

# Umpqua Valley Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 924, Roseburg, OR 97470

**March 6th, 2024, Minutes**

**Held at the OSU Extension Auditorium @ 6pm.**

1. **Call To Order** - Adrian
2. **Welcome Visitors and Members** - Adrian (A new gentleman, Nick, came to the 101 class)
3. **Motion to Approve February Meeting Minutes** -Ed made a motion and Nick 2nd that motion to approve.
4. **Treasurer Report** - Supplied by Kelly
  - a. Checking = \$5,927.77 Savings = \$1,938.06 Total = \$7,865.83
  - b. \$240.00 in dues and \$32.13 from Fred Meyer Community Rewards (Oct-Dec 2023) and the Feb. beginner's class raised \$812.50 for our organization.
  - c. We spent \$37.93 on two cases of water, 9lbs of bananas and 10lbs of mandarin oranges, for Saturday's bee presentation. Adrian is going to buy the left over case of water from the club. He owes \$7.99, which includes a bottle deposit.
  - d. UVBA owed \$9.26 to Kaisha K. for part of a Glory Bee order of frame holders in August of 2023 that was out of stock and never came back in stock. She paid for the items but when we picked them up they notified us that it wasn't available. UVBA has waited for these to come back into stock but that hasn't happened yet. Kaisha has decided to 'donate' the funds to the group vs. receiving a refund, and was publicly thanked for this contribution.
5. **Announcements** - By Adrian/Ivory
  - a. Ivory thanked everyone that volunteered during our beginner class on February 10th. Your contributions helped keep everything running smooth.
    - i. There were 65 paid attendees. A total of \$1625.00 was brought in and split between UVBA and the OSU Small Farms Program. UVBA raised \$812.50 for each of our organizations, which will help with supplies for future events and classes.
    - ii. Adrian stated that he, Shawn, Ed, and Logan really liked the divide and conquer system they had for questions during the break at last month's meeting. This finished about 10 minutes early, with very few questions at the end.
    - iii. Shawn Sullivan was recognized and thanked for sharing his training aids, knowledge and experience on the Layen's hive, as well as his feedback on the class.
    - iv. Adrian thanked Logan and Ivory for their expertise and time with the PowerPoint program and their goal is to produce a few more presentations moving forward.
    - v. Logan's contribution with some bee history, pesticides and honey labeling requirements was very insightful and interesting.
    - vi. Ed Pratt was recognized and thanked for sharing his Flow hive with the Saturday group.
    - vii. Adrian shared a little about his experience and what it meant to him, opening with this quote: "Life begins at the end of your comfort zone" - Neale Donald Walsch.
      1. Wednesday's class - It was likened to a foal taking his first steps.
      2. Saturday's class - It felt like he was a stallion galloping through the subject fields and it felt great!
  - b. Honey Bee Health Coalition - Bee Nutrition Guide and Varroa Mite Guides are a downloadable PDF. at [www.honeybeehealthcoalition.org](http://www.honeybeehealthcoalition.org). This book is also available for checkout for our members.
  - c. The Overwinter Loss Survey opens March 15th - [www.pnwhoneybeesurvey.com/survey](http://www.pnwhoneybeesurvey.com/survey), click on "take survey". For those with 50 or fewer colonies the survey should take 5 minutes or less.
  - d. **SAVE THE DATE(s)!**

- i. Fonta Molyneaux from Lane County Beekeepers is coming down on June 5th to speak about Brood Dynamics. This should tie in nicely with the beginner class.
- ii. Ramesh Sagili from the OSU Honey Bee Lab, will be here on September 4th, to speak about Varroa Mites and Bee Nutrition.
- iii. Adrian stated that UVBA has quite an education lineup as we move through this year and he encouraged the group to save the dates!
- iv. Upcoming shows start at the end of April, opening with the Glide Wildflower show. There will be sign-up sheets at the next meeting and going out via email as well.
- e. Charley Carnes is willing to help anyone with their hives. He is a Master Beekeeping Program student and looking to get some more hive time.
- f. Biff Ewens has some materials to build bait hives. If interested please contact him.
- g. Two new Logo Designs were introduced and received with much enthusiasm from the group!

#### **6. Education - Ivory/Adrian/Sandy**

- a. Swarm Season is upon us. Ivory and Adrian discussed what we should have in our kit, how to bait a hive/box, where to put it, and that they should be out now to allow time for the scouts to discover. The GroupMe app was also addressed as a way of sending out notices for swarm removals.
- b. A reminder was given about cracking into our hive(s) and what to look for in those early inspections should the weather permit.
- c. At next month's meeting, Adrian and Ivory will be sharing - Spring Prep and Heading Off Pests.

#### **7. Events - Ivory/Adrian**

- a. We have scheduled some dates to give the Butterfly Garden some love. We will be adding a couple more as the year progresses. The times are set to 9:30am - 10:30am. The dates and times are posted on the website calendar and are as follows: (There was also discussion about possibly updating UVBA website.)
  - i. Thursday, March 14th.
  - ii. Saturday, April 13th.
  - iii. Saturday, September 14th.
  - iv. Thursday, October 17th.

#### **8. Open Bee Discussion - Many joined in on the following topics:**

- a. Starvation - This is the time of year where we can lose a colony to starvation.
  - i. With the warmer temps, and early blooms the queen could start laying her spring army.
    - 1. Early brood laying causes the cluster to break. In an effort to keep the brood warm, the colony could suffer during these cold snaps.
    - 2. During a cold snap or unfavorable weather, those early blooms may also disappear and leave us with another challenge.
    - 3. Feeding liquid is not recommended at lower temperatures.
    - 4. Ivory also passed out a hand-out titled, "Catching a Swarm" that was very informative.
    - 5. Lots of discussion surrounding: Adding a Super, splitting hives, to use or not to use a Queen Excluder, ensuring members are on the Swarm list, a reminder to have all your "stuff" ready for a potential swarm removal/bringing home.
  - ii. Check your supplemental feed supply as the weather permits.
    - 1. A colony's strength could be delayed or adversely affected with the first run of new bees emerging and depleted winter stores.

#### **9. 46 people were in attendance! We adjourned at 8:20pm.**