LACBA MINUTES

Board Meeting [February 29, 2024]

- We had a long and productive board meeting covering these bullets:
    - Catt: Check in and get new general meeting zoom link, done. **to do: board meet link**
    - Get a list of places for donations for the next meeting, schedule of payout? Done
    - Char: with the Youtube channel
    - **Jeff: Partnership: Black and Jane, feb 15, CATT to take this on contact them about a donation.**
    - Jeff: Spreadsheet created for the gas cards and given to Mary Landau
    - Jeff: Mary Ann Laun: genealogy/history/ wants to be our historian/archivist
    - Kevin: fair is under control and rocking and rolling and we may be getting more money, $1500 instead of $1175 in previous years.
    - Char: honey queen: we need a chaperone, to ask the club on Monday
    - Char: Education committee funding request: purchase observation hive or two. Kevin has a new one to give them, thank you, Kevin!
    - Observation hive fee: $250. 200 for the beekeeper and $50 goes to the bees upkeep of observation hives)
    - Jon: Honey.com, packets with seeds + information display. Lacba will pay the shipping $14.95
    - El Rey: new lock purchased, will hand out keys Monday.
    - Youtube committee (6 people): Mics + monopods + receivers
    - Jared: Phoebe Piper bee tea
    - Jared: March 16th: edu presentation: crescenta valley park? PUSD Noon to 5. We may be buzzy
    - I quit the club: lacba facebook; Holly: Kathleen Angulo 2020 -
    - OC beekeepers
    - CDFA -
    - 3/9 open house for pierco
    - Earth day celebration: jeremy - bill - carson -
    - 6th annual beautification conference. Pac pacific park on tuesday may 21. Education committee

General Meeting [March 4, 2024]

Social hour: Members logged in for open visiting time 6:40-7:00 p.m and enjoyed friendly discussions about our bees. We are online only due to the flooding and rain in SoCal.

1. **Welcome & Roll Call of Executive Board**
   Kevin Heydman welcomed new members including beekeepers experienced and new.

2. **Chat Monitor**
   Both the in-person club and Holly will monitor chat questions.

3. **Guest Speakers**
   Barb introduced Dr. Zac Lamas

   Topic: Why Don't We Sample Drones for Varroa?

   Welcome to the world of Dr. Zac Lamas. I am a researcher who studies virus transmission in honeybee colonies (Apis mellifera). I approach all of my research questions from the perspective of a behavioral ecologist. I want to know how behaviors of the host, or the vector can drive viral transmission. My studies are not only important for beekeepers, and understanding social insects, but also broadly to understand how pathogens affect social behavior.

Most students take a gap year before graduate school. I took a gap decade. During that twisty, “turny” time my life took me across the United States. I ran a bio-dynamic farm; milking cows and pasture raised poultry for CSA members. I managed fine dining restaurants at luxury hotels and spent winters roofing houses in North Carolina. And during most of that time I spent years up and down the east coast of the United States producing and selling thousands of honeybee colonies and queens. Ultimately all these experiences coalesced when I decided to go back to school. I wanted to pursue a PhD while answering one question: How can relatively few mites kill a populous honeybee colony?

After 10 years out of academia I was a very unlikely PhD candidate, but my findings overturned decades of research about Varroa and the honeybee, and led to new methods to study honey bees.

My work continues as a post-doctoral researcher at in the Evan’s Lab in Beltsville, MD at the USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory. Using functional genomics my work will attempt to link behaviors with the genes and pathogens that regulate them.

https://zaclamas.com/
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Zachary-Lamas
zaclamas@gmail.com

4. **President’s Report: Kevin Heydman**
   Swarm season will be upon us after the rain–be ready!
   Still need a host for the honey queen or else we won’t be able to have her come out this year.

5. **Vice President’s Report: Charlene Potter**
   There is now a Youtube channel - we have Alan, Michael P, Jay W, and Keith R and Charlene on this Youtube committe now. Guidelines have been created.

