



CCBA Meeting Minutes JAN 14. 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 Welsh, **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 adult voting mbr* new for 2019): after this meeting you will be dropped from roster (pay Sue Welsh or Ray Vickerman).
- JAN 23 at 7PM, Executive Steering Committee meeting
- JAN 26, Gold Head State Park, Yesterday Festival: help wanted
- FEB 3, 10-3 PM Orange Park Farmers Mkt, volunteers welcome
- FEB 9; 10 AM-12 PM, Mentor Meeting
- FEB 11: 7 PM, Business Meeting
- FEB 23: 8:30 - 3:30 Beginner Bee Class: Help wanted
- MAR 26: 10-1PM Honey Pour for Clay County Fair
- APR 4 - 13; Clay County Fair; start planing what days you can help
- MAY 25: 8:30-5PM, NEFL Seminar at Clay Ag Center: Jamie Ellis speaker

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 Welsh is collecting Pop tops from cans to go to K9 Worriers program.

7:30 PM Meeting Opened by Dave Sieruta. John Boeckstiedl provided Clay County Beekeepers car stickers for members who wanted one. New members (3) & visitors welcomed.

7:35 Secretary, abbreviated Minutes were sent out from Christmas Party, approved.

-- Treasurers Report \$6705.20 approved

7:40 PM New Officers for 2019: Dave Sieruta, President; Dorie Kline, Vice-President; Ray Vickerman, Treasurer; Sue Gianino, Secretary; (NEW) Susan Welsh, Membership-Cordinator and Dues Collector introduced to members.

--President Report: keep feeding your bees, next Mentor meeting we will try do do a Mite count and a split at the Apiary. Remember 1/2 cup of bees equal 300 bees, If there are over 5 mites present, treat for Mites.

--The NE Florida Seminar has been moved to May 25 from 8-5 ish with fee to be announced. We will be hosting all NE Florida Beekeepers Clubs at Ag Ctr.

--Dave wanted to thank everyone who put so much effort into making our Christmas Party a truly festive event.

--Dave, Apiary Report: The Hives at the Apiary are doing well.

--Dori, What's Blooming; Maples, Spanish Thistle, Peach, Loquat & Plum trees, Blueberries, and clover much earlier than last year.

--Ray, Mentor Report: nothing to report at this time.

7:45PM Speaker: Rob Horshburgh speaking on Swarms and Splits. Note you must register your hives with the state for \$10. This notifies Inspectors where you are so they can inspect your hives for American Foul Brood and offer helpful tips.

--Splits create an artificial swarm and avoid a swarm. It increases the number of hives you have and ends overcrowding in the hive which also can reduce mites by reducing brood in the hive. You may want to think about this between Jan and March in FL. During these months check you hives every 1-14 days to note queen cells and/or buildup of drones. For your Split use a 5 frame NUC giving the new hive a smaller more protected and warmer space to expand. After putting in 3 frames of bees with capped Brood and eggs in the center of the NUC, place frames of honey/pollen on the outsides.

If possible place the old queen or queen cells in with the brood frame. Be sure to feed your bees during this time. Then relocate the NUC a long way away from the old hive so returning foragers will not be confused. Leave your split alone for 30 days to ensure all bees settle and the new queen is now mated and laying eggs.

--To make a split: open the colony with at least 8-9 frames are with bees on both sides with eggs, larva and capped brood. A Walk a Way Split is done when you cannot find your queen. Split your hive anyway and walk away. Check your hives in a week and see which one has bees delivering pollen (hive with queen), then check the other for queen cells. This is done best in the Spring when there are a lot of bees around.

--Another way to split is divide you hives then move both hives slightly off center of where the original hive was. The foragers will return to each hive.

--To keep a swarm in the new hive place a frame in the Nuc with uncapped brood and eggs and the nurse bees will stay with the hive.

--You can mix queens in colonies (ie Carolians and Buckfast or Russian) Russian queens will need to stay in the cage (10days) to assist in acceptance in the hive.

8:35 Dave spoke with Skip at Hives and More and they may have queen by March or end of Feb. He orders from Hawaii and usually has a few queens when needed. Dave will pick his packages up from GA in March. For folks who ordered their packages Dave will need \$94 by March 1. The Garden Apiary in Jessup GA has Buckfast queens.

--Dave read a Thank you note from Ellen (a grad student) for our \$250 gift certificate towards her UF program on Pollen Nutrition. Also, a thank you from Brad, the director of the School for our donation to their luncheon.

-- Thanks to Dori, our non-profit approved by the State and awaiting national approval.

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