



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2023 Bee School success
- Swarm Capture Contacts
- March Hive Maintenance
- BoCC Nuc Raffle

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WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2023

27 COMPLETE 2023 BEE SCHOOL

These 27 students from Edenton, Tyner, Hertford, Gatesville, Gates, Columbia, Plymouth, Jarvisburg and Ports-



mouth, VA received their Certificates of Completion on February 28, 2023, their final evening of Beekeepers of Chowan County's 2023 beginner beekeeper course held at College of the Albemarle - Chowan Campus.

During the fifteen hour five-week Introduction to Beekeeping class, students learned about the history of beekeeping, honey bee biology, "bee math", colony activities, beekeeping equipment - including construction, apiary location & set-up, pests & diseases affecting honey bee health, colony management techniques and more! With this basic knowledge, the students are



ready to begin their journey into beekeeping this Spring.

Congratulations to: Matt Atkinson, Bree Atkinson, Mindy Badders, Johnny Bass, Clark Bond, Steve Bravar, Shannon Clarke, Jen Conner, Ray Ferguson, Erika Fitzgerald, Cathy Grivmes, Curtis Hayes, Doremus Luton, Jason Lynaugh, Ashley Lynaugh, Craig Mills, Linda Oiler, Stacey Peterson, Richard Seliqini, Nancy Shiver, RT Sprankle, Steph Sprankle, Whitney Tynch and Madonna Witte, and BoCC members Jake Jones, Kyle Layden & John Marshall.

SWARM SEASON ALREADY?

This year's swarm season started late February and many beekeepers have already experienced swarms. When bees swarm they are generally docile because they have no hive to protect. If you find a swarm and do not want to capture it yourself, we have beekeepers that will take it off your hands.



- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Ron Cummings | Chowan | (252) 331-5259 |
| Marvin Hare | Chowan | (252) 799-6402 |
| Kenny Hobbs | Chowan, Gates, Perquimans | (252) 562-4223 |
| Stuart Morris | Chowan | (252) 313-4499 |
| Etienne Nadeau | Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank | (252) 619-7308 |
| Laird Fentress | Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank | (757) 544-6431 |

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Week of Young Child 2022
Ron C. & Felicity L.

We NEED club members volunteer for community outreach, AND for GAP book points. Let's step up this year and really make our club known in the community!

Week of the Young Child

Saturday, April 22
10 ~ 12p
Perquimans Rec Center
**Need 3-4 adult volunteers*

We have three club members already registered to work this event, and need one more volunteer.

Newbold White House's Living History Day

Friday, April 28
9 ~ 3pm
Newbold White Road,
Hertford

***Need 2-3 adult volunteers*

Annual Heritage Farm Festival

Saturday, June 3
10 ~ 3pm
131 Morristown Road,
Edenton

***Need 2-3 adult volunteers*

Summer 4~H Kids

Monday & Tuesday
June 19 & 20 9-12p
CC Extension Office
&
Wednesday, June 21
9-12p
BOCC Apiary
221 Brayhall Road,
Edenton

***Need multiple adult volunteers*

Bee Happy Week

Tuesday, June 20 2-3p
6-12 year olds
Tyrell County Library
Columbia

The Busy, Busy Bee
Kids Program

***Need 2+ adult volunteers*

Bee Happy Week

Tuesday, July 20 2-3p
13+ year olds
Tyrell County Library
Columbia

Program TBD

***Need 2+ adult volunteers*

To sign up for any of the above events or for more questions, please contact Elizabeth @ (252) 333-6965.

Edenton
Farmer's
Market
2022
Susan R.



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

We have already started a new GAP book and even have some entries in it! Although we are a small club competing against clubs with 150+ members, we could win Chapter of the Year. This Community Outreach category would be our ticket to success. The club needs YOU to help us participate in every event that comes our way and even look for more opportunities to get our BoCC club name out there! What better way to learn about different aspects of beekeeping? If you have any ideas for additional outreach contact Tiffany @ (252) 325-4367.

