



Brown County Beekeepers

Green Bay WI

February 2018

Volume 23 issue 2

Brown County Bee Keepers Association, January meeting minutes : Green Bay Botanical Garden, Donald Schneider Education Center, Room 26, Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

There were 32 members and guests present.

Attendance: Dave Elsen, Carl Fisher, Julie Mazzoleni, Noah Cornette, Orren Fredrick, Dave Doering, Sara Kowalski, Todd Witthuhn, Lyndon Pritchard, John Parsons, Josh Jahnke, Mary Sichel, Marian Puckett, Chris Harris, Roy Liebergen, Paul Siegmann, Tom Eisenreich, David & Alice Blood, Ronald Melchert, Ed & Gloria Grys, Monika Pynaker, Kevin Erdmann, Thomas Cashman, Lynne Lindgren, Steve Hupfer, Kaelyn Sumner, Traci Sumner, Olivia Smits, Zach Gussert and Cindy Silvers.

Steve Hupfer, President of BCBA, called the meeting to order at 6:30. THANK YOU to John Parsons ! Great job on the "meeting before the meeting" and training on HIVE BOXES!

New Club officers for 2018 were introduced : Julie Mazzoleni – Vice-President, Thomas Cashman – Secretary and Lynne Lindgren as Treasurer. First time attendees were also introduced to the membership.

Bills: A motion was made by Monika Pynaker to pay all bills - \$196.88 to Carl Fisher for booking a meeting room at the Ashwaubenon Community Center for the February 24th Bee Class. \$197.79 to reimburse Dave Elsen for purchase of Beekeeping Basics books for the Bee Class and \$17.50 to Thomas Cashman for postage and printing expenses. The motion was seconded and carried. Checks were written out to pay the bills. Approval of the minutes from the November 2017 meeting was next and Alice Blood made a motion to approve the minutes. Carl Fisher seconded the motion and the motion carried

Business: Our club will be holding a Beginning Bee Class on Saturday, February 24th at the Ashwaubenon Community Center. Carl Fisher and Dave Elsen are heading up the class. A class agenda was handed out. Nine people have signed up for the class. Sara K. will help advertise it. Dave E. gave a talk about the upcoming class and what it all covers including registration.

For upcoming meetings, several members will be giving talks on beekeeping.

February—Sara Kowalski

March –OPEN

April—Julie Mazzoleni

May—Lynne Lindgren

Steve had been contacted by two parties outside the area wanting to sell packages. He did not reveal the name because he was not certain the quality. Other option discussed was Fleet Farm—to date, Steve has not heard of any issues with buying packages from Fleet Farm.

SPEAKER/Member: ED GRYS—beekeeping

Ed's dad kept bees for many years and Ed got into it himself just recently. He currently has 4 hives he is overwintering with three still alive and well. Ed described an infrared camera he used in taking pictures of his hives and how the camera worked. These cameras cost between \$200 & \$400.00. His cost around \$350.00. He showed pictures that he took with this camera of his hives. The camera has two lenses – a regular one and the infrared so we can see what we want to see. They show where the live bees are in the hive. Another item that Ed uses is a stethoscope which can tell of the bees are alive in the hive. This instrument works well for this purpose. Another item Ed described was a Top Vent Box which is a shallow box with several holes inside it for feed jars. The box also had 4 holes in the side. With this box, you can also stuff bags of leaves inside it. One more item – Ed described a swarm catcher box called the Swarm Trooper that sells for \$39.00. It's a honeybee swarm trap. The box itself is a heavy cardboard box which contains five frames and can be hung from a tree and anchored to the ground. Ed also showed pictures of hives with an electric fence on and off to show the difference

Closing business/discussion: Steve H had items for sale: club banner, sold to Julie for 10:00, there are books for sale and videos on loan for 5.00 deposit. there were comments from the members on how hives were overwintering and questions about feeding bees. Steve H. talked about feeding bees in winter and there were ways of feeding granulated sugar to bees. There was also some discussion about local beekeeping ordinances. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Thank you to Noah Cornette for bringing refreshments !!!



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After this weeks cold and snow I think we're all looking forward to spring, it may not seem like it, but we are on the downside. While out walking, I'm fairly sure I heard the chickadees chirping their mating call

At this time of year we should be getting our hives painted and repaired and taking inventory of our equipment



Again **THANK YOU** John Parsons for the Meeting before the Meeting—Hive boxes ! Very informative and helpful.



The Einstein science Expo on Saturday February 3rd went well. Lots of kids and adults showing interest . **THANK YOU** Sara Kowalski for organizing and heading it up ! Thank you also to the volunteers who did a great job supporting Sara and representing the BCBA: Tom Cashman, David and Alice Blood, David Doering, Lynne Lindgren, Julie Mazzoleni and David (below).



REMEMINDERS:

Beginning Bee Keeper Class -

Saturday February 24th, 2018 at the Ashwaubenon Community Center—900 Anderson drive, Green Bay. 9:00 to 3:00.

Chaired by Dave Elsen and Carl Fisher.

Please let them know if you need a copy of the registration form.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 21st at the Green Bay Botanical Garden.

The meeting before the meeting starts at 5:30 and to topic is : FRAMES

Our standard meeting starts at 6:30!

BCBA Officers 2018:

Steve Hupfer, President

Julie Mazzoleni, VP/Editor

bcbavicepresident@outlook.com

Tom Cashman, Secretary

bcbasecretary@outlook.com

Lynne Lindgren—Treasurer

treasurerbcba@gmail.com