



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 43
Number 7
August 2018



Pam Leavitt

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orsba.org

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orsbawebmaster@gmail.com

www.oregonmasterbeekeeper.org
OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM
A Joint Venture of OSBA and the Oregon State University Extension Service
info@oregonmasterbeekeeper.org

Image above: Gathering around an observation hive. No matter our age, height, shoe size, or beekeeping experience, we are captivated by the bees!

What have you been seeing this year? What has fascinated you? What has made you wonder, that you didn't know or understand? What questions are you asking?

There's no end to learning when it comes to the bees.

MID-SEASON BREAK IN BROOD ON A COMMERCIAL SCALE USING COLD STORAGE FOR VARROA CONTROL

Some commercial beekeepers in the northern states have been using cold storage facilities, either custom built or rented, usually from potato growers, to overwinter their bees in a temperature- and light-controlled environment. As an alternative to yarding up bees and leaving them to the elements or overwintering far from home, say, in California, the benefits of cold storage include fewer unpredictable winter losses, protection from theft or vandalism, and ease of loading. If good bees go in, good bees will generally come out. Bees come out of cold storage in a broodless condition. Dr. Brandon Hopkins investigated and presented on the ability to force a period of broodlessness in August using cold storage at the 2017 OSBA Fall Conference.

Miticides are well known to be far more effective when utilized during a period of broodlessness. Since these mites reproduce in the capped brood cells, which are not penetrated by most chemical treatments, eliminating brood increases the lethal impact of these products. While a hobbyist beekeeper can use a queen caging technique and create a broodless condition in the bee yard, this is not a practical solution for the beekeeper with hundreds or thousands of colonies. However, experience with cold storage has shown bees coming out in a broodless state, which has led to the attempt to do this in the summer after the honey flow in an attempt to create a commercial scale state of broodlessness. While this was just a preliminary trial, we were able to create a consistent break in brood for commercial colonies loaded into a cold storage facility in August after honey was pulled.

The 204 colonies placed in cold storage at 40 degrees averaged 16 frames of bees going in and about the same coming out. Half the colonies were in storage for 18 days and the other half in for 24 days. The beekeeper fed syrup immediately and applied HopGuard to the 18-day bees. Hopkins recommended something stronger for the 24-day bees. Both sets were then taken to blooming mustard fields, and were generally in good condition. The most significant finding was that there was significantly fewer mites in the colonies that underwent the break in brood with a mite treatment when compared to colonies undergoing the "normal" commercial mite management strategy.

There is need for further investigation after this initial look at using cold storage for this purpose. One initial concern is: Did exposure to cold storage result in the bees remaining the "fat" bees of summer, or did they become "skinny" bees? Bees are called "fat" when they have stored extra protein in their bodies that can be used through the winter. Since this inquiry was all about opportunity for commercial beekeepers who need to know bottom-line details, future research will attempt

Continued on page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



It's August and the work continues on. Much hard work and attention to our bees is still ahead of us this year. It seems like everyone is pretty tired after this long, hot year of working with the sting insects that we love so much.

Sometimes it helps to think about what you will do when all of the bees are in perfect shape, hives covered and set for winter. I have a number of things I am looking forward to this fall and winter.

I want to encourage you to start thinking about the OSBA Fall Conference this year. It will be held on October 26, 27, and 28 at the Salem Convention Center in Salem. This is a fantastic venue for our conference. The convention center, hotel, and restaurant are all in one building with parking underneath. You will want to drive your car, *not* your bee truck, so that you can park in the structure.

Jason Rowan, OSBA vice president, has done an excellent job with the agenda once again.

Speakers include Jennifer Berry, University of Georgia; Dr. Anna Childers, USDA ARS, Beltsville, Maryland; Danielle Downey, Project Apis m; Dr. Michelle Flenniken, Montana State University; Krispn Given, Purdue University; SAVE the BEE®, GloryBee; Dr. Steve Pernal, Beaverlodge Research Farm, Canada; Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University Honey Bee Lab; and much more.

There will be a new beginning beekeeping class running concurrently with the main meeting on Saturday and a large vendor area on Saturday and Sunday.

It's going to be a great conference! While you are looking forward to being there, please ponder the words of Kenny Williams, former OSBA president: "All of the instruction and presentations at the conference are certainly worth the cost of admission. But the fellowship, networking, and reunion of friends is priceless!"

I hope you will put the conference on your calendar, and I look forward to seeing you there. The event is always greatly improved by your presence!

Harry Vanderpool

Cold Storage Mid-Season Break—Continued from page 1

to include an economic assessment of the cost/benefits. Potential economic advantages range from savings in treatment materials and labor costs to improvements in labor efficiencies, i.e., fewer hours driving to bee yards to apply treatments, and better bees overall. He emphasized that cold storage in late summer, August and September, would need to match the management schedule of the bee operation or the operation would need to be modified. And, of course, access to a storage facility and the cost involved would make or break the concept.

