

<http://www.mountainempirebeekeepers.com/governance/meeting-minutes/>

Mountain Empire Beekeepers Association

Minutes

January 25, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Anthony Ellis in room 105, Fincastle Hall Wytheville Community College. 25 members were present.

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve minutes—Willie Richardson, seconded by Gaynell Brackens. Minutes approved. Mickey Cunningham presented the treasurers report. The report was filed for audit.

**Speaker:** Anthony Ellis

**Presentation:** Frame and Foundation Variations

\*New Jersey new laws for beekeepers have caused much concern for beekeepers.

\* Kevin Inglin – How to wrap hives for winter – Pod casts <http://podbay.fm/show/380038677>

The Beekeeper's Corner Beekeeping Podcast

By Kevin Inglin

North West New Jersey Beekeepers Associations-  
Videos <https://www.youtube.com/user/nwnjba>

The Frame Game - <http://www.bkcorner.org/?p=1058>

Video presentation

- Manufactures differ with beekeeping equipment- Staying with one manufacture has its advantages.
- Using a jig is an efficient way to assemble frames.
- Use frame rest protectors to preserve your woodenware from damage over time.
- Wire your frames or use pins and glue
- Label and measure your frames with a permanent marker so you know what you have. i.e. Write on top of every frame ½" or 3/8" W-S . This means Wedge on top and slot bottom.

<http://bkcorner.njswarm.com/>

Pod casts

**Demonstration:** Jeff Wyatt gave a demonstration of how to use a jig to assemble frames.

- AP23 Protein Supplement –Bees love this and it is good for them!
- Miller sales this in 5 lb bags [https://millerbeesupply.com/catalog/advanced\\_search\\_result.php?keywords=ap23](https://millerbeesupply.com/catalog/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=ap23)
- Dadant sales it here \$19.95 for a 5 lb bag: <https://www.dadant.com/catalog/catalogsearch/result/?q=ap23>
- You can also make patties out of this powder by mixing it with 2:2 sugar syrup.

- Another great place to buy beekeeping supplies is Poor Valley Bee Farm  
<https://www.poorvalleybeefarm.com/pages/where-to-find-us>  
They have great prices.

### Old Business:

none

### New Business:

- Jim Atwell - Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - Division of Consumer Protection  
[James.atwell@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:James.atwell@vdacs.virginia.gov) 276-228-5501, 276-223-2434, 276-228-6579 Wytheville Investigator  
<http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/about-division-of-consumer-protection.shtml>
- **Mann Lake March Madness sale** is coming up around the first week of March 2018. There will be ~11% off everything and free shipping! We will need to confirm if we want to do a group order by the next meeting in February.
- The new beekeeping class starts February 13, 2018 in Fincastle room 105. Linda Bracken will help get registrations for those with the Ladies Homestead Gathering, Wythe Chapter.
- A motion by Harry Jo Yates to pay for the MEBA membership dues for anyone taking the beekeepers class with MEBA was made. Tim Service seconded the motion. Motion approved.
- Tim Service was contacted by the Wytheville Farmers Market who would like MEBA to participate in the Pollinator Week again this year.
- The presentation for next month will be Phil Blevins of the Abingdon Extension Office- What We Should Be Doing with Our Bees.
- April's presentation will be Dr. Wilson from Virginia Tech. His research on Varro mites and hive beetles will be the topic of conversation.

### Bees in the News:

- Two boys were arrested after Vandalism of honeybee hives that killed over 500,00 bees on an Iowa Honey Farm.  
☹ [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/iowa-boys-busted-bee-vandalism\\_us\\_5a616da8e4b0125fd6355993](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/iowa-boys-busted-bee-vandalism_us_5a616da8e4b0125fd6355993)
- Vandals suspected after 200,000 honeybees killed, 100 hives destroyed in California - ☹  
<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/17/vandals-suspected-after-200000-honeybees-killed-100-hives-destroyed-in-california.html>

### Raffle Winners:

Gaynell Brackens – Plastic wax-coated foundation-5  
Cecil Bowers – 5 Frame nuc box unassembled  
Theresa Hearn – 2 Sets of frame spacers for the hive box  
Laura Bowers - Hive tool  
Linda Bracken - Calendar  
Don Dunford – Bee necklace

**Adjourned** at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Armentrout  
Secretary, MEBA

