**Lake County Beekeepers**

Meeting Minutes – Thursday June 2, 2016

**Opening**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. on 6/2/16 in the Lake County Agricultural Extension Office by President Billy Fussell.

**Present**

See member sign-in sheet for the list of 75 people in attendance which included 10 new people. The families that visited the club for the first time were from Sorrento, Umatilla, Leesburg, Clermont, and Ocala. Be sure to look at the web site and sign-up to get the newsletter and minutes.

**Meeting Discussion Topics**

Billy discussed the various flows of honey he experienced this year. Orange was a disappointment due to the weather. But the same weather helped with the next flow, Palmetto. Most of his commercial counter-parts also experienced a strong buildup of honey.

The next “Day in The Bee Yard” will be held on July 23, Saturday at D&J Apiary where the club will be conducting a full day of training. It will be covering beekeeping A-Z, beginning and advance topics with hands-on experience. There will be 8 stations explaining different aspects of beekeeping. The club will be providing lunch. You must sign up to attend the class. Send an email to the club email, at [lakecountybeeks@gmail.com](file:///C:\Users\kris.gehman\Downloads\lakecountybeeks@gmail.com). The last day of registration is July 15th. You do not want to miss this great opportunity. D&J’s address is 17732 SE 283rd Ave Umatilla FL 32784, 352-669-4233.

The 50/50 drawing was split in two with $94 dollars going to the club and $94 dollar to the lucky winner that night, Michelle Taylor. The money goes to support the club functions, such as items for the dinner, purchase of equipment and so forth. It was one of the largest pots.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to how to extract honey. A super can produce about 2 ½ gallons or 30 pounds of honey. Billy brought in a number of frames from the club bee hives which was extracted and bottled into one pound bottles. Members also brought in their full frames of honey for extraction. The process began with using the uncapping roller on the capped honey which “breaks” open the honey combs then frames were loaded into the club extractor to spin out the honey. Everyone got a chance to spin out the honey including the young kids at the meeting. The honey was drained through screens to filter out any stray wax and bee parts and then into large buckets and brought into the next room for bottling. The bottling was very simple but a little messy. We found that the bottles should be filled up to the middle of the cap, quite full, for the best presentation. This prevented the bottle showing a small ring around the top where bubbles will rise. There were a lot of participants and everyone had a good time.

Want to do the extracting at your own home? The club owns an extractor and can be used by members after reserving the equipment with Kris at [lakecountybeeks@gmail.com](file:///C:\Users\kris.gehman\Downloads\lakecountybeeks@gmail.com).

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by Billy Fussell. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on 7/7/16 at Lake County Ag Extension.

Respectfully submitted by Minutes Recording Chair: Michael Matson