

Tri-County Beekeepers Meeting Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Officers Vern Heise, Jason Nyholm, Mitch Theis, Juliet Brambrink were present. Member attendance was approximately 100.

Vern called the meeting to order at 7:00. Seven new members were present.

Speaker Gary Reuter from the University of Minnesota Bee Lab presented to the group. Topics included honeybee research and discoveries.

Treasurers's report

\$7483.83 starting balance

+\$9.60 fundraiser

+\$3 donation to youth fund

+\$310 membership fees

+\$5 donation to Spivek bee fund

-\$28.75 for checks

New balance: \$7811.43

\$770.15 is youth fund

New business:

- Package bee orders: by popular vote, the Tri-County Beekeepers are placing an order through Glen Kooiman. Package prices are \$93 for a 2-lb package or \$109 for a 3-lb package. The order deadline is March 20 for delivery in early April.
 - Packages include hygienic queens.
 - Price is before tax.
 - Place orders by emailing Jason at toolmaker@melte.net or at the March 7 meeting. Include the variety of bees (Italian or Carniolan) and the number and size of packages.
 - The club will place one order and coordinate pick-up. If you want to order on your own through Kooiman or another vendor such as Nature's Nectar that is your responsibility.
 - Wayne and Cindy Rusch also have nucs available for order until the end of the month. Cost is \$150 for a 4-frame nuc with queen. They also have two vaporizers for sale, 1 year old, \$100 each.
- It is time to renew membership. Dues are \$10 per year for a family.
- Tri-County Beekeepers are offering a beekeeping class in Sauk Rapids. Contact Sauk Rapids Community Ed to sign up.
- Whitney Senior Center is changing their room rental policy. In the past we have donated \$150 for a year of room rentals. New fee is \$50/member (about \$6,000) or \$37/room/hour (about \$888).

- Alternate locations discussed include Scout House in Foley, Town Hall in Avon, the St. Cloud Library, Bethlehem Lutheran or the Scout building off Pinecone in Sartell. Members are investigating.
- The March meeting will likely be held in a new location.
- The monthly meeting date may need to be changed. The bylaws will be reviewed to ensure this is possible.
- One mentor is still needed for a youth scholarship winner in the Holdingford area.
- A reminder to check hives in nice weather. There should be live bees, preferably not right up in the cover. Make sure they have food. If there is a cold snap and brood in the hive there will be complications.
- Scholarship winner Dahlin received her new equipment. Mann Lake offered a discount on the scholarship equipment.
- A new librarian is needed.