



CCBA Meeting Minutes FEB 13, 2023

Present 50, Mentor Meeting 20, Zoom 4

*** Numbers of Executive Steering Committee:**

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

*Dorie Kline **V-Pres & Face Book Organizer: Clay County Beekeepers Association** 904-616-2723.
rickdori@aol.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.**

ZOOM meeting is functioning. Router at the AG Center still not functioning.

DATES to KNOW:

-- Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr*: (pay Sue Welch). **2023 DUES** OCT – APR. Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail.

-- FEB 18, JAX Bee Association Beginner Bee Course contact john Boeckstiegel 904-673-8480

-- **FEB 25 Beginner** Bee Class, **Volunteers nice to have**, come at 7:45

-- MAR 3-4 Bee Fest 2023 at Altmiller Farm 23523 N. County Rd 125, Sanderson FL 32087: PLEASE call so they can manage food for a FREE fun weekend for drive in or camping. Jim 904-304-5800, Judy 904-318-5749

-- MAR 5, Orange Park Mkt 10-3PM

-- MAR 11 CCBA Mentor Meeting 10-12PM

-- MAR 13 CCBA Membership Meeting 7-9PM, David Sieruta Speaker on NUCS and Packages

-- **MAR 14** Clay County Fair Honey House Cleaning for the CCF 1000 **Volunteers needed**

-- **MAR 17-18**, UF Bee College Gainesville, FL 8 am

-- **MAR 21** CCF Luncheon for Volunteers 12 at the Fairgrounds **Let Susan W. know if you want to fo.**

-- **MAR 25**, Honey Bottling for the CCF Honey House, 10-12 at the Ag Extension Classroom

VOLUNTEERS needed

-- **MAR 30- APR 9**, CLAY COUNTY FAIR, Honey House times vary, TBA/ **VOLENTEERS needed**

Old Business: -- Our CCBA Association Caps are \$15 available at check in. Our logo embroidered on your Polo shirt \$10 (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 \$11, XL \$16, XXXL \$18 and Tee shirts S-L \$9, XL \$12, XXL \$14.

-- Mentors are available, call Ray Vickerman or Dave Sieruta. Mentors currently are Huey Forquet (Orange Park and Baker County), Rick and Dorie Kline (Middleburg), Libby and Mike McCalley (Orange Park and Fleming Island), John Riley & Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Ray Vickerman (Green Cove Springs) Bob McKenney (Orange Park), Joe Geisel (ST Augustine) and Ken Harp (Keystone Heights), Barbara Perkins (Melrose).

--Swarm collection; let Frank Gianino know to put your name and phone on the Website. Please check the Web site for Swarm Collection and Cut Out folks.

*****Beekeepers MUST Re-Register your hives with Mosquito Control Board (904) 284-6957, 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 2022k. *****

--7:05 Dave opened the meeting and present a plaque to Rob Horshburgh for all his help over the years. He welcomed 1 Visitor, Gary from Maryland, New member Mike Leach from Bee Farms SE FL he offers NUCS in mid-March. We have the Presidents from JAX Bees, John Boeckstiegel, Erin Schelton, Nassau Bees, and Ana Atkins, Putnam Bees. Special Guest Rob Horshburgh our state bee Inspector.

7:09 Secretary Minutes for JAN were approved as emailed

Treasurer Report submitted by Dave \$17,829.00

--The Executive Committee met WED 1/4/23 and voted that with our increasing members and moneys we can now send 4 people to the Bee College this year vs 2. We will draw the last 2 names at this meeting. And to send up to4 members to the Beginner Bee Class using the Alvin Moore ED Funds vs 4. The Raffle tonight we will draw the last 3 of the names.

--7:10

-- President Report: Thank Debra Perkins and Christine Nicolodi for their help at the Gold Head state Park, Yesterday's Festival. We gave CCF Honey for their raffle and promised to come again next yr.

--Emails were sent out to the volunteers for the "Kids and Bees" was sent out to volunteers who assisted with the confusing event. Hopefully, anyone charged for parking you will be reimbursed. Conference and Trade show issues were addressed this with Sara Reid Laird and AFB.

-- Hive Management: Continue to monitor for SHB and Mites. Do your Mite treatments now. NY State has approved the Extended Oxalic Acid Strips with Honey supers. Brood is building up, peaches, blueberries and oranges have started blooming. Drones are building up. Swarms are starting.

-- With the cold weather the hives are low on honey be sure to feed your hives 1:1 sugar water that will help generate heat and feed the bees.

-- Jan and Feb are the best times to repair and repaint your hives because you may be doing splits in Feb and the busy time of the year is upon us.

--Apiary Report: 1 Langstroth hive, 8 NUCS. Top Bar hive is empty. Rob H. noted that loosing 50% of your hives over winter is not uncommon.

-- Mentor Report: Ray was not present, he had surgery a Get Well card passed around for him.

--Membership Chair: membership is looking good, thanks to all who have updated their dues. Please let Sue W. know if you are going to work at the CC Fair this year and what days, we need volunteers for the CCF and Honey House Cleaning and Honey Bottling. Please email or call to let Sue W. know if you would like to attend the Luncheon.

7:25 Speaker, Ric k Kline presented how to manage Splits and Swarms.

Swarms are Natures way of conducting Splits for a Hive outgrowing their home, reducing Mites, the Queen is not producing . Beekeepers do Splits to expand his hives and help reduce crowding of the hives. He noted that pollen and nectar are becoming abundant. Bees are expanding with Drone Cells. Not Queen cells as yet. Bees produce Queen cells after Drone Cells to ensure the Queens will have Drones to mate with. Queen Cells will be on the bottom of the frames in a normal split and in the center of the frames if the queen has been lost or damaged.

A Walk Away Split is when you have 2 stacked Brood boxes and split them to make 2 hives. They both must have eggs, brood and Larva to ensure the one box without the Queen will be able to make one and can sustain themselves. For a new Queen the hive will take 62-72 days to come up to full functioning hive.

When to split is when the hive becomes too full, there is no room for the Queen to Lay eggs. If the bees sense this they will make swarm cells and the hive will split. Split the hive before she emerges from her cell along with brood, honey, pollen, and nurse bees. If the old hive has more queen cells still there you may need to split again or remove those cells or they hive will swarm.

8:05 OLD BUSINESS:

-- No Old Business.

8:15 NEW BUSINESS:

--Dave noted that the Apiary at the next Mentor Meeting will be doing splits.

--There was a motion on the floor to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at our meetings. VOTED: APPROVED. Dave asked all to stand and recite the Pledge.

-- Dave mentioned that coupons for the American Bee Journal are on the table for all.

8:12 Raffle: All Winners of Bee College; Huey Fourquet and John Boeckstiegel, Rod Snow and Sharon Robinson. All Winer of the Beginner Bee was Erick Bush, Douglas Walker and Jennifer Clark
One ticket not claimed.

8:55 Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary