



2022
Happy New Year!



Welcome to the HIVE!

January 2022

The Beekeepers Association of Central Arizona

(azbeekeepers.org)

Next Meeting

January 20

7pm

(Doors open 6:30pm)

Valley Garden Club

1809 N. 15th Ave. , Phoenix, AZ 85007

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BEE THERE!!!



Derrick Shields will be our guest speaker

He will be speaking about equipment needed for beekeeping, display some different hive bodies (nucs, 7 and 10 frame hives) and what new beekeepers can do to prepare for getting bees. So if you need a refresher or are starting out, this is perfect!

A little bit about Derrick in his own words;

I got into beekeeping eight years ago in a somewhat unusual way: my neighbors house was vacant and I saw bees in their eve. I called up my HOA and they unfortunately called the fire department which foamed and killed the bees.

Heartbroken, I looked online to find a humane solution. Multiple sites showed that bees could be humanely relocated and suggested joining a beekeepers association. After a few BACA meetings I was convinced I



wanted to give it a go. Veteran beekeeper Verl Dowdy invited me and other new beekeepers to his house for a picnic and to see his bees in his backyard.

Wow, that was exciting!



*That year I ordered a package of bees.
But before the package arrived,
I caught a swarm in an orange tree.*

*I then learned the distinct difference
between an Italian queen colony and a
feral, Africanized queen colony.*



I never wanted to keep Africanized queens. (Does this mean there are people who DO?!) Since then I have removed and relocated several hundred colonies, learned how to re-queen colonies, became the beekeeper for the Chicago Cubs spring training facility and a couple east valley farms, taken classes at the ASU Bee lab in Mesa and now do my best to help other fellow beekeepers when possible.

So

Derrick Shields

is the man you want to talk to with beekeeping questions and concerns.

