

# Five Rivers Bee Club

Minutes for August 15, 2019

*5rbc.net*

\*President: Vernon Lamb (870) 886-6669 \*

\*Vice-President: Arrie Goodwin(870) 966-3666 \*

\*Secretary / Treasurer:Jacque English(870)856-4987\*

Please feel free to contact any of us should you have any questions.

*“The mission of Five Rivers Bee Club is to provide our membership and local community with a forum for sharing knowledge and mutual interests in beekeeping, to educate and promote the benefits of beekeeping to the public.”*

In attendance: We had 20 folks. (18 members and 2 guests: John Baxter & Hannah Ersenberg) We have 51 paid members.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the folks born in August:

Neal                Roxane

September's Birthdays    Upcoming

Herron            Carol

Neal                Wayne

Vandergriff      Bob

Boyer             Robin

We met at Bob and Sandy's Beach BBQ in Hardy AR and meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

Lonnie Perry gave opening prayer.

Agenda:

1) Minutes from July 18th were accepted as read. Vernon made motion to accept and Bronna 2nd it. All approved.

2) Treasurer's Report: (Books are open for any member to review) FNBC Checking: \$819.01

3) Five Rivers Bee Club Field Trip Day - It is a great way to get hands-on learning techniques, ask questions and get guidance. The field trips will be held on Saturday following the monthly meeting of every month at various members locations.

If you wish to be added to one of the months OPEN, please contact me; either by email [Jacque English](mailto:JacqueEnglish@five-rivers-bee-club.com) or phone (870) 856-4987 with which Saturday and best time for you to have be at your place. Please leave message if I do not answer.

Sep 21 will be our Annual Potluck Picnic

Oct 19 Birdsell's have opened their home for us to see their hives.

870.847.0986 to call them if you have questions.

291 Red Hawk Lane      Glencoe                AR    72539

4) Jacque passed around on how members wish to be notified (IE: Facebook, Phone, Email, Website, Other, etc). She also emailed and texted to members and awaiting replies.

5) It is that time of year to be thinking about our Annual Picnic and what you wish to bring. It was a great success last year and we'll have it again at the same location as last year. Loberg Park in Hardy AR at the same pavilion. Looking at the Saturday following our monthly meeting (Sept 21st), instead of a Home Visit. See WHAT TO BRING sheet at end of minutes and let Jacque know to update. It is also posted on the EVENTS page off the website.



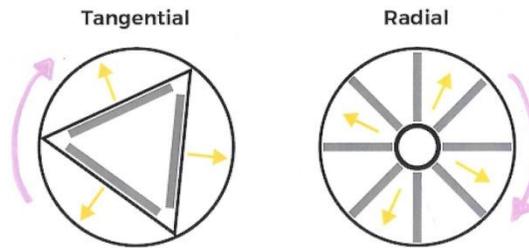
2019 Potluck Picnic (Sept 21st)

	XX	Name	What You're Bringing
Appetizer	1		
Dishes	1	Hannah Ersenberg	Roasted Veggies
Dishes	2	Lonnie Perry	Meat Hamburger
Dishes	3	Jacque English	Cheesy Italian Tortellini
Dishes	4		
Salads	1	Wallene Frazier	Broccoli Salad
Salads	2	Nora Perry	Salad
Salads	3		
Desserts	1	Walter Smith	Chocolate Dump or Pie
Desserts	2	Goodwin's	Pie
Desserts	3	Carmen Inman	Cookies
Desserts	4		
Beverages	1	Lonnie Perry	Tea
Beverages	2	Carmen Inman	Cokes
Beverages	3		
Other	1	FRBC	Paper Plates
Other	2	FRBC	Paper Towels
Other	3	FRBC	Ice and Pool
Other	4	FRBC	Forks, Knives, & Spoons
Other	5		

6) Vernon talked about the different kind of extractors. Tangential vs Radical. They are differentiated on how the frames are assembled in the basket.

– these have the top bar of the frame facing outwards.  
– tangential baskets have one side of the comb facing outwards.

Large companies that are involved in the honey extraction business usually prefer radial baskets as mostly they depend on the upward slope of bee comb cells. They depend on this slope because it makes it easy for honey extraction by use of centrifugal force applied towards the upper edge of the comb, which is opposite to the direction of gravity whilst in the hive. The smallest type of radial honey extractor holds two frames, while those used by large commercial companies can hold more than one hundred frames.



