

August 01, 2016
Tri-County Beekeepers

Vern Heise called the meeting to order at 7pm. Vern Heise, Jason Nyholm, Paul Theis and Skip Kmitch were present.

The August meeting was held at the Benton County Fairgrounds. Set up for the fair was completed prior to the meeting.

One new/potential member was present.

Open discussions were started and included:

- members still adding honey supers in late July.
- member reported that there hives located in shaded areas were doing better than the hives getting full or near full sun.
- reports of 3 to 5 honey supers per hive by some members.
- a bee favorite, Goldenrod is starting to bloom in some areas.
- installing robber screens to prevent robbers from flying straight into hives.
- Buckwheat honey color.

Jason Nyholm began a discussion concerning mite loads, calculations the U of M uses to determine safe to not safe mite loads, treating for mites with oxalic acid, and other ways to check for mites including windshield washer fluid.

Additional discussions followed including –

- laying patterns and crawlers.
- pesticide poisoning – should be called in to State of MN Dept. of Ag.
- yellow jacket traps – this is the time to start using traps.
- Fair sign-up / many empty slots to fill.
- Scholarship information/application sheets will be available at the fair.

Picnic report – annual picnic was held at Clay Whites with approximately 30 adults and about 10 children attending. Thank you Clay for providing the picnic spot – it worked out very well. The silent auction for the donated bee equipment from Manfred Iverson was held at the picnic with the equipment netting approximately \$534.

Paul Theis gave the Treasurers report and reports a balance of \$6,645.

Discussion followed regarding fair equipment storage. Jim DeGiovanni has been storing the equipment for the past 5 years and no longer has room. Going forward, the equipment will be stored at Clay Whites property located a few miles south of St. Cloud off of Sherburne County Rd. 8.

Motions were passed allowing \$200 per year going forward for equipment storage and \$200 for past storage going to Jim DeGiovanni.

Meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 pm.

Submitted by Skip Kmitch - Secretary