

**FLORIDA STATE BEEKEEPERS**

**ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**October 28, 2006**

**Santa Rosa County Auditorium, Milton, FLORIDA**

Elmore Herman, President, called the Annual business meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

Associations In attendance: Escarosa, Central Florida, Tupelo, Tampa Bay, Ridge, North Escambia, Northeast Florida Honey Bee Assn, South Florida. Not present, Tri-County, Hernando and Palm Beach.

David Webb  
Bert Kelley  
Bill Bonifay  
Edward K. Peach  
Wayne Miller  
Jerry Turner  
Gary Ranker  
Richard Semmes  
Laurence Cutts  
Doc Bullard  
Chester Capers  
Carol Parker  
Nancy Gentry  
Jean Vasicek  
Keith Councill  
Don Anderson  
Steve Gemesi  
Carl Clark  
J.J. Tilton  
Bill Merritt  
Sylvia Bullard  
Sergei Svetlechni  
Elmore Herman  
David Miksa  
Linda Miksa  
Andy Miksa  
David Mendes  
Charles King

Reading of the minutes of the last meeting in St. Augustine as printed in the Milton, FL program and on the World Wide Web at <http://floridabeekeepers.org>. Motion to accept as published and read at the convention by Doc Bullard, (Seconded by Jerry Turner). Passed.

President's Report: A hectic year with a good many events. Attended both the Honey Bee Technical Council and the revamped Plant Industry Technical Council meetings. The latter was mostly about citrus, however, apiculture was dominant over other commodities. This committee

will now meet four (4) times a year. There was discussion about how to find out when there is a meeting. Should come out from Division of Plant Industry via Richard Gaskalla or Jerry Hayes.

Attended the National Honey Board Nominating Committee (NHNC) meeting in Houston. Elmore's tenure will expire after one more term; Florida needs to submit two possible members, one of which will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Those appointed to the NHNC then submit nominations for the Honey Board (NHB) itself. The next NHNC meeting is believed to be scheduled for Orlando next year.

The special Spring meeting in Seffner was a disappointment because of low attendance. This meeting was not well publicized even though the President sent out an invitation to every registered Florida beekeeper. It also conflicted with a holiday and the President fell ill and could not attend. There was discussion about another possible meeting next year; shooting for June 9, 2007.

Attended the 6<sup>th</sup> year running at Epcot Center. Attendance was lower than in prior years. This will be the last year the National Honey Board participates at that venue. Discussion of moving it to Busch Gardens or Sea World. Discussion of effectiveness of the event and reasons for it being abandoned at Epcot.

Discussion of citrus pollination and how it relates to the California situation with reference to mandarin oranges. Will keep a close eye on this important situation.

Vice President's Report: David Webb said the visit by 18 beekeepers to Tallahassee on legislative day sponsored by the Florida farm bureau was a success. A slide show on pollination by Vice President Webb and other contacts netted another \$300,000 in research funds. There continues to be concern that the money is not being appropriated for important concerns, especially funds designated for first responder education and public relations due to Africanized honey bees, when the major problem for Florida beekeepers is mite control. A letter from Jerry Hayes passed out at the meeting revealed that the most money being allocated in the research program was for three projects at the present time: Education and Training with the University of Florida (\$110,000), Varroa genetic resistance with Dr. Glenn Hall (\$75,000), problems with migratory beekeepers with Dr. Tom Webster (\$31,000) and additional miticide delivery technologies with Dr. Amrine (\$30,000). In order to gather more information on possible research initiatives, Vice-President Webb passed out a questionnaire/survey asking those present what was their major beekeeping challenge.

Bill Merritt, Chairman of the Honey Bee Technical Council, said that the research monies belonged not to the Association, but the Division of Plant Industry (DPI). DPI is only influenced by recommendations from the Council, but in the end must make the decision on how to allocate the funds.

Contact with the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association (FFVA) netted an article in the Association's Online publication, The Florida Harvester, on the Florida State Beekeepers Association as a member. July 2006  
<[http://www.ffva.com/publications/harvester/JUI06\\_COVER.asp](http://www.ffva.com/publications/harvester/JUI06_COVER.asp)>. There was no representative to the FFVA's national meeting this year (September).

