



Jason Rowan

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[www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org)

OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

WEBMASTER: Erin Olmon

[orsbawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:orsbawebmaster@gmail.com)

[www.oregonmasterbeekeeper.org](http://www.oregonmasterbeekeeper.org)

OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM

*A Joint Venture of OSBA and the*

*Oregon State University Extension Service*

[info@oregonmasterbeekeeper.org](mailto:info@oregonmasterbeekeeper.org)

## Oregon State Beekeepers Association GUIDELINES FOR BEEKEEPING

The Oregon State Beekeepers Association has established the following set of guidelines that promote and support the beekeeping industry and the general public. It is hoped that members will take an interest in and adhere to these guidelines. Beekeepers should ensure that each of the following priorities are addressed in the order listed.

### Safety Is First

Public and beekeeper safety is a top priority. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Care in hive transport and placement
- Keeping vehicles and machinery fit for use
- Ensuring employee safety management
- Focusing on product safety
- Maintaining the health of colonies
- Training for new beekeepers

### Quality Is Second

Quality standards affect the public, beekeepers, and the industry. They include, but are not limited to:

- Attending to strength and suitability of hives for pollination
- Keeping hive products to standards consistent with local ordinance(s)
- Maintaining the health of colonies
- Training for new beekeepers
- Providing a quality work experience for employees
- Being thoughtful in interactions with and having consideration for fellow beekeepers
- Keeping conduct and behavior professional while operating as a beekeeper

### Production Is Third

Once the safety and quality issues have been thoroughly addressed, beekeepers are in a good position for healthy and productive business.

**Note:** As we are reminded here, care for honey bees extends well beyond the bees, thus involving all who contribute to their management as well as the colonies belonging to other bees, their keepers, and the people in the path of the beeline and migrating colonies. The OSBA guidelines are a reminder of safety concerns, and consideration of guidelines prepared by others for beekeeping at different scales is also encouraged.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Summer is definitely here and it arrived before the 5th of July. It is starting out to be a warm one and I hope the heat we are getting now isn't an indicator of a long hot summer. I really don't want to see all the nectar sources dry up early. I am going to have to make sure the my bees have access to plenty of water.

Last year at about this time the OSBA was invited to join the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC). We decided to participate and joined a group of more than 30 diverse members representing organizations and agencies involved in beekeeping, food, agriculture, government and conservation. These members understand the importance and benefits we can all realize through joint efforts to improve the environment for bees. The HBHC is focusing on four areas that will improve the Honey Bee environment. They are Hive Management, Bee Forage and Nutrition, Managing Crop Pests and Cross Industry Collaboration. In the first year some of the areas where the HBHC has effected improvement are in the Hive Management category—raising awareness of the “Tech Transfer Teams” (part of the Bee Informed Partnership), and helping to raise funds for this effort. There is also an effort to develop and publish a comprehensive Varroa management document, a single authoritative source to cover the assessment, management and treatment of the Varroa mite. This document would already be out but there were some last minute issues to be resolved regarding the newly approved use of Oxalic Acid. The other activity to have a near term is under the Bee Forage and Nutrition category. This is really a pollinator effort to improve the forage for all pollinators on lands managed by all levels of government and large land holding corporations to diversify their planting for pollinator forage.

There are more aspects to this than can be covered here and I would encourage you to visit their website at: [honeybeehealthcoalition.org](http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org).

Take care and have a good summer!

*Paul*

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: THE OREGON STATE FAIR

Before we know it . . . the Oregon State Fair will be here and once again the call for volunteers will go out. Traditionally the various associations in Oregon have stepped up to the plate to make the Oregon State Beekeepers booth an excellent educational experience for the public.

The Oregon State Fair is always a special event in Oregon but this year is extra special in as much as it celebrates the 150th. Anniversary of the Fair!

Please make plans to help once again for this very special event. For your information here are the operating times for the Fair:

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUG 28–29, 10 AM–11 PM**

**SUNDAY–THURSDAY, AUG 30–SEPT 3, 10 AM–10 PM**

**FRIDAY–SUNDAY, SEPT 4–6, 10 AM–11 PM**

**LABOR DAY, SEPT 7, 10 AM–10 PM**

Please note that this year the booth will be located in the Columbia Hall NOT Jackman-Long Building as in previous years.

The online volunteer sign-up forms will be going live on July 7, 2015 at [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org).

This year the shifts will be 3 hours each as opposed to a 4 hour shift last year with 3 volunteers needed for each shift. The shifts will be:

**10 AM–1 PM**

**1 PM–4 PM**

**4 PM–7 PM**

**7 PM–10 or 11 PM, depending upon date**

Volunteers must sign up **INDIVIDUALLY** please!

I would like to personally thank all the volunteers that helped us make the 2014 booth such an enormous success. Having beekeepers from all over Oregon donate their time and knowledge to educate the public about the plight of honey bees and other pollinators was a critical component of the 2014 booth.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Oregon State Fair. I look forward to seeing you in the 2015 booth!

Cheers,

*Trevor Riches*

Chair, Fair and Events Committee

## BEEKEEPERS ENGAGE IN SCHOOL CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS: A Special Thank You From Oregon Agriculture In The Classroom Foundation

As I am sure many of you are aware, this past spring Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation, featured *The Beeman* by Laurie Krebs for the program's annual literacy project. The annual project, which ran this year from March 8 through the end of the school year, is an opportunity to volunteer in a local classroom by reading an agriculturally related book and leading the classroom through a lesson that reinforces the topics covered in the book. The project aims to help students develop an interest in both reading literacy as well as become more agriculturally literate. With the help of project sponsors, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, provides all of the materials including the book which is left behind in the teacher's classroom to use for years to come.

This year seventeen volunteers from your organization and associated groups read to 104 classrooms, and reached over 2,800 students helping these students to understand bees and their importance in greater detail. In total, the project is estimated to reach over 20,000 students in over 900 classrooms across the state.\*

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Oregon Beekeepers for their dedication to the education of young Oregonians about the importance of bees as pollinators not just in this capacity but others as well. We all know how important it is for the younger generation to be aware of these important topics.

Again, thank you for your dedication and partnership in this project. I look forward to continued collaboration with your group. As mentioned, this is an annual project, and no matter what the topic we encourage personalization and as we all know pollinators impact most agricultural sectors. If you are interested in participating in future years please get in contact with us, we would love to connect you with a classroom next spring.

Thank you again for your support and partnership.

Best wishes for a bountiful summer,

*Jessica Budge*, Executive Director

Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom

\*At time of press, these numbers were still to be confirmed.

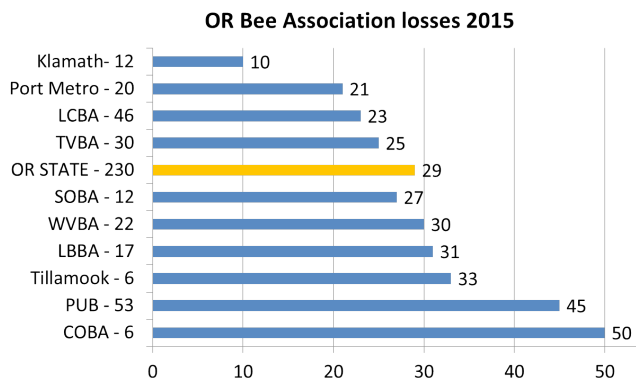
## 2015 BACKYARD BEEKEEPER WINTER LOSS

*Dewey M. Caron*

This spring at local meetings I distributed paper copies and directed individuals to a web-based survey document as a continuing effort to define overwintering success. This was the 7th year of such survey activity. I received 230 responses from OR backyard beekeepers, keeping anywhere from 1 to 50 colonies (and an additional 31 from Washington beekeepers).

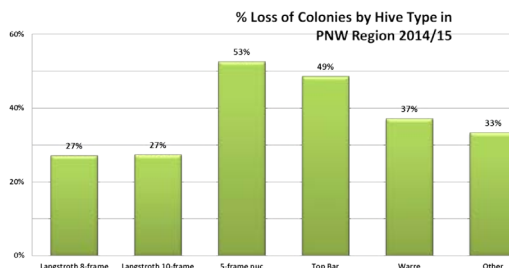
The vast majority (42%) of respondents had 1 or 2 colonies, Medium=3 colonies (range 1 to 50); 45% of survey respondents had 1,2 or 3 years of beekeeping experience, medium=4 with range of 1 to 60 years. A report of the survey responses, both losses and responses to management questions in the survey, can be found at [www.pnwhoneybeesurvey.com](http://www.pnwhoneybeesurvey.com)

Number of responses varied among the bee groups from as few as 6 for two groups (Tillamook & Central OR) to 46 from Lane Co (LCBA) and 53 from PUB (Portland Urban Beekeepers) members. Lost rates for the 10 groups varied from a low of 10% for Klamath Basin Beekeepers (12 individuals) to a high of 50% for the 6 respondents of COBA (Central Oregon Beekeepers Association). Overall weighted loss rate for the 230 backyard OR beekeeper respondents, entering the winter period with just under 1000 colonies, was 29.3%. See accompanying Figure 1 (the number adjacent to the group name is number of respondents).



The 2015 survey asked for numbers of hives by hive type both entering winter and then in the spring. Langstroth hive beekeepers, both those using 8-frame or 10-frame boxes, had 27% winter loss. This hive type represented 89% of respondent hive types. Nuc (5-frame) hives had double this loss rate (53%) followed closely by Top bar hive losses (49%). Warré hive rate loss (37%) was intermediate. Each collectively accounted for 10% of hive types with 1% “other” hives (such as long and feral

hives) experiencing a 1/3 loss rate. Most respondents reported losing 1, 2 or 3 hives with the heaviest loss of 14 colonies. See Figure 2 for loss by hive type.



Information on loss rate by colony origination (overwinter colony, package installation, etc.) can be found on the [pnwhoneybeesurvey.com](http://pnwhoneybeesurvey.com) website as well as response to managements related to bee health and varroa control. It includes a copy of the survey itself. Individual association reports will also be posted on this site as they are prepared. Further analysis will eventually be posted to [pnwhoneybeesurvey.com](http://pnwhoneybeesurvey.com), including analysis of loss related to fall, feeding and treatment managements practiced.

As reported in last month's *Bee Line*, 13 Oregon Commercial & Semi-commercial beekeepers reported 12.4% overwinter loss rate. The BeeInformed survey (with a mixture of both large and small-scale beekeepers) reported a 25% loss rate for OR respondents.

## STATE FAIR HONEY SHOW

*Trevor Riches*

This is the year you have been waiting for to enter the Honey and Products of the Hive Show at the Oregon State Fair! It is a great accomplishment to win a blue ribbon at the Oregon State Fair but this year is extra special because 2015 marks the 150th Anniversary of the Fair! The Oregon State Fair Honey Show is a great place to exhibit your skills in the preparation of Honey and Products of the hive.

Many people are hesitant to enter a honey show.

They cannot see the purpose of it all.

I usually explain what a honey show is in this way: simply put, a honey show is where a person or business submits an entry with the hope of showing the world just how good their honey (or products of the hive) processing methods are.

Now, clearly honey bees are responsible for producing excellent honey without any help from us, however, we can really degrade the quality of the honey during the process from a hive to the container.

Whilst judging honey many factors come into play, the main ones are:

1. Is the container clean?

2. Is the honey clean?
3. Is the honey moisture content correct?
4. Has the honey been overheated?
5. Is the container lid clean?

I was successful in changing the dates of production allowed to enter the competition for 2015.

All exhibits must have been produced under the direct management of the Exhibitor and produced from the apiary of the Exhibitor between September 2014 and August 2015. This has been changed this year to accommodate the late extraction here in the Pacific NW.

I hope this will encourage more entries in the competition.

Competition entries will be accepted at the Columbia Hall entrance (through the Red gate on 17th Street)

**Friday, August 21, 10 AM-PM**

**Saturday, August 22, 10 AM-5 PM**

And don't forget the other divisions and classes in the 2015 Honey and Products of the Hive Competition.

### Listing of the 2015 Classes

There are two levels for Honey Entries: Youth (17 years of age and younger) and Adult (Oregon Beekeeper). Division 240 is designated for Youth, but Youth may choose to enter

## PROTECTING BEES FROM ACUTELY TOXIC PESTICIDES: EPA's Comment Period Extended

The EPA's proposed plan is to prohibit the use of all highly toxic pesticides when crops are in bloom and bees are present under contract for pollination services. The plan also recommends that states and tribes develop pollinator protection plans and best management practices. **The comment period on the proposal has been extended an additional 30 days, ending July 29.** Please visit the regulatory docket for the proposal to protect bees from acutely toxic pesticides, EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0818, to read the plan and submit comments. Learn more about the proposal and other EPA Actions to Protect Pollinators: <http://www2.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/epa-actions-protect-pollinators>.

any other division, competing against adults.

- 240 Youth (Ages 17 years and younger)
  - 2400 Artistic Beeswax, molded or dipped (1 lb min)\*
  - 2401 Beeswax, any other
  - 2402 Honey, Extracted (any variety)
  - 241 Beekeeping Photo. Entries must be an 8"x10" mounted photograph in a black frame
  - 2410 Fair theme (Crazy Fun Since Day One)
  - 2411 Bees and their Keepers
  - 2412 Bees/Bee Colonies at work
  - 242 Beeswax. Minimum quantities are listed below
  - 2420 Artistic Beeswax, molded or dipped (1 lb min)\*
  - 2421 Beeswax Block – 1 block (1 lb min)
  - 2422 Beeswax Candles, dipped – 2 dipped candles, 100% beeswax
  - 2423 Beeswax Candles, molded- 2 molded candles, 100% beeswax
- \*Artistic Beeswax can be several shades of beeswax, i.e., brood or capping wax. Artificial enhancements accepted but should not overpower the beeswax.
- 243 Honey, Extracted (any variety). Extracted Honey—3 one pound, uniformly filled, Queenline or otherwise one pound or one pint glass/plastic jar
  - 2430 Light
  - 2431 Amber
  - 2432 Dark
  - 244 Honey, Other (any variety)
  - 2440 Chunk Honey Jar – 3 one pint or one pound jars
  - 2441 Comb Honey section – 3 square or round sections comb honey
  - 2442 Creamed – 3 one pint or one pound jars
  - 2443 Cut Comb – 3 uniformly cut comb pieces (min 12 oz each)
  - 2444 Extracting Frame with Capped Honey Comb – one frame (any size)

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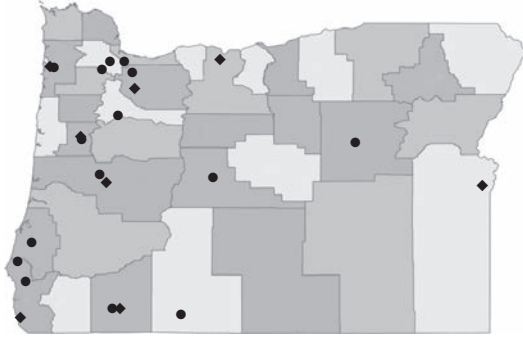
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## Oregon State Beekeepers Association EXECUTIVE BOARD AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS



### OSBA OFFICERS

**President:** Paul Andersen  
19255 SW Prospect St, Aloha 97007  
503.332.5410; paulkandersen@frontier.com

**Vice President:** Harry Vanderpool  
7128 Skyline Rd S, Salem 97306  
503.399.3675; shallotman@yahoo.com

**Secretary:** Bunny Cramer-Carter  
PO Box 779, Stayton 97383  
503.703.8546; dbcramer@hotmail.com

**Treasurer:** Jeff Milligan  
PO Box 20548, Keizer 97307  
503.588.7224; milligan50@msn.com

**Past President:** Jan Lohman  
77225 Colonel Jordan Rd, Hermiston 97838  
541.567.3209; 541.980.0304 (cell)  
jan.lohman55@gmail.com

### ♦ OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**North Coast:** Terry Fullan  
39450 Northfork Rd, Nehalem 97131  
503.368.7160; tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

**South Coast:** Mureen Walker  
25055 Pistol River Loop Rd, Gold Beach 97444  
541.373.7010; mureen98@gmail.com

**Columbia Basin:** Bill Edwards  
5051 Lost Lake Rd, Hood River 97031  
541.354.2223

**Eastern Oregon:** Jordan Dimock  
2635 Mitchell Butte Rd, Nyssa 97913  
541.372.2726

**Portland Metro:** Tom Cinquini  
1172 S Sycamore St, Canby 97013  
503.547.5386; tomcinquini@gmail.com

**Southern Oregon:** Sarah Red-Laird  
PO Box 3257, Ashland 97520  
541.708.1127; sarah@beegirl.org

**North Willamette Valley:** Steven Coffman  
2540 Greenwood Rd S, Independence 97351  
503.838.2981

**South Willamette Valley:** Jason Rowan  
80881 Turkey Run Rd, Creswell 97426  
541.942.6479; beetanical@q.com

### • OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

#### Cascadia Queen Breeders

Meets quarterly; contact the secretary for information.

**Chair:** Paul Maresh  
503.283.2060; pmaresh@spiretech.com

**Vice Chair:** James Hensel

**Secretary:** Ken Anthony—klanthony1@comcast.net

**Treasurer:** Tom Chester

#### Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, second Thursday

Partners in Care, 2075 NE Wyatt Ct, Bend  
Visit [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org), Message Board, Central Oregon Branch. For information and meeting details, e-mail:  
[contact@cobeekeeping.org](mailto:contact@cobeekeeping.org)

**President:** Allen Engle

**Treasurer:** Patricia Moreland

**Website:** [www.cobeekeeping.org](http://www.cobeekeeping.org)

#### Coffee Creek Beekeepers

#### Coos County Beekeepers

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

**President:** John Gardner—541.572.3847

**Vice President:** Shigeo Oku—541.396.4016

**Secretary:** Bobbie Gardner—541.572.3847

**Treasurer:** Jane Oku

541.396.4016; janeoku1958@gmail.com

#### John Day River Beekeepers

Meets quarterly

**President:** Matt Allen

541.934.9101; apricotapiaries@gmail.com

**Education Coordinator/Secretary:** Liz Lovelock

#### Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Meets 9:00 AM, last Saturday (except Nov/Dec)

OSU Extension, 3328 Vandenberg Rd, Klamath Falls

**President:** Paul Davitt

[president@klamathbeekeepers.org](mailto:president@klamathbeekeepers.org)

**Vice President:** John Wilda

[vicepresident@klamathbeekeepers.org](mailto:vicepresident@klamathbeekeepers.org)

**Secretary:** Judy Olson

[secretary@klamathbeekeepers.org](mailto:secretary@klamathbeekeepers.org)

**Treasurer:** Ray Rutler

[treasurer@klamathbeekeepers.org](mailto:treasurer@klamathbeekeepers.org)

**Website:** [www.klamathbeekeepers.org](http://www.klamathbeekeepers.org)

**Reminder:** Check out current resources at:  
[http://www.extension.org/bee\\_health](http://www.extension.org/bee_health)

**Lane County Beekeepers**

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

**President:** Pam Leavitt

541.344.4228; pamseaver2000@yahoo.com

**Vice President:** Max Kuhn—541.997.7390

**Secretary:** Jodi Wiktorowski

**Treasurer:** Polly Habliston

**Website:** www.lcbaor.org

**Linn-Benton Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30 PM, third Wednesday, Corvallis Waldorf School, 3855 NE Highway 20, Corvallis

**President:** Steve Oda

541.745.7227; steve@lbba.us

**Vice President:** Everett Kaser

541.924.9214; everett@lbba.us

**Secretary:** Robert Williams

541.740.4705; robert@lbba.us

**Treasurer:** Suzi Maresh

541.967.9607; suzi@lbba.us

**Website:** www.lbba.us

**Oregon South Coast Beekeepers**

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

**President:** Jim Sorber

**Vice President:** Mark St. James

**Secretary:** Wayne Berry

berrydogs@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Barbara Fitts

**Portland Metro Beekeepers**

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

**President:** Joe Maresh

503.703.5060; joemaresh@bctonline.com

**Vice President:** Rex McIntire

503.720.7958; remcintire\_5@msn.com

**Secretary:** Patty Anderson

503.887.7057; wiseacrefarms@me.com

**Treasurer:** Barb Derkacht

503.631.3063; bderkacht@yahoo.com

**Website:** portlandmetro.org

**Portland Urban Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30 PM, first Wednesday, Alberta Abbey, 126 NE Alberta St, Portland

For information, e-mail: officers@

portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**President:** Bill Catherall—503.572.6467

president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**Vice President:** Sylvan Zimmerman

vice-president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**Secretary:** Janet Shea-Tangeman

secretary@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**Treasurer:** Keith Gilman

treasurer@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**Website:** portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

**Southern Oregon Beekeepers**

Meets 7:30 PM, first Monday, Southern Oregon (6:30 PM hands-on demo at SOBA hives thru bee season)

