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March Ogeechee Area Beekeepers Association General Meeting Minutes

Location: RJs
Presiding: John Dyal
Attending: 20 + Board (Signed in, but all 50 seats were filled)
Start time: 6:15

Announcements

- The field trip to John's was canceled due to rain, and the vote was taken on rescheduling. The field trip was not rescheduled.
- Next field trip will be Saturday, April 16, at Roche Farm & Garden in Dublin
 - Topic: Natural Bee Keeping
 - Contact: Wendy Adams
- Mark Mettler reminded swarm catchers to enter their info on www.BeeutifulBees.net so people can find them and their services.
- Upcoming calendar events
 - Regular meeting on the last Thursday of the month
 - Honey Harvest @ Gary Weaver's, April 16 & 17th
 - Hands-on-beekeeping the second Saturday of every other month @ Oatland Island.

Reports

- Treasurer's Report/ Paul P.

- School Hives
 - Paul P. / Claxton High - hive was restarted with a swarm donated by Bobby.

 - Gary Weaver / Screven County High –both hives are doing well, but are not ready to split.

- Prison Hive
 - Paul P. turned over to Mr. Leadwood
 - They have 17 hives ready to super up!
 - Participants took the UGA bee certification test and had a 100% success rate. The DOC (Department of Corrections) is expanding the program through the state.

- Garden Hive / Paul Cerpov or Mark Mettler
- Paul C. had inspected the hive the past weekend and there was plenty of capped honey in the hive. He will be adding another super.

Old Business

- Joel will keep an eye on Michael Bush's schedule to see if the club can piggy-back a seminar on another of his speaking engagements in the fall
- T-shirts – no progress
- Bobby reported on the Beekeeping 101 seminar. There were 30 attendees. Another seminar is being planned for the fall
- Mark Mettler needs Bobby and Paul to go with him to install a hive at the high school in Portal.

New Business

- A vote was taken and passed, and the club is going to buy an oxalic acid vaporizer for members to treat varroa mites.
- Mark Mettler brought up that the Botanical Garden has requested an observation hive to be installed in the old house. This was seen as a good project, and Mark will look into getting it done.

Presentation by Laura Liu of CEBA. Topic: Mites and Pests

Very good presentation. Thorough treatment of the biology of mites and how to manage the hive to reduce them. Laura handed out a recipe for Honey Bee Healthy for strengthening the bees and the hive.

Next Meeting: April 28, 2016 @ RJs

Final note: Remind members to please return their name tags to the back table.

Time Adjourned: 7:15

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Baker