

# Natural Beekeeping In Horizontal Hives

*2-day seminar with Dr. Leo Sharashkin*

**March 16–17, 2019 • Charleston, SC**  
meeting space at Dixie (Stono) Plantation,  
5397 Dixie Plantation Rd, Hollywood, SC

**\$399 (\$299 for 2 or more people)**  
Register at: [HorizontalHive.com](http://HorizontalHive.com)

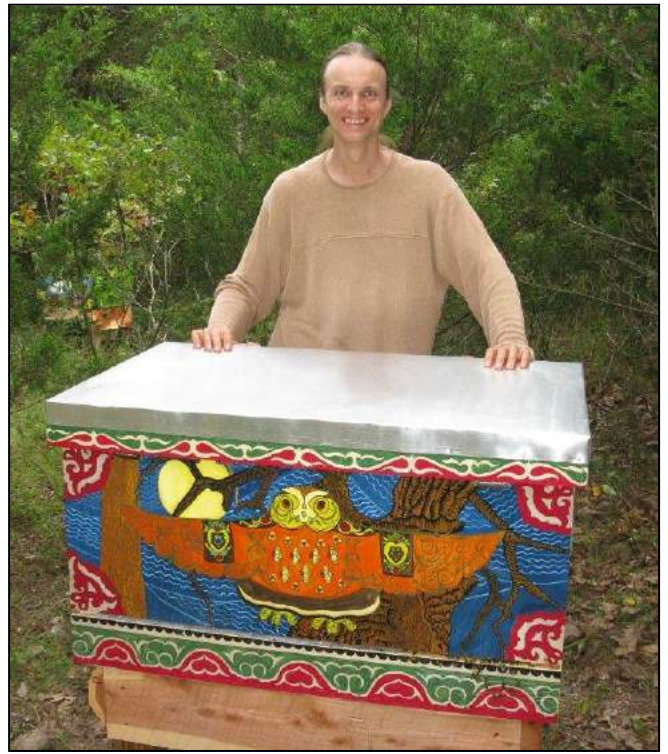
Keeping bees can be simple, healthful, and rewarding. Dr. Leo shares time-honored methods that take the sting out of beekeeping and make it fun and accessible to all. The visually-rich presentations include step-by-step instructions, hive demonstration, and free hive plans.

Beginner beekeepers – or those just contemplating having bees – will receive a robust working understanding of all aspects and options of the natural approach. Experienced beekeepers – from backyard hobbyists to commercial – who seek ways to keep their bees treatment-free with minimal intervention and expense will glean a swath of ideas that can be applied to their existing operations.

*“Dr Leo taught a class that was totally dynamite! Amazingly awesome trouble free way to keep bees that manages them so in tune with nature.”*

— unsolicited comment on Facebook

**Dr. Leo Sharashkin** is editor of *Keeping Bees With a Smile*, a comprehensive resource on keeping bees naturally in horizontal hives. He is contributor to *American Bee Journal*, *Bee Culture*, *Mother Earth News*, *Natural Bee Husbandry* and other major publications, and speaks internationally on sustainable beekeeping and organic growing. He holds a PhD in Forestry from the University of Missouri and a Master’s in Natural Resources from Indiana University. Author of world-renowned research in sustainable agriculture, he lives with his wife and children on a forest homestead in the Ozarks in southern Missouri where they catch swarms and raise bees in a variety of low-maintenance, easy-to-build horizontal hives. See [HorizontalHive.com](http://HorizontalHive.com)





## Program highlights

- In-depth understanding of how bees live in nature.
- Keep bees naturally without interfering in their lives.
- Start an apiary *for free* by attracting local bee swarms.
- How to build low-maintenance bee-friendly hives.
- Horizontal hive models & their advantages.
- Complete how-tos of horizontal hive management.
- Keep colonies healthy & strong without any drugs.
- Help bees overwinter successfully in any climate.
- Natural & artificial swarming. Queen breeding.
- The ideal frame: how deep is deep enough?
- Foundation frames vs. foundationless natural comb.
- Simplified beekeeping: one-box hive, no feeding, no heavy lifting, no queen excluders, no requeening.
- Produce fabulous honey for yourself and for sale.
- Help reverse bee decline & restore landscapes.
- “Pulling honey is all I do.” One hive visit per year.
- And much more!

