



# Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

## General Meeting Agenda: January 16, 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**
    - **TBA Conferences**
      - **June 13<sup>th</sup>, Denton**
      - **November 12-14, Allen**
    - **Central Texas Beekeepers Association 12th annual Beekeeping school, and once again wish to offer your club one free admission to the school. It can be the president, someone the club designates, or a door prize you award to a club member. We will be at Brenham High School again this year on Saturday, March 21. Registration begins at 7 am, classes run from 8am-5pm, with lunch provided. Learn more about the school at (If you are interested in the free admission Contact [janrhodson@gmail.com](mailto:janrhodson@gmail.com) ) <http://centraltexasbeekeepers.org/school2020.html>**
    - **Marty Morgan transferred to Wise County**
    - **EPA is proposing to register a pesticide product containing *Bacillus thuringiensis*, subsp. *aizawai* strain ABTS 1857 (Bta ABTS 1857) to prevent and control wax moths in beehives. This product offers beekeepers a new tool against destructive wax moth larvae. EPA has opened a 15-day public comment period on this proposed registration. Comments are due on or before January 24, 2020. The risk assessments and other documents supporting this decision can be found on Regulations.gov in Docket # [EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0247](#).**
    - **Last Chance: Classes: Jan 25, Feb 22, & Mar 28, 2020, \$100 includes snacks, lunch and books**
    - **Fund raising:**
      - **Pollen Feeders: \$20 (four left)**
  - **Vice President – Michael Barber**
    - **Speakers**
    - **Mentor Program**
    - **Scholarship for 2020**
  - **Secretary – Louann Barfknecht**
  - **Treasurer – Julie Haza**
  - **Webmaster – Byron Compton (out of town)**
  - **Communications - Susan Pritchard**
  - **Director at Large – Tim Branam**
  - **Hospitality – Melanie and Gary Clinton**

- **A few blooming nectar plants:**
  - Winged Elm (pollen)
  - Flowering Quince
  - Dandelion
  - Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to [janrhodson@gmail.com](mailto:janrhodson@gmail.com) or text to 214-417-9071
- **Jan Monthly Tips**
  - Check to make sure that paradichlorobenzene (PDB) crystals in stored supers haven't evaporated.
  - Provide a wind break from cold north winds. Consider facing hives to the south. Be sure to tilt hives so rain will not run into the hive.
  - Check the weight of the top box every other week. If light feed sugar syrup.
  - Only go into hives on warm sunny days. Preferably 65 degrees or higher outside temperatures
  - Winter is a good time to begin preparing for spring.
- **Tips and Tools**
  - Storage idea
  - Beeplus hive management app for Iphone/ipad <https://www.hive-tool.com/>
- **Door prize drawing**
- **Program: Texas Honey Queen – Virginia Allen**

Virginia is the daughter of David and Mary-Ann Allen of Richardson, Texas. She started beekeeping in 2014 through the Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association Youth Scholarship Program. She then served as the 2018 CCHBA Honey Princess and 2019 CCHBA Honey Queen. Among her many interests, she especially likes to go rock climbing and backpacking with her family, volunteer at her church, and is an active member in the local Fire Explorers program.

- **Meeting Close**

**Next meeting: Feb 20, 6:30 pm, Landmark Bank**

**Website: [elforkbeekeepers.org](http://elforkbeekeepers.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.**

**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.**