

## OCBA Meeting Minutes, January 12, 2017

Cynthia Speed

Our 1st pre-meeting dinner held in a private room at Radius Pizzeria was a great success with 16 attending.

President John Rintoul opened the membership meeting with an introduction of the new executive committee members for 2017: Immediate Past President Walter Starks, Vice President Mark Powers, Treasurer Mary Leonardi, Secretary Cynthia Speed, Director of Outreach Chris Apple, Director of Education Randall Austin, and Director of Apprenticeship and Mentoring David Eckert.

Randall gave a short talk on what tasks good beekeepers are carrying out in their apiaries this time of year. He said that January tasks are simple: confirm that your bees are alive (i.e. flying on warm days), check hive weight and feed them if light, order bee packages if necessary, read good bee books, and register your hives with BeeCheck.

John reminded all to renew OCBA and NCSBA memberships. More information is forthcoming as we meet new requirements and move from chapter status to corporation. Bee School begins Tuesday January 17<sup>th</sup> with 75 registrants and a full class. Refreshments tonight were brought by Mary Leonardi and Mark Powers. A new list for 2017 refreshment volunteers was circulated. Reminder: The joint NC/SC Spring Conference will be held in Rock Hill S. C. on March 3-4, 2017. See the NCSBA website for details.

Hannah Levenson, researcher at Dr. Tarpy's apiculture lab at NCSU gave an excellent talk on the "Foraging Preferences of Native Bees."

Next month's speaker will be Lewis Cauble who will speak on "Spring Splits and Swarm Control."

Forty-five people were in attendance. The meeting was adjourned.