

Broward Beekeepers
Meeting SEPTEMBER 13, 2015
Sawgrass Nature Center, Coral Springs, FL

Leo spoke: the State Florida Beekeepers Association is losing its web-presence and will change the page. They will have a different web site.

The State Bee Lab was not approved in the Governor's budget.
Prof. Ellis and UF are looking for private funding.

THE APIARY NEEDS MAINTENANCE. Anyone who is willing to help, please call Dan Novak, President BBA.

We need volunteers for Water Matters Day in March 2016. General beekeeping information volunteers to man the booth.

NEW FACILITY MEETING LOCATION IN THE WORKS!!
Meeting location and times being discussed for Coconut Creek location at their Community Center.
Need suggestions for topics for meetings from our membership, please.

Dan asks for suggestions for meetings to be dropped off at meetings or by email.

Intros around the room:

Michigan guy no hives yet, hoping soon

Sam Comfort here today! 800 hives!! And raising queens

Kristi- no hives but wants soon- Deerfield

Shawn Lake likes to remove bees

Terrance Young SW Ranches- new member

Jose -new member- wants to have hives soon in Coral Springs

Charlie- wanna bee- new member:

Patricia P. New VISITOR first time at a BBA meeting, no hives but would like one
Dan Lewis not keen on 6 p.m. meeting because of rush hour

Roger here today!!

George Ramos- Miramar- new beekeeper

Ivan has a Smurf with bees in it from someone's carousel from Germany. The woman kept trying to rid the Smurf of bees but they keep coming back so she asked him to take the big plastic Smurf and all the bees. He now has the Smurf in his backyard.

Ivan, needs everyone to please write clearly your email and info correctly spelled and legible penmanship on the check in sheet so he can get it into the database properly. Checks will go back to members who overpaid amounts for membership this year before we lowered the dues. Claim your checks or we will mail to you.

Weekend of Bee College story - Dan's story

Sat morning of bee college he was going to go but before leaving he went to his yard and found huge pile of dead bees in front of each entrance 14" and 2-3" deep of dead bees . He lost 6 hives. No sign of anything suspicious or vandalism. Hives must have gotten sprayed by someone in neighborhood or the county or the city. Had to be a chemical attack of some kind.

He called all the city officials and authorities and mosquito control people etc. and no one admitted to anything. He found that Coral Springs keeps no records of anything they spray.

He realizes he should have gotten a police report. Tampering would be a felony. He lost all his equipment. \$1,200-1,500 in equipment.

County truck came down his street last week fogging for mosquitoes.

He suggests to call the county and report your registration and put you on a no spray area.

Toxicology reports would be too late. It was a weekend. Tests have to be done immediately. Even then the results are not always conclusive or clear.

Dan is calling Coconut Creek to make sure we have notice about the apiary.

Member: Even if they know you are a beekeeper, they will only not spray for your address but not neighbors. The county won't share any info about mosquito spraying from planes anyway it is all kept secret.

They consider beekeepers a nuisance.

GADGET DAY:

John Rochester:

1. Long box hive. Hives on each end and honey super in the middle he has made. Divider boards and sectioned top covers to just selectively open the cover in different areas. Both hives at either end can feed the honey super in the middle.
2. Bee vacuum bucket honey gauge for adjusting the vacuum pressure. The tops have many punctured holes for air.
3. Hive net for rescues and moving hives.
4. An entrance screening Dan made with him.

Member: Alan

Vacuum did not work on a rescue so he looked on line and found a Utube on how to build a vac. 2 buckets. Bucket head vacuum. \$20 for the vac. Drill three holes in the other bucket. Vac going in. tubing going out. Another 3rd hole to regulate

suction by putting his hand over it. Cost less than \$30 and it works. Pool supply company sells tubing by the foot. Bucket handles are great for hanging. Ribbing in vac hurt them? Put bubble wrap on the bottom of the bucket and the bees get a bounce house when they land. Get a top with a gasket for the screened top. Owl box Removal- Seems simple but "Nothing ever goes right" story. Rusted nails holding pole up. Try to get it down. Stripped screws. Bees going crazy from shaking trying to remove the box from the pole.

Took top of vac off and sprayed with sugar water. Replaced top with screened top of another lid.

Dan Pres.: Swarm bucket

1. screw on lid.
2. Inverted screen funnels on the side
3. Bees that are flying around will come to bucket and climb in through the funnel and it is a one way in and no way out funnel has a pencil sized hole on the inside that they get in through.
4. Once bees are in, cover hole with cotton ball/tissue
5. Someone in Ukraine makes them. You can buy on line. Ebay. BEE ESCAPE CONE on EBAY – Joyce .
6. MAKE SURE YOU DON'T PUT THE SCREEN IN WHERE YOUR HANDLE FALLS ON THE BUCKET.

TOP BAR HIVE Frame bars.

1. bamboo skewers for the bars to give support . 1/8 inch holes about four skewers to a bar.
2. Rescues . the more you handle and move them, the more they get mad and the more they die.
3. If you need bees in FL just build a top bar and put it out there for them to come to it. Feed with a bit of sugar water and they will come.
4. Built a 10 deep hive w frames. He gets the bees in and has a hole on top for a vacuum hose to go in. Screen under the top cover. Puts a super on top. And the bees down below will move into the box above.
5. Capped brood and larvae are very sensitive. If you are fortunate to get good comb you have to do it quickly.
6. Rescued hives have a lot of junk in them. Moths, beetles, etc. If you put them into frames and the hive is weak they will go downhill quickly.

SAM COMFORT:

Don't buy anything. The bees just come down here in FL.

I love gadgets. Modified Warre style is Sams.

I changed the dimensions and style

6" deep.

Barbeque skewers

No need for saws.

Queen raising in Comfort hives

Raises queens from the hives in your backyard

Grafting frames, grafting cups, grafting tool with push button

Queen mandibular pheromone impregnated plastic cups.
10 days after graft you must put into a nuc.
Day 11 they start to emerge! 92.6 temp is perfect
Early emerging queens can't get out and kill the others with his equipment
REFLECTEX is GREAT! Making a funnel, catching a swarm
Queen excluder bucket he made.
Bee vacuum. Sears dust-buster w basket. Bees to through tube and go into paint
strainer bag for easy landing. Cordless vac.
Cedar is good.
Propolis coated wood you can flip the wood inside out and the propolis coating
will protect from elements. Not painted!!!!
BEETHINKING.com makes all boxes out of cedar moths don't like it.
Cypress, pine is cheaper.

LEO:

Voting signs plastic corrugated for beetle traps. Cut pieces and put in your hive
boxes.

Member Shawn:

Frame holder- Buy 2 "L" brackets from Home depot and with keyhole slots that let
you lift them off the hive. Set the screws apart wide enough so the bracket will
hold your frames.

BEE COLLEGE:

New member attended BC:

Jamie Ellis was very helpful for him as a beginner. He learned a lot about pests.

Another experienced member:

Didn't learn much from the hands on part. The hands-on part is good for those
who have less than 6 months of experience.

THE CLUB ASPECT OF BEEKEEPING IS VITAL TO LEARNING ABOUT BEES!

Sharing and learning from one another in action.

Harry – "bee goblins" hive tools keep disappearing on him.....then re-
appearing!

Scorching hives: Sam : get the wax off. Melt it . Scorch every surface. Light brown
like toast.

Swarm traps and pheromone lures: Joyce wants to know what attracts them ?
Propolis, and 2 chemicals they mimic – citrol and rose oil. QMP queen mandibular
pheromone is often what is impregnated into the queen cages and wax or other
lure products sold.

Bees tend to swarm into shade and 10-15 feet off the ground.

New member: Dog and bees she got at the same time a few years ago. Dog got
stung and she is afraid that the dog might get stung again. Dog seems allergic.
Any advice?

Roger: usually the dog will learn after being stung once.

New member asked- Smoke to calm the bees? Liquid smoke to cook with?
Joyce: Some beekeepers rub this on their hands before handling the bees.

Member Jeff: He took Leo's course and felt it was excellent for anyone wanting to learn about bee rescues for a sideline. He learned a lot.

Dara Member:

Harry Pellish:

Phone calls for this month:

Averaging more when NOT raining.

August 39 calls, 30 bee removals. 5-10 not wanting to pay for it. Slowest month in 6 months since he took over.

This month will be calling every rescuer for info.

We planned to do a rotating list but some people won't do certain areas or certain types of rescues.

Geographically, then experience, and then rotation on the list.

TIME SENSITIVE!! call right away!!!!

Our name is getting out there as BEE RESCUE. We are getting presence via referrals.

City of Ft. Lauderdale is working with us.

Southwest Ranches parks and recreation Flea market and auto show wants BBA to be there and let SW ranches residents know about beekeeping.

Sun Sentinel has our BBA meeting in their bulletin board in the newspaper.