



*CCBA Meeting Minutes SEP 14, 2026

Present 49, Zoom 2, Mentor Mtg 13

*Numbers of Executive Steering Committee

*Dave Sieruta **PRES:** **Apiary, Education/Speakers** 904-282-2193, dtussie@aol.com

*Barbara Perkins **VICE PRES:** (904) 437-9712, bperkins123@gmail.com

*Sue Gianino **SEC:** 904-276-5921, sgianino9951@gmail.com

*Ray Vickerman **TREAS& MENTOR Trainer:** 904-284-5317, svickerman4080@gmail.com

*Susan Welch, **MEMBERSHIP Coordinator& DUES Collector, 4H Club** 727-204-6626.swelch5210@gmail.com

*Cassidy Dossin **AG Rep:** 904-284-6300, cdossin@ufl.edu

*Frank Gianino **WEB site Claybees.com:** 904-276-5921, fwgianino@bellsouth.net

*Christine Nicolodi/ Gary Van Barringer: **Refreshment Coordinators.**

DATES to KNOW: BUSY MONTH UPCOMING

--Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr*: (pay Sue Welch).2026 DUES OCT – APR.Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail, can use VENMO or Credit/Debit card.

BUSY TIME OF YEAR:

--SEP 26, **Beginner Bee Class at the Clay Extension Office/Registration on web site/Events**

--OCT 4, OP Market 10-3

--OCT 10, **CCBA Mentor Meeting 10-12 Fall Hours**

--OCT 12, CCBA Meeting 7-9

--OCT 17-18, **Orange Park Fall Festival 10-5Pm, see Sue G to volunteer.**

--NOV 1, OP Mkt 10-3

--NOV 9, CCBA Meeting 7-9

--NOV 14, CCBA Mentor **Meeting 10-12**

--DEC 6, OP Mkt, 10-3

--DEC 12, CCBA mentor Mtg, 10-12

--**DEC 14, CCBA Christmas Party and voting for Ex Committee.** 7---9

--JAN 10, CCBA Mentor Mtg 10-12

--JAN 11, CCBA Mtg 7-9

-- **JAN 30 Gold Head Yesterday Fest 9-4, Volunteers needed**

Old Business: --Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 available at check-in. Our logo embroidered on your Poloshirt \$13 Price increase (see Sue G. or Stich by Stich in the Orange Park Mall). John Boeckstiegel has ash & yellow color Golf-shirts with silk screen logo: S-LG \$14, XL \$16, XXXL \$18 and Tee shirts S-L \$9, XL \$11, XXL \$14.

--Mentors are available, call Ray Vickerman & Dave Sieruta. (19) Mentors currently: Libby & Mike McCalley (Orange Park & Fleming Island), Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Joe Dobransky (Orange Park), Ray Vickerman, Lani Rouw, Susan & Bob Welch (Green Cove Springs), Ken Harp & Barbara Perkins (Key Stone), Jurgen & Sylvia May (Polk City), Rick & Dorie Kline (Middleburg), Eric Bush (Middleburg),

--Swarm collection; let Frank Gianino know to put your name and phone number on the Website. Please check the Web site for Swarm Collection and Cut Out folks.

-- HONEY FOR SALE: let Frank know if you have honey for sale and he will put it on our web site also our FB page will work..

*******Beekeepers MUST Register your hives with Mosquito Control Board (904) 284-6357**, Check out Clay County Mosquito Control **OR Call Lita Hornsby Manager to give her your location and your hives location. **Frank has posted the Mosquito Control and Beekeepers info on the Web site.** Records are incomplete after computer failure in 2022. *****Please Re Register.**

**** We have a new Clay County Bee inspector; Bryanna Roberson** #352-258-1579**

-- 7:10 Opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed guests Tom and his wife from the Eastern Beekeepers Association and Scott E. our new member.

--7:10 Secretary "E" minutes approved. There were no minutes from the Mentor meeting Sat.

-- Treasurer Report: \$26,759.76 accepted. Honey buy and Christmas Raffle buy to come soon.

--President Report:

--The Fall Honey Flow has begun.

--Feed your bees now and provide water

--Treat for Mites* and SHB if needed: Oxalic Acid, Powder Sugar or chemical Rx

--Bee Population is decreased during the Dearth.

--Monitor your Swarm Traps

--Apiary Report: 4 Langstroth, 16 NUCS with Castles, one top Bar hive not populated. 1 Swarm Trap

--What's Blooming: Pagodas, Spanish Thistle, Early goldenrod, Sweet Almond, Clover, Powder Puffs, Flax and White Jasmine.

Doing splits now have about 50% success rate because of increase in Dragon Flies. Queens are still for sale now.

--Mentor Report: Ray reports we had 13 Members this month with Q&A.

--Membership Coord: Susan Reports 205 members and dues for 2027 are accepted now until JAN.

7:30 Susan Welch is our guest speaker tonight on Candle Making., Video on Claybees.com web under Library (video).

Beeswax can be found in your hive from your hive, bought in blocks (Thomas Honey has blocks for sale) or Pellet form. Practice makes perfect when working with wax. You can remove your beeswax cappings from your hive, filter it first through cheese cloth, tea shirt, etc in a bucket squeezing frequently to remove left honey. Put the wax in a Double boiler, ideal for melting. Keep temp 145-175F. Do NOT let it get to 185F or it will lose its honey smell and over 400F it will burn. Pour the melted wax through a paint strainer or cheese cloth. After straining pour into a small pitcher to make it easier to pour into molds. Cool overnight or at least 6 hours to harden

What is left is Slumgum Wax and can be used in Swarm traps, fire starter or fertilizer. After filtering your wax can also be used as furniture polish if mixed with food grade mineral oil. There are many uses; waterproof boots, wax your frames, wax food wraps, wax thread or screws, etc. Ideas come from U-Tube, Bee Catalogues

If you sell your honey, It is listed in the Cottage Food Industry and there is no tax and you do not need a license. However, if you choose to sell your honey was products you will need a Business License. You can barter with companies.

***Susan will offer Candle Making at her barn OCT 17 at 12noon, contact her to enroll.

8:30 OLD Business: none

8:33 NEW Business Dave proposed an increase to the Refreshment Coordinator from \$300 to \$500 per month. **MOTION VOTED AND APPROVED TO \$500.**

--Beginner Bee Course is Sep 26 the last 2 tickets tonight from Raffle: Winners; Samantha and Luke...Arlen Bowens Grandchildren.

--Sue G. noted the Sherrif's Health Fair is asking for our help again this year OCT 29 at the Thrasher Horn Ctr., we will sell honey. Volunteers pls see Sue G to help 4-7PM.

--Fall Festival OCT 17-18 from 10-5 pm. See Sue G to volunteer.

8:24 Raffle

8:40 Adjourned; Mentors available for questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary