



# Bee Biz

## Monthly Newsletter of the Coweta Beekeepers

Coweta Beekeepers

Message From President Jerry Edwards

Saving the World, One Bee at a Time

March 2012

First, I must thank all the members who so graciously volunteered at the state meeting and helped make it one of the most successful ones I have attended. I noticed that as soon as several members entered the building they immediately started helping with whatever was needed to be completed. Registering participants, manning display tables, participating in the program, setting up the area, serving the food, and sweeping the floor were just a few of the tasks completed by our club members. Not enough can be said about the goodness and helpfulness of some of our folk!

Next I would like to discuss a beekeeping chore. During this time of year, a beekeeper must make certain that the bees have enough food by closely checking his/her hives to prevent the bees from starving. At winter solstice, the queen's egg production greatly increases in anticipation of the upcoming nectar flow. The bees use stored honey to feed the new larvae and the newly emerging bees. If the foraging bees are unable to replace the honey, then the bees within the hive have no food, and not enough honey can be produced to feed the hive. To prevent this from occurring, it is necessary to prepare sugar water to feed hives. The formula is one-to-one sugar to water solution. The beekeeper can monitor the nectar flow progress by observing the amount of sugar water consumed by the bees. As the nectar supply increases the bees will utilize the nectar as their food source and stop using the sugar solution.

See you Monday!

### **Meeting**

Our next meeting will start at 7:00 pm at the Asa Powell Expo Building. Meeting date is March 12, 2012. Speaker: Steve Paige Subject: Feeding bees. Refreshments are

being supplied by Dan Scales & Steve & Diane Fanning. **Drinks and ice will be supplied by the club!!**

### **2012 Dues**

You can pay your dues for 2012 to Mike Copeland at a meeting or by mailing them to him at P.O. Box 159, Luthersville, Ga 30251. Dues for the 2012 calendar year starting January 1st thru December 31st, are \$15.00 per family. If you would like to receive your newsletter through e-mail please inform Donna, and give her your e-mail address. Dues are used in the following manner: for postage of this newsletter, supplies for our meeting, and the Christmas Party.

### **Up Coming Events**

21th Annual Young Harris Beekeeping Institute, date is May 10 - 12th .

The Georgia General Assembly is getting ready to review a new bill titled the House Bill 853 Georgia Right to Grow Act. (In general terms) The bill is intended to protect the citizens of Georgia from local governments by preventing local governments from passing laws/ordinances prohibiting or restricting people from growing their own food.

While in committee honey bees were added to this bill! (meaning it will strictly prevent local governments from prohibiting beekeeping including ordinances) The bill has passed in committee and is now going on to the Rules Committee.

As a beekeeper in Georgia you would be foolish not to allow your voice to be heard on this matter. No matter how you feel you should tell your Representatives yes, or no in this matter!