

EDUCATING BEEKEEPERS *and*
SUPPORTING LOCAL CLUBS

Featuring the
Annual

HONEY SHOW

Best in Show prize
\$250



**FALL
MEETING
2018**

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**September 27-29
CUMMING, GEORGIA**

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MANN LAKE
WE KNOW BEES
AN EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY



**Blue Ridge
Honey Company**



Friday, September 28

7:45-8:45 President's Breakfast

A meeting of all attending local club presidents.

8:45 Opening Remarks, Linda Tillman, GBA President

9:00-9:45 *Maryann Frazier*: Kenyan Bee "Havers"

Bees have inhabited East Africa for thousands of years. In Africa, humans first hunted bees and then learned to use hollow logs to provide nesting cavities for migratory swarms. Today 95% percent of Kenyan honey is still harvested from log hives. Is this because Kenyan beekeeping is undeveloped or does "keeping" bees in this way provide other advantages?

9:45-10:30 *Jerry Hayes*: Why Beekeeping is so hard; why you are so important.

10:30-11:00 BREAK • Visit vendors and walk to breakouts

11:00-11:45 Breakout Sessions A

11:45-12:45 LUNCH

12:30 Announcements and door prizes

12:45-1:30 *Izzy Hill*: DIY Nematode Rearing to Battle SHB

Entomopathogenic nematodes are a biological control method that is often overlooked as a small hive beetle (SHB) control method that can be incorporated into beekeepers' Integrated Pest Management strategies. Come learn more about properly using nematodes and how to rear nematodes yourself.

1:30-2:00 BREAK • Visit vendors and walk to breakouts

2:00-2:45 Breakout Sessions B

2:45-3:15 BREAK • Visit vendors and walk to Ballroom

3:15-4:00 *Geoff Williams*: Bees and BMPs

Best Management Practices (BMPs) in apiculture should be practical, effective, scientifically backed actions that maximize the health of honey bee colonies. Here, we will explore recent long-term efforts by the Bee Informed Partnership to identify effective BMPs for today's beekeeper.

4:00-4:45 *Juliana Rangel*: Biology of Mating

We will cover the biology of queens and drones, and the biology of mating. Also covered will be the environmental conditions required for queens and drones to mate in the drone congregation areas, queen reproductive quality, and problems associated with poor queen mating. Understanding the basic biology of mating will inform beekeepers about what they can expect to happen in their colonies during the swarming season.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

6:30-8:30 Cookies and Honey Ice Cream Reception Awards announcements

8:00-10:00 Honey Show entries accepted in Honey Show Room (to the left of front building entrance)

8:00-11:00 Voting

All events will be held in the Conference Center Ballroom, unless otherwise noted.

10:00-12:00 Honey Show Judging

11:00-11:45 Breakout Sessions A are repeated as Sessions B at 2:00 pm.

12:30-12:45 Announcements and door prizes

No winners will be announced until the ice cream reception at 6:30 pm!

Thank you, Forsyth County Beekeepers, for the cookies donated to our ice cream social.

6:30-8:30 Announcement of Honey Show Awards and Beekeeper of the Year Award

[Register here for the GBA Fall Conference!](#) We hope to see you there.

Saturday, September 29

8:30-9:00 Visit vendors and buy raffle tickets

9:00-10:00 GBA Business meeting

10:00-10:45 Juliana Rangel: Factors that Affect the Reproductive Quality of Queens and Drones

We will cover the biological and environmental factors that affect queen and drone reproductive quality, including evidence that queens raised from younger worker larvae exhibit higher measures of reproductive potential compared to queens raised from older larvae, and that exposure to miticides and agrochemicals in the wax environment severely affects queen and drone reproductive health.

10:45-11:15 BREAK • Visit vendors and walk to breakouts

11:15-12:00 Breakout Sessions C

12:00 BREAK • Visit vendors and walk to lunch

12:15 -1:15 LUNCH

1:00-1:15 Raffle drawings and officer election results

1:15-2:00 Jerry Hayes: Bee Nutrition

2:00-2:45 Izzy Hill: New Advancements in IPM for Varroa Mites

This discussion will cover the latest knowledge, research, and management techniques aimed at combating Varroa mites in honey bee colonies.

