

North Central Beekeepers Newsletter November, 2013

Greetings Beekeepers;

Serving committee for November, 2013:

Becky Zenke and Doug Swanson .

Your New Officers and board for 2014;

President; Terry Patrick, Brainerd, Mn. 56401- 218-764-3278

Vice-President; Don Jackson, Pequot Lakes, Mn. 218-568-8469

Secretary; Shawn Strong, Baxter, Mn. 218-454-0077

Treasurer; Larry Chismar, Crosby, Mn. 218-545-2306

Board Members; Jorgen Eiden-2016 , Phil Hansen- 2015 , Bill Kriger - 2014

Officers and board need to meet at 6:30 pm. To review constitution for any needed changes, Audit treasurers books and review programs for the next years meetings

If you have any segment of beekeeping that you would like to have an informative session on at a meeting please let Don Jackson know. The officers and board want to present useful information but they need to know what you want to find out about in beekeeping.

7:00 pm ½ hour CD of Northland Currents;

Beekeeping and North Central Beekeepers Association that aired October 24, 25, and 27th. Public television. Discussion and general business meeting will follow.

2014 Dues are \$ 10.00; Please pay to Larry Chismar at the meeting or send to him at 3 Deblock Dr. Crosby, Mn. 56441. Dues may also be sent to NCBA box 294 Brainerd, Mn. 56401

This is the last meeting of 2013, No December meeting !!

Please sign up to help provide lunch for one meeting in 2014 .We need 2 or 3 for each meeting so that it is not difficult for anyone.

Are your bees all properly taken care of for the winter ?

What is your mite count? Hopefully only 1 or less, if very much higher you need to be thinking about one more treatment before it gets any colder. No you don't want to be opening up a hive and more this fall but if your mite count is high most likely your bees will die before spring. Next sunny day with little wind open the hive and **quickly place the mite treatment inside and close it back up. Don't disturb the cluster any more than you must.**

How much do your hives weight, how many frames are solid honey? A two deep colony should weight about a minimum of 120 pounds or more. To get a close weight lift the back of the hive and either hook on a pull scale or place a squeeze scale between the bottom board and the supers. This provides an approximant $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total weight for the hive. Bees in this part of the world will consume 60 pounds of feed before spring and by March may be starving. Middle to late February on a nice day open up the hive and see how much feed is left. At that time of year bees can not, will not consume liquid feed. You will need to supply granular sugar (mountaincamp method), sugar candy or fondant. The honey they have left or feed you supply must be directly over the cluster. Bees will not move sideways only very little. The feed must lay right on the frames so the bees can reach it. At this time of year brood rearing is starting or about to. Bees can not raise brood without pollen so also put a pollen patty directly on the frames. Real pollen is much better than artificial pollen but something is better than nothing. Healthy, young queens that have been well fed all winter do

not have colonies that expand in the spring, they explode!! Be ready to prevent swarms.

With winter just around the corner some of you may want to read and research about our favorite insect. I will list a few sources of reliable information. Just remember most material is from south or west of here and may not work well here in tropical central Minnesota. Another reminder is that the whole bee world has changes since the mites have arrived.

Bee Culture: www.beeculture.net; 623 W. Liberty St. Medina, Ohio 44256

**American Bee Journal; www.americanbeejournal.com; 1-888-922-1293
51S. 2nd. St. Hamilton, Il 62341 Larry has discount coupons for both of these**

FORUMS;

BEE SOURCE, www.beesource.com

BEEMASTERS, www.beemaster.com

NATURES NECTUR, www.natures-necturellc.com

Reference;

Bush Farms, www.bushfarms.com

Hand Made or Repair bee equipment;

Gilbert Frank- 31979 456th. Ave. Aitkin, Mn. 56431

320-241-0549 , 320-292-2452

Burton B. Scripture, 218-352-9202; burtsbees@brainerd.net



North Central Beekeepers Assoc., Inc. • P.O. Box 294 Brainerd, MN 56401

A Non-Profit Educational Organization For Beekeepers.

North Central Beekeepers Assn.

November Meeting Monday 18th.

Officers and Board 6:30 pm

Lakeland Currents video from 10/24/13, 7:00pm.

Business meeting following video