

Winter Beekeeping is Here!



McDowell Bee Buzz

December 2018

MCDOWELL HONEY BEES---A CHAPTER OF THE NC STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

IN THIS ISSUE

The McDowell Honey Bees

The McDowell Honey Bees is a chapter of the North Carolina State Beekeeping Association and meets the 2nd Thursday of every month except December (no meeting). McDowell County has a rich history of beekeeping and the club serves the community by promoting beekeeping with educational monthly meetings, school presentations, a free Bee School every winter, agricultural presentations, involvement in community festivals, hosting two annual "Best Tasting Honey in McDowell County" competitions, and maintaining a bee yard at the McDowell Technical Community College for demos and learning.

In addition, our club serves established beekeepers with novice, intermediate, and advanced level classroom and field education, seasonal beekeeping programs, discussion sessions, and providing support and training to advance our beekeepers in the North Carolina Master Beekeeper Program:

Certified Beekeeper
Journeyman Beekeeper
Master Beekeeper
Master Craftsman Beekeeper

Our monthly meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend!

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ed Speer
Vice President: Merrill Davis
Secretary: Karen Speer
Treasurer: Jim Austin
Directors:
Ray Revis
Adam Wright
Sharon Fairchild
Jason McCurry
Kaylyn Fairchild (Youth Director)
Extension Services Agent—Adam Lawning

WEBSITE

[McDowell Honey Bees Website](#)

All past eNewsletters can be found here

HAVE A SWARM?

Save the bees! Contact a Beekeeper
See Swarm List on [page 10](#)

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Everyone Welcome!

Join us at our next monthly meeting!

JANUARY 10, 2019 MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday January 10
6:30 pm

McDowell Senior Center
Next to YMCA
100 Spaulding Rd
Marion, NC 28752

Guest speaker TBA



REMEMBER

There is no December meeting

2019 MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS

Jan 10 Speaker TBA
Feb 14 Open
Mar 14 Lynn Williams—Mighty Mite Killer
Apr 11 Doug Elliott—Master Story Teller
May 9 Gear Day—Honey House
Jun 13 Spring Honey Tasting Contest
Jul 11 Open
Aug 8 Open
Sep 12 Summer Honey Tasting Contest
Oct 10 Open
Nov 14 Potluck & Elections
Dec No meeting

Are your bees ready for winter?



Honeybee queen laying eggs
Sweet Betsy Farm Observation Hive 2015

January 10, 2019 Meeting Agenda

6:30 pm Call to order
 Old Business
 New Business
 7:15 pm Break
 7:30 pm Program Speaker TBA
 8:25 pm Door Prizes/Announcements
 8:30 pm Adjourn

Contact Ed Speer to Add AGENDA items
Ed@SweetBetsyFarm.com (828) 724-444

Visit us on Facebook

178 Area Beekeepers are Online!

The McDowell Honey Bees has a Facebook page! It's a great place to post your latest activities, keep in touch with fellow beekeepers, learn what's happening right now and communicate with your new friends.

[The McDowell Honey Bees](#)

2019

Bee School

The Buzz on Beekeeping

Feb 2, 9, & 16 (classroom)
April 27 (Bee Yard)



**Beginning Beekeeper
 Course**

Free! But Registration is Required

[Click Here to Register](#)

Space is limited—register now

Guest Speakers
 How to start beekeeping
 Tools, Equipment, Woodenware
 How to Acquire Bees
 Pests and Diseases
 Honey Tasting
 Honey Extraction Demo
 Hands-on Hive Construction
 Ask a Beekeeper
 Door Prizes
 Silent Auction

Take the
 North Carolina State Beekeepers Association
 Certified Beekeeper Exam

McDowell Technical Community College (Feb 2, 9, 16)
 Sweet Betsy Farm Bee Yard (Apr 27)

Sponsored by
 McDowell Beekeepers Association
 McDowell County Extension Office
 McDowell Technical Community College
 McDowell Farm Bureau

MCDOWELL COUNTY NCSBA MASTER BEEKEEPERS

Ray Revis
Wayne Holland
Karen Speer

MCDOWELL HONEYBEE MENTORS

Charles Myers---Nebo
cjmyers1952@gmail.com
Wayne Holland---Glenwood
828-659-4161
Ed Speer---Glenwood
828-724-4444
Karen Speer---Glenwood
828-925-4444
Bruce Clifton---Greenlee
828-925-0646
Don Miller---Old Fort
828-668-0154
Merrill Davis---Old Fort
828-668-3153
James Lunsford---Old Fort
828-668-9112
Charles Revis---Marion
828-925-1430
Ray Revis---Marion
828-460-3247
Lonnie/Barb Bewernitz--Old Fort
828-280-3784

Are you a beginning beekeeper who needs help?
Contact a mentor near you.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 8, 2019
6:30 pm
Sweet Betsy Farm
3947 Mudcut Rd
Marion, NC

US 221, 4 mi south of I-40 (exit 85)
Left turn onto Mudcut Road
First driveway on left

2019 McDowell Beekeeper Association Officers

Congratulations to our new Officers
elected at the 2018 November monthly meeting

Ed Speer – President
Merrill Davis – Vice President
Karen Speer – Secretary
Jim Austin – Treasurer
Ray Revis – Director
Adam Wright – Director
Sharon Fairchild – Director
Jason McCurry - Director

Varroa Management

**Mites, Mites, Mites Everywhere! Oh my!
What's a beekeeper to do?**

Beekeepers' biggest challenge today is the Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*), which first arrived in the US in 1987 and has been causing widespread chaos ever since. Over the last 30 years, innumerable research studies and beekeeping practices have generated a vast array of management options for the beekeeper. The purpose of this page is to provide a simple, yet complete, summary of these options.

Beekeepers tend to fall into one or two management styles and follow either use of chemical miticide treatments or chemical/treatment-free beekeeping. Whichever path you follow, a combination of management practices is often useful. If interested in any of the options listed here, educate yourself further with additional Internet and published reference research. But bee-forewarned: evidence-based advice is often difficult to distinguish from anecdotal-based advice; however, the wise beekeeper should only follow established evidence-based opinions.



Adult Varroa mite on adult honeybee

Recommended References

Tools for Varroa Management—A guide to effective varroa sampling & control; Honey Bee Health Coalition, 2015 (revised 2015)—**a must read resource!** www.honeybeehealthcoalition.org

I.M.N. System of Queen Rearing; Mel Disselkoen, 1988 (revised 2008) www.mdasplitter.com/docs/IMN-Original-Research-2016.pdf

Solomon Parker www.ParkerBees.com

Randy Oliver www.ScientificBeekeeping.com

Michael Bush www.bushfarms.com/bees.htm

Kirk Webster www.kirkwebster.com

The Bee Gym www.vita-europe.com

Facebook: Treatment-Free Beekeepers Public Group

Internet Search: Treatment free beekeeping

YouTube: OTS Queen Rearing

Dr. Samuel Ramsey videos on Varroa mites

Splits and Varroa; William Hesbach, 2016
Natural Beekeeping; Ross Conrad

Top-Bar Beekeeping: Organic Practices for Honeybee Health; Les Crowder

The Practical Beekeeper: Beekeeping Naturally; Michael Bush

OTS Queen Rearing: A Survival Guide for Beekeepers Worldwide

(2016 Expanded Edition; Mel Disselkoen)

Kill the Little Suckers

- Chemical Miticides** (carefully follow package directions; avoid mite resistance by alternating the use of 4, or more of these chemicals---never use the same chemical on the same hive twice in a row)
 - Synthetic Miticides**
Very effective; mite resistance &/or comb residue concerns; avoid or use with extreme caution.
 - Apistan (tau-fluvalinate)
 - Apivar & Takic (amitraz) not approved for use in the US
 - Checkmite+ (coumaphos)
 - Hivastan (fenpyroximate)
 - Many others
 - Natural Miticides**
Low to high effectiveness; antibiotic &/or comb residue concerns; mite resistance unknown.
 - Essential Oils**
 - Apiguard (thymol)
 - Api Life Var (thymol + eucalyptol, menthol, & camphor)
 - Many low-dose essential oil formulations are currently being tested
 - Organic Acids**
 - MiteAway II (formic acid)
 - Oxalic Acid (oxalic acid dihydrate)
 - HopGuard II (hops beta acids)
 - Sucroside (sucrose octanoate)
- Other Mite-Killing Options** Effectiveness unknown to very low.
 - Hive dusting with powdered sugar
 - Hive fogging with vaporized oils (mineral oil &/or essential oils; beekeeper health concerns)
 - Hive smoking (regular smoke or that from tobacco, grapefruit or aromatic leaves)
 - Use of screened hive bottoms w/ sticky boards
 - Heat treatment (whole-hive or whole-super heater; 104-110°F for 2-4 hrs.)
 - Removal & freezing special-use frames of drone brood (highly effective)
 - High-heat special-use frames of drone brood (in-hive drone frame heater)
 - Ultra-high frequency sound (yes, this is a thing; effectiveness unknown)

