



\*CCBA Meeting Minutes May 11, 2026

Present 56, Zoom 2, Mentor Mtg 19

\* Numbers of Executive Steering Committee

\*Dave Sieruta **PRES:** Apiary, Education/Speakers 904-282-2193, dtussie@aol.com

\*Barbara Perkins **VICE PRES:** (904) 437-9712, bperkins123@gmail.com

\*Sue Gianino **SEC:** 904-276-5921, s gianino9951@gmail.com

\*Ray Vickerman **TREAS & MENTOR Trainer:** 904-284-5317, svickerman4080@gmail.com

\*Susan Welch, **MEMBERSHIP Coordinator & DUES Collector, 4H Club** 727-204-6626.  
swelch5210@gmail.com

\*Cassidy Dossin **AG Rep:** 904-284-6300, cdossin@ufl.edu

\*Frank Gianino **WEB site Claybees.com:** 904-276-5921, fwgianino@bellsouth.net

\*Christine Nicolodi/ Gary Van Barringer: **Refreshment Coordinators.**

**DATES to KNOW: BUSY MONTH UPCOMING**

-- Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr\*: (pay Sue Welch). 2026 DUES OCT – APR. Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail, can use VENMO or Credit/Debit card.

**BUSY TIME OF YEAR:**

-- MAY 3, Orange Park Farmers Market 10-3

**MAY 30-31 American Farm Stead Convention 8-4 PM at Cattleman's Arena, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for honey sales and Bee talk**

**JUN 6, Master Gardeners Plant Sale 7-12 at Extension Office**

JUN 7, Orange Park Mkt 10-3 Last market till Sept

JUN 8, CCBA Business Mtg 7PM **SEMIANNUAL Fried Chicken POTLUCK DINNER**, bring your salads, veggie, desserts.

JUN 13, CCBA Mentor **Mtg 9-11**

JULY 11, JUL Mentor Mtg **9-11**

JUL 13, CCBA Meeting 7PM

AUG 8, CCBA Mentor Mtg **9-11**

AUG 10, CCBA Meeting 7PM

SEP 6, Prange park Mkt Resumes 9-3PM

SEP 12, CCBA Mentor **9-11**

SEP 14 CCBA Meeting 7PM

**SEP 26, Beginner Bee Class 8-3P Volunteers requested**

OCT 4, Orange Park Mkt 9-3

OCT 10, CCBA **Mentor Mtg 10-12**

OCT 12, CCBA Meeting 7PM

**OCT 17-18 Orange Park Fall Festival 10-5 Volunteers Needed**

NOV 1, Orange Park Mkt, 10-3

NOV 9, CCBA Meeting 7PM

NOV 14, CCBA Mentor Mtg **10-12**

**Old Business:** -- Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 available at check-in. Our logo embroidered on your Polo shirt \$13 Price increase (see Sue G. or Stich by Stich in the Orange Park Mall). John Boeckstiegel has ash & yellow color Golf-shirts with silk screen logo: S-LG \$14, XL \$16, XXXL \$18 and Tee shirts S-L \$9, XL \$11, XXL \$14.

-- **Mentors** are available, call Ray Vickerman & Dave Sieruta. (19) Mentors currently: Libby & Mike McCalley (Orange Park & Fleming Island), Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Joe Dobransky (Orange Park), Ray Vickerman, Lani Rouw, Susan & Bob Welch (Green Cove Springs), Ken Harp & Barbara Perkins (Key Stone), Jurgen & Sylvia May (Polk City), Rick & Dorie Kline (Middleburg), Eric Bush & Mike Saftner (Middleburg), Larry & Phillis Gillis (Middleburg).

--Swarm collection; let Frank Gianino know to put your name and phone number on the Website.

Please check the Web site for Swarm Collection and Cut Out folks.

-- HONEY FOR SALE: let Frank know if you have honey for sale and he will put it on our web site also our FB page will work..

\*\*\*\*\*Beekeepers MUST Register your hives with Mosquito Control Board (904) 284-6357, Check out Clay County Mosquito Control OR Call Lita Hornsby Manager to give her your location and your hives location. \*\*Frank has posted the Mosquito Control and Beekeepers info on the Web site. \*\*Records are incomplete after computer failure in 2022. \*\*\*\*\*Please Re Register.

**\*\* We have a new Clay County Bee inspector; Brittney Robenson\*\***

-- 7:10 Dave opened the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed 1 New Member, 3 Guests tonight.

--7:10 Secretary "E" minutes approved

-- Treasurer Report: \$28,146.89 accepted

--Our NUC sale will be WED 5/13 at the Apiary for \$80, weather permitting.

-- President Report:

June Dinner: \$1500 from our Raffle will provide a free raffle ticket to all attending mbrs.

Keeping Checking for SHB and Mites and treat. In this heat SHB Larva will develop quickly.

Get your Swarm Traps out.

Feed your hives as needed, do your splits and swarms with Sugar Water 1:1.

-- Apiary Report: 4 Langstroth, 16 NUCS with Castles, one top Bar hive not populated.

-- What's Blooming: Formosa, Spanish Thistle, Dandelion, Chaste Trees, Ligustrum, Elderberry and Palmettos.

-- Mentor Report. 19 members present, splits done and Mites treated with Powder Sugar.

-- Membership Coord: Susan Reports thank you to all paid members. **DUES ARE DUE NOW**

-- American Farmstead Convention MAY 30/31 8:30-5PM

-- North American Honeybee Convention JAN 7-9 in KY, Early registration \$190.

7:40 Dave was our speaker tonight and ran the videos from UF on Hive Inspections. Sheet is on our Web Page Library **SEE Claybee.com Library for videos**. Understanding and Managing a Dearth

--When a Dearth occurs pollen and nectar are unavailable to sustain the hive.

--3 times a year it is expected Summer JUL-SEP, Winter NOV-JAN, Drought Induced

--Signs are: Hive is irritable/defensive, hive weight is less/light, robbing happens.

-- Foraging is reduced and less pollen is brought into the hive.

--Inside the hive less comb and less brood.

--HOW TO HELP; Have water nearby, reduce inspections, Feed 1:1 sugar water.

-- don't leave honey, pollen, hive tools out as it encourages robbing. PLANT Bee Friendly plants/flowers, maintain strong colonies and keep records.

QUESTIONS: After the Dearth stop feeding your bees and replace the sugar water with water only.

--for ants there is Ortho "granulated ant poison" or "Advanced Carpenter ant" bait.

--recommend that in the Fall leave the bees any honey in the super to over winter.

Dave also has a sign-up list for our NUCs at \$80 for 5 frames.

8:15 OLD Business: No NEW Business

8:15 Raffle

8:30 Adjourned; Mentors available for questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary