

**New River Valley Beekeepers Association**  
Minutes for August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:43pm. The late time reflects the fact that the board took our out-of-state speaker to dinner before the meeting.

46 people were present.

Apiary report: Mite counts were done.

Logo Committee report: The logo that was designed by Sue Hossack and digitally rendered by Nick Proctor has been made into a large banner for use at events and festivals. Bob Whiton managed this process. The committee is working on getting t-shirts and ball caps made with the logo.

The Eastern Apicultural Society meeting is on August 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the premier apicultural event in the country. This year this is being held at Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton, VA.

The Montgomery Museum Heritage Day is being held on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Bob Whiton will be there from 10am -3pm. Volunteers are needed to work with the observation hive, and talk to people about bees and beekeeping.

The Mite-a-thon is Sep 8 -15. This is a tri-national effort to collect mite infestation data and to visualize *Varroa* infestations in honey bee colonies across North America within a one week window. All beekeepers can participate, creating a rich distribution of sampling sites in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Their *Varroa* monitoring data will be uploaded to [www.mitecheck.com](http://www.mitecheck.com).

Mark Chorba reminded us that the Hokie Bug Fest on October 20<sup>th</sup> is the biggest such event in this region. We're the center piece and it is good publicity for the association. This year it will be held in Squires Student Center.

Treasurer's report: We have \$7200 in the bank. Jim has got the last of Jack's equipment. The treasurer's report was accepted.

At 6:53 we had Fred's Follies to see who had remembered details from June's meeting on Robbing.

**What we should be doing with the bees:**

During dearth feed all colonies to prevent robbing

7:00 The raffle was held

**Featured speaker Dana Stahlman.**

Dana Stahlman is a fourth generation beekeeper who resides in North Carolina. He is a certified Master Beekeeper through EAS (Eastern Apicultural Society) and former professional beekeeper having experience in both migratory beekeeping and queen

rearing. He was the founder of the Ohio Queen Project, has kept bees in Ohio and Georgia, and has been awarded Ohio Beekeeper of the Year in 1997 and the prestigious Ohio Beekeeper Lifetime Achievement Award. Additionally he is the author of ["Beekeeping 101"](#), a handbook for beginning beekeepers.

Mr Stahlman gave a lively and informative presentation on "keeping and helping your hives survive".

Mr Stahlman requested that questions be kept to the end of his presentation, and that they be written on a card. Any that he did not respond to during the meeting he promised he would reply to by email at a later date. He answered a number of questions from members at the meeting.

The meeting was formally closed at 9pm.

Submitted by Sue Hossack