



Elm Fork

## Beekeepers Association

### General Meeting Agenda, March 21, 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
  - Central Texas Beekeepers Association Beekeeping School, Saturday March 23
  - TBA 2019 Summer Clinic will take place on June 9th in Conroe, TX
  - Bill to change ag law, SB677 rewrite of 131, repeal 131.042 and 131.043
  - Webmaster – Byron Compton
  - Program: Byron Compton –Beekeeping 101
  - Michael Barber – Vice President
    - Speakers :April & May: Robin Young
    - Ambassador Scholarship program
    - Mentor program
  - Secretary – Louann Barfknecht
    - February Minutes
  - Treasurer – Julie Haza
    - Reports - Amazon Smile
  - Communications – Robby Ayers
  - Hospitality – Melanie and Gary Clinton
- **Business**
  - Extraction Party Aug 17<sup>th</sup>, Mountain Springs Community Center
- **March Monthly Tips**
  - First comprehensive inspection of the year, clean hives on a calm day when temp is above 55°  
Remove burr comb and excess propolis on frames and boxes. Clean up any dead colonies. You can use bleach water to disinfect boxes and frames. If you suspect the bees died from AFB, burn all the hive equipment.
  - Replace old or damaged frames. Frames over 3-4 years should be replaced.
  - Check honey and pollen stores. Feed syrup and pollen if needed for colony buildup.
  - March brood becomes April forage bees.
  - Order bees/queens if you haven't already.
  - Plan for splits to avoid swarms. Start making splits using new queens at the end of the month or early April.
  - Nectar and pollen flow will start soon. Check quantity of brood and brood pattern. Add a super if brood is congested.
  - Test for Varroa and look for other disease and pest problems, treat if needed before adding honey supers.
  - Prepare equipment for new hives and supers for existing hives. Air out any wax that was stored with PDB before using.

- A few currently blooming nectar plants:
  - Chickasaw Plums
  - Mexican Plum
  - Red Bud
  - Bluets
  - Spring Beauty
  - Arugula
  - 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:
  - Frame Jig
  - Wax Tool
- Door prize drawing
- Program: John Talbert – Products of the Hive
- Meeting Close

Next meeting: April 18, 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 They 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.