



# The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 44  
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October 2019

## BEEKEEPERS MAKE A GREAT SHOWING AT THE STATE FAIR

*Bonnie King*

The OSBA booth was a bright and happy destination throughout the 2019 Oregon State Fair, from the visitors to the hosts to the honey bees, good times abounded.

Nearly 80 beekeepers from throughout Oregon took time from their busy summer schedules to host a shift at the OSBA booth. Several associations took entire days, and some individuals took more than one shift. This amazing turnout represented a wonderful cross-section of experience and beekeeping know-how, and demonstrates a real commitment to the beekeeping industry by those most invested.

We had a slightly larger booth this year, and we used every inch. I was told that our booth is the most popular in the building, and that's very believable since we had about 1,000 visitors coming through every day. Hosts enjoyed the fast-paced flow of information, as well as the slower times when they got to really discuss the methods of keeping healthy bees and growing future beekeepers.

The main attraction was, and always has been, the bees. Having an observation hive in the booth is integral to keeping the fairgoer's attention. For many, it's an annual tradition to find the Queen. We were without our observation hive coordinator due to the death of Fred Mann, whom we dearly miss. His loss was vividly felt as we assembled his barn board wall.

Everyone came through to make sure there was always at least one observation hive in the booth at all times. Joe Hansen and Rich Farrier worked together to stagger two nucs so as to give them a rest every couple of days. We were very fortunate that Steve Gomes, Paul Stromberg, Tim Wydronek, Rick Olson, and Max Kuhn also provided hives, assuring visitors would be "thrilled to see the bees!"

Marjorie Ehry, Oregon Judge of honey/products from the hive, spoke on the Creative Living stage to an audience of honey lovers. She explained Oregon honey varieties and uses of honey, and answered questions while sharing honey sticks with the crowd. We had one case filled with entries that competed, displayed next to our booth. Ehry was impressed with the entries, and would like to see double the amount in the state competition next year.

Hive & Garden lent us a hand extractor and several items/tools for display; Nature's Kick Original Honeystix donated honey sticks, which we gave out generously; and a wonderful variety of Oregon native plants from Shonnard's Nursery showed visitors what honey bees enjoy most in our yards.

Meanwhile, kids and adults swarmed to the Brood Zone, where they could take a chair at the table and color their choice of Queen, Worker, Drone, or Honey Bear, then pin it up on our cell-design wall. The Brood wall was covered with many hundreds of colored sheets by the end of the fair.

*Continued on page 13*



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orsba.org

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orsbawebmaster@gmail.com

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

**Image above:** *Let's All Go to the Fair.* And we did. The front story tells us all about it!

As we finish up honey harvests and preparations for winter, we shift gears into fall. Consider putting the OSBA Fall Conference on your To Do list! And take a moment to review proposed OSBA changes, page 11.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, fellow beekeepers.

I can't believe another year has passed and it's nearly conference time already. It has truly been an honor to serve this great organization, and I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Conference on the beautiful Oregon coast in Florence October 25th–27th. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn, socialize, and perhaps commiserate. In addition, this is a great chance to raise money for the OSU Honey Bee Lab, Extension services, and our endowment and other funds. These programs are crucial to improving the plight of bees and beekeepers, and it is our support that helps make it all possible. We can accomplish great things by working together as a group in the same way that honey bees do.

It is with some regret that terms like *commiserate* and *plight* are still appropriate when talking about beekeeping in this day and age. Merriam-Webster defines the word *plight* this way: “an unfortunate, difficult, or precarious situation.” Unfortunate, difficult, and precarious are extremely apropos when discussing the current state of beekeeping. Without a doubt beekeeping is very difficult. Annual colony loss rates hovering in the 40 percent range definitely speak to the challenge we all face together. Sustained losses in this range endanger not only bees but also beekeepers due to the difficult economics that this situation creates. This situation also impacts growers and consumers. It is time consuming and expensive to replace lost colonies, and our pollination fees do not always cover these expenses so we look to other things to help generate lost revenue like honey production.

The honey market is yet another unfortunate circumstance adding to beekeepers' woes. This is because of the sheer volume of adulterated or fake honey that's going around. There is so much “food fraud” happening with honey that it is driving prices way down. This subject was addressed very well in the September *American Bee Journal* by Ron Phipps on page 981.

Some of the key points that he brought up should be very eye opening regarding the fake honey problem. For example, honey demand is way up, actually pushing 600 million pounds in the US. This represents a 40 percent increase in consumption over the last 20 years. Conversely, yields per colony are down by 37 percent on average. This makes absolutely no economic sense. Normally when supply tightens for a commodity the price should go up not down as we are currently witnessing. The reason this is happening is that imports are up by 61 percent, and

much of these imports are adulterated, fake, and often sold for pennies on the dollar compared to what it costs us to produce top quality domestic honey. In 2019, the UK discovered 55 percent of the honey sampled from store shelves showed markers for bioengineered sweeteners (read corn or rice syrup). Germany found similar adulterants in 70 percent of the “honey” sampled. The trends are similar in our country with most store shelf brands. Some studies have shown that 75 percent of the honey on US store shelves is fake or adulterated. <https://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/tests-show-most-store-honey-isnt-honey>.

There are many techniques and reasons behind this food fraud. One of the most common is ultrafiltration to mask the country of origin by countries like India and China. Over the years, honey has been banned from these countries for reasons ranging from adulteration with cheap syrups to contamination with pesticides and antibiotics.

There are many solutions that could help ameliorate this problem, ranging from developing more advanced detection techniques to knowing your beekeeper and buying locally. We should encourage every organization we can to push for thorough detection of contaminated and adulterated honey, in addition to enforcing and increasing quality standards. Groups involved in this include the American Honey Producers Association, the FDA, the Department of Agriculture, the American Beekeeping Federation, plus many other state and regional groups.

We beekeepers need to support anyone and everyone working on this problem, because high colony loss rates and terrible honey prices are not a recipe for success. These circumstances do indeed make modern beekeeping business very precarious. Couple these trends with some of the pesticides being allowed on the market like sulfoxaflo and the term *plight* to describe our situation becomes even more appropriate.

Well, that is probably enough scary “doom and gloom” to last us through Halloween. At the end of the day I look forward to facing these challenges together, and there is plenty of joy to still be had in beekeeping. We beekeepers are a resourceful and resilient lot, and our bees are the lever that makes our food supply function. Food never goes out of style, and together we have a strong voice.

Thank you all for what you do and keep fighting the good fight.

John Jacob

## CONFERENCE HONEY SHOW

### Entering the Show

The Fall Conference provides an opportunity to enter products of the hive from your bees in this year's Honey Show. May there be good fun in preparing entries! Turn them in to a Honey Steward in the Conference Room between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM on Friday evening and between 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM on Saturday morning.

### Honey Cookie Contest

New this year! This fine old English bee teapot will be awarded to the winner of our first Honey Cookie Contest. Those entering will need to bring at least a dozen honey cookies (honey being the predominant sweetener) along with the recipe to be made available for OSBA publication. Cookies are to be judged by OSBA officers, with the balance served at the afternoon break. This should be a fun event added to the Honey Show and auction of the entries.



### Guidelines

Those entering the Honey Show must be an OSBA member and/or be registered for the conference. As a benefit of membership, OSBA members may enter without being present (though we hope you are able to attend!).

### MINIMUM QUANTITIES

- Comb Honey Sections – 3 square or 3 rounds
- Extracting Frames, each class – 3 frames
- Extracted Honey – 3 standard, uniform queenline 1 pound honey jars (no pint jars)
- All Other Honey (Creamed and Chunk Honey) – 3 wide mouth pint jars
- Photos – 8" x 10" photo, narrow black frame.

### CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

#### COMB HONEY: Class #1

1. Comb Honey, any one variety (three round section)
2. Comb Honey, any one variety (three square section)

#### EXTRACTING FRAMES: Class #2

4. Full depth, any one variety (3 frames)
5. Shallow, any one variety (3 frames)
6. Western, any one variety (3 frames)
7. Semi, any one variety (3 frames)

#### EXTRACTED LIQUID HONEY: Class #3

Three – 1 pound queenline jars (Please state the variety,

if known.)

8. White
9. Amber
10. Dark

#### OTHER: Class #4

11. Creamed Honey (3 wide mouth pint jars)
12. Chunk Comb Honey (3 wide mouth pint jars)

#### BEESWAX: Class #5

17. Natural or Sun bleached 1 pound minimum (1 piece)
18. Beeswax candles, 100% beeswax 2–5 pounds (dipped large single or several pairs)
19. Artistic beeswax, 100% beeswax. Entries can be several pieces but must be fastened together. Entries can be different shades of wax, i.e., brood wax or capping wax. No artificial enhancements.

#### BEEKEEPING PHOTO: Class #6

Entries must be an 8" x 10" photo in a narrow black frame. (Please identify location.)

Subject matter: "Through the eyes of a Child"

#### GIFT BASKET: Class #7

Must contain at least 5 honey and related bee products.

#### HONEY COOKIE CONTEST: Class #8

Must include at least one dozen "predominantly honey" cookies, with the recipe made available for OSBA publication.

#### MEAD TASTING CONTEST: Class #9

### Auction

Although we hope all entries will be donated, please consider donating at least one of each appropriate entry. Items entered will be auctioned during the conference. Proceeds are to be used for future honey show awards.

## Oregon State Fair Honey Show

Results from the Honey Show at the Oregon State Fair are in! View them at: [showworks.s3.amazonaws.com/index.html?file=583161\\_2019\\_Honey\\_and\\_Products\\_of\\_the\\_Hive](http://showworks.s3.amazonaws.com/index.html?file=583161_2019_Honey_and_Products_of_the_Hive). Those ribbons? They are winners—1st Place: Blue; 2nd Place: Red; 3rd Place: White.

*Congratulations All!*

### CLASSIFIED AD

**For Sale:** 3,000 colonies. 8-frame, double deeps. Fed, medicated, ready for winter. Cost for each, \$250. Phone: 541.372.2726.

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## KEEPING BEES IN OCTOBER

*Harry Vanderpool*

October can be tricky for Pacific Northwest beekeepers who find themselves behind on winter preparation in their hives. On one hand, I recall a year that Liz & I were able to primer and paint a newly constructed garage in November. That year afforded beekeepers many chances to catch up. On the other hand, we have had many years in which we have lit our woodstove for the first time (under 40°F) in mid-October.

A lot of good bee work can get done in October, but we do our best to have our hive weights up to par well before October if possible.

Speaking of hive weights, Michael Palmer, one of our Fall Conference presenters, weighs each and every hive in the late fall to ascertain, positively, that his hives have sufficient stores to make it through winter. All 650 of them! I thought he was pulling my leg when first hearing of this, but I have since seen proof of this effort. THAT is one good beekeeper!

While taking the tip from Mr. Palmer, I take a slightly lessor approach. When hefting the top box aside in order to place pollen patties, I assign a number to each hive, 0 – 5. Zero means that the hive is honey bound and should not receive additional feed. Five means that the hive is featherlight and needs serious attention to weight. As each hive is fed, the number is reduced by one for each feeding.

Once fall robbing subsides, we like to remove any entrance reducers still in place and make sure that all hives have full-width mouse guards. Mouse guards should also be called Varroa guards. If our comb is allowed to be destroyed by mice in winter, the bees will replace the damaged area with drone comb, which will result in a mite incubator. We attempt to limit drone comb to a bare minimum in our hives.

