

MT. EMPIRE BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
APRIL 22, 2010

The April meeting was called to order by Bernie Bradley at 7:00 pm in Smyth Hall, Rm 122. There were approximately 65 attendees.

Brian Kreowski, State agriculture inspector with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services gave a presentation on hive inspection, integrated pest management and feral hives. Anyone finding feral hives can report that information to Deb Delaney at dadelane@udel.edu

Further information on apiary inspection, pest management, pollination, etc. can be found on the VDACS web site: vdacs.virginia.gov/plant&pest/apiary.html

Treasurer's Report: Janice reports that we currently have \$3,512.58 (most of it proceeds from the beginning beekeepers class). This money will help to fund the May workshop and our July family picnic.

Secretary's Report: Attendee's were given a copy of minutes from the March meeting. Sharon mentioned that she has changed her e-mail address to abeeskep@gmail.com effective immediately. She reminded attendees that the club has several books and a new video on queen rearing that are available for check out. Members are asked to contribute pictures and information for publication on the web site. A space will be created on the web site for contact information of anyone who is interested in catching swarms. Those willing to catch swarms in their geographical area should send contact information to Sharon via e-mail.

The Bees:

- Brian Kreowski reported that tracheal mites had been found in one hive in Floyd Co.
- Grease patties, essential oils and menthol were discussed as treatments for tracheal mites
- Mr. Clippard explained how he makes splits
- Swarming is starting now
- Mid may is the greatest flow in this area
- Bernie briefly discussed how to determine if the queen is doing well

TIC Grant Status: A total of 276 beekeepers were funded, including 163 beginners and 113 established beekeepers. There are 45 on a waiting list. If people don't spend all of their grant money, those on the waiting list will be funded on first come, first served basis. About 90-100 have already turned in receipts. It takes about 2 months for reimbursement

Spring Workshop: Cathy Wheeler reported on plans being made for the workshop to be held at Mr. Clippard's apiary on May 15. Information and directions have been posted on the web site. A motion was made and passed to raffle off the club's honey extractor.

The drawing will be held at the workshop. We currently have about 100 people registered.

July Family Picnic: Tentative plans are that the picnic will be held at the Petunia Church on July 24th. A donation will be made to the church in memory of Edward Wilson.

May Meeting: May 27, 2010, 7:00 pm, WCC, Smyth Hall, Rm 122. Don Parker volunteered for refreshments for the May meeting.

Door Prizes

Meeting Adjourned