

## ECWBA Meeting Minutes

Oct 20, 2018

*Location:* Green Lake Caestecker Library, downstairs

Meeting called to order by Gerard Schubert at 9:33

Attendance: 20          New Members: 0

Visiting: Shirley from Lake Mills

### New Business

- Donation request for Winter Covers for club hives
  - Fred donated spacers
  - Charles dropped off covers, spacers, and bee escapes and requested some honey
    - Club to give him six 1 lb jars of the club fundraising honey
    - Gerard will pick it up from the Ingrams and take it to Charles
- Pilgrim Center called Gerard and inquired about honey to purchase
  - Gerard filled the order of 15 pints and donated a dollar each to the club, \$15
- Fred brought three 50 lb barrels of donated sugar, members to give a club donation
  - The donator requested some honey in return, Gerard, Deidre, and Pam gave a pint each
  - Gerard took sugar and donated \$10
  - Al took sugar and donated \$7
- Discussion to give a donation to Caestecker Library
  - Motion made by Gerard and seconded by Al to give \$100, unanimous
  - Patti gave Gerard the check to give to the library
- Discussion about possible winter club meeting ideas
  - Speaker for Bee Sting Therapy
  - Speaker about candle making
  - Tour of Capital Bee Supply, Rich will check into it and get back to us (possibly spring)

### Treasurer's Report

\$1047

### Discussion

- Oxalic acid
  - Do not use if under 40 degrees out
  - Too cold for formic pro pads
  - Jack R. had mites even after 4 treatments
  - Shirley inquired if anyone has tried the fogger method, no

### Old Business

- Beekeeping Class
  - Fond du Lac city certification
    - Jeff said the class needs to have a min of 7 hours of instruction from a college
      - Ordinance 3581, Section 3, E: Education. The permit applicant shall have at least seven hours of beekeeping education/training from a local technical college or university. Proof of education/training shall be provided with the permit application.  
[https://www.fdl.wi.gov/cofuploads/bee\\_keeping\\_ordinance\\_sample\\_letter\\_application\\_and\\_property\\_diagram\\_example\\_01\\_01.pdf](https://www.fdl.wi.gov/cofuploads/bee_keeping_ordinance_sample_letter_application_and_property_diagram_example_01_01.pdf)
    - Gerard will contact Rhiannon to see if and how the ordinance can be amended to have instruction from an organization.

- Jack R. showed interest in being the chair to a beekeeping class committee and Patti, Gerard, and Jon are interested in helping.
- Leanne mentioned Joanne Hall from the Continuing Education Dept. at MPTC would be interested in having the beekeeping class there, Jack will contact Joanne
- Jack will contact Denise about possible class materials and outline
- Jeff will send his class materials to Gerard

### Club extractor experience

Joe took a trailer full of frames to extract at the meadery. It was a learning experience. Bees came to rob and were everywhere so he had to leave and come back at night and then the mosquitos were bad. Customers kept coming through to see the meadery, so take note that you should be presentable when you are there.

With so many frames, the cleanup was immense and took a long time. Sugar enzymes cannot go down the drain so he had to take the extractor outside and powerwash the majority of gunk off and then bring it back in for proper cleaning. The sink was on a clean part of the room, so he had to be careful not to mess up that area too bad. A scrubby mat and tarp would help.

After two full days of extracting, he got 19 five gallon pails of honey that he can legally sell. He used Shane's refractometer so it would be nice to have a club one there. Shane mentioned that the wood that is there will need to be gone and replaced with nylon or stainless steel. Gerard will stop and talk to him about the necessary changes and drop off the club refractometer that is at the Ingrams.

### Discussion

- Winter hive configurations
  - 2 deeps and a super
  - 1 deep and 2 supers
- Frame Replacement dilemma
  - Replace after 5 years because of built up pesticides and insecticides
  - Studies show success with frames over 5 years old
- Winter Covers
  - Gerard showed two covers
    - A vented box with an insulated board
    - A ventilation cover
      - Comes with 8 vents, he plugged 4 of them
      - A screen board he puts sugar candy on and has a vent on top
      - A bildrite board for moisture
      - Insulation
  - Rich showed three items
    - An insulated board
    - An MV Board - Marsden/Vivalde Quilt Box
      - Fine screen on the bottom
      - Filter
      - Insulated material
    - Bildrite Board (can also use insulating sound board)
      - Made of wood fiber that allows moisture to pass and absorbs water
      - Should be  $\frac{3}{4}$ " - 1" thick
      - Doesn't recommend Homasote board because it gets saturated and fragile
  - Paul said he just puts 1" of foam on top of the inner cover and switches out the inner cover for a candy board when they need it

- Talked about wrapping or not wrapping
  - Fred said he doesn't wrap and only drills a hole on top and bottom for moisture
    - He mentioned a 1950's study that showed no difference in wrapping or not
  - Rich talked about
    - Tar paper
    - Cardboard sleeves
    - And brought an Insulated Cozie
  - Important to have a wind break and southern exposure
  - Watch for chew marks and insert mouse guards if needed
  - Set entrance reducer to smallest setting

Suggestion was made to take a picture of the club hives and send a thank you letter to Tim Wilbanks to let him know that the members did an educational inspection during our June meeting.

#### Extracting Sign Up

[ecwba3@gmail.com](mailto:ecwba3@gmail.com)

#### 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 Nov 17th, Green Lake Caestecker Library 9:30am