

Ashe County Beekeeping Association
Regular Meeting
8/14/14

1. President Harry Galer called the meeting to order @ 7:00 PM.
2. 24 in attendance...Officers/BOD and members present. (Harry Galer, Helen Baldwin, Joy Lewis, Fowler Bush, Doug Ehrhardt, Gwyn Campbell and Les Jacobs)
3. Announcements:
 - a. Jim Blevins, new member recognized...also Natalie Wilson. Two guests from the Watauga Beekeeping also attended.
 - b. Items needed to be dealt with...next year BOD will look to have a nominating committee to have a slate for the 2015 association. Current cast of officers will stay on, except for President and Treasurer.
 - c. Nominating chair, Helen Baldwin and will look to have at least 2 to be part of the committee.
 - d. Harry has had great support and thanks the current support from the officers.
 - e. According to by-laws, need to turn finances over to a committee to audit our books...not an onerous job. Need help with the BOD to conduct.
 - f. Things coming up...Lonnie Jones, OTBA, annual museum fall festival on October 18 and would like to have a booth from the ACBA...demo hive and can also sell products. Anyone interested, please contact Helen Baldwin.
 - g. Randy Baldwin will give another class at Wilkes CC from September 2 thru September 25th...Tuesday and Thursday from 6-9 PM. \$71.25 Introduction to Beekeeping.
 - h. Last years Farmers market was a lot of work for a few. Harry approached the director of the Market and suggested a one day event where the ACBA will be represented. Stay tuned for more details regarding this idea.
 - i. Next month - Bee Bazaar. A market here at the Agric. Center...want people to think about bee-related products and demo or sell. Example, apron made of bee material (Linda).
 - a. Handmade decorative items, bee friendly plants, etc.
 - b. Make it fun, price it to sell.
 - c. Ask 10% of receipts to club.
 - d. 1st dibs to members, non-members can also participate for a \$10 fee.
 - e. Business cards, websites, Facebook pages.
 - j. This association has always had a wealth of knowledge and experience. Some with 10 hives, some with 27. We don't need to go outside our association to have knowledge and fun. This is what the bazaar will be about...hope everyone is comfortable in this effort.
4. Joy Lewis
 - a. At the beginning of the year, BOD talked about how they got into beekeeping. Joy, who is from Ashe County, born and raised became interested as her father had previously gotten her interested in bees...every year go down the mountain to get honey from Millersville. Saw the movie "*Fried Green Tomatoes*" that had a can of honey on a tombstone.

b. Joy lived in Montana for 25 years, came home in '08 and never went back. Joe Stanley, who comes periodically, can be seen at Farmers Market and Joy went to his house...

c. In Montana, Joy became involved in essential oils from biblical references...looked up constituents. Attended a conference in Idaho and a display of non-essential oils

d. She started doing herbal tonics and helping people.

e. Essential oils more potent than tea. Oil of a plant is its life blood. Began to become interested in the chemistry of oils

f. Lots of essential oils are anti-bacterial/viral/microbial/septic.

g. So many oils...don't know how involved you want to become, but Google the topic and there are tons of references.

h. Joy has purchased from Young Living before, but there are other resources. Some are therapeutic and can be taken internally. Be careful, however and don't buy from health food stores as they are not always pure, cut with solvents. And they're expensive.

i. Oils are and can be volatile...natural products and a little bit can go a long way.

j. Beesource.com - learn a lot. Recipe for honey-be-healthy and has all the essential oils - spearmint and lemongrass in Honey-be-Healthy (H-B-H).

k. Provided a sample of Joy-be-Sweet (J-B-S). Also passed out folders with recipes.

l. If you use Joy-be-sweet, don't recommend using it every time you feed.

m. Essential oils are potent...don't use "neat" but cut with other products.

n. Don't want to get in your eyes, but if you do, use olive oil to treat.

o. Can use H-B-H or J-B-S as a drench to spray frames for mite control...see handouts.

p. Laurie's Protein Patty...makes enough for 60 hives. Joy has also divided to make lesser amounts.

q. Laurie's Sugar block works well. 3 1/2 pound of sugar and cup of water; can be laid on top of frame. Southern States has the electrolyte mix.

r. Cane sugar availability...COSTCO and Sams are being boycotted...two kinds of sugar...have to know your supplier and whether they are truthful. Alternative source?? Sams switched to "natural" sugar which is probably beet sugar. To be sure, it has to have "cane" on the label. Ingles has 25# bags available. Bob Cole recommends only using spring water vs. chlorinated water.

s. Dr. Karen - State Beekeeping meeting. If you use H-B-H, predisposes to more robbing as all bees smell the same...pheromones are masked by essential oils. Use a different scented oil per hive.

t. Another good website is camdengrey.com - oils

5. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.