

AABA MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 17, 2018 at Arlington Echo Education Center

New Beekeeper Session

A question and answer session was held, but we were not able to inspect the Arlington Echo hives due to the cold evening.



Program

Mike Embrey, former Apiculturist with the University of Maryland, spoke about his research on the Small Hive Beetle (SHB) and what is most effective in controlling this pest in the hive and honey house.

The best control is to have strong, queenright hives and to not give the bees more space than they can patrol for beetles. We need to limit the spaces that beetles can lay eggs that bees cannot clean. Traps and ground controls help, and further testing is being done for repellents and bio-controls. Genetics are also being tested as Russian strains and Greg Hunt's Ankle-biters seem to control damage from SHB in addition to varroa.

Any honey frames removed from the hive need to be extracted within 24-48 hours and cappings should be rendered quickly or frozen. Para-moth can be used to repel SHB and wax moth for storage. Freezing frames also kills eggs on frames in storage.

Announcements

Carl Guerci announced that 35 beekeepers completed the AABA Short Course this year. Congratulations to the new beekeepers.

Lee Travis is offering a free workshop "Walk Away Splits" on April 28 starting at 11 AM for any beekeepers not familiar with this essential tool in hive management.

This event is weather dependent so call ahead: Lee and Gina 301-343-2265.

Jim Larson introduced mentoring volunteers by location so members could request a mentor convenient to them.

Treasurer's Report

AABA Treasurer, Dennis Roundy, gave the treasurer's report. He stated that AABA has 118 members and \$4053.02 in the checking account. This does not include dues received during today's meeting.

A membership form is available online at our website at aabees.org. The 2018 AABA dues are \$5. Mail completed and check to is AABA, 7665 Porcelain Tile Ct., Odenton, MD 21113.

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.

Door Prize Drawing

The door prize winner was selected from a hat of all people in attendance at the meeting. Congratulations to Brian Hagenbuch who won a screened bottom board.

Thanks to Dwight Fielder for organizing and bringing the prize.

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

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be June 12, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

One hour before the June Regular Meeting, the club will be open for new beekeepers to come and ask questions. Weather permitting, experienced beekeepers will open a hive(s) to show new beekeepers some basics about beekeeping.

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