



# Brown County Beekeepers

## Green Bay WI

March 2018

Volume 23 issue 3

**Brown County Beekeepers Association, February meeting minutes** : Green Bay Botanical Garden, Donald Schneider Education Center, Room 26, Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

There were 25 members present.

**Attendance** : Julie Mazzoleni, Lynne Lindgren, Thomas Cashman, Steve Hupfer, Orren Fredrick, Dave Elsen, Carl Fisher, Beth Ubl, Lisa Miotke, Monika Pynaker, Sara Kowalski, David & Alice Blood, Ronald Melchert, Gordon Lederhaus, Tom Eisenreich, Dennis Flavion, Todd Withuhn, Dave Doering, Ed Grys, Kevin Erdmann, Marian Puckett, Mary Sickel, Paul Siegmann and Chris Harris.

**Steve Hupfer, President of BCBA**, called the meeting to order at 6:35. a BIG thank you to Chris Harris for the Meeting Before the Meeting about hive frames . She did a great job at running the presentation

**Bills**: \$10.00 for the Dept. of Financial Institutions for our annual Non-Stock Report and \$8.00 to Sara Kowalski for purchase of vendor passes for the Einstein Science Expo. A motion was made and seconded to pay both bills. Motion carried.

**Business**: Correction in the February news letter: Tom Eisenreich was pictured at Einstein Science Expo not "Dave" . A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was carried. Steve H. said club dues are due if not yet paid. He also said that members volunteering for 3-4 hours a year doing various jobs for the club, is helpful and needed to run the club activities.

March Meeting before the Meeting will be Monika Pynaker  
TOPIC: FOUNDATIONS.

There are currently no planned activities for 2018 i.e no Botanical Fair/no free Wednesdays. Suggestions for the year include: Washington Street Farmers Market, Brown County Fair. It was noted that there is a conference held by the Marathon County Beekeepers at Northcentral Technical College Health Science Center on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

The club is working to update the current BCBA Webpage. A committee was organized with Julie Mazzoleni as chair. Volunteers to work with Julie were David Elsen, Carl Fisher and Monika Pynaker .

Sara Kowalski talked about our recent Einstein Science Expo . No live bees this year but there was a teaching hive on display. There were more adults than in the past. During the event, the club gave away bee magazines. Interesting questions asked by people coming to our booth included "What do bees do in the winter" and "What is the red spot on the queens head?" Some people asked about hornets and mites. Tom Eisenreich said that a few people asked questions difficult for him to answer. All in all, the Einstein Science Expo event went well this year with a steady stream of people stopping by our booth.

Dave Elsen who co-chairs the Beginning Bee Class gave a brief talk on the upcoming class on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-seven people signed up with room for 40. The class starts at 9 am. A lot of sponsors have come forward to supply us with door prizes. Carl Fisher, also co-chair, mentioned the class costs \$35.00 a person. We are in good shape.

**SPEAKER/Member: Orren Fredrick, Show and tell**—Orren has been working with bees for 10 years and learned from mentors in the pre-mite era. His topic was now on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). He showed a 30 page documents from Honeybee Health Coalition on mite control. Orren discussed what we are up against with varroa mites, testing for mites and how the mite population climbs up when the bees are declining. The mite population doubles every 3 weeks. He spoke of managing mites by the use of "drone cells" then placing the capped brood in the freezer overnight to kill the mites. He mentioned that screened bottom boards as well as chemicals such as Mite-Away QuickStrips, Oxalic Acid and Formic Acid can also be used in controlling mites. In the spring, you have a lot of options which include using Apivar before May 1<sup>st</sup>. Orren mentioned that oxalic acid only kills mites that are on bees – nothing inside the cell. Formic acid on the other hand does kill mites inside the cell. Orren went on to talk more about mite control – using Apiguard and various things that he learned about controlling mites. He finished his talk mentioning sugar boards and robbing screens in July and what practices he does in the fall.

**Closing business/discussion**: There was a meeting with Manitowoc County Beekeepers Saturday 2/17, to decide where to get packages from and cost. March meeting speaker will be **Gordon Lederhaus**—Thank you Gordon! Orren will do April refreshments ! Meeting adjourned 7:58



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## WHAT TO DO IN MARCH

- Check colonies for alive or dead
- Monitor food stores and feed if needed
- Keep entrances open, remove debris
- All bee equipment should be ready (clean and assembled) as packages should be arriving in April
- Continue to educate yourself

## *REMEMBERS:*

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 21st at the Green Bay Botanical Garden.

The meeting before the meeting will be held by Monika Pynaker starts at 5:30 and to topic is :

*FOUNDATION*

Our standard meeting starts at 6:30!

Again *THANK YOU* Chris for the Meeting before the Meeting—FRAMES! Great JOB!



Items for sale: Deeps, honey boxes, metal telescoping covers and inner covers, wooden solid bottom board, insulating wrap, plastic pail feeder, jar feeder with entrance base, queen excluder, wooden feeder board. Call Lynne Lyndon 920-639-0523 or 920-465-0523 and leave a message or e-mail [Injpritch@sbcg;pba;.net](mailto:Injpritch@sbcg;pba;.net)



## Beginning Bee Keeper Class

Held Saturday February 24th, 2018 at the Ashwaubenon Community Center—

*Chaired by* Dave Elsen and Carl Fisher.

GREAT JOB DAVE AND CARL !!



## BCBA Officers 2018:

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