



## CCBA Meeting Minutes MAR , 2019

\* Numbers of Executive Steering Committee: Dave Sieruta **PRES**: 904-282-2193, Dorie Kline **V-Pres**: 904-616-2723: [Claycountybees@gmail.com](mailto:Claycountybees@gmail.com), Sue Gianino **SEC**: 904-276-5921, Ray Vickerman **TREAS & MENTOR Trainer**: 904-284-5317, Susan Welch, **MEMBERSHIP Coordinator & DUES Collector** 727-204-6626; Luke Harlow **AG Rep**: 904-284-6355, Ralph White: **4H Club & Face Book Organizer**: **Clay County Beekeepers Association**, 352-514-9927 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 \$15 per voting mbr\* (new for 2019): (pay Sue Welch).
- MAR 16, Beginner Bee Class at Jacksonville Bee Assoc, 1010 McDuff Ave, 10AM
- Mar 23: Clean the Honey House
- MAR 26: 9-1PM Honey Pour for Clay County Fair
- APR 4 - 13; Clay County Fair; start planning what days you can help \*see sign-up sheet attachment.
- APR 4: Orange Park Farmers Mkt 1--3PM
- APR 15: CCBA Business Meeting (date change due to Clay County Fair) 7PM
- APR 20: CCBA Mentor Meeting (date change due to County Fair) 10AM
- MAY 25: 8:30-5PM, NEFL Seminar at Clay Ag Center: sign up/ register on [Clayextension@eventbrite.com](mailto: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 Dorie for Shirts.
- Mentors are available: members requesting a Mentor, call Ray Vickerman 904-284-5317 or Dave Sieruta 904-282-2193. Mentors currently are Huey Forquet, Rick and Dorie Kline, John Riley, Dave Sieruta, Ray Vickerman and Ralph White.
- \*\*Sue Welch is collecting Pop tops from cans to go to K9 Warriors program.

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7:30 PM Meeting Opened by Dave Sieruta welcomed 2 Guests.

7:35 -- Secretary, minutes approved as emailed.

-- Treasurers Report \$7475.87 approved as read.

--President's Report: Plaque and Honorary Membership Certificate prepared for Skip and Cindy Blackwell, given to President for delivery.

--John Boeckstigel bought 100 foundations at discount \$1.20 ea and will sell 30 at cost.

--Ray bought our honey jars: this year we will have 24 oz and 16 oz jars for the Clay County Fair. Our new G2 label maker will send samples to Ray for review.

--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. Keep up Mite checks. Remember you can't use a chemical Mite treatment when you put on your Honey Super. Swarms are happening now. Be ready to split hives and keep eyes out for queen cells.

**\*\*If you want to be called for Swarms let Frank Gianino know to put your name and phone on the Website.** Currently we have Dave Sieruta and Louie Ivey.

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

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

--There were 22 members at the Mentor Meeting Sat. and 50 students at the Beginner Bee Class, (the biggest one to date) thanks to all who helped from Luke! Dave thanked Luke for all the support from the Ag Center.

--Our NEFL Symposium is on track. We will all need to register on Event Brite when the site is set up, Cost \$30pp, will include pastries, coffee and lunch. Limited to 150 membs.

7:25--Apiary Report: We have 4 Hives and 2 NUCS

--What's Blooming: Fruit Trees, Bottle Brush, Blueberries, Black Berries, Good Pollen.

--Mentor Report: Ray V., 7 Mentors currently, call Ray if you would like help.

**7:30 Speaker** Louie Ivey on "Installing Package Bees into your NUC or Hive."

Tools you will need are 1.5 inch finishing nail to hold your Queen Cage in the hive, a hive tool, a NUC Box with 5 frames and foundation and a squirt bottle with 1:1 Sugar syrup. Step 1) Pull all frames out of the NUC. 2) Remove the cover and take out the Queen cage from the package. 3) Put the cover back in place. 4) Put your nails into the

grooves on the Queen Cage to act as a support system in the NUC. 5) Drench the bees with sugar water & bang the package knocking the bees down. 6) Then flip the package over the NUC & shake the bees into the NUC. If you have some brood put that frame in; only put 4 of your 5 frames in the NUC at this time. 7) The Queen cage has a candy end that the bees will eat & release the queen; about a week. Do not suspend your Queen under the feeder port\*. In 5 days check the NUC, see if the Queen is released, if so, put your 5th frame back in, check in a week. If you have a rapid feeder the bees will build up faster. 8) Transfer to a hive when they have built up in the NUC.

**7:50 PM Unfinished Business:**

-- Dave reported that Queens are sparse this year. Skip is still looking.

--Dorie is working on IRS Non-profit status; Vote taken; approved the \$275 for cost.

**8:03 New Business:**

-- Luke was called by the Cattleman's Assoc who are looking to have Bee Hives on their properties. Contact Luke if interested. Sue also noted that Barb Comsacki would also like a hive in her yard; if interested call #904-562-9168.

--Ralph announced that the 4H Club is working with the Middleburg Library on their Community Garden & Apiary.

--Next Month Speaker Bo Sterk on "Mood, Food & Brood".

--Susan will send out the Sign-up Sheets for the Clay County Fair and will notify us when and where to get our tickets or passes.

8:10 Raffle held.

8:15 Meeting Adjourned

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*