

Douglas County Bees
Monthly General Meeting
April 6th, 2022

Abby's Annex

Location: Abby's Annex in Roseburg

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm

There were 26 people in attendance. Very nice to see so many at the meeting! 9 guests were included in the attendance with 4 of them becoming members! Welcome!!!

The winner of the dinner raffle was Megan Monson, one of the guests and a new member now. Treasurer report: Checking account has a balance of \$2,733.65 . ALL the donated equipment has been sold! We took in \$1,466.43. This consists of dues, donations, and equipment sales along with voiding the check we issued to Kimberly Kinney – Education Chair for reimbursing her for “bee school supplies”. Kimberly informed Beau that she has not cashed the check and will not because she has not used the supplies she bought for Bee School. The \$63.97 has been recorded as being placed back into the savings account, sub-account Bee School which brings it back to \$150.00 in the Bee School budget.

The Savings account has a balance of \$2,009.26 which consists of \$150.00 designated for Bee School and \$1,859.26 as non-designated funds.

Secretary report: At the end of March, we have 36 DCB members with 14 being on the cut-out waiting list. The DCB Face Book page has 1012 followers and a 5-Star review rating!! Beau would like to make it known that EVERYONE is welcome to share pictures/stories of their bee keeping ventures on the DCB Face Book page.

The call for a volunteer to be the Education Chair assistant and the Event Chair assistant was made. Linda Jensen is still away, caring for her mom and we do not have an ETA for her return. There are 4, possibly 5 more festivals (including the Fair) that DCB has committed to attending and help is needed. Bee School won't start back up until this coming October, but there are requests for individual presentations coming in that we would like to fulfill as this is part of our mission at DCB....helping to educate the public. Kimberly Kinney seems overwhelmed at present with her change of employment. Sue Booher has volunteered for the Education Chair assistant and Ivory LosBanos has volunteered to be the Event Chair assistant. A volunteer sheet was passed around for Ivory to get help at the Glide Wildflower Show scheduled for April 23-24, 2022. THANK YOU, ladies.

Robert and Beau have had a chance to compile the stats on DCB's cut-out survival for the 2021-2022 bee season. We have some very good news! First, we categorized the data by hive type. We have Langstroth, TBH, and Other. The Fall survey (the one taken before going into Winter) revealed that out of the 22 cut-outs that were re-homed into Langstroth hives, 12

survived. out of the 11 cut-outs that were re-homed into TBH, 6 survived, and the 1 other category (which was a tree trunk) also was alive before going into winter. (an average of 56% survival over all) The survey taken at the end of Winter revealed that the 11 of the 12 remaining Langstroth hives survived, All the remaining TBh survived, and the Tree Trunk hive survived. Overall we have a 95% survival rate on cut-outs successfully over-wintering IF we can get them past dearth with enough food for winter. This is way better numbers than what we had for the 2020-2021 bee season where we barely had 2% survival. BEE SCHOOL helps! Becoming a better beekeeper is paying off! I for one (me, Beau) am very proud of our beekeepers for this HUGE accomplishment. But, we can do BETTER. These stats also reinforce the ideology that helping your colonies, be it acquired via a swarm catch or a cut-out, make it to dearth and beyond is by feeding them. These newly re-homed into a hive bees need the assistance of a constant source of food to help them rebuild from scratch or repair what was destroyed and then refurbish supplies. Help them become strong healthy colonies from the very first day you bring them home.

It was also discussed for our members to please participate in the Oregon State wide survey. Paper surveys were handed out, that must be mailed in before the end of April. The survey could also be completed on line at the website indicated. (pnwhoneybeesurvey.com) Robert announced that he is making a road trip this week to Eureka, CA to pick up an almost brand new set of scaffolding. (3 sections, 4 cat walks, safety rails, adjustable wheel thingies) This will allow us to continue to accept those hard to reach cut-out spots and be confident that the equipment being used is safe. Our cut-out crew members are THE BEST in all of Douglas County. It is important that we take very good care of them <3

A round robin Q&A followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm (well, that's what time Beau left the building after taking care of all the extra questions and business that followed after the meeting was adjourned) Have a really great Beekeeping Month in April. See you at the Glide Wild Flower Show!