MONTHLY MEETING

1st Thursday of the Month

All meetings are held at:

NC Cooperative Extension – Chowan County Center

Doors open at 6:30pm, Meeting starts at 7pm



<p>April 6th Dana Stahlman of Stahlman Apiaries Topic: The Honey Harvest is</p>	<p>May 4th Beekeeper Q&A Roundtable Details TBA</p>	<p>June 10th Annual Summer Picnic</p>
<p>July 6th Mary Morris County Ext. Director Topic: Cooking with Honey</p>	<p>August 3rd Randall Austin NCSBA MBP Chair Topic: Honey Bee Colonies as a Superorganism (Zoom)</p>	<p>September 7th Rebecca Gunn w/ Nate Christie, MD Topic: Truth, Half-Truths & Lies (Zoom)</p>

*The hum of
bees is the
voice of
the garden.
-Elizabeth
Lawrence*

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING IN MY HIVES THIS MONTH??

How do I handle this warm/ cold March weather? The warmer temperatures we have seen in February have the dandelions, henbit & red maple blooming early this year. Queens are busy laying & colonies are already building up fast. Beekeepers have already had their beehives boiling & in desperate need of extra room. In early Spring, seeing drones in your colonies is an indicator the 2023 reproductive cycle has begun. Swarms are already being caught & your bees may be busy capping swarm cells as our honey bees follow their natural instincts -- this early in the year! Monitor your colonies & carefully look for swarm cells. There's a tight line between maintaining a large colony for honey production vs it swarming on you & ending your honey extraction dreams. Do not act too fast to split a hive, this cold weather could be detrimental to a small unprepared colony. Look into vertical splits and double screen boards if you are capturing a swarm. Learning how to manage, prevent & capture swarms and handling splits is VERY important information for even experienced *beekeepers*; and new *beekeepers* will benefit from having this valuable info in their beekeeping arsenal for their own Spring 2024 build-up.



BOCC IS SELLING RAFFLE TICKET FOR (2) NUC'S

✿ 5 frame BoCC NUC - medium ✿

✿ 5 frame Paw Paws Bees NUC* - deep ✿

*Russian genetics - bred for propolis production & improved hive health

One medium & one deep are available, so everyone can play regardless of your choice of equipment!

Contact for tickets: (Elizabeth) ☎ (252) 333-6965
or towe.elizabeth@yahoo.com

Raffle tickets are \$5 each.

Drawings for both NUCs will be ☎ the May 4 BoCC meeting during the break & we hope to have the NUCs available (weather permitting) for pick up by mid-May. All proceeds will benefit BoCC, with 50% of the money from raffle ticket sales being donated on behalf of BoCC's members to the NCSU Professorship named the NCSBA Distinguished Professor in Apiculture.



Five Frame Nuc

(not actual nuc for raffle this is an image for reference)



Beekeepers of Chowan County

317 Center Hill Road

Tyner, NC 27980

beekeepersofchowancounty.org

Email:

beekeepersofchowancounty@yahoo.com

THE MISSION & GOAL OF BOCC

The Beekeepers of Chowan County provide a welcoming venue for sharing knowledge and mutual interest in beekeeping; and a forum to educate and promote the benefits of beekeeping to Chowan County and beyond through our expertise, friendship, fun and always respecting our community and environment.



Happ Bee

Saint Patrick's Day



2023 NUC, PACKAGE & QUEEN RESOURCES

**Bray House Honey Bees /
Stacy Marriner**

Offering Local Queens & Nucs
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

brayhousehoneybees@gmail.com

PawPaw Bees Apiary / John Marshall

Offering Local Queens & Nucs (5 or 8 frame)

Chowan County, NC

(757) 235-2347

Marshall91600@yahoo.com

Sapony Creek Apiaries

Offering Packages, Queens & Nucs (5 frame)

6154 West Mount Drive

Rocky Mount, NC 27803

(252) 904-1446

Nadeau Farms / Etienne Nadeau

Offering Local Queens & Nucs (5 frame)

Elizabeth City, NC 27909

(252) 619-7308

nadeaufarmsnc@gmail.com

nadeaufarms.com