Rain returns in full force in October, and soon frost, ice, and snow will descend upon our hives. We like to provide a barrier between our hives and the elements for the few nasty weather months prior to spring. There are a number of solutions, but we have settled on 30-lb roofing felt (not tar paper) to cover our pallets. Placing these covers reduces excess moisture in wintering hives as well as extends usable life of woodenware.

Our hives are moved from their locations and placed in their winter yard in October. Pallets are set atop rows of pallets in order to have clean, weed and mud free pallets for movement into almonds.

As much as I love every year working with bees, I really look forward to October when I can spend days in the shop working on trucks, equipment, etc. Radio, fresh coffee, buddy dropping in; love it! A “winter to-do list” is very helpful in making the best use of the off season. In a blink of the eye, almonds will be upon us.

October is conference time, and you can't miss this year's line up! Sign up NOW! And remember: Our Fall Conference is greatly improved by your presence!

Your fellow beekeepers look forward to seeing you there again this year!

## BRING 'EM IF YOU'VE GOT 'EM . . .

*Mureen Walker*

The Fall Conference is a good time to bring things to help with “show & tell” at the OSBA booth at the Oregon State Fair, things like the burr comb that is so popular for smelling, touching, and visually examining. Also photos, some from the apiary and some of swarm catching, some showing amazing features such as workers extruding wax. This year people wanted to see pictures of the wasps versus the honey bees, too!

The biggest difference in the booth this year was the absence of Fred Mann, who engineered and carpentered so much of the furnishings of the booth and was always there helping with his big warm smile and energy, tending the observation hives daily, and providing all the working parts of a Langstroth hive.

The hive was a well-used one, with many frames of honeycomb in various conditions. That, too, was sorely missed, especially when trying to explain the differences in parts, such as the size of boxes, solid versus screened bottom boards, telescoping versus travel covers, metal versus plastic queen excluder, inner cover materials, mouse guards, robber guards, and so on.

**\*\*ATTENTION COMMERCIAL BEEKEEPERS!\*\***

**Save the Date!**

Commercial Beekeeper Workshop  
Brood Disease Workshop and VFD Info  
Friday, October 25, 2019  
Florence Events Center

1–4 PM

For info, email: [carolyn.breece@oregonstate.edu](mailto:carolyn.breece@oregonstate.edu)



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Our Beekeeping family wishes all of you the best in 2019!



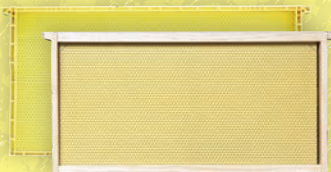
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## BEE EVENTS

**October 11–13:** 150 Years of A.I. Root Company. Medina, Ohio. *Information:* [www.beeeculture.com](http://www.beeeculture.com).

**October 16–18:** BOMBUSS 2.0: Building Our Methods by Using Sound Science: Next Steps in North American Bumble Bee Monitoring and Conservation. York University, Toronto, Canada: [wildlifepreservation.ca/bom buss-program](http://wildlifepreservation.ca/bom buss-program).

**October 25–27:** Oregon State Beekeepers Association Fall Conference. Florence Events Center. Florence. See pages 14–15; *information as it becomes available:* [orsba.org](http://orsba.org).

**November 12–14:** 2019 California State Beekeepers Association Annual Convention. Pechanga Resort & Casino. Temecula, California. *Information:* [www.californiastatebeekeepers.com/annual-convention](http://www.californiastatebeekeepers.com/annual-convention).

**November 19, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM:** 2019 Pollinator Conservation in Agricultural Landscapes. WSU Puyallup Research and Extension Center, Puyallup WA. \$25 *Information:* Alison Nichols, 253.845.9770 x 132.

**January 8–11:** American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Expo, Schaumburg, Illinois. *Information:* [www.abfnet.org](http://www.abfnet.org).

**January 8–11:** American Honey Producers Association Conference. *Information:* [www.ahpanet.com](http://www.ahpanet.com).

**July 9–11:** 43rd Annual Western Apicultural Society Conference, Missoula, Montana. *information as it becomes available:* [westernapiculturalsociety.org](http://westernapiculturalsociety.org).

## REGIONAL NEWS

**Note:** All affiliated associations invite and welcome visitors to join them at meetings. See page 16, their websites, or [orsba.org](http://orsba.org) for meeting time, website, and/or contact information.

Many regional associations also offer additional opportunities for learning; take care to check their websites as well as postings under *Events* at [orsba.org](http://orsba.org).

### Regional Representatives

#### North Coast

The weather has been pretty perfect on the coast, and most of our beekeepers did pretty well with honey this year. The Tillamook association enjoyed an extremely informative talk given by Troy Abercrombie regarding county spraying regulations and techniques. Central Coast enjoyed their annual summer barbecue at Pat Wackford's house. A Too Bee or Not to Bee class was given for prospective beekeepers. Four people attended, enjoyed it, and left anxious to read up on bees and start planning pollinator gardens.

Congratulations to Rick Olson, Jon Sumpter, and Kathy Cope for attaining Journey level in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program.

*Kathy Cope*

## Regional Associations

### Central Oregon Beekeepers

In central Oregon, we can have our first freezes any time from mid-September to mid-October. As it took so long to get the tomatoes going properly and abundantly, we're never quite ready to let them go. Every night this month, many of us go out and cover the tomatoes and flowers in hopes of getting a few more weeks out of them. It's always a bittersweet time when we either get a hard freeze or forget one night to go out and cover them. No more fresh tomatoes, but no more cold night covering. Overall, in central Oregon, it was a good summer. Overall, it was relatively moist, as central Oregon goes. The native flowers had nicely extended blooming periods. Only a few days above 90 degrees. For some reason, the mite levels were somewhat less than last year as well. Perhaps we were all just more careful of counting and treating, or perhaps something weather related. With all that, we're looking forward to hearing how everyone's production has been.

