**Mountain Empire Beekeeper’s Association**

October 25, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by the Club President at 7:06 pm

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer was not in attendance.

It was decided by vote that a donation of $100 would be made in memory of Jeanette Clippard to the Wytheville Presbyterian Church. The donation will go towards improving the exterior lighting of the church.

During the November meeting, MEBA will hold elections for new officers. Peter French volunteered to continue his position as President, as did Robyn Llull for Secretary. Members are urged to attend the next meeting if they are interested in a position on the committee.

Beekeeping in October

* Eural Clippard had a swarm the day of the meeting but did not bother capturing it as it would more than likely not make it through the winter
* Use entrance reducers to prevent robbing
* Do health and wellness checks to make sure the hive is in a good position for overwintering
* Sources of honey include: stickweed, clover, aster

David Young was kind enough to present the Nicot system of raising queens. The Nicot system is a quick and efficient method for raising queens. There are 110 cells in the Nicot box. On average, David gets 70 to 75 queens which he then culls about 60%.

Open Discussion:

* In our area, not many members wrap their hives. If you do, make sure there is adequate air space for circulation.
* If you’re saving wax or honey on frames to use in the hive later, make sure to freeze the frames for at least 24 hours to prevent wax moths.
* Feeding powdered sugar to bees is fine if you get a good deal. If not, regular sugar will suffice.

The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.