

## **OCBA Meeting Minutes, February 12, 2015**

*Jan Rogers*

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by co-presidents Chris Apple and Cynthia Speed.

1. All club members with at least one year of beekeeping experience were encouraged to become a part of the OCBA mentor program. Beekeeping offers all of us, both new and experienced beekeepers alike, challenges. If you are just starting out in the craft of beekeeping, having a mentor to call upon from time to time may be all that is needed to build your confidence and expertise. If you are interested in being matched with a mentor, contact Cynthia Speed to sign up.
2. Chris Apple introduced Sandy Carlson of Franklin County Beekeepers. She explained that the Franklin County Beekeepers Association (FCBA) has designed a North Carolina specialty license plate in an effort to bring more awareness to the plight of our state insect, the honey bee. The proposed plate is based on the "First in Flight" plate and a honey bee logo appears on the left hand side of the plate. DMV requires 300 pre-paid applications before it will consider the initial plate application. They have currently have 217 applications and in an effort to make this fourth attempt for this specialty plate a success she is asking for us to get plates for every car in our household. All applications need to be submitted before the end of this month.

Jennifer Keller, NCSU technician and beekeeper extraordinaire was the speaker for the evening offering a presentation on Making Spring Splits.

Following the presentation, Chris Apple asked who had a chance to open their hives during last Sunday's very warm day. Geneva saw lots of brood and some gray/green pollen. Jamie saw pollen and drone cells right next to brood and John noticed a couple of drones walking around. Members then enjoyed fellowship and refreshments. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Rogers