



Elm Fork Beekeepers Association

General Meeting Agenda: February 20, 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 - Change in Schedule**
- **Program: Creamed Honey – Lisa Dittfurth**
 - Started beekeeping in 2012 with husband, Russell Dittfurth
 - They currently maintain ~90 hives
 - Lisa lives on 20 acres in rural Collin County
 - Member of Collin County Hobby Beekeepers since 2012
 - Member of Texas Beekeepers Association since 2013
 - Previous organization support roles :
 - Texas Beekeepers Association - Event Coordinator (2013 - 2016)
 - Texas Beekeepers Association - Area Director (2016 - 2017)
 - Texas Beekeepers Association - Vice President (mid-year 2017 - 2018)
 - Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association - Vice President (2019)
- **Officer reports**
 - **President – Jan Hodson**
 - Farm and Ranch Symposium
 - Cooke Co. Appraisal
 - Contact lists for the public (ie swarms, bee wranglers, bee placement, etc)
 - Master Beekeeper Study Group
 - TBA Conferences
 - June 20th , Denton Conference Center, November 12-14, Allen
 - Volunteering at conference
 - We will have a table at the Denton conference
- **Vice President – Michael Barber**
 - Speakers
 - Mentor Program
- **Secretary – Louann Barfknecht**
- **Treasurer – Julie Haza**
- **Webmaster – Byron Compton**
- **Communications - Susan Pritchard**
- **Director at Large – Tim Branam**
- **Hospitality – Melanie and Gary Clinton (not present)**
- **A few blooming nectar plants:**
 - Bradford (Callery) Pear
 - Chickasaw Plums
 - Mexican Plum

- Bluets
- Arugula
- Take pictures of bees on nectar plants and email to janrhodson@gmail.com or text to 214-417-9071
- February Monthly Tips
 - Activity increases for the beekeeper this month. Trees are starting to bloom providing pollen. A healthy colony has bees flying on warm days and bringing in pollen. You should see small patches of brood on a few frames. Check the quality of the brood.
 - Only go into hives on warm sunny days. Preferably 65 degrees or higher outside temperatures
 - Check honey and pollen stores. Feed syrup and pollen if needed for colony buildup. Don't let your bees starve!
 - Check to make sure that paradichlorobenzene (PDB) crystals in stored frames haven't evaporated.
 - Order equipment and bees.
 - Clean tools and make equipment repairs
- Tips and Tools
 - Feeding your Bees
- Door prize drawing
- Meeting Close

Next meeting: March 19, 6:30 pm, Simmons (Landmark) Bank

Website: 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.

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.