

CVBA Newsletter
Volume 13, Number 1
January, 2022
Candy Halford, Editor
Email: cvbanewsletter@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 7 pm

Happy New Year!!!!

Cold weather, bring on the chili!

This month we ask for chili, corn bread, crackers, cheese, all chili related dinner items. Please bring something to share. This begins our pot luck dinners at the meetings for the 2022 year.

Speaker: David Winters will speak on late winter and spring build up.

Upcoming Events:

February 17: Regular Meeting 7 PM

February 21 & 22: Bee Inspector Class 6-10 PM
(Must attend both nights) Sign up with Candy.

March 3: Board Meeting 7:30 PM

-Cinch Valley Beekeepers Association meets every month on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm. Our meeting place is at the

Treadway Fire Hall
189 Highway 131
Treadway, TN 37881

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/clinchvalleybeekeepers

Website: <http://clinchvalleybeekeepers.org>

Email: cvbanewsletter@gmail.com

Upcoming Speakers: February- David Sams will speak on swarm trapping.

Bee Funny: Why was the hairdresser bee fired?

Minutes December Meeting:

The December meeting opened with prayer by the President, Lloyd Snelson Jr.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved. 13 persons were present.

Junior has discussed the Master Beekeeping Class with his contacts, and they are working on it or the Master Farm Manager program that will qualify people for TAEP. (see Page 3) Bee Inspector classes will be scheduled for March probably. (Note since the meeting: they are now set for February 21 & 22)

Orders are being taken for Nucleus Colonies in the Spring. The deposit is \$20 per colony or package. Full price has now been set by the supplier and we add only \$5 for our Club. Nuc colonies will total \$150 each. Package bees will total \$115. We would like all deposits turned in by the end of the January meeting. You must pay the total by pick up date.

Mr. Collinsworth has given the grant money for 2022. This grant is to be used for first time youth beekeepers if possible. Please think of youth to get the grant(s). The child who would like the grant needs to submit to the club to be forwarded to Mr. Collinsworth a paper explaining why they want to raise honey bees.

Davis Sams, Vice-President, presented the 2021 Beekeeper of the Year award to Jr. Jr. then described how our club first began.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. We enjoyed a very nice meal. Thank you to all who brought dishes and those who served and cleaned up after the meal.

Beekeeping Calendar

January

(Adapted from: <https://cookevillebeekeepers.com/tn-beekeeping-annual-calendar>)

The Bees will be clustered during cold weather, but it is common for there to be several days when the weather is warm enough for the bees to fly and cleanse – although little if any forage is available most years.

A small amt of brood production re-starts around mid-January.

If hives are light – or if it is your regular practice – Dry sugar, sugar candy, or pollen sub can be fed on top bars in almost any decent weather.

Order bees, maintain equipment.

Don't let your bees starve – this goes for every month of the year.

If you plan to do a pre-season varroa treatment you need to plan it now – depending on the specific treatment it may need to be completed long before honey supers go on.

Clinch Valley Beekeeper Association Hats, T-shirts, and Cookbooks

T-shirts are \$10 and \$12 for XXL+ sizes

Hats are \$8

Cookbooks are \$10.

These can be purchased at any regular bee meeting.

Club Membership

CVBA dues: Renewal Dues become payable January 1st of each year. Dues are not pro-rated.

Single membership \$10; Family (one vote per family) \$15; Youth Single (No vote) \$5.

Please see Candy Halford, Secretary, to pay your dues. Checks should be made payable to CVBA.

Per our By-laws: Any dues paid through September 30, 2021, will become due in January 2022. Dues paid in or after October 1, 2021, will pay you through December 2022. Membership dues can be paid for multiple years.

Dues can be mailed (please make checks payable to CVBA) to the following address:

CVBA, Membership
c/o Candy Halford
188 Davis Road
Luttrell, TN 37779

If any of your information (name, address, phone numbers, email, etc.) changes, please let Candy know asap.
email cvbanewsletter@gmail.com

Clinch Valley Beekeepers Library

If you could volunteer to be our Librarian, please see David Sams, Vice President. We do have a library if you would like to check it out just let David know! Lots of Books, DVD, etc. are available.

