

# *CENTRAL VIRGINIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION*



Pres. Brian Gallagher - 978-4405      [brian.j.gallagher@comcast.net](mailto:brian.j.gallagher@comcast.net)  
Treas. Art Freeman 540-456-6219      [nameerftra@yahoo.com](mailto:nameerftra@yahoo.com)  
Sec. Faith Andrews Bedford - 295-3823      [faithab@aol.com](mailto:faithab@aol.com)  
County Fair Coord. Ken Hall - 973-0807      [ken.hall@gefanuc.com](mailto:ken.hall@gefanuc.com)  
Events Coord. Dana Tornabene - 974-1431      [dana.tornabene@gmail.com](mailto:dana.tornabene@gmail.com)  
Newsletter – Brian Gallagher

---

## March 2009

### March 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Mark Bennet from Dadant's Virginia store will drive up to talk to the club about beekeeping equipment, as well as deliver orders placed by **Monday, March 2**. No shipping charge! Beekeepers can call in their orders to 1-800-220-8325 or 434-846-0666. Despite moving locations, Mark was confident these phone numbers should still work.

This is a great chance to save money on Beekeeping supplies. Remember, no money can change hands at Ivy Creek so you must pay for these supplies in advance.

### Programs

Our April meeting will be "How to create a bee-friendly garden". Carmen Nies, a master gardener, and her husband Dirk will discuss how to provide your bees with nearby sources of nectar and pollen, as well as give guidance on planting bee-friendly plants that will bloom throughout the spring, summer, and fall.

### Beginning Beekeeping Class

The class has started with 40 students. We will again be asking club members to be mentors to the new beekeepers. Nothing helps someone get started as much as hands-on experience with an experienced Beekeeper.

## Dues

Dues for 2009 should be paid now. Please send a check for \$5.00 made out to CVBA, to Art Freeman, 8799 Rockfish Gap Tpke, Afton, VA 22920.

Note: The 2009 Class members do not have to pay dues this year.

## This Month's Beekeeping

The maples are in bloom! Unfortunately it is too cold for much flight. Our average daytime temps should be around 51° and on warmer days the bees would be gathering nectar and pollen from the Maple blooms. Continue to check your hives on warm days and start feeding if they need it.

If you have any dead hives you do not have to worry about wax moths until June but mice will continue to be a threat. Keep the entrance reducer in to bar mice. Allow air circulation with a stick under the telescoping cover so that mold is not caused by the high humidity in the boxes.

If you need packages I recommend you order them now.

## Package Bees

Here is some info on local sources for package bees.

Glen Clayton has taken all the orders that he can.

Bob Wellemeyer will have 3# Packages w/Italian queen \$63. ea., extra queens \$15 ea., mid-late March delivery in Castleton, VA. Payment in advance.

Ph: 540-937-7775 Cell: 540-229-5359 email: [beeswax7@wildblue.net](mailto:beeswax7@wildblue.net)

Mark Bennet from Dadant in Chatham (used to be in Lynchburg), VA is taking orders for 3# packages with Italian queen: \$73.50, Italian Queens: \$17.00 each. Make checks or money orders payable to Mark Bennett (not Dadant). Payment (in advance) type: Check, money order, cash - no credit cards. For info call 1-800-220-8325.

## Contacts

Our Bee Experts that you might want to contact at times are:

Keith Tignor, State Apiarist, Richmond, 804-786-3515

[Keith.Tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:Keith.Tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov)

John McGhee, Bee Inspector, Harrisonburg, 540-209-9153

[John.McGhee@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:John.McGhee@vdacs.virginia.gov)

## A Beekeeper's Calendar

So that you can mark your calendar ahead, and keep the following dates free for these important happenings, we're going to include this calendar with every newsletter. More detailed announcements will be included in each month's edition. The meetings of the CVBA are on the first Thursday of the month at Ivy Creek Natural Area at 7:00 PM, unless announced otherwise, from March through November.

Feb. - Beginning Beekeeping Class – the 4 Thursdays in Feb. (no meeting)

Mar. 5 - CVBA Meeting at Ivy Creek Natural Area, 7:00 PM

Apr. 2 - CVBA Meeting at Ivy Creek Natural Area, 7:00 PM

Apr. ? - Installation of a package of bees in the class hive at Ivy Creek

May 7 - CVBA Meeting at Ivy Creek Natural Area, 7:00 PM

Hope to see all of you at a meeting soon.