June meeting minutes were accepted by motion and second and vote of members in attendance.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cheryl Housden reported that we are in budget

**New Business:** Volunteers are always needed. Contact SOBAvolunteers@gmail.com

**Let's Talk Bees**

Randy Oliver gave an excellent presentation. He started off with the statement that virtually every bee is born with DWV (Deformed Wing Virus) latent in its body. Stress will make it become virulent. DWV evolves with an exceedingly high reproductive rate (hours not days) and is nutritionally beneficial to mites.

He proceeded to give us a sneak preview of the article being published in “Bee Journal” titled “The Evolutionary Effects of Beekeeping Practices upon the Co-evolution of the Varroa/DWV Monster”

Randy went on to discuss beekeeping practices that favor virus production vs. those that favor resistant bees. Are you part of the problem or part of the solution? If you have fewer than 500 colonies and are not in an isolated (at least 4 miles away from all other beekeepers) area, you will likely not be able to change the evolution of a breeding population of honey bees.
The suggestions that Randy provided to help be part of the solution are:

1. Always start with local and resistant bees
2. Monitor for mite load
3. Use organic treatments on low mite loads (His threshold is consistently 2%)
4. If your colony is not resistant, don’t kill the whole colony, just re-queen
5. Use a formic acid blast (Drive all the bees into one box w/all brood and add 300 ml of formic acid) to (most likely) kill the queen and a certain percentage of bees
6. Re-queen with a different strain of bee
7. If you have a queen that consistently has a resistant (to mites & disease) colony, breed her and share the good genetics with your fellow beekeepers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm