

Douglas County Bees  
General Monthly Meeting  
**11/3/21**

Abby's Annex

14 members in attendance and

1 visitor, soon to be a member

The winner of the dinner reimbursement was Megan MacPhearson

(for future meetings please note: you must present your receipt to claim your raffle ticket winnings.) DCB can not reimburse you if you do not keep the receipt for your purchase! Beau's ticket was drawn first and she opted to let someone else win. The next two tickets that were drawn, the winners did not have receipts for their dinner purchase...4<sup>th</sup> time is the charm!

Meeting started at 7:00pm.

Robert (president report)brought in 2 styles of "catch boxes" that can also have an alternative use as a nuc box and a Top Bar Hive for demonstration. It is suggested that for next year's cut-out season that the Langstroth hive beekeepers be prepared to "close up" their hives smaller than the 10 or 8 frame to about a 5 or 4 frame if the cut-out colony is too small to be put into the regular size. Or have a nuc box on hand already. After reviewing the losses on the cut-out survey... it was discovered that most of the absconds were from Langstroth hives that were too spacious for the little colonies that were rescued. Top Bar Hive beekeepers do not have this issue as the follower board allows for adjusting the hive to lesser amounts of frames to be given to the bees to use until they "build up" to needing more room.

Robert also brought in the newest version of the bee vacuum top. It has been upgraded for more convenient use and protection of the battery unit. Hopefully it won't get all sticky with drippy honey and wet from trying to clean it.

Beau (secretary report)had 3 emails that came to DCB that were requests to share the info with the club:

1. OSBA (we are affiliated with them via our LLC) is conducting a Go Fund Me fundraising campaign. Glory Bee Foods is matching all the incoming donations up to \$100K. <<< That is HUGLEY generous! LOOK right on the front page of the ORSBA.org website for the link. It is at the very top in an orangish shaded box! Click on it and it will take you to the directly to the Go Fund Me Account to donate to Oregon State Beekeeping Association!
2. Galena Farms ells wooden hives on line and has requested a list of local apiaries that he could refer people to when they ask him "where can I buy bees". We could only come up with one and that was Old Souls in Rogue River. Dallas Amer sells his bees through DC Co-Op and not to the public.

3. Fred Selby, II has requested that we let our club members know that his business is Sweet Home Bees. He sells bee packages, nucs, and queens. His phone number is 541-223-8008. I am assuming he is located in Sweet Home, Oregon. We estimate Sweet Home is approx. 131 miles away from the Roseburg area and while it is not as close as Old Souls in Rogue River, he could be used as a local source to Douglas County (which is a very large county) for obtaining bees.

Beau explained about a file in the Douglas County Bees Google Office that contains approx. 137 contacts labeled General Public Contacts. This is a list of non-members of DCB that are interested in keeping in touch with DCB. They support DCB. They like to hear about when and where we will be for shows and presentations and such. Beau asked for permission to send out a holiday email asking for donations to DCB. This file has not been used for over 2 years, so we are not harassing our "friends of DCB". We have a copy of a very nice solicitation letter way back when Gina was doing fundraising for DCB. I would like to update that letter and issue it to all the contacts in the "Friends of DCB" file. A vote was taken and passed. Beau will get this letter out closer to Thanksgiving.

Beau (treasurer) reported that there is \$3,860.12 in the checking account We took in \$48.00 from the Costco Employee donations and spent \$105.35 in expenditures. Most of the expenses were for getting new DCB business cards for Robert and Charley.

The Board made an Executive Decision of taking half of the Ford Foundation donation that we got last month and given it to Kimberly as startup/seed money to help her get the DCB Bee School up and running. How this has been designated was by creating a new column in the Savings Account records titled Bee School. \$150.00 was logged into that column and the Non-designated fund column was recorded as having (\$150.00). As Kimberly submits receipts for her expenditures, they will be logged in against her \$150.00 allowance. Her allowance will be revisited in a few months and determined if it needs more funds. It is our hopes that Bee School will become self sufficient in time.

The Savings account has \$2,798.22 in it. Non-designated funds \$1,820.05. Bee School \$150.00. Equipment Fund \$38.00. Cut-out crew \$790.00

Kimberly (education chair) progress report of what has been done so far, what is still in the planning was discussed. We do have a date for the first Bee School session. This will be November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Sunday at 2:00pm. (there were no Saturday times available at Abby's Annex) The main topic to cover is "Winterizing Your Hive". Please attend this free class for members of DCB. This is a new venture for the club and very much needed. It is intended to help all of our beekeepers to improve our skills in being the very best stewards of our beloved honey bees.

Questions from our members and Round Robin about what's happening with your hive:  
It was asked: Why do we have the general meetings so late?

It was answered: This is the time that was established when we were still meeting at the court house. (something to do with after house at the court house)

A discussion ensued: Can we change the time? Can we change the day? After fielding several options on both, it was concluded that the day change was really not feasible...nobody wants to give up Saturday family time and finding a Saturday location is extremely difficult (ego, what happened to having Bee School on Saturday). So the general meeting day every month will remain the on the first Wednesday of each month at Abby's Annex, but the time to start the meeting will be at 6:00pm instead of 7:00pm. And we can be eating our dinner during the meeting. A vote was taken and passed. So... come early to order your dinner, meeting starts at 6:00pm now. Website and FB will be updated with these changes.