*“All the best things in life are free. Bees are no exception.”*

## Comments from previous workshops

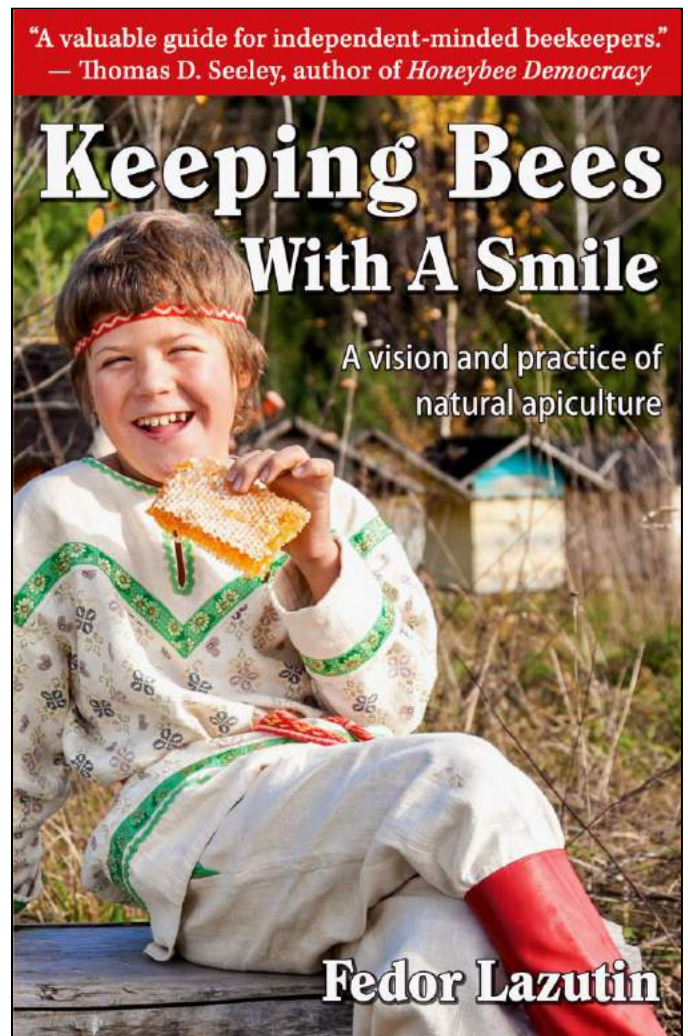
“This was the greatest experience I’ve ever had at a seminar. I feel so much more intelligent regarding bees and feel like I received a lifetime of beekeeping knowledge.”  
— *Linn, Missouri*

“I am in shock of the value I have received! It was well worth driving over 2000 km.” — *Rich, Vancouver, Canada*

“I feel like a born-again beekeeper.” — *Paul, California*

“Beautifully presented. Masterful in every way. Sense of humor. Like explosion of enlightened information. The best workshop on any topic I’ve EVER attended! Thank you so much for the fantastic presentation.”  
— *Jill, Los Angeles, California*

“I have never seen an instructor as welcoming, respectful and grounded as Dr. Leo. He is extremely knowledgeable about what he is presenting. The way the workshop flowed was effortless and extremely enjoyable.”  
— *Michelle*



# Dr. Leo Sharashkin's Natural Beekeeping Workshop

## DAY 1

8:00 Registration opens

9:00 Welcome & Mutual introduction

### 9:15 **SESSION 1: NATURAL BEEKEEPING • LOCAL BEES • CATCHING SWARMS**

- Foundations of Natural Beekeeping.
- How honeybees live in nature.
- How we can mimic bees' natural ways.
- Importance of local bees.
- Natural swarms.
- Swarm traps / Bait hives – best designs & keys to successful use.
- Catching swarms using swarm traps: how, where, when.
- Collecting swarms. Removing bees from structures.

*10:45 break*

### 11:15 **SESSION 2: HIVE DESIGN • HORIZONTAL HIVE ADVANTAGES**

- What is an ideal hive?
- History and evolution of hive models.
- Hive choices depending on your climate and priorities:
  - Hot / Moderate / Cold climates
  - Honey production / Pollination / Bee welfare
  - Stationary / Migratory
  - Small scale / Medium scale / Large commercial
- Horizontal hives and their advantages
- How to build low-maintenance hives that respect bees' needs.
- Choice of materials. Insulation. Ventilation.
- Design options, sizes, and layouts.
- Frames: foundation vs. foundationless; top-bar vs. frames.
- Frame designs and construction.

*1:00 lunch break*

### 2:30 **SESSIONS 3 & 4: APIARY VISIT • WOODWORKING PRINCIPLES**

- *Hive visits – see local horizontal hives in action, inside & out!*
- Hive building principles and techniques. Tools and equipment.

*5:00 reception & Dr. Leo's gingerbread-making master class! (In Mt. Pleasant, SC)*

## DAY 2

9:00 Introduction

### 9:15 **SESSION 5: BEE HEALTH & TREATMENT-FREE BEEKEEPING**

- Treatment-free beekeeping – keys to success; short-term vs. long-term.
  - Hive spacing. Lower density = healthier bees.
  - Hive volume. Smaller hives = healthier bees.
  - Swarming: natural or artificial. Brood-cycle breaks = healthier bees.
  - Consequences of treatments.

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- Bee biology & ecology, and how it affects beekeeping choices:
  - Honeybee races. Local bees. “Improving” bee genetics.
  - Colony structure: queen, workers, drones.
  - Comb building & Nest architecture.
  - Communication & Collective intelligence.
  - Foraging and other tasks. Local honeyflows.
  - Propagation and swarming. Colony development cycles.
- Diseases. Pests. Varroa mites. Small hive beetles.
- Mice, possums, and bears.

#### **10:00 SESSION 6: COLONY MANAGEMENT - SPRING & SUMMER**

- Spring inspection – when, what to look for, what to (not) do.
- Spring buildup – nest expansion vs. bee health.
- Swarming. Collecting and hiving swarms. Artificial increase options.
- Main honeyflow.
- Late swarms. Uniting swarms. Adding swarms to existing hives.

*10:45 break*

#### **11:15 SESSION 7: QUEEN REARING • MANAGEMENT - FALL, WINTER**

- Queens. Queen rearing overview.
- Fall honey harvest. Extraction, extractor models. Packing and storage.
- Winter preparation and wintering.

*12:30 lunch*

#### **2:00 SESSION 8: HONEY AND HIVE PRODUCTS • MARKETING**

- Making a living doing Natural Beekeeping – yes, that’s totally feasible.
- Backyard and commercial Natural Beekeeping.
- Marketing: how to sell honey for \$20/lb... or more!
- Honey. Comb honey. Cappings.
- Dark comb honey. Bee bread. Bee pollen.
- Wax – harvesting & processing. Wax uses. Making your own foundation.
- Propolis. Bee venom. Royal jelly. Brood. Die-off. Apitherapy.
- Selling bees, queens, hives, nectar plants. Apiary visits & honey tours.
- Entrepreneurship: flourishing families, communities, and landscapes.

*3:30 break*

#### **4:00 SESSION 9: NECTAR AND POLLEN PLANTS**

- Bee forage needs: how much, what, and when.
- Monoculture vs. biodiversity: what it means for bees and honey quality.
- Native and non-native plants.
- Nectar plants: annuals, biennials, perennials, shrubs, trees.
- Planting nectar and pollen trees & shrubs.
- Planting annual and perennial flowers.
- Migratory beekeeping.

#### **4:45 SESSION 10: HONEY FOR LIFE: BEE WORLD, HUMAN WORLD**

- What can we learn from the bees? Some insights to inspire your daily life.
- Visions of the future of bees and humanity.
- Can we build a cooperative society & restore the Earth?
- Questions and Answers. Thanks & farewells. Course evaluation.