Last month was the conclusion of our annual photography contest. It was impressive how good the photographs our members submitted are. You can see the top three on our website at: [www.cobeekeeping.org](http://www.cobeekeeping.org).

*Allen Engle*

### Columbia Gorge Beekeepers

As summer has come to a close, the Columbia Gorge Region has incurred an unusual bee season. Our spring was inordinately wet and cold preventing bees the opportunity to exit their hives for foraging. This scenario set back not only the honey bee colonies but also the entire agricultural environment. Our nectar flow, typically some time between mid-May and mid-June, was delayed until the beginning of July. The number of swarms was definitely diminished. The good news to our 2019 season was that the number of Varroa Destructor Mites was also way down. There is something to consider and research! Why have the past two years witnessed an overwhelming influx of mites while this year has not? Priyadarshini Chakrabarti Basu, PhD, Oregon State University, graced our September meeting with her recent research on honey bee nutrition. Specifically, she discussed the importance of sterols to the life cycle of the honey bee. As important as pests and diseases are to our girls, nutrition is as vital. October brings Heike Williams from the Madras OSU Research area to discuss winter preparation.

*Jerry Frazier*

### Douglas County Bees

This year has been an exciting one for Douglas County Bees. We had our last booth event of 2019 the first part of August, one of many events through much of the year. Thanks to our amazing volunteers and to some generous donations, we were able to raise more funds than ever before. Our group

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APRIL 4TH 2020



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hopes to use those funds for future events, speakers, and equipment purchases for our members.

We have elections coming in October, and as we have some board members choosing to resign this makes for a great opportunity for new ideas and views in upcoming years. Due to the harsh realities of this last spring, we had a wonderful swarm and removal year, which continues into the fall. Members are working on closing up their hives, doing mite counts, treatments, and winter prepping as it seems that fall is coming early this year. Our hope is that the heavy losses of last year aren't a deterrent for new beekeepers and that we can give some education and help those interested to get more into beekeeping and helping our bees.

*Ivory LosBanos*

### Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Klamath Basin Beekeepers had their annual BBQ and potluck this year. We truly enjoyed the day outdoors talking about our bees. At the moment, the rabbitbrush is blooming, the last real pollen for the bees for the year. Temperatures are turning colder, and supers are being removed, and hives are being treated as the bees get ready for winter.

Katharina and Paul Davitt (Education Officer and President) were invited by the Nashville Area Beekeepers Association. There, Katharina gave a 3.5-hour seminar on how to run a successful elementary school bee education program



Amy Grant (center) with Katharina and Paul Davitt.

(based on her success in the Klamath Basin) at Belmont University to invited educators from the entire state of Tennessee. They were also invited to Amy Grant & Vince Gill's farm, where Katharina gave a short presentation about her school program to the Nashville

beekeepers. Amy Grant (also a beekeeper), her sisters Carol and Kathy, and her daughter Sarah Chapman were also present. Sarah Chapman, James Slater, and Alejandro Sierra performed for the association. James Slater wrote a wonderful honey bee song he performed for the very first time: [tinyurl.com/y2229rz9](http://tinyurl.com/y2229rz9). It was a wonderful day on her 450-acre property. Photos at: [michaelvanzyl.shootproof.com/gallery/NABA/home](http://michaelvanzyl.shootproof.com/gallery/NABA/home).

*Paul Davitt*

### Lane County Beekeepers

As a beekeeper, do you often find that talking about honey bees is very enjoyable? Do you sometimes wish that the person next to you in the checkout line would ask about your hobby so you could brag on your girls? If you like talking about bees, then the OSBA booth at the Oregon State Fair is going to be perfect for you. Our association volunteered to cover the booth on Sunday, August 25th, and we all really enjoyed our time in talking to strangers about honey bees. Thanks to all association members who volunteered on the 25th and other days for the OSBA booth at the fair.

It seems as though most of the LCBA members have reported a fairly good year for honey so far. Several reports came in of members who extracted over 40 pounds of honey per hive.

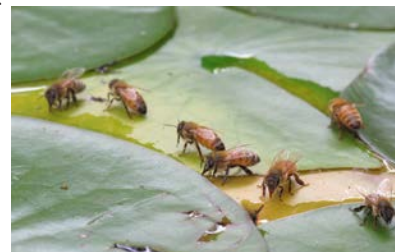
It also seems as though fall is setting in early, so our members are mostly done with their extracting chores and are getting their bees ready for winter by treating for Varroa mites and feeding light hives. The early fall and rain may be helping with the yellow jackets this year, which is a relief since 2018 was such a horrible year.

Last month's speaker was Thad Starr from StarrFarms Queens. As one of our local queen suppliers in the Willamette Valley, we appreciate all of his efforts to raise VSH queens. Thanks for the information, Thad, it was a great evening talk.

*Michael France*

### Linn Benton Beekeepers

Towards the end of August and beginning of September, during our 90-degree days, honey bees were in search of water sources. It



is important to establish water sources for your bees well in advance, before they need it. This gives the beekeeper better control of where their honey bees are likely to go in search of water. The water needs



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to be changed or circulated frequently and should not be allowed to go dry. Neighbors will thank you for keeping bees out of their swimming pools and bird baths.

This month's guest speaker is Thad Starr of StarrFarms Queens, located in Pleasant Hill, Oregon. StarrFarms sells nucs and three strains of queens that are bred for their gentleness and productivity. Thad will be discussing his process of raising queens, queen productivity, and when to requeen. We look forward to his presentation and the discussions to follow.

Amber Reese

### Portland Metro Beekeepers

Cooler weather, shorter days, but bees are still out 'n about collecting pollen and nectar from late-blooming asters, borage-borage-borage, nasturtiums, sunflowers, and brassicas going to seed. However, the most recent very warm days were perfect to reclaim beeswax, whether from cappings, fresh comb built in goofy patterns/places, or even old beeswax. Even ugly comb results in lovely wax—not much, but lovely.

