

Photo Credit: Pamela Robinson took this picture of a winning poster at the Fair. MSBA member Wes Bommer teaches beekeeping to the men in a prison, and this poster belongs to one of the inmates. Great work!

[f](#) Facebook Page

[e](#) MSBA Website

[f](#) Discussion Group

Our upcoming meeting is:
Tuesday, November 1st from 6:30pm-8:30pm

Platt Springs United Methodist Church
3215 Platt Springs Road, West Cola 29170

with Guest Speaker Melissa Crook
*Topic: The Small Hive Beetle +
Their Interaction with the Honey Bee*



After growing up in Laurens, Susan now lives with her family in Charleston, SC. As the Director of the Master Beekeeper Program for SCBA, she has the privilege of working with and advocating for our beekeepers across the state focusing on

education. On the local level, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Charleston Area Beekeepers Association and enjoys working with new beekeepers. She received her B.S. from Wofford College and her M.Ed. from Clemson University. She is a Cornell University Certified Master Beekeeper and loves to talk about bees to anyone that will listen.

Bee amazing,

***Susan Crook
Director
SCBA Master Beekeeper Program***

Secretary's Meeting Notes for October 4th
with edited times

6:30pm - Meeting called to order

6:31pm - Secretary's announcements

Fair Volunteers – We have filled all the volunteer slots at the fair –
THANK YOU IN ADVANCE! You should receive an email reminder for the shift you signed up for.

Don't forget to pick up your t-shirt tonight from Danny!

Ø MSBA business cards & Club Information + bee class information will be on the tables for guests to review. Please let attendees know they can take a picture of the bee class information.

o We will also raffle 1 free bee class after the fair. There will be contact sheets for attendees to provide their name, number and email.

Ø Also, if you are volunteering, please take pictures, and send them to me! I love to update our website with new pictures.

· Morning in the Bee Yard – October 8th at 9am. Address is 1437 Jessamine Rd in Lexington. An event announcement was sent out yesterday – please register. If you know anyone who is interested and they are not an MSBA member, they are welcome to come.

· A symposium for Varroa will be held at The Citadel in Charleston Oct 22nd. Guest speakers include Dr. Dewey Caron, Dr. Larry Connor and Dr. Zachary Lamas. REGISTRATION IS A MUST AND THERE IS LIMITED SEATING. The cost is \$40 and that includes an award-winning BBQ lunch afterwards. POC is Jim Strohm with

the Charleston Community Bee Gardens – jimpam4950@aol.com. For more details, please refer to the October newsletter.

- An email regarding dues for next year will be sent mid-October. \$10 for a single membership + \$15 family.
- An event announcement for the 2023 Beginning Beekeeping class will be send mid-October. Registrants will have to become an MSBA member and prepay for the class. For more details, please refer to the October newsletter or our website. A revised posting with the location will be uploaded soon!
- An announcement about bee sales will be sent out by the end of the month. Information TBD as of yet.
- T-shirts are also for sale for \$20. They will be available on our store, Wild Apricot, to purchase. You may prepay, email the secretary with your size (secretary_MSBA@hotmail.com) and then pick up your shirt at the next member meeting.
- Our November meeting (and all future meetings) will be at our new location RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET at Platt Springs United Methodist Church. Access times are 6pm-9pm.
- The club wants to know who would be interested in joining us for a Christmas party December 6th – this would take the place of our normal December meeting. It would be potluck style. Your family would be invited. MSBA to provide the meat. Please see the “sign up” sheet on the Registration table.

--pm – Treasurer’s Update (Treasurer Not Present)

- Bank of America Balance \$37,616.71 as of 10/04/22

· Total Expenses for September: \$279.95

6:42pm – Community Outreach Update:

- Susan Owen - 2 Garden Club Events + 1 Book Club Event
- Lizanne Melton - Master Gardner Event
- Kevin Cullis - Elementary School Events

6:46pm – Announce the Club Librarians: Neal and Jeannine Taylor

6:47pm – Speaker Introduction/ Who: Anne Runge introduced Brad Covin

7:33pm – Speaker finished + Q&A Forum

7:52pm – 10 minute Intermission + Raffle

7:57pm – Meeting Finished

MSBA wants to extend a Thank You to Rebecca Logan for making bee ceramic dishes/bowls for our raffle! They are beautiful!



BEES OVER DINNER

BEES OVER DINNER IS A BEFORE MEETING FELLOWSHIP THAT MEETS TO TALK ABOUT BEES OVER THEIR DINNER PLATES.

IT RETURNS THIS MONTH AT A NEW LOCATION CLOSE TO OUR CURRENT MEETING PLACE: *NICK'S GYRO'S AND SEAFOOD* LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF WATTLING RD. & HWY. 1. THE ADDRESS IS 3260 AUGUSTA RD., WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29170.

IT'S "STRAIGHT FROM THE BEE YARD" CASUAL. ALL ARE WELCOME. COME AROUND 5:30PM FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK BEES WITH OTHERS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

Midlands Beekeeping Calendar

by Red Maple



As always, All beekeeping is local. Here's my offering for the beekeeping calendar for the South Carolina Midlands for the month of October:

Plan on checks once or twice this month but otherwise do not work unless necessary to prevent the triggering of robbing behavior. Try to not be too disruptive in order to allow them to get their house (brood box) in order for winter.

If you have not yet treated for varroa it's important that this is done before your winter bees are exposed to the smorgasbord of viruses that varroa transmits when it feeds. Also, it's not sufficient to just treat. You also need to have some idea that the treatment was effective in reducing the numbers of varroa in the colony.

To read the entire article, [click here](#).



FAIR VOLUNTEERS: Please send any pictures you are willing to share:
secretary_MSBA@hotmail.com

We love to update our website with new photos!





“Save the Bees”
Julie Buckley, artist

The inspiration for “Save the Bees” is the plight of the honey bees. According to Green Peace (greenpeace.com), bee keepers in the US lost 45.5% of colonies April 2020-April 2021. Similar losses have been occurring annually over the past 10 years. The loss is contributed to pesticides, disease, habitat loss and climate change.

Bees pollinate 90% of human crops such as fruits, nuts and vegetables. A single bee can pollinate 5000 blossoms in a single day. A bee colony can pollinate 300 million blossoms each day! To make one pound of honey, a hive of bees must travel over 55,000 miles and visit 2 million flowers. This little worker is about 2 inches in size and lives about 5 years.

In this “recycled” garden is an apple tree that the bees enjoy along with 16 varieties of flowers:

Black-eye Susan	Cosmos	Little Leo	Poppy
Borage	Daffodil	Marigold	Snowdrop
Butterfly bush	Gaillardia	Mikweed	Sunflower
Coneflower	Lavender	Mint	Yarrow

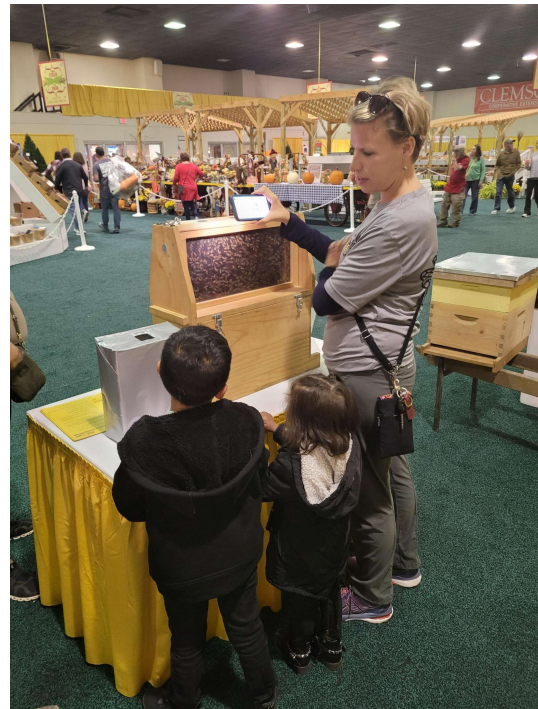
The tree with 100 apples, the bee hive, 3 bees and 120+ flowers were created from
631 plastic bottles,
40 grocery bags,
4 clear plastic egg cartons and
1 large cheese ball plastic container.

In the landfill it takes many years for plastics to decompose:

Plastic bottles	— 450 years
Plastic bags	— 200-1000 years
Plastic containers	— 50-80 years

Julie's Tilted Art
 WEBSITE
 Check out other works of recycled art by Julie Buckley





We had a great turnout at the booth and answered questions from the smallest child to the oldest adult! Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time!

We received a sweet text from one of our volunteers (Inga).

"Troy and I had the best time working the fair booth last night! Mr. Coble was an absolute goldmine for information when I needed it.

I have truly enjoyed being a member of MSBA! I've learned so much since joining and everyone is so helpful, welcoming and kind!"

Thank you for the kind words, Inga!

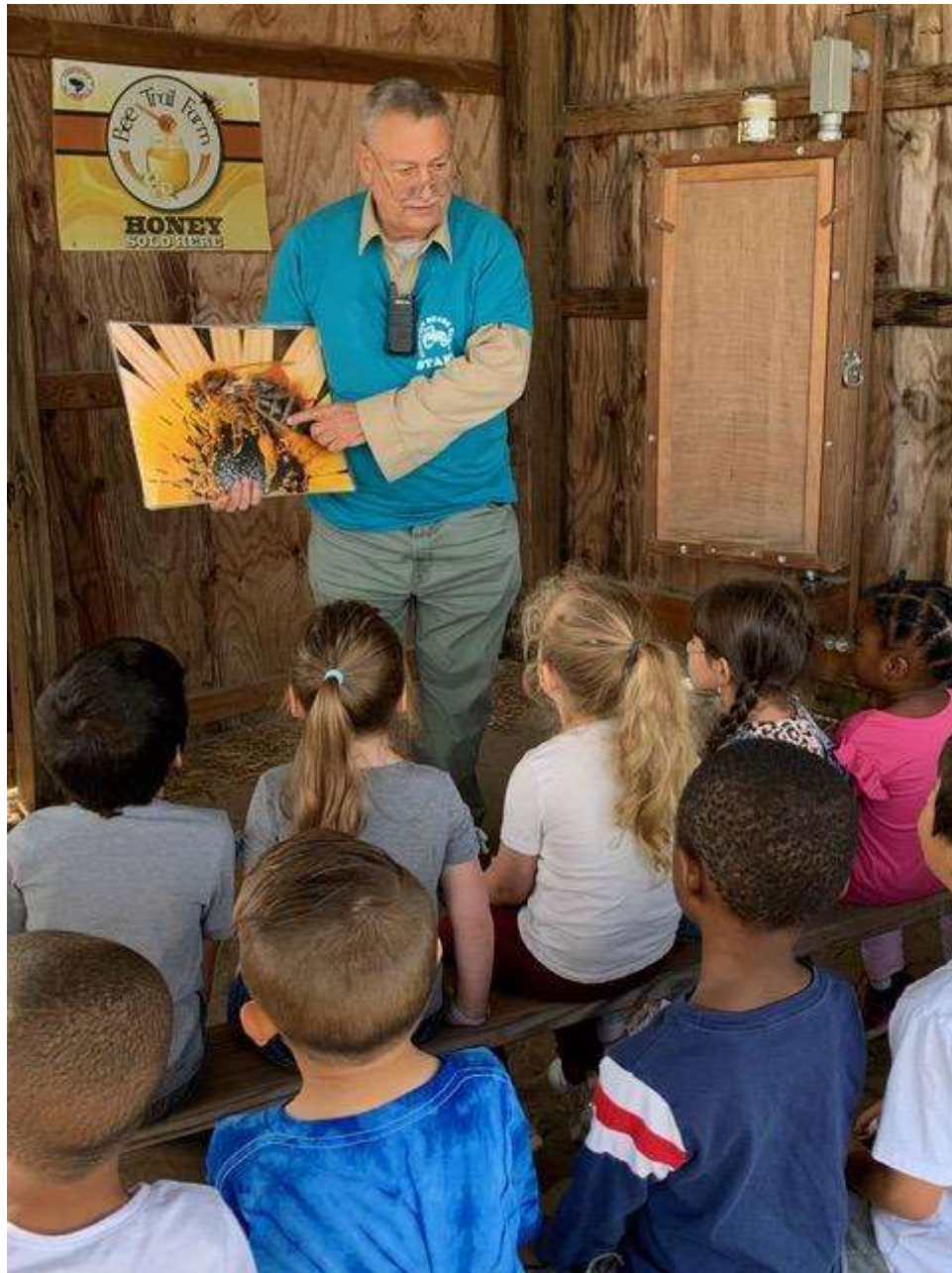


We had about 20 people attend the Morning in the Bee Yard event Saturday, October 8th! MSBA member Danny Cannon showed us what we should be seeing in our hives during this time of year. He also did a mite wash and how to use an oxylic acid vaporizer. Thank you, Danny!

Each Spring and Fall Clinton Sease Farms holds strawberry/pumpkin tours for school aged children. Our goal is to educate students about the workings of a farm as the source of food production

During a tour, students learn the Growth Cycle of strawberries/pumpkins, the Importance of Honeybees, and facts about dairy cows. Wagon rides and playtime on our huge playgrounds are also included. Our program meets K – 2nd Grade Standards

Below, David MacFawn teaches children about bees at Sease Farms.







2023 Bee Sale

NUCS: \$165

PACKAGES: \$130 / \$135

MARKED QUEENS: \$35

UNMARKED QUEENS: \$30

LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT.
ORDER UNDER THE 'STORE' TAB.

Cut off Dates
Packages: January 21st
NUCs: January 30th

**INVENTORY IS LIMITED!
DONT WAIT!**

Now Available! Please do not wait until the last day to order! Delivery Dates TBD.

2023 BEGINNING BEEKEEPING CLASS



Interested in beekeeping?
Perhaps you just want to know what this hobby entails
before jumping in feet first?

This course is a bargain at \$75 which includes
