

About SMBA

Smoky Mountain Beekeepers Association is a chapter of the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association.

Smoky Mountain Beekeepers Association is a nonprofit corporation led by officers elected annually and governed by an executive committee consisting of the officers, 3 directors serving staggered 3-year terms, and the appointed regional representatives from 6 districts of the state.

The Smoky Mountain Beekeepers Association has 2 annual conventions, spring and summer, open to all members and visitors ready to join.

Our chapter consists of beekeepers and interested individuals in large part from Swain County, Jackson County and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Directions to Meetings

To the Swain Extension Office

Take US 74 W approximately 7 miles (6.3 miles past Exit 67). Look for a blue Southwestern Community College sign, turn right onto Almond School Road. The Extension Office is in the end of the long brick building. Meetings are usually held in room 114.

Officers

President

Bill Williams
(828) 488-1391
wlwilliams@frontier.com

Vice President

Gene Hartsell
(828) 488-1927
bettyjeanhartsell@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Lannie DeHart

Treasurer

Betty Jean Hartsell
(828) 488-1927
bettyjeanhartsell@gmail.com

Secretary

Sharon Porter
(828) 736-2911
gods_child77@juno.com

Extension Advisors

Christy Bredenkamp
Jackson County Cooperative Extension
538 Scotts Creek Road, Suite 205
Sylva, NC
(828) 586-4009

OR

Swain County Cooperative Extension
60 Almond School Rd., Bryson City, NC
(828) 488-3848
christine_bredenkamp@ncsu.edu

Sarah McClellan-Welch
EBCI Cooperative Extension
876 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC
(828) 554-6935
saramcl@nc-chokeee.com



Get the buzz on bees



Meetings

Second Thursday of each month

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Swain County Cooperative Extension
60 Almond School Rd. (Bryson City)

For more information, contact:

(828) 488-3848
(828) 586-4009
(828) 554-6935

Benefits of Membership

- Monthly educational meetings
- Updates on the latest disease control measures
- Mentorship for new beekeepers
- Bi-Monthly newsletter
- Camaraderie of fellow beekeepers
- Honey extractor rental

How to Become a Member

Local dues: \$15 a year per family

Local dues are payable at any meeting. All dues expire December 31

State dues: \$15 a year per person

State dues are payable by the February meeting

Services

- Bee Swarm Removal

Call if you have a honeybee swarm to catch:
488-3848
586-4009
554-6931

- Educational programs and displays are available for groups, schools, and special events

Honey Bee Facts



- The honeybee is not born knowing how to make honey; they are taught by the more experienced bees
- A honeybee visits between 50-100 flowers during one collection flight from the hive
- In order to produce 1 pound of honey, 2 million flowers must be visited
- A hive of bees must fly 55,000 miles to produce a pound of honey
- A bee colony can produce 60-100 pounds of honey per year
- An average worker bee makes only about 1/12 teaspoon of honey in its lifetime
- At the peak of the honey-gathering season, a strong, healthy hive will have a population of approximately 50,000 bees
- It would take about 1 ounce of honey to fuel a bee's flight around the world
- Honey is the primary food source for the bee. The reason honeybees are so busy collecting nectar from flowers and blossoms is to make sufficient food stores for their colony over the winter months
- Honey contains vitamins and antioxidants, but is free of fat, cholesterol and sodium
- 1 antioxidant, "pinocembrin" is only found in honey
- Honey is the only food that includes all the substances necessary to sustain life, including water
- Honey has the ability to attract and absorb moisture, which makes it remarkably soothing for minor burns, helps to prevent scarring and combats infection

- Modern science now acknowledges honey as an anti-microbial agent, which means it deters the growth of certain types of bacteria, yeast and molds
- Honey and beeswax form the basics of many skin creams, lip balms, and hand lotions
- According to Dr. Paul Gold, a psychology professor at the University of Virginia, "people remember things much better after they've consumed glucose, a form of sugar, found in honey."
- Honey is nature's energy booster! It provides a concentrated energy source that helps prevent fatigue and can boost athletic performance



North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons with out regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University North Carolina A&T University, US Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.