

Tri-State Beekeepers Association  
11.17.2022 Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Tri-State Beekeepers was called to order at 6:30 on November 17, 2022, with 24 members in attendance. No new members were present to be recognized. A survey was taken and found that three of the attendees had participated in the 2022 novice program, and all but four had participated in novice programs in the past.

We began the meeting with an update on the search for national speakers. Dr. James Tew had been contacted, but he had not returned the request. President Roth suggested that in place of a one-day seminar, we approach several speakers to give a one hour presentation at our monthly meetings, in part to add to the meeting and in part to increase participation. The membership agreed and member Chris Druschel offered to conduct the Zoom presentations with video cameral support. We will now attre3mpt to approach Dr. Clarence Collison, Dewy Caron, Jerry Hayes, Kim Flottum, and Dr. Jamie Ellis to speak via Zoom at coming meetings.

Plans for the 2023 novice program were announced. The program will be offered from February 21 thru March 28 at the Good Zoo Building on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:45 pm with John Welty and Steve Roth as the main speakers. The announcement will be pl aced on the website on January 1 and reservations will be accepted. As before, the tuition will be \$40/person with the textbook available for \$15.

An update on the oxalic acid vaporizer was given, finding the EasyVap still out of production due to an inability to obtain the necessary parts for fabrication. As soon as it is on the market, a unit will be obtained. In the meantime, the conventional vaporizer is available to club members.

Members were notified of the WVBA Spring Conference to be presented in Clarksburg, WV on March 17-18. The keynote speaker has not yet been announced, but several break-out sessions are planned to accompany the program. Testing for the Master Beekeeping Program will also be given.

Mr. Wil May appeared as a guest speaker to outline the program at the Belmont Correctional acility. Inmates took the testing for the modified Master Beekeeping program and 15 successfully passed the tests. An award ceremony will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at 9:00 am. Tri-State members were invited to attend in support of the Belmont program, and 14 expressed a desire to participate.

Club members were updated on the proceedings of the WVBA Board of Directors meeting held on November 5. In addressing the board, Chief Apiary Inspector Shanda King reported that there were 1224 beekeepers registered in WV, representing 13,010 hives located on 1833 different apiaries. The WV Department of Agriculture conducted 393 inspections in 2022, finding 1 case of American Foulbrood and 33 cases of European Foulbrood. Club members were reminded that their apiaries were required by law to be registered and the appropriate forms can be found on our website <https://www.tristatebeekeepers.com/>.

The cancellation policy in the event of inclement weather was reviewed. If Wheeling Park High School cancels due to weather, our meeting is also cancelled. In addition, members will be notified by email in the event of a cancellation.

The presentation for the evening was given by Dr. Krishna Urval. He spoke on Sting Allergies and spent additional time answering numerous questions on the topic. Following the meeting a social was held and we adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Following the business meeting, our guest Bob Hooker spoke on the Value of Wax in the Hive. After his program a social followed and the event was ended at 9:00 pm.