

## ECWBA Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2018

*Location:* Green Lake Caestecker Library, downstairs

Meeting called to order by Gerard Schubert at 9:33

Attendance: 12 Visiting: 0 New Members: 0

### Club Hives

- The Kellers and Gerard moved the hives to a southern exposure location
- The bees are moving slow so no club honey is anticipated this year.
- These hives can be used for education, so contact Gerard if you know someone or an organization that would like to schedule something

### Harvesting Honey

- Make sure your bees have enough honey for winter
- Using Bee Escapes
  - Place under the honey super and close off upper entrances
  - Best when night temp drops to 60, Sept or Oct harvesting
  - Leave on for 24-48 hours and then remove super
- Fume Boards
  - Bee Go, Honey Robber, or Bee Quick (almond based and less offensive)
  - Squirt on fume board and place on top of capped honey super for 5 min
  - Remove super and blow any remaining bees off with leaf blower
- Pull frames and Brush bees off
  - Brush in an upward direction
  - Put frames in tote or empty super to carry away

Fat Bees - have more protein to fight viruses and stay alive through winter

- Fat bees are laid in late Aug and early Sept until the whole colony is fat bees
- Have a healthy hive by keeping mites low, treat all hive in your apiary
  - Formic Pro or MAQS
    - penetrate brood cappings
    - can use during honey harvest
    - Temps need to be below 85
    - 2 pads for 2 brood boxes
  - Apiguard tins (thymol)
    - Use after the honey flow
    - Doesn't penetrate brood caps
    - Idea is that bees will carry it around hive
    - 1 tin for 2 weeks and repeat (4 weeks total)
    - Should have a bottom board and reducer at 3"
- Some people requeen in fall so they have a new queen going into winter

### Storing Frames

- Keep in a closed area to prevent wax moth
- Use moth balls that are para-dichlorobenzene based not naphthalene based

### Combining Hives

- Combine weak, queenless, or laying worker colonies with strong colonies at any time
- Put weak colony on top with newspaper between

### Green Lake Fair Aug 2-5, 9am-6pm

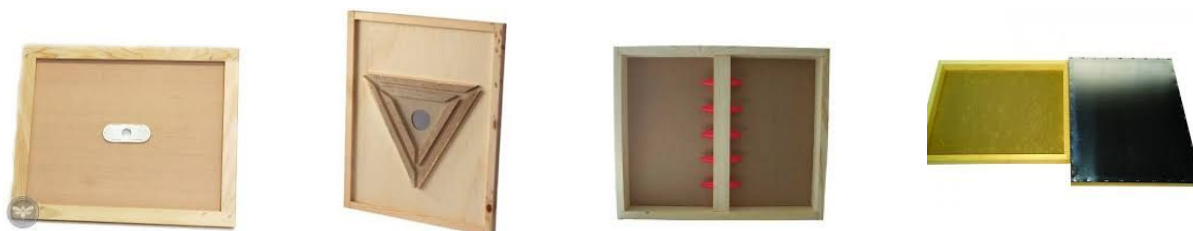
- Need members to sign up for time slots
  - Wednesday evening set-up
  - Friday-Sunday 3 shifts 9-Noon, Noon-3, and 3-6
  - Sunday take down
- Be careful with what we have for donation/sale
  - Small display with items sitting on a back table

### Refractometer - used to check moisture level so your honey doesn't ferment

- Gerard brought the club refractometer in to add to the club supplies at the Ingram's house
- Honey should have a moisture content less than 20%
- The Ingrams calibrated the refractometer so it is ready for member use
  - Call or email Patti, 920-229-8959, [ecwba2009@gmail.com](mailto:ecwba2009@gmail.com)
- VIDEO: What's the moisture content in our honey? (Looking through a refractometer)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlwcVOvYYqY>

### Talks and Demonstrations

- Gerard brought in a manual he printed on Fat Bees
  - Fat Bees Skinny Bees - a manual on honey bee nutrition for beekeepers | AgriFutures Australia  
<https://www.agrifutures.com.au/publications/fat-bees-skinny-bees-a-manual-on-honey-bee-nutrition-for-beekeepers/>
- Rhiannan showed an odd cell she found at the bottom of her Warre hive (smaller dimension than a Langstroth and bars they build comb on instead of frames)
- Display of a variety of Bee Escapes and a Fume board



### Old Business

- Larry and Mary did a bee presentation at FDL county juvenile detention

### New Business

- Bee sting therapy demo for future meeting possibly combined with propolis benefits
- National Honey Bee Day Aug 18 - do we want to have a public display after the meeting
- Club to consider not participating in events if there is not enough member participation

Rick from Capitol Bee Supply was there and offered to bring orders to upcoming meetings to defray shipping costs.

A Big Thank You to Paul for making the tabletop display, worked wonderful for Walleye Weekend.

Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/ecwbeekeepers](http://www.facebook.com/ecwbeekeepers)

@ecwbeekeepers

Club Website

[ecwba.weebly.com](http://ecwba.weebly.com)

Club Blog

<http://ourbeeblog.blogspot.com/>

\$10 Membership Dues

- Mail to Patti Ingram, 724 Congress St., Ripon, WI 54971
- PayPal to Patti Ingram, 920-229-8959, include name and email in Note section

Next Meeting Aug 18th, Green Lake Caestecker Library 9:30am

Meeting Adjourned 11:15