

I. PBA President Walter McLendon called meeting to order at 6:58 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. 34 signed the register. Members enjoyed meal prepared by the VFW Ladies Auxilliary. Desserts brought by PBA members.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$9237.58.

III. Apiary Report. Ricky Davis and Roger Gauthier gave Apiary Report. Hives are doing well. They are treating hives for varroa, and will place sugar bricks on hives in December. Demonstrated a feeder box for sugar blocks which they are building and selling for \$40. Motion was made by Bob Love, 2nd Ricky Davis, that PBA pay for the feed boxes used for apiary.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Walter brought samples of bee suits from a company in Pakistan that he has been communicating with. Prices are very reasonable, and quality of goods looks quite good. If we order 10 beesuits, shipping is free. We will hold off until bee school, where we should obtain enough orders.

B. Program Coordinator: Edward Doucet suggested a committee be formed to work on Programs. If anyone is interested in being on this committee, contact him.

C. PBA Bee School: Rachel stated the bee school information is available. We need assistance with speakers for classes, help with hospitality, snacks, and registration. Proposed dates are: 2/15, 2/22, and 3/1. Rachel is sending out information to all members soon.

PROGRAM: Guests James and Cindy Dotson, former members, gave a demonstration on manufacturing mead. The program was very complete and excellently presented. They even brought samples of many variations of mead for members to sample. Some of the highlights:

- Mead has to be 50% honey sugars.
- Usually made in 1 gallon containers.
- Kits can be purchased on line which usually includes all necessary components.
- Basic ingredients used: honey, yeast, spring water, black tea (adds tannin).
- There are several types of mead, some with fruit, juices, flavorings, can be made sweet or dry.
- Sanitation is extremely important. Sanitize all tools, your hands, etc, before starting process.
- Making mead is a learning process. Trial and error. Some good You Tubes online to research processes and recipes.

DOOR PRIZES/ADJOURNMENT. Many members donated door prizes, so everyone received something. Meeting concluded about 8:25 PM

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary