



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 38

Number 8

September 2013



Jan Lohman



OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM: YEAR 2

Jan Lohman

The Oregon Master Beekeeper Program is completing its second season, having trained 140 apprentices in the first year and over 130 in 2013. We have now added our Journey level to the program, with 40 participants who have been certified at the Apprentice level and have decided to continue in the program. Our final stage, the Master level, will be designed soon. We couldn't be more proud!

The glue that holds our group together is the pride in what we are accomplishing, the raw determination to make our program a success, the desire to continue to learn about honey bees—and the one major aspect of our program that is not included in any other Master Beekeeper Program—the *mentoring* factor. When the original committee decided on the steps to become a certified Apprentice in the program, this one element was of utmost importance and has turned out to be our biggest success—appointing a mentor to each apprentice participating in the program.

August 3, 2013, was our annual Mentor's Field Day, held in Corvallis at the Oak Creek Center for Urban Horticulture, a beekeeper's paradise where there are all types of beehives on display—a very artful location that begs you to stop, look, and listen. During our Mentor's Field Day, we reconnect with our mentor participants, ask for suggestions on improving the program, discuss elements of the program, and teach units on approved Varroa controls, pesticide reporting, and pests and diseases of the honey bee—just to bring current information to our mentors. It is also our way of keeping mentors “on the same page” in what they present to their apprentices. We could not do it without them!

This was our third annual Mentor's Field Day. I had thought that things might mellow and our mentors tire of our repeated meetings, especially given our beekeepers' schedules and distances traveled, but instead they were more enthusiastic than ever and very pleased to be doing their parts to help the beloved honey bee and the wonderful apprentices willing to learn how to manage them successfully.

My thanks go to Dr. Ramesh Sagili at the OSU Honey Bee Lab for his encouragement in beginning this project and his willingness to keep us on the right path, Carolyn Brece, our Coordinator, for the huge amount of time that she has dedicated to this project, and to Rita Ostrofsky, our Assistant Coordinator, for her work with keeping all of our questions answered and her amazing support.

Members of our Oregon Master Beekeeper Committee are as follows: Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Dr. Dewey Caron, Dr. Lynn Royce, Morris Ostrofsky, Rita Ostrofsky, Paul Andersen, Rosanna Mattingly, Judy Scher, Ken Ograin, Carolyn Brece, Heike Williams, and me. We currently have over 50 mentors [see page 2] participating in the program.

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www.orsba.org

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OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM

A Joint Venture of OSBA and the
Oregon State University Extension Service
info@oregonmasterbeekeeper.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



August, I love it! The honey harvest is finished; fresh local sweet corn is available along with peaches, pears, and Hermiston watermelons. The best part of August for me and my family is the State Fair. I don't think we have missed more than two or three in the last 30 years. It was the Oregon State Beekeepers Association exhibit in the Jackman Long Building that prompted me to get into beekeeping. The State Fair display is an outreach opportunity that can't be beat. In this venue, OSBA gets exposure to a wide breadth of the people, from the Ag community to downtown high-rise dwellers in Portland, increasing the awareness of our local branches around the state and what they can offer to the local community. In next month's *Bee Line*, we should have some pictures, but I hope many of you get to see it in person.

Conference registration is open! It should be a good one. Dr. Caron has an excellent lineup of speakers. Preliminary schedules are on the Web and should be in Dr. Caron's information in this *Bee Line* [see page 15 for agenda]. This is an excellent opportunity to network with other beekeepers, share ideas, discuss issues, and compare techniques. You will also have the chance to hear from industry leaders on future trends and the direction that beekeeping is headed. So, if you haven't already, send it in, get your registration in the mail.

—Paul

OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER MENTORS 2013

Thank You, 2013 Oregon Master Beekeeper Program Mentors!

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Robert Allen | Alvlea Fong | Joe Maresh | Judy Scher |
| Paul Andersen | Terry Fullan | Paul Maresh | Andrew Schwab |
| Glen Andresen | Stephen Harris | Bruce McDonald | Stan Scotton |
| Andy Angstrom | Kerry Haskins | Rex McIntire | Amy Sierzega |
| Barbara Bajec | Dan Holt | Ken Ograin | Jim Smith |
| Del Barber | Marc Huber | Shigeo Oku | Richard Temple |
| Dewey Caron | David Kribs | Leslie Oldenburg | Karessa Torgerson |
| Jerry Carter | Max Kuhn | Morris Ostrofsky | Harry Vanderpool |
| Chris Clement | Tom Lea | Ron Padgett | Fred VanNatta |
| John Connelly | Seth Lee | Floyd Pawlowski | Andrew Watson |
| David Curtis | Rebecca Lewis | Karen Peteros | Tim Wessels |
| Gregg Everhart | Jan Lohman | Sarah Red-Laird | Heike Williams |
| Gail Farler | Damian Magista | Trevor Riches | |
| Richard Farrier | Claire Mancha | Lynn Royce | |

Your time, expertise, consideration, and care for the bees and their good keeping make the program *work*.

Welcome new mentors (listed to the right) for 2014!