Make Them Unwelcome *Effectiveness unknown to low.*

- Use small cell comb (small-cell foundation or foundation-less natural comb; 4.6-5.0 mm vs. 5.4 mm)
- Lower pH of sugar syrup &/or pollen substitutes with vinegar when feeding bees (match pH of Honey)
- Locate hives in sunny sites with good air circulation (heat from summer sun probably harms mites)
- Reduce adult bee drifting (space hives far apart, add distinguishing colors/markings)

Other Effective Management Options *In no order.*

- Interruptions of honeybee & mite brood cycles
(splits, swarms, cage queen 1-2 weeks, re-queening, winter cluster).
- Use of proven mite-resistant/tolerant honeybee stock (Russians, VSH, Minnesota Hygienic, etc.).
- Repopulating lost or weak colonies with un-treated survivor stock from same apiary.
- Acquiring only chemical-treatment-free honeybee stock.
- Providing proper nutrition for overall better honeybee health & strength (healthier bee forage).
- Removal of high-mite-load drone brood.
- Natural beekeeping (Including avoidance &/or reduction of beekeeper-applied chemical miticides).
- Fungal miticides (in commercial development)

Monitor Mites for Better Decision Making

Strict record keeping and repeated mite counts (via sugar shake, alcohol/detergent wash, ether spray, or sticky board) can help a beekeeper decide which management option, if any, may be needed. The USDA's Bee Research Center in Tucson Arizona rates hives as varroa-tolerant if they have less than 7 mites per 100 bees (7%). But over time, most researchers have steadily reduced threshold counts, especially for low-mite-tolerant honeybee races. Some researchers now consider 1 mite per 100 bees (1%) to be the critical threshold---anything above that suggests some sort of management action is appropriate. Mites should be below acceptable thresholds by August 15 to allow production of healthy winter bees.

The Good News

Varroa mites aren't the end of beekeeping! Many hobby, sideliners and even large commercial beekeepers are successfully keeping chemical/treatment-free honeybees throughout the US and around the world---check the references listed on this page. With a bit of diligent research, you too can learn how it's done. Heck, even feral bees are doing it---so you can too! Caution: The abrupt termination of chemical treatment programs in individual apiaries may result in heavy honeybee losses---re-populate from the colonies that survive or start over with local proven survivor stock. When acquiring new bees, if possible select only local non-chemically-treated survivor stock.

Club Committees

The McDowell Honey Bee club volunteers support local beekeepers as well as help educate the public about the importance of honeybees as critical pollinators and producers of products like honey and bees wax.

Committees/Chairs

Executive Committee

Ed Speer ed@sweetbetsyfarm.com
828-724-4444

MTCC Apiary---Ed Speer

Carson House Apiary

Bill Hendley bmhendley@gmail.com
828-460-0292

McDowell Honey House

Adam Wright blueold96@yahoo.com
828-442-7817

Community Outreach

Karen Speer
Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
828-924-4444

Hospitality

Lynn Bradley lsbradley@msn.com
828-305-0323

Golden Achievement Program (GAP)

Jill Read flyingpita@gmail.com
828-460-8636

Mentoring Program

Stephanie Wilds swilds2014@gmail.com
828-301-3030

Webmaster---Karen Speer

Newsletter---Ed Speer

Bee School 2019---Karen Speer

Journeyman Study Group---Karen Speer

Beekeeper Education---Ed Speer

Nominating Committee---Merrill Davis

cliffviewmorgans@hotmail.com
828-68-3153

TREASURY REPORTS

The treasury reports will be included in each monthly newsletter but will not be presented in detail at the regular monthly meetings. The Executive Committee has oversight of the club's treasury and reviews the details at each bi-monthly EC meeting. If you have any questions or concerns about the club's treasury, you will be given an opportunity to speak at the regular monthly meetings or you may speak to an officer or director, who will then present your comments at the next EC meeting. Club members are welcome to address the directors at any Executive Committee meeting.