OSBA STATE FAIR BEEKEEPER BOOTH



Beekeepers and their love of honey bees capture the true spirit of Oregon.

One of the favorite stops for generations at the Oregon State Fair is the Oregon State

Beekeepers booth. The beautiful honey, creative displays, and fun kid activities, combined with the live bee exhibit, is an intriguing show-stopper on its own, but the informative hosts of the booth really keep the crowd interested. We need *You!*

You can help! We have 11 days of Fair to keep busy beekeepers even busier. No worries . . . it will be worth it!

There are two shifts a day, with three people needed per shift. This way, there can always be 1–2 people available in the booth, even if someone goes for a break (or a walk around the displays!). The shifts are 10 AM–4 PM and 4 PM–10 PM. There is seating.

Volunteers receive a parking pass and free entry to the fair. We will get the passes into the mail to you ASAP, once the schedule is confirmed. We would like to see your local group take an entire shift, which makes it all the more fun.

We also need observation hives! If you can bring a hive in for 3–4 days, we will rotate with other beekeepers to be as considerate of the bees as possible.

This year, competition honey and other entries will be displayed within the booth, so fair-goers won't have to search out products from the hive elsewhere on the fairgrounds.

There's a cooking contest on Agriculture Day (August 30), and they've added a special category, **Honey Salad Dressing**—so get your entries in soon! Also, at 3 PM, the Oregon State Beekeepers Association's Marjorie Ehry will give a presentation on the Explore Oregon Showcase (stage) in Columbia Hall.

Don't miss the opportunity of a lifetime, bringing the love of honey bees to more people.

To volunteer, please contact Bonnie King at bonjking@gmail.com or Marjorie Ehry at marjehry@hotmail.com.

See you at the Fair!

The State Fair HONEY & PRODUCTS OF THE HIVE Competition

Show us what you've got! This is your once-a-year opportunity to reveal to the world what you've been up to. Your honey bees are working every day to get their products into the Oregon State Fair, so make their dreams come true and ENTER the 2018 competition!

The *2018 Oregon State Fair Competitors Handbook* includes the complete rules, division descriptions, and entry information for the "Honey and the Hive" competition (See: https://oregonstatefair.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Honey_Products-of-the-Hive-v0514.pdf). It also gives you a heads up as to what the judges are looking for with a scorecard sample.

Before you get started, here are some things you should know:

- All exhibits must have been produced under the direct management of the Exhibitor and produced from the apiary of the Exhibitor between September 2017 and August 2018.
- Honey must be purely produced by bees with no additives and be true to the entry category.
- Junior exhibitors (17 and under) are encouraged, and will be judged against other junior entries.
- Exhibitors are limited to one entry per class and a maximum of 10 entries per person.
- Entries will be judged according to The Oregon State Beekeepers Association Standards or Welsh Honey Judging methods.
- Decision of Judges is final.
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded

OREGON STATE FAIR

AUGUST 24–SEPTEMBER 3, 2018

TODAY: ONLINE ENTRY IS OPEN NOW!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 6 PM: ONLINE ENTRY DEADLINE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, NOON–6 PM: DELIVER ENTRIES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 10 AM–3 PM: DELIVER ENTRIES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 3:30 PM: SWEET AS HONEY

COOKING CONTEST DELIVERY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, NOON–7 PM: PICK UP ENTRIES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 10 AM–2 PM: PICK UP ENTRIES

according to merit. The judges reserve the right to not award ribbons if standards are not met. Rosette ribbon(s) for Best of Division or Show may be awarded.

- Entries must be submitted and picked up according to entry schedule. The Fair is not responsible for any entries not picked up by 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

So, what should you enter?

Here is the list of categories for you to peruse. There are two levels for Honey Entries: Youth (17 years of age and younger) and Adult (Oregon Beekeeper). Youth may choose to compete with the adults.

240 – Youth (Ages 17 years and younger)

- Artistic Beeswax, molded or dipped (1 pound minimum)*
- Beeswax, any other
- Honey, Extracted (any variety) – 3 one pound, uniformly filled, Queenline or otherwise one pound or one pint glass/plastic jars
- Commercial/Artisan

241 - Beekeeping Photo (Entries must be an 8" x 10" mounted photograph in a BLACK FRAME)

- Fair theme: "Where Fun Shines!"
- Bees and their Keepers
- Bees/Bee Colonies at work

242 - Beeswax

- Artistic Beeswax, molded or dipped (1 pound minimum)*

*Artistic Beeswax can be several shades of beeswax, i.e., brood or capping wax. Artificial enhancements accepted but should not overpower the beeswax.

