Membership Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2019
6:30 pm – Monmouth County Agriculture Building

- 6:30pm Refreshments/Networking in the Lunch Room
- 7:20pm Pledge of Allegiance

Old Business:

- Treasurer's Report ~ Tanya reported that we have approximately $12,000.00 in the CJBA account.
- Election: Pat Evans was nominated as Treasurer. Geff Vitale was nominated as President. The remaining offices are filled. After the nominations were closed and the membership voted, the 2020 CJBA Officers are as follows:
  President: Geff Vitale
  First VP: Sallie Toscano
  Second VP: Bill Malloy
  Third VP: Linda Klink
  Treasurer: Pat Evans
  Secretary: Angela Juffey

- Questions from Membership (index cards):
  - Skunks: Use carpet tack on the landing board.
  - Winter Prep: Remove entrance reducers for better air flow during the winter months. Winter Preparation will be covered during the scheduled presentation.
- 50/50
- Introduction of New Members: Each new member (who has paid dues) was given a folder of information prepared by Linda Klink and a shaker jar with instructions for Varroa testing.

Speaker: John Gaut ~ Winter Preparation

- According to the 2018/2019 Bee Informed Survey, New Jersey suffered a 37% Winter Loss.
  Winter Preparation Suggestions include:
  - Create or engage an upper entrance
  - Insulate your cover
  - Wrap your hives with tar paper
  - Equalize colony strength
  - Move your hives to a southern exposure
  - Move your hives to wintering buildings
- According to the 1915 Farmers' Bulletin:
  - Beekeepers lose 10% of colonies each winter
  - Bees need protection from cold and wind
  - Care is needed to protect colonies from wind
  - A good queen is vital
  - Many colonies die of starvation. This is easily avoided.

- Basic Requirements for Winterizing include:
    - Queen right with "winter" bees. "Winter" bees have more carbohydrates – they live for 6 months.
    - Colonies must have adequate food reserves. (60 pounds of honey and 20 pounds of pollen)
    - Mite levels should be low
    - Be sure the hives stay dry and are protected from wind. They should be in a sunny location.
    - Brood rearing will occur under sub-zero conditions in insulated colonies with plenty of pollen and honey.
    - The cluster has two parts: a loose inner core and a dense insulating mantle. The temperature of the brood nest is 95 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature of the core is 91 degrees Fahrenheit and the temperature of the insulating mantle is 59 degrees Fahrenheit.
    - Why insulate hives? Insulation reduces heat loss and allows bees to move to food stores. By adding an insulated (3 inch shim) box under the telescoping cover, you can reduce condensation. Black roofing paper doesn't aid in heating the hive because heat will radiate back out at night. It may reduce wind infiltration but the roofing paper does not have much insulation value. Use unfaced polystyrene foam board for insulation. This can be wrapped around the hive and secured with bungie cords.
    - The benefits of insulation are:
        - Reduces heat loss
        - Reduces condensation
        - Reduces consumption of honey – For every 11 degrees reduction of temperature, the bees must work twice as hard to keep warm and function
        - Create upper entrance which lets moist air escape
    - Checklist for Winterizing:
        - Adequate honey stores
        - Good pollen reserves
        - Young vigorous queen
        - Large population of young healthy bees
        - Low mite levels (record batch numbers and timing of treatment
        - Low nosema levels
        - Upper entrance and reduced/guarded bottom entrance
        - Minimize air infiltration (close bottom board on screened bottoms
        - Insulate the top of the hive between the inner cover and the outer cover
        - Insulate the hive sides

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Juffey
CJBA Secretary