

## First Vice President's Report - Semi-Annual Business Meeting – March 20, 2021

It's been a busy season with my multiple roles; executive member, conference manager, webmaster, survey manager and managing apparel sales. I also produce the E-New Update that comes out mostly monthly to promote our events, membership reminders, and product sales.

I collaborate with Jeff Lee (Second VP) to organize our meetings and Educational sessions. The Fall AGM, held online, via Zoom was a good success with over 90 members and guests attending our 3 hour meeting on October 30, 2020. The minutes were published in BeesCene.

Jeff and I spent the summer and fall producing 4 Educational Video sessions that were broadcast via Zoom and Vimeo on Tuesday evenings throughout the month of November. Our goal was to meet the current needs that were expressed in a member survey last spring. Topics included hive inspection and management, large scale nuc production, queen rearing and nuc production business profile, along with marketing and retail operations.

Each Tuesday evening, we averaged 200 participants for a video presentation and discussion time. Our post-event survey was extremely positive with many encouraging comments and suggestions for the future. Since then, the videos have been on our website and viewed 269 times. The Beeland production with Morley Winnick and Jonathan Fischer, is also linked to their website and has received over 600 views. As a bonus to our fall program, Paul van Westendorp presented an event called, In Defense of Bees, which was also attended by more than 200 guests. Just a note: these videos are still on our website if you missed them.

Jeff and I also collaborated on today's Semi-Annual Meeting. It's always a challenge to select speakers that will cover topics that are current, relevant, engaging and that will be beneficial to all levels of beekeeping. Covid-19 has added further challenges trying to host meeting online without personal contact.