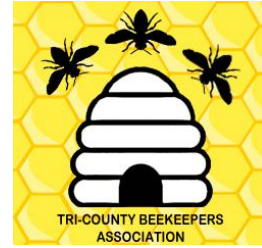


# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

26 January 2016



## Opening

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:35 pm on 26 January 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## Officers Present

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## Pledge

The Pledge was led by Margaret Stewart.

## Treasurer's report

Balance as of 26 January 2016 is \$3,128.86.

## Item #1 By-laws

Discussion was held on the proposed changes/amendments to our By-laws. The actions taken are as follows:

- Motion made by Ken Bundrick to amend Article II to include the 6 points from original By-laws regarding the purpose of the Association. Mike Garrett second. Motion was passed by show of hands.
- Motion made by Ken Bundrick to change the wording of Article III part 4 to read that 3/4 of a majority vote is needed for the removal of officers. Mark Bundrick second. Motion was passed by show of hands.
- Motion made by Ken Bundrick to fix the typographical errors in Article VIII. Dale Griffith second. Motion was passed by show of hands.
- Motion made by Ken Bundrick to accept the By-laws as amended. Dale Griffith second. Motion was passed by show of hands.

*Action Item #1 - Make necessary changes/amendments to By-laws, get same signed by officers at next meeting and redistribute to membership.*

## Item #2 Florida State Beekeeper Association donation

Item was tabled without discussion.

## Item #3 Varrocleaner

Discussion held on getting a varrocleaner for Association member use. Several issues regarding availability for all members considering the timing requirements as well as liability issues were raised. Motion by Ken Bundrick that the Association should not purchase a varrocleaner. Ted Futterer second. Motion passed by show of hands.

#### **Item #4 Skep and educational hive**

Discussion held on obtaining an educational hive and a skep to be utilized as an educational tool by the Association. The educational hive would cost a little over \$100.

- Motion made by Mark Bundrick to obtain an education hive. Dale Griffith second. Motion passed by show of hands.
- Motion made by Ken Bundrick to table the discussion regarding the skep until more information is obtained regarding price and availability. Mark Bundrick second. Motion passed by show of hands.

*Action Item #2 - The educational hive (teaching hive) will be purchased. Information regarding price and availability of skep will be obtained and presented at next meeting.*

#### **New Business**

- Sheet was passed around for an updated swarm collection list. An email will follow requesting that information as well.
- New/prospective members were given folders containing Association information as well as other general information regarding beekeeping.
- Membership sheets were passed out so that information could be updated and dues paid.
- Discussion on creating an inventory list of Association owned equipment and other items.

*Action Item #3 - Get an updated list of equipment and items.*

#### **Education and Announcements**

- North Escambia Beekeepers Association Workshop is scheduled for February 20th at the Molino Community Complex, 6450 Hwy 95-A, North Molina, FL. Registration on-line at <http://www.northescambiabees.com>
- Beekeeping in the Panhandle Short Course will be in March. More information will be coming.
- Discussion by Joel Ring and other beekeepers regarding their use of the varroacleaner. Mike Garrett had forwarded members an article he found on the equipment.

- Discussion on keeping your bees going through the winter months. Starvation is the biggest problem. Mark Bundrick pointed out that we should pay attention to the bees and not the calendar.
- Discussion on the various stresses that impact your bees. Weather and food are major concerns but so are environmental problems such as pesticides and other chemicals that may have negative impacts on hive health.

### **Adjournment**

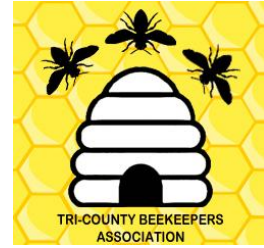
Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm by President, Bill Hagan. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 pm on February 23, 2016, in Crestview Extension auditorium.

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

Notes: 25 adults present (18 males and 7 female); 7 youth present (1 female and 6 male)

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes  
23 February 2016



## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:30 pm on 23 February 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## **Officers Present**

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## **Pledge**

The Pledge was led by Grayson Clark.

## **Treasurer's report**

Balance as of 23 February 2016 is \$3,398.86.

## **Item #1 Skep**

Discussion was held regarding the previously proposed purchase of a skep for use in education programs. A few were found on-line but were not appropriate for our use.

This item has been tabled indefinitely.

## **Item #2 Education hive**

The education hive price was presented as being \$95 (plus shipping).

*Action Item #1 - Bill Hagan will order the education hive and it will be kept with the other education materials.*

## **Item #3 Coloring Books**

Discussion was held regarding the coloring books that Bill Hagan had purchased (utilizing his own funds) to be given out as education materials. The proposal was made to have the Association purchase the next batch. Motion by Mike to have the Association purchase 100 of the coloring books was seconded by Jim. Motion passed by show of hands.

*Action Item #2 - Bill Hagan will order the 100 coloring books.*

#### **Item #4 Shirts**

Discussion was held regarding having our logo embroidered onto shirts. Margaret had obtained information from Uniform Connection and Trophy Shop located in Crestview. The initial set-up fee would be \$35 (and would then be on file with the store). To have the logo embroidered onto a shirt (you supply the shirt) is estimated to run about \$10.

Motion by Dale to have the set-up accomplished for \$35 was seconded by Mike. Motion passed by show of hands.

*Action Item #3 - Margaret will work with Uniform Connection and get the logo set-up accomplished. When it has been approved, membership will be informed of availability.*

#### **Pending Action Items**

- Compile an updated list of Association loaner equipment and education items.

#### **New Business**

The price of NUCS has gone up. Membership was encouraged to seek out other members who have NUCS for sale. Neil Hopkins has some available but he requires pulled comb. Joel has a couple left.

#### **Education and Announcements**

- Bill spoke about the Escambia workshop. About 150 people attended and all the classes were full. There were demonstration on marking queens, an open hive demonstration, clipping queen's wings and much more. Discussion followed on wing clipping. Membership is encouraged to practice on drones if they want to attempt this.
- Question was posed to the membership regarding the painting of woodenware. Discussion as to why painting is a common practice as well as the parts to paint. Further discussion was held regarding the angle of the hives to ensure good drainage.
- Question was posed regarding the double stacking of broods. Some discussion ensued.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned ahead of schedule due to severe weather moving into our area.

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes  
29 March 2016



## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:30 pm on 29 March 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## **Officers Present**

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## **Approval of Minutes**

There were no changes to the previous month's minutes.

## **Treasurer's report**

Balance as of 29 March 2016 is \$3,269.78.

## **Item #1 Education hive**

Bill has ordered the education hive.

## **Item #2 Coloring books**

Bill has ordered the coloring books.

## **Item #3 Shirts**

Marg Stewart is still working with Uniform Connection to have our logo embroidered on shirts. There has been issues with resolution of the current logo and those are being resolved.

*Action Item #1 - Continue to work with Uniform Connection to correct resolution issues.*

## **Item #4 Support of Florida State Beekeepers Association re: Bee Lab**

Discussion was held regarding FSBA's efforts to raise funds for the new Bee Lab. They are promoting \$350 per square foot donations. Donors of that amount would be recognized by having the donor's name on either a brick, tile, plaque, or something at the site. Mike described what the bee research lab is and there was a discussion as to an appropriate donation amount. A motion was made by Marg Stewart to donate the

suggested \$350 and was properly seconded. There being no further discussion, motion was passed by a show of hands in favor.

*Action Item #2 - Joel Ring shall cut a check for the amount of \$350 and send to FSBA Treasurer, Mr. Bob Livingston at 7561 Old St. Augustine Road, Tallahassee, FL 32311.*

### **Pending Action Items**

- Compile an updated list of Association loaner equipment and education items.

### **New Business #1 - April's meeting change**

April's meeting will not be held at the Extension building. Instead, we will have our meeting on April 30th from 10am until ??? at Bill Hagan's house. This meeting will consist of open hive demonstrations, marking of queens, and other helpful information especially to our new members. A cook-out will follow the demonstrations. Invitations will be sent out and those wishing to attend need to RSVP by the 28th.

