



Brown County Beekeepers

Green Bay WI

October 2018

Volume 23 issue 10

Brown County Bee Keepers Association, September meeting

minutes : Wednesday September 19, 2018. Green Bay Botanical Garden's Donald Schneider Education Center.

There were 20 members and 4 guests present.

Attendance: Julianne Sanders, Julie Mazzoleni, Lisa Miotke, Traci Sumner, Kaelyn Sumner, Dave Doering, Sara Kowalski, Jim Suchon, James Arvey, Roy Lindeman, Daniel Parsley, Jon Bootz, Tom Eisenreich, Ronald Melchert, David & Alice Blood, Audrey Blood, Carl Fisher, Thomas Cashman, Lynne Lindgren, Steve Hupfer, Dan McQuillan, Melissa Rusk & Collin Popkey

Steve Hupfer, President of BCBA, called the meeting to order at 6:30.

Bills: One paid bill of \$50.00 to Steve Hupfer for bringing an observation hive with live bees to the Neville Public Museum in connection with the Museum Bee Exhibit on September 5th.

Business:

The club received a Thank You card from Marla Spivak from the Minnesota Bee Lab for our donation of \$500.00 to the Bee Lab. It is nice to have our donation recognized and appreciated by Marla.

THANK YOU to Carl Fisher and Lynne Lindgren for the Meeting before the Meeting on **HONEY EXTRACTION** ! NICE JOB and helpful !

If any member would like to rent the club extractor, the cost is \$5.00 a day and there is a \$25.00 deposit. Please contact Tom Cashman at 920-432-2261 or e-mail at : tcash99930@aol.com.



Several members were on hand for the opening of the **Neville Public Museum's** honey bee exhibit Wednesday, September 5th. Those members felt the exhibit was well done and nicely put together. Steve brought an observation hive that helped entice and excite the visitors. The Wisconsin Honey Producers Association Honey Queen was also there that evening.



On Thursday, September 6th the club had a booth at the **De Pere Farmer's Market**. Comments from members who were there indicated that while the weather was good, there weren't a lot of people there and we didn't sell a lot of honey and related honey products. There was one other vendor there selling honey. It was suggested, if we attend Farmers Markets in the future, that we should go earlier in the season. Late summer was not the right time of the year to go to that specific market. The club paid \$25.00 for its booth.

On By-Laws changes: Lisa M. read 2 items – Article IV Expulsion of Members – Section I and Section II. This new proposed version while not perfect is a lot better than the old version. A motion was made and the new version approved. The updated By-Laws will be signed by all the club's officers making it official. The By-Law Committee is now disbanded.

October club Election: The Secretary will have the ballots ready. The nomination committee which consists of Lisa Miotke, Carl Fisher and Julianne Sanders.

Steve showed a sample rendition picture created for a possible BCBA barn quilt. No decisions have been made regarding a BCBA barn quilt.

We watched a YouTube video by Richard Noel— titled : Monitor your mite levels please!! Richard expresses his feelings regarding people who lose bees and blame solely agriculture "Its more than just Agriculture.... Its also their lack of monitoring mite load and treating bees if needed" " Its by not taking action and being responsible beekeepers"

This is the time of year entrance reducers should be used – they will keep the mice out of the hives. Different sized screens can be used as mouse guards. i.e. A ½ inch screen was recommended or 3/8 inch screen is also available for this.

Club member questions: RE-QUEENING and Hive Beetles.

Is it too late to re-queen hives? Sara K mentioned she re-queened late one year and it worked out for her. It can be done.

Hive beetles look for protein, they can survive over the winter in a cluster of bees—especially if its not a very cold winter. There are some mite treatments that can also treat for hive beetles if the problem is extensive.





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We need a location for the November meeting. Carl Fisher suggested the Village Grille. More to come on this.

Question: when do bees start to prepare for winter? When does winter start for BEES? Consider that Bees start to prepare for winter in the Spring.

What do we need for bees to survive winter? We need:

1. Healthy winter bees !!
2. Food in the hive ! 85-100 lbs. of honey or sugar syrup is needed to overwinter a hive of bees. Bees quit flying when the temperature is under 50 degrees. Pollen is needed in the hive for the bees, especially needed in the top box. You can feed protein patties if needed.
3. Good cluster size. If the cluster is too small, they won't survive. The more bees, larger mass, the better. Need critical mass.
4. A young queen is preferred
5. Good genetics
6. Reduced mite load—this is critical. High mite count and your bees will die
7. Dry bees, good equipment. - Need to control moisture. Need good insulation, if it's warm inside, they will raise bees early.

Next BCBA meeting—Botanical Gardens

Wednesday October 17, 2018

6:30—Meeting start

WHAT TO DO IN OCTOBER :

Flying is minimized because of colder temperatures and the queen will be laying fewer eggs. The bees are shifting to winter mode. They may be forming loose clusters as the temperature lowers. If you find the bees clustered... do not break them up.

The goal is to have the bees fill the upper brood chamber with honey. This will force the queen down into the bottom brood box.

- ◆ Continue to feed 2:1 sugar/water syrup to your light hives.
- ◆ A common contributor of winter die outs is starvation—it is critical bees have enough food stores to make it through winter.
- ◆ Remove any mite treatments according to labels and re-check your mite load if weather permits.
- ◆ Begin winter preparation.

Correction:

September newsletter: "What to do in September"

⇒ Consider applying brood medication Fumidil-B for treating Nosema

Fumidil-B is no longer manufactured and there are no replacements on the market at this time.

FOR SALE:

Honey extractor—20 Frame, Cowen Uncapping Machine, Honey Tank, Wax Melters, Mixing tank, Pollen Traps, 4 wheel carts, 50 lbs beeswax

\$3000.00 for everything or best offer

Contact Randy Younger at 920-784- 8101 or e-mail at youngerrandy@gmail.com