

## Umpqua Valley Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 924, Roseburg, OR 97470

### May 1st, 2024, General Meeting Minutes Held at the OSU Extension Auditorium @ 6pm

1. **Call to Order** - Adrian @ 6:04pm
2. **Welcome Visitors and Members** - Adrian
3. **Motion to Approve April Meeting Minutes** - Richard-1st & Edward-2nd. Minutes were approved
4. **Treasurer Report** - Supplied by Adrian
  - a. Savings = \$1937.38, which includes a \$0.16 dividend. Checking = \$5128.62, which includes \$124.00 in membership dues and/or donations.
  - b. Expenditures:
    - i. 4/05/24, We paid the remaining balance of \$100, to The 1257, for the logo design and placed our first order of 25 t-shirts and one sweatshirt.
    - ii. Our GloryBee order totalled \$564.93, and had no effect on club funds as everyone prepaid. Thank you, Dawnetta, for picking that up in Eugene.
    - iii. 4/24/24, We picked up our T-shirt order, that totalled \$712.00
      1. 25 T-shirts @ \$27.00 each
      2. One sweatshirt @ \$37.00 - Ivory's expense.
    - iv. 4/24/24, The Master Gardeners Plant Expo coordinator has asked each exhibitor to donate some items to a basket that will be raffled off at the event. We purchased a honey bee tin and a "Bee Yourself" mason jar sign from The 1257 for a total of \$22.98
  - c. Our Fred Meyer Community Rewards balance is \$12.85 from 4 households. They won't cut us a check until the balance is over \$25, so members were asked to please participate!
5. **Announcements** - Adrian/Ivory
  - a. On May 18th, from 10am - 1pm, Shawn Sullivan's "Prep for Summer Nectar Flow" class is at ECEC. Go to [www.elktonbutterflies.com](http://www.elktonbutterflies.com) for information and to R.S.V.P. This is part 2 of a 3 part beginner course. Part 3 is on August 10th, and members were asked to mark their calendars!
  - b. A special thanks was extended to Jackie Doeding, Jeff Meeds, Timothy Ballenger, Ivory LosBanos and myself for coming out to our Butterfly Garden Beautification Event on April 13th! They did some planting, spread some bark chips, removed the haunting Goldenrod carcasses and did a little weeding. The City of Roseburg sent us a certificate of appreciation, which was on display near the sign-in sheet at the back of the room. Also, this is our last year of our commitment. Now we need to decide if we want to sign up for a 2-year or 4-year commitment.
  - c. A special thanks was also extended to those who volunteered at the Glide Wildflower Show! Participants stated it went well and they liked their new shirts. They received \$136.15 in total donations for the weekend. Overall, this was a great time! Ivory stated that this particular event is the one our club receives the most donations as compared to our other events.

- d. Adrian did a couple of small outreach events in April, and the observation hive was on display too.
  - i. Adrian spoke at the quarterly Lookingglass Grange Association meeting on Sunday, April 21st for about 45 minutes.
  - ii. UVBA had a table at U.C.C.'s Earth Day Celebration on Monday, April 22nd at the Compass Center.
- e. Swarm Chasers...there are lots of them out there!
  - i. Our bee club has been fantastic with our more experienced "beeks" helping out our "newbees"!
- f. We have (15) bee removals on the list to get cut out. Currently, we are waiting for some members to take the lead as Ivory and Adrian are not omnipresent and help is needed!
- g. It's not too late to get those bait hives out! Adrian stated that he has (5) which Biff Ewens graciously assembled and his granddaughter painted. All that is needed is to add some frames, an attractant, and put it wherever your heart desires! Ivory caught a swarm in a box that was on the ground, in her apiary, without doing anything to it! Ed also caught (2) swarms!
- h. Save the Dates!!!**
  - i. Fonta Molyneaux, President of Lane County Beekeepers Association, will be discussing "Brood Dynamics" at our next club meeting on June 5th, which would tie in well with the Beginner's Class.
  - ii. Beginner Beekeeping Class Field Day: Live Hive Dive on June 8th in Umpqua! Logan will be leading. This is part of our Beginning Beekeepers class and free to all paid members (we will have details soon). A Beginner's class is so important and helpful, and as a BONUS, the "Infamous Adrian" himself will be there!

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

- a. Douglas County Master Gardeners Plant Expo is this Saturday, May 4th, from 9am - 4pm.
- b. Biff and Adrian are doing a bee presentation for the Head Start Program in Winston, on Friday, May 3rd, from 1pm - 3pm. 3,4 & 5 year olds. This is a "quick" set up/tear down.
- c. Adrian has agreed to do a presentation at Roseburg Virtual School on Friday, May 17th from 11am - 1pm. Volunteers are welcome to help spread the love.
- d. We have also agreed to attend Glide Elementary's "All Things Garden" event on May 29th, from 12pm - 3pm. If anyone wants to come and talk bees to 4th and 5th graders, that is most welcome. This will be a fun one! Dick Kreger, volunteered to help with this event.
- e. Our next community event is Blooms and Butterflies out at Elkton Community Education Center on June 15th, from 9am - 4pm! One day only!
  - i. See the volunteer sign-up sheet going around!
    - 1. Volunteers were asked if they had already received a club shirt this year, to please not put down your shirt size again. This will help us figure out how many new shirts we need (one shirt per member, per year).

- f. The Lavender Festival is coming up July 12th-14th. There is a sign-up sheet that went around. Also, we have a vendor parking area (further away) this year as too much damage was done to the trees that vehicles parked under by the various vendors.

**7. Welcome, Eric and Joy McEwen!** Owner-operators of Diggin' Livin' Farm and Apiary, in Cave Junction. Authors of "Raising Resilient Bees", and they are here to talk to us about: Natural Nest Beekeeping: A family-scaled commercial beekeeping operation in SW Oregon incorporating organic and biodynamic methods.

- Eric McEwen heads the beekeeping operation for Diggin' Livin' Farm & Apiaries. He holds a bachelor of science degree in botany and plant pathology from Oregon State University. He has spent the last 20 years experimenting with the development of organic management practices while tending approximately 700 honey bee colonies. A former mentor for the Oregon State University Master Beekeeper Program, Eric has served as the Southern Oregon Representative on the Oregon State Beekeepers Association administrative board. He is a member of the Adaptive Bee Breeders Alliance, a SARE-funded consortium of honey bee professionals and academics collaborating on stock improvement focused breeding efforts. He is the originator and manufacturer of Natural Nest beehives, an improved style of 8-frame Langstroth equipment for organic beekeeping. Eric is also a trained botanist and naturalist who loves the wild side of the great outdoors.
- Joy McEwen manages Diggin' Livin' Farm & Apiaries, a homestead, organic farm, and commercial beekeeping operation. She holds two bachelor of science degrees, as well as a master of science in environmental science from Oregon State University. When she isn't tending hives or farming, she works as an apitherapist with a practice in southern Oregon and makes a line of jun beverages called Honey Bee Brews. Joy is a committee member on the USDA Farm Service Agency board for Josephine and Jackson Counties, Oregon, and as a board member for the American Apitherapy Society.
- Eric and Joy McEwen own Diggin' Livin' Farm & Apiaries, a homestead, organic farm, and commercial beekeeping operation located in Southern Oregon. Together, they keep about 700 honey bee colonies in an improved style of 8-frame Langstroth equipment, and manage them using organic and biodynamic methods. Their 'Natural Nest' hives are comprised of single-sized boxes and vertically uninterrupted brood nests, populated with locally adapted bees and naturally reared queens. Their family beekeeping business includes honey, beeswax candles, propolis tincture, jun, apitherapy, oxymels, manufacturing woodenware, and selling bees. This was a very informative talk, not many questions were asked afterward, they did a wonderful job explaining things fully. I am sure more questions will come up in coming meetings as well. **We hope to have more and more of these kinds of speakers, stay tuned for what is ahead.** They did have signed books for sale for \$32, or they are also (on sale) available for \$22 on Amazon.

**8. Adjourned @ 7:53 PM with 51 people in attendance!**