Letter from the President:

Now that we have said good-bye to 2014, we are getting settled into the New Year and looking forward to a bountiful spring. As always, we enjoyed Dr. Tew’s ACES Symposium in Clanton.

The Alabama Master Beekeepers held their symposium and all went well. There are some changes that have occurred this year, and you deserve to know about those changes. The Master Beekeeper Commission has a change in personnel. I have given a great deal of thought to this change, and I believe it is the best for the ABA, the AMB, and those individuals involved. I have replaced David Kelton as Chairman of the Alabama Master Beekeeper Program. David has worked very hard over the last six years on this program, and we own him great thanks. This program has had snares along the way, but he has endured and kept the program on track. The AMB enjoys a working relationship with the Florida program, and other states are using the Alabama Program as their model. This is all thanks to David. There are other changes in the Commission. Other faces have been removed with thanks and replaced with others in the ABA. Effective in February, Keith Fletcher assumed the role of Chairperson of the AMB.

I am encouraged by the cooperation from everyone as we move forward to our spring picnic. I hope to see you there. As always, if you have any questions or issues, please let me know.

Gerry Whitaker, President

Letter from the Vice-President:

For those of you who attended Dr. Tew’s ACES Beekeeping Symposium on February 7th, I want to thank you for your support of beekeeping in Alabama. There was a record crowd in attendance, seven hundred and twenty. I was pleased to hear from a lot of you on how good the meeting went. I received a lot of compliments on the meal that the Alabama Beekeepers Association prepared for the meeting. Thank you to those ladies and gentlemen that did a great job planning, preparing and serving all that food for such a large crowd. I received a lot of compliments on the meal. Through second hand sources, I have determined that you all consumed forty-eight gallons of chili, sixteen gallons of potato soup, six hundred pimiento cheese sandwiches, six hundred corn muffins, five hundred seventy-six sodas, two hundred ten bottles of water, fourteen large bags of Fritos, and too much sour cream, cheese, crackers, and jalapeños. There were innumerable brownies, cookies, and cupcakes brought by many generous individuals. Thank you.
I am working on the lineup for speakers and workshops for the annual meeting coming up in September. There are many details to be worked out for our two main guest speakers, Dr. Dewey Caron and Peggy Garnes. If you have any suggestions for topics or other speakers that you would like to have at the annual meeting, please E-mail me at ellis-buzz@bellsouth.net or call me at 205/647/0729.

Nominations for 2015 Beekeeper of the Year can also be sent to the same E-mail address. Begin working on your nomination for Beekeeper of the Year right now.

Once again I want to thank each of you for being a part of and supporting beekeeping in Alabama. I look forward to hearing from each of you.

Thank You. David Ellis, Vice-President

Letter from the Secretary/Treasurer:

I would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who made it possible for us to serve so many people for lunch at Dr. Tew's ACES workshop. Also, thanks to all of you who brought desserts. We have never had so many contributions. We had some desserts left over. It was a very big help. Whenever you have a meal for so many people, it is hard to plan exactly how much food to fix. We guesstimate it as best we can. We had some food left over, and Ricky Grace took some of it to the Children's Home he usually takes it to, and the rest went to the soup kitchen in Clanton. Christine Brown, the lady that manages the Clanton Conference and Performing Arts center is the daughter of the lady who runs the soup kitchen in Clanton. She took that food to them.

May I remind everyone again that if you have not paid your dues for 2015, it is time to do so. We received many dues in Clanton. Usually, the February newsletter is the last time you get a newsletter if you have not renewed your dues. In March I will send a letter to everyone who has not paid by that time to let them know that their dues need to be paid. If you are not sure through what date your dues are paid, look on your mailing label, if you receive the Stinger in the mail, or on your email, if you receive your newsletter by email. If your end date is 12/31/14, it is time to pay your dues for 2015.

