Friday during the concurrent workshops.

On Friday morning, we will begin with a general session with several out-of-state speakers including Nathan Holleman from the National Honey Board from Longmont, Colorado, Keith Delaplane and Jennifer Berry from the University of Georgia, Jim Tew from the Ohio State University, Steve Sheppard from Washington State University, Carl Webb from Clarkesville, Georgia (President - Georgia Beekeepers Association), Ann Harmon from Flint Hill, Virginia, Bob Cole from Todd, NC, and Steve Forrest from Brushy Mountain Bee Farm, Moravian Falls, NC.

An afternoon of workshops are planned for Friday including several informative sessions which you may attend only three. For more details, see the enclosed meeting program for a listing of the workshops.

A chicken barbecue dinner is planned for Friday evening at Jimmy Howard’s home in Pendleton. Activities scheduled are the annual horseshoe pitching tourney and a tall tales contest. Dinner including half chicken, cole slaw, beans, chips, bread and tea will be served for $5.50/plate.

We will have a new event, a honey show, at our summer meeting this year. Bring along a container of your best honey. Please do not place a label on your honey containers. Honey classes will be 1 lb. extracted, pint extracted, pint with comb, quart extracted, and quart with comb. There will be light and dark classes, so do not be concerned if your honey is dark. Steve Genta from the Piedmont beekeepers will oversee this event. Ribbons will be awarded for each category.

The Lightsey Bridge Apartments on campus have been assigned to us for lodging at $38 per night (4 people maximum) and linen cost is an additional $6.50. Linen packets include sheets, two towels, washcloth, blanket, and pillow. The Lightsey Bridge Apartments are across the street from the SC Botanical Gardens. For check in, there will be a sign posted at the Lightsey Bridge Commons with a contact number to call. Someone will come and check you into your room. No reservations are necessary. Meals are available on campus at the Clemson House or the Harcombe Food Court for Thursday lunch & dinner, Friday breakfast & lunch, and Saturday breakfast for a total of $24.63 plus 6% tax. There is also a food court in the new Hendrix Student Center which is about a 5 minute walk from our meeting building. And yes, this is the same place where you can buy the delicious ice cream and blue cheese.

The Madren Continuing Education and Conference Center located near campus has lodging available. Also. Suites begin at $135 and Executive rooms, two queen beds $110, or one king bed $95 which includes a contl. bktfst. For reservations, call toll free 1-888-654-9020.
Other accommodations are available off campus in the Clemson area as follows: Lake Hartwell Inn of Clemson (formerly the Clemson Holiday Inn), $59, (864)-654-4450, includes a buffet bkfst; Clemson Comfort Inn, $55, (864)-653-3600, includes contl. bkfst; Clemson Hampton Inn, $60, (864)-653-7744, includes contl. bkfst; Clemson Ramada Inn, $64, (864)-654-7501, includes contl. bkfst; Clemson Days Inn, $49.50, (864) 653-4411, includes contl bkfst; Clemson Sleep Inn, $49, (864) 653-6000, includes contl bkfst. Mention that you are attending the South Carolina Beekeepers Convention to get the University rate.

Our designated parking lot for this meeting is the large commuter parking lot (orange marked parking spaces) behind the Poole Agricultural Center. You will need to pick up a hang tag for your vehicle at our registration desk.

Let’s continue to make the South Carolina Beekeepers summer meeting a great success; invite some beekeeping friends to come along for an educational vacation. If you have questions about the meeting, please contact Mike Hoo, ph. 864-656-0346, email <mhood@clemson.edu>.

STATE FAIR - 2001

The 2001 South Carolina State Fair is scheduled to be held October 4-14, in Columbia. Our beekeeping exhibit at the Fair provides us a great opportunity to promote our products and the beekeeping industry. Fair visitors have been fascinated by our attractive displays of honey and other apri products, including the observation hive and other educational items.

Our hats are off to those who participated in the 2000 fair exhibit, especially Cliff Ward who served as coordinator of our booth. Cliff Ward has agreed to serve again this year as coordinator and will be giving a “State Fair Report” at our summer meeting in Clemson. Beekeepers who worked the booth last year were given the opportunity to sell their honey. I’ve heard some beekeepers did quite well so come to our summer meeting prepared to sign up to spend a day at the State Fair.

