

OCBA Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2013

Lizabeth B. Collins

1. Geneva Green welcomed members and guests.
2. She thanked Cynthia Speed and Chris Apple, **State Fair** Gurus, for their amazing work on the club's booth this year. She also mentioned David Bailey's gift basket, Todd Walker's blue ribbon in extracted light honey, 5th place to John Harrell for an amazing photo of a recessive gene (he has drones with white eyes, a youth's 2nd place for a coloring book which also won Best in Show, Logan Kroothoep's 2nd place in senior photography beating out Todd's 3rd place in the same category, Logan also took a blue ribbon for his Honey Baked Cookies.
3. Geneva reminded the club members that the **December meeting** would be a **Potluck Meal** and **begins at 6 pm**
4. Club thanked Geneva for her work with this year's **Intro. to Beekeeping** course. She reported that the highlight of the day was the participation in the waggle dance! The ten week **Bee School** begins in January; registration is up on the website.
5. Dick's treasury report listed a total of \$8,400. The club is in good shape, partially due to the money coming in from grants (Golden Achievement) and State Fair awards.
6. Before holding **elections**, Geneva spoke of how the club is completely run by volunteers. No matter what is needed, someone always steps up to the plate and accepts the responsibility to cover all the meetings, activities, and events that need to be held. Although she opened the floor for nominations for the position of **3 year Director**, she also asked if there were any volunteers for the position. **Cedric Pearce** stepped up and volunteered for the position. The two remaining positions open for 2014 are for **President and Vice President**. After some discussion of titles, **Chris Apple and Cynthia Speed** volunteered to serve together. The club enthusiastically approved the candidates for all offices.
7. Watty Bowes voiced the club's appreciation to Geneva for her service this year as President.
8. Geneva made a motion that the club sponsor two new 4-H-ers in the coming year. This sponsorship would cost approximately \$1,000 to set each up. The club passed the motion.

Randall Austin, Master Beekeeper, was introduced to present "NinJa Wars: A Death of a Thousand Cuts (or How Varroa Mites are Killing Your Bees)". Randall adroitly pointed out that varroa destructor are similar to ninjas — they are unseen and unheard, they are stealthy, they are well-trained (good at what they do), and they are deadly. We have over 18 different ninja viruses in our hives. Some are familiar, such as Deformed Wing

Virus and Sac Brood Virus; others are less familiar, such as Chronic Bee Paralysis Virus, Black Queen Cell Virus, and Kashmir Bee Virus (Randall looked for a bee wearing a sweater to illustrate this slide). What can we do about the ninja viruses? Antibiotics don't work against viruses, but beekeepers can reduce the mite pressure in the hives, keep hives strong and healthy, and re-queen if needed. Randall also suggested reading articles on scientificamerica.com. He answered questions following the slideshow. The meeting was adjourned and members and guests enjoyed refreshments and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

'Lizabeth B. Collins