2 full days of quality classroom instruction +
a visit to a bee yard with hands-on instruction, snacks,
study guide + the book 'First Lessons in Beekeeping'.
Class dates: Saturdays, January 21st & Feb 18th + Bee
Yard Day March 18th.

Classroom location: Platt Springs United Methodist
Church: 3215 Platt Springs Rd, West Columbia.
The bee yard is in off Hwy 1/Augusta Rd in Lexington.

*Experience has shown that the course is suited for
ages 12 and up.*

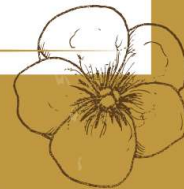
Registration starts mid-October through
the beginning of the year.

Registrants *must* be an MSBA member *and*
prepay online prior to the first class.
Annual Individual Membership: \$10. Family Membership: \$15.

Questions? Contact our secretary:
secretary_MSBA@hotmail.com

Visit our website for current news and announcements:
www.scmidstatebeekeepers.org

WWW.SCMIDSTATEBEEKEEPERS.ORG



IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID FOR THE
BEEKEEPING CLASS...

PLEASE GO TO: <https://msb3sa.wildapricot.org/>

Under the top right tab, 'MSBA Web Store Items', you will see the class listed. Click on the class and next to 'Quantity', put the # of people you are paying for to take the class. Each attendee is \$75. Click 'Add to Cart.' The proceed to check out. You should receive a receipt for your "order".

Registration and Paying for the Class are different actions!

There is no link in the graphic. If you have questions, please click here:
secretary_MSBA@hotmail.com.

There are no refunds for the class. If you miss a day, we can send you the power point slides for reference and you may ask the instructor about any questions you may have.



YOU & YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO A

CHRISTMAS PARTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

Thank you to everyone who responded to the emails! We had over 60 members + family members who expressed interest, wow! That is amazing!

The party would take the place of our December meeting (no speaker). MSBA will provide the meat (BBQ) & Rolls + paper products, cups & eating utensils + drinks & ice (Sweet Tea, Unsweet Tea, Lemonade and Water).