Plan now to enter some of your most attractive products and possibly an exhibit in the competition. Honey will be judged on absence of granulation, cleanliness (absence of lint, wax and foam), flavor, color and brightness, and overall appearance of the container. There will be two classes of honey competition, light and dark. Each class will have the following entry categories: 1 lb. extracted, pint extracted, pint with comb, quart extracted, quart with comb, 2 lb. extracted and 1 lb with comb. There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner for each category with a monetary prize of $10, $8 and $6 awarded respectively. Other categories include 1 lb beeswax.

A “Best Beekeeping Display” offers the largest monetary prizes ($75, $60, and $40). Displays are judged on educational value, advertising value, attractive arrangement, originality and variety, appearance, and quality of products.

For more details of our South Carolina State Fair booth, call Cliff Ward in Columbia at (803) 794-5633.

ABF to Meet in Savannah, Jan. 16-19, 2002

Savannah, Ga., will be the site of the 2002 American Beekeeping Federation convention. The meeting will be held at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront, located on the Savannah River adjacent the historic, restored River Street complex of shops and entertainment.

The convention will open on Wednesday morning, Jan. 16, and close with the annual banquet on Saturday evening, Jan.19. Considerations are being given to having a tour day on Tuesday before the convention opens to allow attendees to take in the many sights of the area without missing any of the meetings. Planners are also considering setting up a post-convention bus tour of North Florida and South Georgia attractions and beekeeping operations. Watch for regular announcements of plans as they unfold - in this publication and on the ABF website, www.ABFnet.org.

Known as the Hostess City of the South, Savannah has been named by Conde'Nast Traveler magazine as one of the top 10 U.S. cities to visit. The city offers an enchanting stroll back in time and an invitation to uncover its hidden charms. Bits and pieces of Savannah’s rich, colorful history adorn virtually every corner of the downtown area. The stately mansions, moss-draped oaks, and massive churches give the city a unique flavor found nowhere else in the world.
"We had a great convention when we last met in Savannah in 1982, and ever since then people have asked us when we are going back to Savannah," said Convention Committee Chairman Reg Wilbanks. "We haven't come close to the Savannah attendance level since 1982, but we hope to this year. This will be a convention you will not want to miss."

For information on attending the convention or exhibiting your products and services in the ABF Trade Show contact the ABF Office, P.O. Box 1038, Jesup, GA 31599, ph. 912-427-4233, e-mail: info@ABFnet.org.

**Feral Honey Bee Comeback**

by Tom Sanford - Florida

I first heard about feral honeybees making a comeback in France back in 1997, when on sabbatical in Aix-en-Provence. The only evidence were anecdotal reports of a larger-than-normal number of swarms. Many said it meant nothing; the swarms were from mite-treated colonies. Nevertheless, it struck a chord; more recent information suggests that Canadians are also using French stock in an effort to incorporate this trait. There seems little reason to believe that feral honey bees might not rebound after being challenged by mites for a period of years no matter the geographic setting.

David Green in South Carolina recently wrote: "I was impressed by the number of locations where I found foraging honey bees where, to my knowledge, there were no domestic bees within range. I did not announce this observation last fall, thinking I'd wait to check on spring survival. Now I think I am definitely seeing a trend in the area. I believe many of the bees I'm seeing are feral, and have been feral for more than one season." He concludes: "I am noticing a high proportion of honey bees seen foraging that are a decided gray color. This interests me, in that I have never kept a gray bee, nor do I know of any other domestic bees in the area that are gray. The gray color is a characteristic of Caucasian bees, is it not? They have never been popular here, and I have no experience with them. Has someone introduced them at some point, and do they have a Varroa resistance mechanism that the Italians and Carniolans don't have? Which has caused a gradual rise in their proportion in feral populations? I am thinking that the crash in pollinator populations was caused by a coincidence of two factors, pesticide misuse (in the wake of mosquito spraying after hurricanes in the region) and Varroa mites. I believe that we are also seeing some significant (but not complete) recovery. I'm looking for confirmation of refutation of this."