*Action Item #3 - Marg Stewart will create the invitations with a link providing directions to Bill's house and send out to the membership.*

### **Education and Updates**

- Mike Garrett gave a presentation on swarms and bee species.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

**Next meeting:** April 30th from 10am until ??? at Bill Hagan's residence. Invitation and directions will be sent out via email.

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes  
30 April 2016



## Opening

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was changed to a demonstration meeting (open hive) type meeting. Meeting began at approximately 10:30am on 30 April 2016 at the residence of President, Bill Hagan.

## Officers Present

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## Summary

Officers arrived between 9am and 9:30am with members and prospective members arriving between 10am and 10:30am. A sign-in sheet was utilized. Any members not current with their dues or prospective members were required to sign hold-harmless agreements and these have been filed with the signup sheet. Dues were collected from five (5) individuals which included members and new members.

Joel Ring led the open hive demonstration. What followed was general hive health, inspecting your hives, recognizing types of bees, swarming and such. Also included was practicing marking queens. Drones were utilized in place of a queen. Lighting your smoker was covered as were several other tips about removing frames and putting them back in.

Bill demonstrated one box he utilizes for queens and swarms. The box is split into three separate sections with different entrances to each section.

At the conclusion of the demonstrations, participants congregated near the house (and on the air conditioned porch). The education hive was available for review.

In spite of a temperamental grill, the cook-out provided sustenance for all and was much appreciated.

**Next meeting:** 31 May 2016 beginning at 6:30pm @ Crestview Extension Building, 3095 Airport Road, Crestview, FL

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary



# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

31 May 2016



## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:30 pm on 31 May 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## **Officers Present**

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## **Attendance**

There were 23 attendees

## **Approval of Minutes**

The only change to the previous minutes was a typographical fix. Minutes were accepted as written.

## **Treasurer's report**

Balance as of 31 May 2016 is \$2,991.73.

## **Item #1 Education hive**

The education hive was purchased and was available for viewing.

## **Item #2 Shirts**

Samples of the embroidered shirts were presented. Our logo is now on file with Uniform Connection & Trophy Shop, 779 N. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview. 850-682-6288. They are in the shopping center with Goodwill. It is recommended that the shirts you supply to be embroidered are cotton as this will eliminate pulling. Please check first as to pricing. Price will vary depending on whether you have the background done or not.

## **Item #3 Support of Florida State Beekeepers Association re: Bee Lab**

Bill stated that he received notice they have raised the funds necessary for the Lab construction.

## **Item #4 Web Site**

Discussion was held over whether our group wants to have a web site or not. There were several members who viewed this as being too much work for someone to do. Others

were more inclined to rely on Facebook for contact with the public. Still others felt that the web site was a good idea. No decision was made at this time regarding this matter.

*Action Item #1 - The web site proposal is tabled until July's membership meeting.*

### **Education and Updates**

- Photos were shown from the open hive demonstration on April 30th.
- Several new beekeepers and prospective beekeepers were present. Question and answer period was extensive. Bill has offered to show new beekeepers some of the basics at his apiary. They must call first and schedule.
- Bill mentioned that Pigeon Mountain is selling nucs for \$285. Any member who has nucs available should let the group know (please include price and availability)
- Some discussion on swarm removal. It's been a busy year and there have been a few cases where the swarms were just not in areas that were easily retrieved.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

**Next meeting:** July 26th @ Okaloosa County Extension Office, 3098 Airport Road, Crestview, 6:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

28 June 2016



## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:36 pm on 28 June 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## **Officers Present**

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## **Attendance**

There were 28 attendees

## **Approval of Minutes**

There were no corrections nor additions to the previous meeting's minutes. May's minutes were accepted as written.

## **Treasurer's report**

Balance as of 27 June 2016 is \$2,973.38.

*Note: Due to meeting going off agenda, the following minutes are not presented in chronological order.*

## **Item #1 Coloring books**

The coloring books were received and thanks to the Bundricks, we were able to ship to their location and avoid freight charges. Also, thank you to Stacey Taylor for picking them up. These items will be kept at Bill Hagan's residence and will be included in our Association inventory

## **Item #2 Hive inspections**

Due to the lack of funding, inspections have been temporarily suspended. New beekeepers must still register as before and if you do run into any problems, call Andrew Finch.

