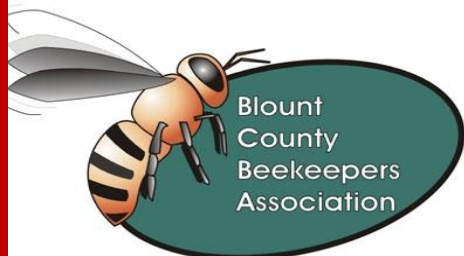


BCBA

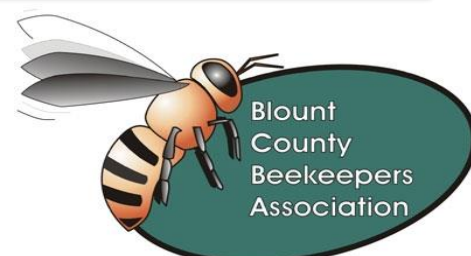
BLOUNT COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MAY-2018



BCBA

MAY



NEWSLETTER

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE MAY 14TH AT 6:30 AT THE MARYVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 611 SHERWOOD DR, ACROSS FROM FOOTHILLS MALL. OUR SPEAKERS WILL BE DOUG HARDWICK SPEAKING ON HOW TO CAPTURE AND PUT UP A SWARM AND MYSELF, HARLEN BREEDEN, SHARING MY THOUGHTS ON SWARM CONTROL.

WE HAD A GREAT TURNOUT FOR FIELD DAY AT CHARLIE PARTONS FARM ON APRIL 28TH. THANK YOU CHARLIE FOR HAVING THIS AT YOUR PLACE. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR CLUB AND WE DON'T WANT TO FORGET DARLENE FOR ALL SHE DID ALSO.

IF YOU AREN'T A MEMBER OF THE TENNESSEE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION I WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO BECOME ONE BY JOINING. THE MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE ONLY \$10:00 A YEAR AND BY BEING A MEMBER IT WILL HELP US TO HAVE MORE DELEGATES TO SEND TO THE CONFERENCES IN SPRING AND FALL. OUR CLUB BENEFITS FROM THE TBA IN SEVERAL WAYS (HIVE GRANTS, MONEY FOR HAVING OUR SHORT COURSE AND MONEY FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS). PLEASE CONSIDER THIS.

May 2018 - Chuck's Corner

The weather seems to be improving somewhat now. Our weather here in East Tennessee is always a bit interesting and the rain seemed to always interfered with my scheduled hive inspections. This may have increased the amount of swarming thus far this Spring. I have received several swarm calls in April and have been able to call several of you to attempt to collect them. Now is the time that many blossoms are producing nectar, so you need to check your hives regularly for sufficient supers.

There are a few items that I want each of our members to think about and offer me your input and suggestions. These topics are still in the future, but I would like to begin getting some of your thoughts.

- 1) Our annual fund-raising auction will be in October – please be thinking of items you could donate to help in our fund-raising efforts. If you know an auctioneer, let me know.
- 2) Participation at the TN Valley Fair Beekeeping Booth would be great. In fact, if you would like to help design or work on the design of our booth, please let me know.
- 3) Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be here before we know it and planning is critical. Was the entertainment last year acceptable and should we ask them back or would another entertainment venue be preferred.
- 4) What about the menu selection and location for the Christmas Dinner.
- 5) Within the next few months we need to consider new officers for BCBA. The By-Laws state that the President cannot serve more than 2 years so new nominees need to be suggested for the various offices of BCBA. If you would consider yourself as an officer, please let me know.

I welcome any thoughts, comments or discussions on any of these topics. Please send me your suggestions via email.

Hope to see you at the May meeting!

~Chuck

May Seasonal Management

By now you should have any medications off and honey supers on your hives. Continue to feed packages and nucs even though there is a nectar flow because these smaller hives need additional food, so they can continue to draw comb, but make sure they have plenty of space to expand.

Once you have established that your hives are queenright and have added honey supers don't continue doing inspections unless you suspect a problem. It is said that it takes the bees up to three days for bees to recover from an inspection and resume pre-inspection nectar gathering. Also swarming should slow down now that we are in a nectar flow, but if you're concerned about losing a swarm continue checking your bee yard (for a few more days) for swarms.

I believe we may have a good honey production year if it doesn't turn off hot and dry. Some of my best hives have stored quite a bit of nectar/honey already. Clover has been blooming well for 10 days or so and I have also seen blackberry and Black Locust in full bloom but, Tulip Poplar is done at my place. That said make sure you keep your hives well supered, at least two empties if you have drawn comb and one if you are drawing foundation.

Finally consider and make plans to attend a good beekeeping conference this summer if you haven't done so in the past. Some of the conferences you might want to check out are the Tennessee Beekeepers Fall Conference, Heartland Apiculture Society (summer), Eastern Apiculture Society (summer) and Young Harris Beekeeping Institute in Young Harris GA. (summer). I hope you have a great summer and your bees make a lot of honey.

~Charlie Parton

LARUA'S BLURB

This month the Maryville Farmers' Market has resumed for the season. Because of this I've been baking and making lots of jelly to sell at the market (and eat). Additionally, I've been keeping ample sugar water (1:1 to encourage laying) on my three hives. This outpouring of sugar has resulted in my purchase of two 25-pound boxes of granulated, white, cane sugar. Naturally, I'm questioning the use of sugar versus honey as a healthy food source. What follows is what I have found from reading several sources.

