



CCBA Meeting Minutes APR 9, 2018

*. Numbers of Executive Steering Committee: Dave Sieruta **PRES** : 904-282-2193, Dori Kline **V-Pres**: 904-616-2723, Sue Gianino **SEC**: 904-276-5921, Ray Vickerman **TREAS and MENTOR Trainer/Coordinator**: 904-284-5317, Luke Harlow **AG Rep**: 904-284-6355. Ralph W. **Organizer Face Book: 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. Ralph White: 352-514-9927, **Apiary duty and 4H-Club**.

DATES to KNOW:

-- MAY 6, Orange Park Farmers Mkt 10-3PM

--MAY 12, Mentor Meeting 10AM

--MAY 14, Business Meeting 7PM

--MAY 19, Jacksonville Bees Club is offering a Beginner Beekeepers Course and an Intermediate Bee Course \$15 with picnic.

Old Business: Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15, our logo on your shirt \$10. See Ray for cap and Sue for Shirts.

-- Mentor List is available for anyone who would like to Mentor and members requesting a Mentor, call Ray Vickerman 904-284-5317, Ralph 352-514-9927 or Dave Sieruta 904-282-2193.

-- **NOTE**: If you wish to join the FL State Beekeepers and donate toward the building and furnishing of the new Honey Bee Lab in Gainesville, FL: [www/UF Honeybee.com](http://www/UFHoneybee.com) or [Beekeeper Lab.org](http://BeekeeperLab.org).

**Fran Fowler is collecting Pop tops from cans to go to Canines for Vets program

** NOTE: Miss Bee Haven will have 5 frame NUCS in mid April for \$135. #904-610-3470. Be sure to mention you are with CCBA for these prices.

7:04 PM Meeting Opened by Dave Sieruta. Welcomed 6 members. Tom Ryan, Tom Macke, Cindy Benton, Holly, Skip Miller and Paul Murray who has 4 frame NUCS for sale.

There were two raffle winners from the CCF: Doris Brown won the beautiful basket of goodies and James Perkins won the Hive and Super from Hives and More.

7:20 President report: Thanks to everyone who bottled the honey for the fair and fixed the Honey House!

--Secretary: Sue reported Minutes sent late, please review and report any corrections.

--Treasurer: Ray reported: the CCF sold \$6288 of honey and cost of honey and bottles \$4584 with profit of \$1704, 335 12oz bottles of honey left and 16 24oz btls of honey left. Raffle made \$1037 for total CCF profit \$2741.00. Treasurer reported CCBA has \$4078.85 ; \$82 spent on decorations, \$180 obtained from dues and raffle, \$511 given as stipends to UF students. Frank will combine numbers on a spread sheet.

-- Beekeepers Mgmt Report: Swarming is possible now get splits done if needed or add your supers. Start checking for Nosoma, mites and hive beetles.

-- Mentor program, Ray reported mentors for Duval, Orange Park, Clay, Green Cove and St John's. Call Ray to volunteer or have a Mentor assigned to you.

7:14 Apiary Rept: Dave reported 1 CCBA, 3 NUCS, 2 with Supers on 3 hives.

--Card signed for Ashley Mortenson and sent to Fran Fowler through Tom Glisson for all her wonderful UF Honeybee research classes .

7:15 What's Blooming: Dori reported many plants and trees are blooming this month; Blackberries, Amer Holly, Buckwheat, Dog Hobble, Gall Berry, Mexican Clover, Orange clover, Swamp Gallberry, Tupelo, Wild Blueberry and Confederate Jasmine & more.

7:22 Mentor Program: Ray noted nothing to report.

7:23 Honey House: Dori reported the Ag Venture hosted 5 grps on the first day with 2 classes each (over 100 children) and 7 grps for children. They loved the honey samples, listening to the "bee" phone and getting their Honeybee jobs for the hive. Lots

of fun. Tom Glisson (CCF Superintendant) thanked everyone who volunteered with many compliments on the Honey House.

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7:25 Speaker Ray Claxton with Q&A for Beekeepers. He noted that bees kept in suburbia have better honey due to better plants and flowers & well cared for.

1. What is the better feeder: Top or Back feeders to reduce robbing. If your bees are not using your feeder, they probably are getting enough nectar and pollen. Your sugar water can last a long time if kept cool.

2. When do you feed? Bees dry their nectar daily, if you pull a frame and knock it to see if there is nectar, if none feed.

3. Overheating in the hive: forager bees will bring water to the hive and instead of nectar and spread it around the hive while nurse bees fan it. You can also replace your sugar water with water to help bring the source closer to the bees. Also place a small stick the width of a pencil under the roof to vent a hot hive.

4. Do Bees use color: They do use color as landmarks to find their hive area from a distance, when they get close they use the queens pheromones. A bee can adjust her course by 3 degrees every hour to find her way back.

5. What is an Inner Cover: Used with screen in the middle plus a slot so you can slide the inner cover to vent or slide to close the ventilation of the hive. It also reduces the population on the outer cover making it easier to remove.

5. Swarms start close to the hive to note surroundings before flying to the new hive.

6. Screen bottoms vs wood: In FL screened bottoms are recommended to let trash and mites fall out of the hive reducing mites by 15-30%. Up north wood bottoms are used to reduce the cold in the hive. In FL you can always put the hive on the ground for a night to do the same thing..

7. Protection for the hive during hurricane season: Usually not an issue but you can strap the hive to the stand. Hives generally do not blow over but they can drown!

8. Carpenter Ants: put the hive in the blazing sun, put legs of the stand in cans with oil & ants do not like cinnamon.

9. Mosquito spray rarely affects bees on inside of the hive.

10. Hive Beetles will lay eggs in honey causing it to ferment; it looks wet, can decimate a hive in 1-2 days.

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11. Package bees are hard to use in FL they will swarm easily. They work best with a nectar source or sugar water on bees. Blocking the entrance to the hive for 1-2 days with queen excluder keeps the hive from swarming by trapping the queen.

NEW Business:

8:20 A Motion was made to reduce the cost of CCF honey for members: \$6 for 12 oz jar and \$12 for 24 oz jars. Motion **passed**

--Bill Elrod has an electric Extractor for \$700 call Dave Sieruta.

--Next speaker: the VP of the Backyard Beekeepers Assoc and new Head of Mosquito Board.

8:30 Raffle held

8:40 Meeting Adjourned and Ray V. will stay for 15 min to discuss any bee issues.

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