

Minutes

The Toe-Cane Beekeepers Association met on May 26, 2015 at 6:30 pm and the United Community Bank in Burnsville, NC. The meeting was brought to order by President Rick Harty who introduced the other officers: Joe Capp (VP), Alice Harty (treasurer), Leigh Knott (webmistress), Susan Spruill (secretary) and Debra Palmer (program coordinator).

The meeting and presentation was open to members and the general public. Rick asked the attendees to introduce themselves and report on their bee yard status. He also announced that the next Beekeepers meeting would be the annual picnic on June 13, 2015 at Noon and the home of Joe and Loree Capps.

The meeting was a pot-luck event with special guest speaker Carl Chesick. Carl was introduced by Debra Palmer as the President of the Board for the Center for Honey Bee Research (CHBR.org).

Carl talked about CHBR and some of the activities planned and ongoing at CHBR:

1. CHBR is a 501.3.C (non-profit) organization whose primary mission is to educate and research natural beekeeping methods.
2. The center began as an off-shoot of the Buncombe County Beekeepers Association's Bee School programs.
3. The center is 100% volunteer run and funded by grants and donations.
4. There are 4 goals of the CHBR:
 - a. Promote education through conferences, events and the Bee School on the importance of pollinators in our environment.
 - b. Engage in research into solutions to challenges faced by bees and beekeepers.
 - c. Serve as a world-wide communication hub for exchange of information and contacts related to bees, bee research and beekeeping.
 - d. Establish a comprehensive laboratory for research analysis of problems affecting bees and their environment.
5. Carl talked about the Black-jar Honey Contest, Project Genesis and the Streaming-hive Project. Details of these projects can be found at www.chbr.org. Attendees were encouraged to register to receive the online newsletters.

Discussions were lively and informative with talks of contaminated foundation, mite control (or not) and Project Genesis. At the end of Carl's presentation, Debra asked him to draw names for the door prizes donated by Joe Capps. Winners were: Sheilah Sockwell, Dan Wilson, Dan Glenn, Tim Trescott, Barbro Benson, Dane Rote.

The meeting concluded around 9 PM.