Continued on page 13



- EXCELLENT HONEY PRODUCTION
- GOOD WINTERING ABILITY
- SELECTED FOR INCREASED VARROA TOLERANCE AND RESISTANCE TO BROOD DISEASES
- SHOW INCREASED HYGIENIC BEHAVIOR

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KEEPING BEES IN AUGUST

Matt Allen

Every month is a busy month for a beekeeper, but August is particularly important. The weather is hot and dry, maybe with the occasional thunderstorm. It feels like the peak of summer, but this critical month is when we need to start thinking towards winter. It's time to strip the rest of your honey. Will they be heavy enough for winter or will you need to feed? Are there enough bees in the hive? Will the queen be viable until next spring? And probably most important for this month is: Are your mite levels under control?

August is the month to harvest the remainder of your honey. In many locations, even earlier. By mid-August, most marketable honey flows have tapered off. Pull your supers and start to focus on fall. There are a few notable exceptions like buckwheat and mustard. Both plants are grown as part of a crop rotation system in certain parts of the state. Be aware that if you decide to go after these potential honey crops, it may be difficult to get your mite levels under control in a timely manner. Make sure you have a plan in place. More on that later.

Queens availability will also begin to taper off at this point in the year. It is important to realize that new queens will not be available again until next spring. Are your queens laying a strong pattern? Do they have a good retinue? If the colony is weak or spotty, now is a good time to requeen. Requeening now gives you enough time so that you may be able to build up a weak colony before winter. If your queens are failing now, they will be failing in a month and failing in the spring. Failing queens are a major cause of colony loss in the spring. Replace her while you still can. It is generally easier to find queens in August than in September, and definitely easier to find queens in August than in March.

How big are your colonies? If a colony is not solidly filling a box and a half of bees, it will require some additional attention. What is the brood pattern like? If spotty or drone-y, it may need requeening. A steady diet of supplemental protein and sugar syrup may work to build up some small colonies,

provided strong queens and healthy brood. Otherwise, it is a good idea to start combining weaker colonies to get them ready for winter. Be sure to ask yourself why a colony may be small before combing. Combining sick colonies with healthy ones may be detrimental to your operation. (AFB!!)



There are many opinions regarding supplemental feeding in the fall. At the minimum, it is a good idea to heft your hives to get a feel for weight. If it feels moderate or light, feed. If it hurts your fingers to heft, it might not need feeding. It's a good idea to look at those extra heavy hives. They could be queenless or weak. Regardless of weight, you might consider supplemental syrup and/or pollen feeding in order to stimulate brood rearing and help carry brood rearing later into the fall. This can help ensure a large healthy young population headed into winter.

Lastly, and probably most importantly for August, is the ever-present issue of Varroa. August is a critical month for Varroa management. Take an alcohol wash sample. August brood will become the bees that raise your winter bees. If you have not read Randy Oliver's series on Fat Bees, you should. If you have, great. Reread it. This series does a great job of explaining exactly why you need to have your mite levels down in August and keep them down through the remainder of the brood-rearing season. You can find the article here: <http://scientificbeekeeping.com/fat-bees-part-1>. There are 4 parts. Boiling it down, *fat* winter bees have increased vitellogenin in fat bodies to help carry them through winter and give them the energy to commence brood rearing in the early spring. The amount of vitellogenin corresponds directly to how well fed they are as larvae, which corresponds to a large healthy population of nurse bees. The health of these nurse bees depends on having low parasite levels when they were developing. That is why August is so critical. August brood raises the brood that raises winter bees.

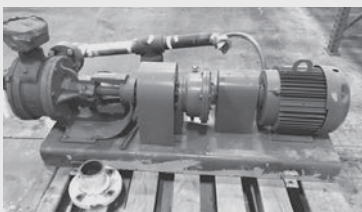
Formic Acid, Thymol, and Amitraz are all reasonable treatments this time of year. Make sure you read and understand the label before applying. Each material—and formulation of each material—has its own requirements for maximum efficacy and beekeeper safety. THE LABEL IS THE LAW! After you treat, take another mite sample to gauge the efficacy of your treatment.

Enjoy the honey harvest. Smile at those big healthy bees. And look forward to fall and the OSBA conference. Happy Beekeeping!

Pump & Tank: Viking 4125 Rotary 2" pump

with 7.5 HP 230/460v 3ph motor, Viking helical gear reduction drive, and pressure relief valve, \$1,500. **5000 gallon round vertical carbon steel tank** with food grade coating for liquids.

Sloped bottom, center discharge outlet, 18' tall and 10' diameter \$3,500. Both for \$4,250. Food grade equipment originally purchased together. Eugene, OR. Contact Julie Crooks, 541-689-0913.



OSBA Fall Conference 2018
Oregon State Beekeepers Association

October 26, 27 & 28, 2018
 Salem Convention Center | Salem, Oregon
 Individual and Family Registration

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ email: _____

Names of Additional Family Members Attending

Names: _____

Event			Cost
Friday Night Hospitality Room			Complimentary
Full Conference ¹	Individual - \$150 Family - \$180		\$
Saturday Conference Only ¹	Individual - \$90 Family - \$110		\$
Sunday Conference Only ¹	Individual - \$90 Family - \$110		\$
Saturday Luncheon	\$28 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Banquet	\$50 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Sunday Luncheon	\$28 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Research Donation ²			\$
Annual OSBA Dues ³	\$40 per Person	Number: _____	\$
Total^{4,5}			\$

1) Attendees qualify for preregistration rate if application form (with registration fee) is postmarked on or before October 16. **Late and on-site registration rates are: One Day \$110.00, One Day Family \$130.00, Full Conference \$190.00, Full Conference Family \$220.00.**

2) The Oregon State Beekeepers Association is classified as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Research donations made out to the OSBA may be deductible; please consult your accountant.

3) Please include completed membership form(s).

4) Make check **payable to OSBA** and mail with this completed registration form, **postmarked no later than October 16**, to:

Oregon State Beekeepers Association, 2018 Fall Conference, P.O. Box 10, Aurora OR 97002

5) Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates are available at the Grand Hotel. Phone: (877) 540-7800.

OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
2018 FALL CONFERENCE
SALEM CONVENTION CENTER | SALEM, OREGON
A TENTATIVE AGENDA

Friday, October 267:00 PM Kick-Off **Wine and Cheese Social****Saturday, October 27**7:30 AM **Registration**8:00 AM **Silent Auction Begins**8:15 AM **Welcome & Announcements***Harry Vanderpool*, OSBA President8:30 AM **Honey Bee Pathogens and Bee Health***Michelle Flenniken*, Montana State University8:30 AM ***Bee School***Andrew Schwab*9:15 AM **From the Laboratory to the Landscape:****How Project Apis m. is Helping the
Beekeeping Industry***Danielle Downey*, Project Apis m.10:00 AM **Break**10:15 AM **Making Hard Decisions About Honey Bee
Queens***James Tew*, Auburn University10:15 AM ***Honey Bee Biology***Rosanna Mattingly*11:00 AM **TBA***Anna Childers*, USDA ARS, BeltsvilleNOON **Luncheon****Understanding Some Fascinating Bee Behaviors***Ramesh Sagili*, Oregon State University1:15 PM **Fighting for Our Bees***Jennifer Berry*, University of Georgia2:00 PM **SAVE the BEE®**

GloryBee

2:45 PM **Break**3:00 PM **New Paradigms in AFB Management***Steve Pernal*, Beaverlodge Research Farm3:45 PM **Queen and Drone Reproductive Biology***Krispn Given*, Purdue University4:00 PM **Silent Auction Ends**

4:30–

5:45 PM OSBA **General Membership Meeting**6:00 PM **Social Hour**7:00 PM **Banquet****My “Almost” 20 Years of Beekeeping
Experiences***Jennifer Berry*, University of Georgia**Benefit Auction to Follow****Sunday, October 28**7:30 AM **Registration**8:15 AM **Welcome & Announcements***Harry Vanderpool*, OSBA President8:30 AM **American Foulbrood—Not Gone
and Not Forgotten***James Tew*, Auburn University8:30 AM ***Other Products from the Hive***Judy Scher*9:15 AM **Research Updates from the OSU Honey
Bee Lab***Ramesh Sagili*, Oregon State University10:00 AM **Break**10:15 AM **The Times, They a-Changin’***George Hansen*, Foothills Honey Company11:00 AM **Bee Breeding Tools for the Future***Steve Pernal*, Beaverlodge Research FarmNOON **Luncheon****Oregon Master Beekeeper | Oregon Bee Project***Jen Holt* | *Dr. Andony Melathopoulos*

Oregon State University

1:15 PM **Selecting for Behavioral Resistance to *Varroa
destructor****Krispn Given*, Purdue University2:00 PM **TBA***Anna Childers*, USDA ARS, Beltsville2:45 PM **Break**3:00 PM **Breeding *Varroa*-Resistant Bees: A Promising
Project You Haven’t Heard About***Danielle Downey*, Project Apis m.3:45 PM **The Importance of Sterols in Bee Nutrition
Physiology***Priya Chakrabarti-Basu*, Oregon State University4:30 PM **Final Comments & Adjourn***Harry Vanderpool*, OSBA President

*Breakout sessions.

Note: Donations for the silent and benefit auctions are welcome—they need not be bee-related!

Potential vendors and advertisers, please contact Harry Vanderpool: 503.399.3675; shallotman@yahoo.com.

Bee trucks and similar vehicles are too large for parking on site. Contact the Salem Convention Center for other arrangements if unable to leave home without them.

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BEE EVENTS

August 3–5. Western Apicultural Society Conference. Boise, Idaho. *Information:* www.westernapiculturalsociety.org.

August 13–17. Eastern Apicultural Society Conference. Hampton, Virginia. *Information:* www.easternapiculture.org.

