



CCBA Meeting Minutes JULY 8, 2024

Present 33, Zoom 02, Mentor Mtg

* Numbers of Executive Steering Committee

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

*Ken Harp **VICE PRES:** (904) 703-5317, radarharp@mail.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:

-- Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr*: (pay Sue Welch). **2025 DUES** OCT – APR. Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail.

-- JUL 13, CCBA Mentor Meeting **9AM** NUC Sale

-- AUG 10 CCBA Mentor Meeting **9AM**

-- AUG 12 CCBA Meeting 7PM

-- **AUG 18, Sunday Jacksonville Honeybee Festival;** Volunteers needed/ JAX Fairgrounds 10-4

-- SEP 9, CCBA Meeting 7PM; Julia St Amant, UF Research Student "Ameba in Bees"

-- SEP 14 CCBA Mentor Class **9AM**. Next month starts 10AM

-- **SEP 28 Beginner Bee Course 8AM-3:30**, volunteers requested

-- OCT6, Orange Park Mkt 10-3

-- OCT12 CCBA Mentor Class **10AM**

-- OCT 14 CCBA meeting 7PM: Cameron Jack UF PhD

-- **OCT 19-20 Orange Park Fall Festival** 10-5PM Volunteers requested.

Old Business: -- Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 available at check in. Our logo embroidered on your Polo shirt \$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 \$11, XL \$16, XXXL \$18 and Tee shirts S-L \$9, XL \$12, XXL \$14.

-- **Mentors** are available, call Ray Vickerman & Dave Sieruta. (17) Mentors currently: Huey Fourquet (Orange Park & Baker County), Libby & Mike McCalley (Orange Park & Fleming Island), Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Joe Dobransky (Orange Park), Ray Vickerman, Lani Rouw, Susa & Bob Welch (Green Cove Springs), Ken Harp & Barbara Perkins (Key Stone), Jurgen & Sylvia May (Polk City), Rick & Dorie Kline (Middleburg), Amy & Jeff Campbell (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.

****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.

-- 7:05 Dave opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming new member Diane from GCS who has 7 hives and been keeping bees 2 years now.

--NOTE this Sat Mentor Meeting will be our NUC sale at 9AM (10 NUCS for sale \$80) to new members without bees, you must have attended the Beginner Bee Course and request a mentor. If NUCs are left over, they will go to Members with bees as a lottery.

-Great turn out at our JUNE Dinner meeting we had 82 and plenty of great food.

--Secretary "E" minutes approved.

--Treasurer report \$23,689.80 approved. Dave noted that we brought in \$12,000 and spent \$5,000 so far this year.

-- The Raffle for JUL, AUG & SEP will pay for 2 members ea. month to attend the Beginner Bee Class in Sept.

--In March we may have 6 tickets for the Bee College to raffle off at the JAN, FEB & MAR meetings..

--Hive Management now will be to keep control of SHB and Mites, now is the month to treat Mites.

--Now we are going into the Summer Dearth. FEED your bees and if they are getting irritable use your sugar water spray to calm them down.

--You can still do splits and raise Queens but be sure you have plenty of Drones. AND note this is the buildup of Dragon Flies and they prey on honeybees esp queens.

--APIARY we have 6 Langstroth hives, 26 NUCS and 1 Top Bar hive.

--What's Blooming: Spanish Thistle, Bottle Brush, Spanish Clover, Palms, Key Limes, Black Eyed Susan. Feed your bees, a lot of pollen now but not much nectar.

--Membership: 215 members to date.

--Our last Mentor Class hosted 45 folks for an extraction of honey class. Well received and will be planned as a yearly event, adding a DEC Wooden Ware class.

--Mike Leach from Bee Friends Farm came to talk about the Jacksonville Honeybee Festival at Jax Fair Grounds. A great time for all things bee, to talk about honeybees and classes. **Sunday, 18,10-4.** Mike warns that there is a lot of SPAM on FB targeting the Beekeeping industry. Beware of false sights selling Bees and Queens. Know who you are buying from.

--7:35 Frank Gianino; "A Walk Through the Website." He explained all the subsets on the Claybees.com website. That there is a button for the Beginner Bee course, Bee Removal, Honey for sale, an Event page, our Library with all our informational sheets, our minutes, contact information, videos of our speakers and other community information for Mosquito removal, UF, other Bee Associations in FL. Backyard Beekeepers recipes and Fun Stuff from our Clay Fair, etc.

--7:55 Dave Sieruta speaking on "Getting the Hive Ready for Spring." After you remove your honey and freeze frames or store your honey super frames with Para-Moth or moth crystals (para-Dichlorobenzene PDB (NOT Moth balls Naphthalene) or Dadant's product B402Certan, from ruining your frames. Wax Moths feed on the wax and leave a sticky film over the frames and the hatching moths eat the wood. It takes 1 TBL of Para-Moth dissolved in water for 15 supers, paint it on your frames or Follow directions on any moth prevention you buy.

-July; Monitor for Varroa Mites during the heat they build up. After you remove your honey use Oxalic Acid treatment now recommended 4x/yr (JUL, OCT, JAN, APR). If you use the Oxalic Strips (when available in FL) no mask is required. Other chemical maintenance strips are available follow directions.

-August, Feed your colonies and monitor for SHB/Mites and treat

-September, Feed your colonies and they may need sugar water even with the Fall Nectar Flow.

-October-December, Feed your colonies as needed, monitor for Mites/SHB and treat for Nosema—diarrhea in the colony. Tea tree added to your Sugar water feed (see directions on web site) will help deter Nosema. This will keep your hive strong through JAN.

8:45 Raffle: Beginner Bee Class Winners; Cheryl Benvenuto and Larry Durham

9:00 Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary