



Newsletter Title ??? Name it!

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Looking Forward...by Margie Robertson

Happy New Year! My name is Margie Robertson and I look forward to a new beekeeping adventure with you. The New Year of 2013 brings the promise of learning many amazing things about the world of honey bees. As an organization we continue the never-ending challenge of networking with other bee organizations to promoting sound beekeeping through events, education and service opportunities. Shelby County Beekeepers Association-SCBA looks forward to meeting scientists, doctors, teachers and anyone

that enjoys nature and all that it has to offer. I consider myself, someone who wants to give back to the earth and hope you share this sentiment and join us in 2013. We desire to be good stewards of the earth, so partner with us by helping us with this wonderful adventure and make this unique apiary world of bees a better place.

Biography. Margie Robertson, Shelby County Beekeepers Association-SCBA, 2013 President. Margie first began her adventure of the honeybee with her love of



Margie looks forward to beekeeping in 2013. flowers then, developed an understanding of the importance of their pollination while being a horticulturist and a florist. After getting her college degree she became a certified landscaper, worked with over various organizations while busy raising two daughters and a being a grandmother of 7.

January SCBA Speaker, Mike Sykes



Honey Bee Swarm Removal-Guaranteed Home and Building
Mike Sykes
Home: 681-0639
Cell: 368-5799

Local honey bee swarm removal expert Mike Sykes, has been in business for nearly 16 years and says in all the swarms he's removed no swarms have ever returned to fill the space. This guarantee is good for 5 years too!

He says his service includes identifying precisely where the bees are located in a building or structure with a handheld thermal imager. He says it's a great tool pinpointing exactly where the bees are located behind a wall or in the floor. He says, "It keeps me from having to remove walls or boards unnecessarily." He claims they only do structures and never does trees. He is located in the Birmingham area but has traveled as far as Huntsville, AL to remove honey bees. Call him for an estimate. 205.368.5799

12-Month Plan Beekeepers Check List

The 12-month Beekeepers Check List is a **suggestion only** plan for keeping honey bees in our area.

January-

- Feed your bees.
- Clean and store equipment.
- Order spring package bees.
- Last chance to medicate bees.
- Attend bee club meeting.

Note: Our nectar flow usually starts in March, so do not medicate within 6 weeks of nectar flow. January 15 would be the last day to add medication.

February-

- Feed your bees.
- Order spring package bees.
- Attend bee club meeting.

March-

- Consider hive splits.
- Install early package bee order.

Order spring package bees and queens.

Feed your bees.

Check for existence of queen in old hive late March/early April.

April-

- Install package bees.
- Order spring package bees and queens.
- Feed bees.

May-

- Add additional hive bodies when 80% frames are capped.
- Inspect the hive weekly.
- Feed bees.

June-

- Add additional hive bodies when 80% frames are capped.
- Inspect the hive weekly.
- Watch for swarms.

.....Continued on page 2

12-Month Plan Beekeepers Check List.....Continued

July-

- __ Extract ripened honey.
- __ Inspect the hive weekly.
- __ Leave 40 pounds of honey for winter bee survival.

August-

- __ Extract ripened honey.
- __ Leave 40 pounds of honey for winter bee survival.
- __ Feed bees if dearth occurs.

September-

- __ Inspect hives.
- __ Fall nectar flow begins.

October-

- __ Inspect hives monthly.
- __ Medicate towards the end of the month.
- __ Leave 40 pounds of honey for winter bee survival.

November-

- __ Inspect hives monthly.
- __ Reduce hive bodies down to 2 boxes.

- __ Clean equipment and store.
- __ Medicate hives if necessary.
- __ You can order spring time package bees, nucs and queens on sites now for spring delivery.
- __ Store your equipment away for the winter
- __ Attend bee club meetings.

December-

- __ Reduce hive bodies down to 2 boxes if you haven't done it already, it's time.
- __ Consider using an entrance reducer to keep mice out.
- __ Remove the queen excluder until next season.
- __ Medicate hives if necessary.
- __ *Set-up for your method of feeding for the long winter days ahead if you haven't already. Various methods of feeding, Front feeders: Sugar/Water 1:1 or Top feeders: Sugar/Water 1:1 or inside Mountain Camp method of raw sugar in freezer bags with slits cut on top of bags, place inside empty super body under main top cover.*
- __ You can order spring time package bees, nucs and queens on sites now for spring delivery.

Click [here](#) to see the expanded plan



Honey and Allergies

People have asked, "Is honey good for my allergies?" The answer is a resounding "Yes". Let's look at just a few reasons why. In order for honey to be good for your allergies, you must buy what we beekeepers refer to our crop of honey as, "Local raw honey." The "local" means that the honey you purchase comes to you from local bees and all the flowers that they have access

to. The "raw" part means that it hasn't been heated or nothing has been added to or taken away. This honey is in its optimal form to help your allergies and ailments. **Local raw honey** has vitamins, minerals, enzymes and powerful antioxidants in every teaspoon. When we heat this honey over a certain temperature, this process destroys the things that nature built into it. **Local raw honey** has the best things available to you and your allergies as oppose to the ones available to you in the big box stores.

Local raw honey helps to rid the body of anti-viral, anti-bacterial and anti-fungal problems. It helps with digestion and encourages your system to be strong against many illnesses regarding immunity, allergies and skin infections.

Local raw honey aids in correcting issues related to blood pressure, adverse sugar levels, body pains, calming nerves and some help with ulcers.

Local raw honey has been beneficial as an expectorant, anti-inflammatory aid as it relates to bronchitis and asthma.

Local raw honey should be purchased from a local resource identified to contain unique pollens in your geographic area.

Local raw honey historically has been used to treat wounds including skin burns, abrasions, rashes, infections and various other health problems.

Local raw honey has been known to treat acne when placed on the affected area.

Local raw honey has been used to treat colds and sore throats as it soothes and relieves the irritation. Some use the honey in a steaming method for inhalation to open closed sinuses.

By purchasing **local raw honey**, helps support local families and puts money back into the local market. Consider buying a jar or two today. See locals Shelbybees.org

Some people take a couple of teaspoons a day of local raw honey prior to allergy season to help get a jumpstart of halting the onset of allergy symptoms.

Sources:

- <http://www.benefits-of-honey.com/raw-honey.html>
- <http://www.carlislehoney.com/allergies.htm>
- <http://www.drgrotte.com/honey-medicine.shtml>

Learn more:

- http://www.naturalnews.com/035493_raw_honey_health_benefits_antibacterial.html#ixzz2Hh2W Wma9

For more information:
Contact:
Marge Robertson, President 2013
205-672-9604

E-mail: shelbycobeekeepers@gmail.com

Monthly Meeting, beginning Jan. 24, 2013
Senior Adult Center on Highway 36,
Chelsea, AL 35043
7-9pm

Where beekeepers get the knowledge
and share the knowledge.

Shelbybees.org



Shelby County Beekeepers Association
SCBA
A Not-For-Profit Organization

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Twitter

[@shelbycobeekeep](https://twitter.com/shelbycobeekeep)

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This is our first ever [NEWSLETTER](#) and we would like you to help us [NAME IT](#) ! We could come up with our own name but we would rather have some help by our beekeeping friends. Send us your ideas by going to the [NAME IT](#) link. Send us as many ideas that you can come up with.

Also, if you would be interested in collecting articles, writing or assembling our future newsletters, let us know that as well using the same link above.

Thank You,

Have a bee-utiful holiday season!

Everyone at SCBA

Honey Bee Honey Comb Brooch
can be purchased at Etsy.com



2013 Beginning Beekeepers Class-Sign Up

Have you ever looked at the mystery behind how the honey got in the jar? Have you ever looked closely at the honey comb

and wondered how it was built? Do you ever think about what honey bees do in the winter?

If you have pondered these questions, sign-up today. We offer a 7 week course

beginning beekeepers. Thursday, Jan. 24—March 7, 2013, 7-9pm. Chelsea, AL. \$45 per person, \$20 additional if you bring someone with you. For more info. [Follow link.](#)

IMPORTANT Links and Dates:

2013 Beginning Beekeepers Class [Information](#)

2013 Beginning Beekeepers Class [Online Sign-up Form](#)

2013 Beginning Beekeepers Class [Printable Sign-up Form](#) to mail.

2013 Beginning Beekeepers Class [Flyer](#) (.pdf) Please post and handout

Shelby County Beekeepers Association-SCBA [Brochure](#)

January 2013

Thurs, Jan. 24—March 7, 7-9pm. Beginning Beekeeping Class. Chelsea, AL. Pre-Registration required. **HURRY!**

February 2013

Sat. Feb. 2, 18th Annual Alabama Cooperative Extension Beekeeping Symposium, ACES, Auburn University, [Flyer](#) for info. Registration

Deadline: Jan. 21

Thurs, Feb., 7, 7-9pm. Monthly Meeting, SCBA. Guest Speaker: Don Williamson, Chelsea Fire & Rescue Dept., talks about bee sting safety, fires and other emergencies including an upcoming safety class.

March 2013

Thurs, March., 7, 7-9pm. Monthly Meeting, SCBA. Guest Speaker: Sallie Lee, Jefferson County Extension Center, talks to us about Top Bar Hives.

Fri/Sat, March 22-23, 2-Day Class: Queen Rearing and Colony Splitting, Contact: Jimmy Carmacke, purealabamahoney@yahoo.com, Cell:205-966-5223, Cost: \$75, Includes a delicious meal and a grafting kit.

Trivia
Swarm
Click Here