August 18. Oregon Honey Festival. *Information:* www.oregonhoneyfestival.com.

August 24–September 3. Oregon State Fair. *Information:* <https://oregonstatefair.org> and orsba.org. The OSBA will be there again this year! See page 3.

September 3. Tom Seeley in Portland. *Information:* <https://portlandurbanbeekeepers.org/seeley2018>.

October 19–21: “My Story” *Information:* www.beeeculture.com.

October 26–28: OSBA Fall Conference. Salem Convention Center, Salem. *Information soon:* orsba.org.

November 13–15. 2018 CSBA Annual Convention. Harrah’s Resort Southern California. *Information:* www.californiastatebeekeepers.com.

January 8–12. 2019 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. *Information:* www.abfnet.org/?

REGIONAL NEWS

Note: All associations invite and welcome visitors to join them at meetings! See page 15 for meeting time, website, and/or contact information. Many regional associations also offer additional opportunities for learning, which are posted on their websites as well as on orsba.org and under *Events*.

Regional Representatives

North Coast

Everything (blackberry) is in bloom. The weather has been dry, and the bees have been busy. While we have a lot of microclimates on the north coast, I can say with certainty that it is a great time to be a beekeeper on the north coast. Look to the reports from the Tillamook County and Central Coast associations for specifics, but both had pollinator week activities, participated in or are planning for county fairs, and activities at meetings.

As I mentioned in my last report, the Central Coast beekeepers had an exhibit at the Connie Hansen Garden Festival in Lincoln City for Pollinator Week. Kathy Cope organized our participation with the garden conservancy and set up our exhibit. My task was to bring the Observation Hive and help staff the exhibit. As mentioned in the Bee Informed Project email on the Social Science Survey, what beekeeper doesn’t like to talk about their bees? Right?

Normally I don’t mark my queens. With only six colonies, I can pretty much keep track of my queens without marking.

I have also gotten used to finding queens by body shape and have not learned to look for marks. What I have found is having a marked queen really helps the public find the queen. Last year at the County Fair I just happened to have a marked queen in the Observation Hive and, in retrospect, that made it so much easier to find her. After my experience at Connie Hansen Garden, only marked queens in the Observation Hive.

So here I was struggling to find the queen and answering questions when an eight- or nine-year-old girl asked me what are you looking for? I told her the queen and she promptly pointed her out. She then proceeded to ask me a series of knowledgeable questions about bees and beekeeping. I think she was just testing me to make sure I was really a beekeeper. I asked her if she was a beekeeper and she said, “No.” I asked her how she knew so much about bees, and she said attended summer school and presentations at Zenger Farm. She couldn’t remember anyone’s name, but Portland Urban beekeepers, whatever you are doing is working. Suit her up and make her a beekeeper.

Stan Scotton

Regional Associations

Central Coast Beekeepers

Our association culminated Pollinator Week with an excellent presentation given by our “in club” master gardener and pollinator expert, Anne Schatz. While I briefly mentioned that Anne would be speaking in last month’s *Bee Line* article, I thought it would be useful to share an excellent reference that Anne has put together entitled, “Garden Plants for Honey Bees.” The chart lists the bloom month, with both Latin and common plant names, followed by bloom period. It then rates and scores both the pollen and nectar as the source for the bees. It also indicates the pollen color and the plant type (tree, shrub, perennial, etc.) This chart can be found at: www.centralcoastbeekeepers.net.

Our association will be participating in the Lincoln County Fair on July 6, 7, and 8th with a booth to educate the public about honey bees and provide an opportunity for fairgoers to taste several varieties of honey.

Later in the month, Nick VanCalcar from VanCalcar Apiaries Inc will discuss sanitation and nutrition from a commercial perspective. He will also speak about how the packages are assembled for sale.

I hope your bees are doing well. Some of our beekeepers have mentioned that their bees are struggling a bit due to dearth conditions.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and enjoy your bees!

Patti Johnson

Note: A mischievous little gremlin sashayed right on in

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last month and labeled the Central Coast Beekeepers Association report as the Central Oregon report—even as the Central Oregon report stood in place. Apologies!

Central Oregon Beekeepers

I hope your summer is as good as ours in Central Oregon . . . at least until we start getting our summer smoke.

Even with all the trials and tribulations over this winter and spring, we're having a surprising number of hives that are thriving. Current thought is the lack of a late hard freeze may have helped. This year, more members than usual have been experiencing excessive queen losses and spotty patterns. We're wondering if it is related to queen quality, mites, operator error (damaging the queen), or other problems such as insecticides. We have, though, been very happy to hear of several of our new beekeepers whose hives are going gangbusters and actually filling supers.

In Central Oregon, we generally have two types of apiaries. In an urban setting, there don't seem to be summer dearths, as flowers planted in town provide a constant flow of nectar and pollen; however, in the rural portions, there seem to be definite dearths. In April through early June, the bitterbrush and wax currant bloomed. Then the second half of June is a dearth with only a few weeds followed by the rabbitbrush in mid-July then sagebrush in early August.

