

Dunn County Beekeepers Association

Menomonie Alliance Church room 116

502 21st St. N, Menomonie, WI 54751

Minutes March 11, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call-22 attendees; guest Dale Wolf from Wolf Honey Farm

Secretary's Report: Willie M. reviewed the January and February minutes. Motion by Tom P. second by Mary L. to accept.

Treasurer Report: Mary B. presented her report. Workshop netted \$186.63 profit this year over expenses. Motion to accept report by Dave W., second by Jim C.

Old Business:

Workshop review: 19 families, 27 people attending.

Mentors: Beekeepers contact sheet was passed around to update contact info. We marked on the sheet if we like to be on the mentor contact list.

Traditional and Green skills Event 2019- March 9th. Tom P. and Dave W. presented. Several very interested new beekeepers. Barron County looking at starting a club again.

Hive Reports: Lots of snow and some hives were buried this February so some hives are unknown if they are still alive. Most had lost some hives, quick figuring when going around the room at about 15 - 20% losses so far. Losses so far look to be from suffocation or starvation.

Upcoming Events: March 16 - Northwestern District Beekeepers Meeting

10 a.m. Knapp Community Center, Knapp, WI. Doors open at 9:15 a.m.

Guest speakers: Matt Schultz - commercial beekeeper, Reedsburg, WI

Kent Pegorsch, President WHPA. Q&A panel discussion.

Advanced Beekeeping Field Day: Dale Wolf and Gordon Waller (past state inspector)

Location: White Pine Berry Farm: 1482 Oak Drive, River Falls, WI 54022

Saturday May 18, 2019; 3-5 p.m. \$60.00 fee

Managing Colonies for Honey Production and Winter Survival

How to divide a wintered colony, several ways to make small divides, planning ahead in June for upcoming winter, increasing honey production, bee habitat, mite sampling.

Call ahead to preregister: Dale or Joyce Wolf 715-684-2095

Meeting Discussions:

Dale Wolf tips

1. Doing a split on top of existing hive in spring. Remove top cover, add another deep brood over a double screen (heat will move up and keep the upper brood box warm). Have that new upper box turned so the entrance faces to the back of the bottom hive.

Put several frames of brood and new eggs into top box, with enough nurse bees (or do a regular split and purchase a queen). Once small hive is expanding and able to be on its own, move to its final location.

2. Catching a Swarm that is in a tree: Put an empty brood box (or Nuc) box with some comb built on the farms on a barrel in the sun under the tree. Scouts will be looking for a location. Scout bees will be out and most times if you see them shortly after swarming, the bees will move into the box on their own.

Future Events:

Dunn County Fair - last weekend in July. Willie has invited our WI Honey Queen to be at our Booth.

Menomonie Community Garden - June 10, 7 p.m., invited April Kustov - Regional Bee inspector.

Volunteers/Suggestions for Meeting presentations/speakers- please send to:

Willie M. at 20galdnr@gmail.com

Next Meeting: April 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by Dave W., second by Kathy M.