MTCC APIARY

Three of the 4 hives died last summer & fall. The remaining hive is doing well. Due to unexpected herbicide use at the college, all hives were moved to the Sweet Betsy Farm apiary and will be returned to a different site at the college when they are healthy.

MCDOWELL HONEY HOUSE

The Honey House is closed for the winter. It will reopen in the spring.



MTCC Apiary

Honeybee hives at McDowell Technical Community College are maintained by the McDowell Honey Bees. The hives are used for education and instruction. The honey is harvested by the club and shared with the college.



McDowell Honey House

The McDowell Honey House is a fully equipped self-service honey processing facility built and maintained by the McDowell Honey Bees. It is open to all club members—reservations required.

Treasury Report for Nov 30, 2018

Treasurer---Jim Austin

2018	Oct 31	Nov 30
Checking	\$2,823.81	\$2,652.10
Cash on hand	545.19	545.19
Total	\$3,637.17	\$3,197.29

- 5 Wellness Program payments in 2018
- No debt or unpaid bills
- 92 Current paid memberships (includes families)
- 4 Lifetime members

BEE SCHOOL 2019 FREE!

[Click Here to Register](#)
Feb 2, 9, & 16 (Classroom)
Apr 27 (Field Day)
McDowell Technical
Community College



Community Outreach

- Mountain Glory Festival
- Presentations to schools & Community
- Agriculture Awareness Field Days

Events



NCSBA SPRING 2019 MEETING

March 1 & 2 2019

Monroe, NC

Joint meeting with South Carolina Beekeepers Association (SCBA)

For more information:

[NC State Beekeepers Association](#)

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday January 8, 2019 6:30 PM

McDowell Honeybee Chapter EC meetings are held every other month

2018 EC Meetings:

<i>Jan 8</i>	<i>Jul 9</i>
<i>Mar 12</i>	<i>Sep 10</i>
<i>May 7</i>	<i>Nov 12</i>

All officers and directors are expected to attend. Club members are also welcome---please contact the president ahead of time if you wish to address the board or place topics on the agenda.

NEXT MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

THURSDAY JANUARY 10, 2019

6:30 pm

McDowell Senior Center
Marion, NC

2019 Monthly Club Meetings:

<i>Jan 10</i>	<i>Jul 11</i>
<i>Feb 14</i>	<i>Aug 8</i>
<i>Mar 14</i>	<i>Sep 12</i>
<i>Apr 11</i>	<i>Oct 10</i>
<i>May 9</i>	<i>Nov 14</i>
<i>Jun 13</i>	<i>Dec—no meeting</i>

Door prizes at beekeeper gatherings are a strong long-standing tradition. Donations for our monthly meetings are encouraged and welcomed. Please bring your donated items to the next meeting. Here's your chance to highlight your products or handicrafts, clean out your storage locker, or simply share your bounty with fellow beekeepers!

MCDOWELL COUNTY AG AWARENESS DAYS 2018

OCTOBER 2 & 3, 2018

This annual event was again a great success. Nearly 500 4th graders from McDowell County visited the Agriculture Barn and the Honey House.



Many thanks to Sharon, Kaylyn, & Jada Fairchild for volunteering to help.

BEST TASTING HONEY COMPETITIONS

The McDowell Honeybees hosts two Best Tasting Honey in McDowell County competitions every year!

Spring Honey (June)
Summer Honey (September)

Plan to enter your honey in 2019!
The top 3 winning honeys are sent to Texas A&M University for pollen analyses, paid for by the club!

4-H BEEKEEPING GROUP STARTING!

McDowell County's own 4-H Beekeeping group is getting started! Sponsored by the McDowell Cooperative Extension and the McDowell Beekeepers Association. 8 kids signed up at the initial meeting October 25th. Call Chad (828-652-8104) or Sharon (828-652-9478 or 460-4044) for more information or to sign up.

