



Minutes of the Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association

January 7, 2019 Volume XIX, Issue 1

General Meeting – 7pm

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

3561 Foothill Boulevard

La Crescenta, CA 91214

losangelescountybeekeepers.com

Next Meeting: February 4, 2019

General Meeting - 7pm

Meeting called to order at 7:18 pm

1. Welcome (Jon Reese)
 - a. Flag Salute (Jon Reese)
 - b. Introduce the Board (Jon Reese)

Note: Reminder that in November we voted to continue the 2018 terms of office through 2019.

 - i. Jon Reese - President
 - ii. Kevin Heydman – Vice President (not present)
 - iii. Merrill Kruger - Secretary
 - iv. Bill Rathfelder – Treasurer (not present)
 - v. El Ray Enschede – Member at Large
 - c. Select raffle ticket seller - Mariah and Morgan
 - d. Index cards for questions – postponed
 - e. Recognize new members and/or guests
(16 introductions) (Jon Reese)
 - f. Thank You (Jon Reese)

Doug Nolan recognized for treats tonight.
2. Treasurer's Report (postponed)
3. Committee Reports (postponed)
4. Report about CSBA Convention

Cheryl, Mary Ann Laun, Mark Hague, and El Ray Enschede shared their experiences and all encouraged others to attend from newbies through experienced beekeepers.

5. Golden Hive Tool Award

Awarded to Dave Williams. (see Jon's bio for more information)

6. What's Blooming in your area? Jeremy noted that after the solstice there was an immediate turnaround. Eucalyptus, jade, bright yellow pollen in Altadena (aloe?).

7. What are you seeing in your hives?

Package holders from this year reported on their successes and challenges. Overall, it sounded like it was a good year.

8. Main Meeting Topic: Experienced Beekeeper talk about first two years of beekeeping: mistakes made, problems, trials & tribulations.

- El Ray Enschede. Started in the 70s. No mites or diseases common. Shared his earliest experiences with beekeeping and how relatively "easy" it was then. Problems with noisy machines in the beeyards; American foul brood was a major problem then. Does not appear to be a predominant problem now. 1980s brought an onslaught of tracheal mites. Over ten years, bees developed a tolerance and problem subsided. Mid-80s, varroa destructor surfaced.
- Memorial for Kodua Galieti (Bill Lewis)
Bill Lewis led the discussion of the role Kodua played in the club and his own beekeeping experiences. He reviewed each of her photographs and told the story of each (e.g. beekeepers in the almonds, beeyards, mating yards, other fascinating shots). She "pestered" Bill to take her along and he finally agreed. She arrived with a great camera, capturing the entire experience. She went on to spend time with many national and international beekeepers, including the editor of Bee Culture, with aerial shots of the almond bloom that were featured in the magazine. One photo highlighted Bennett Honey Farm in Fillmore in the early years; another highlighted farmers' markets products.
- Q & A (answer questions from index cards)
Bill Lewis answered a question after a burn. With rain, deer weed covers the mountain. Will provide a good source for honey until Black sage and buckwheat kick in. Diverse plants also come in.

Rodents questions? No rodenticides! Encourage barn owls or traps. Elevate hive a foot or two to deter skunks. Queens marked or clipping queens wings. Pros and cons discussed. Especially to determine genetics is helpful.

At end of Nectar flow, what is the preferred feeding schedule. Bill Lewis feeds for almonds starting in August to feed young winter bees. Break Sept/Nov and start feeding at the start of winter solstice. One gallon sugar water and 1 pound patty through January to build for almonds.

Ok to go in at 65 degrees to check on honey and pollen stores. Get in and out! Going in breaks propolis that keeps wind out.

Brood pattern this time of year...varying opinions. Mite levels? Honey? Can shrink to 2-4

frames. Depends of weather, bloom, how much honey on the hive...many factors.

Rose Parade growers use pesticides. No definitive answer.

- Next month, Wildflower Meadows to speak
- Raffle

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Laun, January 10, 2019