Other observations indicate that Florida may also have some feral honey bees on the rebound. These include areas on both coasts where a lot of managed colonies do not necessarily exist. Latest information, for example, is that loggers in the Big Bend region of the state are finding more and more wild, untreated nests of honey bees in trees. The Jacksonville area has also bee implicated in this phenomenon. Other references suggest it might be happening in California. It's worth everyone keeping their eyes open to possibilities of Varroa tolerance being developed in North American honey bees as appears to have happened in South and Central American populations.

Source: "Apis", February 2001

**National Honey Board Website**

Thanks to the National Honey Board, finding the latest information about the honey market is now easier than ever. All you have to do is log on to www.nhb.org. The National Honey Board's award-winning Web site has added dozens of new graphs, charts and reports including:

* Statistics on honey production, imports and exports
* Forecasts on the international honey supply.
* Data on honey pricing and sales.
* Information on legislation that may affect the honey industry.
* Research reports on bees, pollination and honey.
* Business and marketing tips.
* Highlights from industry articles.

And the National Honey Board's Web site continues to provide you with links to bee publications, labs and associations, recipes, the latest informational and promotional materials and much more!
Dirt Roads

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved. There's not a problem in America today, crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency that wouldn't be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character. People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride. That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog. We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along. There was less crime in our streets before they were paved. Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape, if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun. And there were no drive by shootings. Our values were better when our roads were worse! People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you & bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience. Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly. You didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk you walked to the barn for it. For your mail, you walked to the mailbox. What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap. Most paved roads lead to trouble, Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole. At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out. Usually got a dollar...always you got a new friend...at the end of a Dirt Road.

Source: Kansas Honey Producers News
Sept. 2000

2001 Calendar

July 12-14, 2001  S.C. Beekeepers Summer Meeting, Clemson University
July 19-21, 2001  NCSB Summer Meeting, Morganton, N.C.
Oct. 12-13, 2001  GBA Fall Meeting, Athens, GA
2001 SCBA SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 12, 2001

12:00 N . . . . Room Registration - Clemson House
Meeting Registration - Poole Agricultural Center Lobby - $3 Members, $5 Family, $8 Nonmembers
Exhibitor Setup - Poole Agricultural Center Lobby

1:00 . . . . . Intermediate Beekeeping Short Course - Session I

5:00 . . . . . Dinner on your own
SCBA Executive Committee Meeting

7:00 . . . . . Intermediate Beekeeping Short Course - Session II

9:00 . . . . . Adjourn for Evening

Friday, July 13, 2001

8:00 AM . . . . Invocation - Jack Corbett, Camden, Past President SCBA
Welcome to Clemson University - Dan Smith, Dean/Director of Cooperative Extension Service, CU

8:10 . . . . . Announcements and Introductions - Mike Hood, Extension Apiculturist, CU,
Executive Secretary, SCBA

8:20 . . . . . President’s Address and Business Meeting - Kurt Herbst, President - SCBA

8:45 . . . . . Legislative Update - Senator Thomas Alexander, District 1, Oconee & Pickens Counties

9:00 . . . . . American Beekeeping Federation News - Reg Wilbanks, Claxton, Georgia

Nathan Holleman, National Honey Board CEO, Longmont, Colorado

9:45 . . . . . Break - Visit Exhibitors

10:10 . . . . . Door Prizes

10:15 . . . . . Successful Beekeeping Promotions, Jim Tew, Extension Apiculturist, Ohio State University

10:45 . . . . . Varroa Mite IPM, Keith Delaplane, Extension Apiculturist, University of Georgia

11:15 . . . . . Honey Bee Genetics - Inbreeding Problems, etc., Steve Sheppard, Research Apiculturist,
Washington State University

