

SCVBA Meeting: 9 May 2019

6:00 pm - Church Hive inspections with Mitch Wayne - about a dozen people participated

Officers Present: Dave Lambert, Charlene Tuck, Jerome Rodewald,

7:09 pm Dave opened the meeting welcoming everyone. Printed agenda was on the member table. Mentioned new beekeeper's and announced church hive inspections. Mitch unpacked nucs and put them in some deeps.

Introduced Melanie Waldon as tonight's speaker on sustainability.
Mentioned raffle ticket items.

Housekeeping items:

Acreage available for bees: We received an e-mail from a man in Roberts, WI who has some acreage available for bees & is looking for a local beekeeper:: see Dave for information.

Hammond Library: looking for beekeeper to give a 45 min-1hr presentation on bees, beekeeping and pollination in June (any week): contact Dave to schedule

Visitors tonight with short presentations:

7:16 pm Dave introduced John Spade: John & Dave Wolske are creating lawn signs to get the message out about Beekeeping & pollination. Please look at their designs and chose two favorites during the break.

7:20 pm Chris Llby: St. Croix County Fairgrounds update: Since 2011 three new barns have been constructed at the fairgrounds and they are fundraising for a new livestock barn. They need 50% of the cost to start - \$75K has already been raised and they need an additional \$40-50K to start. They have a special event and the annual raffle for fundraisers. Gladys Hanson (club member) has flyers and raffle tickets available. See Gladys for more details.

7:26pm: Dale Wolf and Gordon Waller, Advanced Beekeeping Field Day - Information is on the website - Saturday 18 May. Cost is \$60

7:27 pm - Presentation by Melanie Waldon::

Working Towards a Sustainable Apiary

Melanie has been beekeeping 8 - 9 years and is a lover of bees. She has gleaned information from Northern beekeepers and is working toward a sustainable aviary.

Melanie went over several aspects of a sustainable apiary and emphasized the importance of focusing on building skills to sustain hives. Discuss some local beekeeping practices to keep hives healthy including springtime splits, creating replacement nucs, late season splits and feeding practices to maintain hives through our winters. Melanie referenced several northern beekeepers practicing sustainable beekeeping in the north, most notably Dr. Megan Milbrath, as well as Dr. Thomas Seeley, Tina Sebestyen and Joe Latshaw. Questions on sustainable beekeeping practices were discussed.

8:10 pm Before the snack break: Dave reminded club of the need for volunteers for the meeting snacks & drinks - Charlene passed signup sheet around. The County Fairs are coming up and we need people to volunteer for the St. Croix County Fair (Honey Hut) in July. Shifts are

4 hours long. See Charlene for fair volunteer signup. At the June meeting we will be working on getting Pierce County Fair volunteers. Youth Presentation after the break.

8:34 pm - Sarah Jammer & Levi Knutson (Youth mentorship recipients) update: Sarah installed bees on April 18th - started with 1:1 syrup feeding & then went to 2:1. Already has 6 - 7 frames of brood (started on drawn comb mediums). Dave mentioned she had an amazing bee yard with a very secure bear fence. Levi installed bees on April 19th. Currently has 4 frames of brood & 2 of pollen and nectar. He is using deep boxes.

8:38 pm - Jerome Rodewald: Pheasants Forever Partnership: does beekeeping demos at local schools and events. Has already done demos in Spring Valley, River Falls & Hudson. Looking for volunteers to help do these sessions: May 24th - Somerset, *May 28th - River Falls: Greenwood, *May 29th - Hudson Prairie, June 15th - Pierce County Dairy Breakfast. *need volunteers especially on these dates. E-mail Jerome if you are able to help out.

8:42 pm - Dan Klausen: He has called & e-mailed members who requested members and got no replaces. If you want a mentor, contact Dan Klausen.

8:43 pm - Raffle

8:46 pm - General Questions & Comments: Discussion on putting 9 or even 8 frames in a 10 frame super to facilitate honey production. Brad Mogen: he has bee probiotics available (1 pound containers) that he purchase and repackaged if you would like to try it on hives. Could be helpful after mite/other treatments on hives. Contact Brad if you are interested. Looking for Queens for Sale: Brad Mogen and Dale Wolf have some available

8:54 pm - Anita Setter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded and motion passed. Clean up and adjourn.