

Minutes of Meeting of New River Valley Bee Keepers' Association on Thursday September 11 2014 at 6:30 pm

Richard Reid opened the meeting. He made a request for a volunteer to staff a table at the Shawsville Library Fall Festival. This will be held on Saturday Oct 4th from 10 am until 2 pm. There are posters, handouts, a teaching hive and an observation hive available.

Emily Satterwhite had requested bee removal, these turned out to be yellow jackets but she sent a Thank You card and a \$25 donation for the club.

Mark Chorba announced Bug Fest on October 11th from 10am to 5 pm, at the Inn at VT. This year we will be centrally located as we are the star attraction. Any volunteers will get a free lunch and a T-shirt.

Jerry made a request for an assistant to help him run the annual classes, so he can delegate some of the larger items such as arranging meals, setting up the space. Planning will begin next month. Jerry will still oversee the whole process.

Graham Dawson requested that the Association send a donation to Randy Oliver who maintains a Scientific Beekeeping website. After some discussion it was decided to take a vote at the next meeting to determine if a donation should come from the club or if we should encourage people to donate individually.

Jerry reported that Brushy Mountain has free shipping between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We discussed that the Club had subsidized queen castles and nucs for members to raise queens. Do we want to continue, and what has been the outcome? We need to conduct a survey to see who bought items and what has been their results.

Mark Chorba reported on bee packages – This year 200 was too many, he had trouble selling all of them. The Roanoke club is interested in participating, Next month we will have an agenda item to determine how many to sell. It was agreed that Nucs are much better than packages for starting bee keeping.

Richard Reid discussed overwintering nucs ready for spring and what was needed. He reported that Charlie Elgin has equipment for sale through Jack Price. Jack is putting together a list and photos of all the items. This includes a manual extractor, and it was suggested that maybe the Association could purchase it in order to loan out to members as an additional extractor, especially for members with a small amount to extract.

Richard reported that he had been working with Tech students who had hives over at Smithfield. They were now looking for someone to purchase them. They will need to be inspected. Contact Richard Reid by phone (540-951-8342) or email (rkereid@comcast.net) if interested.

Action Items for next meeting

Randy Oliver donation

Charlie Elgin's extractor

Result of nuc and queen rearing

Recorded by Sue Hossack: Secretary