

Minutes of the ETBA 6-3-10

President Andrew Bellefeuille called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge and gave the invocation. Visitors were introduced. Over 40 swarm calls were reported. 109 persons were in attendance.

Dick Counts is extracting honey at his honey house 6-5-10.

Summer Bee Clinic June 19th in Webberville, TX 1- am

Honey Queen Chairperson, Vi Bourns gave her report. 2009-2010 ETBA Honey Queen told us she is leaving for college in August. She has been active in her duties, attending 3 events and the summer picnic.

2010 scholarship student Savannah Ross gave us her report on "Drone Mother Colonies".

A discussion about this years honey crop ensued. The crops is fairly good, the honey is light. We were reminded not to rob too heavy and to be sure and check hives going into summer. You can starve bees and lose hives if they run out of stores in the heat and cannot replenish them before winter. Check to see if you need to feed the bees.

Jan Aerst reports he went to the Brazilian Bee Conference. Brazilian beekeepers do not use plastic in their hives. He also told us of the novel way they process and package their honey. Jan has brought back some stingless bee suits, which he will be selling.

A question about the uses for propolis was asked. Methods of propolis collecting and use for propolis was discussed. Some use plastic grates or screens to collect. Some people use is directly to make a tincture by dissolving it in a food grade alcohol.

An auction and raffle was held. The meeting was adjourned.