NEW MENTORS 2014

- Ken Anthony
- Dan Armstrong
- Todd Bartlem
- Carolyn Breece
- Bunny Carter
- Katharina Davitt
- Jim Fanjoy
- Kelly Goodwin
- Katie James
- Greg Long
- Fred Mann
- Art Martinak
- Gary Morgan
- Naomi Price
- Bruce Roller
- Mark Ross
- Shep Smith
- Daniel Speers
- La Tisha Strickland
- Ellen Topitzhofer
- Tim Wydronek
- Doug Youngberg

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LIKE A FINE WINE...IS OREGON HONEY!

Marjie Ehry

Living in the Dundee wine country, I listen to wine makers and hear in their voices the great pride in their industry and product, and I wonder if beekeepers know what a great product they have at hand. Just as the wine grape, depending on area, soil type, length of good weather, each variety of blooming plant yields a distinct flavor. The discerning beekeeper soon learns to detect the different varieties of honeys, as they harvest the sweet golden treasure. Many other states judge honey mainly by color and flavor. But Oregon honey judges look for variety. Oregon agriculture is so diverse that we are leaders in the nation with number of agriculture-produced commodities. Many of those require pollination. With pollination being stressed as our main source of income and concern for the mysteries surrounding the health of honey bees, we sometimes overlook the fine honeys produced by the hard-working little honey bee. Depending on the part of state you live in, you have varieties we don't have in the Valley, such as sweet clover, alfalfa, onion, fireweed, rabbit brush, poison oak and more. We all would love to see what Oregon has to offer. Oregon's annual conference and "Honey Show" is your chance to bring your honey...not to show off, but with pride as a result of hard work and love of beekeeping. We hope to see you and your honey in Seaside!

CONFERENCE HONEY SHOW CATEGORIES

Entries need to be checked in by **10 AM Friday**, with judging to follow. Winners with ribbons are to remain on display until afternoon break on Saturday. The categories have changed considerably from last year and are different from State Fair requirements. Products should be products of the current season—entries from previous shows permitted.

HONEY in the COMB

Comb honey: three sections (wooden or plastic)

Cut-comb honey: three sections in plastic tray/plastic-wrapped

Chunk honey: three wide-mouth jars

HONEY in FRAME

One full depth frame displayed in suspension mount that you supply

One extracting frame: shallow or western, suspension mounted that you supply

EXTRACTED HONEY

Creamed honey: three jars

Extracted honey: three queenline jars; we will put into color classifications of light, amber or dark (you may submit entries in all three color classifications); no labels

Extracted honey: three uniform jars any size, shape, weight; we will put into color classifications; no labels

Extracted honey—artisan: three total; ID floral source (wild flower or mixed acceptable); entries to include appropriate owner label (label and honey both to be judged)

BEESWAX

Block of beeswax: 2-pound minimum

Beeswax candles: one pair either dipped or foundation

Artistic beeswax: one to several pieces in setting; minimal enhancements

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bees on flowers: mounted or without frame, 8x10 recommended

Beehive photo: mounted without or without frame, 8x10 recommended

Bee-related photo (people, places, bees): mounted with or without frame, 8x10 recommended

PowerPoint slideshow: from 6 to 10 slides (may use commercial graphic illustrations to supplement); submit on flash disk

Judging of entries to be done on characteristics within control of the beekeeper (extracted honey density, clarity, cleanliness for example)/photographer.

On Saturday, with your permission, honey entries (except photographs and super frames) will be auctioned, with funds to support bee research.

2012 FALL CONFERENCE HONEY SHOW

Trevor Riches, Sheridan, Oregon
Blackberry, first place
White clover, second place

Paul Andersen, Aloha, Oregon
Clover, first place, "Sweepstakes"

Judy Scher, Eugene, Oregon
Chunk honey, first place

Andy & Bonnie Swanson, Camano Island, Washington
Wildflower, first place

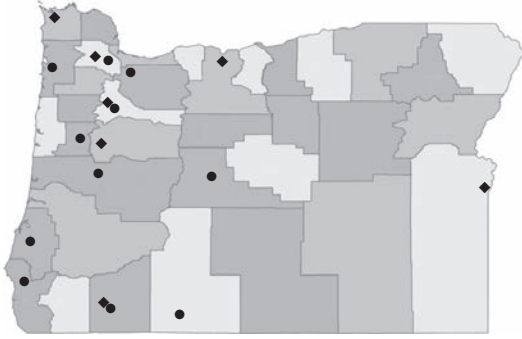
Ken Ograin, Elmira, Oregon
Mixed floral, first place
Mixed coastal, second place

Nancy Ograin, Elmira, Oregon
Mixed floral, second place

Matthew & Dora Pickens, Union, Oregon
Raspberry, second place
Oregon Mint, third place, "Judge's Choice"

Bev Koch, Oregon City, Oregon
Photo, first place, "People's Choice"

Oregon State Beekeepers Association EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ASSOCIATIONS



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• OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Cascadia Queen Breeders

Meets quarterly. Our next meeting will be in conjunction with the OSBA Fall Conference.