Res & Ext Ctr, 569 Hanley Rd, Central Point

**President:** John Jacob

541.582.BEES; john@oldsolenterprises.com

**Vice President:** Ron Padgett

541.592.4678; padgett25@frontiernet.net

**Secretary:** Dana Rose—puckamok@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:** Cheryl Housden

541.955.5146; chousden@earthlink.net

**Website:** southernoregonbeekeepers.org

**Tillamook County Beekeepers**

Meets 7:00 PM, second Tuesday (except December) Fresh Cafe, 9120 5th Street, Bay City

**President:** Bob Allen—503.322.3819

**Vice President:** Jim Fanjoy

503.637.5522; jim@fanjoy.com

**Secretary:** Jeffrey Hall

503.739.0893; jlh434@mac.com

**Treasurer:** Stan Scotton

503.232.4945; 4scotton@gmail.com

**Tualatin Valley Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30 PM, last Tuesday

225 S First Street, Hillsboro

**Contact:** tualatinvalleybeekeepers@gmail.com

**President:** Jeff Clark

**Vice President:** Bob Ward

**Secretary:** Jillian Hettinga

**Co-Treasurers:** Barb Falconer & Jerry Maasdam

**Web:** www.facebook.com/TualatinValleyBeekeepers

**Willamette Valley Beekeepers**

Meets 7:00 PM, fourth Monday, Chemeketa Community College, Building 34, Room A, Salem

**President:** Richard Farrier

541.327.2673; rfarrierfarms@gmail.com

**Vice President:** Mona Kanner

**Secretary:** Emily Cross

**Treasurer:** Laura Evans

**Website:** http://wvbahive.org

**Xerces Society Report**

[www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/](http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/)

[Are-Neonicotinoids-Killing-Bees\\_Xerces-Society1.pdf](#)

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## REGIONAL NEWS

### Regional Representatives

#### North Coast

Ever since Bee Day in April, attendance at the monthly meeting has been way up with new beekeepers and folks just interested in learning more about bees. We again had about thirty attendees in spite of several of our regulars being away on vacation. The sharing of ideas and experiences happens before, during, and after the meetings and a good time is had by all.

Our guest speaker at the June meeting was Dr. Dewey Caron. His slide show presented the survey results of the 2014–2015 data collection. Each slide provided useful information, as well as an opportunity for questions and discussions. Dr. Caron's survey results can be found online at: [pnwhoneybeesurvey.com](http://pnwhoneybeesurvey.com). Additional question and answer time was made available to answer any and all questions had by the attendees. We sincerely thank Dewey Caron for his time and insightful sharing of bee info.

As usual, the Tillamook Beekeepers will be "manning" the bee booth for one day at the state fair. Some discussion related to that event was had.

Some of our regular members come to the Tillamook beekeepers meeting from Lincoln City and Newport. They have been working diligently at organizing a new beekeepers group to meet monthly in Newport. The new group is called Central Coast Beekeepers Association (CCBA). The first meeting is Wednesday, June 17th, at 6:30 PM in the large meeting room of the Newport Public Library. Meetings are the third Wednesday each month at least through the end

of the year. Dan Speers has agreed to serve as interim president. For additional information contact Dan via email at: [dspeers@yahoo.com](mailto:dspeers@yahoo.com).

Lastly if you haven't heard of it, one of our members shared a product called Bee's Wrap which is bee's wax coated fabric used as alternative to plastic wrap for covering refrigerated items. Information is available at [Beeswrap.com](http://Beeswrap.com). Our member became a

wholesale dealer allowing all of us to get the products at 50% off the retail price. She encourages anyone interested in doing wholesale or retail sales to contact the Bee's Wrap company, which is located in Vermont. —*Claire Moody*

#### South Coast

Learning from visits and exchanges with visitors seemed to be the high note of the last several weeks of spring leading up toward the summer solstice. Oregon South Coast founders Del & Myrna Barber came from Nevada and stayed in the area for several days, sharing about their latest adventures in beekeeping, including their meeting with a beekeeper in Turkey, Cappadocia, area who had just moved in many of his blue hives for pollinating the black apricot. The beekeeper there wore black clothes, like a sports jacket suit, and no protective gear. His bees seemed especially docile. Obviously Turkish bees never see black bear, only the rare Syrian Brown Bear.

Myrna also showed photos of Del's own home crafted and adapted Russian beehive to help keep an even temperature inside through both hot and cold seasons. The car thermometer at the hive indicating inside and outside temperatures shows an even 94 degrees continuously inside. The walls are constructed of 1" solid foamboard insulation sandwiched between plywood, with T-111 on the outside. The inside is the equivalent of the "double deep" brood box so often claimed to be the space needed for overwintering and adequate brood production for nectar and pollen harvesting for the next winter. Del says that some people are making the frames by cutting the ears off of one standard frame, turning it upside-down and temporarily fastening it to the bottom of the upper one by a screwed-on bracket so that it can be separated for spinning out the honey. Del uses the press that he designed to squeeze the honey out of the comb, so he built each double deep frame with a central bar for strength. He says that a frame weighs about 25 pounds when full. This is basically a hybridized Tanzanian Top-Bar horizontal hive. The current queen is a Carniolan, but Del is eager to acquire a Caucasian Russian queen for his Russian Hive. He hoped to pick up one in a nuc, but there wasn't enough lead time.

I saw hundreds of occupied nucs and no electric fence, only a standard sheep fence, at Old Sol. I asked, "How do you keep the bears away?" Misty Jacob quickly replied, "Our Karelian Bear Dog!" This dog keeps nose to nose with a skunk, so it can't turn fast enough to get a spray aimed. This speed and agility is part of what keeps this dog safe from bear, while being an absolute pest that no self-respecting bear ever wants to be confronted with again.