In June we had an informative talk by a commercial beekeeper member on using nucs as repair kits during our inspections, learning that, other than mites and hardware, the four items that are needed to fix a hive are brood, bees, queen, and food—or some combination thereof.

In July, Dr. Ramesh Sagili will be talking to us about a current topic following an inspection demo. In August, we'll be enjoying our annual picnic. Get to know our fellow beekeepers and their other hobbies and activities during a nice warm summer evening. Then in September another member will be presenting his compilation of when various forage plants which have bloomed in Central Oregon through the summer.

Allen Engle

Douglas County Beekeepers

We will have a booth at the Douglas County Fair August 7–11 with an observation hive, educational materials, and local beekeepers to answer questions.

Gina Holgate

Lane County Beekeepers

The National Pollinator Week Event was enjoyed by all who attended. We were fortunate to have the North American Butterfly Association of Eugene join us, as well as Andony Melathopoulos from the Oregon Bee Project. The observation hive provided by Nancy Ograin was an opportunity for visitors to visualize the activities inside a colony of honey bees. Painting the stenciled designs on the Langstroth

The advertisement for the 5K Run/Walk features a background image of a person's feet in grey sneakers. On the left side, there is a logo for "GLORYBEE" with a stylized bee icon, and below it, the text "SAVE the BEE" with a registered trademark symbol. The central focus is the large, bold, black text "5K" stacked above "RUN/WALK". At the bottom, the event details are listed: "Sunday, September 9, 2018", "10 AM Start • Marine Park, Vancouver, WA", and a call to action: "REGISTER ONLINE NOW! GloryBee.com/5K".



Exercising artistic license.

hive bodies provided an opportunity to use some artistic license. Watch for the appearance of this *colorful* hive at the Oregon State Beekeepers annual meeting in October. Please think about offering a bid to purchase this

hive in support of the Oregon Bee Project.

Andony brought a display of pinned native bees and took the opportunity to use a net to catch some of the interesting pollinators along the waterway that runs through the grounds. Visitors had a great time holding some of these tiny insects and noticing the differences in species. In addition, he spent time teaching children about the different body parts of bees and had them use Play-Dough to create their own interpretation of a bee.

The association is encouraging our members to submit entries in the Lane County Fair as well as the Oregon State Fair. We have one board member who has volunteered to transport the products of the hive to the sites on the day for those who find the delivery date specified by the organizers difficult to meet. We appreciate the teamwork that LBBA board and members offer to one another.

Our August meeting will feature Dr. Jason Friesen talking to us about Bee Stings and Allergies. Please come if you have an interest in this topic of importance to all who keep honey bees.

The major nectar flow is over and the use of our association extractors by members has begun. The warm days are helpful to aid in flow of the honey out of the combs. We urge everyone to leave enough honey for their bees; to supply a continuous water source during these summer months; to monitor for mite counts and use good body mechanics when lifting full honey supers. Enjoy your summer.

Pam Leavitt

Linn Benton Beekeepers

On August 15th, Priya Chakrabarti-Basu will give a presentation titled, "Role of Phytosterols in Honey Bee Nutrition." Priya is a Research Associate and Postdoctoral Scholar at Oregon State University in the Department of Horticulture. Her presentation will focus on honey bee nutrition and preparing colonies for fall and winter.

Our association is seeing increased use of the lending library and extraction equipment owned by LBBA. These items are available for free to paid members of LBBA to borrow any time of the year. We have three extractors to borrow along with two uncapping tanks. The lending library currently has

over 20 books ranging from honey bee biology, to pests and diseases, and honey bee products. Please visit our website at www.lbba.us for more information.

Bee joke for the month: "When a bee is in your hand, what is in your eye?" Answer: Beauty. Because *Beauty* is in the eye of the bee-holder.

Amber Reese

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Ahh, summer! My favorite time of year—long days with brilliant sunrises and sunsets; raspberry, blackberry, lavender, and borage blooms; evenings on the porch with a honey-flavored treat. These are some of my favorites, and favorites of the bees as well. The term *busy bee* certainly applies here! I have noticed that bumble bees are the first to visit some plants in bloom, such as lavender, California poppies, and onions before the honey bees. That may require some study.

For our June meeting, Anne LeSenne provided tips on "How to Handle a Heavy Hobby, cuz Honey is Heavy." Regardless of a beekeeper's age and strength, applying common sense practices help to keep us safe and sane. Key points included drive-up access, level ground, appropriate equipment (a hive thermometer and a scale under the hive are useful), best lifting practices, warm-up exercise, and working with a friend. Per Anne, friends don't let friends lift deeps! After a short break, Kerry Haskins walked us through the honey extraction process, pointing out some essential tools and techniques.

