

Anne Arundel Beekeeping Association  
Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2012 at Arlington Echo

Mr. Luna welcomed all beekeepers to the meeting and introduced the evening speaker, Charlie Brandts. Charlie is the only beekeeper in the world with the rather well-known address of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. Charlie has worked as a White House carpenter for the past 28 years and has kept a beehive on the grounds for the past several years. Some of the highlights from Charlie's talk include:

- Charlie has kept a hive on the White House grounds since 2007 and was asked to do so by the White House Chef. Following a presentation to the Chief Usher, Charlie was granted permission to keep bees on the grounds. Charlie researched whether bees had ever been kept at the White House at any point in time and determined that his beehive was the first to ever be kept on White House grounds. The beehive stands approximately 40 feet from the White House Kitchen Garden, and Charlie has been involved in speaking about bees to visiting groups. Charlie reported that the Linden tree nectar flow in Washington D.C. has been excellent and in past years 134 pounds and 225 pounds of honey have been harvested. This year, Charlie expects to harvest approximately 200 pounds of honey from the one hive. The honey has been used by the White House chefs and has been given as gifts by the President to visiting guests. Two more notes of interest – before Charlie inspects the hive he needs to notify the Secret Service so that they are not alarmed by the presence of the smoke from his smoker. Also Charlie explained that the hive needed to be strapped to the ground, so as to not be toppled by the winds created by the Presidential helicopter.

Mr. Luna thanked Charlie for his fascinating presentation.

Following the speaker a short business meeting followed:

- There were 51 attendees and 4 new first time attendees at the June meeting
- The reading of the minutes from the April 2012 meeting are posted on the website and a motion was received to accept the minutes as written.
- Mrs. Luna gave a treasurers report and indicated that the association had \$4249.45 in the account.
- Linda Elliot gave a short presentation on the purchase of a bulk honey jar order.
- Steve Hanlon reported that there are 7 to 8 new beekeepers who need assistance in the AABA Mentoring Program, if there are any experienced beekeepers who can help. As of the meeting date, there have been 2-3 experienced beekeepers who have offered to help
- Linda Elliott will assist with the extractor rental in Chrissy Perry's absence
- Jerry Fischer invited beekeepers to sell honey at the Maryland State Fair. Please call Jerry if you are interested 410-562-3464
- Loyd, Linda and Dave Crump installed the donated hive equipment at Arlington Echo and there will be a record honey crop at Arlington Echo this year. The cost of the donated equipment was \$289.80
- The annual social will be hosted by Dan Maerzke. The date is September 22<sup>nd</sup> and the time will be in the evening. More to come on this.
- Dates for futures meetings are: Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> and the Maryland Honey Show will be held Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Dates for County Fair – September 12-16. The Maryland State Fair

is August 24 through September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Association members will be able to sign up for the county fair at the August meeting. Mike Doyle is the association's liaison to the Fair Week Committee. County fair entry dates are September 9 and 10.

- Please call Loyd Luna if you would like to sell your hive products at the Severna Park Farmer's Market this season.
- The door prize (bottom board) was won by Jim Larson.

**Please remember to register your bees with the Maryland Department of Agriculture**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

**Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Lindsay Barranco  
(AABA Secretary)**