

Minutes of the ETBA 5-13-10

President Andrew Bellefeuille called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge and gave the invocation. Visitors were introduced. 50 swarm calls were reported. Over 100 persons were in attendance.

Early reports of a good nectar flow with honey being clear and light color this year.

Pollen is coming in now, a discussion on gathering and preserving pollen ensued. There are a few different methods. Pollen must be stored correctly as it will mildew very fast.

A very informative and interesting presentation on Bee Plants was given by Christi Baughman, President of the Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association. (www.tvbees.org). She is a hobby beekeeper, originally from North Dakota, now living in the Mesquite area. She and members of the TVBA club are running the Texas Bee Seed Bank. They sell seed packets of plants that the bees work. Christi will be sending the information of her presentation to be placed on the ETBA website.

A few websites of note that were mentioned were:

<http://beewatchers.com>

www.wildflowers.org

www.pollinator.org

After the break Violet Bourns gave an update on the Honey Queen activities.

Honey princess Mary Margaret is unable to continue as princess. Please be sure to thank Mary on her time and effort as princess, she did a wonderful job representing the ETBA. We are sure she will continue to be a bright young presence in beekeeping.

Violet then introduced 4 of the student scholarship students who gave a brief presentation of a topic given to them to report on as part of their learning journey in beekeeping.

Rachel DeLorme spoke about African Honey Bees

Martha Jeske spoke about propolis

Phillip Staggs talked about the predators of the honey bee

Renee Earlinson spoke about honeybee egg grafting

The meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is June 3rd, there will be an auction and raffle.