Joe Maresh, well known and respected among Oregon's beekeeping community, opens his apiary on Tuesdays for new (and old) beekeepers for hands-on experience with bees and hive management. Experience includes routine hive examination, indications of disease or distress, and various treatments, re-queening, splitting hives, and other best



Counting—one mite, two mites, three . . .

practices. Joe's place was also the venue for the mite workshop on June 30 presented by Matt Hansen and Dewey Caron. In addition to demonstrating three techniques, powdered sugar, CO₂ anesthetizing, and alcohol wash, they also compared and contrasted the three techniques. Interestingly, all the sampling results were similar, and thankfully, the mite level was relatively low. If you leave either the workshop or a Tuesday at Joe's without understanding how to sample and treat for mites, you simply are not paying attention!

Next meeting on July 12, mites are the topic—again! They take up too much time and energy; I'm sure we all wish they would cease to exist! For August, the meeting will be much less formal, with a picnic for all members and their families, under sunny skies . . . right?

Nancy Winston

Portland Urban Beekeepers

In July, Portland Urban Beekeepers hosted Washington State University professor Dr. Brandon Hopkins who discussed Varroa mite management through brood breaks using an in-hive queen caging technique. This technique has demonstrated decreased mite loads as the brood is dramatically diminished. Thanks to Dr. Hopkins for talking to us about an evidenced-based approach and how to incorporate it as another great tool in our mite-management action plan.

The PUB apiary at Zenger farms is humming with a total of 13 colonies. Mite counts in late June revealed several colonies with elevated counts (one at 7 percent!), so MAQS were applied to all. Hopefully, we can keep the mites in check and have happy bees. Queen caging, anyone? In honor of PUB's founding members, and to encourage more informal socialization, just hanging out with our *Bee Tribe*, PUB will begin summer pub meeting events. Our first pub will be at Level Beer, which also just agreed to host two Langstroth hives. Stop by if you're in the neighborhood. It's located at 5211 NE 148th Ave, Portland. If anyone would like to join us, keep an eye on our Facebook page, or visit our PUB website for the August location!

In August PUB is planning a honey extraction party at Zenger farm. We will have access to a commercial kitchen and the association's electric extractor.



Mandy Shaw enjoying Pollinator Week.

Exact date is TBD, but will be posted on our website and Facebook in coming weeks.

Pollinator Week at the Oregon Zoo June 16th was a smashing success with a lot of foot traffic and interest! The event was sponsored by the Oregon Bee Project with booths that included the Xerces Society, Portland Metro, and Fish and Wildlife. We also learned about interesting, interactive materials regarding all types of pollinators. *Cheryl Wright*

Tillamook County Beekeepers

The July meeting started with an apiary visit to Garrick Gordon's. Garrick has been successfully grafting local queens for two years now. He showed us his well thought out process. Most of us have been requeening with his stock and are looking forward to increased success. He also demonstrated a sugar shake test. From the beginning of his demo to the end a half an hour later, a queen emerged from her cell. We got to see the new-born queen!

But there is more to making it through the winter than just having a great queen. So, we are beginning to discuss our winter plan for *fat bees*. We also spent time talking about and looking at short videos of robbing screens and yellowjacket traps. We do a thing called "Show and Tell" and several folks brought in interesting things they built or bought. One was a light but sturdy pvc hive stand that came from this most interesting youtube video on bee hive gadgets: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWA49Oy5Skw.

We still have about two weeks of blackberry blossoms for the main flow, but after that we'll be dealing with a dearth until the knotweed comes on and only a few people have the advantage of making use of that invasive species that the bees love.

The county fair will happen before our next meeting. So, we spent some time talking about that and also making plans for sharing honey extracting facilities. As always it was a lively meeting. *Claire Moody*

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Dr. Dewey Caron was a featured presenter for the TVBA 2018 annual bee day and picnic in Hillsboro on July 21. Dr. Caron led hive inspections at the VanDyke farm, guiding members in what to look for in individual frames and steps to take to maintain colony health. He emphasized the importance of monitoring and treating for mites. Board members hosted the annual event. Jerry Maasdam showed members how

to extract honey from comb in the honey house, and President Eddie Frie addressed the membership on upcoming events.

The speaker for our August meeting will be Andony Melathopoulos of Oregon State University.

Yvonne Shaw

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State Fair Competition—Continued from page 3

- Beeswax Block – 1 block (1 pound minimum)
- Beeswax Candles, dipped – 2 dipped candles, 100 percent beeswax
- Beeswax Candles, molded- 2 molded candles, 100 percent beeswax
- Commercial/Artisan

243 - Honey, Extracted (any variety)

Extracted Honey – 3 one pound, uniformly filled, Queenline or otherwise one pound or one pint glass/plastic jars

- Light
- Amber
- Dark
- Commercial/Artisan

244 - Honey, Other (any variety)

- Chunk Honey Jar – 3 one pint or one pound jars
- Comb Honey section – 3 square or round sections comb honey
- Creamed – 3 one pint or one pound jars
- Cut Comb – 3 uniformly cut comb pieces (minimum 12 ounces each)
- Extracting Frame with Capped Honey Comb – one frame (any size)

- Commercial/Artisan

“Sweet as Honey” Cooking Contest

Thursday, August 30, 4:00 PM (Drop off at 3:30 PM)

Create a Salad Dressing using Honey. Must have honey as an ingredient.