Other Items

Fund Raisers at meetings and Festivals:

Please let your Board Members or Officers know your opinion on the following:

Calendars: We are considering making a CVBA Calendar for 2023. These are used as a fund-raising effort for the club.

Tee Shirts: We are considering new designs for our club tee shirts to be sold as a fund-raising effort.

Cookbooks: We are considering making a new cookbook. If you can submit recipes for this, please let Candy Halford know. You can email them to cvbanewsletter@gmail.com or bring them to a meeting.



Master Farm Manager Class (TAEP Course) NEW class starting January 25, 2022

The Winter Master Farm Manager Course will utilize a hybrid method, with both prerecorded videos and live webinars. Zoom based webinar sessions will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights starting January 25, 2022 through February 8 at 7PM EST/6PM CST. Registered participants will be emailed a Zoom link and instructions the day before each session. To receive credit, an attendance survey must be completed following the live webinars, links will be sent following the sessions.

Shortly after registering for the webinars you will receive an email with links to the recordings. Watch the recordings as your schedule allows. Within the email there will also be links to an attendance survey that must be completed after watching the recordings to receive credit.

To complete the course, eight of the eight sessions must be completed.

Online registration open November 15, 2021, through January 25, 2022, or Register by mail using flyer Deadline January 15, 2022: <https://arec.tennessee.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2021/10/Master-Farm-Manager-Flyer-Jan-22.pdf>

For more information contact: David Bilderback at db@utk.edu or 865-200-4545

Recipe of the Month

(Adapted from <https://siouxhoney.com/8-new-years-party-recipes-honey/>)



Mini Meatballs

Ingredients

1/4 cup honey
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/2 cup red wine vinegar
1/4 cup soy sauce
3 tablespoons brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
1 egg, beaten
2 tablespoons milk
1 cup soft bread crumbs
2 tablespoons finely chopped peppers
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 pound ground Beef

Directions

Sauce

In saucepan mix 1/4 cup cold water and cornstarch, then add honey, vinegar, soy sauce, brown sugar, ginger and garlic powder.
Cook and stir until bubbly, then turn down heat and simmer.

Mini Meatballs

In bowl combine egg and milk, stir in bread crumbs, peppers and Worcestershire sauce, and then add meat and mix well.
Shape into 1-inch balls and bake at 350 for 15-18 minutes.
Drain well.
Stir meatballs into sauce and heat thoroughly.
Makes about two dozen mini meatballs.

Bee Insights

(From TBA email)

Where Are You Now?

I've sat down to write this article many times, and every time the words "Where are you now?" come to my mind. The words began to weigh heavily on me, so I did a search for song lyrics. I found that they came from a Lauren Daigle song titled "Look Up Child." But then I saw a song with the same lyrics by Justin Bieber and several other people. I'm still a little perplexed and looking for the answer to the question. No, I really don't care that much for Justin Bieber or the rest of them, but I do care about the Tennessee Beekeepers Association. I think that's why the words have weight to them.

Since I first dropped my name in the hat to run for President of TBA several months back, you, the members of TBA, have reached out to me through numerous calls, texts, and emails. I've traveled to several parts of the state and spoken face to face with many of you. You have made two primary statements during that time. The first is this: "Whatever you do, please be transparent about it. If you want to do something, let us know beforehand. Don't just do it." My reply was and is, "I will be transparent to a fault." I think some of you have already figured out that I intend to do just that.

I have been extremely transparent the past few weeks. And yes, that transparency created a little more division within TBA. With that said, I felt that what I shared was information that the complete organization needed to know. How else can you, as members, and the Directors who represent your clubs make the best decisions for TBA?

