

**AABA MEETING – FEBRUARY 18, 2014 AT ARLINGTON**  
**ECHO**

Lloyd welcomed everyone to our first meeting of 2014. Eight people were attending for the first time. Attendance was 51.

We had a fascinating talk on **BEENOMICS AND BEE DISEASE** by Dr. Jay Evans, USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland. Dr. Evans discussed the latest research on honeybee diseases and pests, including studies that focus on the interaction between virus and bacteria; or virus and nosema. Dr. Evans spends most of his time studying varroa and how the mites vector disease and why the mite is so successful at transmitting viruses to the honeybee. Dr. Evans explained that varroa is far-reaching and has spread to Hawaii and the Caribbean Islands. Scientists are trying to understand how mites operate inside the cells, specifically mating with other mites or the attraction mites have to the honey bee cell – the research is focused on how these processes can be interrupted, so that mites are not able to take hold of a colony.

In summary Dr. Evans asked “What can be done?”

- we can control bee diseases better
- we can investigate causes of undiagnosed losses
- we can protect bees from environmental stress and toxins
- we can breed better bees (that are disease resistant)
- we can find other pollinators

The membership thanked Dr. Evans for his informative presentation.

The minutes of our last meeting in August, 2013 are posted on our web site. It was moved to accept them as written and the motion passed.

Election of officers:

The following people agreed to serve as officers for 2014:

President – Loyd Luna

Vice President – Michael Doyle

Treasurer – Doris Luna

Secretary – Lindsay Barranco

Chairlady, Publicity – Amy Jameson

Chairman, Programs – Bart Smith

Chairlady, Competition – Amy Jameson

Chairman, Awards – Dwight Fielder

Chairman, Refreshments – Heather McCarthy

Chrissy Perry – Extractor Operations

Librarian – Carl Guerci, Jr.

Web Master – Ollie Snyder

There were no other nominations, and the membership approved the above slate of officers.

The treasurer will give a report on our finances. We have \$5,319.89 in the bank, though there will be expenses for the short course. Doris reported that we received \$707.39 from the Maryland State Fair last summer for our club award and our percentage of the honey sales.

Anne Arundel County Fair – Michael Doyle will give us a detailed report for the 2013 county fair at the next meeting.

Loyd presented the CDR Mumford award to Pat Beers-Block, for her gift basket entry in last year's county fair.

AABA display at Homestead Gardens – 22, 23 February 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Carl Guerci has added two new books to our library: (1) The Beekeepers Handbook, by Diana Sammataro; (2) Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping, Dewey Caron.

AABA web site: How many have visited Ollie Snyder's superb web site since it opened in 2012? 18,973 – Thanks, Ollie.

Mentoring: We need a new mentoring chairman. Please see Loyd if you are interested.

Members: 220 - \$3 dues please (with correct change).

Short Course will begin on February 26 with 44 students. Additional sessions are scheduled for March 19, 26, April 2, & 12. The course was started earlier this year to give students time to build equipment. Joe Brotherton has offered to have anyone from the course get some hands on assistance, on either March 22 or 29. His home phone number is (410) 695-2909.

Earth Day at Quiet Waters is in April from 10-3, possibly April 26th. Dave and Linda Crump asked for some help to answer questions from the public. You can contact Dave at 410-923-3538

Maryland Beekeeping Statistics as of 1/31/2014:

	2010	2011	2012	2013
MD Beekeepers Registered	1,425	1,200	1,782	1,821
MD Colonies	11,650	12,120	13,924	14,711
MD Apiaries	1,968	1,968	2,338	2,397
AA Beekeepers Registered	148	115	184	182
AA Colonies	473	393	573	619

AA Apiaries	172	144	222	219
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Dates for future meetings are: April 22, June 17, August 19 and the MSBA Honey show on November 15, 2014.

**REGISTER YOUR BEES WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE!! Applications were available. Jerry Fischer, Maryland State Apiarist advises that registration is down. Maryland law dictates that you must register your bees. Please do it now!**

The door prize drawing, a hive top feeder, was won by Pat Perry. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.