



## CCBA Meeting Minutes MAY14, 2018

\*. Numbers of Executive Steering Committee: Dave Sieruta **PRES** : 904-282-2193, Dori Kline **V-Pres**: 904-616-2723, Sue Gianino **SEC**: 904-276-5921, Ray Vickerman **TREAS and MENTOR Trainer/Coordinator**: 904-284-5317, Luke Harlow **AG Rep**: 904-284-6355. Ralph White: **Organizer Face Book: Clay County Beekeepers Association and 4-H Club**, 904-514-9927 and, Frank Gianino, **WEB Organizer**: <http://claybees.com>, 904-276-5921. \*\*Dave Sieruta: **Education/Speakers** Phone 904-282-2193

### **DATES to KNOW:**

-- JUN 3, Orange Park Farmers Mkt 10-3PM

--JUN 9, Mentor Meeting 10AM

--JUN 11, Business Meeting 7PM

--**MAY 19**, Jacksonville Bees Club is offering a Beginner Beekeepers Course and an Intermediate Bee Course \$15 with picnic: [JAXBEEES.com](http://JAXBEEES.com)

**Old Business**: Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15, our logo on your shirt \$10. See Ray for caps and Sue for Shirts.

-- Mentor List is available for anyone to Mentor and members requesting a Mentor, call Ray Vickerman 904-284-5317, Ralph 352-514-9927 or Dave Sieruta 904-282-2193.

-- **NOTE**: If you wish to join FL State Beekeepers and donate toward the building the new Honey Bee Lab in Gainesville, FL: [www/UF Honeybee.com](http://www/UF Honeybee.com) or [Beekeeper Lab.org](http://Beekeeper Lab.org).

\*\*Fran Fowler is collecting Pop tops from cans to go to Canines for Vets program

\*\* Bill Elrod has an electric Extractor for \$700 call Dave Sieruta

7:04 PM Meeting Opened by Dave Sieruta. Welcomed new members and visitors.

Welcome Steve Dubois, Jax Bees President.

7:20 President report: Check for swarm cells and signs of a swarm in your hives and for Hive Beetles. This is a great time for splits and get your supers on now to gather your honey. The CCBA has a Honey Extractor for loan, call Dave.

--Secretary: Minutes accepted as sent. Read a "Thank You" letter from Cameron Jack, UF Graduate Assistant for another donation towards his research on Oxalic acid.

--Treasurer: Ray reported: the CCBA has \$9093.52 ; \$1084 obtained from Clay County Fair raffle,\$6000 from honey sales.

-- Apiary Report: 2 NUCS with castles and 6 full hives. The Ag Center Hive has the Australian Flow Super on now and active bees in the super.

-- Mentor program, Ray reported there are 5-6 Mentors and each Mentor has 2-3 Mentees assignees. Call Dave or Ray if you signed up for the Mentor Program and to start your NUC for \$55/ Call Ray to for the Mentor program.

7:23 Apiary Report: Dave reported 1hive CCBA, 3 NUCS, 2 with Supers on 3 hives. Dave noted that Huey went to Gainesville and is now an Advanced Beekeeper. Rob Horsburg is now an Advanced Master Beekeeper.

7:30 Leslie Howard from the new Mosquito Board contractor, [jessie@mosquitocs.com](mailto:jessie@mosquitocs.com). Her handout will be posted on Face Book and on the Web site [Claybees.com](http://Claybees.com). She passed a list out for all beekeepers as her board is informed and asked all to check for their name and correct the information if needed. Clay County is the first in Florida to be served by this new group, they have a list of 79 hives now in Clay. Inspectors must know the exact location of your hives to be successful so be sure your hives are registered with Clay County. They have 2 full time inspectors with the Forestry division with 8 CDC traps. Pest captures are sent and diagnosed in a Lab in LA. Note: Beekeepers if your hives are registered the sprayers and inspectors are notified by GPS when they are close to your hives. The spray is spread 150 feet with a 300 ft drift and they will stop within 400 feet of your hives. They use a Larvaside (BTI) that is ingested by the Larva and not harmful to adult insects. Methaprime affects the pupae. They have done chemical resistance testing as needed. Questions can be sent to [www.southeastmosquitocontrol.com](http://www.southeastmosquitocontrol.com) or #904-284-6357.

-- 7:50 Al Salopek, President of the Florida Backyard Beekeepers Association (FBBA) with Sierra Malnove as Secretary. He spoke on how Backyard beekeepers are different from commercial beekeepers. He has been in beekeeping for 15 years and began a Non-Profit organization for the health of the bees. He noted that over the last 50 years Beekeeping and Honeybees have dropped 50%. "Bee Understanding" is his course to bring information of the honeybees into schools. He was the President and Vice-President of the Palm Beach Beekeepers Assoc. from 2012-2014. The FBBA uses paying it forward to help people get into beekeeping, they have given over 700 hives to owners who intern do splits and give one hive to another potential beekeeper, They have also donated to Beekeeping associations who in turn use those hives as splits for new beekeepers. Political issues have developed between commercial beekeepers and backyard small beekeepers that Al has taken to the state for resolutions. This is what began the Cottage Industry for FL allowing Backyard Beekeepers (BB) to legally pour and sell their honey without the need of a commercial kitchens. Now BB can sell up to \$50,000 without being considered Commercial. He is a big proponent of the Gainesville Bee Lab and is leaving our meeting to go and see the Lab and Dr Ellis.

--He found that 1 box of bees with one super fills quickly. One side of foundation holds approx 1500 cells that a good queen can fill in a day. So in 20 days the brood chamber is full and there is no room for the queen to lay causing swarm conditions in the hive. 20 days is not enough time for the brood to hatch and leave cells for the queen to use. He recommends 2 brood boxes equaling 30-40 thousand bees so if the queen swarms she will leave an adequate number of workers behind to keep the hive functioning just fine.

--Al likes to crush and strain his honey which gives the builder bees more to clean to reuse the super frames. He also rotates the comb and old brown or black comb he will use that only in swarm boxes; it is of no use to the bees. Comb is used in the hive to absorb toxins and foundation for eggs and honey. As you remove old comb it refreshes the hive. He suggests painting the area that comb is removed with wax, bees will sometimes avoid they area.

--BB augments bee organizations in FL either with hives to start apiaries, equipment, they help clubs get started or they pair with FL associations and help them expand. They work with the state to help promote safety and keep beekeeping under the Right to Farm Act. They also work with the state to form a Queen Program to replenish queens and encourage queen breeders.

--You can join FBBA monthly but the better deal is \$99.95 for a lifetime they are 300 mbrs.

--Al uses Chinch bug granules under his hives to control the hive beetle from pupating in the ground and reentering the hive. It works for 3 months.

--Hint: double wax your foundations to get bees going quickly, DO NOT put frames in your swarm traps (bees measure the dead space and frames block that), use old wax/brown comb for bates with 2 drops lemon grass oil and swarm oil. He puts the swarms' queen in a queen cage with blue painters tape over the opening (he was always missing candy plugs and tape was easy to keep in his truck), then attaches the queen cage on a frame with new eggs/open larva to keep the nurse bees busy and prevent swarming. It takes 2-3 days for the bees to release the queen. DO NOT USE wax from the swarm hive, this will leave any mites in the comb in the old hive!

**NEW Business:**

8:50 8:30 Raffle held

9:00 Meeting Adjourned and Ray V. will stay for 15 min to discuss any bee issues.

Submitted for approval,

Sue Gianino,

Secretary

*Honey bees, otherwise known as the Angels of Agriculture, are the strongest link in the chain between food producers*