



www.volusiabeekeepers.org

Founded February 9, 2010

# Beekeepers of Volusia County Florida

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Newsletter, January 2016

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## Management Calendar January 2016

1. Feed colonies if light (colonies can starve!); also supply pollen supplements if necessary.
2. Nosema can be a significant colony problem this tie of year. You can treat colonies for Nosema disease using Fumigillin, Colonies may need as much as 4 gallons of medicated syrup to control Nosema Ceranae
3. Repair/Paint old equipment

## Blooming Plants

Sand Pine - continues to bloom in February  
Maple - continues to bloom in February  
Willow - continues to bloom in February & March

## Club Officers

**Mike Hays**, President  
386.957.4795  
haysmj2527@gmail.com

**Marlin Athearn**, Vice President  
386.428.0838  
mjarhear@volusia.k12.fl.us

**Ron Kull**, Treasurer  
386.451.2978  
kullrp@yahoo.com

**Donna Balo**, Secretary  
386.738.1954  
balo\_d@hotmail.com

Master Beekeepers: Tom Bartlett & Marlin Athearn

## Events of Interest to Beekeepers

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting  
January 27, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
Fourth Wednesday of the month  
Volusia County Fairgrounds

Volusia County Beekeepers Meeting  
February 24, 2016, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
Fourth Wednesday of the month  
Volusia County Fairgrounds

University of Florida Bee College  
March 4th & 5th, 2016  
St Augustine, FL.

Check our website for a link to more information and registration.

## A Call for Volunteers

It is the time of year when the club is in need of volunteers for officers. If you are interested in getting more involved in your club, please see one of the officers.

## Need Help? Call a Mentor!

**Marlin Athearn** 386.428.0838  
mjarhear@volusia.k12.dl.ua  
New Smyrna Beach

**Don Kent** 386.672.0995  
doggonekent@gmail.com  
Ormond Beach

**Mike Hays** 386.957.4795  
haysmj2527@gmail.com

# Beekeepers of Volusia County, Florida

## Meeting Agenda January 27, 2016

Call to order and welcome  
Mike Hays

Welcome new members

Approve November 25, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report—Ron Kull

Presidents Discussion

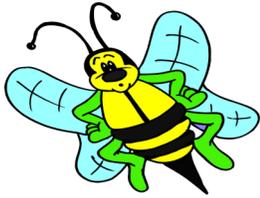
Old Business:

New Business:

Refreshments & Social Interaction

Open Forum/Beekeeping Questions

Adjourn



## Did You Know?

### ANTS – A PROBLEM FOR HONEY BEES

In many parts of the world, especially tropical and subtropical areas, ants can be a nuisance and can even destroy honey bee colonies. All ant species are social, although colony population size may vary greatly. Because of their social nature, ants may raid in groups and honey bees are often unable to defend themselves and their colonies. For example, in the southern U.S. entire colonies have been killed and their brood, stored pollen and honey removed within one day.

Killing ant colonies is possible but often difficult and too time-consuming, especially in rural areas where ant colonies migrate and/or new colonies are started routinely. At one time some beekeepers used soil insecticides to control ants, but these compounds often have adverse environmental side effects that make their use questionable.

A favorite way to protect against ants in many warm climates is to use an oil barrier. A hive stand is used with the legs immersed in oil. Most heavyweight oils evaporate slowly and a hive stand needs little attention. Hive stands, in addition to protecting against ants, have other virtues: they keep colonies off cold, damp ground. The raised entrances are above weed and ground vegetation that might otherwise deter honey bee flight.

*Notation: Ants will occasionally take up residence on the top of an inner cover. Bees, seldom visiting this location in a small colony, leave well enough alone. Strong colonies may battle an ant colony such as this. If you discover any nest such as this, simply remove the inner cover and shake off the ants, eggs, larvae and nest material several yards away.*

Source: ABC & XYZ of Bee Culture, forty first edition, page 49-50  
Published by The A.I. Root Company