Dr. John Hurst has generously offered his farm for our picnic this year. The picnic will be held on May 9th. We will eat at 12:00 noon. Lonnie will publish driving directions to his farm. Hal Hendrix has agreed to cook barbecue for us again. The Alabama Beekeepers Association pays for the meat and the drinks and paper products. We invite everyone to come and to bring with them anyone they want to bring. Just be sure to bring a side dish or dessert to go with the meat. Also everyone will need to bring their own lawn chairs. We will have more information on this picnic in the April Stinger. Begin thinking about the bee supplies that you will order to be picked up at the picnic.
Hope to see everyone again on May 9th. Bonnie Funderburg, Secretary/Treasurer

Report from David Kelton

The Alabama Master Beekeeper program just finished its eighth program educating Alabama Beekeepers to become leaders in beekeeping as Master Beekeepers. The goal of this program has been to help Beekeepers come to understand the honeybee and how it sustains life in our everyday world and to teach Beginning Beekeepers how to keep and maintain honeybees and their hives.

We had a total of forty-one attendees and students, including instructors and leaders. Congratulations to Cathy Coleman for obtaining her Alabama Master Beekeeper certification. We had four Journeyman and eleven Apprentice Beekeepers to all pass their certifications. We also had nine beginning Beekeepers to attend.

Thank you for everyone’s support of the Alabama Master Beekeeper Program. Since we started the program in 2011, we have been able to give over 150 Beekeepers a chance to prove themselves as Experts in beekeeping.

Keith Fletcher will continue as the chairman after February 8th, 2015. I am not resigning but moving on to other things that will improve Alabama Beekeeping.

I would like to thank the ABA Board of Directors for letting me represent the Alabama Beekeepers Association as their Delegate to the American Beekeeping Federation meeting in Anaheim, California. It was a very educational event on what is happening in beekeeping across the United States as well as many other places around the world. I attended the delegation luncheon and was able to hear what many other states are doing. I could fill up a whole page, but maybe I can give brief reports in the next few Stingers. I also talked about our Master Beekeeper Program and found that there is a lot of interest...
from other states that would like to mirror our program. I also signed up to work on the research and education committees. We have already had one conference call on the research program.

The ABF is asking anyone to make donations that can to help in these endeavors. If you have any questions call me at 256-523-4767 or email honeybees60@gmail.com.

We still have a few packages for sale on the March 28th pickup. I also have a silver queen uncapper, tank, and stand, a 30 frame woodman extractor for sale for $5,500; new cost about $12,000. It is in good working order. We also will be adding extractors, ventilated bee suits and many other new items to our store located at 1590 Tabor Cut Off, Gadsden, Al. 256-523-4767 Thanks. FOR BETTER BEEKEEPING. David Kelton

**South Alabama Beekeepers Association Workshop & Field Day**

The South Alabama Beekeepers Association will host a workshop on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. The location is the Auburn University Gulf Coast Research & Extension Center, 8300 State Hwy 104, Fairhope, AL 36532 (Lat. & Long. N30.545562°, W87.880946°) Cost is $25 per person or $35 per family, pay at the door. Lunch will be provided. There will be an open hive demonstration (weather permitting) so bring your protective gear if you want to participate in this activity. Mail your registration form to: Roger Bemis, Attn: Beekeeping Workshop and Field Day Registration, P.O. Box 353, Bon Secour, AL 36511. For additional information please call Roger Bemis at 251-213-0168 or e-mail at BemisRoger@hotmail.com. Make your check payable to South Alabama Beekeepers Association.

**I Met My Heros!** By Roslyn Horton

It was unusually warm for a dreary December day in Chicago. And it wasn't the best part of town as evidenced by the unwelcome cat call from a passing motorist. My daughter and I knew better than to acknowledge it and kept heading toward the small two-story house-turned-office-building with the tall green chain link fence.

Kelvin, the manager, was expecting us and met us on the steps. He welcomed us into the small crowded building that houses North Lawndale Employment Network, the parent organization that owns the company we were visiting. There were more people in the front office than I imagined would fit into the entire building. Everyone was busy at a computer or hunkered over forms and didn't seem to notice us. Our host led us to his basement office where he was busy managing orders and inventory control. Behind his desk was a poster announcing their 2014 statistics; the number of hires, the number of transfers to other jobs and probably most important - a big 0 for the recidivism number. For those unfamiliar with the term, it's the chronic tendency toward repetition of criminal or antisocial behavior patterns. In other words, nobody had gone back to jail.

