



Audubon Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2018

I. Call to order, Welcome to New Members and Guests, and Prayer

Larry Stone called to order the regular meeting of the Audubon Beekeepers Association at 7:00 PM on June 11, 2018 at the Henderson County Co-op Extension Expo Center 3341 Zion Road in Henderson, KY 42420. Larry Stone led our prayer.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from our last meeting were approved as submitted by email to the members.

III. Treasurer's Report

Jan Powell outlined the collections and expenditures for last month. Beginning Treasury balance \$10,281.98 Ending Treasury balance: \$102217.76. Income from member dues: 45.00. Expenses: \$109.22. A motion was made and seconded to approve the totals as submitted.

IV. Old Business

- a) Membership dues should have been paid in December. \$20.00/family. Please get a membership form from Jan. The form and dues may be mailed to: Jan Powell 8965 BF Overfield Rd. Corydon, KY 42406. Meeting minutes are emailed to current members and are also available on the website.
- b) David and Larry had approximately 30 participants at their Beginning School in Hopkins County on June 2nd and answered a lot of questions. Hopefully some potential new beekeepers were cultivated.
- c) Larry Wedding reported that June 13th there will be a final reading concerning allowing bee hives within the city limit of Henderson. There will be a few limitations and restrictions which we will outline next month if the motion passed without opposition.
- d) Check Queens and replace if necessary. As the weather warms it may be a good idea to give new Queens a few extra days to be accepted. Nectar flow has been heavy. Add supers as needed to give your Queen plenty of room. Carry swarm boxes with you if you are willing to collect available swarms in your area and keep

swarm boxes out. Add supers to keep your hive from becoming honey-bound and to prevent your hive from super-ceding your Queen.

- e) Beekeepers of Southwest Indiana will meet the third Thursday of each month (next meeting: June 21st). 6-8 PM Vincennes University Gibson Center 8100 US Hwy 41 North Fort Branch, IN https://www.facebook.com/pg/Beekeepers.of.SWIN/events/?ref=page_internal Speaker will be Kathleen Prough, Chief Apiary Inspector for Indiana. Roy Lynch will have his hives inspected at 2:30 pm on June 21st. If you would like to participate please call Roy Lynch (812-215-6898) for directions.
- f) Our new website is now live and it is a thing of beauty. Thanks to Erica Henderson for devoting her talents to this project. Member photos will be posted if you will email them to Erika (erikahenderson10@gmail.com) If you are using an iPhone, please take photos with the phone turned lengthwise!
- g) Rita has found a local shirt producer, who will embroider a logo on shirts. She will bring samples next month. By a motion made and seconded, members interested in a shirt will pay \$5.00 and the club will pick up the rest of the cost of each shirt. We will finish this discussion next month. We would like to have shirts for our participation in the Kentucky State Fair on August 24th.
- h) After discussion, and with no potential candidates coming forward, our current slate of Officers were re-elected.

V. New Business

- a) New hives should be fed to help with their development. 1:1 ratio of sugar to water with 1 teaspoon of Honey-B-Healthy.
- b) Larry has the club honey extractor up and running. Both Larry and Curtis have extracted this years Canola Honey. Both reported extremely pale, yellow honey this year. Call Larry for an extractor appointment 270-339-7245

VI. Education

- a) David Kelley and Larry Stone have both had hive inspections performed by Tammy Potter recently. No diseases were found, but she did locate several Queen-less hives.
- b) There haven't been a lot of swarms reported this year and several member beekeepers and their compatriots are reporting erratic hive development. Some hives have filled multiple supers while existing hives next to them are struggling. No apparent cause was reached after an in-depth discussion. We discussed hive ventilation. Bees, by using burr comb and other methods, create their own air flow within the hive. Removing excesses of burr comb and propolis hinders their work
- c) We also had a brief discussion on European hornets, who along with wasps and dragonflies will harm your hives and consume your bees. European hornets are very large and will make a nest within your hive and consume both breed and adult bees. Pictures of them and their nests here https://powerpictures.crystalgraphics.com/photos/view/cg2p24446273c/european_hornet_vespa_crabro_raise_paws_in_protection