The second statement is a general voicing of concern. It is something to the effect that "TBA has lost hundreds of members over the past several months, and unless something is done, we're going to lose hundreds more in the next few months. I may not even be a member myself in the next year!" Does this sound familiar? Have you spoken or thought these words lately?

Lean in, members – I want to speak directly to you. *Something has been done.* The Fall Board of Directors Meeting took place in person on November 13 in Lebanon, and the Directors at that meeting started the process. At that meeting, many decisions were made that will have a great impact on the future of TBA.

Here is the list of the many actions and motions that were approved:

1. First things first, a careful check was made to ensure that a quorum was reached to have the Directors meeting, and the Directors voted to seat the Executive Committee to reach a quorum. The number of participants eligible to vote was verified, and a vote was taken to begin the meeting.
2. The Directors voted to accept the October election results, AND voted that those elected officers were officially seated in their positions as of October, NOT January 1st as some have stated.
3. The Directors voted that a Parliamentarian must be present during the Directors meeting.
4. The Directors voted that the date for TBA elections will no longer be tied to the annual TBA Conference. Nominations will take place August 21-September 7. The election will be held September 8-30. Mail-in ballots will be allowed for anyone who wishes to vote by mail. Newly elected officers will take their seats as early as October 1, but no later than October 15. This will allow time for the incoming Executive Committee to familiarize itself with TBA.
5. The Directors voted that if a position on the Executive Committee is vacated, it will not be left open for more than three months. A special election will take place to fill the vacated position. The time in office will be prorated and will only last until the installation of the next set of elected officers.
6. The Directors voted that TBA will be allowed to have up to two conferences per year in the event of extenuating circumstances. Wording for the bylaws will be updated to reflect that "there will be a minimum of zero but up to two annual meetings each year of the general membership of the Tennessee Beekeepers Association." Conferences may be moved or canceled as deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee AND the Directors.
7. The Directors voted for a change in the accounting procedures for TBA. The names on the account will be those of the President, the Executive Vice-President, and the Treasurer. Two signatures will now be

required on any check over \$1,000. The President and the Treasurer will be required to sign those checks. The Executive Vice-President will only be permitted to be one of the two signatories if one of the other two is incapacitated. Distance is not a measure of incapacitation. The USPS is approved to send a check for the second signature.

8. The Directors voted to reject the Treasurer's budget presented at the meeting. The only budget items approved:

- a. Up to \$1,400 in reimbursement funds to President David Hale for the Directors meeting. The President wrote a personal check for the deposit and facility rental.
- b. \$500 for insurance for the Directors and Officers to cover errors and oversights.
- c. \$2,500 for the PickTN Conference (Diana Pace and Cindy Tanner).
- d. \$15,000 for the March 2022 TBA Conference.
- e. \$750 reimbursement to each Executive Committee member for expenses (must be approved annually by Directors, based on the financial stability of TBA).
- f. \$3,000 for attorney fees.

9. The Directors voted to dissolve TBA's fundraising 501(c)(3), Save Tennessee Bees. The Directors also voted that the President proceed with contacting the attorney recommended by Attorney Esther Roberts and move forward with Save Tennessee Bees dissolution.

10. Voted to begin conversations that may redraw regional lines. (Not every region would be affected.)

11. The Directors discussed fulfilling the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Block Grant, initiated by Save Tennessee Bees, in two years. The thought was to execute the grant "right," that is, crossing all T's and dotting all I's, to the benefit of the entire TBA membership and TBA as an organization. Discussion was to host a grant-funded symposium as part of the March TBA Conference at MTSU, not in Blount County (as it was proposed in the Save Tennessee Bees grant application). An invitation would be extended to the Governor of Tennessee to attend.

12. The Directors voted Diana Pace of Rhea County Beekeepers Association to receive the Beekeeper of the Year award and Coley O'Dell the TBA Lifetime Member award. The Executive Committee and Directors extended congratulations to the award recipients.

13. The Directors voted to conduct a full in-house audit covering 2018-2021, with auditors to be chosen from the pool of Directors. If in-house auditors discover any irregularities, an outside audit will be conducted.

14. The Directors voted to ask former TBA President Barry Richards to sit in as Past President for this election year. If Mr. Richards declines, other former Presidents will be asked to serve in the position. A motion was made to have an open election for Past President from TBA members if no former president accepts the position.

15. President David Hale announced that he intends to form a Finance Committee. This committee will have full access to TBA finances. It will serve to assist the Treasurer with reports, feasibility studies for TBA projects, in-house audits, and any other financial needs the Executive Committee and Directors may deem necessary.

16. President David Hale announced that he intends to establish a Public Communications Committee. This committee will serve to complete surveys, assist in TBA elections, and send out any public communications that may be needed. The committee's responsibilities also may include the publication of the "Hive Tool." As you can see, a lot of ground was covered at the Directors meeting and a lot of decisions were made to improve our organization.

So, where was I? Oh yeah, "Where are you now?" You see, some of the Executive Committee members and some of the Directors showed up on November 13 to ensure that there was a quorum at all three scheduled meetings (the Bylaws Committee, Executive Committee, and Directors). But, some did not show up. Since taking office as President of TBA, I've come to realize one thing. The original question and others like it — *Where are you now? What do you think? Will you continue to participate in TBA?* — are yours and only yours to answer.

Some members have decided that TBA is worth holding on to, worth the work needed to make the changes that will help our organization become better in the long run, help it run more smoothly and efficiently, and help

beekeepers throughout the state. We can teach sustainable, scientific beekeeping and still teach and respect the joy of beekeeping itself.

As a member of the Tennessee Beekeepers Association, I now ask the question, “Where are *you* now?” Will you engage or continue to disengage? Looking at the many items listed above, I’m sure there’ll be many others added along the way. But, if any or some of them are to become “real,” become a standard for TBA, *you* will have to participate. *You will have to engage.*

The Tennessee Beekeepers Association as an organization has learned a lot over the past few months that we didn’t know. We didn’t know that a 501(c)(5) nonprofit could apply for and have its own specialty license plate. In fact, no one did. That was just found out while exploring the idea for Save Tennessee Bees. With the Directors voting to dissolve Save Tennessee Bees, might a specialty license plate be something that TBA would want to explore?

We also didn’t know that we could apply for and receive grants. Yes, some did, but for the most part TBA as an organization did not. As you read in the list above, the Directors discussed fulfilling the TDA Block Grant to the best of TBA’s abilities over a two-year period. And TBA can apply for another grant after the requirements for this one are complete. So, apparently, TBA does have income opportunities as a 501(c)(5). Who knew?

Tennessee Beekeepers Association needs many people with many talents to fulfill the goals of our organization: people with computer skills, writing skills, organizational skills, financial skills, grant writing skills, marketing skills, speaking skills.... You can make a vital difference in the life of our organization. If you have these and other skills and are willing to volunteer a little time, just let us know. Our organization needs you!

Now you know where the Executive Committee and the Directors stand. You can see the direction that the leadership of TBA is going or may be thinking of going. But it’s really a moot point if you aren’t on board. *So, where are you now?*

UPDATES (as of December 13): “Hive Tool”: The above letter was prepared and sent for inclusion in the November 2021 “Hive Tool” shortly after it was set to be published. Unfortunately, calls and emails to the editor by me and others since the letter’s submission have gone unanswered, and the newsletter has never been sent out.

So we begin again. That is, we, the members and officers of TBA, move forward in building a dependable, responsive, professional Communications Committee. I see that team being headed up by a Director of Communications, who would oversee an umbrella of categories that fall under communications – the “Hive Tool,” surveys, elections, etc. But, for now anyway, the priority is to open the communication line to our members., a line that has essentially been severed.

There is editing at the end of the rainbow. We have a TBA member with professional expertise in publishing that is willing to work with us. The intent is to get this information out as quickly as possible and then come back with a January/February edition of the “Hive Tool.”

