

Tri-State Beekeepers Association
04.20.2023 Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Tri-State Beekeepers was called to order at 6:30 on April 20, 2023 with 25 members in attendance. New members were recognized.

Member Jim Edge was recognized for completing the Apprentice level testing in the West Virginia Master Beekeeping Program at the recent Spring Conference. Congratulations Jim, we are proud of you!

A request was made for assistance in managing the Wilson Lodge courtyard, the site of the Mansion Museum bee hive that was constructed by inmates of the Belmont Correctional Institute and maintained by the Tri-State Beekeepers. Several members responded and offered to help. Greg Crabtree was appointed the chairman of the committee and plans were made to meet at the lodge on Monday evening, April 24 at 6:00 pm for an orientation event. Thanks to those who volunteered. Additional requests for help will be made to assist in the set-up and breakdown of club meetings, the August annual picnic, and the novice classes.

Member Chris Druschel continues to manage the setup of audio-visual equipment for the Zoom presentations and plans to instruct other members in the process at the May meeting. The March presentation was made by Matthew Hoepfinger from Bee Informed Partnership speaking on Effective use of Oxalic Acid. His talk was extremely well received. The May 18 program will feature Judy Chen, Ph. D from the Beltsville Bee Lab speaking on Non-antibiotic Treatments for Honeybee Nosema Disease, again at no charge to our club.

Members and novice attendees were again reminded that they are required to register their apiaries. If they have registered in the past, renewal notices will be sent out by the WV Department of Agriculture in May. If they have not registered in the past links to state registration portals can be found on the www.tristatebeekeepers.com website.

Any new business was asked for, but none was offered.

The Zoom presentation for this evening was Mohamed Alburaki PH.D. speaking on Honey Bee Disease and Pathology in the USA, giving a retrospective study from 2015 through 2022 based on data generated by the Beltsville Bee Research Lab. The information proved to be quite informative with insight on the relationship between the population of varroa mites in the hive and other diseases such as foulbrood and Nosema.

Following the presentation members enjoyed a social hour and the meeting was concluded at 8:45 pm.