Most of the honey has been at least harvested and extracting is fully underway. What an intoxicating aroma in the honey "house" wherever that may be! Extracting may be work, but is so rewarding!

Of primary importance, though, is the condition of our hives: Are the bees healthy? Are they happy or really crabby—and why? Do we see brood, eggs, and the queen? What is the level of mites? What other potential problems may be evident? Then, what kind of treatment is best at this time of year? Several members spent a day examining all of this in Joe M's apiary, and then applying appropriate treatments as needed: Combine a weak hive with a strong one; feed obviously hungry bees (even with honey and syrup nearby) drivert sugar. And feeding, feeding, feeding! The several members working together is an important part of beekeeping: Gaining knowledge and understanding

of managing hives, safety for bees and their keepers, and a measure of efficiency. As one speaker put it, "Friends do not let friends lift deeps."

Several PMBA members spent a day at the Oregon State Fair and the Clackamas County Fair sharing their love of bees with numerous visitors. Kids especially are fascinated with the observation hives . . . I think that is *kids of all ages*. One comment is to include an empty Langstroth hive to allow visitors to see what goes on where and why. We are all looking forward to hearing from Ramesh Sagili at our September meeting.

Nancy Winston

### Portland Urban Beekeepers

Portland Urban Beekeepers continue to harvest our honey, check for mites, and prepare for fall and winter. Robbing screens are up, and our weaker, lighter colonies are being fed. The September meeting was well attended with sixty members and five visitors.

Our president, Mandy Shaw, gave a great presentation on fall management. She showed us photos of Varroa mites under capped brood taken with her microscope. This helped make the reality of mite infestation less abstract. We have been told by some OSU researchers that up to 80 percent of mites are in our capped brood, not being seen with our standard monitoring techniques such as alcohol washes or powdered sugar shakes, which only see phoretic mites. Mandy also showed us a video that she made to demonstrate how to do an alcohol wash as well as interpret the results, and next actions—treat if treatment threshold was met. She also talked about the Bee Informed project as she is a participant in the Sentinel Apiary Program, a USDA Animal and Plant Health Survey, which monitors key metrics for real-time honey bee health. Data collected include hive weight, bees to measure Varroa mite and Nosema loads, and monitors for novel and emerging pathogens.

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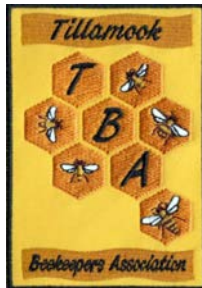
Then, our second speaker was Glen Andresen from Bridgetown Bees, who showed us what is currently blooming in Portland. With our unusually wet, cool August, we have had a long flower season. A shortlist included poppies, many

types of dahlias, asters, cosmos, *Cannabis sativa*, *Camellia sinensis* (tea), thistle, mimosa, alliums, and squash.

We staffed the OSBA booth for a day at the 2019 Oregon State Fair this year, and one of our volunteers, Steve Niles, won Best in Show for his comb honey. Congratulations, Steve!  
*Cheryl Wright*

**Tillamook Beekeepers**

The Tillamook Beekeepers Association has created a new embroidered patch for members. The patch measures 4 inches tall and 2½ inches wide, and with the bright colors of our logo stands out awesomely. We are sewing them on denim shirts, polo shirts, tote bags, back packs, etc. It’s great advertisement for our local beekeeper’s association. It will also give us a more professional appearance at the variety of community events in which we participate.



Our Honey House has been a big hit with many of our new beekeepers and a few old timers as well. It’s a great facility, and we are enjoying it immensely. Hundreds of pounds of honey have been extracted with ease.

Many of our beekeepers have had a good season for honey, and their bees are strong. It may be too early to predict, but it looks like we are doing better this year than last. Our September speaker will be Carolyn Breece of OSU, and she will be addressing mite control. Many of our beekeepers have reported fewer mites so far this year, too. That is very good news, if it continues to hold true.  
*Brad York*

**Tualatin Valley Beekeepers**

Tualatin Valley members are actively protecting their bees with miticides, and are also bottling their honey harvests. We have been talking about yellow jacket traps with one member reminding us that the WJY has an important place in the natural ecological balance. Our community outreach continues with Annie Flatz, Gloria Vandehey, Sally and Don Bozarth, Alden Potter, and Debby Garman doing outreach tabling at the Hillsboro Tuesday Market, and Loren Radford, Alden Potter, and Sally and Don Bozarth continuing to head up 4-H youth activities. We tabled as well for pollinators at the “Celebrate Great Grains” event in



Tualatin Valley honey house clean up.

Forest Grove in mid-September. At our August membership meeting, Marjorie Ehry gave an excellent presentation of the history of Oregon beekeeping describing the difficulty of making

a living at this trade and how the development of California almond industry with expanded pollination needs helped boost income. She stayed late to answer questions. Members showed up to share in cleaning up the TVBA Honey House, and we estimate that 45 members extracted about 250 gallons of honey this year.  
*Eddie Frie*

**OSBA PROPOSED CHANGES**

We will be voting on proposed changes to the OSBA Constitution and Bylaws during the general membership meeting at the Fall Conference this October in Florence. Please review (whether able to attend or not!): Current language in [brackets], proposed changes in *italics*. Current documents are in your directory and on the OSBA website.

These proposed changes will need your help!! As you take a look, you’ll see that they first involve a change in the basis for membership. Memberships for a given year are to run from January 1 through Decemeber 31 rather than the month-year system that has long confused many. For 2020, the change will be stepped, such that renewals will involve differing dues depending on month. Members with expiration dates well into 2020 will pay less for renewal to the end of the year than those whose memberships expire in January—as long as paid no later than **January 31, 2020**. After that, all memberships will be at the regular rate.

