

6/25/15
YCBA Monthly Meeting

- I. Attendance
 - a. 59 in attendance
 - b. Board: Coral, Renee, Jeremy, Molly

- II. Call to order
 - a. President: Coral
 - i. Review of future meetings:
 - 1. July 23- Maryann Frazier from PSY
 - 2. Aug 27- Bonnie Raindrop
 - 3. Sept 26- Dave Hackenberg Tour at 11AM.
 - a. Leave York by 8:30am
 - b. Arrange to carpool
 - c. Lunch after tour at Country Cupboard Inc. (101 Hafer Road, Lewisburg PA 17837
 - d. Coral will make reservations 2-4 weeks ahead after an accurate head count
 - 4. Oct 10- Annual Banquet at 5:30 pm at Winterstown Fire Hall
 - a. Silent auction and honey tasting
 - 5. Nov 16- Special Tri County Meeting- Claire Densley of Buckfast Abbey, Devon UK (held in the YCST auditorium)
 - ii. Upcoming Events
 - 1. EAS Conference is in Ontario, Canada August 10-14th. Registration forms available.
 - 2. National Honey Bee Day is August 22
 - 3. York Fair- sending out Sign-Up Genius sign-up next week!

- III. Treasurer's report (made by Coral)
 - a. T-shirts are still available
 - i. Supplies and sizes are limited. Colors are either a blue, pink, or tan t-shirt.

- IV. Non-profit status: Molly
 - a. Call to Vote: Majority vote in favor of passing by-laws

- V. Coral: Announcements
 - a. Mark Gingrich came in last meeting: Queen Bee Initiative
 - i. Association sponsoring a daughter queen that Bill Sprenkle would raise, graft from the queen, and then raise new queens from the daughter
 - ii. Concerns:
 - 1. Questions on who gets this queen and what will happen to it now that we helped purchase one.
 - 2. Solution: If interested in helping on a committee to make decisions for this initiative, please email Coral.

- b. Watch Joe Lewis's youtube video on "Sustainable Beekeeping through Nucleus Colonies by Joe Lewis, Susquehanna Beekeepers 2015"
 - c. Picnis in Review:
 - i. At least 55 members in attendance
 - ii. Next year: fun games and more native plants for sale
 - iii. Honey Princess made an appearance: Sending her a t-shirt and a thank you note
- VI. Dave Papke: State of the Bees
- a. We live in an area that isn't known for its honey producing
 - b. Currently at the end of the honey flow period
 - c. Removing honey supers and extracting honey
 - i. If supers are full and honey is capped on frames, get bees out of the supers by either (in any of these methods, don't use smoke, wear suit, and do it on a nice warm day in the afternoon):
 - 1. Brush and run method: Works best with a partner. Take a frame, bee brush them off, and give the frame to a partner who puts the frame in a covered box.
 - 2. Bee Escape Method: On day 1 go into the apiary, remove one super off the hive at a time, place the bee escape on the bottom of the super, and wait until the super is clear. Then repeat on the next super. Remember to make sure the super does not have any entrances (duct tape any openings).
 - 3. Bee Repellant Method: Bee-Go, for example, will take 5 minutes to make bees evacuate.
 - d. Harvest your honey within the next few days, because hive beetles can ruin your honey.
 - e. Filter honey with double siv, but don't filter pollen out.
 - f. Questions?
 - i. Swarms? It's a low swarm year.
 - ii. Is the propolis stickier than normal? Must be plants nearby that is causing it to be stickier.
 - iii. Do you have to filter honey? No, but you may find caps and bee wings in yours.
 - iv. What do you do with your frames once you harvested the honey? Stack the supers on a bottom board, and allow your bees to clean the frames.
- VII. Kirsten and Michael Traynor- "Globe Trotting in a Beeline"
- a. Beekeepers around the world love receiving honey as a gift.
 - b. Simple, Smart, Beekeeping: Book that has over 190 pictures in it, so that you can learn how to read your hive
 - c. Breeding bees: not all bees meet all of your needs, so prioritize your needs
 - i. Do you want locally adapted stock
 - ii. High pollen hoarding?
 - d. New beekeepers graft their own queens in Denmark
 - e. In Denmark, winters are cold and long, and bees were having trouble with Nosema, so they adapted their stock for the winter

- f. Germany has a professional school of beekeeping
 - i. Grafting days- Master beekeepers come and help other beekeepers graft
 - 1. You can get successful stock for free
 - ii. Carnolian Stock is hardy in winter, build quickly in spring, use little honey stores in winter, and are bred to be gentle
 - iii. Europe is breeding for Varroa tolerance
 - g. Buckfast Abbey
 - i. Famous beekeeping
 - h. Specific breeding islands (needed in the states)
 - i. Beekeeper is the biggest killer of hives
 - i. In Europe they do not use medication for hives
 - j. Bees are smart and lazy
 - i. Some bees learned to pollinate from the back of blossoms because the bees realized that there is more nectar and pollen in the back of the blossom
 - k. When you have a strong hive bringing in a lot of honey, they are also bringing in a lot of varroa
 - l. If you watch your bees and let them teach you, you'll be more in tune with what they are doing
 - m. Use the biology of the bees against the biology of the mites, so that there is no need to use chemicals
 - n. Organic Beekeeping Class
 - i. September 5th
 - ii. 9am-5pm in Frederick County, MD
 - iii. Registration forms available through Jeremy
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm (time for socialization, snacks, and books to sell from Kirsten and Michael)
- a. Books are Two Million Blossoms and Simple, Smart Beekeeping