

THE EXUMA FOUNDATION - SEPTEMBER 2015



THE EXUMA BEE PROJECT



The Exuma Bee Project which has been ongoing now for nearly a year has arrived at an important milestone. The bees are here and doing well.

To ensure that the bees were not Africanized the queens were imported from Hawaii where the stock is known to be clean. The caged queens went from Hawaii to Ted Dennard at the Bee Project in Savanna where they were joined by several hundred workers to make a 'package'. Of the 12 packages 11 are now established in their hives on Exuma.

A number of people donated their time and resources to make the Exuma Bee Project happen. Our thanks to: David Paddison who loaned his plane; the pilots - Chip Giewhan and Mason Paddison and Henry Monsees and Jim Mercer who contributed to the costs. Our special thanks to

Ted Dennard of the The Bee Cause Project for his enthusiasm, time and resources that have been critical to making this effort possible and Catherine Booker who successfully coordinated the whole project. Thanks also to Dr. Godfrey Springer of the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Dept. who facilitated the necessary permitting and for his ongoing interest in the project.

There is an interesting article in the Savannah Morning News at <http://savannahnow.com/exchange/2015-08-15/savannahians-restock-bahamas-bee-colony>



1. Catherine with the bees showing their gentle disposition. 2. Kids at the observation hive shortly after it was stocked with bees. 3. Donors and volunteers at a hive at the campus. 4. At the end of three weeks there is a lot of capped brood indicating that the queen is laying. Larvae can be seen the uncapped cells. 5. The queen and her attendants at the observation hive.

It is hoped that over time the Bee Project may be the start of a cottage industry on the island.

STARVE POVERTY INTERNATIONAL



Trustee Ron Fraser (right) and members of Starve Poverty International on their recent visit to Exuma. The visit was to prepare for a series of projects later in the year. Regular maintenance work will be carried out on the Emergency Shelter in Rolleville and major reconstruction on the home of a lady with two grandchildren living in deplorable conditions.

We are grateful to Starve Poverty for the gifts of school supplies and school shoes.

Over the years Starve Poverty has become an important partner with the Foundation and changed the lives of many families.

While SPI teams are in Exuma they visit schools and meet staff and students and often help with morning assembly. The school visits are part of the SPI tradition on the island and are appreciated by everyone.

Our thanks to all the men and women of SPI for their goodwill and hard work.

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For the fourth year the Exuma Foundation has contributed to the Jeff Rogers Basketball Camp held on the courts in George Town. Young people from all over the island participated with coaches from Nassau and Exuma.

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