



# Highlands Beekeepers Association

www.highlandsbeekeepers.com

&

# Washington County Extension Service

www.offices.ext.vt.edu/washington  
276-676-6309

Presents

## A Honeybee Symposium

Saturday April 8, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Southwest VA Higher Education Center  
Abingdon, VA

### Featuring:

**Jerry Hayes**

Monsanto Beeologics Commercial Lead

Topic: Overview of the industry/struggles of beekeeping and why I am at Monsanto. Then presentations on Varroa or SHB and finally nutrition.

**Sam Comfort**

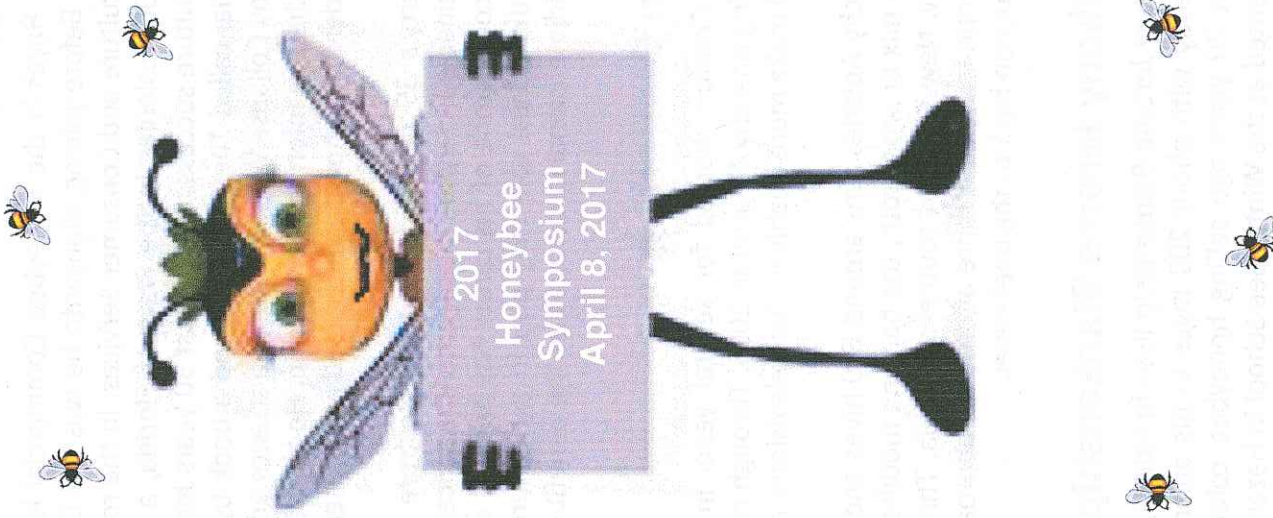
Beekeeper

Topic: Who's your mama? Queenrearing in the backyard and beyond.

**Anthony Jerome Blankenship**

Beekeeper

Topics: How to keep bee losses to 1%.



## 2017 HONEYBEE SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM APRIL 8, 2017

\$40.00 Pre-Registration Before Mar. 31  
\$50.00 Registration At Door  
Lunch & Snacks Included (Choose Below)  
Register & Pay Online At [www.highlandsbeekeepers.com](http://www.highlandsbeekeepers.com)  
Or Mail Check To Wash. Co. Extension Service

Mail Registration & Check To:  
Phil Blevins, Extension Agent  
Washington Co. Extension Service  
234 W. Valley St.  
Abingdon, VA 24211  
276-676-6309

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Choose One: Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten Free \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to Highlands Beekeepers Association.)





## INFORMATION



- Pre-registration fee is \$40.00
- Registration at the door is \$50.00
- Cutoff date for pre-registration is Mar. 31
- Box lunch and snacks are included in registration fee.
- Limit of 250 attendees.
- No refunds after March 31.
- Online registration available: [www.highlandsbeekeepers.com](http://www.highlandsbeekeepers.com)
- Vendors will be on site.

## LOCATION



Southwest VA Higher Education Center  
Grand Ballroom  
One Partnership Circle  
Abingdon, VA 24210



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 8:00 a.m. Vendors Open
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome
- 9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Jerry Hayes
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Jerome Blankenship
- 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Break & Vendors
- 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Jerry Hayes
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
(box lunch included in registration fee)
- 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Sam Comfort
- 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Break & Vendors
- 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sam Comfort
- 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Questions To Speakers
- 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Evaluations, Vendors & Pickup Certificates

## Jerry Hayes



Jerry Hayes is the Honeybee Commercial lead for Monsanto's newly formed BioDirect business unit. Before joining Monsanto he was the Chief of Apiary Section for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In the role he was responsible for the regulatory health of the 350,000 colonies in the State of Florida, a state highly dependent on honeybee pollination for agriculture success. For the past 30 years Jerry has written a monthly column in the American Bee Journal called The Classroom and a book by the same name. Jerry is a founding member of the Colony Collapse Working Group, a science advisory board member for Project Apis mellifera (PAm) and the Bee Informed Partnership. He has been author and co-author on multiple research papers that delve into how to understand and preserve honeybee health.

In Jerry's 35 plus years in the Apiculture industry his overarching desire has been to create sustainable honeybee management practices while partnering with other segments of agriculture. The cornerstone of his career has been to educate others that honeybees are the key pollinator and the critical role they play in agriculture; while in parallel encouraging the development of multidimensional landscapes for the benefit of honeybees and all pollinators.

## Sam Comfort



Sam Comfort worked for several years in commercial beekeeping across the country before starting Anarchy Apiaries in 2005. Through raising queens from hardy survivor stock, the mission is to: 1) make more beehives than televisions, and 2) have a good time, all the time (with bees).

Anarchy Apiaries runs around 600 hives and 400 mating nucs with no treatments. The hive styles are a mix of Langstroth, top bar, and modified-Warre "Comfort" hives, located in both the Hudson Valley, New York and southeast Florida. Through teaching self-contained, self-reliant beekeeping, we hope to make it more affordable, approachable, and enjoyable, as well as bring the means of production back to the beekeeper.

## Anthony Jerome Blankenship



Anthony Jerome Blankenship lives in Hurley, VA and has worked with honeybees about 40 years; currently with about 200 hives in his apiary. He started working in honeybees with his father about 20 years ago selling honeybee colonies. He has attended various bee schools and has presented at the Winter Bee School in Hazard, KY, Capitol City Bee Club in Frankfort, KY, Floyd Co., KY Bee Association, Jenny Wiley State Park in Prestonsburg, KY and Richlands Chamber of Commerce Winterhoney Festival in Richlands, VA.

Jerome will be presenting a PowerPoint on how he has kept losses to 1%.