Attendees are expected to bring a good sized dish of their preference - heavy hors d'oeuvres, side **or** dessert (or one of each... Just kidding!) MSBA will keep you posted on any more details.

The dinner will be at our new location at
Platt Springs United Methodist Church.

Dinner: 6:30pm

Questions? Please contact Jill:
secretary_MSBA@hotmail.com



Allen Johnson spoke to our group early in the new year. They plan to attend the Christmas dinner. As most of you are aware, Allen and his wife Marie have their own beekeeping store in Williston. If you'd like to order anything from his store, he will bring it the night of the dinner. His website is: www.johnsonsbessandsupplies.com. Who doesn't like free delivery??

Master Beekeeper Program

Check the SC Master Beekeeper Program website for a certified course near you. Many courses occur during the winter

season: <https://scstatebeekeepers.com/master-beekeeper-program/>

Beekeeper's Checklist + Things to Know

Extraction Services:

MSBA Member, **Danny Cannon**, located at **1437 Jessamine Rd in Lexington** will extract honey for beekeepers for \$5 per box with a \$20 minimum. **Call Danny to schedule a time to bring your boxes to be extracted. 803.600.4576.**

A checklist for every Beekeeper... especially new beekeepers!

- Local Beekeeping Stores:

*Blythewood Bee Company: 227 Mclean Rd, Blythewood, SC 29016 // 803.754.7577

*Johnson's Bees and Supplies: 744 Tinker Creek Road, Williston, SC 29853 // 803. 645.6725

- A 2 gallon feed pail/bucket - We need to start feeding sugar syrup: \$8-\$10 + shipping (Betterbee has them). We recommend buying 2 buckets. This is a better solution than internal frame feeders or boardman feeders that fit into the hive entrance, especially in the winter.

- A metal smoker box - about \$35 + shipping. This is to put your lighted smoker in after use. You also need to get a cork (Lowe's or Home Depot in their hardware drawers) or rag to plug the smoker so you will have charred pine straw that is easy to light (W.T. Kelley makes them)

- Folding veils (easy to store) with the long strings and helmets - \$25 for a veil +\$15 for the helmet. (Dadant carries them). Long sleeve bee gloves (Buck o has them for about \$12 a pair) of the correct size

- Buy a canvas/cloth large laundry bag (Wal Mart or Amazon) to put pine straw that has been mowed/run over to make soft for your smoker fuel. This should be stored in a very dry place so it lights easily.

- A 2" or 3" paint brush and a double boiler/crock pot to melt beeswax and coat the frames after scraping dead bees out. *Note: Beeswax is very flammable!* We recommend 2/3 pound of wax for 8 medium frames. You probably have deep & medium frames - about \$8/pound at Dadant.

- Use high quality paint your hive(s). **Paint only the outside** and leave the inside for the bees to coat with propolis.

- Make sure everyone wears light colored clothing. **No dark fuzzy clothing!** Blue jeans are ok. Long sleeve shirts. Do we have veils and gloves for everyone? *If an experienced beekeeper wears blue jeans and a tan/light long sleeve shirt with a collar,

white socks with covered toe shoes/boots, you will only need the veils/gloves. This is cheaper than the bee suits with attached veils. *New beekeepers are encouraged to buy the jacket with veil until they feel comfortable enough to not need it.*

More Information & Resources

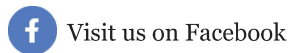
Facebook isn't our primary means of communicating with our members; however, if you want more bee talk and friendly advice from over one-thousand of your peers, it's available as another option to gather Midland's beekeeping information.

Facebook Discussion Groups:

[SC Mid-State Beekeepers](#): For general Midlands beekeeping discussion.

[SC Mid-State Beekeeping Buy, Sell, Trade](#): Midlands For Sale Beekeeping items, including bees, queens, woodenware, nucs. etc.

[SC Mid-State Beekeepers Public Announcements Page](#): General Announcements to the Public Page.



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Our address is:

Mid-State Beekeepers Association
West Columbia, SC

<https://www.scmidstatebeekeepers.org/>

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