



# Brown County Beekeepers Association

www.browncountybeekeepers.com

## October 2019 NEWSLETTER

**REMINDER:** in the OCTOBER meeting we will hold OFFICER ELECTIONS for 2020. Please come and VOTE for: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If we don't have enough people in the October meeting, the vote will be postponed to November. **So please come! this is an important meeting.**

**YOUR  
VOTE  
COUNTS**

### Donations to BCBA

**DONATIONS  
-ACCEPTED-**

BCBA recently receive two donations totaling \$750.00 targeted toward pollinator education for club members and our community. These donations, along with the Schneider foundation \$250.00 donation, puts us at a total of \$1000.00 of donations in just the last few months. All this is due to the GREAT work of our club president **Dave Elsen**. NICE JOB Dave ! We appreciate your vision, focus and drive on our behalf!

**POLLINATOR  
PARTNERSHIP**

Protect their lives. Preserve ours.

### MITE-A-THON – did you participate?

“Mite-A-Thon is a tri-national effort to collect mite infestation data and to visualize *Varroa* infestations in honey bee colonies across North America within a two-week window”. The sampling data started the week of September 7, 2019 and included Canada, the United States, and Mexico. It's important to monitor and treat for *Varroa* in our hives. *Varroa* is a leading contributor to honeybee mortality. Be sure to go to [www.pollinator.org/miteathon](http://www.pollinator.org/miteathon) to learn more.

### Walmart Launches pollinator garden pilot programs –

Walmart is piloting the planting of pollinator gardens in three states, Oregon, Washington and North Carolina. So

far, 21 gardens have been planted. The gardens are intended not only to enhance landscaping but also to help pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

#### CLUB MEETING EDUCATION SCHEDULE:

October	Networking	<b>ELECTIONS</b> Group discussion on resources for bee education
November	Networking	Products of the hive and sales
December	Christmas Party?	No Official Meeting



### October 16, MEETING AGENDA

(location: Green Bay Botanic Garden)

#### 5:30 Meeting before the Meeting:

**NETWORKING** – let's talk BEES



#### 6:30 OCTOBER MEETING AGENDA:

- Nominating Committee
- ELECTIONS
- Intro to Beekeeping Class
- **SELF EDUCATION- Please share your thoughts on how you learn about bees and beekeeping**
- Additional Bee Keeping Assets to Consider for club purchase – what are your recommendations?

#### What's Happening in the hive in OCTOBER

There are fewer and fewer reasons for bees to fly as weather gets cooler. Continue to feed if needed, being careful NOT to over feed since there needs to be enough space for the queen to continue to lay. This is important so you don't end up with older bees vs younger bees trying to carry you through the winter. It's a delicate balance since a common cause of dead out is starvation. Be sure your bees have the resources needed to carry them through the winter. Remove mite treatments according to directions and begin winter preparations.

#### What to prepare for in NOVEMBER

The bees begin to cluster for winter, however; they may not go into a full winter cluster. They may break cluster frequently on warm days and re-cluster at night. Wet+cold=death, be sure moisture is managed and tilt hives slightly forward. Be sure all treatments and queen excluders are removed. Protect hives from strong winds by adding heavy blocks on top and add additional food if you are concerned winter stores are low.



# Brown County Beekeepers Association

www.browncountybeekeepers.com

## September 2019 meeting minutes

**Brown County Bee Keepers Association, September meeting minutes: Wednesday August 21, 2019. Green Bay Botanical Garden.**

**Attendance:** Dave Elsen, Julie Mazzoleni, Carl Fisher, Tom Cashman, Joseph Des Jarlais, Daniel Diers Tom Eisenreich, Marlynn Leslie, Roy Lindeman, Lynn Lindgren, Sarah Mueller, Jordan Steinhorst, Traci Sumner, Kaelyn Sumner Detlef Weiler, Brook Wendorf, Sarah Kowalski. **GUESTS:** Jake Voight, Jerry Kershek, Jerry Kershek (son), Zach Pierce, Marty Seifer.

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

### Welcome and Announcements

We welcomed new members and visitors.

**Meeting before the meeting** - social

### CLUB BUSINESS:

\*Motion made and carried to approve August Meeting Minutes

\*Motion made and carried to approve club financials

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Nomination committee:** Sarah Mueller, Carl Fisher, Todd Witthuhn are committee members. Carl Fisher explained how the nomination committee works and how we nominate 4 officers for 2020 year. If you have an interest in any of the 4 positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) please see one of these four committee members. Elections will be held in October.

**Club brochure-** John Bootz and the Brown County Graphics, created our new club brochures. If you know anyone who wants to join the club, we now have updated brochures to share with them. We will use them for events and to outline what our club has to offer.

**PO box** for BCBA -

Brown County Beekeepers  
PO Box 10371  
Green Bay WI 54307-0371

**THANK YOU, Tom Cashman, for your years of support by using your home address for our club.**



### CLUB ACTIVITIES

\***Kaelyn Sumner:** Spoke about the "Fresh Project" of Shawano County. Through their request, Kaelyn taught 16, 5 to 12-year-old kids about honeybees. She brought in her teaching frame, did a relay race with them and had them make nutritious foods with honey. NICE JOB Kaelyn!!

**INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING: Carl Fisher – Organizer.**

Tentatively scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.

NWTC is willing to host us again this year, details are yet to be fully worked through. **We are looking for volunteers:** Presenters, organizers, set up, refreshments, packets. ALSO, if anyone has any marketing experience, we could use expertise and ideas on how to reach potential beekeepers.

### POTENTIAL CLUB ASSETS TO PURCHASE:

We have money in the budget to help enhance club member needs. Please bring your ideas. Some ideas already brought forward are:

- Teaching Aids
- Honey Extracting Equipment
- Varroa Oxalic Vaporizer
- Infrared Camera

If you have ideas you'd like to bring forward please bring information regarding 1) idea researched 2) cost 3) benefit to the club

### POTENTIAL HIVE LOCATION:

Austin Strauble Airport personnel reached out to Dave to inquire about the possibility of hives on underused land. They are looking for 2-6 hives in various locations. Their intent is to become more involved in bringing public awareness to honeybees. If you are interested in placing hives there, please contact Dave.

### EDUCATION SPEAKER -Sara Kowalski

**Topic: PREPARING YOUR BEES FOR FALL AND WINTER**

A popular quote from Kim Flottum, (Editor-in-Chief, *Bee Culture Magazine*)

Key to caring for bees – "take care of the bees, that take care of the bees that go into winter". Go back three generations, only healthy bees can raise healthy bees.

1. Control mites, the place to start
2. Make sure you have enough food on them so they survive the winter. Sara leaves about 120# honey. Each frame weights about 6 pounds, you have 10 frames... do the math on how much honey that is available.
3. Entrance reducers should be on.
4. Mouse guards should be on, queen excluders OFF
5. Some people wrap their hives, Sara does not.
6. Moisture mitigation is critical. Sara uses a vented inner cover. Some people use quilt boxes to absorb moisture. You can also use an insulated cover to help control moisture. You do not want to have water dripping on bees. You can also buy homasote at the hardware store and cut it to fit, or purchase ready made it from a bee supplier store. Candy boards also help absorb moisture during the winter.
7. Check your bees during the winter to make sure they have enough food. If you see them at the top, chances are they need food. There are many ways to feed bees during the winter months. You can feed candy boards/cakes or plain sugar. If its below 50 bees will not take liquid syrup (2 parts sugar/1-part water for fall feeding).



### ART IN THE ALLEY in De Pere – GUESTS:

**Shanna Kolz**  
**Naomi Moes Jenkins.**

Shanna and Naomi approached the city of De Pere to do a community display about the future of BEES. There are sculptures and as well as photo, ink displays. This is a permanent display in the alley, next to Nicky's, please be sure to go see it.



**Meeting was adjourned at 8:00**