You can help. As Directors and other critical contact people for your particular local organization, please send information of upcoming events to me at thebeecausestn@gmail.com. The goal is to list the events in the newsletter by region.

This is the time for many local associations to make plans: short courses, field days, etc. Simply include the name of the club and event, along with the event’s date and location and a brief description.

The plan is to get the January/February “Hive Tool” sent out the first part of January. After that, we’ll continue to build a team of people who are politically neutral and familiar with producing publications. After the January/February edition, any information to be added to the newsletter will be sent directly to the committee. More on where to submit your articles will be included in the upcoming edition.

Thank you for your patience as TBA rebuilds this highly important team. If you have publishing expertise and writing skills and would like to be part of this committee, please contact me, again, at thebeecausestn@gmail.com. I will put you in touch with the person with whom you may be working.

Audit Team: As stated in the list of actions and motions, the Directors at the November 13 meeting voted to complete an audit covering 2018-2021. The audit team is being put together with people in the financial field, and we only need a couple more volunteers. The list of auditors will be brought to the Directors for a vote once the members who step forward have been named. If you have a financial background and are willing to help, please contact me at thebeecauseetn@gmail.com.

Bylaws Changes and Redrawing Regional Lines: As stated above, the Directors voted on November 13 to amend the bylaws and possibly redraw some regional lines. I would like to have regional meetings to discuss these topics and more.

The dates I'd like to meet with each region are January 15, 22, 29 and February 5 and 12. Your Regional Vice-President can lock in the date that would best suit your region – one date per region. At the meetings, we can discuss the proposed bylaws changes and redrawing regional lines, where applicable. We can even begin discussing the regional events to take place.

I'd like to send any proposed bylaws changes to the members for a vote mid-February. The voting could be open for a week or two and the results announced at the March TBA Conference.

Directors and Officers Insurance: Quotes for insurance to cover Directors and Officers (D&O) have been obtained. The amount of \$500 was set aside for the coverage at the Directors meeting. However, the price quotes have been in the \$750-\$1,000 range.

The D&O insurance has not yet been purchased. In speaking with the attorney representing TBA on the dissolution of Save Tennessee Bees, we came away thinking that the general insurance TBA carries should cover most issues that would ever arise. The attorney did say that "it wouldn't hurt to have the additional coverage." There will be an Executive Committee meeting shortly after the holidays, so we'll discuss the topic again at that time and vote aye or nay for the additional funds. The topic shouldn't be too controversial, since the Directors did already vote to get the D&O coverage.

Save Tennessee Bees: Per the above list, the TBA Directors voted to dissolve Save Tennessee Bees at the Directors meeting on November 13. The general feeling of unease surrounding the TBA subsidiary was too great to ignore.

The attorney recommended by Attorney Esther Roberts was contacted, and a meeting did take place. Four TBA members were present, two Executive Committee members and two Directors. One Director was invited but unable to attend because of a travel conflict. The attorney named the five attending members as a corporate board (for the purpose of fulfilling the Directors' objective to dissolve Save Tennessee Bees). As President, I simply did not want to go into a meeting with the attorney by myself. I wanted witnesses and additional ears – I'm getting old and forgetful.

The attorney said that he needed to verify a couple of points before making a final call, but since the Directors did vote to dissolve the 501(c)(3), Save Tennessee Bees, appears to be dissolved. One particular point — that Save Tennessee Bees is indeed attached to Tennessee Beekeepers Association — will be among the verification to be completed first. Once verification takes place, TBA will enter into a "winding down stage" with Save Tennessee Bees. As part of that process, cease-and-desist orders will be issued, accounts closed, and the wishes of the Directors fulfilled, unless it's challenged.

What in the world are you thinking?! We started a 501c3 and then shut it down?! What's up with that? Well, to be truthful, TBA did put a lot of time and energy into its formation. Save Tennessee Bees was to be the income producing arm of TBA to receive grants and donations to finance TBA initiatives and interests. However, when the 501c3 was approved, TBA was told that Save Tennessee Bees didn't have anything to do with TBA. The Directors had questions.

The question became, "Is Save Tennessee Bees 'attached' to Tennessee Beekeepers Association? If so, then was there is a possibility that TBA could be held liable for any grant that was received and the terms of that grant NOT met. Another concern was if TBA is attached to Save Tennessee Bees and that entity make a \$100,000 commitment and fail to fulfill the payment then TBA may be held liable. Questions needed to be answered.

Save Tennessee Bees obtaining a state specialty license plate was another concern. That was being considered as a possibility. The Directors had more questions they wanted answered.

The problem was that no one at the meeting had the answers. The Directors were not able to get any answers that made them comfortable about moving forward with Save Tennessee Bees, so the discussion quickly moved to just contacting the attorney and dissolving the 501c3. The Directors had found an answer they were comfortable with. A further update will be included in the January edition of the “Hive Tool.”

Tornado Reports: Many of you are aware of the tornadoes that ripped through four states, including upper West Tennessee, this past weekend. I have reached out to the four TBA clubs in that part of Tennessee. I have talked to one organization, left messages for two, and gotten phone recordings that one club’s contact numbers are no longer in service.

Special thanks are in order. Calls have come in from TBA members from as far away as Blount County wanting to help. Thank you for your willingness to offer aid. You will be contacted when more information becomes available.

I and other TBA members will continue to reach out on behalf of the statewide organization to those who may have been affected by the storms. Our goal is to help in the best way possible.

On a Personal Note: I would like to say here that I am glad to be serving as TBA President this year. I’ve often heard the term “drinking from a fire hose.” Recently, I’ve come to fully understand what that phrase means. There is a lot to learn, a lot to do, a lot to organize and a lot to carry out – and do it all right now. Tennessee Beekeepers Association is a 1,300-member organization. There are around 10 Executive Committee members, there are approximately 75-100 Directors, and there are about 1,200 general members. To each and every one of you, it’s your input — *your voice, your vote, your participation* — that matters most in bringing about Tennessee Beekeepers Association’s success. That’s why I’m calling on all of you — whether you belong to the smallest or largest, a rural or urban, a newly founded or half-century-old club — to step forward and begin to mold TBA into the organization you want it to be, the organization it was meant to be. It is the only organization that represents and benefits beekeepers and their bees throughout the state. And it is yours.

CVBA Board of Directors and Officers

President: Lloyd “Junior” Snelson 432-626-5538
Vice President: David Sams 423-693-6846
Board Members: Tim Andrews 423-272-5492
William Barnett 423-754-8523
Bobbi Smith 865-360-7373
Secretary: Candy Halford 865-310-0120
Treasurer: Lynda Eskola 423-733-2017

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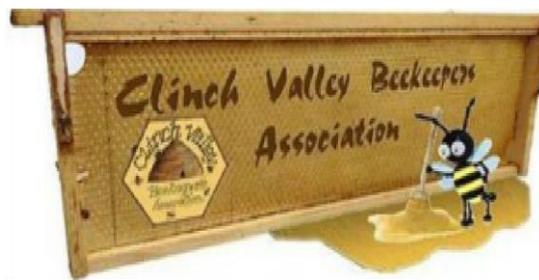
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Claiborne County

Lloyd “Junior” Snelson 423-626-5538
Debbie Clayton 865-310-2421
Bill Clayton 423-626-8786

Sullivan County

Wayne Yates 423-288-6536



CVBA encourages each person to further their education by reading books, checking out various websites, and watching the videos that are available on bees and beekeeping. We also encourage everyone to have a mentor, especially if you are new to beekeeping. If you need a mentor, please let us know at the next meeting and we will try to find one that is close to you and/or your apiary. Remember all apiaries must be registered with the State of TN. Forms are available at the meeting or they can be downloaded from the internet. <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/bees/forms.html>

Answer to Bee Funny- She could only give buzz cuts.