



Door County Beekeepers Club

Door County Club Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 24th 2021

Location: Crossroads

To promote the study, science, and craft of beekeeping through education, encouragement, and community for all Door County beekeepers, and raise awareness to the benefits of bees.

Co-Pres: Max Martin / Mark Lentz, **VP:** Paul Kenyon, **Treasurer/Membership:** Susie Kurtz, **Secretary:** Barb Meyer/Doug Otopalik, **Media/IT:** David Eash, **Hospitality:** Cindy Easley, **Planning:** Dennis & Lynn Marquardt, Debby Ulrich, Bill Meyer, Gretchen Schmelzer

Present: Dennis Marquardt, Lynn Marquardt, Mark Lentz, Max Martin, Marie Viglas, Sue Doebler, Julie Howak, Debbie Ulrich, Scott Johnson, Julie Johnson, Joan Theys, Jane Hughes, George Pavlovics, Lisa O'Dell, Tom Max Hollingshead, Jim Bator, Cindy Easley

1. **Hive Dive 5:30 pm:** Hive Dive conducted by Max Martin and Mark Lentz on the Langstroth Hive at Crossroads. It is reported that the hive has minimal bees. The queen was identified.
2. **Call to order 6:30 pm:** Max Martin
3. **Welcome visitors/Introductions:** A reminder that honey harvest is done or going to be done soon. Time to start thinking about raising fat bees for the long winter ahead. The club has 2 extractors available to club members.
4. **Membership report and dues update:** Renewal will begin in January.
5. **Treasurers Report:** deferred
6. **Pollenpalooza:** Mark Lentz reported that the August 21st program was successful but had a low attendance. The activities conducted from the Bee Club members included a bee wax demo, observation hive, honey products and samples, honey extraction demo, educational honey bee talk, and tapping of the flow hive.
7. **Speaker Max Martin: Topic "Raising Fat Bees."** A discussion consisted of the follow topics.
 - **Mite control:** Test and treat for mites when honey supers are off. It is suggest if using Mite Strips to use 1 strip for 10 days then repeat. There are studies suggesting that 2 strips for 7 days may be toxic to the bees. Information on various forms of treatment can be obtained from: <http://datcp.wi.gov>
 - **Strong Queens:** Assess that your hive has a queen and that she is laying to build a strong winter hive.
 - **Pollen Storage:** No need to add pollen patties for the fall due to the amount of pollen in the community.
 - **Honey Storage:** Remove supers by Sept 1. This gives the bees the opportunity to produce and store honey for the winter. Begin Heavy syrup feeding after mite treatment is complete. The recipe for heavy syrup can be found on the Bee Club's website <https://doorcountybeekeepersclub.org>. Continue feeding until mid to late November. A review of the different types of feeders (outside & inside) is discussed.

- **Wrapping Hives:** Debbie Ulrich discussed wrapping hives. There are many types of wraps available. If interested in purchasing the wrap used for tonight's demonstration go to captin@planbeefarm.com
 - **Polystyrene Tops:** The use of polystyrene tops with ventilation tracks have been used with success in over wintering bees.
 - **Mouse Guards:** Apply mouse guards when you begin fall feeding. It is recommended to use a guard with a 2-3 inch opening.
 - **Ventilation:** A discussion on the importance of good ventilation took place. Ventilation on the top and bottom of the hive is important. Cedar stuffed pillows can be used at the top of the hive to absorb moisture.
 - **Screened Bottoms:** The use of screened bottoms assists with providing good ventilation to the hive.
8. **2020 Pear Mead Raffle:** A raffle was conducted by Dennis Marquardt of a bottle of 2020 Pear Mead made with honey from the club's Flow Hive.
9. **Next Meeting:** September 28th: **Hives Types** (Jeff Bradley) Meeting 6:30pm
Crossroads.
10. **Adjourn:** 8:15 pm