

Mt. Empire Beekeeper's Association  
Meeting Minutes  
March 25, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President, Bernie Bradley at 7:00 pm in Smyth Hall, Rm 122.

**Janice McGrath:**

- presented the Treasurers Report and February meeting minutes
- reports that the Beginner's Beekeeping class was very successful and had 64-70 people at each class meeting
- stated that our current membership stands at 115 paid memberships. We are currently the largest organization in the state next to VSBA.

**Bernie on The Bees:**

- Starvation is a problem at this time of year. If you have not started to feed by now, it is probably too late.
- Consider swarm prevention methods.
- Currently producing drones and varroa mites will spike.
- Report from state apiarist indicates that there is a shortage of bees due to heavy losses at large apiaries from starvation and mites. Agricultural hives have been tested and are full of pesticides.
- VSBA Spring Meeting status was given and several members have volunteered to help.

**Cathy Wheeler:** Presentation on different queens and their traits.

Open discussion and free raffle of several items. Thanks to Jeff Wyatt for donating a homemade screened bottom board.

Next meeting: April 22, 2010 – 7:00 pm (We will discuss powdered sugar vs other treatments)

Sharon will provide refreshments for the next meeting.