

OCBA Meeting Minutes, January 2016

Jan Rogers

Our new club president Walter Starks opened the meeting at 7:11pm. 36 members were in attendance.

Walter welcomed all members both old and new. Several new bee school attendees were welcomed as well.

Dave Eckert told us that 8 people applied for the 2016 Apprentice Program. Two great candidates were chosen. They will be attending bee school and giving a presentation to the club in the fall about their first season keeping bees.

The need for experienced beekeepers at field day at the end of bee school was brought up tying in the introduction of the First Year Clusters. This group will create the opportunity to connect beekeepers that have already successfully overwintered at least one hive in NC with newbees. He emphasized how much everyone ends up learning and how much fun it is. If there is enough interest a monthly field day schedule may be created. OCBA members could caravan from apiary to apiary in a specific a region and open hives together.

Randall Austin suggested that the OCBA start a study group for those interested in attaining their Master Beekeeper Certification similar to Person County. A sign up sheet was sent around and there was much interest. He shared that mentoring a new beekeeper is a great way to get service credits.

Club Treasurer Mary Leonhardi was in attendance collecting dues and selling \$2 OCBA patches.

Cynthia Speed mentioned the club hives that will be at Blackwood Farm. She and Mary will maintain the top bar hive and Cedric Pearce will monitor the Langstroth at this site. Walter and John Rintoul continue to tend the hives in Carrboro.

At 7:25pm Jenn Temple, paramedic intern at the Carrboro Fire Station 1 was introduced. She gave a fantastic presentation that clearly demonstrated her passion to educate the community on all things related to health emergency management.

She shared her thoughts on EPI pens and the proper time to use the same. She could not emphasize enough how important it is to call 911 if there is ever a breathing issue. The rule of thumb is to always call if you think you need help. You are not bothering them - they would rather come out and discover all is well than not be called and a serious problem develops.

Jenn also stressed the importance of everyone becoming CPR certified. It is an important tool that aids in what is called Meaningful Recovery. The sooner you do CPR on a person the greater chance they have to recover back to their original state.

She also talked about heart attack signs, stroke, seizure disorder, bleeding, broken bones and heat related emergencies.

Jenn finished her presentation and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.