Recipe must be attached to your salad dressing bottle

Limited to 15 contestants – Enter Early!

Ready, Set, WIN! To enter the Competition:

1. Go to the 2018 Handbook and read the complete rules, division descriptions, and entry information. The Handbook also includes **Scorecard Samples**, for additional information. (View at: https://oregonstatefair.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Honey_Products-of-the-Hive-v0514.pdf)
2. Next, go to <http://oregon.fairmanager.com>.
3. Click “Register” (or “Sign In” for return visits).
4. After completing the online registration, be sure to print and bring a copy of your detailed online entry receipt with your entries when you bring them to the Fair.

We are excited about your entries. Beekeeping in Oregon is more than just a fad, it’s a way of life, and it’s important to demonstrate the depth of this industry to all that come our way.

Thank you, and Good Luck! See you at the Fair!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO KATE ELIZABETH RIDER!

Winner of the 2018 4-H Essay Contest for Oregon, which asked the question, "What's So Super About the Super Organism in the Honey Bee?" From beekeepers to scientists to the public, the honey bee is a great super organism. What does this mean to you, to your community and to the world?

To read Kate Elizabeth's essay, titled "Age Polyethism," visit: orsba.org/resources.



Do you or your bees have a story to tell? A question for researchers? A learning or observation? A record of bloom? A favorite tool or recipe? A photo? An event to share?

Please let us hear from you!
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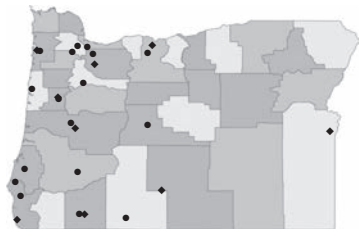
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Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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• REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Central Coast Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, fourth Wednesday, Newport
 President: Patti Johnson—pattiandpatt@comcast.net
 Website: www.ccbaor.org

Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:00–7:30 PM, fourth Tuesday, Bend
 President: Allen Engle—aengle@bendbroadband.com
 Website: www.cobeekeeping.org

Columbia Gorge Beekeepers

Meets 6:15–8:15 PM, third Wednesday, Hood River
 President: James Lombardo—president@gorgebeekeepers.org
 Website: gorgebeekeepers.org

Coos County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, third Saturday, Myrtle Point
 President: Randy Sturgill—randys@rfpco.com

Douglas County Bees

Meets 7:00–8:30 PM, first Wednesday, Roseburg
 President: Ivory LosBanos—ivohart@gmail.com
 Website: www.douglascountybees.org

Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Meets 9:00 AM, last Saturday, Klamath Falls
 President: Paul Davitt—president@klamathbeekeepers.org
 Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Eugene
 President: Pam Leavitt—pamseaver2000@yahoo.com
 Website: www.lcbaor.org

Linn Benton Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, third Wednesday, Corvallis
 President: Everett Kaser—everett@lbba.us
 Website: www.lbba.us

Oregon Prison Beekeepers

Program Manager: Chad.E.Naugle@doc.state.or.us

Oregon South Coast Beekeepers

Meets 6:00 PM, third Tuesday, Gold Beach
 President: Harvey Young—fishhawk51@hotmail.com

Portland Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Gladstone
 President: Rex McIntire—remcintire_5@msn.com
 Website: portlandmetro.org

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Meets 7:00–9:00 PM, first Wednesday, Portland
 President: Mandy Shaw—president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
 Website: portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:30–9:00 PM, first Monday, Central Point
 President: John Jacob—oldsolbees@gmail.com
 Website: southernoregonbeekeepers.org

Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30–8:00 PM, second Tuesday, Tillamook
 President: Claire Moody
 503.318.9149; claire@vanirmail.com

Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 6:00–8:00 PM, last Tuesday, North Plains
 President: Eddie Frie—ejfrie@frontier.com
 Website: tvba.weebly.com/

Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, fourth Monday, Salem
 President: Richard Farrier—rfarrierfarms@gmail.com
 Website: wvbahive.org



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— If the date on the mailing label is August 2018 (or earlier), this is your friendly renewal notice. —

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. It's *your* newsletter—we want to hear from you!

The next issue to be printed will be the September issue, 2018. The deadline for submitting copy is **August 10, 2018**. 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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To learn more, visit SaveTheBee.org.



Don't miss our **NEW** SAVE the BEE®
Report in September's Bee Line!