Our main honey producers to the south, Babette and Russ Rose, had a bear turn over the dozen hives at their

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house. They had no bear fence and their dogs, who would normally be barking ferociously, apparently slept through the intrusion. The Roses relocated those bees upriver and secured them in dog kennel type fencing by midnight. Bear returned every night about 4 AM for a while. The dogs sounded the alarm.

—*Mureen Walker*

### **South Willamette Valley**

This spring has been something here in the south valley. I have often equated it to holding a tiger by its tail. At this time the weather is hot and the honey is coming in fast. We hosted the annual Lane County bee day here down in our field with much success. I am grateful for the participation of all the friendly folks that dedicate countless hours in support of our most beloved insect.

July signals the start of extraction/treating here in the south valley. Pulling honey in July may sound early and perhaps it is in some areas, but here in the south valley getting the honey off and hives treated by August is a great way to keep your hives healthy going into the fall. The bees still may have some natural forage to store and hitting the mites where it hurts this time of the year will greatly reduce winter losses. Here in the south valley summer rains can bring on a pennyroyal flow which can help a great deal with the summertime floral loss. It seems to me that we are going to experience an extended dry spell this summer, so be prepared for light hives. Feeding your bees during the summer can be somewhat problematic, so keep your feed buckets covered and lids on tight. Reduce your entrances if robbing is an issue. Having a small colony in too many boxes can spell trouble as well, so stuff them in one if at all possible. We still have a long way to go before the end, so pay attention to what your hives may need and enjoy some of your well-deserved honey.

Happy Keeping.

—*Jason Rowan*

## **Regional Associations**

### **Cascadia Queen Breeders**

The Cascadia Queen Breeders held a queen breeding workshop May 30. We want to thank Kerry Haskins for hosting us at his honey house in Mulino. We also thank Dewey Caron for leading us in such an informative workshop.

Dewey covered several queen rearing methods in the lecture to give people an overview and visibility into the most popular methods of rearing queens. Our focus was the larva grafting method into queen cups and the Miller method. Hands-on and observations with live hives were part of the training provided at the workshop. There was a frame of queen cells created by the Miller method that were harvested and placed into breeder nucs as part of the

class training. The configuration and use of Cloake boards to tease the hive into rearing new queens was part of the field activities during the workshop. The activities started at 11 AM and concluded at 3 PM. Some stayed longer to get further training with Dewey on grafting live larvae into queen cups. Grafting tools and the grafting process were the focus with Dewey after the field work with the hives was complete.

We were able to have hands-on grafting thanks to CQB members Joe Maresh and Craig Rodgers, as they made sure we had good material to graft from. People were able to get their hands sticky transferring Miller method queen cells to mating nucs.

A special thanks to Joe, Craig, and Kerry as we had two good, different types of Cloake board setups to work with.

We look forward to hosting 3 more workshops this year.

Thanks to CQB members as well as interested individual beekeepers who made this a memorable and functional event.

—*Ken Anthony*

### **Lane County Beekeepers**

Our annual Field Day was held on June 6 at Beetanical Apiary, owned by Jason Rowan. The weather couldn't have been more perfect and the area Jason offers provides plenty of shade from a huge oak tree for the social time. There were 8 hives and those attending were divided into two groups. One group did hive evaluations, led by Kenny Williams, Morris Ostrofsky and Max Kuhn. The second group split into two and half watched Judy Scher present a collection board demonstration, and the other half watched Ken O'Grain share information on dividing hives, robber screens and moisture boxes. These groups then switched so all who were there participated in all offered activities. Forty people were in attendance and after the demonstrations, a picnic and time to "talk bees" with other beekeepers completed the great day.

We are encouraging members to exhibit honey and bee products at the Lane County Fair, scheduled for July 22 through July 26. The club has a tradition of having a display booth at the fair, which attendees seem to enjoy and it stimulates lots of questions from viewers.

Our topic for the regular July meeting will be Fall Management by Judy Scher. In addition, we will be offering an early session at 6:15–7:00 PM on Extracting, by Ken O'Grain.

July is a very busy time in Lane County, with removal of honey supers, extracting and treating for Varroa if necessary. Our club is fortunate to have a number of extractors that members can use. We have volunteers throughout the

county that store the club's extracting equipment to enable members easier access to it.

We hope all is well with you and your bees! —*Pam Leavitt*

### Portland Metro Beekeepers

Portland Metro Beekeepers held our June meeting on Thursday, June 11th.

We were pleased to have Dr. Dewey Caron present his winter loss survey. The data he receives from the surveys are analyzed and presented in both regional and national detail. His surveys give us more and more useful information each year, and we look forward to learning of the results. It's extremely beneficial for all of us to complete this survey each year. To see results, visit [pnwhoneybeesurvey.com](http://pnwhoneybeesurvey.com).

The club will be holding a mite workshop with Dr. Caron and Matt Hansen in July for club members.

Dewey also led a discussion on installing queens. When to do it – how to do it – why we should re-queen and what works and what doesn't. He is such a great speaker and so informative!! Thank you Dewey!

We will hold our annual picnic on Sunday, August 9th. It's a great time to gather and share stories of our bees. Last year we had a huge turnout and look forward to seeing our fellow beekeepers again this year!