11:45 . . . . . Lunch on your own

1:10 . . . . . Door Prizes, Announcements, Cliff Ward - State Fair Report, and Workshop Introduction
1:30. . . . . Concurrent 45 Minute Workshop (Sessions begin on the half hour)
   1. What Makes Honey Sales Successful?
      Ann Harmon, Flint Hill, Virginia
   2. Equipment for the Beginner - Steve Forrest,
      Moravian Falls, North Carolina
   3. Raising Queens on a Small Scale -
      Carl Webb, President Georgia Beekeepers Association, Clarksville, GA
   4. Swarm Management - Jim Tew
   5. Varroa Mite Control Alternatives -
      Steve Sheppard
   6. Intermediate Beekeeper Short Course -
      Session III, Keith Delaplane
      (SC Master Beekeeper Program Journeyman Level Written Test offered the last hour)

4:30 . . . . Depart for Evening Activities
         Horseshoe Pitching Tourney
         Chicken Barbecue Supper ($5.50/Plate)
         Tall Tales Contest

Saturday, July 14, 2001

8:15 . . . . Announcements & Door Prizes

8:30 . . . . Small Hive Beetle Research - Mike Hood

9:00 . . . . “Development of Beekeeping in Third World Countries” - Bob Cole, Todd, North Carolina


10:00 . . . . Break - Visit Exhibitors

10:25 . . . . Door Prizes

10:30 . . . . A New Varroa Mite Control Product for US Beekeepers, Steve Forrest,
            Brushy Mountain Bee Farm, Moravian Falls, NC

11:00 . . . . Finding Niche Markets for Honey Sales - Ann Harmon

11:30 . . . . Top versus Bottom Supering - Does It Make a Difference? - Jennifer Berry, Apiculture Research Coordinator, University of Georgia

12:00 . . . . Closing Comments, Kurt Herbst, Pres., SCBA

12:10 . . . . End - Have a Safe Trip Home!
         SCBA Executive Committee Meeting
With Deepest Sympathy

OBITUARY

Sylvia Newland, 63, of Richmond, Virginia, died as a result of a tragic pedestrian accident on Saturday, March 10, 2001, while attending the joint meeting of the South Carolina and North Carolina State Beekeeper Associations in Myrtle Beach, SC. Sylvia was retired from Reynolds Metals Corp. and spent much of her time devoted to her mother, Mozell C. Cliborne of Darvills and her brother, Carl B. Carter of Richmond. She is also survived by her husband, Tom A. Newland, three other brothers and three sisters. Graveside services were held on Friday, March 16, at the Butterwood Methodist Church Cemetery.

Honey Fruit Slaw

1 1/2 Qts. Shredded cabbage
1 11oz. Can mandarin orange segments drained
1/2 Cup Raisins
1/2 Cup Whole Almonds
1/2 Cup Miracle Whip salad dressing
2 t. Honey

Combine cabbage, orange segments, raisins and nuts. Add combined salad dressings and honey, mix lightly. Serve in a bowl lined with cabbage leaves, if desired. 8-10 servings.

Baked Butternut or Acorn Squash

3 Butternut or acorn squash
1 t. salt
3 T. Butter or Oleo
6 T. Honey

Wash and cut the squash in half lengthwise and remove seeds and stringy fiber. Sprinkle with salt, dot with butter and add 1 T. of honey to each squash. Place in baking pan in moderately hot oven, 375 deg. and bake until tender, for about 45 min. Baste occasionally with the honey butter mixture. After squash has browned, which will take about half an hour, add a little water to the pan and cover for the remaining period for baking until tender.

Summer Recipes

Browned Honey Rice Pudding

1 Cup Rice
3/4 Cup Honey
1/4 Cup Seedless Raisins
1 3/4 Cup Cream or Evaporated Milk
2 T. Butter
1/2 t. Cinnamon
1/4 Cup chopped nuts
Juice of 1 Lemon

Cook the rice by your favorite method. Heat the honey in a skillet until light brown, being careful not to let it burn. Mix the drained rice with honey, raisins, cream of milk, butter, cinnamon and nuts. Place in a 6 Cup casserole dish. Bake in a moderately hot oven, 375 deg., about 20 minutes until the pudding is golden. Add lemon juice, stir and bake another 15 min. Makes 4 servings.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

William Michael Hood
Extension Apiculturist

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