

BBA meeting July 14, 2016

Dan will be turning tonight's meeting over to Harry

Dan talked about how BBA has grown and participation and volunteer rate has increased tenfold

96 new members on record 6/30/16

We have progressed so much thanks to especially these members without whom we would not be where we are today:

Harry

Dara

John Rochester

John and Patricia Coldwell

Gary H

Sara Babb

Steve Weinberg

Jim Yinger who has spent an inordinate amount of time at apiary helping

And especially in the heat with the foul brood quarantine

Apologies if I left anyone out.....

People like this make this association what it is

Harry will take over and guide you through the flea market tonight

Introductions--- how many hives you have and how long you have been doing it

41 attendees tonight

8 first time meeting attendees

Found out about the BBA via:

Website – the majority

Deerfield Observer

Earth Day

Charlie Oppenheim first meeting a new WANNABEE

Elections are coming up in September please let Dan and Harry know if you are interested in running for the Board.

Dues are \$30 a year lowered now from years before.

The FSBA supports us in our Talahassee representation so please support them and try to join them

Go to Bee College if you are a newBee . Bee College this year is in August on the dates of _12th &13th. The Bee College is typically about \$185 for two days.

Yolanda had an event called Bees Butterflies and Books at the Butler House in Deerfield and they raised \$33 in donations for the BBA.

Bees are the big thing right now. Politicians are seeing how important supporting bees is now.

Requests for Beekeepers has increased tenfold in the last several years.

The apiary for the BBA recently had a foul brood incident. Maintaining and managing your hive is important if you are going to put a hive out there. You need to inspect and actively participate in caring for your hives. Please manage it and clean up around your hive if you put a hive out there.

We had to destroy 15-20 hives from disease there so we have to manage them and we will not tolerate a lack of care. The sawgrass must be cut down out there.

Chole has asked about if anyone is selling bees. Harry informed everyone that Sam C. only sells queens. If you are in need of bees you should contact Harry and if there are rescued bees he will help you find someone who has a rescue that needs placement.

56 Calls were received by Harry for bee rescues in the month of June.

John R has bees in his boat that he has to rescue if someone needs them.

Harry had code enforcement come to his house. Asked if he was registered with state. When he said yes and showed her, she said thank you and that was the end of the inquiry. But he asked her why she came to his house. Someone reported bees swarming around his house.

So for \$10 get on line and get registered.

Local municipalities no longer have authority over the law of the state. Only HOA can override the state. The size of your property DOES determine how many hives you may have. You are restricted to a number by land size. You must have a water source and distance from your property line and a barrier. Common sense things.

Caitlin Gill and Roger are our state inspectors who are friendly and there to help you.

When you are a registered beekeeper you are actually a livestock owner and protected under the nuisance law that protects you. The state of FL will protect you against nuisance lawsuits.

Caitlin will work with you to tell you how to manage your hives if you are not aware or sure of what to do.

Brandi: rescue story: "The coolest one was the one I did with Leo in a strangler fig that went into the trunk of the tree. The bees were pretty nasty which is why they aren't there anymore. They have to be re-queened when the bees are aggressive. Within 3 weeks the new bees hatching will have the personality of the new queen. Takes 4-6 weeks for 60-70K bees to turn over."

John has a nasty hive at the apiary that needs to be re-queened and everyone knows his infamous bees.

Coldwell has 27 hives on his roof. The coolest one was one that John R helped him with in a guy's soffit. The guy was a hoarder and the bees were coming out from every which way of his roof. The sound of the bees in his roof was like a tornado. The size of the hive in the roof was SCARY!! 7.5 feet long and 8 frames of comb deep and it took 2 days to move them out and do it from the inside of the house. A 97 year old retired air force mechanic. Probably got 4 hives out of the

house. Coldwell is finding a lot of open hives and low lying bee hives. like shed floors. Coldwell suggests just putting a swarm hive up and bait them with lemon grass and pheromones from Dadant or brushy mountain. Coldwell talked about sugar water fermenting in 3-4 days and not to use that.

Harry says the number of calls in June and the honey flow is 3 months late this year. There was honey in the hives in December but in Feb and March the bees had consumed all the honey. The flowering was later this year, too.

Coldwell said that feral swarms are free but you should collect a swarm with an experienced bee person. Even if the bees are nice, you have to re-queen. Sierra in Boca has the nicest queens. Strong building bees and she takes the extra step. They are raised from good stock. Al from Palm Beach Club she and Al are partners. You need a lot of bees to raise queens though.

Al has a story: bees in a tree. Their friend just got a new camera taking photos with his macro lens and came in and showed them the photos and al said it wasn't his hive, the friend said it was from their pergola and then Al found it!

Joyce: Comcast removal and she showed up and the guy answered the door and the guy was really mean. He cursed out his wife and said he wanted the bees. Joyce said he could have the bees. The wife pulls into the drive and got out and said Oh Yeah! The bees are gone! Joyce looked at him and said call me if you need me to come back. He hasn't called back!

You do need to tell your lawn service what to do and to avoid your hives. Bees don't like lawnmowers. You can smoke the bees before the service runs the mower. If the bees don't like the mower they will let you know. Don't run the lawnmower with the exhaust facing the hive Leo said! Also so that the grass doesn't shoot out towards the hive.

John R's neighbors thought they were doing hazmat removal in their suits!

Harry had a story about a call from someone who said they had allergic kids who would die if they were stung but didn't want to pay to have the bees removed! They finally agreed to pay someone to remove them

Sally says she is having trouble with the curly tail lizards. Coldwell said to get rid of the landing pad in the front and the lizards shouldn't be a problem.

Buffo frogs can destroy a hive by eating all the bees in a few days. The Buffos are poisonous though to handle.

For red ants, diatomaceous earth and cinnamon seemed to work. Tar paper then cinder blocks on top of the tar paper can keep pests down.

Leo did a removal today. Often things go wrong but today nothing went wrong. The fellow had two big swarms in his mango tree. Leo climbed his ladder and knocked the bees into buckets and dropped the bees into the hive boxes and sat with the fellow for a half hour and every single bee from that tree were in those boxes after a half hour! That is the way it is supposed to go.

If anyone wants a set of scrubs with bees on them, call Dara.

John R's wife said she wants to start a petition to WLRN to alert them to their sponsor who is exterminating bees and to request that they be aware of this activity.

Ivan had a good rescue with _??_ this past week.

Harry asks that anyone who needs bees should just call him. All the stuff is for sale on the tables. Talk to the owners. Thank you for coming. The meeting is ended for this month.