

Beekeeping Insights #44 email notes

I had a chance this week to give a bee talk on Fall and Winter Prep in Roxboro, N.C. It is great to give an in person talk finally after two years. I get so much out of giving talks by asking my audience to ask questions -- my method is to hand out 3 x 5 cards and expect about 25% of the audience to have a question. This has been a blessing for me because I often wonder what is on the mind of those attending these meetings -- bee questions help me determine the topics I use for writing my notes.

Many clubs are sharing my notes and I can often refer my audience to clubs that carry my notes such as www.cabee.org.

Issue # 44 is long -- 8 pages The topic is moving bees and in writing it I could look back over the many years I have been involved in beekeeping. I have added an article written in 1959 by my Uncle G. E. Stahlman about honey crops and using the old Kelley Hive loader to load bees on trucks as well as aid in the inspection of hives of bees 5 supers high filled with honey. Grover Hill, Ohio is located in Northwest Ohio. I was taught queen rearing by this uncle. It has been in my blood even to this day. But we can not get the old days back!

And that reminds me of the students I am mentoring. My father was demanding. My uncle was one to consider how I felt about the work I was doing. Isn't it interesting when someone ask you how you are feeling, rewards you with a pat on the back, and offers choices and suggestions. My uncle taught me that there was some wrong ways to keep bees but always try something new -- "you will learn if you fail."

Just a reminder that the bees are hungry and collecting food is a challenge. Robbing is a problem. Feeding bees during daylight hours may cause bees to attack hives being fed. I have never seen robbing like this year. Even an open hive being inspected is at risk of starting a robbing situation if other bee hives are in the area!

Dana