

Mountain Empire Beekeepers Association

Minutes

July 28, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Anthony Ellis, MEBA President at Wytheville Community College room 122 in Smyth Hall. 19 members were present.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report: A motion was made to approve the minutes by Hank Sturkie, and was 2nd by Mickey Cunningham. The treasurer's Quarterly Report was presented by Hank Sturkie. A discussion of when the fiscal year end and member dues will take place at the September meeting. Instead of paper statements, MEBA is now receiving electronic statements in order to save \$9.00. A Motion was made by Hank Sturkie and 2nd by Connie Armentrout to stop paying state dues for MEBA members. It was approved. When you send in your dues to the Virginia State Beekeepers Association be sure to let them know that you are a member of MEBA in order to save \$5.00.

Speaker Anthony Ellis

Presentation: Best Practices for Hive Health

https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/HBHC_Hive_BMPs_v1.0_reduced.pdf

2022 approved treatments for varroa mites - <https://beekeepclub.com/best-treatment-for-varroa-mites/>

Varroa is now in Australia. ☹️

Mite Check - <https://research.beeinformed.org/mitecheck/>

There are many helpful videos on the Honey Bee Health Coalition website

https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resource_category/best-management-practices/

Old Business:

- David "Tator" Miller is buying popular lumber. He uses this lumber to make hive boxes for beekeepers. His phone number is (276) 608-6225.
- Karén Avetisyan, Ph.D. of Bee and Comb, LLC in Durham, North Carolina is offering **free shipping** on orders more than \$50.00. *Also, when sent to **Virginia is tax-free**. <https://www.beekeepingservices.com/>
- MEBA is still in need of a librarian. Please let us know should you be interested.
- Mike Barbour with Bee Club Sales will sell woodenware to MEBA club members at a discount. Just let them know that you are a member. <https://www.beeclubsales.com/#/> - Email: Mike@Beeclubsales.com
- Appalachian Bee in Princeton, West Virginia can be found here:
<https://blueridgebeecompany.com/about/> Their catalog can be downloaded as well.
- Wilbanks Apiaries does not ship packages anymore, but will ship queens. [\(912\) 739-4820](tel:9127394820) 3060 US-280, Claxton, GA 30417

- A good way to remember what color the queens are for each year: **1Will 2You 3Raise 4Good 5Bees** 1=White, 2= Yellow, 3=Red, 4=Green, 5=Blue "Will you raise goods bees"

International Queen Marking Color

COLOR	FOR YEAR ENDING IN:
White (or Gray) ●	1 or 6
● Yellow	2 or 7
● Red	3 or 8
● Green	4 or 9
● Blue	5 or 0

New Business:

- There will be **no** honey show this year at the Grayson Agricultural Fair. We would like to have a honey tasting at the fair. Bring a squeeze bottle of your honey. This will be a people’s choice for choosing the winner of the honey tasting.
- The MEBA August meeting will be at the Rural Retreat Community Center in order to cut down on the travel time for Jude Colt (our August presenter). Jude will be cooking with honey for our next meeting. This has always been a favorite meeting in the past that you will not want to miss.
- The Fall Virginia State Beekeepers Association meeting will be held November 4th and 5th at Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, Virginia.

<https://www.virginiabeekeepers.org/VSBA-MEETING>

Raffle Winners:

- Frame holder for 10 frame box – Mary /lee Espino
- Queen introducer screen – Ron Honaker
- Five Wax foundation- Ethel Parks
- Five Wax foundation – Mary Lee Espino
- Five Deep wax foundation – Fred Williams
- Five Deep wax foundation – Diane Woodford
- Five Shallow wooden frames- Darlene Lockard

Next meeting: Thursday August 25, 2022 6:30 p.m. Rural Retreat Community Center located at 112 Catron St, Rural Retreat, VA Judy Colt will be cooking recipes with honey!!! You don’t want to miss this one!

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Armentrout, MEBA Secretary