2:45-3:15 BREAK • Final visit to vendors

3:15-4:00 Breakout Sessions D

4:00-4:45 Maryann Frazier: Gifts of the Hive: Making and

Marketing Liquid Gold

Honey (and beeswax), is an amazing product and can yield a high price. But how do we keep bees healthy enough to make a crop? Once we have the honey (and wax) where and how can we creatively market these remarkable products? I'll share what I have learned in the past two years.

4:45-5:00 Raffle drawings, conference ends!

Sponsors

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Keynote Speakers



Maryann Frazier: For 27 years, Maryann has worked at Penn State and been responsible for honey bee extension in Pennsylvania. Her recent work focused on understanding the impacts of pesticides on pollinators. In addition she has worked with Kenyan researchers to understand East African honey bees and help beekeepers become more productive.



Jerry Hayes, a longtime writer of the *Classroom* column in ABJ, has now retired from Monsanto. He joined the agrochemical company shortly after they acquired Beeologics, an Israeli company that was pioneering RNAi technology to immunize honey bees against specific viruses. While at Monsanto, Jerry strove to inform beekeepers about the dangers of varroa, emphasizing the impacts this destructive parasite has on colony health. Before he joined Monsanto, Hayes ran Florida's Apiary Inspection Section.



Izzy Hill is a researcher and educator of Integrated Pest Management tactics for the management of pests to honey bees. Her primary area of interest is in better understanding the efficacy, proper use, and cost efficiencies of various pest treatments for small hive beetle and Varroa mites.



Juliana Rangel was born in Colombia. Juliana obtained her education at the University of California, San Diego (B.S.), Cornell University (Ph. D.), and North Carolina State University (NSF Postdoctoral Fellow). She is Associate Professor of Apiculture in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University working on projects related to honey bee health.



Geoff Williams was born and bred in Canada, he experienced his first bee sting at the ripe age of 23. He has been hooked ever since. Now at Auburn University, Geoff represents the College of Agriculture's first ever faculty member that specializes in bee health.

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Breakout Speakers



Cyndi Ball is the owner of the Lazy B Farm in Statham, GA, and the Founder and President of the National Ladies Homestead Gathering. She is a certified beekeeper and has been teaching beginning beekeepers for nine years at her farm. Hundreds of beekeepers have graduated from her program.



Kelley Campbell began beekeeping in 2013 as something to do in the summer, and found she couldn't give it up once school started again. A teacher from August to May, she loves combining her passion for both teaching and beekeeping and helping others get started in this hobby.



Steve Esau is a Georgia Master Beekeeper and manages about 100 production hives in the Metro Atlanta area. Steve is also a member of GBA and is active in his local bee club where he mentors new beekeepers and serves on the board of directors.



Mark Farmer is Professor of cell biology at the University of Georgia. As a former program officer for the National Science Foundation, he became interested in the communication of science to the general public. He writes columns for the Athens Banner Herald and Scientific American.



Julia Mahood is a Georgia Master Beekeeper and president of the Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association. She keeps bees in Atlanta and in Blue Ridge, and teaches beekeeping at Lee Arrendale State Prison.



Andy Marcus, President of the Amicalola Beekeepers Association, teaches a beekeeping class at the University of North Georgia College, manages his own backyard bees and in his spare time enjoys building top bar hives.



Tommy Mealer started in business as a nuc producer and package broker. He is currently working for Blue Ridge Honey Company as Co-Manager of BeeKeeping Operations, including queens, nuc, packages, and honey production.



Dr. Barbara Phillips is a retired Eye Surgeon, a Georgia Master Beekeeper, a Welsh Honey Judge and holds several other graduate degrees and titles. She lives in Savannah, Georgia along with her children and bees, all on Skidaway Island. She is very active in adult and school age bee related education.



Amy Weeks is a Master Craftsman Beekeeper (2014), who is currently specializing in producing hygienic queen bees and local honey in northeast Louisiana. She is a recent graduate of the LSU Ag Leadership Program and past president of Hill Country Beekeepers Association. Amy lives in West Monroe, Louisiana, with her husband and three sons.



Broadus Williams has been keeping bees for over six years and he's just getting started. There is so much to learn and much to share. As Broadus grows as a beekeeper, he will continue sharing all that he's learned in hopes that it helps someone else. "Teach and never stop learning."



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Breakout Sessions

FRIDAY

SESSION A • Friday, 11:00-11:45

Treasures of the Hive • Cyndi Ball

Location: Azalea

How many of us have buckets of beeswax sitting in our basement or garage because we're not quite sure what to do with it? This class will help turn that bucket of wax into cash! And we all know, beekeepers need cash to support this beekeeping habit.

