



Minutes of the Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association March 2, 2020 General Meeting – 7pm

Next meeting April 6, 2020 General Meeting – 7pm

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
3561 Foothill Boulevard La Crescenta, CA 91214

losangelescountybeekeepers.com

Kevin Heydman called the Meeting called to order at 7:04pm. He then led us in the flag salute and introduced the Board:

Kevin Heydman-- President
Dave Williams--Vice President
Mary Ann Laun--Secretary
Jon Reese—Treasurer (not present)
El Rey Enschede—Member at Large

- He then asked Morgan to distribute raffle tickets. Index cards for questions were distributed. New blue Club t-shirts are now available for \$15. See Dave Williams.
- Kevin then asked new attendees to introduce themselves and asked them to tell us where on the beekeeping experience they were and where they were from. Approximately 12 people introduced themselves.

Update on Bee Literature (El Rey Enschede) El Rey summarized some of the current literature he has been reviewing from Bee Culture, and American Bee Journal. He also asked for volunteers to serve on a committee for the review and revision of the club's bylaws. [Secretary's note: if you are interested, contact me at lacba.secretary@gmail.com and I will forward the information to him by phone.]

Special presentation: Boris Claude Bar, Professor of Entomology UC Riverside.
Background information: "I have used honeybees, leaf cutting ants and bumblebees to study aspects of social insect reproduction and immunity. To do this I pursue an integrative approach, which combines biochemical technologies such as proteomics and evolutionary biology. An important part of my work is to conduct biochemical analyses and to use their outcomes to formulate hypotheses that can be experimentally tested in the field..."

Source: <https://entomology.ucr.edu/people/boris-bar>

Additional notes: Boris discussed the evolution of his work in bee research as well as the collaborative work of Harry East and other researchers. East's focus was on the toolbox concept using system biology and behavioral ecology. He then highlighted some of the elements of their research including immunity, environment, reproduction, behavior biology, and systems ecology. With illustrations (and humor) Dr. Bar focused on the value of healthy hives and

specifically highlighted some of the barriers to healthy bees. He also showed the trailer to the movie “More than honey.”

Dr. Bar commended UCR as one of the nation’s hotspots for bee research and entomology. He did a brief survey of almond pollination, citing that 80 percent of almonds are grown in California’s Central Valley. It takes 1.2 million beehives to pollinate almonds. The Central Valley is also known for the wide diversity of native bees and other bees.

He then discussed the breeding of queens, the biology of bees including the functions of the male reproductive system including seminal liquid and viability. He highlighted the brain of the honeybee queen and her ability to produce 1.5 million offspring. Of particular interest was that seminal fluid proteins contain almost all the immune system a bee has and that bee semen harbors parasites.

For more information, see UCR’s CIBER, Center for Integrative Bee Research on the web <https://ciber.ucr.edu/> as well as on Facebook.

Committee reports.

- Secretary’s report. (Mary Ann Laun) Please contact her as soon as possible about any corrections, additions, etc. Mary Ann mentioned that the month’s communications often include information that may be of interest to club members but reminded everyone that LACBA does not endorse or recommend any of these items. Mary Ann will send out a summary of these current communications.
- Treasurer’s Report (Jon Reese) not present
- Membership report (Cheryl Thiele) Pay your dues and preferred members pay online. If you are having a problem, ask a member for help. She stated that the enrollment procedure is working.
- Beekeeping 101 at the Valley Hive. Keith reported on the club sponsored Beekeeping 101 classes held at the Valley Hive. Started February 16, 2020. Volunteers needed! If you want to volunteer, email Cheryl Thiele at lacba.membership@gmail.com
- Education Committee. (Mary Ann Landau)
Mary reported on the portfolio bags that she is filling with educational materials. She will locate them at 4 strategic locations in Los Angeles County. She acknowledged the work of Jacklyn Metz who did the work to attach the logo. She also asked for suggestions of additional materials to include.
- Website report. (Eva Andrews) Eva summarized some of the current articles added to the website including the latest: *The Amazing Dr. Samuel Ramsey & His Talk on Tropilaelaps Mercedesae Mites at AFB 2020*. They can be accessed from the main page. Eva also mentioned an initiative proposed by Warren Carl to develop a resource for “What’s blooming in Los Angeles County.” He was thinking of a database or some

resource that could be made easily accessible to members. Eva, Warren and several members of the executive board will discuss the best platform for this project. Warren said he is happy to take the lead and has already been gathering information and photos.

Dave Williams reported on the bee swarm attack in Pasadena near Pasadena City College. Since his son works for the fire department, he was called to come to the scene of the Howard Johnson motel across the street from the college. When he arrived the firefighters and police officers were there and were assessing the situation. Several bystanders as well as first responders had been stung numerous times. Dave shared his personal experience. For more information, check the website at <https://www.losangelescountybeekeepers.com/blog/2020/2/20/bee-attack-in-pasadena-leaves-2-people-hospitalized-1-firefighter-treated-for-stings>

Questions

This month's questions included asking member where to locate Mesquite honey (LA Honey Company), where to purchase queens now, experiences with screen bottom boards, wax moth worms.

Final announcements

- Jay Weiss mentioned that the honey event at the LA Zoo starts March 21 and runs for 9 days, 10 am - 4 pm. If you would like to volunteer, contact Jay at JayWeiss@computerHMO.com
- Mark Haag from CSU Pomona mentioned that the beekeeping class will be held on Saturday, March 25 9:00am – 4:00pm. Cost is \$75.00. To enroll, go to <http://cpp-bees2020.eventbrite.com>
- Mariah Mussenden, who has been exploring social media for the club, has set up an Amazon smile account. Every eligible purchase on Amazon will provide a donation to our club. To enroll and specify our club as the designated charity, go to smile.amazon.com and specify “Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association” as the charity. Remember to use smile.amazon.com to access your Amazon account.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Laun, LACBA Secretary
3/3/2020