



CCBA Meeting Minutes NOV 11 ,2024

Present 36, Zoom 1, Mentor Mtg 15

*** Numbers of Executive Steering Committee**

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

*Ken Harp **VICE PRES:** (904) 703-5317, radarharp@mail.com

*Sue Gianino **SEC:** 904-276-5921, sgianino9951@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:

-- Annual Dues \$15 per voting mbr*: (pay Sue Welch). **2025 DUES** OCT – APR. Renewal sheet on Website to send by mail.

-- DEC 1, Orange Park Mkt 10-3

-- DEC 9, CCBA Election & Dinner 7PM bring deserts, side dishes, salads (CCBA supplies meats)

Ken Harp cannot continue as VP, anyone who wishes to get on the ballot pls let Sue G. know.

-- DEC 14, CCBA Mentor Meeting 10AM

--JAN 5, Orange Park Mkt 10-3

--JAN 11, CCBA Mentor Meeting 10 AM

--JAN 13, CBA Monthly Meeting 7PM

--JAN 25, **Gold Head Park, Old Florida Festival...VOLUNTEERS needed.**

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 \$11, XL \$16, XXXL \$18 and Tee shirts S-L \$9, XL \$12, XXL \$14.

-- Mentors are available, call Ray Vickerman & Dave Sieruta. (19) Mentors currently: Huey Fourquet (Orange Park & Baker County), Libby & Mike McCalley (Orange Park & Fleming Island), Dave Sieruta (Lake Asbury & Orange Park), Joe Dobransky (Orange Park), Ray Vickerman, Lani Rouw, Susa & Bob Welch (Green Cove Springs), Ken Harp & Barbara Perkins (Key Stone), Jurgen & Sylvia May (Polk City), Rick & Dorie Kline (Middleburg), Amy & Jeff Campbell (Middleburg). Eric Villeneuve, (Middleburg/Clay Hill).

--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.

****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.

-- 7:05 Dave opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and recognition of all Veterans in our group. No new members tonight but 1 new Guest, Trevor, who was in he Intro To Honeybees last week with Dave.

--7:18 Secretary” E” minutes approved.

--Treasurer report \$22,935.36 approved. Dec, Jan, Feb Raffle 6 tickets for Beginner Bee. Raffle 3 tickets tonite, JAN, and FEB, will be tickets for UF Bee College.

--Presidents Report: VarroSan Extended Strips (Oxalic Acid Strips) have been approved in FL approval for sale \$90 per pack from Dadant and Mann Lake. Christine suggested for folks with few hives go in as a group for the strips. Dave noted we are using the strips on our Apiary bees, and they will be checked for Mites at day 46.

Thanks to all who helped at the Orange Park Fall Festival; Sue Gianino, Eric Bush, Julian Perez, his wife Kasha and his 2 sons, Michael Preston and his son, Rick Hopkins and Pam Custer.

Time to get your hives ready for Spring (JAN) here in Clay area; paint & clean. **NOTE: Hives and More will offer 10% discount for members on wooden ware NOV-DEC.**

--Hive Management keep control of SHB and Mites, FEED your bees.

--What’s blooming: Yellow Bells, Spanish Thistle, Mexican Sun Flowers and Black-Eye Susan.

--APIARY we have 6 Langstroth hives, 25 NUCS and 1 Top Bar hive without bees. Dave is making arrangements to buy new hives for the Apiary this year.

--Membership Report: 232 members to date.

--Mentor Report; last month was 25.

SEE OUR WEBSITE; CLAYBEES.COM FOR THE VIDEO.

--7:30 Our Speaker tonight is Diane Spoden a CCBA member, Welsh Honey Judge and Entrepreneur. Her topic tonight is Products of the Hive and marketing.

Diane has 13 hives, has been a beekeeper for 10yrs and has completed the Master Beekeeper Program at UF. To facilitate her business, she made an Honor Honey stand on her driveway for buyers as they drive by her house. When her honey supplies got low, she began researching other types of sales for honey, soaps, lip balm and beeswax food wraps. She sells her honey for \$15 /pound, and she found that in ST Petersburg it sells for \$28/pound. Noting it takes

2 million blooms to make 1 pound of honey. She found that by infusing her honey she can sell it for \$24/pound. She uses cinnamon, Thyme, peppers, etc. She only uses dry products for her infusions, so the honey does not ferment. Her infusions can take up to 3 months to process. Her bees wrap can be used on dry foods; sandwiches, cheeses, and as a covering for dishes. Use 1 # of wax with 1 cup Pine resin and 1/2 cup of oil: dip your cloths squeegee off excess and air dry your sheets. Please see her demo and recipe on the website Claybees.com.

For her wraps she uses 100% cotton material that she washes and irons first. Then she cuts them into desired squares before coating them with beeswax and letting them dry. Once used they can be rinsed in cool water and reused over and over.

For Lip balm she uses coconut oil and shea butter with her bees wax and or a flavoring. She also makes a Propolis Tincture that is used for sore throats and as a skin bandage. She buys small containers at the dollar stores to display them. There are also candles to make from your wax.

Take your wares to Farmers Markets, have honey tastings, have an observation hive all to attract people to your products.

--8:15

--OLD Business: December meeting is election of officers, if you would like to apply for Vice-President or ANY post here just Let Sue Gianino know to get you on the ballot before DEC 1. DEC is also our Semiannual Potluck Dinner and free Raffle. TO HELP BARB PERKINS SET UP AND TAKE DOWN OUR DINNER PLEASE ARRIVE AT 5:30 TO ASSIST THE 4-H.

--NOTE: the Honeybee Car Tag deadline was extended for purchase.

--NEW Business:

--Dave noted we currently have a profit, and he is asking for \$500 to improve our apiary. APPROVED

--Suggestions for our extra funds were: Obtain more veils and gloves for our Apiary, have a honey sale at Gold Head State Park Yesterday Festival in JAN, Donate to the Bees Without Borders, or to the fledgling Soldiers for Freedom Bee Group in Keystone Hrs.

--8:20 Raffle: Winners of Bee College: Eric bush, Robert Warner, Jeff Campbell

--8:45 Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Gianino

Secretary

BEESWAX ECO-WRAPS

Eco friendly alternative to plastic wrap
Ingredients and Method by Diane Spoden

Equipment

Double boiler or crockpot to melt ingredients
Bristle painters brushes 3" chip brush from HF (Not plastic)
Electric griddle or warming plate
Large baking sheet
Silicone squeegee
Hanging rack and trouser hangers
Chopsticks

Ingredients

100% cotton fabric, washed, ironed and cut into squares
Beeswax 1.5# (680g)
Pine resin 1 cup (250g)
Jojoba or coconut oil (56g)

Method

Wash and dry and iron fabric
Cut into even shapes varying sizes, be aware of repeat pattern when cutting
Melt resin and wax in double boiler or crock pot or jug on a very low heat burner
Add jojoba oil
Mix thoroughly
Flatten fabric onto baking sheet
Paint mixture evenly and thoroughly paying attention to edges and no missed spots
Lightly squeegee or dry brush excess from cloth
Hang to cool and set
Fold and label