In addition, as stated, the forms for affiliated associations will be due **no later than January 15, 2020**. They will need to be completed **fully and accurately** on submission. We will no longer make requests for missing information and/or for corrections to erroneous info. Five OSBA members are required for affiliation. Members may help in this by letting their regional association(s) know that they are also OSBA members in good standing for the year 2020.

Details will be sent following the conference. Please send questions and comments to: [finleykk@yahoo.com](mailto:finleykk@yahoo.com).

**Constitution**

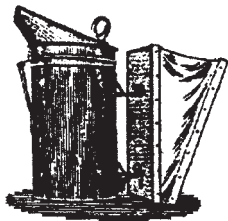
**Article IV Section 1: Membership Categories**

In addition, each member shall receive a [one-year subscription] *subscription for the year of membership* to the Oregon State Beekeepers publication, *The Bee Line*.

**Article V Section 2: Branch Associations**

. . . by submitting a list of all of its members and officers thus associated, *\$1 per branch member (the number being the highest number of members during the previous year), and the names and addresses of five (5) members who are also OSBA members for the year of affiliation* to the state association treasurer [annually] *no later than January 15 of the year of affiliation*.

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August – January Call

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### Article V Section 4: Branch Directors

To add: *Branch directors may identify a member of the same branch who is also an OSBA member as a proxy to vote at executive committee meetings in their stead by written notice to the executive committee no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.*

### Bylaws

#### Article I Section 1: Membership

... and must be accompanied by the [annual dues] *dues for the year of membership.*

To add: *Membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of the year of membership.*

#### Article I Section 2: Dues (A) Paid members

Members shall pay [annual dues] *dues for the year of membership.*

#### Article I Section 2: Dues (B) Honorary life members

... and shall pay no [annual membership dues] *dues for the year of membership* to the state association.

#### Article I Section 2: Dues (C) Dues

Dues may be paid at any time and are current for [twelve (12) months] *the year of membership.*

[Annual membership dues] Dues for the *year of membership* shall be determined by the executive committee.

### Section 5: Working Committees

The chair of each committee will be invited to attend all executive [board] *committee* meetings.



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**Oregon State Fair** —Continued from page 1

The Southern Oregon beekeepers freshened up the video loop for the HIVIDEO with two new productions, which added even more compelling info for a constant flow of viewers.

A great shout out must go to Mureen Walker, who helped every single day of the fair. She helped cover shift changes and took shifts when we were low. She and Marjorie Ehry gave honey tastings throughout the fair, and Mureen even wore the Oregon honey bear suit! Her willingness and enthusiasm was so greatly appreciated.

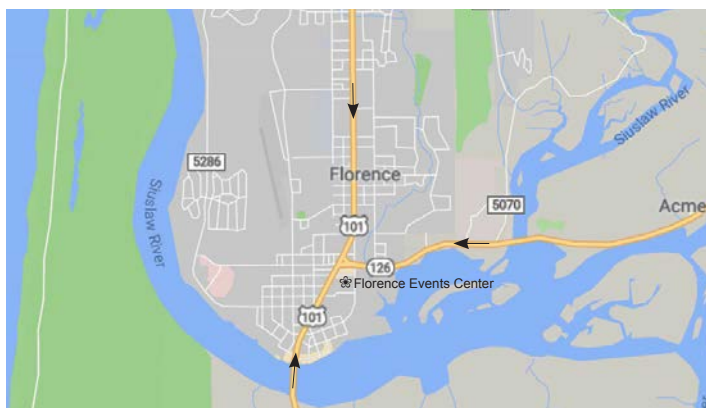
None of this success would have come to be without all the hosts and volunteers willing to give a bit of time for the future of beekeeping. Everett Kaser was there for set up two days before the fair, and Joe Maresh brought three of his beekeeping students for breakdown after the fair.

The theme for the state fair this year was “Find Your Fun”, and that’s exactly what the beekeepers did. We enjoyed every aspect of our fair experience, and hope more of you will join us next year in promoting the importance of beekeeping and pollinator health. That is, doing what we all love best!

See you in Florence at the Fall Conference!

**CONFERENCE MISCELLANY****Getting to Florence**

For those who have not yet visited this sweet town on the coast, Florence is located on either side of Highway 101 just at the end of the road, i.e., Oregon Route 126 out of Eugene. That makes her kind of hard to miss, you know?



Once there, we’ll meet at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince Street. Registration will be set up in the center’s Lobby. Come on in and get oriented!

**Deadlines**

Although online and on-site registration will remain open, the last day for **mail-in** registration is **October 16, 2019**. In addition, rates will increase after that date.

Please note that there will be no refunds available after **October 11, 2019**, nor will there be refunds for no shows this year.

**Reminders**

Get ready for the event by preparing entries to the Honey Show—from creamed honey to honey cookies, by packing donations for the silent and benefit auctions (items need not be bee-related; all proceeds go to research), and by taking a few moments to register early!

**Places to Stay in Florence**

There are many places to stay in Florence, from campsites to bed and breakfasts and beyond. Among establishments offering discounted rates during the Fall Conference, October 25–27, are the following:

**Best Western Pier Point Inn** | 541.997.7191  
85625 Hwy 101, Florence, Oregon

*Discount:* Ten percent

*Condition:* Mention OSBA by September 25, 2019

**Driftwood Shores Resort & Conf Ctr** | 541.902.6443  
88416 1st Ave, Florence, Oregon

*Discount:* Single Queen, \$119.00; Double Queen, \$165.00; Three bedroom condo, \$329.00 + taxes.

*Note:* All rooms are ocean view.

*Condition:* Online (by desktop computer only), Group Code 306028 Pin 8263. By phone, mention OSBA by October 1, 2019 (based on availability)

**Old Town Inn** | 800.301.6494 | 541.997.7131  
170 Highway 101, Florence, Oregon

*Discount:* \$79/night + taxes

*Condition:* Code is BEE19 by October 10, 2019

**River House Inn** | 888.824.2454  
1202 Bay Street, Florence, Oregon

*Discount:* Off River, \$89/night; On River, \$119/night + taxes

*Condition:* Use code BEE19 by October 10, 2019

**Villa West Motel** | 541.997.3457  
901 Hwy 101, Florence, Oregon

*Discount:* Queen size, \$55.40; King size, \$60.94; Queen size-2 rooms, \$66.48—all tax including

*Condition:* October 25–27 by October 23, 2019

**More in Florence . . .**

Preregistration is required for conference luncheons and the banquet (menus are posted at: [orsba.org](http://orsba.org)). In addition to the conference luncheons and banquet, we will have no want for meal options around town. Plan to come early and/or stay late to see and experience this spectacular portion of the state. Take a few moments to “search” them out now!

OSBA Fall Conference 2019   
**Oregon State Beekeepers Association**

October 25, 26 & 27, 2019  
 Florence Events Center | Florence, Oregon  
 Individual and Family Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Additional Immediate Family Members Attending

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Event			Cost
Friday Night Social			Complimentary
Full Conference <sup>1</sup>	Individual - \$150		\$
	Immediate Family - \$180		
Saturday Conference Only <sup>1</sup>	Individual - \$90		\$
	Immediate Family - \$110		
Sunday Conference Only <sup>1</sup>	Individual - \$90		\$
	Immediate Family - \$110		
Saturday Luncheon	\$22 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Banquet	\$50 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Sunday Luncheon	\$22 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Research Donation <sup>2</sup>			\$
Annual OSBA Dues <sup>3</sup>	\$40 per Person	Number: _____	\$
<b>Total<sup>4,5</sup></b>			<b>\$</b>

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 Immediate Family \$130.00, Full Conference \$190.00, Full Conference Immediate Family \$220.00. **No refunds after October 11 or for no shows.**

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, 2019 Fall Conference, PO Box 10, Aurora OR 97002**

5) Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates are available at local establishments; information at: [orsba.org](http://orsba.org).



**OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**  
**2019 FALL CONFERENCE**  
 FLORENCE EVENTS CENTER | 715 QUINCE STREET | FLORENCE, OREGON  
 A TENTATIVE AGENDA

— Friday, October 25 —

- TBA Executive Committee Meeting (Green Room)  
 5:00 PM **Registration** (Lobby)  
 5–6:00 PM Submit Honey Show Entries (Conference Room)  
 7:00 PM Kick-Off **Wine and Cheese Social** (Events Area)

— Saturday, October 26 —

- 7:00 AM **Registration** (Lobby)  
 7:30 AM **Silent Auction** Begins (Events Area)  
 7:45 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Auditorium)  
*John Jacob*, OSBA President  
 8:00 AM **Research Update from the OSU Honey Bee Lab**  
*Ramesh Sagili*, Oregon State University  
 8–9:00 AM Submit Honey Show Entries (Conference Room)  
 8:45 AM **The Sustainable Apiary**  
*Mike Palmer*, French Hill Apiaries  
 9:30 AM **Break** (Lobby)  
 10:00 AM **Origin and Diversification of Honey Bees: Conservation Status and the Consequences of Colonization**  
*Steve Sheppard*, Washington State University  
 10:45 AM **Bee Nutrition: One Ring to Rule Them All?**  
*Priya Chakrabarti Basu*, Oregon State University  
 11:30 AM **Break** (Exhibitor Area)  
 11:45 AM **Luncheon** (Events Area)  
 Panel: **Queen Breeders**  
*Jordan Dimock*, J & TD Apiaries, Moderator, *Pat Heitkam*, *John Jacob*, and *Frank Pendell*  
 1:00 PM **Managing Stress in Bee Colonies**  
*Jay Evans*, USDA ARS-Beltsville  
 1:45 PM **Can Carbon Microparticles Solve the Issues Associated with Sublethal Doses of Pesticides?**  
*Saffet Sansar*, Washington State University  
 2:30 PM **Break** (Lobby/Exhibitor Area)  
 3:00 PM **Weathering Heights: Evaluation of Honey Bee Subspecies Mating Behavior Utilizing RFID**  
*Melanie Kirby*, Washington State University  
 3:45 PM **Operation of Sowers Apiaries**  
*Tom Cinquini*, Sowers Apiaries  
 4:00 PM **Silent Auction** Ends (Events Area)  
 4:30 PM **Break**  
 4:45 PM **General Membership Meeting** (Auditorium)  
 6:00 PM **Social Hour** (Events Area)

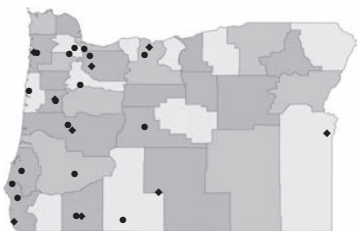
- 7:00 PM **Banquet** (Events Area)  
 Topic: **What's New with WSU**  
*Steve Sheppard*, Washington State University  
**Benefit Auction** to Follow

