



CCBA Meeting Minutes FEB 11, 2019

* Numbers of Executive Steering Committee: Dave Sieruta **PRES**: 904-282-2193, Dori Kline **V-Pres**: 904-616-2723: Claycountybees@gmail.com, Sue Gianino **SEC**: 904-276-5921, Ray Vickerman **TREAS & MENTOR Trainer**: 904-284-5317, Susan Welch, **MEMBERSHIP Coordinator & DUES Collector** 777-204-6626; Luke Harlow **AG Rep**: 904-284-6355, Ralph White: **4H Club & Face Book Organizer**: **Clay County Beekeepers Association**, 904-514-9927 and, Frank Gianino, **WEB Organizer**: <http://claybees.com>, 904-276-5921, Dave Sieruta: **Education/Speakers** Phone 904-282-2193

DATES to KNOW: 2019 DUES ARE DUE NOW

- Annual Dues DUE **NOW** (\$15 per voting mbr* new for 2019): (pay Sue Welsh).
- FEB 23: 8:30 - 3:30 Beginner Bee Class: Help wanted
- Mar 23 Clean the Honey House
- MAR 26: 10-1PM Honey Pour for Clay County Fair
- APR 4 - 13; Clay County Fair; start planning what days you can help *see sign-up sheet attachment.
- MAY 25: 8:30-5PM, NEFL Seminar at Clay Ag Center: sign up/ register on Clayextension@eventbrite.com

Old Business:

- Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 see Ray. Our logo on your Polo shirt \$10, T-shirts with logo S-XL \$10 / 1X-3X \$12. See Sue or Dori for Shirts.
- Mentors are available: members requesting a Mentor, call Ray Vickerman 904-284-5317 or Dave Sieruta 904-282-2193.

**Sue Welch is collecting Pop tops from cans to go to K9 Warriors program.

7:30 PM Meeting Opened by Dave Sieruta. John Boeckstiedl provided Clay County Beekeepers car stickers for members who wanted one. New members (1) welcomed.

7:35 -- Secretary, minutes approved.

-- Treasurers Report \$7084.20 approved

--President's Report: Honey flow is still not strong yet so keep feeding your bees with a 2:1 solution sugar water and continue with your Brood Booster. It includes Tea Tree and is an important food resource in Spring and Fall. Keep up Mite checks. Because we were unable to do our Mite check at the Apiary it was suggested that we try this next Sat. Weather permitting we will meet at the Apiary at 10AM.

+++Sue will post on Face Book and Susan will email Friday if canceled.

--Dave thanked everyone who helped at the Gold Head State Park Event: Barbara, Louie, Randy, Christina and Dorie. Our Honey sale raised \$384 and we donated \$50 to the Event.

--Apiary Report has 3 Hives and 1 NUC doing well.

--What's blooming: Fruit trees, blueberries, Dutch clover, Plums, Spanish Nettle.

--There were 24 members at the Mentor Meeting Sat.

7:30 Speaker Dave Sieruta on the importance of your NUC, Nucleus Hives. Commercial Beekeepers have 1 NUC for every 10 hives and Backyard Beekeepers usually have 1 NUC for every 2 hives. The NUC is a small hive and can be used on Langstroth Hives or Top Bar Hives. They are only 4-5 frames and are designed to raise queens, as a backup for your hives, a unit for packaged bees to build up quicker, helpful for splits, and used to make package bees for sale. They come with or without screen bottoms. They have castles or second NUCS to place on top to build up the hive quicker, bees prefer to expand vertically and they build quickly. Dave mentioned that he does not use foundation in his frames allowing the bees to make their own comb and it will be easier to cut out the queen cells if that is the intent. Cost is less but the frames cannot be used in the extractor, they are not strong enough without foundation. Good news if the bees are allowed to make their own comb the cells will be smaller and that will reduce the mite population. NUCS can be used to house Swarms, create splits, create more NUCS for sale, raise queens, keep production colonies strong, deal with untimely loss of a queen, strengthen weak hives. NUCS do require more attention than hives because they are smaller they get overcrowded quickly, you should always feed them and they are more susceptible to diseases.

7:58 PM Unfinished Business:

--Dorie has posted our State Non-Profit status on our Claybeekeepers@gmail.com and she is working on our IRS Non-profit status now.

--Sue showed our Education, Training and Development Board for anyone who has had a training session for schools, social clubs, groups etc. It is expandable and will keep track of all the education we do: Mentor, Beginner Bee, 4-H, Clay County Fair, Orange Park Market and Fall Festival, Gold Head State Park, Donations to the UF Bee Lab and the UF Grad Students, and our new North East Florida Honeybee Seminar.

8:03 --Dave gave the results of the Executive Committee mtg and the 2019 Budget. Budget approved by vote for 2019. Attached. The honey prices are the same as last year and our labels will cost less as a friend of the non-profit status will do them for the price of 2 Btls of honey. The jars are also less and since we have to order less than the total shipping amt from Hives and More the Association can purchase the left over bottles from CCBA. The 24 oz will be \$0.75 and the 12oz \$0.60. We will purchase 270/24 oz jars and 700/12 oz jars. Skip will purchase the difference.

*Dave made a motion that we give an award to Hives and More for Lifetime Membership---it was unanimously approved.

--Dave will be selling Queens and passed a sign-up sheet and they should be here this week. 20 on order now but can order more.

--8:30 Raffle held.

--Next Month Speaker Louie Ivey on Installing Package Bees. MAR 11.

Submitted for approval,

Sue Gianino,

Secretary

Honey bees, otherwise known as the Angels of Agriculture, are the strongest link in the chain between food producers