

I. PBA President Ricky Davis called meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Prayer over meal offered. Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomed new guest Patrick Ferguson. 29 signed the register.

II. Treasurer Report: Mike Hartman not present. Ricky Davis reported balance in PBA Account \$7607.79.

III. Apiary Report: Roger Gauthier was absent. Ricky Davis reported club presently has five active boxes, doing well.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PROGRAM: Susan Precup presented several scenarios to diagnose and correct problems in the hive. Some had flood issues with debris, hives tilted or leaning. If hives are getting too wet, you may need to move them to a different location. Hives should be tilted slightly with the back higher, so that rain will not run in.

Fall Care and Preparation for winter. Many good tips and ideas were shared among the group. Some highlights:

- Inspect hive with a purpose – check population, brood, queen, food stores. Bees will be bringing in weed pollen. Should have a football size brood area.
- Look for weak hives – inspect. Correct if possible with frames from a strong hive, or combine hive. Monitor weight of hive. Lift up in back to gauge the weight. Hive should be quite heavy now.
- Feed if necessary. We have been in a drought/dearth. May very well need to feed syrup and/or pollen. This will help bees to build up stores before winter. Bees are very hungry right now.
- Control small hive beetles. Beetle traps with Combat, Swiffer sheets, DE under hives, or pour soapy water under and around hives. Hives in the sun have less beetle problem.
- Varroa treatment should be done before winter. Test with sugar roll or alcohol wash to determine varroa load. Treat with oxalic acid vapor or sponges.
- Keep water available for bees. With this hot weather, they need a good water source.

There was good discussion and exchange of ideas and tips on maintaining healthy hives.

DOOR PRIZES & ADJOURNMENT: Door prizes given out. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Joanie Kochanek, Secretary