

Calgary and District Beekeepers Association Meeting

7:00 pm, March 14th 2012

Brentwood Coop meeting room

Executive present: Ken Crebbin - President, Jamie Howell - Vice President, Gillian Colbourne, Treasurer, Regrets: Bert Blouin - Secretary

Call to order Meeting opened at 7:05pm. There was a count of fifty one people in attendance for this meeting. Thirty seven signed the attendance sheet.

Memberships: Gillian C. reported that Annual membership dues are \$25.00. It was further reported that Nuc. sales and the upcoming beekeepers course have resulted in a significant increase in memberships as a 2012 C.D.B.A. membership is a requirement for participation in each program. Jamie H. assisted her with membership sales at the meeting.

Bee Nuc. Orders: Bruce announced that for those who have placed orders to purchase Bill Stragg, nucs. Bill will need their standard boxes and six frames by the second week in May, in anticipation of May long weekend nuc. delivery. There have not been many orders received for Saskatchewan bees. The later supplier will only accept new boxes but he will supply the frames. **Bruce also stressed that he will not place any orders unless the payment is received from the individual.**

Global Patty Mike and Atilla sold pollen patties at the meeting. Atilla gave a short presentation on the use of these patties followed by questions and answers. There was a draw for hats. A box of patties was donated for distribution to the members in attendance. Global Pattie are in Airdrie and their hours of operation are 7:00am to 1:00pm. Week days.

Aggie Days – Apr. 18th to 22nd. Jim R circulated the volunteer list it is pretty well completed except for some additional people to man the booth on Sunday April 22nd. As in the past, Wed. Thursday and Friday are for school children and on weekends families attend. Parking passes and lunch will be provided to volunteers.

Beginners Beekeeping Course – March 24th and 25th. @ Brentwood Coop. Cost is \$200 and a Current Calgary Beekeepers membership is needed to attend. An additional benefit to the course is that there will be two one half day sessions of hands on training included for the participants. And it will be scheduled in early summer.

Spring Management/ Splits. Ken C. Neil Bertram and Jim Rogers answered questions on spring management, and shared how they carry out their spring splits. Some of the recommendations included:

- Do not unwrap until the weather has warmed up significantly.
- Avoid disturbing the bees at this time of the year.
- When inspecting, look for a solid brood pattern.

- Leave entrance reducers on until June.
- Sample for mites in early April and initiate treatment in May as needed
- Since it is not affected by temperature Apivar seems to be the preferred early mite treatment as the strips could be installed in early April.

Equipment Disposal Joe Andreas, a long time member has announced that he is downsizing and will have a limited amount of used surplus equipment – boxes, frames etc. available for sale.

Calgary Stampede Display. In past years the club held a two day display at the Stampede, the intention is to carry on the practice again in 2012

Show and Tell Presentation Bob Little presented a Japanese style hive which he has constructed. It seems to be a square, frameless, perhaps, Morimoto style stackable hive system. Mike Lawson demonstrated a Klindworth queen starter box. He has been using it to produce queens from his TBH. surplus swarm cells. Both were well presented innovative ideas. Dan S. has been urging members to make short interesting beekeeping presentations at the meetings. It is suggested that you contact President Ken if you would like to make such a presentation so it can be included in the agenda.

Next Meeting:

Scheduled for April 11, 2012, where Dr. Medhat Nasr is scheduled to discuss Spring Management and Alberta Agriculture updates.

An alternate location to announced on Web site as the Brentwood Coop is not available on this date.

Thanks to Joan, Janne and Lorraine for collaborating in the recording these minutes.

Bert Blouin

Secretary