Chair: Paul Maresh

503.283.2060; pmaresh@spiretech.com

Vice Chair: James Hensel

Secretary: Alvalea Fong
503.742.0910; mamagoose@mac.com

Treasurer: Rex McIntire

503.720.7958; remcintire_5@msn.com

Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets second Thursday, 63211 Service Rd, Bend
Visit www.orsba.org, Message Board, Central Oregon Branch. For information and meeting details, email: contact@cobeekeeping.org

Ring Leader: Bindy Beck-Meyer

Bookkeeper: Allen Engle

Website: www.cobeekeeping.org

Coos County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, third Saturday (except December)
Ohlsen Baxter Bldg, 631 Alder St, Myrtle Point

President: Hal Strain

Vice President: Shigeo Oku—541.396.4016

Secretary: Maureen Goettlich

Treasurer: Jane Oku

541.396.4016; janeoku1958@gmail.com

Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Meets 9:00 AM, last Saturday (except Nov/Dec)
OSU Extension, 3328 Vandenberg Rd, Klamath Falls

President: Jim Smith

541.892.5888; tulebee@gmail.com

Vice President: Chris Kerns

541.884.8664; ker664@charter.net

Secretary: Cathy Vick

541.894.8274; elliott772@aol.com

Treasurer: David Ramirez

541.892.3726; ramirez.d.m@gmail.com

Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Trinity United Methodist Church, 440 Maxwell Rd, Eugene

President: Katharine Hunt

541.607.0106; keehunt@gmail.com

Vice President: Pam Leavitt—541.344.4228

Secretary: Rita Ostrofsky

541.685.2875; ostrofsky@pacinfo.com

Treasurer: Nancy Ograin

541.935.7065; nancy.ograin@gmail.com

Website: www.lcbaor.org

Linn-Benton Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, fourth Wednesday, South First Alternative Co-op Meeting Room, 1007 SE 3rd, Corvallis

President: Linda Zielinski

541.929.4856; llz50@peak.org

Vice President: Greg Long

541.231.3480; gslong6@comcast.net

Secretary: Rosalie Bienek; rosaliiebenek@gmail.com

Treasurer: Suzi Maresh

541.967.9607; sjomaresh@msn.com

Website: www.lbba.us

Oregon South Coast Beekeepers

Meets 6:00 PM, third Thursday, OSU Extension Office located at the Fairgrounds in Gold Beach.

President: Del Barber

541.249.0160; goldcoastapiary@gmail.com

Vice President: Carla Fletcher

Secretary/Treasurer: Myrna Barber
goldcoastapiary@gmail.com

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Clackamas Community College, Clairmont Hall, Room 118, Oregon City

President: Chris Heath

503.734.7662; tafdad@ccwebster.net

Vice President: Jim Mellis

503.890.2465; craneguy97222@yahoo.com

Secretary: Alvalea Fong

503.742.0910; mamagoose@mac.com

Treasurer: Rex McIntire

503.720.7958; remcintire_5@msn.com

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, first Wednesday, Calaroga Terrace Rmtm Comm, Terrace Auditorium, 1400 NE Second Ave, Portland. For information, email: officers@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

President: Tim Wessels—503.380.9381

president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Vice President: Melissa Kerry—785.331.8003

vice-president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Secretary: Mike Card—971.207.9726

secretary@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Treasurer: Frank Barley

treasurer@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Website: http://portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, first Monday, Southern Oregon Res & Ext Ctr, 569 Hanley Rd, Central Point

President: Ron Padgett

541.592.4678; padgett25@frontiernet.net

Vice President: Glenn Intermill—541.840.1213

Secretary: Dana Rose—puckamok@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Eric McEwen—541.592.5483

Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Tuesday, Art Space Hwy 101 & 5th St, Bay City

President: Bob Allen—503.322.3819

Vice President: Terry Fullan

503.368.7160; tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, last Tuesday

Cameron Public Svcs Bldg, 155 N First Ave, Hillsboro

President: Mike Van Dyke

503.642.5338; mvand581@gmail.com

Vice President: Andrew Schwab

503.538.7545; beesbuzzin@gmail.com

Secretary: Paul Andersen

503.332.5410; paulande@easystreet.net

Treasurer: Jerry Maasdam

503.648.7906; jmaasdam@mac.com

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, fourth Monday, Chemeketa

Community College, Building 34, Room A, Salem

President: Richard Farrier—541.327.2673

Vice President: Bunny Carter

503.703.8546; dbcramer@hotmail.com

Secretary: Mike Rodia

503.364.3275; drodia@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Patricia Swenson—pkswenson@gmail.com

Website: www.wvbatoday.com

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Fairs and Exhibits: Marjie Ehry—503.434.1894

Nominations: Chuck Sowers—503.266.1740

NW Apiculture Fund for Honey Bee Research, Extension, and Education: Kenny Williams—541.456.2631

Public Relations: Paul Andersen—503.332.5410

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Dr. Lynn Royce

541.929.5337; mitebee@peak.org

Dr. Ramesh Sagili

541.737.5460; sagilir@hort.oregonstate.edu

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Representatives

South Coast

The Oregon South Coast Beekeepers Association (OSCBA) combined bee equipment, member photos, informative handouts, and an observation hive for their debut at the 2013 Curry County Fair. Hundreds of Fair attendees stopped to find the queen with a red dot and learn about bee-friendly gardening, harmful neonicotinoids, and the support available through the local beekeeper association. Videos and photographs on display, taken by Pat Reed (www.SolarBeez.com), were real show stoppers, providing visual answers to many questions.

Coos County Beekeepers Association (CCBA) continued their participation at the Coos County Fair with many attendees returning for their annual honey purchases. After the fairs were over, Del Barber, president of OSCBA, and Shigeo Oku, vice president of CCBA, attended the mentor training program for the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program. On the Friday preceding the workshop, they were treated to a visit to the OSU Honey Bee Lab, where they spent time learning to identify *Nosema* spores. Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Carolyn Brece, Nessa Ashrasun, and the Bee Lab staff were especially helpful during this important learning experience.

Many of the local beekeepers are preparing for the honey harvest with mixed reviews on the expected quantity forecast. Both organizations have members participating in the Northwest Queen Breeding Project led by OSCBA Vice President Carla Fletcher in collaboration with Northwest Queens. These VHS queens are well acclimated to the Pacific Northwest coastal environment. The first shipment has been received, and queens have been installed in their hives. The second shipment is expected in early August. The purpose of this project is to develop mite-resistant bee populations that are acclimated to this environment and will be able to sustain strong colonies.

—Del and Myrna Barber

Regional Associations

Klamath Basin Beekeepers

The Klamath Basin Beekeepers will be conducting an Intermediate Beekeeping class beginning in August. The first session will be August 24, 1–4 PM, following our regular meeting. The second session will be during the regular September meeting, September 28. Topics for the two sessions will include honey harvesting and storage, wax processing, fall and winter management practices, and bee maladies. The fee for the class is \$20/family.

Several KBBA members worked with young students

involved in the Oregon State University gardening program on July 29. Mentors met the students at the OSU Experiment Station and shared some lessons about bees, the value of bees as pollinators, and the life cycle of bees—and fielded many questions from the students. Everyone had an opportunity to look inside a beehive and see the busy workings of a colony.



Left: Observation hive created by Katharina Davitt. **Right:** Young gardeners getting into the bees at the OSU gardening program.

The highlight for many students was watching several bees emerge from the cells. Katharina Davitt, club member and mentor in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program, and her husband, Paul, produced and staffed a display about bees, beekeeping, and honey at Klamath Community College on July 26. Katharina built an observation hive and had several frames of her Carnolian bees on display. Informational posters, equipment, and a beautiful display of a variety of honeys were part of the exhibit. Interest was high among students and visitors as Katharina fielded many questions about beekeeping.

—Cathy Vick

Lane County Beekeepers

Lane County Beekeepers Association met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 20, when past President Judy Scher presented “Fall Management.” Our September meeting will be held on the 17th, at which time Jeffrey Green of Oregon Department of Agriculture will talk about honey house rules, inspections, and the labeling law. He will also discuss how the registration of hives is regulated, as well as the safety of handling honey, its shelf life, and other related information.

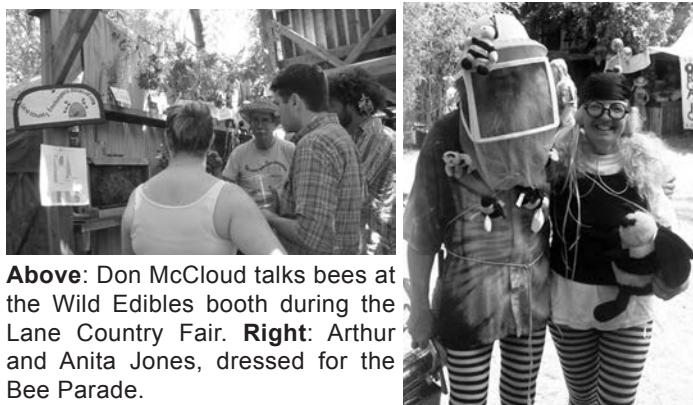
We once again helped to host the Wild Edibles Booth in the Community Village at the Oregon Country Fair, July 12–14. Club members Don Mcloud and Gary Morgan talked about beekeeping and showed the observation hive which Arthur and Anita Jones had set up using the Country Fair bees.

Arthur and Anita Jones recently shared the following “History of LCBA and the Country Fair” with me:

“When the Community Village started in 1977 there was an observation hive in Wild Edibles organized by another

group, the Queenright Beekeeping Collective. Folks would also be suited up for a tour of a full hive which was kept behind the Village in a camping area. This observation hive was a bit more functional than LCBA's in that it had an entry/exit through a PVC pipe extended up to 10 feet. Our first real exposure to beekeeping was at this observation hive. The Queenright Beekeeping Collective disbanded in the mid '80s, so Community Village did not have an observation hive until LCBA had a presence. It was in the late '90s when we first brought the LCBA observation hive to the Fair, taking a frame from one of the hives we kept on site. When we first brought the observation hive out, it was in the Community House as part of the Master Gardener's display, but later it was decided that it fit better with Wild Edibles.