Sweet Beginnings LLC was started in 2006, the brainchild of Brenda Palms Barber who developed this innovative social enterprise. Sweet Beginnings is a transitional jobs program that provides green collar jobs producing honey in an urban neighborhood setting and manufacturing and marketing honey-based personal care products under the BeeLove™ label. The program has received many awards and has had the support of many foundations and community minded companies. I'd had my eye on these folks for a long time. As a prison chaplain of 15 years (longer than I've kept bees), I understand the challenges faced by people re-entering society and the whole concept...
was fascinating. This fact, that broken people who work with bees and continue to go forward with their lives, still makes me smile. Kelvin was a gracious host. He had just taken over as manager and answered my many questions.

As luck would have it, he wasn't the only person at Sweet Beginnings who was working that day. The beekeepers were there! John Hansen, former president of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association and Thad Smith of WestSide Bee Boyz had both been in the bee yard taking samples that morning. Thad was the one who came inside and eagerly took us to the bee yard, which was the back yard of the building, still surrounded by that tall green chain link fence. They had about fifteen hives there and many empty supers stacked around the edges. With the day warm (for Chicago) they were collecting bees to send to the USDA Lab as they were dealing with acute paralysis disease. It wasn't pretty, and they were worried.

Sweet Beginnings has bees in several locations in and around Chicago, all on public land. The honey they offer truly is local for Chicago. I had already been near a great number of them located at O'Hare Airport. And it turns out that Chicago has a respectable local beekeepers association with over 200 members, some of whom I'd already met at my daughter's church. Thad, himself an Apprentice and an up and coming businessman in his own right, is involved with youth programs and actively promotes beekeeping.

We had a good visit. They had lots of questions about the challenges we face in the south, AHB in particular. Neither of them had ever seen a small hive beetle, but they had seen varroa and lots of nosema. Toward the end we wound up helping catch stray bees that had hitchhiked inside on Thad's clothing and were causing terror among the people inside.

To sum it up, no matter where you go, you'll always find yourself in good company with beekeepers. You will learn something, you'll be challenged, and for me personally, I'm more convinced than ever that bees might just be little angels with stingers.

Roslyn Horton, Alabama Master Beekeeper  
Queen's Castle Beekeeper Assoc.

Check the club listing on page 9 for the update on this club. They are expecting three guest speakers at their meeting on February 28th: Paul Watson, Don Sobozak, and Neranza Blount. This is your opportunity to learn from three speakers at one meeting.  

**National Association of County Agricultural Agents**

The Alabama Beekeepers Association, in conjunction with the Mobile County Beekeepers Association, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System manned a very nice information booth at the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) annual national meeting, held at the Mobile Convention Center, July 20 - 24, 2014. The display was set up by Marge Smith and others from the Mobile County Beekeepers Association (MCBA). An educational / pictured beehive was supplied by Keith Fielder, Extension Agent, Putnam County, Georgia. Dr. Jim Tew provided a continuously looped Power-Point presentation that was shown during the conference.

The NACAA Convention / Conference meeting is a national event held annually in a different state. There were over 1,600 agricultural agents from across the nation, along with the wives, and in some cases, their children.

The booth was manned continuously during the exhibition hours by Dr. Jim Tew and his wife, Vallie, Marge Smith and others from the MCBA, a number of county agents from the Mobile and Baldwin counties, and Damon Wallace from the ABA. From the amount of discussions, stop-bys, Alabama honey tasting and books distributed, it seems that virtually every registered attendee stopped by. The booth was so attractive, informative and professionally managed that it was declared (unofficially, since these rankings are not announced) as the 2nd best at the convention, with the Blue Bell Ice Cream truck and freezers with all the free ice cream you could eat taking the top spot as most popular. How can you compete with that!
We were asked if there could be some small honey bears for the gift baskets presented to the ladies attending the First Lady’s Reception, hosted by the wife of the NACAA president. 75 of the 2 ounce bears were furnished for the gifts, with the gift bags filled with goodies demonstrating the quality and diversity of Alabama’s agriculture. The theme of showcasing Alabama agriculture was the one picked by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for the Mobile event.

The representation of ABA at the convention came at zero dollars ($0.00) cost to the beekeepers.

The next NACAA Convention will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 2015 if you wish to attend.

It is with sadness that I report that Marge Smith passed away in the fall of 2014 after a brief illness with respiratory complications. She was an excellent and avid beekeeper in Mobile county. She will be missed.

