



Brown County Beekeepers Association

www.browncountybeekeepers.com

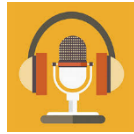
July 2019 NEWSLETTER

August meeting location: Green Bay Botanical Gardens
2600 Larsen Rd, Green Bay, WI 54303

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT Dave Elsen:

Thanks to all that were able to make the summer picnic. Everyone is busy with summer in full swing and a lot of bee tasks to accomplish between the rain. I truly appreciate the sharing of bee stories and questions and answers being discussed. We get stronger as a club when we share learnings and experiences.

With no July meeting I thought I would share some interesting Podcasts that have been helpful to me in expanding my knowledge of honeybees and the beekeeping industry.



Beekeeping Short and Sweet by Stewart Spinks. He is from England and I find his podcasts informational. Many topics relative to managing a hive. The Q&A sessions are interesting.

<https://www.norfolk-honey.co.uk/podcast>

The Business of Bees by Adam Allington and Tiffany Stecker. 6 segments. More of a documentary style, but interesting. Covers Bees, disease, pests, pollination industry and pesticides.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-05-16/the-big-business-of-bees>

The Beekeepers Corner by Kevin Inglin. He has some good information and interesting guests. A bit quirky delivery, but he discusses his references and other bee clubs which have also been explored. Topics about managing a hive from beginner to experienced.

<http://www.bkcorner.org/>

Beekeeper Confidential by Mandy Shaw. Interesting topics and good guests

<https://www.waggleworkspdx.com/podcast>

Beekeeping Today by Jeff Ott and Kim Flottum

I do enjoy their topics. A bit more about the Pollinator Industry and less about day to day beekeeping topics

<http://beekeepingtodaypodcast.com/>

Beekeeping at Five Apple Farms by Leigh Knott. Many interesting topics that are laid out nicely. Queens, splits, mites, selling nucs, requeening and more.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/beekeeping-at-five-apple-farm-podcast/id1453731151>

I am sure there are others, but these are some that I am currently following. As with all information you obtain during your beekeeping journey consider it as a piece to the puzzle to help advance your knowledge. Listen for keys to their thoughts on mite treatments, where are they located and their knowledge level to help you assimilate the information. Hope you find these helpful. Please feel free to share others as you come across them.

JULY PICNIC – A beautiful day! About 30 people attended the event! **Thank you, Dick and Carol Sturm**, for organizing this fun day!!

Thank you, James Arvey, for being our GRILL MASTER!



AUGUST MEETING AGENDA

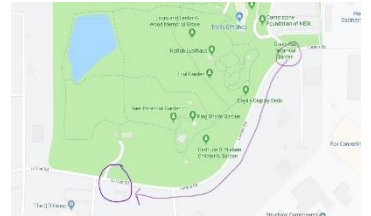
4:30 – Hive Inspection

Hive Inspection Opportunity at 4:30 at Botanical Gardens Hives (same location as in June MBM)

Please join us with Dan Ziehl, WI State Honey

Bee Inspector at the Botanic

Gardens to inspect a hive and perform a mite check. We'll open the hive and walk through what to look for. The LOCATION is off of Larsen Road, the west Botanic Garden gated entrance across from NWTC. Please park in the NWTC parking lot and use the crosswalk to the gated entrance. Look for the BCBA signs. The hive is past the garden shed. Don't forget your BEE SUITES. For more information on location – please visit our web page or FB page



5:30 Meeting before the Meeting: HONEY EXTRACTION

6:30 Meeting Education: Dan Ziehl, State Honey Bee Inspector

What's Happening in the hive in July

You may see bees hanging out on the front of the hive. This is normal. During hot, and especially humid evenings, many bees may spend the night on the front of the hive, or they may form a beard on the ground in front of the hive. This is called 'bearding' and is normal.

Consider the amount of varroa mites within hives during July, this might be the month to treat depending on count. Make sure the treatment you choose can be administered while honey supers are on. Major nectar sources may begin to disappear late in July.

What to prepare for in August

The bees may become more defensive as they ripen the last incoming nectar. Hot days and humidity are upon us which also agitates the bees. Be careful not to let a strong hive rob a weak hive. Be careful not to open up the hive for extended periods as other hives may attempt to rob the hive while it is opened. If it's necessary to open a hive for an extended time, have a plan in place to protect the hive before you open it. Do a thorough mite check and treat, if needed. In today's world, all Honey Bees have varroa mites. Learn how to calculate a mite load. Check your honey supers, remove and extract any capped honey. Be sure to leave the bees with enough honey to overwinter. This could be as much as 100 pounds. Reduce the size of entrances on weaker hives.



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June 2019 meeting minutes

Brown County Bee Keepers Association, May meeting minutes: Wednesday May 15, 2019. Green Bay Botanical Garden's NWTC Landscape Horticultural Classroom.

Attendance: Dave Elsen, Julie Mazzoleni, Tom Cashman, Julianne Sanders, James Arvey, Stacy DuQuaine, Ron Melchert, Sarah Mueller, Wayne Richardson, Sue Richardson, Kate Schuette, Jon Bootz, Steve Hupfer, Sara Kowalski, Dan Lauth, Molly Martske, MarLynn Leslie, Jordan Steinhorst, Richard Sturm, Carol Sturm, Traci Sumner, Kaelyn Sumner, Detlef Weiler, Todd Witthuhn, Jan Bottiola, John Battiola, Patrick Stockinger, Augie Stockinger, Bob Raatz.

Dave Elsen President called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

Club Business:

- *Motion made and carried to approve May Meeting Minutes
- *Motion made and carried to approve club bills

Welcome and Announcements

- * Guests-Laura and David Schneider
- * Kaelyn Sumner talked about the results of her Science Fair Project and is being considered for the Nationals!
- *Dave Elsen passed out samples of DFM Strong Microbials from the presentation in May.
- * Steve Hupfer and Dick Sturm talked about the Garden Fair Event. It was a success despite the weather.
- * Dave Elsen spoke about the Girl Scout event in which the Girl Scouts painted the hive boxes for our use here at the Gardens.
- *Julie Mazzoleni told us about the Honey Tasting Event and what a success it was.
- *Dick Sturm spoke about the upcoming Picnic July 10th at 5:00 PM at Ashwaubamy Park
- *Julie Mazzoleni shared the THANK YOU card from the students at Aldo Leopold grade school that we presented to.
- *Dave Elsen gave information about our **club logo shirts**. The club has made an arrangement with Express Embroidery, 2710 Packerland (by the airport) to embroider the club logo onto clothing items. We recommend that you select one of the two recommended shirts (order form attached), stop by Express Embroidery and place your order with them. The club logo will be placed in the upper left breast of the shirts. You can bring your own shirt (or bee suit) to them and they will apply the logo for \$8. We ask that you only put the logo on nice, high quality shirts in a dark color. They can also apply the logo to hats, check with them on the price.



EDUCATION SPEAKER – Presentations

- **Julie Mazzoleni** presented on mite management. Julie demonstrated how to use the website from the Honey Bee Health Coalition and Randy Oliver (Scientific Beekeeping) Randys Varroa model. She handed out information with 3 important websites to learn everything you need to manage your beehive mite population. The Varroa mite management tools from this website are extremely helpful.

- <https://Honeybeehealthcoalition.org>
- <http://scientificbeekeeping.com/randys-varroa-model/>
- <https://pollinators.msu.edu/keep-bees-alive/>

Education speaker cont.

- **Dave Haupt** visited our meeting to share information about the pollinators. He is a gardener and has learned about beekeeping because it all goes hand and hand. He learned about gardening from keeping his victory garden in the war effort. Dave also brought some native plants that are very good pollinators and attract bees to the garden. Dave shared some Echinacea (Purple Coneflower) for the members to take to their gardens or apiaries.

Club Activities

- Dick Sturm talked about the **Summer Picnic** July 10 at 5:30 PM a sign-up sheet was passed around for those to participate or to contribute food or assisting etc.

Potential Community Activities

Botanical Gardens Family Fall Festival on September 28th. If the club participates, we would educate attendees about bees and also would be able to sell club products (i.e. honey). Anyone interested in participating or taking the lead on organizing the date, please let us know.

CLUB MEETING EDUCATION SCHEDULE:

Date	MbM (Check Times)	6:30 Meeting start
21-Aug	Hive inspection Gardens (4:30)	Dan Ziehl, State Honey Bee Inspector
	Honey Extraction (looking for club members to demonstrate / assist) (5:30)	
18-Sep	Networking (5:30)	Winterization
16-Oct	Networking (5:30)	Honey Sales, Marketing your product (Looking for presenter)
20-Nov	Networking (5:30)	Self Study, Life long Learning (Facillitated)
		Group Session - (More to Come)

Club opportunities were discussed:

- **Hive inspection August 20 and 21.** Dan Ziehl, the state inspector, is available to visit hives. He has offered to inspect hives on Tuesday and on Wednesday up until the meeting. Please contact Dave if you are interested.
- **SLO Farmers Coop** is offering to purchase honey. If you are interested in selling honey, reach out to Valerie at 920-590-1511.

* **REMINDER:** Volunteers are important to the club. If you are interested in sharing your talents please reach out to us.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00



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