



CCBA Meeting Minutes MAR 9, 2020

UPDATED 3/13/20

* Phone numbers of Executive Steering Committee: Dave Sieruta **PRES**: 904-282-2193/ Dorie Kline **V-PRES & Face Book Organizer**: Clay County Beekeepers Association (FL): 904-616-2723/ Sue Gianino **Secretary**: 904-276-5921/ Ray Vickerman **Treasurer & Mentor Trainer**: 904-284-5317/ Susan Welch, **MEMBERSHIP Coordinator and DUES Collector**: 727-204-6626/ Cassidy Dossin, **AG Rep**: 904-284-6300/ Frank Gianino, **WEB Organizer**: <http://claybees.com>, 904-276-5921, Dave Sieruta: **Education/Speakers**: 904-282-2193/ Christine Nicolodi: **Refreshment Coordinator**/ Louie Ivey: **Apiary Super**/Susan Welch & Ralph White: **4H Club "Stingers"**, 352-514-9927.

DATES TO KNOW:

--Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr, pay Sue Welch; **YOU ARE NO LONGER A MEMBER AFTER APRIL 30 FOR UNPAID DUES**

--MAR 14, CCBA Mentor Meeting 10-12 **WILL BE GOING ON.**

--MAR 21, Honey House Clean **CANCELLED 3/13**

-- MAR 20-22, Jim Altmiller is hosting Bee Fest for 3 days,

Bee Master.com/beefest2020 **or** <https://beemaster.com/forum/index.php?topic=53173.20>

look on our Web site for direct link. Event is free, lunch provided, day trips, camping available. Please call Jim for sign up and questions: (904) 304-5800 **STILL ONGOING as of 3/13/20**

--MAR 28, Bottling Honey **CANCELLED 3/13**

*--APR 2-11, Clay County Fair (CCF) **CANCELLED 3/13**

--APR 5, Orange Park Mkt 10-3PM **Ongoing at this time**

*--MAY 16, 2nd Annual N.E. Honeybee Symposium 8-4:30 UF/IFAS Extension Clay Offices. Registration required. **There is a direct link on the ON WEBSITE** OR try <https://www.eventbright.com/e/ne-fl-honey-bee-symposium-tickets-99104637639>. Contact Dave Sieruta for questions or to register with cash or check...904-466-3613. **LIMIT 150 people, price \$35 per person. REGISTER before MAY 11. STILL ONGOING as of 3/13**

** MAY will start the Mentor Meeting Saturdays at 9AM due to the heat.

OLD Business:

--CCBA Caps are \$15, We are working on new LOGO for our Polo shirts, price TBD, Tee-shirts S-L \$10/ 1X-3X \$12 all are sold at our Business meetings Monday night.

--Mentors are available: members requesting a mentor, call Ray Vickerman 904-284-5317. Mentors are Huey Forquet, Rick and Dorie Kline, John Riley, Dave Sieruta, Ray Vickerman and Ralph White.

--Sue Welch is collecting Pop tops for charity if you can help.

--**Don't forget to Register your hives with the County and be sure to Register with the Mosquito Control Board to keep them from spraying your areas.** <https://www.firstcoastnews.com/article/news/locl/clay-county-uses-aggressive-effort-onmosquito-problem-after-finding-west-nile-virus/77-577095009>. Or call Jessie (904) 284-6335 to give her your hive location(s). Aerial spraying is not currently done in Clay County.

7:05 Meeting opened with approx 45 members. Dave welcomed 1 guests and 1 new members Tabitha and Sherry.

--Secretary emailed minutes Approved; NOTE Bee Fest web site is on our website if you had trouble signing on.

--Presidents Report:

--Dave and Rick are scheduled to pick up the package bees on MAR 18, they will call you when to come and get your packages either WED or FRI. Clay Today wants to come and see the package installed when we get them.

--Dave thanked Dorie, Louie, Rick Kline, Sue G, Tom Long, Huey Forquet and Susan Welch for all their hard work at the Beginner Bee Short Course. "You did an amazing job. Its great seeing members of the association working together and openly talking to people about our association, honeybees and the different hive. Thanks to Susan Welch CCBA has 14 new members. It was the largest Beginner Beekeepers Short Course ever; 60 attended." Frank has posted our comments sheets on the web site for you to review. Clay Today had a nice article about this and the 4-H Stingers at Middleburg Library thanks to Cassidy.