According to *The Wonderful World of Honey, A Sugarless Cookbook* written in 1977 the benefits of honey in your diet are numerous. Google confirmed with many reputable sources that the minerals and antioxidants in honey as well as its lower glycemic index and better composition of glucose and fructose do make it far superior to sugar. However, one thing I read repeatedly was that honey becomes toxic when heated.

Ancient medicine from the east warns that when honey is cooked it becomes like a glue that is very hard to remove from the body and leads to inflammation and mucus production in mammals. I immediately thought of propolis and wondered if heat is involved in the formation of propolis. Another blog another day! Scientific research has confirmed the reduction of many nutritional properties of honey when it is heated, which is why many people are willing to spend the extra money for raw, unpasteurized honey. Pasteurization is essentially just cooking it.

Much of this is unsubstantiated or contradicted in other research. Like many things you read, it's hard to get to the bottom of it. My takeaway is that honey is a natural antibacterial, antifungal, antibiotic which can be used in a healthy lifestyle in its natural, raw state.

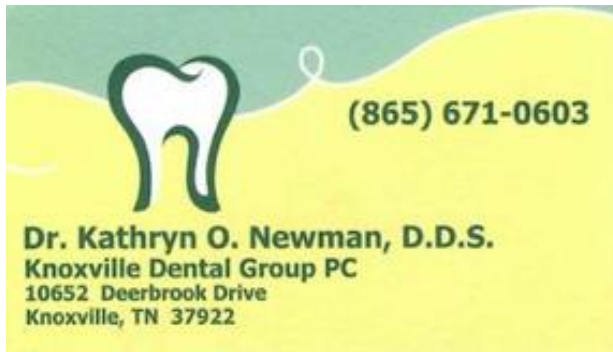
For me, I don't think it would be worthwhile to replace all sugar with honey in cooked recipes. The common link with overconsumption of either honey and sugar is the risk of obesity, which I can personally attest to. However, desserts and jellies made with honey instead of sugar sound especially delicious as occasional treats. I do think I will generally limit it as a sugar substitute to recipes heated at less than 285 degrees, like candies and jellies. On that note, I think I'll make some honey, honeysuckle jelly and see how it turns out. Enjoy your bees and all the wonderful spring fragrances and flavors.



~LARUA ATWOOD

PLACE AN AD

If you would like to place an ad in the BCBA newsletter, please call one of our officers listed in this publication. Business card ads are \$32 for a paid member or \$40 for a non-member.



Smokey Ridge Apiaries

Judy O'Dell

Owner, Manager

368 O,Dell Rd. Maryville, Tn 37801

info@smokeyridgeapiaries.com

865-984-5393

Beekeeping Equipment and Supplies

Bee Inspectors

It's the state law to have your beehives registered, so don't neglect this important duty. If you want them inspected, below is a list of association bee inspectors. There is no cost for this service. If you are planning to move hives, they must be inspected.

Stacey Adair, 983-6223

Ricky Baily, 250-8123

Dennis Barry, 414-2116

Harlen Breeden, 719-1828

Charlie Parton, 776-1875

Stephanie Tarwater, 293-6229

BCBA OFFICERS

Chuck Davis, President
865-566-3690

Mark Evans, Vice President
865-556-6191

Bernie McGraw, Treasurer
865-984-1005

Mark Ford, Secretary
865-603-2016

Harlen Breeden, Alt. Officer
865-719-1828

2018 DUES ARE DUE

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR 2018 DUES IT IS TIME TO DO SO. AS OF MAY 1ST WE WILL ONLY BE SENDING TO PAID MEMBERS. BERNIE HAS ASK THAT WE MAIL OUR DUES IN TO AVOID STANDING IN LINE AT THE MEETING. DUES ARE \$20.00 AND MAIL THEM TO BERNIE MCGRAW, 1220 HAVENWOOD DR. MARYVILLE, TN. 37804. HE WILL BE TAKING PAYMENT AT THE MEETING ALSO. TO AVOID INTERUPTION OF THE NEWSLETTER PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

MEMBERS WITH BEE RELATED ITEMS FOR SALE

Charlie Parton Is taking orders for queens to be here in June. Call 865-776-1875

Ricky Bailey has Nuc's for sale. Call and Reserve. Call 865-250-8123

Coley O'Dell Will have Queens, through October. Call 865-984-5393

Howard Kerr Will have queens and HFC syrup for sale. Call 865-982-6750

The past several BCBA News letters have had articles written and submitted by our own Esther Roberts. Recently she has become overwhelmed by several other personal and business obligations and can no longer contribute to the Newsletter. First I want to thank Esther for her contributions and I believe we all looked forward to reading her articles. But secondly, we would really like to continue various "freelance" beekeeping articles for our Newsletter. We are looking at other options and hope to have another contributor starting next month.

Some Pictures from Field Day at Charlies



Our youngest Beekeeper



Charlies kids (Grand)

**Blount County Beekeepers Association
c/o Mark Ford
3018 French Creek Road
Knoxville, TN 37920**