## **Item #3 New beekeeper Q & A**

Discussion was held on creating a new comer information sheet. Marg Stewart moved that such a committee be set up to work on said sheet. Ken Bundrick second. Motion approved by show of hands vote.

*Action Item #1 - Marg Stewart, Mike Garrett, Ken Bundrick, Ted Futterer, and Kim Mickna volunteered for the committee. Ted will work on a list of suggested publications; Ken and Kim are working on common questions by new comers; Mike will work on hive parts and Marg will work on compiling the information and type-setting.*

## **Education and Updates**

- Discussion was held regarding hive beetles and what they can do to a hive. Also on various methods of controlling hive beetles.
- A reminder on the use of pesticides in the vegetable garden. Refrain from the use of Sevin® dust and if a pesticide is required, use when the bees aren't active and use the least lethal means to achieve control.
- Storm mitigation and dealing with natural problems
  - To mitigate against wind, strapping the hives down is an option
  - Pay attention to the location of your hives and the potential for flooding
  - If you are in an area with bears, don't mess with them! Electric fencing is about the only solution to prevent bears from getting to your hives.
- Varroa mites
  - Preventative treatment is a must
  - Check drone cells for the presence of mites
  - Treat for varroa after slinging and according to package directions
  - Checkmite™ is currently unavailable due to a packaging issue with the EPA. It remains on the approved EPA list, but until the packaging is changed it won't be available. A complete list of EPA approved miticides may be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/epa-registered-pesticide-products-approved-use-against-varroa-mites-bee-hives>
  - Always alternate treatment methods to avoid resistance
- Discussion on the types of bees and their various roles within the hive.
- Question was presented as to why you should re-queen. Some supporting comments were: avoid swarming; increase egg production.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

**Next meeting:** July 26th @ Okaloosa County Extension Office, 3098 Airport Road, Crestview, 6:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

26 July 2016



## Opening

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:35 pm on 26 July 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## Officers Present

Other officers present were Vice-President Mike Garrett, Treasurer Joel Ring and Secretary Margaret Stewart

## Attendance

There were 17 attendees

## Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections nor additions to the previous meeting's minutes. June's minutes were accepted as written.

## Treasurer's report

Balance as of 26 July 2016 is \$2,909.38. Treasurer's report submitted and entered into record.

## Item #1 New Beekeeper Q & A

The compiling of the new beekeepers information sheet(s) to be included with their welcome folder is progressing. Ted Futterer, Mike Garrett, Margaret Stewart, Kim Mickna, Ken Bundrick, and Andy Overbay are all participating in getting the information together.

*Action Item #1: Continue working on information sheet(s) and try to have them completed in time for review before next meeting on August 30th.*

## Item #2 Embroidered logo

The Trophy Shop in Crestview, where our logo is on file, has moved to a location south on Hwy. 85. They are now located in Kellies Plaza. Anyone wanting to utilize another vendor may request a jpeg of the logo from Secretary, Margaret Stewart. If any fees are involved with setting up the file, you MUST get prior approval by the Board if you intend to request reimbursement.

*Action Item #2: Ted Futterer requested the jpeg be forwarded to him. This will be done by July 30th.*

### **Item #3 Hive question**

The question was posed by a new attendee about the number of hives permitted at a location and if they are allowed in Crestview. Discussion resulted that the number of hives permitted is based on the size of the lot and that information is on the Department of Agriculture website as well as the printed information in the new comer folder. At this time there are no indications against beekeeping but members are reminded to check their local HOA regulations (if present) and to always be a considerate neighbor.

### **Item #4 Baker Block**

The annual Baker Block Museum event will be held the first Saturday of November. Members who have extra jars, honey etc., please let Bill know. More information will be provided as available.