NCSBA SOURWOOD INITIATIVE

The McDowell Bee club has submitted 10 sourwood samples from different local beekeepers to the NCSBA for special nuclear magnetic resonating (NMR) testing by a lab in Germany. The samples are now at the lab and results should soon be available. This is the initial testing to establish the world's first fingerprint chemical standards for Sourwood honey! We are extremely excited to be a part of this program!

MOUNTAIN GLORY FESTIVAL 2018

October 13, 2018 Marion, NC



The observation hive at our club's booth at this year's Mountain Glory Festival was again very popular. We sold honey sticks and 34 bottles of honey, raising nearly \$400 for the club. Thanks to Sharon Fairchild and the many volunteers who helped organize and man the booth.

WEST MARION MUDDY POTTERS FIELDTRIP

OCTOBER 17, 2018

West Marion Elementary Muddy Potters Field Trip to Sweet Betsy Farm Apiary



The kids extracted and bottled their own honey!

Beekeepers

A world of easily-accessible beekeeping information awaits you! Check out the following online, magazine, book, catalog, and workshop sources for the answers to all your beekeeping questions.

Never stop learning!

MONTHLY BEEKEEPING MAGAZINES

[American Bee Journal](#)

[Bee Culture](#)

GENERAL BEEKEEPING INFO

[Randy Oliver's Scientific Beekeeping](#)

[Free Beginner's DVD](#)

[YouTube Beekeeping Videos](#)

[Choose from 100's---Search any topic](#)

[Michael Bush's Practical Beekeeper](#)

[The Different Types of Honey Bees](#)

[Removing Feral Bees](#)

[Free Classic Historical eBooks](#)
including Langstroth 1853!!

PLANTING FOR BEES

[Garden Plants for Honey Bees](#)

[Sensible Gardening](#)

[Xerces Society](#)

[Native NC Pollinator Friendly Plants](#)

[Honey Plants of NC](#)

[Flowering Season WNC Plants](#)

[Painters Greenhouse](#)

HONEY BEES WORK HARD

How much honey does a single worker bee produce during her lifetime?

1/12 teaspoon!

How many honeybees does it take to make 1 lb. of honey?

800 honeybees working for 2 weeks! Or 11,000 honeybees working for 1 day!

How long would a single worker bee have to live forging every day to produce 1 lb. of honey?

29.5 years!

How far do honey bees fly to produce 1 lb. of honey?

55,000 miles! That's 2.2 times the distance around the earth!

How many flower visits does it take to produce 1 lb. of honey?

2 million!

NORTH CAROLINA BEEKEEPING NEWS

[NC State Beekeepers Association](#)

[North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Apiary Inspection](#)

[North Carolina State University Apiculture Program](#)

[North Carolina Honey Standard](#)

[Africanized Honey Bees in NC](#)

COMMERCIAL HONEYBEE SUPPLIERS

[Beech Mountain Beekeeping](#)

[BetterBee](#)

[Brushy Mountain](#)

[Dadant](#)

[Hwy 226 Bee Supply](#)

[Kelley Beekeeping](#)

[Mann Lake](#)

[Miller Bee Supply](#)

[Orr Bee Supply](#)

[Reel's Bee Supply](#) (828) 738-3939

[Revis Russian Apiaries](#)

[Wild Mountain Bees](#)

WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

[Spikenard Farm Honeybee Sanctuary Workshops](#)

[NC Cooperative Extension Online Courses for Beginner & Advanced Beekeepers](#)

Friends of Honeybees

The world of beekeeping can be both fascinating and confusing. Your local beekeeping club is here to help.

SWARM OF BEES? WHO YOU GONN'A CALL?

Have you seen a swarm of honeybees? Don't panic—they aren't aggressive. Just call a beekeeper in your area; they may be able to help.

Marion

Adam Wright 828-442-7817
Harold Arrowood 828-659-2921

Glenwood

Ed Speer 828-724-4444
Wayne Holland 828-659-4161

Pleasant Gardens

Bill Hendley 828-460-0292

Greenlee

Doug Mikell 828-896-5755
Bruce Clifton 828-925-0646

Nebo

Ricky Styles 828-652-0184 or 803-3887

Old Fort

Lonnie Bewernitz 828-280-3784
James McGinnis 828-668-4232
Darren Orr 828-581-4494
Don Miller 828-668-0154

Little Switzerland

Mitch Hughes 828-756-7294

McDowell County

Chuck Wilson 828-803-9089

DOES HONEY GO BAD?

Normally---no. Some honeys stay fresh for thousands of years. Most honey will eventually crystallize, but crystallization is not spoilage---just a change in physical state. Honey is naturally anti-microbial and kills most bacteria, fungus, and viruses. Honey is antiseptic and is often used to heal infected wounds.

However, the water naturally contained in honey may separate out during crystallization. Mold and/or alcohol can then develop in the expelled water and cause spoilage. Fermented honey will smell and taste like alcohol.

Yeast in the air is the culprit--to prevent crystallization and possible spoilage, store honey in full, air-tight containers at room temperature.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH CRYSTALLIZED HONEY?

1) Eat it like spreadable paste. It has probably not spoiled. Many cultures around the world prefer crystallized rather than liquid honey---Yes, they wait for honey to crystallize before eating it! Creaming crystallized honey by periodically stirring makes a smooth, delicious spread. Use like butter on toast, biscuits or muffins.

2) Return it to liquid with low heat applied over a long time. Set bottle of crystallized honey on dashboard of car parked in the sun---works in a few hours (summer) to a few days (winter). OK, doesn't work in really cold weather, but you should avoid heating honey in a microwave or in a boiling-water bath on a stovetop because that much high heat kills beneficial bacteria and enzymes.

Storing honey in the refrigerator can hasten crystallization! Storing in dry, room-temperature dark kitchen cabinet can slow the crystallization process.

Recipe of the Month

HONEY SPICED CIDER

From www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

Ingredients

2 quarts of apple cider
Peel from 1 large or 2 medium oranges
1 tablespoon ground cinnamon or 4 cinnamon sticks
1 tsp ground cloves or 1 tablespoon whole cloves
¼ cup raw honey

Directions

1. Peel oranges taking only the orange part of the peel---you do not want any of the white as it will make the cider bitter.
2. Mix all ingredients in a saucepan and heat.
3. Simmer 10-15 minutes, stirring occasionally.
4. Adjust sweetness by adding more honey if desired.
5. Serve hot.

Cold weather is coming---be ready with this tasty hot apple cider!

Submit your favorite honey recipe for the next newsletter

Ed@SweetBetsyFarm.com

BEE STING EMERGENCY?

CALL 911

GENERAL QUESTIONS?

call Allergy Partners of WNC
(828) 255-3749

Allergy Partners of WNC--Marion
136 Creekview Court
Marion, NC 28752
(828) 652-6454

Dr. Leigh Anne Schwietz
Mondays 9am-5:30pm
Tuesdays 8am-11:30pm, 1pm-4:30 pm

NORMAL VS. DANGEROUS REACTIONS TO INSECT STINGS
What's the difference? Check these websites:

WebMD

[American Academy Allergy Asthma MedicineNet.com](http://AmericanAcademyAllergyAsthmaMedicineNet.com)

MedicineNet.com

[NC State University](http://NCStateUniversity)

[B. Marterre, MD](http://B.Marterre,MD)

MCDOWELL COUNTY HONEY TRAIL

Looking for Local Honey or something fun to do in McDowell County?

Visit an active bee farm & find local honey for sale

www.McDowellCountyHoneyTrail.org

BEE JOKE OF THE MONTH

What does the queen bee not want to find in her closet?
(Find answer on last page)

McDowell Honey Bees

FREE! Classified Ads

Have something to sell, trade, or give away? Here's your chance to advertise FREE in our monthly newsletter! Choose one of the listed categories and submit your listing (40 words or less) to the editor: Ed Speer Ed@SweetBetsyFarm.com

You must be a paid member of McDowell Honeybees (or a supporter of the club) to make a listing—but you can make as many listings as you like. Need other categories—just let the editor know. Your listing will continue every month until you inform the editor to remove it. Describe your item and give your phone number, address, and/or email so interested parties can contact you directly. Listings are subject to editor approval; editor not responsible for accuracy or validity of listings.