Conrad Cramer Memorial Apiary Report: Three current managers of the apiary, Jerry Turner, Lee Del Signore and Elmore Herman reported an aggregate income of \$4,217.37.

The nominations committee (Laurence Cutts, Don Smiley and Bill Merritt). It nominated Elmore Herman for President, however, a nomination from the floor (Jerry Turner) of David Webb caused a runoff election, won by President Herman with 21 votes to David Webb's 5. David Webb was installed as Vice President for another year and Bert Kelley was continued as the Association's treasurer.

The Treasurer's report showed a \$17,183.90 at the close of the books. Thus, this year there is a more like \$14,000 to work with as opposed to \$5,000 last year. The following was reported:

	Income	Expenditure	Difference (rounded off)
Dues	\$1875		\$1875
Research	\$2496	\$4000	\$1504
Convention	\$7277	\$2946	\$4330
State Fair	\$10605	\$6343	\$4261
Newsletter/ Program	\$2505	\$2857	(\$352.09)
Apiaries	\$5836	\$1622	\$4217
Promotion	\$1309	\$468	\$840
Co-op	\$2450		\$2450

The co-op funds are not available; this is an escrow fund provided by contributions from those interested in the co-op concept and will be used only when approved by the contributors.

At the convention there were 66 registrants, 52 paid for the banquet and the auction brought in \$17630.

Bill Bonifay as head of the auditing committee reported the books in order. Motion by Wayne Miller, seconded Edward Peach that Treasurer's report be accepted. Passed.

Executive Secretary/Webmaster Report:

Newsletters: 4 (four) issues January, March, July, September (Convention Issue) published. Currently 405 total mailed; first class \$.63, Cost approaching: \$630/issue  
 Membership:

Active 2004	58
Active 2005	59
Active 2006	121
Active 2007	3
Active 2009	1
Advertisers	25
Inspectors	15
Extra Milers	7
Complimentary	13
Life Members	84
Provisional	13

4,000 copies of flyer published last year at cost of \$307; suggestion that two thousand more be published this year. See it on the web at <http://floridabeekeepers.org> under "Member." The Yahoo.com FSBA list has 78 subscribers; use of e-mail for association business

is continuing. Executive Secretary attempting to remain in touch with local Associations; latest is the resurfacing of the Palm Beach Association under the leadership of Ute Hartman. No one in Milton representing this association. Finally, the Executive Secretary has signed the Association up at <http://freeconferencecall.com/>, phone (319) 256-0500, access code 201541 followed by #. There was a conference call done by the Board of Managers (no quorum; no minutes) on 6/21/06 and also by those planning the convention on 8/10/06.

Gary Ranker reported that ads of \$2600 had been sold this year for the bulletin/newsletter and that a total of \$3900 had been brought in to sponsor breaks.

Nancy Gentry reported on the activities of the Northeast Florida Honey Bee Association, which now boasts 75 members. The association produces a monthly newsletter and is in the process of developing a packet of information for new members. The Association has sponsored short courses in the past and will have a Regional Honey Appreciation Day December 9, beginning 9:30 a.m. at the Clay County Agricultural Center, limited to 100 persons. Registration Fee is \$12.50 per person or \$15.00 per family. Make check out to NEFHBA and send to Treasurer, 3 Forrest St., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043.

Discussion of amending the constitution and bylaws. The committee, Laurence Cutts, Mikie Westervelt and Calvin Wilcox, has proposed a number of changes to the above documents. These will be provided to the membership in accordance with the stipulations in the current documents.

Bert Kelley asked for volunteers to participate in the state fair February 18-19, 2007 at the fairgrounds in Tampa <[http://www.floridastatefair.com/state\\_fair.asp](http://www.floridastatefair.com/state_fair.asp)>.

Discussion of the Association participating in March for Farm Bureau Legislative Day. Vice-President David Webb will coordinate this activity.

Motion to adjourn by Doc Bullard, seconded by Wayne Miller, passed. Meeting adjourned 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Malcolm T. Sanford  
Executive Secretary