Regards, Damon Wallace, Past President, Alabama Beekeepers Association

UAB Student Andrew Milstead to Participate at Clinton Global Initiative

University

Andrew Milstead is the son of Wynelle Milstead, current Secretary/Treasurer of Walker County Beekeepers Association. Andrew Milstead is one of twenty-five individuals selected to receive two hives and two colonies of bees with a grant obtained by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries from the United States Department of Agriculture. Thank the inspector the next time you see him.

The following is excerpts from the UAB Newsletter. Collat School of Business Andrew Milstead has been chosen to participate in the Clinton Global Initiative University Network meeting at the University of Miami in March, 2015. Andrew, a senior from Jasper, Alabama, was selected in the early decision round. CGI U was launched by President Bill Clinton in 2007 to engage the next generation of leaders on college campuses around the world.

Each year, CGI U brings together 1,200 undergraduate and graduate students from around the world to address challenges with practical, innovative solutions. To be considered for the annual meeting, each student must develop a commitment to action that addresses a pressing local or global challenge in one of five categories: education, environment and climate change, peace and human rights, poverty alleviation, and public health.

Andrew, a finance major in the Collat School of Business Honors Program, made a commitment to action in the environment and climate change category. He intends to implement natural apiaries with sustainable pollinator gardens throughout the Birmingham metropolitan area. His commitment is in response to the declining population of honeybees and other pollinators worldwide from colony collapse disorder. Andrew’s goal is to increase the rate of pollination and to raise awareness by partnering with the Pollinator Health Task Force established by President Obama in June 2014.

The CGI University Network is a consortium of colleges and universities that support, mentor, and provide seed funding to leading student innovators and entrepreneurs on their respective campuses. UAB is a 2015 member of the CGI University Network. For more information on CGI U, please contact Libba
Dr. Tew’s 20th Annual Alabama Cooperative Extension System Spring Beekeeping Symposium

It just keeps getting better and better. After practicing nineteen times, Dr. Tew and his close associates, Dr. Paul Mask and Nan Chambliss and closer associate, Vallie Tew, have put together an unbelievable bee meeting in Alabama. The larger facility of Clanton Conference and Performing Arts Center was to contain the symposium for several years. This first year had attendance of 720, already in excess of the seating capacity of the auditorium. The headliner speakers were Dr. Larry Connor and Dr. Greg Hunt. My takeaway from Dr. Connor’s presentation on making splits is worth summarizing here. I have, and many of you have, made splits. Dr. Connor outlined three methods. We have used the first two methods. By the way, all three methods included adding a queen cell, a virgin queen, or a mated queen to the split. He did not say that we should not let the split raise their own queen; however, one step in all three methods was to add queen. The third method had, for me, a new wrinkle. It will require the assembling of a new, special purpose lid. Method three requires a lid that will cover a regular eight or ten frame hive body with a rectangular opening centered in this lid that is the size of the opening in your nuc body. This opening is covered with a plastic queen excluder. The five-frame split is composed of a frame of honey, a frame of pollen, and three frames of brood in all stages. Now this is important! All the adhering bees are shaken off these frames before the frames are placed into the nuc. The three frames could come from one, two, or three different colonies. It doesn’t matter. Replace the three frames from wherever they were removed with new frames/foundation or new drawn comb. This is part of your swarm management and your old comb management. The modified lid, with the queen excluder covered opening, is placed over the colony that will be split. The nuc, that has no bees in it yet but does have five frames, is placed over the queen excluder opening. A lid is placed over the nuc. Within two hours, you could wait twenty-four hours, the correct aged nurse bees, from the colony below, will move up into the nuc. After two hours or the next day, the nuc bottom board is installed and the completed split may be set aside in the same yard; the appropriate nurse bees will not fly back to their old hive. All of us can handle method three so far. What about the queen cell, virgin queen, or new mated queen? If you find a swarm cell, this would work very nicely. If you have good communications with nearby beekeepers, maybe one of them has found a swarm cell. Maybe you live near a beekeeper who raises queens. Or, how about this, learn how to raise queens.