Our July meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9th. Our topic will be honey extraction presented by Kerry Haskins. Also, we will all be sharing our own homemade devices and bee gadgets. Should be quite interesting! For more information on meetings and events, please visit our website at: [portlandmetro.org](http://portlandmetro.org). —*Patty Anderson*

### Portland Urban Beekeepers

Our June 3rd meeting was filled with practical information from local beekeepers. Bill Catherall gave a great presentation on beekeeping record keeping. He's a big advocate for record keeping so you can do "bee math" in order to plan well by anticipating when brood will emerge. Additionally, record keeping is a great tool to track your hive's health. Bill showed us all sorts of innovative tracking tools, including using bricks, paper templates, and duct tape. He reminds us that whatever works for us is the right way to do it!

Dewey Caron was back this month with advice on what to do in the hive this month. He reminds us to challenge the bees by giving plenty of super space. He warns that this year might not be a great year to harvest all of the supers. This is an early year, and the bees might need that extra honey to overwinter. Dewey recommends starting to test for mites. Testing early gives us a baseline so that when we take fall mites numbers there's some context.

Dewey also presented some early results from the Pacific

Northwest Honey Bee Survey. Good news, shows less loss than last year! To check out the survey, visit <http://pnwhoneybeesurvey.com/survey-results/2015-survey-reports>. Dewey and his team are still crunching numbers, so stay tuned for more exciting results. If you find this information helpful, please participate in next year's survey!

Our main event was a Q&A panel, moderated by Dewey Caron. The panel consisted of three beekeepers with varying backgrounds. Mike Card is a fourth year beekeeper with seven colonies. Kerry Jahanne, a beekeeper and orchardist and recent transplant from New York, has 14 years of beekeeping experience. While she managed 40 colonies in New York, she's still looking forward to starting her first in Portland. Our final panelist was a Portland beekeeping fixture and PUB veteran, Glen Andresen, who has 25 years of beekeeping experience and currently manages 80 hives. The questions revolved mostly around the pros and cons of foundation vs. foundationless, and the ways to track and manage mites.

We are excited to be sponsoring the bee booth at the Oregon State Fair on Saturday, August 29th. Come say hi! For more information about Portland Urban Beekeepers or to become a member, check out our new website at [PortlandUrbanBeekeepers.org](http://PortlandUrbanBeekeepers.org)! —*Courtney Todd Campbell*

### Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

The Tualatin Valley Beekeepers Association (TVBA) meets monthly on the last Tuesdays in downtown Hillsboro. Monthly meetings include social and questions time from 6 to 6:30 PM, a 30 to 40 minute expert presentation on a beekeeping topic of value to club members, followed by a short business meeting and time to ask questions. Meetings take place at 225 S. First Ave. (at Washington) in Hillsboro. Free parking is available in the public garage above the first floor meeting rooms.

Instead of a regular meeting in July, the club meets outdoors for a mini Bee Day, with Dr. Dewey Caron leading hive inspections and mite counting demos, followed by a barbecue potluck picnic. The event takes place at Diane and Mike Van Dyke's River Oak Farm and Nursery, 8355



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SW River Road, Hillsboro. The TVBA Honey House is located at this site, and demonstrations of the honey extraction equipment will be offered. Demonstrations and hive inspections begin at 3 PM and the picnic dinner will be served about 5 PM. Our Bee Day and picnic this year will take place on Saturday, July 25th – please join us!

We offer an active FaceBook page and local swarmcatcher list, and an annual Bee School in April. Benefits of membership include meeting and networking with a great group of active beekeepers, our monthly newsletter, monthly educational and social meetings, participation in an annual spring Nuc buy, a Bee Day in July, and access to the club's honey extraction facility. Membership dues are \$20 per household per year. *—Debby Garman*

## KEEPING BEES IN JULY

*Karessa Torgerson*

What you do in July will have a measurable impact on your colony's chance of winter survival. Bees raised after this month must endure the long, wet winter and still be strong enough raise a new generation early next spring. July is your opportunity to create ideal conditions for development of healthy winter bees!

- ❖ Plan your mite treatment. Monitor mite levels throughout the month so you know whether or not you need to treat. If numbers exceed threshold, don't wait until August to deal with the problem. Many colonies have been lost to Varroa by mid-August in the past. Even if your numbers are low enough to wait, finish treatments no later than August 15 so your that winter bees are raised with minimal exposure to mites and mite-borne disease. If you are trapping for drones, you can continue trapping all the way through July, but be careful not to leave the frames in too long.

- ❖ Watch for Nosema. The "new" Nosema (*Nosema ceranae*) can be a silent killer. It doesn't cause "streaking" like *Nosema apis* did, so your bees can be infected without your knowledge. If you have bees that appear healthy (without distorted wings or black, hairless bodies), yet are crawling on the ground in front of your hive or a hive that is failing to thrive for no immediately apparent reason, send a sample to OSU for testing in mid-July to find out if you need to medicate. Sometimes it can take a while to receive the lab results. Don't procrastinate.

- ❖ Minimize heat stress. Provide plenty of ventilation for warm, moist air to leave the hive. Make sure the bees have a water source. If possible, give your colony afternoon shade during hot days.

