



Elm Fork

## Beekeepers Association

### General Meeting Agenda, April 18, 2019

**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**
  - Jan Hodson – President
  - We need a temporary Secretary until Louann's arm is healed.
  - Website lists and tools
  - TBA 2019 Summer Clinic will take place on June 9th in Conroe, TX
  - Cooke County Master Gardeners, Thursday, April 25, 6:30pm, Landmark Bank
  - Hazardous waste Collection Event, 9 am-1pm April 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Michael Barber – Vice President
    - Speakers : May: Robin Young
    - Mentor program
  - Secretary – Louann Barfknecht
    - March Minutes
  - Treasurer – Julie Haza
    - Reports
    - Amazon Smile
  - Webmaster – Byron Compton
  - Communications – Robby Ayers
  - Hospitality – Melanie and Gary Clinton
- **Business**
  - Extraction Party Aug 17<sup>th</sup>, Mountain Springs Community Center
- **April Monthly Tips**
  - Check honey and pollen stores. Feed syrup and pollen if needed for colony buildup.
  - Check Hives for:
    - Swarm and supercedure cells
    - Crowding
    - Egg laying room
    - Brood box has 3 frames of honey/nectar
    - Room for more honey
  - Nectar flow should be ramping up. Have at least one empty super per hive ready during honey flow. Air out any wax that was stored with PDB before using.

- Do not medicate during honey flow.
- Don't install queen excluder until the bees begin to draw out comb in the super. You can use an 8 frame queen excluder or turn the excluder sideways, to allow easier access for the worker bees.
- April is an ideal time to make splits using new queens.
- You can strengthen a weak hive by taking capped brood frames from a strong hive shaking off the bees and adding them to a weak hive. First ask, why is the hive weak!
- Consider whether the hive may be in a bad location, aging queen, etc.
- A few currently blooming nectar plants:
  - Field Madder
  - Little Blue Eyes
  - Vetch
  - Black Berries
  - Yaupon Holly
  - Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to [janrhodson@gmail.com](mailto:janrhodson@gmail.com) or text to 214-417-9071
- Handy Tips and Tools:
  - Finding and marking Queens
- Door prize drawing
- Program: Robin Young – Top Bar Hives
- Meeting Close

Next meeting: May 16, Robin Young, TBA Director, 6 pm social, 6:30 meeting, Landmark Bank

Website:

[elmforkbeekeepers.org](http://elmforkbeekeepers.org)

Amazon Smile:

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

Board Meetings:

Members are always welcome at our board meetings. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from 3-5pm at the extension office 301 S. Chestnut, Gainesville. Except, July 4th, that meeting will be held on the last Thursday in June.

**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.