

JAN 11TH 2017 UESBA Meeting Minutes

Treasurer Report: Membership totals \$660 + Donations \$983 – Debts \$143 = \$1500 total

2017 Membership Fees are due! Fees are \$10 per person and \$15 for a family membership.

Announcements:

1. **Hyla Hive Drawing:** Congratulations Terra! She was the lucky winner of the complete hive, built by Joe Hyla. She purchased her ticket at our bee booth set up at Martinak State Parks Fall Fest! The raffle brought in a total of \$320!
2. **Beekeeping 101 Class:** Mike Embrey will be teaching a Beekeeping 101 class at Washington College in the library. Classes start Jan.26th from 6:30-8:30 and run every other Thursday thru April. This class is very informative and highly recommended for beginners and experienced beekeepers! Please contact Mike Embrey for more information at mecharjew@yahoo.com
3. **Fondant for Sale:** Don Sparks still has some fondant for sale it is \$35 for a 50lb block, first come first serve, email him at sparks.dk@gmail.com for more information.
4. **Queen Annes County Extension Office looking for volunteers** for a jobs in agricultural event they are putting on for 7th graders. Volunteers are needed to help man the booth for Apiculture. The event is April 25th at the 4H park and is an all day event. Please contact Mike Embrey for more information: mecharjew@yahoo.com
5. **Eastern Apicultural Society** will be having a conference at the University of Delaware July 31st- Aug 4th , check out their website for more information:
<http://www.easternapiculture.org/conferences/eas-2017.html>
6. **Maryland State Beekeeping Association:** Free conference event Feb. 11th in Howard County

Guest Speaker: Allen Hayes- President of MD State Beekeepers Association & EAS Master Beekeeper

Topic: Beekeeping Gadgets

Hive Scale: Weighs hives every night to record gain/loss and see patterns. Wooden stand with a platform has a bathroom scale under the platform which weighs the hive, a periscope and flashlight allow you to read the weight. At this link you will find a better description and the plans you'd need to build one: <http://www.carrollcountybeekeepers.org/using-a-bathroom-scale-to-weigh-honey-bee-colonies.pdf>

4-hole Feeder: Goes on top like an inner cover, holds 4 jar feeders, allows food change without disrupting the hive, can help with peeking in on the hive in the winter without disturbing them

Mouse Guard: ½ inch hardware wire in front of the entrance and then tied around the back so the bees can get in but the mice cannot.

Hinged Frames: Frames that open in half and have 3 wires running along each half to hold broken comb. Used mostly to save comb found in honeybee removal hives.

Hive Top Feeder: Made out of a super with a removeable screen to allow different feeding materials

Capping Strainer: two 5gal buckets, the first with holes in the bottom that goes on top of the second bucket. The cappings go in cheese cloth and are left to drain into the 2nd bucket.

Swarm Sticks: Metal poles(two 10ft and one 5 ft) with rope strung up through them, the rope is attached to a reusable shopping bag with a frame and a scent lure to lure the bees into the bag, you then lower the bag and put the bees in the box and repeat until you have most to all of the bees

Smoker Carrier: an ammo box recycled into a smoker carrier for easier transport

Smoker Modifications:

1. Cork to plug the top
2. Thumb tack holder attached to smoker to mark frames
3. Strainer in smoker for easy cleaning

Honey Bucket: Instead of using a valve at the bottom to fill his honey jars, he has a top valve bucket to allow for more buckets to be used with a single lid. He has a tire valve on the bucket lid as well to allow air to move. A wooden platform on the bottom of the bucket attaches to a wooden platform at the top of the bucket with chains to better secure the lid to the top of the bucket.

Beekeeping Bucket: A bucket of Bee Yard Must haves

1. Carpenters Pencil
2. Newspaper for combining hives
3. Matches in a solid wooden box to keep them in good shape
4. False bottom with a "basement" and trap door on the side for smoker fuels

Hive Stand: Chimney blocks 16x20, attach loops on either side of block for a ratchet strap to go over top of the hive and hold it in place.

For more information, pictures and more on these Beekeeping Gadgets google Allen Hayes Beekeeping Gadgets!

Next Meeting:

Feb. 8th at 6:30 in the yellow building next to the Kent County Library. The guest speaker will be Mike Embrey and he will be talking about Spring Bees. Refreshments will be provided by Dick Crane and Donnie Sparks.