

Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association
Meeting Minutes for July 25, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Dale Hill. A brief summary of Guy's honey extraction demonstration last month and an offer for questions. All in attendance were pleased with the presentation except (jokingly) members wanting to take home, some of the honey. Guy didn't hesitate to tell the members to bring their own empty bottle next time.

Does anyone need to borrow one of the clubs extractors? No one responded, but Guy & Tina each have one and if anyone needs to borrow when in need, let Dale or one of us know.

Two new guest were present. One from Emerson, Mo and one from Rockport, IL; Welcome!

Minutes from June were approved as reported.

Treasury also was approved with \$1733.43 before \$40.00 paid dues to ISBA and \$158.64 paid for web hosting, leaving a balance of \$1534.79.

Tina paid the agreed balance of \$21.63 to the Lake Gazette newspaper and Debi reimbursed for the bill.

Debi reported on the website progress and heard from LeAnn that it was 90% done.

Adam's County Fair news for honey entries was very minimal. Tim mentioned the lack of entry information on the website, for those never entering before: Containers, (glass or plastic); labeling (or not); entry form (print and fill out or on site) etc. Guy offered to mention to the fair board.

Collin submitted to the Lewis County Fair and won a Blue Ribbon! Congratulations, Collin!

Illinois State Fair is Aug. 10th - 20th in Springfield, IL. Dale reserved the first Sunday, August 13th, for MVBA to man the honey display booth and sell ice cream as our club has done for many years. Please let Dale know if you are able to help.

Bernie was asked to give a brief Apiary Inspector's report. He said there was not much to report but that one of the most common thing that he is finding and hearing from others, is the absence of queens. Seeing it in new packages mostly and finding partially opened cells. For inspections, he is recommending that everyone make sure contact information is up to date so that the inspector will be able to contact you.

Bernie's Open House will be held on Sunday August 27th from 1-4.

ISBA Fall Meeting will be Sat. November 11th at the IL State Fairgrounds. Dale is working on Speaker line-up.

Other news: Dale appointed Guy as chair of the Nominating Committee for the upcoming Officers and Directors Election. According to the MVBA By-Laws, the election of Officers will take place in the October Meeting. Guy said to think about who you want to nominate for positions.

The New Beekeeper's Class for 2018 planning needs to be discussed. Dale will check on dates for the building for February 10th or the 17th of 2018 (tentatively). He will be unavailable Jan.18th through Feb. 2 for any planning, so class agenda and line-up needs to be detailed before then.

The Educational Session was given by Dale on Record Keeping. A video was shown from the University of Montana with an emphasis on using Excel spreadsheets to organize hive inspection information and why it's a good idea. The narrator gave a brief lesson on various formulas and how they can be personalized to help with organizing the data taken from common hive inspection situations. For those not wanting to design their own spreadsheets, can also find many ready-to-print forms, online.

I will include a couple ready-made samples of Hive Inspection sheets in the attachments. Beekeeping Suppliers like Dadant also sell packages of 25 that fit in 3-ring binders for a few dollars. Also, there are various apps and software that are available online to use for record keeping. The following are links to (but not limited to) a couple:

Hive Tracks, <https://hivetracks.com>

Beetight <https://www.beetight.com>

NEXT MEETING IS:

Our 2017 Annual MVBA Family Picnic!!

It is set for 5:30 pm August 29th at Bob Mays Park on N. 18th St. in Quincy. Fried chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert as well as your family's own tableware.

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely

Tina McClelland, MVBA Secretary