If your classified ad was successful, please consider making a donation to our monthly meeting refreshment fund.

LOCAL HONEY FOR SALE

Honey House at Sweet Betsy Farm. (Fri & Sat 10-5, May-Dec, other times by appointment), 3947 Mudcut Rd Glenwood. Chemical-free Beekeeping. (828) 724-4444. Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

HoneyBird Farms. Sugar Hill. (828) 738-8593 jessemo4@hotmail.com

Mikell's Farm Honey—uses Organic Beekeeping Practices (828) 668-0103. Old Fort. www.Mikellsfarmhoney.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mikellsfarmhoney

Ray Revis. (828) 652-3524.
Marion. www.RevisRussians.com

Charles Revis. Old Fort. (828) 925-1430.
revisjs@gmail.com

Orr Bee Supply. 323 Morris Hollow Rd, Old Fort. (828) 581-4494.
OrrBeeSupply@live.com

Bill Hendley. Pleasant Gardens. (828) 460-0292. bmhendley@gmail.com

Wayne Holland. Glenwood. (828) 659-4161. Wayneholland57@yahoo.com

Magic Creek Farm. Marion. (843) 421-6852. Jimastin66@gmail.com

OTHER HIVE PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Beeswax—Honey House at Sweet Betsy Farm. (Fri & Sat 10-5, May-Dec, other times by appointment) 3947 Mudcut Rd Glenwood. (828) 724-4444.
Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

HONEYBEES FOR SALE

Russian Honeybees—Nucs & queens. Revis Russian Apiaries. (828) 652-3524. PO Box 2520 Marion, NC 28752.
www.RevisRussians.com

Russian Honeybees—Nucs & queens. Charles Revis. (828) 925-1430. revisjs@gmail.com

Superior North Carolina-raised packaged bees and overwintered 5-frame nucs; also queens—Orr Bee Supply. 323 Morris Hollow Rd, Old Fort. (828) 581-4494. OrrBeeSupply@live.com
www.orrbeesupply.com

Italian Honeybees—Nucs. Hwy 226 Bee Supply. 13133 NC 226 South. Union Mills. (828) 652-1263.
www.Hwy226BeeSupplies.com

FARM PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Free-Range Eggs—Honey House at Sweet Betsy Farm. (Fri & Sat 10-5, May-Dec, other times by appointment) 3947 Mudcut Rd Glenwood. (828) 724-4444.
Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

HANDMADE CRAFTS FOR SALE

Lip Balm, Soap, Earrings, Wax Ornaments—Honey House at Sweet Betsy Farm. (Fri & Sat 10-5, May-Dec, other times by appointment) 3947 Mudcut Rd Glenwood. (828) 724-4444.
Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

Lip Balm, Soap, Salves, Butters, Balms, etc—All Natural and Organic Ingredients with Essential Oils—Mikell's Farm Honey. (828) 668-0103. Old Fort. www.Mikellsfarmhoney.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Bee-Naturally-by-Sharry-of-Mikells-Farm-1595338734026320/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mikellsfarmhoney

Lip Balm, Soap, Body Creams, Beard Balm—HoneyBird Farms. Sugar Hill. (828) 738-8593 jessemo4@hotmail.com

Handcrafted Soaps, Body Scrubs, Bath Soaks & More!
Forever Found Farm, Glenwood (828) 738-9989 ForeverFundFarm@gmail.com
www.etsy.com/shop/ForeverFoundFarm

BEE-FRIENDLY PLANTS

Bee-Friendly Plants, Including Natives—Painters Greenhouse Nursery 734 Roy Moore Rd, Old Fort, NC www.paintersgreenhouse.com (828) 668-7225
Paintersgreenhouse1@gmail.com

ITEMS FOR TRADE/BARTER

Bees for Trees—Will trade six (6) potted Sourwood trees (3'-5') for an established Honeybee colony, preferably Russians or some other hygienic race. Lonnie & Barb Bewernitz, Hugging Tree Farm. Old Fort, NC (828) 668-9660
LonnieB@LonnieB CPA.com

BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES FOR SALE

Custom-made Wooden Ware and Beekeeping Supplies. Also Extractors (hand crank or motorized)—Orr Bee Supply. 323 Morris Hollow Rd, Old Fort. (828) 581-4494. OrrBeeSupply@live.com
www.orrbeesupply.com

Custom-made Wooden Ware—Reel Bee Supply. Sugar Hill. (828) 738-3939.

Hive Frames, Small, Wood, new, no foundation, 10 total—Jim Austin, Magic Creek Farm, Marion (843) 421-6852.

Complete Beekeeping Supplies—Hwy 226 Bee Supply. 13133 NC 226 South. Union Mills. (828) 652-1263. www.Hwy226BeeSupplies.com

USED BEEKEEPING ITEMS FOR SALE

Complete Hives/Hive Components—Used in our personal bee yard, cleaned, refurbished, ready to use. Orr Bee Supply. 323 Morris Hollow Rd, Old Fort. (828) 581-4494. OrrBeeSupply@live.com
www.orrbeesupply.com

HONEY STICKS FOR SALE

Flavored Honey Sticks—\$16.50/100 honey sticks. Chocolate, Sour Apple, Caramel, Ginger, Mango, Root Beer, Pink Lemonade, Sour Strawberry & Sour Cherry. Honey House at Sweet Betsy Farm (Fri & Sat 10-5, May-Dec, other times by appointment) 3947 Mudcut Rd Glenwood. (828) 724-4444.
Karen@SweetBetsyFarm.com
www.SweetBetsyFarm.com

BROWN MOUNTAIN LIGHTS BOOK

The Brown Mountain Lights—History, Science, and Human Nature explain an Appalachian Mystery by Ed Speer 2017

Three years of research
250-page book signed by author
\$35

Ed@SweetBetsyFarm.com 828-724-4444

The McDowell Bee Buzz December 2018

(828) 724-4444

eNewsletter of the
McDowell Honey Bees

a Chapter of the North Carolina State
Beekeepers Association

MCDOWELL COUNTY BEST TASTING HONEY WINNERS

2011 (Sep 10)

- 1st Bill Hendley
- 2nd William & Barb Higgins
- 3rd Ray & Mickey Revis (Southern Buzz-N-Honey)

2013 (Sep 7)

- 1st Adam & Brooke Wright
- 2nd Joel & Charlene Lambert
- 3rd Jill Sidebottom

2015 (Sep 12)

- 1st Stoney Finley
- 2nd Jim & Deb Austin (Magic Creek Honey Farm)
- 3rd Ed & Karen Speer (Sweet Betsy Farm)

2016 Summer Honey (Sep 8)

- 1st Bill Hendley (Hendley Honey)
- 2nd Tonya Kiser
- 3rd Dan & Susan Wilson (Little Swiss Hives)

2017 Summer Honey (Sep 14)

- 1st Russell Schmidt
- 2nd Sharon & Keith Fairchild
- 3rd Jada Fairchild

2018 Summer Honey (Sep 13)

- 1st Dan Shea
- 2nd Ray & Mickey Revis (Southern Buzz-N-Honey)
- 3rd Mike & Marie Hobbs (Wisteria Farm)

2012

- 1st Wayne Holland
- 2nd
- 3rd

2014 (Sep 6)

- 1st Don Miller
- 2nd
- 3rd

2016 Spring Honey (Jun 9)

- 1st Ryan & Sarah Jacobs (Jacob's Hollow Honey)
- 2nd Ed & Karen Speer (Sweet Betsy Farm)
- 3rd Vanda Brock

2017 Spring Honey (Jun 8)

- 1st Fairchild family (Keith, Sharon, Jada)
- 2nd Ray & Mickey Revis (Southern Buzz-N-Honey)
- 3rd Charles Revis

2018 Spring Honey (Jun 14)

- 1st Charles Revis
- 2nd Jim & Deb Austin (Magic Creek Honey)
- 3rd Mike & Marie Hobbs (Wisteria Farm)

2019 Spring Honey (Jun 13)

To be Determined!

Please help correct and/or add to this list. Anyone with additional information should contact the editor. Together, we can help preserve our club's history.

Answer to this month's bee joke:

A Yellow Jacket!

Thanks for Reading
December 2018

Newsletter Editor—Ed Speer (828) 724-4444 Ed@SweetBetsyFarm.com