- ❖ Watch for robbing. The blackberry bloom ends in mid-July for most of Oregon. This marks the beginning

## CONFERENCE PREVIEW: PRESENTER!



**Randy Oliver** is a commercial beekeeper, bee researcher, and technical writer from Grass Valley, California. With focus on digesting scientific research from various fields and applying it to practical beekeeping, his articles include information about management of honey bee pests and diseases, bee nutrition, and the pollination of California's agricultural crops. Most of his articles published are 1st-person, hands-on, in-the-field, down-to-earth research. Randy has a Master's Degree in biological sciences, and corresponds with bee researchers and beekeepers worldwide. You can find more information on his website: [www.scientificbeekeeping.com](http://www.scientificbeekeeping.com).

of robbing season. Reduce entrances on weaker colonies, especially if you suspect they are diseased. Marauders from healthy colonies can bring diseases back with the booty.

- ❖ Avoid spilling syrup or honey near the hives, and keep hives open only as long as necessary. Keep a "robbing screen" on hand in case you need to stop a looting frenzy.

- ❖ Resolve queen problems. Queens are generally not available after the first week of August. It's best to make colonies queenright now so they have time to collect themselves for winter. Recombine hives if necessary, but only if the colonies are not diseased.

- ❖ Assist swarmed colonies if necessary. In terms of summer population, colonies are weakest five-to-six weeks after they have swarmed. Reduce entrances, confirm the new queen is laying well, and combine swarmed colonies with other colonies if necessary. Be ready to feed swarmed colonies in August if they are light on stores.

- ❖ It's also time to plan for the honey extraction. In most parts of Oregon, colonies don't put much honey away after July. You can remove honey supers at the end of this month without compromising your harvest. This allows you more time and flexibility for preparing the bees for winter.

- ❖ Reserve equipment now. It can be difficult to find available extractors



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at harvest time.

❖ Schedule a honey harvest party. Ply your guests with food and drink, and send them home with a jar of honey. They'll never suspect they were your laborers for a day, and the process is much easier with many helping hands.

❖ Consolidate your honey supers as July progresses. Rearrange frames if necessary. Your goal is to minimize unprocessed nectar on the frames at harvest time. When you are ready to extract, give frames with uncapped cells a shake while holding them parallel to the ground. If nectar comes out, the frames are too wet to include in the harvest.

From: *The Bee Line*, July 2013.

### OSBA FALL CONFERENCE 2015

Plans are underway for the OSBA Fall Conference to be held at the Oregon Garden Resort on November 6, 7 & 8, 2015. Tentative agenda and registration information will be posted by August 1st at: [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org). Notice that our conference days have changed this year to Friday, Saturday & Sunday.

Reserve your room at the resort right away. Rooms located at the resort are limited and filling up fast! You may make online room reservations by going to the Oregon Garden website: [www.oregongardenresort.com](http://www.oregongardenresort.com).

You will be prompted for a Group Code, which is: BEEKEEP  
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### Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association Fall Bee School

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[www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org/news-and-events/fall-bee-school-2015](http://www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org/news-and-events/fall-bee-school-2015)

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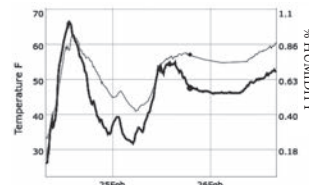
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[www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/2015-conference/schedule](http://www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/2015-conference/schedule)

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150 Clip Pallets, new & used like new  
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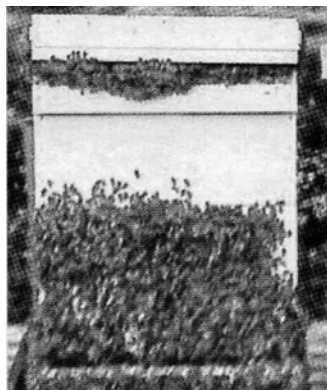
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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**First Wednesday, 7 PM:** Douglas County Bees, "Let's Talk Bees." Third floor, Douglas County Courthouse. *Information:* douglascountybees@gmail.com.

**August 1, 9 AM-4 PM:** Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association Fall Bee School (see page 13).

**August 10-14:** Eastern Apicultural Society Conference, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

**September 15-20:** 44th Apimondia International Apicultural

Congress, South Korea. *Information:* www.apimondia.org.

**October 1-3:** Western Apicultural Society Annual Conference. Boulder, Colorado. *Information:* http://www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/category/2015-conference-news/

**October 17:** Second annual Oregon Honey Festival, Ashland. To be a Vendor, Sponsor, or Advertise in the Program, contact: OregonHoneyFestival@outlook.com (see ad, page 14).

**November 6-8:** OSBA Fall Conference 2015, The Oregon Garden, Silverton, Oregon.



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The **Oregon State Beekeepers Association** is a nonprofit organization representing and supporting all who have an interest in honey bees and beekeeping. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in bees and beekeeping. You do not need to own bees or reside in Oregon to join. Membership includes the ongoing work of the organization on behalf of the honey bee and beekeeping, a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on publications, placement on the swarm call list, three free ads on the website, and an annual directory and subscription to *The Bee Line*.

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*The Bee Line*

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To learn about the Bee Understanding Project, visit: <http://pollinatorstewardship.org>.

***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, interviews, recipes, points of view—and ads/advertising—to: Rosanna Mattingly, *The Bee Line*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland OR 97206; e-mail: [osba.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:osba.newsletter@gmail.com). It's your newsletter—we do want to hear from you!

The next issue to be printed will be the August issue, 2015. The deadline for submitting copy is July 10, 2015. Please let me know if you find difficulties with the deadline so we can work out the space and timing for the material.

*Thank you!*

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