- d) Combining weak hives with healthy hives was discussed. Stack your weak, Queen-less hive on top of the box of your healthy hive with a single layer on newspaper between. Spray the newspaper with some honey bee healthy. The bees will chew through the paper eventually and the honey bee healthy masks the differing scents allowing the bees to eventually co-mingle.
- e) If you would like to try to get a hive to create a Queen, remove a frame of recently laid brood from another hive and transfer it with some nurse bees to the Queen-less hive. Shake the frame and the bees remaining will be the nurse bees. Only 2 to 3 day-old brood can be fed royal jelly and develop into a Queen cell. I hope what I just typed is correct----I still don't understand this Queen creation stuff. If successful, your Queen cells will look



like this:

VII. Save a date

- a) Our Kentucky State Fair work day is August 24, 2018. Mark the date for a day of fun! We work in two shifts- morning and late afternoon. Admission and parking are provided. A list is circulating at meetings or contact Larry to get on the list.
- b) We have two members selling equipment and supplies so think about checking with them when you need beekeeping items. Curtis Simpson 270.313.2819 Earl Schnell 812.598.9162

VIII. Adjournment

Larry Stone adjourned the meeting after motion made and seconded.

Minutes submitted by: Diane Fisher

Thanks to Dan and Kathy Weinzapfel and David and Sally Kelley for this evening's refreshments and to Kathy Weinzapfel and Cathy Cure for this evenings door prizes which were won by David Kelley and Kevin Moser. A big thanks to all who help with refreshments and door prizes.

Next meeting: 07/09/18 **Refreshments:** The Simpson's (270-315-6559) and The Powell's (270-860-2942)

Like us on Facebook at Audubon Beekeepers Association and please check out our website at:

<http://www.audubonbeekeepersassociation.com> Email: audubonbeekeepersclub@gmail.com

Please feel free to Contact Larry Stone, President for club information 270-339-7245

Tammy Potter, Kentucky State Apiarist tammy.potter@ky.gov

November 4, James Tew will be at KSBA. KSBA has a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express-first come first serve. Shepardsville, KY This is a link to a suggested book by Mr. Tew for those interested.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B018B6SWNQ/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1

Mrs. Potter mentioned that diagnostic kits for bee diseases are available for sale at extension offices for around \$13-14. Check expiration dates before buying but these provide a quick diagnostic tool while in the field.

She has observed that European Foul Brood disease is diagnosed more frequently in Spring; while American Foul Brood seems to be present more in the Fall. Her supposition is: Could this be Varroa mite impact?

Medication to treat Nosema is no longer available. She suggests culling beeswax that is 5 years or older from hives to help curtail several diseases, including Nosema.

Attachments for a Pollinator Protection App are in the information attached to this document. Register hives so that you can be informed when damaging chemicals will be used in your area.

There is a Honey Bee Health Coalition flyer attached. This coalition website has several 5-minute videos dealing with beekeeping on its site.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources has an excellent book on local, bee friendly plants and trees. Tammy has a link on her website.

It takes 252 million flowers to supply a hive for one year.

Evidently, we should be using a Refractometer to determine the water content of our honey before packaging. To be considered honey the water content needs to 16-18%. When nectar is first placed in the hive the water content is 60-80%.

Monofloral or Unifloral labeled honey MUST contain 46% pollen from a single source and you must be able to prove the percentage by having the honey tested. Cost: \$80.00 You can avoid this by just calling your honey-HONEY. Same with "organic" honey. Better to just use the basic description of HONEY.

There are formal requirements for the label you put on your honey. Please check the website for the parameters. Also, keep in mind that 8 oz, of honey is the weight of approximately 12 oz. of water.

Entries for The Kentucky State Fair must be submitted by July 2, 2018. You can register online. 4 jars. Once tags are received for the submission, samples can be combined with others in our Association and delivered together. Contact Larry Stone if you are interested in participating. Youth entries are encouraged. They require only 3 jars. There is also a Black Jar competition. Register and submit in a black jar (use electrical tape if necessary). Honey is judged on taste alone.

The State of Kentucky is still discussing how to label and differentiate honey that is 100% produced in Kentucky from honey that is "packaged or distributed in Kentucky" which can be purchased from elsewhere and only bottled by a Kentucky company. It is a good idea to read the labels when you purchase honey. The United States produces only about 160 million pounds of the nearly 400 million pounds that is consumed.