

Meeting open at 6:30 PM, 54 in attendance

Old Business:

- A vote will take place at the next meeting for a decal/logo for the club
- Discussion r/t Doris, DNR contact for June's national pollinator's month and Bookworm Garden's education. Tentative date June 23 or 24, Dan Pitsch is contact for this event.
- Laura Grunwald and Bonnie Hembold are looking for assistance on May 12th with educational presentation request, Dan has educational materials.
- If club members would like to send dues outside of club meetings please sent to Ken's house at 1711 N 17th st, Sheboygan, WI, 53081 (10 dollars per family per year).
- Gary at Honeyland Farms has Buckfast bees for purchase still (NUCS/packages). Gary would still like to offer an educational class on queen rearing, tentative dates May 5th and May 12th.
- May 8th meeting Thelma Heidle-Baker would like to present on pollinator habitats at the open of the meeting followed by normal business agenda.
- Some representation for the bee club was at the neonic banning vote for use on state lands and parks, unfortunately however measure did not pass.

New Business:

- Next meeting we will find out what the clubs interest is in supporting educational efforts of the state fair. Would like to have state fair dates by that time.
- A few members are receiving bees already.
- Question raised as to why the bee club does not order as a group to receive a price break. Ad Hoc committee to be developed to look into this interest and organize for next year if necessary.

Program: Gary demonstrated a technique for building frames, wiring in wax foundation so it remains stable and what matters are needed for this project.

Monthly Questions:

-What should I be doing this month: Clean out dead hives, prep apiary for new arrivals.

-When making creamed honey how do you control temps? Suggestion made to use double boiler method or the DICE method for creaming honey.

-Should we treat new NUC packages for mites? Current recommendations via Marla Spivik include the treatment of varroa mite at a mite load of 3 or more monthly from July on using the follow (in this order if needed): Formic acid, Thymol, Oxalic acid

-What are favored bee varieties in this area? Several, includes Carniolans, Buckfast and Italian.

-What do you do if your bees arrive during wet/cold weather? Install fast! 2 frames of honey on either side of brood box, could stay worst case scenario in the transport box for one week.

-Fencing or walls around hives to prevent predators? Up to beekeeper, electric fence for bears. Otherwise tack strips on hive for skunks and mice. Hedge/fence in front of hive to encourage bees flying up and out.

-What direction should hive face? South/Southeast suggested however more important that they receive morning sun to get everyone awake and starting their day.

Amanda

Next meeting, May 8th. Guest Speaker [Thelma Heidel-Baker, Ph.D.](#)
[Conservation Biological Control Specialist](#)



Thelma will be giving a presentation, BEFORE the business meeting, at 6:30 p.m. on Pollinators. The program will be starting promptly at 6:30.