



# Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

## General Meeting Agenda: April 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.

- **Officer reports**

- **President – Jan Hodson**

- **Contact lists for the public (ie swarms, bee wranglers, bee placement, etc)**
- **Master Beekeeper Study Group**
- **TBA Conferences**
  - **June 20<sup>th</sup> , Denton Conference Center, November 12-14, Allen**
  - **Volunteering at conference**
  - **We will have a table at the Denton conference**

- **Treasurer – Julie Haza**

- Checking-Simmons      \$3,583.64
- Checking-Paypal            77.60

Total Cash                    \$3,661.24

Members                      68

Members-Students            2

Total Members                70 !!!!!

- **A few blooming nectar plants:**

- **Little Blue Eyes**
- **Showy Primrose**
- **Gulf Coast Penstemmon**
- **Vetch (Common and Harry)**
- **Blackberry**
- **Sage, Common**
- **Sedge grass**
- **Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to [janrhodson@gmail.com](mailto:janrhodson@gmail.com) or text to 214-417-9071**

- **April Monthly Tips**

- **Don't let the green out there fool you! The rain washes away nectar and pollen. Check honey and pollen stores. Feed syrup and pollen if needed for colony buildup. Check hives for:**
  - **Swarm and supercedure cells**
  - **Crowding**
  - **Egg laying room**
  - **Brood box has 3 frames of honey/nectar**

- **Room for more honey**
  - **Nectar flow should be ramping up. Have at least one empty super per hive ready during honey flow. Air out any wax that was stored with PDB before using.**
  - **Do not medicate during honey flow. Test for varroa and treat before installing honey supers.**
  - **Don't install queen excluder until the bees begin to draw out comb in the super. You can use an 8 frame queen excluder or turn the excluder sideways, to allow easier access for the worker bees.**
  - **April is an ideal time to make splits using new queens.**
  - **You can strengthen a weak hive by taking capped brood frames from a strong hive shaking off the bees and adding them to a weak hive. First ask, **why is the hive weak?****
  - **Consider whether the hive maybe in a bad location, aging queen, mites, etc.**
- **Tips and Tools**
  - **A Cool Video:**

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?view=detail&mid=7DFB5FAA160CB9B80BE07DFB5FAA160CB9B80BE0&shtp=Email&shid=5754a05e-8421-4969-b717-675ef8f476f2&shtk=SG93IGJIZXMqY29sbGVjdCBuZWN0YXlqdG8gbWFrZSBob25leSAoIEEgY2xvc2UtdXAqdmlkZW8gZmlsbSAP&shdk=SG9uZXliZWVzIHVzZSBuZWN0YXlqdG8gbWFrZSBob25leS4gTmVjdGFyIGlzlGEgc3VnYXl0cmlijaCBsaXF1aWQgcHJvZHVjZWQgYnkqcGxhbnRzIGFuZCBmbG93ZXJzIC4uLi4%3D&shhk=U8llzVUUxSo%2BiNnpBMzlihWh27SOZptbMUexvHf%2FRUc%3D&form=VDSHOT&shth=OSH.AC6WRYF%252BIYdcOIDneO5SBQ>
  - Laundry jugs make great syrup dispensers.

**Next meeting: May 21, 6:30 pm, Simmons (Landmark) Bank (Maybe!)**

**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. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from 3-5pm at the extension office 301 S. Chestnut, Gainesville.**

**(When they open back up!)**

**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.**