Bee Schools • Kelley Campbell

Location: Oak

Hear how other clubs have organized and presented their bee schools so that you may adjust for your club, or get one started for the spring. Organizing, promoting, delivery methods, and follow-up/support for new keepers will be discussed.

Successful Splits • Steve Esau

Location: Laurel

Successful Splits and Understanding the Population Threshold: In this breakout session we will explore techniques and equipment needed in making splits and discuss the different challenges the time of year can present.

Backyard Beekeeping with Top Bar hives • Andy Marcus

Location: C107

Enjoy designing and building your own hive by hand and learn how to manage top bar hive woodenware. We'll talk about the joy of seeing your hive grow and fill up their space and we'll discuss the hard work and the pleasure of managing a top bar hive in your backyard.

Moving from Small Scale to Commercial • Amy Weeks

Location: Ballroom

While discussing queen rearing as a business, Amy will openly address the challenges and successes she's encountered producing almost 1,000 hygienic queen bees for resale each year. From transitioning from hobby to running a profitable business, she'll discuss topics ranging from quality control, sales and marketing, shipping, and retaining customers

Bee Removal • Broadus Williams

Location: Redbud

How to successfully remove bees from within structures. Learn about all the equipment needed, the pitfalls and thrills of this much needed bee business.

SESSION B • Friday, 2:00-2:45

Treasures of the Hive • Cyndi Ball

Location: Azalea

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SESSION C • Saturday, 11:15-12:00

A Changing Climate for Bees • Mark Farmer

Location: Azalea

Human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels and changes in land use, are altering earth's climate in ways that have not happened in millions of years. The rapid alteration of ecosystems has placed unusual strain on many organisms, the effects of which will have lasting impacts on bees and other beneficial insects.

The Secret Life of Drones • Julia Mahood

Location: Laurel

Drones are the Rodney Dangerfields of the bee world—they get no respect! Come learn why the male bees are worth their keep and how they positively impact their colonies.

Small scale queen rearing • Tommy Mealer

Location: Oak

A practical guide for your small scale queen rearing.

Ethics/Honey Judging • Barbara Phillips

Location: C107

How to plan and produce a Welsh honey show and the ethics of judging

The Business of Raising Queens • Amy Weeks

Location: Redbud

In this talk, Amy will address the day to day operations of a small queen rearing business.

When pesticides and pathogens collide • Geoff Williams

Location: Ballroom

Understanding effects of exposure to multiple stressors at the same time has been a major focus of honey bee researchers of late. Using two potentially important stressors to honey bees - pesticides and pathogens - I'll review ways stressors can affect our bees, and how we as beekeepers can mitigate their negative effects.

SESSION D • Saturday, 3:15-4:00

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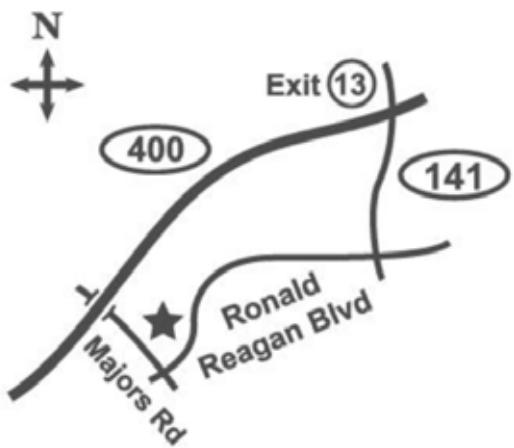
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The Georgia Beekeepers Association
will be **100 years old in 2020**.
Watch for information about our celebration!



Directions going North:

- 400 North
- Take Exit 13, Route 141
- Right onto Route 141
- Right onto Ronald Reagan Blvd
- Entrance to Forsyth Conference Center is before intersection of Majors Road on the right

Directions going South:

- Take Exit 13, Route 141
- Left onto Route 141
- Right onto Ronald Reagan Blvd
- Entrance to Forsyth Conference Center is before intersection of Majors Road on the right

LANIER Technical College
FORSYTH CONFERENCE CENTER

3410 Ronald Reagan Boulevard
Cumming, Georgia 30041

*Register here for the
GBA Fall Conference!*
We hope to see you there.

Classroom C107
(upstairs)

