

MARCH 14, 2019 MEETING

- I. President Roy Stark called meeting to order 6:37 PM, with Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed new visitors, Roger and Myra McGoo, Jim Carpenter. Thirty-five signed the roster.
- II. Terry McFall: Discussion of changes to Section 131 of the TX Agricultural Code was discussed at length. The new bill, HB2670 replaces original Senate Bill 677, changing regulations related to beekeeping. It was suggested that members read the information and contact their State Representatives. There is substantial information online, on FB, and members were encouraged to be aware of these prospective changes.
- III. Marie Kocyan: Announced that Rodger Floyd has queens, queen cells and nucs for sale.
- IV. Janet Haney, Program Coordinator: Volunteers for Snacks/drinks April: Robert Jones (drinks), Betty Horne (drinks), Jordyn Stoehr (snacks).
- V. Robert Jones gave the blessing; snacks and fellowship.
- VI. Program: Discussion of swarms, swarm traps, catching swarms presented by Roy Stark, Terry McFall, Jesus Vazquez. Some highlights:
Terry McFall showed his 10 frame bait hive. Can use 8 or 10 frame boxes; 8 frames are lighter. He uses one frame of "old" comb, the rest can be new comb. Can use a queen excluder on top of bottom board to keep queen and drones in hive. Suggested two excellent books on bees: "Honeybee Democracy" and "Swarm Traps and Bait Hives."
Jesus Vazquez showed his "bucket" swarm catcher and hive dolly, both built by him. He uses 8 frames and interior feeder in his boxes when swarm is caught and hived.
Roy Stark suggested putting traps where bees are seen. Leave in trap 7-10 days before moving to bee yard. When you see pollen being brought into trap, bees will most likely stay. He suggested placing swarm trap 6-7' up on a tree. Be sure to feed your swarm when hived, honey frame or sugar syrup. Advocates treating swarm hive with oxalic acid within a week or so after they are hived. Good discussions and question/answers followed program.
- VII. Door Prizes and Adjournment: 8:45PM

Respectfully submitted,
Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary