

AABA MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2017 AT ARLINGTON ECHO

Announcements

Carl Guerci opened the meeting and welcomed everyone attending the second meeting of 2017 at 6:30 P.M.

Attendance was 60.

Carl made the following announcements.

- Attendees were asked to sign in sheets provided at the back of the room for members and guests
- Delia of Crownsville Gardens has nucs for sale

Arlington Echo Hives

Carl updated us on the status of these hives. Two colonies survived the winter, and two died. They were replaced with packages in April. AE also has two observation hives inside.

EAS

Jim Fraser, master beekeeper, will be offering a short course at the EAS to be held in Delaware this year. He invited all to attend, there is something for everyone. More info on the conference, classes for all levels, field trips, socials and a honey show can be found at <http://www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2017.html>.

Auction

Bill Stoffel donated his used beekeeping equipment. Carl auctioned the equipment off and raised \$101.00 to benefit AABA.

Kirsten Traynor

Carl welcomed and introduced Kirsten Traynor as the main speaker for the evening. Kirsten is the author of Two Million Blossoms, a book about the medicinal benefits of honey, and Simple Smart Beekeeping.

Kirsten spoke on varroa mites. She had studied beekeepers in Europe.

Kirsten advised us to install a frame with no foundation near the end of the brood area. The bees will build drone comb on it, which acts as a trap for varroa. Remove the frame three weeks later, to kill and remove the mites.

She offers a newsletter twice a month, available at www.mdbee.com/freebee.html

The club meeting had a break for snacks and a chance to talk to fellow beekeepers.



Business Meeting

Carl receives many emails from beekeepers with all manner of questions. Carl requested that people be very specific in their emails to him to help him give the informed advice.

Treasurer's Report

Debbie Hewitt, the club's treasurer gave a report on the club's finances. AABA currently has a balance of **\$4,290.55**.

This does not include dues received during today's meeting.

The new address to mail checks to is AABA, P.O. Box 152, Galesville, MD 20765

An application form for new members is available online.

2017 AABA dues are \$5.

Benefits of club membership include having the option to request a mentor, borrow a book from the club library, extractor rental for a nominal fee, and be eligible for the door prize drawing.

Regular Meetings

There are 2 meeting remaining for this year. The next will be June 13, 6:00 - 8:30 P.M.

One hour before the regular meetings start, the club will be open for new beekeepers to come and ask questions. When possible, experienced beekeepers will open a hive(s) to show new beekeepers some basics about beekeeping.

Door Prize Drawings

Door prize drawings were selected from a hat. The following winners were:

Thanks to Dwight Fielder for organizing and bringing the prizes.

Apiary Registration

Registering honey bee colonies is very important to prevent the spread of disease. Maryland law states that beekeepers must register apiaries with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Bee hives must be registered within 30 days of obtaining bees.

Applications are available online at

http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/pages/apiary_inspection.aspx

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.