

# Mountain Empire Beekeepers Association

Minutes of May 23rd, 2013

Meeting called to order by President, Peter French at 7:07 pm in Room 118, Carroll Hall.

**Secretary's Report:** Photos from last weekend's workshop have been posted on the Website. As a result of a quick Google search, a list of queen bee suppliers located in or around VA has been added to the website as well. Disclaimer: *The list is provided as a resource to local beekeepers for locating individuals or businesses selling products related to beekeeping. Beekeepers should obtain references from a supplier or beekeeper to determine the quality of products and services before placing an order. This is not a complete list of available vendors. Additional vendors may be found through magazines, newsletters, or other beekeepers.*

**Treasurer's Report:** 12 new members have been added to the association, bringing the total amount of paid members up to 126. Also, 29 memberships were sent to the state association. Mickey is currently in the process of arranging with Dr. Tew and Dr. Mangum (spelling?) to do a presentation for the club. The results of the nationwide winter hive loss survey: Almond beekeepers lost 50% of their hives, while Virginia reported a loss of 31%. For more on the results you can visit Beeinformed.org

Balance on hand as of April 30	\$4,390.97
Expenditures:	
Check #'s 2059-2062 – VSBA for 29 Members	491.28
Debit Card- Bee Culture, Honey Extractor, Stamps	350.15
Balance on Account	\$4,089.54
Deposits:	
Member Dues	108.00
Raffle Receipts	436.00
Sale of Postage Stamps	9.20
Balance in Account	\$4,642.74

**Workshop:** This year's workshop took place at Eural Clippard's Cove Spring Farm on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The winner of the Honey Extractor was Kym Dunford from the 2013 Bee Class. The winner of the \$75 Bee Supply Certificate was Laura Bowers. As a result of a mix-up, Walter T. Kelly donated three queens for educational benefit for the workshop this year. Mr. Clippard says that even though it was a bit cloudy, the bees were well behaved! The observation hive that was put together is now located at the Wytheville Visitors Center.

**May:**

- Coming up on the Tulip Poplar Bloom.
- It seems that the bees are about a month behind schedule. Swarms are just now starting to come out in some areas.
- Mineral oil and powdered sugar are good organic treatments for mites. For an interesting video on spraying with mineral oil, look up on Youtube – Fat Bee Man Fogger Video

**July Picnic:** This year's picnic will take place at Bill and Marsha Blackwell's Blueberry Farm on July the 27<sup>th</sup>. The club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, and some pork cuts, while members will be encouraged to bring potluck dishes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 P.M. by the club President, Peter French.

Submitted by,  
Robyn Llull  
MEBA Secretary