

C.O.M.B. Meeting April 10th ,2017

Meeting was held at the MSU Pavilion, Farm Lane, East Lansing. Meeting started at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Present; Mike Risk, Dale Woods, Kay Barber, Dianne Karsten

Called to Order at 6:30 pm by president Mike Risk.

Mike Risk announced that the May 8th meeting will be hands on at his home at 7575 Hollister Rd, Laingsburg, MI 48848 (517) 651-9842 , where he has a significant number of hives . Members should check website if there is inclement weather in case the location changes. Otherwise come prepared to open hives and handle bees, bring veils, bee suits and gloves and outdoor footwear, ground may be uneven be prepared.

Robert Johnson; bee packages first date is April 16th, those who have orders will be called with a time, second order is around April 26th again those with orders will be notified as the time gets closer.

Dale Woods; Nucs still available at \$160.00 around the end of April depending on weather those with orders will receive a phone call.

Dianne Karsten; announcements; Meeting Monday the 17th in Flint ‘*Bee Symposium 2017*’, Master Gardener class coming up in Ingham County, June we will have a club plant sale from Designs by Nature, Vern Stephens, proprietor. Refreshments; cookies and coffee were available.

Kay Barber; Garage sale had few participants so Kay announced each person was responsible for their own sales.

First speaker Mike Connor *Trees for Bees* Mike answered questions after the presentation and then had trees for sale during the break and at the end of the meeting.

Break; Garage sale items to peruse, trees for sale, mite kits.

Second Speaker Meghan Milbrath Varroa Mites. This insect needs to be regarded as a serious threat by all beekeepers. All who keep bees should plan a strategy to deal with Varroa mites and the pathogens they carry and transmit. Meghan had Varroa Mite test kits for sale. The meeting ran a little long until about 9:00pm before it was adjourned.

Mike Risk offered to pick up trees ordered from Honey Tree Nursery look for details on the website.

The next meeting is May 8th at the home of Mike Risk 7575 Hollister Rd, Laingsburg, MI 48848 (517) 651-9842. We will be inspecting hives –this is hands on.

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

