



Forager



TRICK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE TIDEWATER BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

VOL. 7 NO. 6

Halloween Edition

www.tidewaterbeekeepers.net

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WEB PAGE CONTENT MANAGER: PHIL CALVANO NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH

Next Meeting: Thursday October 07,, 2010 at 7:00 PM

Location: Towne Bank Hall, 137 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23322

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Beekeepers,

Our next meeting is this Thursday, October 7, 2010 at 7 PM at Towne Bank on Mt. Pleasant Road in Chesapeake.

Program: Pollination Partnerships and Sustainable NUC production. Presented by TBA Newsletter Editor Dan Sexton.

. TBA has been overwhelmed with requests for Beekeeping programs the past few months and we have met the demand with high praise from all who attended these functions.

So, new members, old members, the young, the elderly, the beginner, the expert, the motivated, the couch potatoes, WE NEED YOU!!!! Regardless of your beekeeping experience, we WANT and NEED more TBA members to assist staff these events.

TBA is the largest Beekeepers Association in VA and the invitation for our club to be recognized at these events is a significant honor for our



Working on Next Season

association. Thousands of people will be attending and it is our duty to fully staff a booth and provide a friendly "Beekeepers Hello" and offer a glimpse into the fascinating world of the honeybee. Please arrange your schedule to be the voice of TBA at these events.

Sign up sheets will be at the meeting Thursday or contact me to confirm your volunteer attendance at these events. Give an hour, or two, three or four. Together, we can staff the booth and continue to show why TBA is thriving as the largest association in VA.

October 7-8, 2010 (THURSDAY-FRIDAY)
(930 am - 1 pm)

VA Beach Farm Days

VA Beach Farmers Market

3640 Dam Neck Rd (corner of Princess
Ann Road)

Virginia Beach, VA 23453-2619

TBA Volunteers: Carol Watkins, Leilani
Ozment, Hugh Doyle, Frank Walker



October 9, 2010 (SATURDAY) (9 am - 4
pm)

VA Beach Harvest Fair

VA Beach Farmers Market

3640 Dam Neck Rd (corner of Princess
Ann Road)

Virginia Beach, VA 23453-2619

TBA Volunteers: Hodgie, Dan Koach,
Candy Maclaren

October 8-9, 2010 (FRIDAY 4-8 pm
SATURDAY 12-8 pm)



33rd Annual Peanut Fest

Suffolk Executive Airport

1200 Gene Bolton Drive Suffolk, VA
23434

TBA POC Jeff Hancock and Steve Black



October 15 - 17, 2010 (Friday - Sunday)
8 am - 4 pm daily

Scout Fest 100: THE biggest Scouting
Event ever in Tidewater.

Virginia Beach Amphitheater

3550 Cellar Door Way, VA Beach, VA
23456

TBA POC Frank Walker



October 16, 2010 (Saturday (9 am - 3
PM)

Tanner Creek Garden Center

110 Lavalette Ave Norfolk 23504. (Next
to the Norfolk Zoo)

About Tanner's Creek: Tanner's Creek
Garden Center is operated by Eggleston
Services, a not-for-profit
organization that has been dedicated to
the education, training and employment
of persons with disabilities for over
50 years. Our goal is to assist people
in obtaining work opportunities so that
they may better integrate in the
community. Over the last several
decades we have expanded our services
through partnerships with local
businesses and government agencies
offering our associates the chance to
earn a living, and lead full and
independent lives. Tanners Creek Garden
Center and Horticultural Services was,
opened in 1999, and provides education,
training and employment opportunities
in retail sales, greenhouse management.

Frank Walker

President



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

THE PHOTO ABOVE AND THE PHOTOS AT THE END OF
THIS FORAGER ARE FROM MY EXPERIMENTATION
WITH NUCS. I WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS ADVENTURE
THURSDAY EVENING AT THE MONTHLY MEETING.
CURRENTLY, MY BEEYARD HAS TEN THAT I WILL
ATTEMPT TO WINTER OVER AND SPLIT AS SOON AS
NATURE PERMITS IN THE SPRING. IF ALL GOES WELL,
THE PLAN IS TO SELL SOME OF THE NUCS BY LATE
SPRING 2011. IT IS IMPORTANT TO EXAMINE THE
PROS AND CONS REGARDING THESE MINI-HIVES
AND DISCUSS AS MANY POINTS OF VIEW AS WE CAN
ON WHETHER IT IS BETTER TO PURCHASE NUCS OR
PACKAGE BEES

Many times in my former life while serving as an
instructor at The Virginia Forensic Science
Academy it would be my duty to attend a
refresher course to make sure I was telling

everyone what they needed to know on whatever subject it was that I was suppose to tell them about. I never recall much about being tested on my knowledge concerning the subject I was teaching, just my ability to convey the up to date hyperbole. What the instructors collectively decided they were supposed to do was tri-fold. (1) Tell the audience what you're going to tell them. Once you have satisfactorily done that you will (2) Tell the audience what you have to tell. Then if you successfully accomplished that , you will (3) Tell them what you told them. If you succeed with all three then you can proceed to the next subject that you know little or nothing about.

I have written this note so that we will have already accomplished number one before the Thursday night meeting. Lord help us with two and three. Hopefully, we'll have fun and the mission will be accomplished.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the previous monthly membership meeting are available to TBA members for viewing at:

http://www.tidewaterbeekeepers.net/members/meeting_minutes.html



TIDEWATER BEEKEEPER YARD NOTES



Your hives should be almost ready for winter. Confirm that each colony has sufficient winter stores of approximately 40 to 60 lbs. of honey. You can estimate honey reserves by lifting a back edge of the hive – it should feel as if it's full of lead. If not, feed sugar syrup in a 2:1 ratio (5 lbs. sugar to 5 cups water) until each colony is heavy with stores.

Ventilation is paramount during cool weather as dripping condensation inside the hive can wet and kill bees. Make sure that the telescoping outer cover is propped open slightly to allow moisture vapor to escape the colony. Leave screened bottom boards open for winter.

Install an entrance reducer or mouse guard on the hive entrance after checking that you have not trapped any mice inside. The reducer cleat should be placed with the entrance up rather than down to prevent blockage by dead bees or debris during the winter.



Watch for signs of Nosema disease such as

bees defecating on the hive front and entrance. A severe infection can kill a colony in late winter or early spring so treat with Fumigilin-B per manufacturer's instructions if indicated.

TIP of the Month

If your hive(s) are located in an open area, consider placing a wind block near them so it reduces the wind from the North.

"Did you know that when a bee sits, it is on its bee hind???"

MENTORS CORNER

Need a ??question?? answered about your Bees? . Send it to dandbman@islebee.com for an answer.



Five new nucs



Ladies in charge of hive beetle duty



Queen castle



Five nucs and a hive