

Sheboygan County Beekeepers Association

September 8, 2015

Secretary's Report- read and accepted

Treasurer's Report-

Checking: \$ 674.90

Savings: \$826.94

Total: \$1501.84

This does NOT include the money the club made from the Ag-Venture tent.

Attendance-42

Old Business:

Honey Queen Report: Jenny shared that she has done several presentations during July and August at the following places: Maywood (twice- at two different camps) Camp Evelyn, and the Wisconsin State Fair. Jenny also promoted bees and beekeeping with fair guests each day at the Ag Venture tent, Sheboygan Co. Fair.

Committee Reports:

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Ag-Venture Tent. Special thanks to Sheila Wettstein, and Dennis and Cheryl Wettstein for spearheading the set-up, design, and tear down of our club's display. It looked great!! and was well received by the public. Special thanks to Garry Sydow for bringing the observation hive on Saturday. Thank you all volunteers for helping man the tent on Saturday!

Thoughts for next year's Ag Venture tent:

Should we buy a new up-dated DVD? Current DVD had some minor mistakes since it was translated from another language; however we did find that many, many people sat down and watched all or part of the movie.

Should we go for having a live hive all five days at the fair?

The observation hive was a big hit!

What about having someone assigned to keep an eye on the observation during the whole run of the fair? Something to consider: Would we need to assign shifts for this?

Club should order more coloring books. The kids loved them and we gave nearly all of them away.

Purchases- none

New business- Program and Refreshment sign-up sheets for 2016 were passed around.

Correspondence- none

Q & A Discussion:

What should I be doing with my hives this month?

Extract honey

Check for mites with powdered sugar method.

Treat for mites.

Keep bees well fed and in good condition in preparation for the winter brood cycle.

Fall brood will be the bees that winter over.

How do you winter a two queen hive system?

This is tricky. Not sure there was a definitive answer for this question.

When do all the honey supers need to be removed and when is too late?

There was considerable discussion on this. Supers need to come off very soon if not already.

Hive Report:

In general, most beekeepers feel that they are doing pretty well at this point. Many beekeepers reported that they have lots of bees and lots of honey. Several who have already extracted and had very good honey crops.

The problems that were reported by a few beekeepers were swarming, and queens dying. Most of these types of problems happened earlier in the summer.

Book Report: none scheduled.

Program: by Jean Wilke

Jean is a civil war reenactor and a beekeeper. She presented a very interesting blend of these two hobbies.

Cool facts from Jean's presentation:

- Bees came over in 1621 on one of the Virginia Co. ships. Bees were likely in their winter cycle when they were shipped over to the colonies.
- The Langstroth hive was invented in 1852 so this type of hive was in use during the civil war.
- Jean shared a photo (dated 1860??) of a farm house and its bee yard that was in the Battle of Antietam, the Civil War's bloodiest battle. The Battle of Antietam was fought in 1862. The Iron Brigade fought in this battle. A division of the Iron Brigade was from Wisconsin.

Program for October 13, 2015.

Honey Tasting by Kurt Peterson and others.

Refreshments for October

Ralph Christianson

Sue Birkholz

Book report:

Jean Wilke

Motion to adjourn: First : Sheila Wettstein

Second: Bill Gross

PLEASE NOTE:

To help the custodian of the USDA building... it would be helpful if our meeting and refreshment time was wrapped up by 9:00p.m. The custodian has to wait on all of us to leave so he can lock up. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Gross