6. **Committee Reports**
   a. Secretaries’ Reports: Jared Stone and Catt Stine
      Jared:
      Catt: New Zoom Link has been made and emailed out on Sunday March 3rd for all memers in good standing.
      I spoke to one of the owners of a candle and jewelry manufacturer / online store, and there’s a promising new start to a partnership program with LACBA, with Black and Jane being the first if it works out. We’ll need to get a blurb together, I’d like to make a page on the website for our partner(s). Hopefully some exciting fundraising to come out of this, if successful!

   b. Treasurer's Report: Jon Reese
      Catt / Jon shared the donations for this year totaling a little over $1150.00
      Profit and Loss statement shared by Jon

   c. Membership Report: Cheryl Thiele
      150 sign ups so far for the year. Please sign up for your annual membership to continue accessing the zoom link each month. You can check out memberships and sign up here: https://www.losangelescountybeekeepers.com/membership-benefits

d. Web and online services report: Jeff Laun

e. Facebook report: Holly Hawk
Moving these updates to quarterly.

f. Bylaws revision committee report: Dave Williams, El Rey Ensch, Holly Hawk
Moving these updates to quarterly. ***This committee is defunct. Hasn't met in years.***

g. Slack report: Michael Pusateri
Join our club on slack: https://lacba.slack.com/ The more people, the more vibrant the discussions. You can share videos and pictures for fun and get answers to any of your questions between meetings.

h. LA County Zoo: Jay Weiss
March 29-31, April 20-21 - volunteer with Jay to meet other beekeepers and talk to kids and the crowd about bees.
All the volunteer slots are full!!! Within 24 hours!!!!

i. LA County Fair Report: Cindy Caldera
   i. Saturday April 27th wil be set up day. Fair runs May 3-27. Thursday through Sundays. 11:00am - 10pm We will need volunteers. Please take some time off work to join us, meet fellow beekeepers and mentors! It really is a great time.
   ii. Mary Landau: Are they having vendors pay $500? (No, we are not considered a vendor as we have a different contract).
   iii. We need 298 shifts to get covered, sign ups will start April 1st! You'll
   iv. Free fair tickets and parking passes will be provided for all volunteers.
   v. New table is in the works

j. Speakers' Committee Update: Charlene and Barbara
Geo Leos, directors of the xerxes society!!!! IN PERSON SPEAKER!!!!!

k. Education report: Mary Landau
They are receiving a lot of requests coming in. Looking forward to another 3rd Wednesday of the Month. Please join and volunteer.
Please order these materials for $14.95 and we will reimburse you;
https://honey.com/products/nhb-promotional-materials-box
Mary shared some interesting history about records of the beekeeping club and the records being lost in a fire in the 1920s.

l. Bee Tea: Anne Nicholson
Next Monday, expert of the evening is Steve Savage! He'll be there to answer questions. They're going to try to have a new expert every month.

m. Beekeeping 101: Cheryl Thiele & Keith Roberts
Sunday 9 am - 12. This upcoming Sunday. The classes are held February through October, with

a change in schedule! It is never too late to start! You can sign up at this link, https://www.losangelescountybeekeepers.com/beekeeping-class-101, or get on The Valley Hive's email newsletter from their website. **Important! Field classes will now be on Saturdays!**

n. Members-at-large report: El Rey Ensch and Jay Weiss
El Rey bought some new locks, we need new lights for the storage space.
Jay shared a video interview from two new future beekeepers at Beekeeping 101

7. **Ad Hoc + Q&A**
   - A few questions are answered in the chat.
   - Spoke about the Beekeeper movie, here is Michael's review of it: https://cruftbox.medium.com/a-beekeeper-reviews-the-beekeeper-movie-4a0114035c9b

Submitted [03/04/2024]

Catt Stine
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Next Meetings

Executive Meeting: **Last Week of each month @ 5:00pm** via Zoom

Hybrid General Meeting: **First Monday of each month 7:00pm**

- **Via zoom:**
  Zoom link is emailed to members in good standing prior to the event.
  Renew your membership here: https://www.losangelescountybeekeepers.com/new-products

- **In-Person:**
  Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 3561 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta, CA 91214

Beekeeping 101: **Once per month, check site for details**

Bee Tea: **Second Monday of each month** via Zoom

Education Committee: **Third Wednesday of each month** 7:00 pm via Zoom