



Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

General Meeting Agenda: June 18, 2020

Mission: To share information and provide education to our members and community about bees and beekeeping. To promote responsible beekeeping practices, through training and education, resulting in effective management of diseases, pests, and other environmental issues.

- **Welcome and Officer reports**
 - **President – Jan Hodson**
 - Stacy Branam is working on our website. The website has moved to a new hosting site and new program software to make it easier to manage. I'm looking forward to the changes. Byron is working on his new task of being Education Coordinator. He will be coordinating future classes and looking into teleconferencing and educational videos.
 - Justin Hartman has taken the lead on handling our Facebook accounts. I'm seeing some nice posts and lots of likes!
 - The TBA conference, November 5-7, Allen, TX is still in the on the books. We will have to wait and see...
 - We have scheduled the final beekeeping class for June 20th at the Mountain Springs Community Center.
 - Mark your calendars for the extraction party at the Mountain Springs Community Center, Saturday, August 22.
 - I'm hoping that the bank will decide to open up again soon so we can continue our regular meetings. If you happen to know of another location where we can have our meetings that will hold 100 people with parking, please let us know.
 - Honey recipes for our website
 - **Michael Barber – Vice President**
 - Speakers
 - Mentor program
 - Scholarship Program
 - **Secretary – Louann Barfknecht**
 - Feb Minutes
 - **Treasurer – Julie Haza**
 - Dues
 - Reports
 - Amazon Smile
 - **Webmaster – Stacy Branam**
 - **Education Coorinator – Byron Compton**
 - **Communications – Susan Pritchard**
 - **Hospitality – Melanie and Gary Clinton**
- **A few blooming nectar plants:**

- Vitex/Chaste Tree (Non-Native, Europe & Asia , Species: Vitex Agnus Castus)
- Crapemyrtle Tree (Non-Native, China, Species: Lagerstroemia Indica)
- Basil
- Purple Prairie Clover (Native Perennial, Species: Dalea Purpurea Family: Fabaceae, Legume Family)
- Monarda: Horse Mint/Spotted Bee Balm/Bee Balm
- Watermelon
- Squash
- Cantaloupe
- Death Camas
- Illinois Bundle Flower
- Soapberry, Western
- Persimmon
- Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to janrhodson@gmail.com or text to 214-417-9071
- June Monthly Tips
 - New hives: Check honey and pollen stores. Feed syrup and pollen if needed for colony buildup. When 75-80 percent of the frames are full, add a box.
 - Check for pests (SHB, moths, roaches, ants), strong hives will keep pests in check.
 - Nectar flow winding down early-July this year.
 - Do not medicate during honey flow.
 - You can harvest when the honey is at least $\frac{3}{4}$ capped and passes a shake test.
 - Capped honey may be harvested and the empty frames returned to the hive for the bees to cleanup residual honey.
 - Watch out for robbing!
 - Freeze empty frames of comb for several days to kill any pest eggs/larva before storing. You can also freeze frames of honey and extract them later.
 - Keep your girls cool! Provide a close clean water source and ventilation.
 - Do not hesitate to call your mentor, another club member, or me (940-637-2702) if you have a question!
- Tips and Tools
 - Use an hydration pack while working hives
 - Use pieces of old foam chair cushion cut into one inch strips to close up hive entrances to move them. You can cut small pieces to close upper entrances. Band saws make nice smooth cuts or electric knives.

Next meeting: July 18, 6:30 pm, Simmons (Landmark) Bank (Maybe!) If not we will have a Zoom meeting.

Website: elmforkbeekeepers.org

Amazon Smile: EFBA charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/61-1883488>

Board Meetings: Members are always welcome at our board meetings. Our next board meeting will be a Zoom Meeting. July 2, time TBD

Advocacy Prohibition: The EFBA mission is to be an educational association. No part of the activities of EFBA shall be devoted to advocacy, lobbying, politically or privately promoting issues, agendas, or businesses or personal endeavors, by propaganda or otherwise, using the EFBA name or themselves as a EFBA member.