--Honey House at the Clay County Fair (CCF) from APR 2-12 **HAS BEEN CANCELLED AS OF 3/13**

--Keep feeding your bees as needed, check for Mites--there is still time to treat Mites before your honey supers go on. Sugar water helps promote wax production and nutrients till nectar flow.

--Be ready for swarms, there are Drones in many of the apiary hives. Hives are getting crowded swarms are ready. Dave has collected 6 Swarms so far. Now is the time to make splits if you have swarm cells, remember to put the old queen in the NUC and let the hive raise their new queen.

7:40 Treasurers Report \$11,156.89 Approved. See our web site for updated 2020 budget.

--Mentor Report; No new requests. Saturday Meetings will change to 9am in MAY.

--Membership Coordinator most Mbrs. dues paid up. After 4/30 if not paid up they will be off the roster.

--Apiary Report: We have 4 hives, 5 NUCs and 1 Top Bar. Planning splits this weekend.

---What's Blooming: listed on FB; Blackberries, Mint, Wild Mustard Dutch clover.

7:22 Dave was networking at the Bee College last weekend; working on speakers for our N.E.FL. Symposium.

Barbara Perkins spoke on the event; there was too much information to report, she learned so much, esp. to rotate your frames with new frames to help reduce old diseases and infestations.

Huey attended and this year will try to raise queens for his Master Beekeepers Project. Always something new to learn. Check "In The Hive.TV. "

7:50 Speaker Louie Ivey; How to install package bees into your hives/NUC.

1. Definitely wear your bee suit and veil. You need your hive tool and spray bottle of sugar water. Spraying your bees will ensure they do not fly away during the transfer.

2. He finds it best to put your pkg. bees into a NUC vs hive. They are stressed from travel and this smaller space keeps them warm with less space to defend from other predators. Use your entrance reducer.

3. Spray the bees and get them sticky in the package. "Remove the hard cover and the food can. The Queen cage is stapled in the box. Keep a cover over the box while you are preparing your transfer. Take the 5 frames out of the NUC. Spray the bees again and knock them down to the bottom of the box. Turn it over and shake the bees into the NUC. Use your hand to spread them out in the bottom of the NUC, and slowly add the frames back in. Leave one frame out to place the Queen cage into the NUC. Put her in but not directly under the sugar water drip area. Put some duct tape on the cage and thumb tack it in place. DO NOT TOUCH for 3 days to see if the bees release the queen. Release the queen if needed and when released leave the NUC alone for 10-15 days to allow the bees to adjust and the queen to start laying.

4. If you are using a hive for your NUC bees remove 5 clean frames and replace them with the 5 NUC frames. If the weather is warm and cool nights are gone, use the checkerboard method: clean frame, brood frame, clean frame, brood frame etc. The bees will build up faster. If cooler weather still present put all the frames in the center of the hive. Then shake and dump the bees left in the NUC into the hive. Then be sure to put the new hive where the NUC was so the bees know where they are. Again leave them alone for 10-

15 days. The activities on the outside of the hive will let you know the queen is laying if pollen and bees flying in often. Keep entrance reducers in place.

5. If you have brood from other hives it is helpful to put a frame of brood in the center of the new NUC or hive to keep the bees from swarming.

6. If you are transferring a swarm, cover the entrance of the hive/NUC with a towel, check for more than one queen in the swarm. Separate all queens. Again if you have a frame of brood it will help keep the swarm in the hive.

**Louie also had a 2 frame Queen Mating NUC to see. They are handy to have as a spare queen hive or for a small swarm.

8:30 OLD Business:

N.E.FL. Honeybee Symposium Eventbrite site is now on our website. We all need to sign up and register even if you are helping with the venue. Price \$35, lunch (BBQ) is provided. Please let Dave or any Ex Member if you are Vegetarian so that meal can be provided.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hives and more is working on NUCS.

Sue Welch will have membership cards for all paid members shortly.

8:24 Raffle held

8:35 Meeting Adjourned