Dr. Hunt’s presentation was marked by technology problems. Technology is great, when it works. Dr. Tew and Dr. Hunt had to wing it for about twenty minutes before the PowerPoint began working properly. I commend both men for keeping their cool in the situation.

During Dr. Hunt’s presentation, I remembered when Wil Montgomery and I attended Sue Cobey’s Queen Rearing Short Course back in 2004 when she was at Ohio State University in Columbus. I’ll never forget her introductory comments about studying honey bees. Sue Cobey said, “This is very complex!” Well, Dr. Hunt reminded us of how very complex the insects really are. The title of his presentation was “Bees that Bite Mites”. If you have been keeping up, you recall VSH, varroa sensitive hygiene, plus grooming behavior. Now we have bees that chew the legs off of varroa. So, Dr. Hunt is discussing three more desirable traits in our bees. Add these traits to your list and figure out how to quantify these traits. Maybe we should simply ask our queen breeders if they are selecting for these traits.

It is unfortunate that Dr. Hunt had to cram his presentation into twenty-five minutes. I am sure that I missed out on some valuable information.

This is unofficial. There was discussion of meeting on Friday and Saturday. It would be the same symposium, just repeated the next day. Meeting on two days would reduce some congestion. Think about it. Let Dr. Tew know whether or not you could come to the Friday session.

Letter from the Editor—

Melanie Kempers up in Ontario sent me an e-mail last week asking if I knew of any written Best Manage-
ment Practices for honey bee health. I did not. This sounds like a project that someone should take on for the Association. Who will begin writing what we should be doing for the health of our bees?

Last summer while on a trip out west, I came across this on a plaque in a souvenir shop just outside Zion National Park. Ability is what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it! How does this help beekeepers?

It is not too soon to begin thinking about the Chilton Research Farm Home & Wildlife Expo next summer. I am thinking about your honey samples. The Alabama Beekeepers Association is fully entrenched at this expo. The Expo sets up a large tent just for the ABA. For the past three years, we have overwhelmed the non-beekeepers with our varieties of honey from all around the state. Put a note on your calendar that you will bring a sample of your honey to the picnic on May 9th. The container does not matter; this is not a honey contest. Your sample does not need to be large. Half a 12 oz. squeeze bear or an 8 oz. jelly jar is more than enough honey for everyone to taste. I will put your honey in a 12 oz. squeeze bear. Give me whatever information you want displayed with your honey. In which county did the bees gather the nectar? If you know or suspect, what is the floral source? When did you pull the super? If you want new customers, tell me your name, address, phone number, or e-mail address and state that your honey is available for sale.

While surfing the internet, I found this idea for a homemade strainer utilizing a 5-gallon bucket. Here is the website: http://www.finhomebuilding.com/how-to/tips/paint-strainer.aspx

George Reid sent me an e-mail about a source for clover seed: Central Seed & Supply, 13055 Hwy. 11, Springville, AL 35146. 205-467-9095. Mike Stoops alerted me to W. Louis Myers at 251-765-2005 or cell 205-767-0912 who will have some hives with bees to sell. He lives in Excel, AL. Call for price and availability.

The 2015 picnic will be on Saturday, May 9th at Dr. Hurst’s farm. There will be driving directions to Dr. Hurst’s farm/picnic in the April Stinger. In the meantime, you can peruse Dr. Hurst’s website at www.rockhurst.com. There is a link to Google Maps with the location of his farm.

If you are interested, Phil Craft, former Kentucky State Apiarist, has a newsletter. Subscribe at http://philcrafthivecraft.com/.

Check your club listing. Let me know if I have your listing correct.

See you at the picnic.

Lonnie W. Funderburg, Editor

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**2014 Officers and Board of Directors**

**President** Gerry Whitaker, 910 County Road 153, New Brockton, AL 36351-8299  
**Vice-President** David Ellis, 9705 Bankston Road, Dora, AL 35062-1722  
**Sect/Treas** Bonnie Funderburg, 1260 Easley Bridge Rd, Oneonta, AL 35121-4110  
**Director - 2015** Bill Miller, 2991 Eddins Rd. Dothan, AL 36301-7478  
**Director - 2015** Lionel Evans, 1307 Fern St., Athens, AL 35613-2111  
**Director - 2016** David Kelton, 1590 Tabor Cutoff, Gadsden, AL 35904-9755  
**Director - 2016** Allyson Andrews, 2232 Chana Creek Rd., Eclectic, AL 36024-6029  
**Director - 2017** Bill Evans, 1031 County Road 50, Jemison, AL 35085  
**Director - 2017** Daryl J. Pichoff, 583 Park Avenue, Foley, Al 36535  
**Past-President** Damon Wallace, 2003 Highpoint Drive, Opelika, AL 36801-2005, damonwallace.beeman@gmail.com, 334-745-5312

**Deadline for submitting for the April issue of the Stinger is March 28th.**

**Webmaster—Bob Fanning, k4vb@knology.net**  
**Editor—Lonnie W. Funderburg, 1260 Easley Bridge Rd., Oneonta, AL 35121-4110 — funder@otelco.net**
Regional Clubs/Associations

Baldwin County: Daryl J. Pichoff, Pres. 583 Park Ave, Foley, AL 36535; pichoffd@gmail.com. Meet 7:00 P.M. 1st Monday at Robertsdale Fire Dept, St. Paul & Racine Streets, across from water tower. (Updated 12-01-2013)

Blount County Beekeepers Association: Contact Hal Hendrix, Pres. hhendrix@otelco.net , Meet 4th Thursday at 6:30 PM (except Nov. & Dec.) at Blount County Resource Center, 62561 US Hwy 231, Cleveland, AL (Lat. N33.993546°, Long. W86.57759°) (Updated 01-24-2013)

Central Alabama Beekeepers Association: Allyson Andrews, Pres. jandrews1@elmore.rr.com; (334) 799-2254. Meet 6:00 PM 1st Thursday of every month. Call for meeting place. (Updated 12-03-2013)

Chilton County Beekeepers Association: Bill Evans, Pres. Bill@RoseHillFarmsLLC.com Meet 1st Thu. each month at 6:00 PM at Clanton Recreation Center, 301 1st Street (Highway 145 in city park) Clanton, AL (Updated 9-17-2014)

Choctaw County: No current information available. Please update.

Cullman County: Phillip Garrison, Pres. 178 County Rd 1327, Vinemont, AL 35179-6871, Tel (256) 734-5963, Meet 2nd at 6:30 P.M. every odd month at Main Alfa Building, 307 Main Ave N.W., Cullman, AL 35055 Lat. N34.17883°, Long. W86.847793° (Updated 02-09-2015)

East Alabama Beekeepers: Tom Harris, Pres. 270 Oak Hills Dr. Wedowee, AL 36278, (256) 363-6861 Ext 11 Lat. W33.490438°, Long. W85.831049° (Updated 11-28-2013)

Etowah County—Queen’s Castle Beekeepers Association Gary Barrow, Pres. gbandvb@centurylink.net Contact O.J. Blount, 334-222-0751. Meet the last Saturday of every month from 9:00-2:00. Lat. N31.152958°, Long. W86.745510° (Updated 02-08-2015)

Etoah County: Pat Sherrill, Pres. Sherrill15@msn.com Meet 1st Thu at 6:30 P.M. at Carnes Recreation Center, 103 Case Avenue, Attalla, AL 256-570-0202 Lat. N33.998267°, Long. W86.108728° (Updated 04-12-2014)

Jackson County Beekeepers Association: Contact Jerry Latham, 256-609-7035. Meet 6:30 PM the first Thursday of every numbered months at ALFA Insurance office, 23625 John T. Reid Parkway, Scottsboro, AL. (Updated 04-26-2015)

Jefferson County: Dr. John Hurst, Pres. Meet 6:00 P.M. 3rd Thu Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 2612 Lane Park Rd. Birmingham, AL 35223-1802 County agent, Sallie Lee (205) 879-6964 Ext 11 Lat. W33.490438°.Long. W86.775025° (Updated 12-16-2013)

Limestone County Beekeepers Association: Lionel Evans, Pres. smoovehan@aol.com. Meets 2nd Thu of even months (Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, & Dec.) 6:00 PM at Limestone County Water Authority, 17218 US Hwy 72 West, Athens, AL 35611 (Updated 04-26-2013)

Lower Alabama Beekeepers Association, Nolen Ballard, pres nolenballard@centurytell.net meet at Antioch East Baptist Church, 2303 Old Stage Rd, Greenville, AL. Contact Nolen Ballard to confirm date and time. (Updated 12/01/2014)

Madison County: Ricky Walls, Pres. 7006 Linda St; Huntsville, AL 35811; 256-686-8661; rickywalls@gmail.com. Meet 6:30 P.M. 2nd Thu in odd-numbered months at Botanical Gardens, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave, Huntsville, AL Lat. N34.710198°, Long. W86.634864° (Updated 09-29-2014)

Mobile County Beekeepers Association - Robert Ardary, Pres. (251) 401-2690 musical_cannon@yahoo.com. Meet at 10:00 AM on second Saturday of each month at Grace Tabernacle Church, 2001 Dawes Rd, Mobile, AL 36695 Lat. N30.64868°, Long. W88.246652° (Updated 10-22-2013)

Monroe County: No current information on this club. (Updated 10-12-2013)

North-West Alabama Bee Club: No current information on this club. (12-19-2011)


Sand Mountain Beekeepers (Blount, DeKalb, Jackson, Marshall & NE AL): Lyle Greenwood, Pres, Tel (256)586-2206, lgwood@otelco.net. Meet 6:30 P.M. on 3rd Thu of even numbered months at Guntersville Public Library, 1240 O’Briag Ave, Guntersville, AL (Updated 02-21-2013)

Saugahatchee Beekeepers Association meets the first Tuesday of every even numbered month (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) 6:00 PM at the Lee County Extension Office which is located at 600 S. 7th St. in Opelika, AL. Contact president Peter Elliott; peliottj309@charter.net or 334-749-2368 for additional information. (Updated 01-21-2015)

Shelby County Beekeepers Association: Brandon Blankenship, Pres. brandon.blankenship@outlook.com , meet 1st Monday of each month except Dec. at YMCA Hargis Retreat, 398 Hargis Drive, Chelsea, AL (Lat. N33.36604°, Long. W86.59976°) from 7-9 PM. Greg Lowe, V/P glowe60@gmail.com (Updated 02-03-2015)

Southeast Alabama Beekeepers Association: Gerry Whitaker, Pres. whitfarm@centurytel.net, Meet 7:00 P.M. 1st Thu of each month at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton, AL (Updated 11-30-2012)

Tallapoosa River: Tony Goss, Pres. tony@tongoss.com, meet 3rd Thurs. every month at 6:00 PM at Dadeville Recreation Center, 116 Kids Ct, Dadeville, AL. (Updated 4-11-2014)

Tennessee Valley Beekeepers Association: Mary Gibson, pres. Lamar Roberson, VP, David Hicks Sec/Treas hicksdavid@live.com (256) 565-4020. Meet 2nd Thu of even months at 7:00 P.M. at the Moulton City Hall, 720 Seminary St, Moulton, AL. (Updated 03-11-2013)

Walker County: Lonnie Funderburg, 1260 Easley Bridge Rd, Oneonta, AL 35121-4110 Tel (205) 625-3464. Meet 6:30 P.M. 4th Mon at Ext Svc Bldg, 1501 N. Airport Road, Jasper, AL except July and December, picnic in July. (Lat. N33.863387°, Long. W87.263501°) (Updated 02-13-13)

West Alabama Beekeepers Association (Bibb, Tuscaloosa, Hale, & Pickens Cos.) Bill Hewett, Pres BillHewett3824@Yahoo.com Meet 6:00 P.M. 3rd Thu monthly at County Extension Service Auditorium, 714 Greensboro Ave.,Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. Current website http://www.HewettisHoney.com. (Updated 01-09-2011)

Wiregrass (Houston County): Roslyn Horton, Pres., 334-795-6201 home 334-790-2087 cell, rshorton@gmail.com. Meet 7:00 P.M. 1st Thu every month at Houston County Extension Office, Ross Clark Circle #4; Dothan, AL. Lat. 31.194471°, Long. -85.374664° (Updated 4-12-2014)
Are you feeding your bees? Have you checked them for Queen-right? Have you paid your dues? Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 9th, for the annual picnic. Tell me what your local association is doing, bee school, workshop, etc. Check your club listings. Tell me what your local association is doing, bee school, workshop, etc.