We used to have three hives off the Dead Lot, but a bear got them! The Fair now has hives only at Alice's Wonderland, and folks who camp there always look forward to the hives and watching when we come to take the frame out for the observation hive."



Above: Don McCloud talks bees at the Wild Edibles booth during the Lane Country Fair. **Right:** Arthur and Anita Jones, dressed for the Bee Parade.

Arthur and Anita dressed up for the Bee Parade, which winds its way through the Fair as they carry the observation hive to the Wild Edibles booth. This is another example how members of LCBA participate in the larger Oregon community, spreading the love of beekeeping!

—Katharine Hunt

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Portland Metro Beekeepers had their annual Potluck-BBQ on Saturday, August 17, at Max Patterson Park in Gladstone. After an enjoyable day of good food, relaxing, and frolicking in the park, the drawing for the Grand Prize of a Double Hive from Ruhl Bee Supply was held, and Jade Minzlaff was the lucky winner. Everyone had a really good time.

Our next meeting will be at Clackamas Community College, Clairmont Hall, Room 118, on Thursday, September 12, at 7:00 PM. All members of PMBA in attendance at this meeting will be entered into a raffle

for an Individual Full Conference Registration (value \$125.00) to the OSBA Conference at Seaside, October 31–November 2. You must be present to win. The drawing is at the close of the meeting. —Alvaela Fong

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Portland Urban Beekeepers held its monthly August member meeting on Wednesday, August 7, with an intensive member-focused, information-packed session. Tom Lea, mentor in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program, along with Brian Lacey (owner of Live Honeybees) and Matt Reed (owner of Bee Thinking), made up the expert panel. All three are well-known beekeeper educators. The session, moderated by Tim Wessels, PUB president and co-owner of Bridgetown Bees, began with two very common subjects, "Too Feed or Not to Feed" and "To Treat or Not to Treat." Both of these subjects create lively discussions amongst beekeepers at all levels of experience. This session was no different.

Portland Urban Beekeepers Association, as a fast-growing member organization focused on a fast-growing hobby, is full of newer beekeepers and, as such, our president has been working hard to create monthly agendas that provide helpful and timely information to them while balancing topics towards medium and advanced beekeepers. Earlier this year, PUB held breakout groups geared to experienced levels and at a meeting later in the season, one arranged according to the section of the city where beekeepers live. These sessions ensure that newer beekeepers get the attention and information that help them to be successful early on while giving more-experienced beekeepers a forum to discuss more-advanced beekeeping topics. By breaking out into groups arranged by sections of the city, beekeepers get to know others who live nearby. Building neighborly relationships and cross-pollinating experience fulfill our club's education mission as well as our social one, to have fun with others while enjoying our bees and colonies.

Our group had tables and information packets at numerous events during the month of July, helping to educate the public about *Apis mellifera*, encouraging everyone to create bee habitats in their yards, refraining from the use of neonicotinoids, and helping others to consider starting or supporting colonies themselves. During the month of July, PUB had tables, demonstrations, and information materials at the Bees and Fleas event in Beaver Creek, "More Than Honey" documentary EcoFilm event at the Hollywood Theatre, and the Sundown at Ecotrust: Summer Concerts & Innovation Showcase.

—Michael Carlson

KEEPING BEES IN SEPTEMBER

Ken Ograin

September is a month when one needs to be observant. August, you were busy with honey harvesting, mite control, and inspecting colonies.

❖ Honey frames need to be protected from wax moth. Your honey supers should be cleaned and stored for next year's honey flow.

❖ Things you need to be mindful of are winter food stores, robbing, yellow jackets, and Nosema treatment; also, get your bee yards tidied up.

❖ Keep hefting your hives to monitor food stores. Your colonies will be consuming more food than is being brought in. Feed heavy syrup if needed in a top feeder or inside feeder at this time, as entrance feeders tend to attract robbers.

❖ Robbing and yellow jackets can and may be a major problem this month. Entrance reducers will help, but the UC Davis robber screen that Dewey Caron has brought to our attention is a good thing. The screens are easy to make using just scrap wood and 1/8-inch hardware cloth. I made many of these last year, and they do an excellent job of deterring robbers.

❖ Monitor for mites, and be sure that you have followed

manufacturer's instructions for any products that you may have used. Be sure to remove any unused product in a timely manner.

❖ If you did any requeening or combining of weak colonies last month, be sure to check them. All colonies need to be queenright with a healthy population of winter bees that will carry the colony through winter.

❖ If your colony did not produce any surplus honey but seems to have a large population of bees and is queenright, Tom Seeley may have the answer for you. One, if your colony had swarmed, then your population may have not recovered in time for the major nectar flow. Another possibility, Tom says, is Nosema or tracheal mites as both of these can reduce a bee's life span—and it is the foraging phase that will be shortened. This would be a good reason to test your bees for both so that you can treat them while there is still time—that is, before winter temperatures will prevent your ability to do so.

❖ Hives need to be protected from winter rains and winds. Be sure you have good-fitting lids, and weight them down. Tip hives up slightly in the back if you use solid bottom boards.

❖ Don't forget about mouse guards. It will not be long before daytime and nighttime temperatures will be getting down, forcing bees to cluster for long periods.

From: The Bee Line, September 2012.

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KEEPING BEES WITHOUT CHEMICAL TREATMENTS: Height of Hive Stands

Lynn Royce

Many pests and predators search for their food close to the ground. Yellow jackets that live underground search in the fields and forests most commonly 6–10 inches above the surface. Skunks are surface hunters. Raccoons and opossums will be attracted to the low, large entrances we give our bees. You can make it more difficult for these pests by raising the entrance of your colonies. Also, reducing the entrance for winter preparations will help keep out mice and make it easier for colonies to defend against other intruders. More and more beekeepers have both raised and reduced their entrances.

IN APPRECIATION

Jan Lohman

The year 2013 has not been a good year for beekeepers. Although in each and every year there are terrible losses and unfortunate events that occur, this year has been unusually tragic.

We began with the tragic loss of Alan Ehry, a longtime beekeeper and huge supporter of bees, beekeeping, and beekeepers. The most constant thought about Alan was how supportive he was with teaching new beekeepers about honey bees and his understanding and love of all beekeepers and bees. Hours after Alan's tragic accident, another longtime beekeeper passed away. Anita Alexander passed away from complications after surgery. Anita, her husband Lu, and now grandson Todd Balsiger have all been incredibly involved with beekeeping in Oregon. Anita and Lu as well as Alan Ehry were all Honorary Life Members of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association.

Moving into summer, our good friend Nick Van Calcar had a fire at his beekeeping facility, where he lost his buildings, his truck, and barrels of honey that were ready for market. Nick is working very hard to rebuild his outfit and that describes the determination that it takes to be a beekeeper—constantly adapting to what life, nature, and the bees deal out.

Last month we had news of two more beekeeping families affected by tragedy. Chuck and Jeanne Sowers's son Chad passed away way from a heart attack way too soon in his young life, and Kathy and Paul Kowash's (OSBA's Co-Treasurers) son Jon passed away at his home in Corvallis.

This month we have received news that Bill Rufener, a longtime beekeeper, past officer of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association, and friend has passed away. Bill was a quiet man who did more listening than talking,

but was always learning new things and putting them to work for him. He lived in farm country in Banks, Oregon. After selling his beekeeping operation, Bill was involved with Central Oregon Seed for several years, putting his computer and beekeeping skills to work. He was interested in seeing beekeepers deliver the best bees possible for carrot seed pollination, and he helped to raise the bar for our pollination there.

I know that there are many other losses that I am not aware of, and I apologize in advance for their omissions. My intent is to honor these members of our organization who have contributed so much to us and to appreciate all of our members for what they have to give.

Bill Rufener

June 13, 1937–June 18, 2013

In addition to what Jan has written:

—from the staff at COSI:

He was very kind, thinking of others above himself, honest and dependable, and a joy to work with.

Over many years, Bill was able to bring COSI beekeepers together as a group and help them improve bee health for their and the growers' benefit.

His knowledge of computers was also a great help to COSI. All of Bill's efforts and more were instrumental in the growth of COSI and their place in multiplying hybrid carrot seed for companies around the world.

—from Lynn Royce:

I met Bill through Dr. Mike Burgett when I was a graduate student working on tracheal mites of honey bees and found Bill to be kind and thoughtful. He was a quiet, intelligent man. He had a love and commitment to honey bees. I was told that Bill had a PhD, but I do not know his exact expertise. I remember a workshop for beekeepers that Bill organized. For my part, I showed the attendees tracheal mites and discussed how to do examinations to determine mite loads in a colony. We had a great time, and I think the beekeepers who attended learned a lot. Later, when he was working with Central Oregon Seed and the beekeepers who pollinated carrots near Madras, we met at the state meeting in Idaho where we again discussed tracheal mites as we toured the honey facilities of many Idaho beekeepers.

—from The Bee Line (only a few of the more-recent comments are included here):

1998. Bill was a member of the Research Committee, Webkeeper, and vice president of the Apiary Advisory Board. He presented "Report on the OSBA Web Page and Pollinator's List" at the fall conference.

1999. Bill continued to hold a number of offices, and hosted the Tualatin Valley group's Field Day in May.

2001. A work party took place at Bill's place to build 30 screened bottom boards designed by Dan Hiscoe for the OSU Bee Lab—to "make Lynn [Royce]'s job much easier."

2007. Phyllis Shoemake noted that it was about 1989 when she was first elected Secretary/Treasurer, that Bill Rufener had held the job for "quite a while" until then, and that Oliver Petty had preceded Bill "for many years." She said that it seemed not to be a "short time job" (which we know well enough that Phyllis got all too right)—and that Bill's involvement had been long term, much longer than many of us have memory of.

until January 2013. Bill continued membership and made contributions in support of beekeeping in the region.

Bill's family suggests donations to the Oregon Food Bank and Sonrise Shelter, Banks Fire Department #13 Food Pantry, 300 S Main St, Banks.

TAKING CHANCES

A beekeeper was at his wit's end. You know the drill: no honey crop. Well, he was walking past a bank and noticed a little sign saying: *Beekeepers Loans, 2 percent*. He dashed in and asked the bank manager about getting a loan, to which the bank manager replied, "That 2% is not the interest rate here. That's your chances of getting a loan."

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CHAT WITH QUEEN PRODUCERS

Cascadia Queen Breeders is having a “Chat with the Queen Producers” luncheon—with Dan Harvey, Olympic Wilderness Apiary, Morris Ostrofsky, Sundance Apiary, and Frank and Sheri Pendell, Pendell Apiaries, on Saturday, **November 2, 2013, at 11:45 AM** at the OSBA Fall Conference in Seaside, Oregon.



We would like to encourage anyone interested to attend!

The cost of the luncheon is \$20.00. It is limited to the first 40 people to sign up.

The menu is a Soup and Sandwich Buffet. A variety of Turkey, Roast Beef, Smoked Ham, and Vegetable Sandwiches, served with Fresh Fruit Salad, Marinated Vegetable Pasta Salad, Chips with Dip, and your choice of Chowder or Soup. Includes Dessert and assorted Beverages.

Please send check or money order payable to Cascadia Queen Breeders to Alvalea Fong; 1301 Buchanan Street; Oregon City, Oregon 97045. **The paid reservation request must be received by October 18, 2013.** Please include your email address to receive your receipt.

OREGON STATE FAIR!



Please plan to come visit the Oregon State Beekeepers Association **bee display** at the STATE FAIR (August 23–September 2). The bees will be there, including a most unique “wild bee nest,” courtesy of Dick Temple. Please consider volunteering time to help interact with the public if you can. **FREE ADMISSION** for volunteers—sign up for 4-hour shift (or for as long as you can be available) by visiting the website: **orsbastatefair.wvbatoday.com**. It really is important that we have a strong volunteer force to fill all shifts needed....one or two shifts CAN make a difference! Marge will get admission tickets to you (and close-in parking pass). Entries for all who entered HONEY and BEESWAX and BEE PHOTOS for the 2013 COMPETITIVE SHOW are also displayed in our bee booth.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 23–September 2: Oregon State Fair. Visit! Help with the OSBA Booth! *Information: See above.*

September 7: Bee Alive Conference. Featuring **Randy Oliver!** South Medford High School, 1:00–4:00 PM. *Tickets: www.wildbeeinternational.com*



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September 29–October 4: XXXXIII International Apimondia Congress. Kyiv, Ukraine. *Information:* apimondia2013.org.ua/en

October 3–6: 2013 Washington State Beekeepers Association Annual Conference. Federal Way, Washington. *Information:* <http://wasba.org/events>

October 16–19: Western Apicultural Society. Sante Fe, New Mexico. *Information:* ucanr.edu/sites/was2

November 18–22: California State Beekeepers Association Annual Convention. Harrah's, South Lake Tahoe, California. *Information:* <http://www.californiastatebeekeepers.com/events.html>

January 7–11, 2014: North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow. Baton Rouge River Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. *Information:* www.nabeekeepingconference.com

Reminder: Website ads are now free to OSBA members—up to three per year!

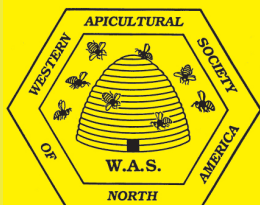
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2013 Annual Conference

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

October 31– November 2, 2013
 Seaside Civic and Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon

Individual and Family Registration

Name: _____ Date: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Contact Phone: _____ email: _____

Additional Family Members

Names: _____

Event			Cost
Thursday Night Hospitality Room			Complimentary
Full Conference	Individual - \$125		\$
	Family - \$160		
Friday Conference Only	Individual - \$85		\$
	Family - \$100		
Saturday Conference Only	Individual - \$85		\$
	Family - \$100		
Friday Research Luncheon ¹	\$25 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Friday Banquet	\$40 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Apiculture Endowment Fund Breakfast - 7:00 AM ²	\$20 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Annual OSBA Dues	\$25 per Person	Number: _____	\$
Total Cost			\$

Please make check **payable to OSBA** and mail with this completed registration form, **postmarked no later than October 18**, to: Paul Kowash, 5959 SW Taylors Ferry Rd, Portland, Oregon 97219

Note: Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates are available at the Best Western Ocean View Resort (800.234.8439), at Rivertide Suites (503.717.1100), and at Inn at Seaside (800.699.5070). Be sure to ask for the **Beekeepers Conference** special room rate when you make your reservation.

¹The Friday Research Luncheon is limited to the first 150 registrants. For Saturday's lunch, please enjoy your meal at one of the local establishments of your choice.

²The Saturday Apiculture Endowment Fund Breakfast at 7:00 AM will feature a special presentation by Dr. Marion Ellis and an opportunity to support the endowment.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association 2013 Fall Conference

Seaside Civic and
Convention Center



October 31–November 2
Seaside, Oregon

TENTATIVE AGENDA (AS OF 8.12.13; UPDATES AT: WWW.ORSBA.ORG)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

9 AM–5 PM **OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER INSTITUTE**
(BY INVITATION)

4–5 PM **OSBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

5–9 PM **REGISTRATION**

7 PM **HALLOWEEN SOCIAL** WITH LIGHT SNACKS, COSTUME PARTY, AND MOVIE ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

8:30 AM–4 PM **SILENT AUCTION**

8:30 AM–
3 PM **BEE SCHOOL**
THOM TRUSEWICZ, INSTRUCTOR

9 AM–4 PM **OPEN BEE LAB, OSU**
BRING SAMPLES OR DROP IN TO VIEW/ASK QUESTIONS

10 AM **ENTRIES TO HONEY SHOW DUE** [SEE PAGE 3]

8:30 AM **WELCOME**
PAUL ANDERSEN, OSBA PRESIDENT

8:45 AM **KNOW THY ENEMY: PREDICTORS OF HONEY BEE COLONY DEATH**
KEITH DELAPLANE, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

9:30 AM **BREAK**

10 AM **UPDATE ON CURRENT BEE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AT OSU**
RAMESH SAGILI, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

11 AM **40 YEARS OF BEEKEEPING IN CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**
GENE BRANDI, CALIFORNIA BEEKEEPER

11:45 AM **RESEARCH LUNCHEON: THE FUTURE OF BEEKEEPING**
GEORGE HANSEN, OREGON COMMERCIAL BEEKEEPER

1:15 PM **TIMING OF VARROA REPRESSION MEASURES**
MARION ELLIS, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

2:00 PM **BEEKEEPING IN THE 22ND CENTURY**
GEORGE HANSEN, OREGON COMMERCIAL BEEKEEPER

2:45 PM **BREAK**

3:15 PM **HONEY BEE HEALTH AND VARROA RESISTANCE**
BOB DANKA, USDA, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

4 PM **UPDATE ON OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM**
CAROLYN BREECE, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
JAN LOHMAN, VAZZA FARMS

4:15 PM **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

6:00 PM **SOCIAL HOUR**

7:00 PM **BANQUET**
SPEAKER TBA, FOLLOWED BY **BANQUET AUCTION**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

7 AM **ENDOWMENT BREAKFAST**
KENNY WILLIAMS, HOST; MARION ELLIS, PRESENTING

JOINT SESSIONS

8:15 AM **VARROA, HEALTHY BEES AND POLLINATION**
BOB DANKA, USDA, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

8:15 AM **WSU HONEY BEE RESEARCH AND GENETIC REPOSITORY UPDATE**
STEVE SHEPPARD, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

9 AM **PROJECT APIS M.: FOCUS ON FUNDING AND FORAGE**
HANNAH RIBOTTO, PAM

9 AM **COMPLEMENTARY APPROACHES TO HONEY BEE GERMPLASM PRESERVATION: ABOVE FREEZING LONG-TERM STORAGE AND CRYOPRESERVATION**
BRANDON HOPKINS, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

9:45 AM **BREAK**

QUEEN REARING WORKSHOP

CO-SPONSORED BY CASCADIA QUEEN BREEDERS

10:15 AM **KONA QUEEN HAWAII REVISITED**
GUS ROUSE, KONA QUEENS

11 AM **MILLER METHOD NONGRAFTING QUEEN REARING**
MORRIS OSTROFSKY, OREGON BEEKEEPER

BEE INTERACTIONS & PESTICIDES AND BEES

10:15 AM **HISTORY OF HUMAN/BEE INTERACTIONS**
MARION ELLIS, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

11 AM **REDUCING BEE POISONING FROM PESTICIDES**
LOUISA HOOVEN, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

11:45 AM **LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)**

11:45 AM **CASCADIA QUEEN BREEDERS LUNCHEON (BY INVITATION)**
CHATting WITH THE QUEEN PRODUCERS [SEE PAGE 12]

KEEPING BEES HEALTHY

1:15 PM **CHALLENGES IN CHEMICAL-FREE BEEKEEPING**
DEWEY CARON, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

2:00 PM **YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT: A LOOK AT HONEY BEE DIET DIVERSITY**
ELLEN TOPITZHOFFER, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

PROTECTING POLLINATING BEES

1:15 PM **POLLINATION OF OREGON SEED CROPS: HONEY BEES AND NATIVE BEES**
SUJAYA RAO, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

2:00 PM **WILSONVILLE BEE KILL FALL OUT**
MACE VAUGHN, XERCES SOCIETY

2:45 PM **BREAK**

3:15 PM **HONEY BEE EXPERT PANEL, DEWEY CARON, MODERATOR**

4:00 PM **CLOSING**

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Note: The date on the mailing label is the expiration date for membership. The treasurer will send a reminder!

For a membership form and magazine subscription renewal forms for September,
please email osba.newsletter@gmail.com or call 503.772.3486.



The Bee Line

The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. Annual subscriptions to the newsletter are included with each membership in OSBA.

Please send news about your bees and your experiences in keeping them, as well as events, corrections, comments, questions, photographs and stories (both from “old” times and “new”), interviews, recipes, and points of view to: Rosanna Mattingly, *The Bee Line*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland OR 97206; email: osba.newsletter@gmail.com. It's your newsletter—we want to hear from you!

The next issue to be printed will be the October 2013 issue. The deadline for submitting copy is September 10, 2013.

Thank you!

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Per Issue

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