



C.O.M.B. Meeting

Monday, July 10th, 2016

Meeting was held at the MSU Pavilion, Farm Lane, East Lansing.

Meeting started at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Present: Mike Risk, Kay Barber, Dale Woods, Dianne Karsten.

Mike Risk called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Mike welcomed new members to the club and asked them to identify themselves and ask questions.

Mike Risk reminded those with post orders from the native plants sale to pick plants up located by Jennifer Blackburn at one end of the auditorium. Mike Risk talked about the availability of queen cells and there was a brief discussion about the improved queen project. Queen cells are available to club members for a discounted price at \$5.00 per cell, the price is subject to change in the future. Club members were encouraged to participate, a video display was used to show how to place queen cells in the hive box and questions were fielded. Maps from the initial start of the project were available.

To get on the schedule and purchase queen cells from this Purdue line of bees contact Dr. Meghan Milbrath through her website at

<http://www.sandhillbees.com/2017orders>

or Mike Risk at mrisk75@gmail.com

Dale Woods and Kay Barber went over multiple strategies and methods for harvesting honey. Dale went over extracting and determining when frames of honey were ready. Kay went over the crush and drain method of extracting honey. Kay reminded club members that the club has an extractor to rent. Members were encouraged to give the hand crank extractor a try. Mike Risk had his refractometer and club members were encouraged to either submit a sample of their honey or just look at honey samples with the refractometer. Mike discussed as well did Dale about having the moisture content of honey low enough so it did not ferment. There was sampling of honey from Dale's frames being extracted and Jennifer Blackburn brought some blackberry honey for sampling. Meeting adjourned approximately 8:05pm with several reminders.

AFB conference in Reno Nevada January 9th thru 13 of 2018 conference registration is now open. ABFCONFERENCE.COM

Refreshments were available and there was no official intermission.

In August our COMB club is pleased to announce that Rich Wieske will be our guest speaker. Rich will be talking to us about his successes in urban beekeeping in the Detroit area. Rich and his wife Joan maintain 60 to 100 hives in the Detroit area and regularly speak around the country.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 8:05 PM.

To those interested there will be a board meeting next Tuesday the 18th of July at the Chapbook Café in Schulers Book Store , Eastwood Town Center 5:30 pm. If there is something you would like to see at a club meeting let a board member know.

The next meeting is August 14th at the MSU Pavilion 6:30 PM.

All COMB meetings are held on the second Monday of the month. Dues are \$10 per annum, payable ASAP by members, both old and new.

Please send additions and or corrections of the meeting notes to Dianne Karsten; karsten@msu.edu . I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.

Respectfully yours, Dianne Karsten