

Door County Beekeepers Club Meeting
Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 6:30p.m.
Collins Learning Center at Crossroads

Call to Order by co-chair Mark Lentz

Welcome to visitors and introductions

Attendance: Mark Lentz, Doug Otopalik, Joan Theys, Georg Pavlovics, Jim Batar, Tim Iding, Dennis and Lynn Marquardt, Brett Hanson, Debby Ulrich, Jordanien Hurley, Dan Christl, Tom Max Hollingshead, Carla Green, Gretchen Schmelzer, Cindy Easley, Jane Hughes, Paul Kenyon

Old Business:

1. Mark presented 2021-2022 meeting program schedule
2. A reminder to everyone to pay dues and renewals. Regular memberships are accepted year around. Please visit the club website to download an application.
3. No Treasurer's report given.

Program:

Guest speaker is club member Debby Ulrich presenting "All about Beeswax".

Notes from presentation

- over 300+ compounds found in wax
- melting point is greater than 400 degrees F, brittle at 32 degrees F
- Hexagon shape requires the least amount of wax to maximize honey stored
- wax is produced primarily by bees 2-15 days old, older bees can produce but in diminishing amount,
- "festooning" is a bee to bee, leg to leg, single file formation used in the building and reforming of comb, an interesting phenomena not fully understood,
- about 1lb of honey produced yields about 1oz of wax
- most wax is made in the Spring and this is partly why we feed them sugar water,
- old frame foundations (those 2-3 years old with dirty wax) should be replaced and frames scraped off,
- save wax from decapping comb during honey harvest, drain the wax, use crock pot method to render and strain wax,
- products and uses of wax include making candles, redoing foundations, soap, lip balms, salves, art and craft work(beware of toxins at certain temperatures when using additives). , "musher's wax", furniture polish, making wax cheese wraps, waterproofing fabrics.
- A very well done, interesting program with lots of questions. Thank you Debby

Adjourned meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 30th, " Making Mead, Tastings and Pairings". Hosted by Lynn and Dennis Marquardt at the Crossroads Learning Center

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Otopalik, secretary