

C.O.M.B. Meeting

Monday, May 8th, 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, absent, meeting notes are as given to me.

Jennifer Densteadt talked about the upcoming plant sale of Native species in June. Those wishing to arrive early to pick up or purchase plants we will be present at 5:30pm to start the plant sale. **Remember that if you wish to purchase a garden kit those must be pre ordered! Order forms are available on the web site and must be postmarked no later than May 31st. The sale of plants will continue thru the meeting and close promptly by 8:30pm.**

Mike Risk thanked May Hobbs and Robert Johnson for their efforts with the club package bee purchase.

Wilbur brought in a device called a Swarm Bandit that he had purchased from Brushy Mountain Bee Farm. It is a device you put on the front of the hive when they are getting ready to swarm that prevents the queen from leaving the hive and makes it easy to capture the swarm.



Mike will do his presentations on "Spring swarm management" and "Making splits for Self-sustaining Beekeeping"

Spring swarm management will cover some swarming biology, some ideas on prevention techniques and characteristics of swarming. Mike will then cover benefits and some of his techniques he uses to raise queens, make splits and the care of his nucs.

Those of you who ordered trees from last month's speaker Mike Connor of "Honey Tree Nursery". Mike will not be able to pick up the trees you ordered until Thursday night, May 11. Make arrangements with Mike at mrisk75@gmail.com or call 517-643-1880 to pick up your trees.

The June 12 COMB meeting will be about the hive, what you should see, honey flow, supering and Varroa Mites. The things a beekeeper should be checking on and what you might need to do to take care of the bees. Information on the Michigan Queen Project and what it means to club members.

**I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting!
Thanks
Mike**

The meeting was adjourned approximately 8:15 PM.

The next meeting is June 12th 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