



CCBA Meeting Minutes MAR 13, 2023

Present 52, Mentor Meeting 30, Zoom 3

*** 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.

-- **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, 9-12 at the Ag Extension Classroom

VOLUNTEERS needed

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

-- APR 2 Orange Park Mkt 10-3

-- APR 10 CCBA Meeting 7 PM it will be a Q&A session

-- APR 15 CCBA Mentor Meeting 10 AM

-- SEP 16 NE FL Honeybee Symposium 8AM

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 with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed Visitors, and New members

7:09 Secretary Minutes for FEB were approved as emailed

Treasurer Report submitted by Dave \$17,563.09 after Honey purchase for the Clay County Fair

--President's Report: MAR 14 Honey House Cleaning at 10AM, MAR 25 will be Honey Bottling at 9AM

-- Hive Management: Continue to monitor for SHB and Mites. Do your Mite treatments now.

--Don't forget to feed your colonies. And prepare to make your slits to avoid swarming if you have queen cells present. Bees are Swarming so put out your Swarm Traps now.

--Apiary Report: Saturday we did 8 splits, we have 1 full Langstroth Hive and 16 NUCS with 11 Castles and our Top Bar has no bees at present.

--What's Blooming: all citrus, Bottle Brush Pear and BlackBerry.

-- Mentor Report: Ray is our Mentor Coordinator please see him if you would like a mentor

--Membership Chair: 165 Paid now and 6-8 joined tonight!.

7:25 Speaker Dave Sieruta presented starting a new hive by installing package bees, collecting a Swarm or obtaining a NUC.

--In the Fall—set up a site and order Bes and NUCS

--Spring Install packages or NUC or catch a Swarm

--For Packages: remove the lid and remove the can of feed and Queen Cage, to help spray with sugar water to calm down the bees. Knock down the bees into the box, remove 3-5 frames in your hive and shake the bees into the hive and spray them again. An old wax frame assists in keeping them in the hive. Then put your frames back into the hive and install your queen cage with candy end facing up between 2 frames and wait 2-3 days for the bees to release the queen. If they do not

release her you can punch the candy plug in and let her out. The wait a day or two let the bees settle in and work with their new queen.

--Advantage of the NUC is the Queen and the hive are one colony, already making bees and storing honey and pollen. It costs more money but it is established.

--After establishing the NUC or the hive do not disturb for 10-14 days to establish themselves. Watch the entrance to see if nectar and pollen are being brought in and know the queen is working.—Swarm Traps are on line for directions to make them and use old NUCs with old wax, lemon grass or swarm commander. It can be set up anywhere and make it easy to remove, eye level or on a base.

After you get your swarm check it every few days to ensure it is established and is ready to move into your hive. Then FEED your NUC.

--QUESTIONS: Height of the swarm box can be in a tree, on a stand etc as long as it faces South or Southeast, the sun reduces SHB.

--To remove the swarm into your hive, plug the entrance after dark and move it to the NUC or hive.

--Castle is a NUC super.

--After 5 years old wax frames are spent.

8:05 OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

-- No Old Business.

8:20 Raffle:

8:35 Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary