



CCBA Meeting Minutes Jan 8, 2024

Present 42, Zoom 3, Mentor 29

- *Dave Sieruta **PRES:** **Apiary, Education/Speakers** 904-282-2193, dtussie@aol.com
904-616-2723. rickdori@aol.com
- * Ken Harp, **Vice President**, 904-703-5317, radarharp@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.**
- *Dorie Kline **Face Book Organizer:** **Clay County Beekeepers Association**

DATES to KNOW:

- Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr*: (pay Sue Welch). **2024 DUES** OCT – APR. Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail.
- JAN 13, CCBA Mentor Mtg 10-12
- **JAN 27, 2024, Yesterday Festival Gold Head Park** volunteers contact Dave to help.
- FEB 2 Master Gardeners Day of Education 8-3:30, \$20
- FEB 4 Orange Park Mkt 10-3
- FEB 10, CCBA Mentor Mtg 10-12
- FEB 12, CCBA Mtg 7 pm
- **FEB 17, Beginner Bee Class 8-4 Volunteers Needed.** Send Sue Gianino a msg.
- JUN 15, Master Gardeners Plant Sale 7-sold out.

Old Business: -- Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 available at check in. Our logo embroidered on your Polo shirt \$10 (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. Mentors currently: Huey Fourquet (Orange Park & Baker County), Libby/Mike McCalley (Orange Park & Fleming Island), John Riley & Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Joe Dobransky (Orange Park), John Riley (OP/Lakeside), Ray Vickerman (Green Cove Springs), Lani Rouw (GCS), Susan/ Bob Welch (GCS), Joe Geisel (ST Augustine), 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.

-- HONEY FOR SALE: let Frank know if you have honey for sale and he will put it on our web site.
We sold out of our honey at the CC Fair this year.

*****Beekeepers MUST Re-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 CORRECTED PHONE NUMBER LISTED

--7:05 Dave opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed new members, Cris and Jenny from Melrose. Dave recommended the Beginner Bee class FEB 17.

-Secretary Minutes from DEC accepted.

-Treasurer Report \$17,897.97

-President's Report: thanks to all members who helped Barbara Perkins and the 4H set up and take down of the DEC Dinner event. We entertained our largest dinner of 142 folks!

-Hive Management: Monitor and treat for SHB and Mites. Varroa Mites will start to multiply now.

- If you plan for the 4x a year treatment of Mites: JAN, APRIL, JUNE, and Fall. Be SURE to read the directions if using Chemical strips.

-The Red Maples are starting to bloom which starts our Spring here in Clay County. To know the difference in the Red, Silver and Swamp Maple see U-Tube Chuc Bees for the flowers. Time to get your Swarm Traps out by the first of FEB. Bate with Lemon Grass or Swarm Commander.

-Apiary Report: we have 3 Longstroth Hives, 12 NUCS and 1 top Bar

-Mentor Report: WE met inside due to weather with 12 folks present.

- Membership Chair: Approximately ½ of members Paid up for 2024, we are at 225 Members now!

-Clay County Fair: It will be 4/4 till 4/14 this year, mid-March will be cleaning the Honey House, Fair Luncheon date TBA is for all volunteers MAR 19, Honey Bottling will Be MAR 30. Let Susan Welch know if you'd like to volunteer, she will have a schedule for the dates next month. For volunteers you will get free admission and parking areas. This is our BIG money-making drive for the year and we off Wildflower Honey from Hives and More, Orange Blossom & Gallberry honey from Thomas Honey. This year Hives and More offered a complete hive with stand, super and frames to raffle along with 2 baskets that will generate funds for us and the Alvin More Education Fund.

-John Boeckstiegel went to the National Honeybee Expo in KY, a 3-day event with 300 folks.

-7:40 Our Speaker tonight is Dave Sieruta with Part 1 on Making Sustainable Apiaries.

- This is to be a resourceful series to help Beekeepers to find bees, keep bees and make Queens without purchasing them so often.

- It is important to note that you don't have to purchase bees or queens if you can employ Swarm Traps, catch Swarms, or make splits from your hives. Locate your traps 3010 Feet above the ground.

-Part 2 will be on making Splits

-Part 3 will be on Raising Queens without grafting.

8:43 Welcome Ray Zerba, our former Ag Agent from New York, on our Zoom Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dave has ordered 40 packages of bees for March, price TBA and payment 30 days in advance.

--2024 Expense Report:

Income from 2023: \$15,443.02 Expenses: \$15,444.74 Budget PLAN 2024: \$16,290 Approved

8:45 Raffle: WINNERS of the Beginner Bee Class, Derek Frey and Steve Duke.

-Volunteers for Yesterday Festival: Dave, Ken, Barb Perkins, Cheryl Parrish and Rick Hopkins.

8:50 Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary