

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
BROWARD BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**

**Held At Sawgrass Nature Center in Coral Springs
3000 Sportsplex Drive at 4PM – 4/14/2013**

Present at the Meeting:	President	- Dr. Leo Gosser
	Vice President	- John Herring
	Treasurer	- Marie Gosser
	Secretary (Temporary)	- Novelette Reid

Preceding the meeting today, at 3PM we were able to participate in a wood-work class.

- Dr. Leo Gosser demonstrated assembling frame and foundation, use of the compressor and staple gun.
- Also present was John Herring, Vice President – showed off a 12 frame box that he made.
- Dan was also present and he demonstrated the use of the bee observatory.
- Also present was South Florida Bee Supplies.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by the President, Dr. Gosser.

Anyone interested in becoming members were asked to see the Treasurer, Marie Gosser.

Treasury Report

Two (2) new members were welcomed and the Treasurer reported that BBA had in its account the sum of \$1,682.16.

John Herring reported they had a successful presentation with the Boys Scout and had a hive demonstration.

Dr. Gosser advised that anyone from the BBA can get involved in public speaking at one of our Presentations.

Guest Speaker

Gloria Balboa of South Florida Bee Supplies took the floor after being introduced by Dr. Gosser. Mrs. Balboa advised that she and her husband Jeorge have been in the business 3 years now. Her husband comes from a line of families involved in agriculture. They will be having the grand opening April 21, 2013 at 13275 SW 136 St. Bay 17 Miami, FL 33186. Her website is www.sflbeesupplies.com – Mon – Frid 8:30 – 5:30 pm, Sat 11:00 – 2:00pm, closed on Sundays. Mrs. Balboa handed out cards/flyers that contain the kinds of supplies they manufacture and have on hand and the cost for same. She mentions that they are contemplating delivery once business picks up depending on the radius.

Dr. Gosser asked if anyone wanted to volunteer on the nominating committee for the upcoming election – Daralyn Kustler volunteered.

Drawing

Four drawings were conducted and each person received supplies from South Florida Bee Supplies.

Second Guest Speaker

Another of our guest speaker arrived, Caroline Efstathion, an entomologist with UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), her partner Paul M. Bardunias and Dr. William (Bill) Kern

Ms. Efstathion gave a very educational talk on Africanized Bees (AFB) and handed out a PowerPoint outline. There seem to be another problem that has now developed throughout the neo-tropics. There is now a push-pull integrated pest management scheme for the protection of parrot nest cavities from invasive AF honey bees. She mentioned the parrots that are currently affected by bees, what is currently being done and issues that need to be considered. The flyer she handed out had all this information.

She stated some truths about the AFB:-

- Africanized honey bees (AHB) are the same species as European Honey bees (EHB);
- The sting of the AHB is not more dangerous or toxic than EHB; and
- You cannot tell an AHB from an EHB by looking at them.

She also discussed the differences between AHB and EHB:-

- AHB responds quicker and larger numbers when colony is threatened;
- AHB remains agitated longer than EHB;
- Perturbing an AHB colony results in 6-10 times more stings than EHB;
- Nests are dangerous if not removed;
- Improper removal is dangerous for neighbors and bystanders.

With regard to feral colonies Ms. Efstathion in mentioned that:-

AHB's increase number of feral honey bee colonies in area, they tolerate a wider range of sites, they swarm or abscond more often, which creates a greater need to control aggressive bees in "natural" and "urban" areas.

Dr. Bill Kern in answering a question from floor advised that AHB can produce enough honey to harvest if they are handled correctly. He also mentioned that the AHB have fewer problems with the varroa mites than EHB. It is thought that maybe the AHB have a shorter development time, thus the mites do not get enough time to develop. Cold does not kill the AHB but the length of the winter is what is a danger to the bees.

Paul Bardunias concluded by stating some of the measures they are implementing for the safety of birds, and eggs, bees and also humans and the environment. For the bees he mentioned permethrin which is a repellent that bees hate and swarm trapping programs.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05p.m.