

Douglas County Bees
Monthly General Meeting
May 4th, 2022

Abby's Annex

31 in attendance

The Meeting was called to order by Robert Baune at 6pm

Two New visitors were present and they introduces themselves and told us at what level/stage of beekeeping they are. Robert reported on how many swarm calls (10 with one being Not a swarm) and how many cut-outs have been completed (6). At present, there are no cut-outs scheduled and there are none waiting to be scheduled. It is early yet, so the calls will come in! Robert spoke about the last cut-out that had enough room for parking people so we opened it up for an opportunity for members to come participate as a spectator! A big thank you to all that helped! The entire process went smoothly. The colony that was rescued was approx. 21K bees + the queen, 10 frames honey, 10 frames brood. It has been reported that the bees are happy and settled nicely in their new Langstroth home. So far for this bee season, this is the largest colony that has been removed from a structure.

People were still entering the meeting and four more are visitors, but we did not get to them for introductions.

Beau reported that the FB page now has 1046 followers! It is perfectly ok for DCB members to post pictures, start a discussion, share your own honey bee keeping experiences, and ask questions on the FB page.

There is \$2,879.82 in the checking account at the end of April. This represents \$138.21 expenditures and \$381.00 receipts. The Glide Wild Flower show brought in \$66.00 ! Thank you everyone that participated at this event! The savings account has remained unchanged. There is \$2,009.32 in here with \$150.00 being the Bee School and \$1,859.32 being non-designated. Of the donation requests/collections that have been sent out for the Douglas County Fair, we are still waiting on two responses. One of those two has been reissued via a snail mail letter due to not being sure that the "contact" device is functioning properly on their website. We have received 5 gift certificates from Old Sol Apiaries for queen bees.

A topic for discussion was started to determine how these were handled in past years because Beau was not sure how to go about having these at the DC Fair. Ivory was present at the meeting and shed some illumination of how the queen bee gift certificates were used. She indicated that most people that are not beekeepers don't know that you need more than just a queen bee to start beekeeping. It has been mostly beekeepers that would buy raffle tickets for this item. In the past, the queen bee gift certificates were "auctioned" off within the club. There were a few suggestions as to how DCB should use these donated queen bee gift certificates.

The best one that Beau liked is: Auction 4 of the gift certificates to club members and save 1 for the “raffle ticket” table at the fair. Keep in mind that these are Fund Raising items for DCB! These certificates have a face value of \$43.00 . I visited Old Sol Apiary’s web site and learned that this value corresponds to their Spring Survivor Stock (over wintered queens). They also have Caucasian queens for \$70.00, and after June 21st will have Summer Survivor Stock for \$36.55. There are no expiration dates on these certificates. You will have to pay for shipping – or enjoy a nice beautiful drive to Rogue River to pick up your queen bee in person. [on the way home from the meeting, Robert suggested to buy the certificate at face value and save it for when you need a new queen.] This is an excellent idea. Beau, being the treasurer, made a DCB Board text request to Charley, Vice President for approval. Which resulted in a unanimous agreement to offer 4 of the gift certificates at face value to the DCB members to purchase. One of the gift certificates will be on the raffle table at the DC Fair this year. With all that being said..... BEAU has purchased one gift certificate. That leaves just 3 remaining for the club members to buy. FYI: it is first to call BEAU to claim it/first to buy it = the first one to get it! We are still trying to get into the Blackberry Festival in Sutherlin in August for 2 days and the Melon Festival in Winston in September for 3 days. Linda Jensen, event chair will follow up on this. If we can get these 2 festivals included on our event calendar, the summer will be all filled up for us. [It is important that DCB participate in as many events and festivals around Douglas County as we possibly can. It supports our Constitution and Bylaws mission of informing and educating the public about honey bees and helping them to survive.]

Ivory, event chair assistant went through the list of up-coming events that still need to have volunteers staff the booth. An email will be sent out again with the schedule slots that remain to be filled.

While other discussions were going on, Beau let Ann Fuller pull the raffle ticket for the Dinner Winner. Ann won! I don’t understand how this keeps happening. The person I get to pull a ticket out of the little ticket box has been the winner almost every time! I want to thank everyone for participating in the Dinner Raffle. It makes for a very good repore between Abby’s and DCB. We are obligated to cover a minimum of \$50.00 as a facility rent. Having the Dinner Raffle, takes some of that expense off of DCB and one of the participants of the Dinner Raffle gets their meal reimbursed by DCB! We all win!

Great Meeting, everyone!

Robert adjourned the meeting a little after 7pm