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Donalsonville News Thursday, June 23, 2022 Page 11

Lake and Farm



Luck continues to follow me . . .

Luck continues to follow me, just wish it was good

Let me explain, some may be able to relate.

Well, after a bout with kidney stones, a couple of storms came through and laid my silver queen corn down; the transmission went out on my truck.

The 2011 Nissan transmission cooler is in the radiator. Turns out it can leak and get water in the transmission. I received a heads up on the problem over a year ago. So I purchased a new radiator, thinking it was an improved version. Well, it wasn't, so now the truck is in the shop costing over 4K for repairs. The truck has a towing package, so the transmission lines will only go to the external cooler now.

That's not all, while I'm down with no truck, feral hogs are ruining the wildlife food plots recently planted. They are hitting my plots morning, evening and night. When I get the



Son of Seminole Son Anderson

truck back, they will pay for destroying all my hard work, expensive seed and game management.

Monitoring Lake Seminole this past week, I can honestly say, boat traffic is down. During the week, there are almost no boats seen on the lake. Weekends, a few but nothing like it was before the economy tanked. With the cost of fuel doubled, it's a costly

venture to go out and catch a few fish, and/or being out on the water enjoying the outing helps.

Modern outboards can use fuel with 10 percent ethanol, but can be damaged if it's more than ten percent, so let's be careful. It may be cheaper to buy fish if cost is a problem or you don't care about the fishing experience. We have been making our fishing trips on Seminole as straight to a favorite spot and back as possible. We do see some folks who don't seem to have a problem with the cost of fuel. I wouldn't want their fuel bill.

To keep it simple and improve our success in catching enough fish to make it worthwhile, we target catfish and shell-crackers. Catfish are in 19 to 20 feet of water. We've been doing real good using pieces of hotdogs. One trip of 12 cats produced 25 pounds of meat. Not every trip has been that good, but we haven't been skunked

yet. If the cats are not feeding, we go for shellcrackers using big red worms. We're finding the crackers in about six feet of water on clean sandy bottoms. Some shellcrackers will go up to two pounds or better.

Low water conditions are making it easier to see the stumps, but hydrilla is fouling the motor more often now. When it comes to lake levels in Seminole it's been backwards for several years. We're seeing high water in the Winter, low in the Summer. High in the Winter protects the vegetation. Low water when it's hot gives those plants a boost in growth.

We're seeing some sort of traps around the lake, floating on the surface; I didn't go near one so can't say what they are for.

Mats of hydrilla are already forming on the surface in the main lake. Noticed plenty of hydrilla on the surface out in front of Spooner Field.

See you outdoors.

Beekeeping Club

Seminole County Extension will hold a bee club meeting on Friday, June 24th at the extension office at 6 pm. All are welcome to this free event! There will be a mix of ages and experience and something to learn for everyone!



Registration

Please email or call to register (FREE) if you have not already. Call Cody Bowling, Seminole Co. ANR agent, with any questions.

Email : <u>chb70286@uga.edu</u> Phone: 229-524-2326

Location & Time

Meeting location will be the extension office at 426 North Friendship Ave. 6 pm on Friday June 24th



An Equal opportunity/ affirmative action institution

City of Donalsonville <u>Job Opening</u>

The City of Donalsonville has a job opening for a Sanitation Laborer/Loader in the Sanitation Department. This job involves riding on one of the city's sanitation route collection vehicles and using mechanical equipment to empty sanitation containers at customer addresses throughout the City. Additional duties will also be assigned. The successful applicant for this position must be able to lift/and pull moderate loads, and climb onto and off of collection vehicles numerous times each day. He/she should also be able to read and understand printed instructions. A valid Georgia driver's licenses with a good driving history is also required. All employees of the City are screened through E-verify and subject to pre-employment testing. This is a full-time position with a benefit package. Anyone interested in applying should pick up an application at City Hall, then complete and return it as quickly as possible. This position will remain open until it is filled by a qualified applicant and may be closed without further notice.

Questions should be addressed to Bert Adams, Utilities Superintendent, at City Hall, PO Box 308, 127 E 2nd Street, Donalsonville, Ga 39845, or by phone at (229) 524-8511.

The city of Donalsonville is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its hiring process.

The evolution of the beehive

I am the type of person who is interested in a lot of different things,from agriculture to outdoor sports to honeybees and many more.

Honeybees have been a hobby of mine since my grandad let me work with him when I was just a kid. I have written several articles on honeybees, and I helped start a local bee club to try to help others learn about bees because they do hold a special place in my heart. Like many people do with their hobbies, I often find myself going down rabbit holes of information. The evolution of the beehive is one of those rabbit holes I think that is interesting enough to share here today. Before we get into the article, I'll start by saying this will not be a complete history but a few good historical examples instead.

In Europe, thousands of years ago, beekeepers built "skeps" for their bees. A skep is a rounded clay and straw structure that is the iconic beehive you all probably know. The bees would pollinate and collect nectar from plants and build comb inside the hollow structure. This comb could be scraped out and the honey removed. This was the standard beehive for hundreds of years.

Fastforward to more modern times in the late nineteenth century and early 20th century we can find several examples of



Ag Update
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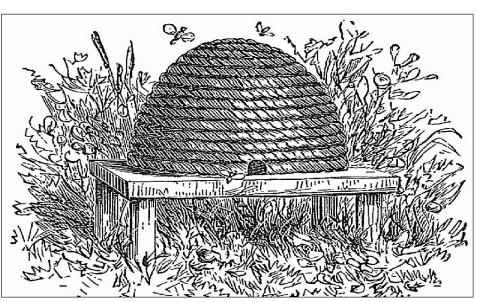
"beegum" hives. These were very popular hives, in Appalachia especially, that was a great step forward from the original skep. Beekeepers would take gum trees with hollow centers and place rods on the inside of them. These rods were horizontal, and the bees would draw comb from these rods. When it came time to harvest honey, the combs could be removed below the rods and the hive stay intact for the next harvest. These hives were popular due to their inexpensive and reusable design.

In the 1850s the modern removable frame beehive was created. Lorenzo Langstroth made one of the first, and last, improvements to modern beekeeping with this invention. In these hives, the bees "nesting" area where eggs are laid, resources are stored and kept totally separate from the honey we

collect to sell. Removable wooden frames are used to hold individual combs of wax that can be used by the bees for many years. This allows for a colony of bees to be left intact after the harvest in the most efficient way and is the beehive everyone sees today all around Seminole County.

Although the equipment has changed over the centuries, the love for bees has not. It takes a special fondness of the honeybee to raise a hive, get stung a lot, and keep them healthy. If you have any questions about bees, please feel free to call me at the extension office, 229-524-2326. Also, we will have a bee club meeting this Friday, June the 24th at 6 p.m. for anyone interested.

Be safe out there.





for prompt scanning and return.