— Sunday, October 27 —

- 7:15 AM **Registration** (Lobby)  
 8:00 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Auditorium)  
*John Jacob*, OSBA President  
 8:15 AM **10 Years at the OSU Honey Bee Lab & Donations**  
*Carolyn Breece*, Oregon State University  
 8:45 AM **The (Considerable) Obstacles to Increasing Honey Bee Forage in Oregon**  
*Andony Melathopoulos*, Oregon State University  
 9:05 AM **Pollinators and Seed Crop Farming**  
*Garth Mulkey*, GS3 Quality Seeds Inc  
 9:25 AM **NRCS Programs for Pollinators**  
*Annie Young-Mathews*, USDA NRCS-Waldport  
 9:45 AM Panel: **Pollinator Habitat**  
*George Hansen*, Foothills Honey Company, Moderator, *Andony Melathopoulos*, *Garth Mulkey*, and *NRCS*  
 10:15 AM **Break** (Lobby/Exhibitor Area)  
 10:30 AM **From Bloom to Boom: An Investigation of Oregon (Monarda fistulosa var. menthifolia) for Bee and Pollinator Wellness**  
*Melanie Kirby*, Washington State University  
 11:15 AM **Break**  
 11:30 AM **Luncheon** (Events Area)  
**Challenges in Varroa Control & Beekeeping Philosophies**  
*Ramesh Sagili*, Oregon State University  
 12:45 PM **Walk Away Splits: Steps You Can Take for Stress-Free Queen Rearing**  
*Morris Ostrofsky*, Master Beekeeper-WA  
 1:30 PM **Indoor Storage of Colonies in the Spring and the Effects on Brood Rearing and Swarming Behavior**  
*Brandon Hopkins*, Washington State University  
 2:15 PM **Break** (Lobby/Exhibitor Area)  
 2:30 PM **Queen Rearing in the Sustainable Apiary**  
*Mike Palmer*, French Hill Apiaries  
 3:15 PM **Good and Bad Microbes**  
*Jay Evans*, USDA ARS-Beltsville  
 4:00 PM **Final Comments & Adjourn**  
*John Jacob*, OSBA President

## Oregon State Beekeepers Association

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



#### OSBA OFFICERS

**President**

John Jacob—541.582.2337; oldsolbees@gmail.com

**Vice President**

Joe Maresh—503.703.5060; joemaresh@bctonline.com

**Secretary**

Karen Finley—541.753.4120; finleykk@yahoo.com

**Treasurer**

Joe Hansen—503.824.2265; osba.treasurer@gmail.com

**Past President**

Harry Vanderpool—503.399.3675; shallotman@yahoo.com

#### ♦ OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**North Coast**

Kathy Cope—541.264.9222; beachwalkinlady@hotmail.com

**South Coast**

Mureen Walker—541.425.0535; mureen.walker.111@gmail.com

**Columbia Basin**

Bill Edwards—541.354.2223

**Eastern Oregon**

Jordan Dimock—541.372.2726

**Portland Metro**

Tom Cinquini—503.547.5386; tomcinquini@gmail.com

**South Central Oregon**

Robert Clements—541.205.8562; kbbabees@gmail.com

**Southwestern Oregon**

Eric McEwen—541.415.5171; beetruehoneybees@gmail.com

**North Willamette Valley**

Steven Coffman—503.838.2981

**South Willamette Valley**

Tim Wydronek—541.740.4127; tim@aldercreekhoney.com

#### ♦ AFFILIATED REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

**Central Coast Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30 PM, fourth Wednesday, Newport  
President: Jon Sumpter—jonsmptr@msn.com  
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: Jerry Frazier—jerry1.frazier@gmail.com  
Website: gorgebeekeepers.org

**Coos County Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30 PM, third Saturday, Myrtle Point  
President: Randy Sturgill—541.430.4095; 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, fourth Saturday, Klamath Falls  
President: Paul Davitt—president@klamathbeekeepers.org  
Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

**Lane County Beekeepers**

Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Eugene  
President: Mike France—michaelj62@gmail.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: Jesse Fletcher—jesse.l.fletcher@gmail.com

**Portland Metro Beekeepers**

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Gladstone  
President: Rex McIntire—503.720.7958  
Website: portlandmetrobeekeepers.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: Risa Halpin—303.807.1830; rhalpin906@aol.com  
Website: southernoregonbeekeepers.org

**Tillamook Beekeepers**

Meets 6:30–8:00 PM, second Tuesday, Tillamook  
President: Brad York—dbradleyyork@gmail.com  
Website: www.tillamookbeekeepers.org

**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





## Oregon State Beekeepers Association Membership Application

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, swarm call listing, four free online classified ads per year, discounts on publications, and an annual directory and subscription to *The Bee Line*.

Please send check made payable to OSBA with a **completed form for each individual** to:

**Oregon State Beekeepers Association, Membership**  
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd, Ste 517, Portland, Oregon 97206

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  New Member  Membership Renewal

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MI:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type:**  Small scale (less than 25)  Sideliner (25–300)  Commercial (more than 300)

**Mailing address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Newsletter:** Please select version:  Digital  Print **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Directory:** The OSBA respects the privacy of members. Please indicate contact information to be included in a directory mailed to OSBA members only:

Do not include contact information

Share all information *OR* Share:  mailing address  phone number  e-mail address

**Local group, if member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership dues:** \$40 per person (\$50 per person outside the US) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Voluntary contribution(s):**

General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Research Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** To renew or join online, please visit:

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

**Thank you!**



Oregon State Beekeepers Association  
 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517  
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 orsba.org

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To join or renew membership by mail, see form, page 17; online, go to [orsba.org](http://orsba.org) and click on *Membership*.

— If the date on the mailing label is October 2019 (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 membership.

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 want to hear from you!

The next issue to be printed will be the **November–December** issue, 2019. The deadline for submitting copy is **October 10, 2019**. Please let me know if you find difficulties with the deadline so we can work out the space and timing for the material.

*Be well!*

### **Advertising**

#### **Per Issue**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Listing</b>
All events, space permitting (15 words)	<b>Free</b>
<b><i>For a nonprofit group event</i></b> , an additional 30 words (total of 45) in the listing or an article	<b>Free</b>
<b>Advertising</b>	
Business card	\$10.00
Quarter page	\$25.00
Half page	\$50.00
Full page	\$100.00
<b>Classified Ad</b> (30 words)	
Members	\$3.00
Nonmembers	\$5.00