

OABeeA Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting, January 28th, 2015

The regular January meeting of OABeeA was held at Fordham's Farmhouse restaurant in Statesboro, Georgia, on January 28th, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 5:48 pm by President Brent Tharp, with Secretary John Dyal recording.

The meeting was attended by 56 to 60 people, including 9 first-time visitors.

Raffle

The raffle was held.

Announcements

Ruth Mettler said they had been unable to bring the bee supply trailer, but they had a display board with prices, and were taking orders.

Bobby Colson said he was taking orders for 5 frame nucs, deeps now, mediums available later. Windy Adams said they had medium nucs available now.

Brent mentioned the Holiday Social, and said Bobby Colson had been chosen for Beekeeper of the Year.

Prison Project

Brent recognized the group of wardens from Smith State Prison who were in attendance, and Jennifer Berry and Bear Kelley who were going to visit the Prison the next day.

Presentation

Brent introduced Greg Stewart, President of the Coastal Empire Beekeeper's Association, as the speaker. Greg spoke on Preparing for Spring, with an emphasis on evaluating colony strength and condition using noninvasive methods appropriate to this time of year, and record keeping.

Greg directed a question from the audience about treating for varroa to Jennifer Berry. Jennifer talked about oxalic acid and said it was going to be approved by the EPA. She said use 2 gr in a vaporizer per hive, use when temperatures are around 55 degrees F. Or dribble a solution of 3% oxalic in 1:1 sugar syrup at temperatures around 38-42 degrees F. She said it is best to do this when bees are broodless as it does not get the mites in the sealed brood. She also said to use thymol treatments in the 50-60 degree F range. She said formic acid treatment had variable results. She said DO NOT use Apistan or Cumiphos.

Brent announced the next meeting would be February 26th, 2015, usual time and place, and the speaker would be Linda Tillman.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.