

North Okanagan Bee Keepers

February 26, 2019

Minutes

1. Welcome 7:06 p.m.

Keith welcomed all to our meeting

- approx. 25 people were present, with a couple of new people joining us
- reminder about 50/50 tickets
- Keith passed around the email address

2. Discussion

- Thank you to all who joined us last month for the potluck meal, thanks to local meaderies for the mead
- Audrey Hystad with Club House Farms, is starting Bee Classroom in Kelowna
 - they are providing school visits from Pre-K 1gr 12 (*called Forest Classroom*)
 - will have a bee section, farm is located near airport
 - you can email her at Audrey.Hystad@clubhousechildcare.ca

3. Business:

- adopted minutes from Jan 21st meeting
- Membership Fees: BCHPA or \$20 to local club
 - BCHPA will rebate our local club \$10 if you registered before Jan 31st
 - BCHPA also includes publication: Bee Scene
- AFB EFB Disease Survey- reminder
 - any suspicious activity: ship off to prov. Lab
 - check provincial website for info
 - research going on to record various strains into a Canadian database
- Disease book for sale – every beekeeper should have one! \$15.00
 - talk to Keith or Carol
 - we sold last one, but will order more
- Facebook Page:
 - we have set up a Facebook Page for all members to participate, chat, and ask for help and advice
 - go to FB and search **North Okanagan Beekeepers** and ask to join
 - it has 15+ members so far
- Opportunity for Education
 - 4H club event may not go ahead as discussed earlier- info from Smiley

- g. Regional Report: Rick Plantinga
 - lots going on:
 - discussions about insurance coverages, associations are not covered while branches are covered
 - BCHPA has rights to Fumagilin now
 - big wasp problems
 - interesting problems arising in almond loss in California
 - new treatments with Oxalic acid and glycerin

- h. BCHPA AGM in Kamloops March 22nd and 23rd
 - 22nd is a business day
 - 23rd is education day
 - Kevin is going up in a van and will drive on the Saturday

- i. IPE fair: new honey brand display Aug 28th to Sept 1st
 - supply Keith with honey, local honey to be displayed

- i. New Business:
 - Arlos Honey is selling their operation. One of the co-owners Rick passed away.
 - maybe OC can purchase?

- 4. College Update:
 - will buy more items in the Spring such as nucs, bees, etc
 - let Keith know if you have nucs for sale in spring
 - still need bottom boards, inner covers, hive covers, super pallets, super bee escapes
 - some talk of having a bee shed for supplies and a 'home base' for the OC beekeeper
 - costs for Sea-Can: \$1800 damaged, \$2200-2500 used, or \$150 month rental

- 5. Guest Speaker: Doug Gordon
 - discussed at length various kinds of spring feeding
 - brought sample of German fondant, like a sugar paste
 - slurry, slush, various kinds of sugar feed (*not liquid*)
 - Lando Robertson from Grinrod may have some
 - maybe pollen feed – but not too early!, wait till warmer
 - when to check hives: 10 degrees is OK for a quick peek only
 - 0° ? No way! Too cold for them – will chill cluster
 - can feed liquid later when warmer
 - don't share honey hive-to-hive
 - discussed how he is experimenting with 5 frame nuc boxes

- discussed splits and how to get them ready for Spring
- also talked about queen introductions
- Question: how long do you keep your queen?
 - 2nd year queen is the best honey season
 - 3rd year queen will supercede so re-queen
- shiny bee is an old bee
- Doug gave us some great information from his experience, his wonder, and experimenting

7. 50/50 draw – ticket #459 \$53.00 to Bradley

8. Next Meeting: Monday, March 18th at Okanagan College Cafeteria at 7p.m.

-1000 KLO Road, Kelowna

-see map, we will be in building F

-easiest parking will in lots 6 & 3 (*see map*)-it is free parking

link to map:

[https://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Assets/Departments+\(Administration\)/Registrar\\$!27s+Office/Become+a+student/Kelowna+Campus+Map+2017.pdf](https://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Assets/Departments+(Administration)/Registrar$!27s+Office/Become+a+student/Kelowna+Campus+Map+2017.pdf)

9. Adjourned 9:00 pm