

Tri-State Beekeepers Association
09.21.2023 Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Tri-State Beekeepers was called to order at 6:30 on September 21, 2023, with 42 members in attendance. There were no new members present.

Members were informed of the upcoming program hosted by the Monroe County Beekeepers Association on September 30. There will be Video Presentations of the Hive Live 2023 event in a full day program. Tri-State members were encouraged to attend.

The 2023 Fall Zoom Conference sponsored by the WV Beekeepers Association was outlined. The keynote speaker will be Jerry Hayes, editor of the *Bee Culture Magazine*. A talk on the American Foulbrood vaccine will be given. The annual business meeting of the Association will be held including the election of officers to fill the positions of president, secretary, and one member-at-large, and the WV Beekeeper of the Year. The program will be offered on October 21 and pre-registration is required. The formal announcement and registration opportunities will be emailed to members in the coming week.

A thank you was extended to all who helped in maintaining the Wilson Lodge hive and surrounding garden. The display was well kept throughout the summer and the team deserves the congratulations.

Members were made aware of the Bee City USA movement now being developed throughout the country. Through the efforts of bee clubs to bring about the development of local government initiatives to promote the pollinators, cities are designated as BEE CITIES. Volunteers were asked to begin the process in Wheeling and several members agreed to consider spearheading the effort. Once the requirements have been identified, a committee will be formed to start the process.

Speakers for the remainder of the year were identified including:

- October 19 meeting with a presentation from beekeeper/citizen-scientist John Rose who has done experimentation in overwintering colonies.
- We conclude the season at the November 16 meeting with a visit from the WV State Apiarist, Shanda King. Shanda will be introducing you to the benefits available to you as a WV beekeeper as well as speaking on Misconceptions of the Varroa Mite

The speaker for the evening was introduced. Connie Skolnichi is a certified reflexologist and sting therapy specialist. With her husband Dave, she described the therapy process and demonstrated the application of the sting. Many questions followed and the members were quite enthusiastic about her presentation.

The usual social followed and the program adjourned at 8:45 pm.