### **Education and Updates**

- Presentation was given on varroa mites and hive beetles by Bill Hagan. Slides were shown that provided visual support on what these two pests look like. Members were encouraged to treat their hives. There was also discussion on rotating the treatment utilized to avoid resistance. A question was posed as to why that is necessary to be done yearly (rotation). The fact that an insect's life-span is so short is the reason why rotation of treatments must be done every year.
- A handout was provided on the EPA approved varroa treatment chemicals. The handout has been entered into the record. The list may be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/epa-registered-pesticide-products-approved-use-against-varroa-mites-bee-hives>

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.

**Next meeting:** August 30th @ Okaloosa County Extension Office, 3098 Airport Road, Crestview, 6:30pm.

**Upcoming events:** Baker Block Museum, November 5th (first Saturday of the month).

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary

# Tri-County Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

30 August 2016



## Opening

The regular meeting of the Tri-County Beekeepers Association was called to order at 6:40 pm on 30 August 2016 at the Crestview Extension Office by President, Bill Hagan.

## Officers Present

Other officers present were Treasurer, Joel Ring and Secretary ,Margaret Stewart

## Attendance

There were 23 attendees

## Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections nor additions to the previous meeting's minutes. July's minutes were accepted as written and entered into the record.

## Treasurer's report

Balance as of 29 August 2016 is \$2,909.38. Treasurer's report submitted and entered into record.

## Item #1 Association Web Site

This matter had been tabled from May's general membership meeting. Ken Bundrick moved to authorize the expenditure of no more than \$250 for the creation of a web site for a period of three (3) years. David Clark seconded. Motion passed through voice vote. Passed.

*Action Item #1: Purchase the domain name and web hosting for the approved amount. Have web site up and functioning by the end of September.*

## Item #2 Use of Antibiotics

Ken Bundrick researched information provided to him by Marg Stewart about possible changes to using antibiotics in hives. Ken covered a Federal Law that goes into effect in January regarding the use of antibiotics. He spoke with the bee inspector and basically it boils down to this: if you want to treat, you will need a veterinarian. Farm and garden centers will still sell theramiacin because it is a common antibiotic for all sorts of livestock. However, the pre-mixed, ready to use will become difficult to get.

Theramiacin is used to treat American and European Foul Brood. Both of these are highly contagious and members are encouraged to treat. A possible case was reported in

Destin but there was no confirmation. The pre-mixed treatment will still be available at the present time and may be used without a vet's involvement. Bundrick's Honey Farm will try to get a supply in.

The question was posed as to how you tell if you have the disease present. Basically it's the smell (hence the name). Once it is present, the hives are burned. The bacteria can last thirty (30) years. For more information on this disease you can view either of the following: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05tCHtUyNHM> and/or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2Aa56jut7Y>

### **Item #3 Hive Inspections**

Ken Bundrick reported that, according to Andrew Finch, the financial issues with the state inspections has been resolved. There have been some changes with regards to the territory that the inspectors cover. The larger district means that inspections will be farther apart. 20% of the commercial beekeeping operations in the district will be inspected each year. 20% of the hobbyist beekeepers will be inspected every five (5) years.

New beekeepers must still register as always and will be inspected. Inspectors will still respond for questions and problems.

### **Item #4 Hive thefts**

There have been multiple hive thefts reported in Lee County. No updates are available at this time. Members are reminded to mark their hives and report any problems.

### **Education and Updates**

- Presentation was given by Master Clark along with his father David Clark on his upcoming Science Project. It will involve and experiment using a predatory mite that attacks the varroa. Volunteers are being sought to participate. For more information on the Candadian study go here <http://www.niagarabeeway.com/varroa-mite.html>
- Bill Hagan covered the importance of varroa treatment. Timing as well as changing the type of treatment used each year was also covered.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

**Next meeting:** October 25th @ Okaloosa County Extension Office, 3098 Airport Road, Crestview, 6:30pm.



**Upcoming events:**

October 20-22nd 96th Annual Florida State Beekeepers Conference, Gainesville

October 22nd Master Beekeeper Program and Testing

November 5th - Baker Block Museum, Heritage Festival

January 10-14, 2017 - North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow @ Galveston

Minutes submitted by: Margaret Stewart, Secretary