

Hbasek Meeting 10-04-18

Ron called meeting to order

Linda Russell read the minutes from September 6th, 2018, Lynn made a motion to approve, Kelly seconded, motion passed.

Wayne gave the treasurers report, the amount has remained the same at \$2,607.20.

Ron Smail wanted us to discuss and continue to think about, how to spend our money to support bees.

Some ideas:

At the beginning beekeepers' class, offer new membership to go thru 2019, I think we already due that. Wayne explained that it's \$15 per person, starting in January, as he goes thru the year he takes less.

Linda Russell – reported that the library displayed and highlighted Bee Books, some we donated, she thinks it would be good to buy more.

Kelly suggested buying more than one hive to give away.

Linda R. suggested donating books to put in Public schools.

Have a poster or writing contest to win beekeeping stuff.

Have brochures made up, put some of them where supplies are sold, or beekeeping interest would be.

Have Business cards made, Linda thinks she may have that ready.

Linda said she will make a trifold brochure.

Ron Smail reported that Tractor Supply Company in Chanute, allows a guy to sell his honey inside the store in front of beekeeping supplies.

Other comments:

Linda Russell talked about UV light that kills bacteria/ germs.

Wayne reported that Ron's IGA is selling empty frosting container that are food grade about ½ the size of a 5 gallon buckets for \$2.

Ron S. reported that there will be a Honey Producers conference Oct. 26&27th in Great Bend, there will be speakers, classes, queen rearing, wax and candles, etc.

Also talked about Fun Day in June, in Lawrence, it costs about \$60 includes lunch + ice cream. Chip Taylor does the bee swarm demo.-

Ron reported that his has oxalic acid treatments twice, he has one more to do, his last honey was extracted today. He is now down to 2 deep boxes. The hives are killing drones off now. He weighed all his hives. He said that 1 gallon of syrup will weigh 12 lbs., and will create 7-8 lbs. of honey. Before the first frost weigh your hives

and feed if necessary. Need to know how many your boxes weigh with frames, they will need at least 50 lbs. of honey for the winter. For 10 frame boxes a minimum of 90-95 lbs. is ideal, and max of 115-120 lbs. But then he reported that he thinks the perfect weight is 115 lbs.

A question was asked how to remove Supers from your hives. Ron said to use a towel sprayed with Bee Go, and use a cordless leaf blower to blow them off. Also said Bee Go would work for Bees up in a tree.

Debbie Eagle reported weights for an 8 frame box, 43 lbs. for the empty box with frames, assume 5-6 lbs. of bees, assume 1-2 lbs. of pollen, should have 50 lbs. of honey left.

On a question about pollen substitutes, he said the only time he uses it, if his Nukes need it.

Ron's opinion about candy boards are a waste of time, especially for strong hives, Ron uses Winter Patties that he gets from Mann Lake for light hives he puts them in Jan/Feb.

Linda Russell talked about the Beginner Beekeeping Class on November 10th, cost \$25, newspaper have been contacted, we have a raffle and give away the hive kit they put together, Mann Lake gives a discount for new bee keepers, door prizes from the members (i.e. buckets, gloves, etc.) decided to put 200-300 from the club for the prizes, 2 hives was suggested this year. It was voted on that 2 hives will be given away, and the club will spend on the small stuff also. Linda said that Walmart has food grade buckets, they are in the paint center, and you have to buy the lids separately. Will need help with registration, will need someone to pick up the food. We will have a regular meeting one week before. You can bring stuff to give away then.

Linda Explained what happened with the t-shirts, it's a long story, but looking for another shirt company.

Linda showed the hbasek.org website and suggested going to the Season to do List.

Looking at:

August – extract, ck for mites, add supers, re-queen during goldenrod/aster flow.

Sept.-ck for mites, supers for fall honey, re-queen if necessary, unite weak hives, plan wind breaks, don't open hives under 55-60 degrees, never open in the evening, never open when windy.

Oct. – put reducers on, begin fall feeding with heavy syrup, wind breaks from north & north west winds, mouse guards, if you use wire over the opening, make sure it's smooth, and won't shred their wings.

If you use screened bottom board use plexi-glass cut to size to help keep your hive clean. Before putting on the mouse guards, kind of scrap out the bottom board.

Ron said that the #1 killer of hives is Varro mites, Rick showed some information on alternatives to oxalic acid treatments, he handed out flyers for HopGuard II, and Apivar, and gave a report on what he has tried, he wanted to try something more natural, he said that in trying HopGuard II that it had a really strong smell, the bees got very aggressive, he got stung more than 5 times. Only did that one hive. Ron and Linda reported that oxalic acid was natural and is naturally occurring. Ron discussed the cost of the burners vs. the convenience of buying chemicals. Ron's opinion is that you have to treat, but Michael Palmer – doesn't treat and lets the weak hives die off, and that breeds stronger bees, who can handle the mites.

Meeting adjourned, respectfully submitted by Debbie Eagle for Patricia Thornberry.