Tangential vs Radial Honey Extractor

7) Homesteaders in Hardy AR set for October 5th in Loberg Park (same park we had our picnic). From 9am to 5pm. <https://www.facebook.com/Hardy-Homesteaders-794516757307799/> Potluck Dinner to go over details is August 24th at the Senior Center in Hardy AR 304 Johnson, Hardy, AR 72542 beginning at 6:00PM. Call Doris Rose 870.847.5499 for more information.

We will have a booth to pass out literature and talk to folks about Beekeeping, looking to have an observation hive. We cannot sell anything, and any donations goes to the Homesteaders to help with next year's event. I will post the rules and regulations later. Mainly, you must be in period clothing. Men = overalls and women - long dresses with bonnets is what I see mostly.

8) Ron Brownell is out of the hospital and back home. Thank you Arrie for being a good friend to him.

9) Carmen spoke about a show she saw where African Bees were docile enough that a man in Puerto Rico could handle them. <https://youtu.be/psBomn2cPNw>



10) Andy Birdsell says he uses a roller to extract the cap honey and it works extremely well. Also a paint strainer cloth to catch any debris and it can be re-used.

11) John Frazier says to place frames in freezer for 2 days to kill any larva before extracting.

12) Tis the season for Golden Rod starting in the Ozarks. Beware when extracting, this can cause a bitter tasting honey.

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**August****Bees:**

Colony growth rate slows as the nectar flow dries up in hill areas; bees will still forage for clean water. During times of summer dearth, bees can often consume more honey than they are storing. There is little chance of swarming during this period. In the delta regions, nectar flow from agricultural crops may still be strong.

**Beekeepers:**

Ensure that bees have access to clean water. Watch out for robbing activities, which may indicate a weak colony. In some locations, honey should be harvested before bitterweeds bloom and ruin the flavor of the entire crop. Bees may tend to be cranky and more prone to stinging during times of dearth, so be careful opening hives. Varroa mite levels will be reaching peak numbers.

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**September****Bees:**

Cooler, wetter weather may produce a fall nectar flow, allowing bees to collect more winter stores. Drones may be evicted from the hives as workers sense changes in temperature and food availability. Egg production will be reduced as the days get shorter and cooler.

**Beekeepers:**

Any remaining honey is harvested. Each colony will need about 50-60 pounds of honey for winter. After honey is removed, medications for colony pests can be applied. Some beekeepers will requeen colonies now, temporarily breaking the brood cycle and encouraging good egg-laying by young queens in the early spring. Clean and safely store all empty supers away from rodents and wax moths.

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**October****Bees:**

The queen's egg-laying continues to decrease, and the colony population will also decline. No more drones will be produced, and those remaining will be expelled from the hive. Workers continue to forage for winter food stores as long as they can.

**Beekeepers:**

Colonies may require some feeding to ready them for winter. Fall feeding is done with 2:1 (sugar:water) syrup. Mite treatments should be removed at the appropriate time (consult product label). Mouse-guards can be installed. Watch for robbing activities. When finished readying hives for winter, don't open them again unless necessary. Each time a hive is opened, the bees must re-seal the cracks with propolis to keep out winter drafts.

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**November****Bees:**

As the weather turns cold, bee activity will be reduced outside the hive. The temperature will send bees into a loose cluster as necessary.

**Beekeepers:**

Install entrance reducers. Finish winter feeding. Don't open hives in cold weather. In windy areas, secure hive lids with a brick or rock. Now enjoy some honey. Review your records and evaluate colony performance. Consider what you might do differently next year. Attend your local beekeeper meetings and compare notes. Evaluate equipment and consider repairs or replacements. Render and clean any leftover wax.

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**December****Bees:**

The bees are in a tight cluster, alternating between generating heat with their wing muscles and resting and eating on the outside of the cluster. The queen is taking a much-needed break from egg production.

**Beekeepers:**

Leave your bees alone. Periodically test winter stores by gently tilting the hive, but do not open the lid. Order new tools and supplies for spring and get all of your equipment in order. Consider expanding your apiary. Enjoy a few books and drink some tea with honey in it. Turn your excess wax into candles and give away a few jars of your finest honey as holiday gifts. Plan to place your orders for spring package bees and queens early to ensure you are at the top of the list.

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Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jacque English

Next Meeting September 19, 2019 at Bob and Sandy's Beach BBQ in Hardy AR beginning at 6:30 p.m.