

**Tri-County Beekeepers Association
Monthly Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by club president, Bobby Chaisson, at 7:00 pm with 38 members and visitors present. Bobby thanked everybody for attending and welcomed our newcomers before introducing the speaker. This month's speaker was Master Beekeeper, Julia Mahood, who gave a presentation on tips for making beekeeping easier. Ms. Mahood presented the club with an apiary swarm rest-stop rope and lure for club use.

After the presentation, Bobby greeted the new members and visitors. He explained about the member resources available through the club and through members, themselves, as well as the purpose of our Bee Yard. He also explained about our Facebook Page, Facebook Discussion Group, and club website.

Announcements:

A hive stand in the Bee Yard is in need of replacement, and the Botanical Garden hive (that we place and maintain) needs to be split and taken back to the Botanical Gardens in Gainesville. Bobby and Mike will plan a day and those wanting to help can do so.

The GBA Spring Conference and Artisan Show was held in Augusta. There were fourteen from our club in attendance. We had some winners from our club in the artisan show. Georgia Zumwalt won all the 1st place awards in photography for her submissions. Bob and Pam Wisecup won 1st place for their creamed honey bon bons in the confections category, and then won the baking and cooking category as well as 1st place in nonalcoholic honey beverages. Georgia won 3rd place in that category. Bob and Pam also won a couple of 3rd place awards. Chris Smith won 2nd place (there was no first place) with his mead. So, we came away with several winning entries for our club members.

For the GBA Fall show, the GBA has asked each club to do a display board that showcases the club. We need to form a committee that can work on this and get it together. We can form the committee in one of the upcoming months.

May Meeting – We have been asked by Northeast Ga Beekeepers to join them for a cookout in Sautee at Lou Lobe's place. He raises New World Carniolan bees and keeps Slovenian hives. The cookout is May 9th, the Saturday before our regular meeting date. Would club members want to count this as our meeting? Or do they still want to hold the regular meeting on Monday, May 11? The general consensus was to attend the cookout for those who wish, and then still have our regular meeting on Monday.

Harold Lanier will be starting up his Beekeeping Bootcamps on March 28, for anybody who would like an intensive training on beekeeping.

The 2nd Annual Beekeeping Jamboree will be held on October 24th this year at Sandy Creek Park in Athens, GA. The move to the fall is an attempt to avoid the heat of summer that we experienced this past year.

Bobby Chaisson recently spoke at Blue Ridge Honey Co. They paid him in honey. As he doesn't need the honey, he bottled it and sold it to the Botanical Gardens as they had sold out of our original club honey. This gave us a few hundred dollars more in the club account.

Business

February meeting minutes were emailed out and posted on club website. Motion was made to accept the minutes as posted. The motion was seconded.

Treasurer, David Hollomon, reported the club Regions Bank account has \$1199.80 while the PayPal account has \$3328.55. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded.

Upcoming Club Meetings/Events:

April 13 – Club meeting 7:00-9:00 Georgia Zumwalt will be talking about photographing honey bees. Weather permitting, we will check the club hives at 6:30 before the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

The minutes are respectfully submitted by Pamela Wisecup, Tri-County Beekeepers Association Secretary, April 21, 2020.