*5:00 adjourn*

## **Directions to Dixie Plantation**

5397 Dixie Plantation Rd, Hollywood, SC

### **From Downtown taking SC-162:**

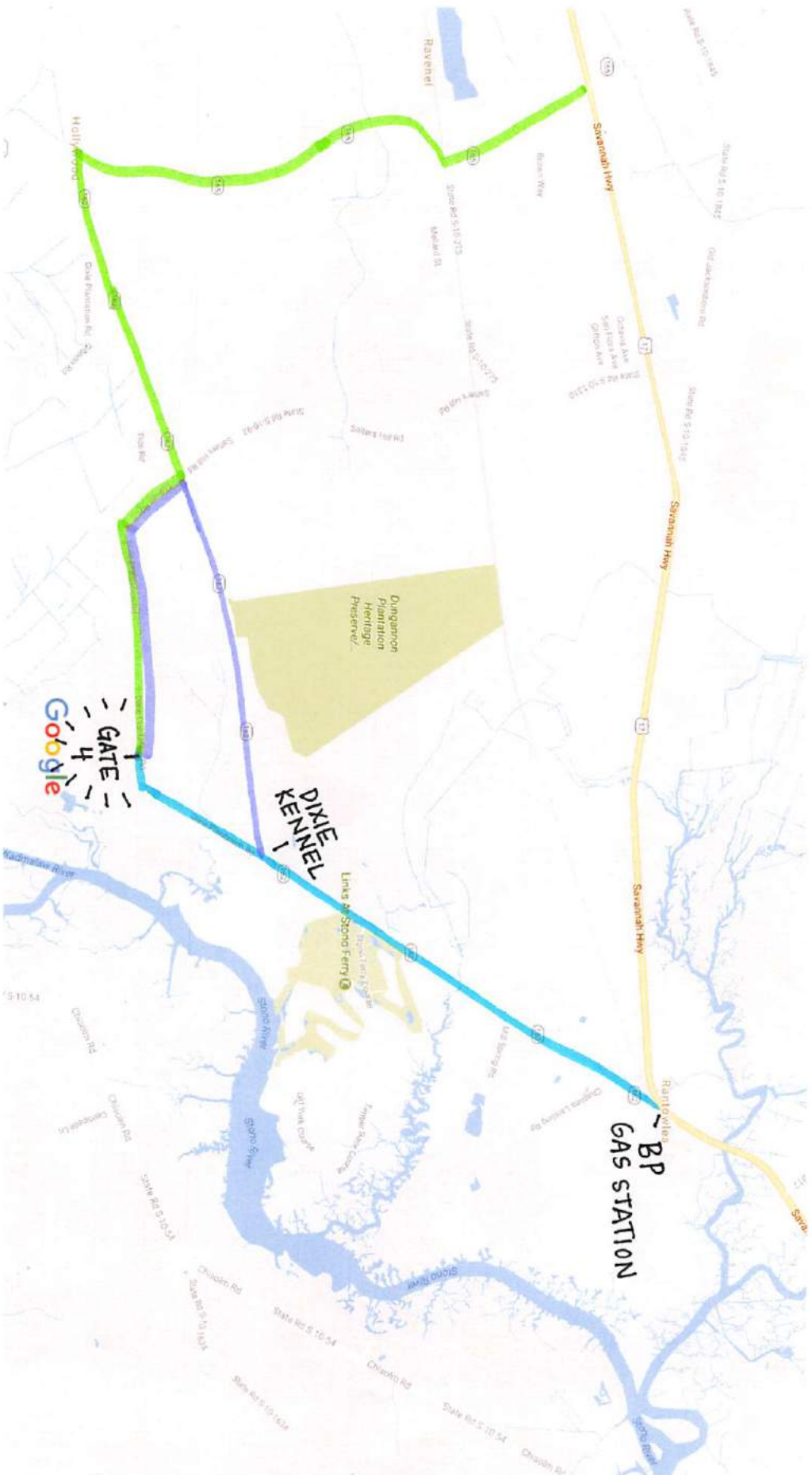
*Route 1 (blue):* Take Savannah Highway (US-17) South to SC-162. Turn left at the BP gas station on SC-162. Drive 2.6 miles on SC-162. Shortly after the Church road sign, there will be a sign for Dixie Kennels. Stay left at the Y and continue on Dixie Plantation Road for 1.1 miles (the road will turn from paved to dirt). Gate 4 is on the left shortly after the sharp right turn in the road.

*Route 2 (purple):* Take Savannah Highway (US-17) South to SC-162. Turn left at the BP gas station on SC-162. Drive 4.8 miles on SC-162. Turn right on Towles Road. Take Towles Road 0.4 miles then turn left on Dixie Plantation Road. The road will turn from paved to dirt. Gate 4 will be 1.2 miles down the dirt road on the right before a sharp left in the road.

### **From Downtown taking SC-165 (green):**

Take Savannah Highway (US-17) South to SC-165. Turn left on SC-165. Drive 3.3 miles on SC-165 then turn left on SC-162. Drive 1.9 miles then turn right on Towles Road. Take Towles Road 0.4 miles then turn left on Dixie Plantation Road. The road will turn from paved to dirt. Gate 4 will be 1.2 miles down the dirt road on the right before a sharp left in the road.





**GATE**  
Google

**DIXIE KENNEL**

**BP GAS STATION**

Map data ©2017 Google 2000 ft

## **FOOD**

We'll provide tea, coffee, water, and healthy organic snacks during breaks. The main meals are not included and you can eat at the area restaurants or bring lunch with you.

## **BRING YOUR BEE VEIL**

If you have a bee veil or jacket, bring it with you as we'll be looking inside hives and working with the bees. If you have no veil, no problem, we have a dozen spare ones, so we'll literally have you covered!

## **WHILE YOU ARE IN THE AREA...**

The surrounding area offers spectacular beaches, hiking, bird-watching, and more!

*Thank you for your participation and I'll see you there!*

*Dr Leo*