

Oregon State Beekeepers Association



2022 Fall Conference

Florence Events Center
Florence, Oregon & Online

October 28–30, 2022



Contents, Advertisers & Exhibitors



PROGRAM CONTENTS

Program Contents	2
Conference Advertisers	2
Exhibitors Break Sponsors	2
Conference Overview	3
Conference Presenters	5
OSBA Presidents Since 1921	13
Session and Event Locations	14
OSBA Officers & Regional Reps	14
Conference Agenda	15
Program and Abstracts	19
October 28	19
October 29	19
October 30	23
Thank You, Everyone!	28

CONFERENCE ADVERTISERS

Bee Culture	4
Beeline Apiaries & Woodenware	20
Beekeeping Insurance Services	16
Complete Bee	12
Dadant & Sons Inc	10
Flying Bee Ranch	20
Foothills Honey Company	10
FMI Equipment	8
GloryBee	24
Heitkams' Honey Bees	6
Hive and Garden	8
Local Hive Honey	17
Mann Lake Ltd	18
Old Sol	6
Oregon Bee Project	26
Shonnard's Nursery	20
Western Bee Supplies Inc	22
WiFi Hive Scale	26
Wraith Scarlett & Randolph	video-20

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Conference Overview



Welcome to the 2022 Fall Conference of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association this first year of our *next centennial*!

These pages include the **Tentative Agenda** for the conference along with scheduled events and information about our **Presentations** and **Presenters**. In joining us, they bring research findings and updates from a rich background of experience and perspective to add to both our practice and our appreciation of the complexities of the life of the honey bee and other pollinators. And they will do what they can to answer our questions!

Meeting in Person: We are indeed together again! Throughout our time with one another at the Florence Events Center, we request that participants abide by the rules of the Center as well as all current state and county guidance regarding COVID-19.

Meeting Online: Attendees meeting by way of the Zoom platform during the event will receive an email prior to the start of the conference with a link. Simply click on the link to be transported to an online “room” where the conference takes place. Additional instructions are at: orsba.org/zoom-101, and more can be found on the Zoom website (www.zoom.us).

During the conference, we have opportunities to participate in additional ways that include:

Breaks | Exhibitors and Advertisers

Taking advantage of opportunities each day to visit with one another during breaks (thank you, sponsors!) as well as check out/get answers to questions about exhibitor items. It’s a good time as well to review the offerings of our advertisers in the pages of this program.

Honey Show

Entering and checking out all the entries in this year’s Honey Show, which features our best honey, wax, photography—and cookies! A new honey class has been added this year: Specific Honey Variety (extracted). **Marjie Ehry** is judging the Honey Show; **conference attendees** are judging the photographs. This year’s theme: “Find the Humor in Beekeeping.”

On-Site Silent and Benefit Auctions and Online Auction

Donating to and bidding during our auctions. Please keep in mind that all proceeds go to research! On site, the Silent Auction ends Saturday, 5 PM, and the Benefit Auction takes place following the banquet. This year’s online auction continues until Saturday, 7 PM. Be sure to give the **Auctioneers**, yet to be named, a hand!

OSU Honey Bee Lab

Visiting with members of the OSU Honey Bee Lab, who will share up-to-date research as well as information regarding pests and diseases. Remember to drop off samples for analyses at their table.

General Membership Meeting

Attending our annual General Membership Meeting, to be held on Saturday, October 29, at 4:45 PM. We are reviewing the past year and holding elections for our 2023 officers and regional representatives. All OSBA members, whether or not registered for the conference, are invited to participate and vote.

Luncheons and Banquet

Learning from speakers during our traditional Saturday and Sunday Luncheons and our Saturday evening Banquet. **Note:** Tickets for these events are separate from registration.

There’s much to be gained during the conference. We will have additional time for review as well. The recorded conference sessions will be available to registrants until December 31, 2022. Enjoy the conference!

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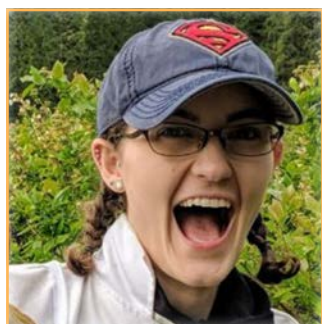
Conference Presenters



Find additional information about this year's presenters at: orsba.org/2022-presenters/.



Mustafa Bozkus is an international student from Turkey. He completed a bachelor's degree at Akdeniz University in Turkey with a degree in agricultural engineering minoring in animal science. After graduation, he earned a scholarship from the Turkish government and came to the US to pursue a master's degree under the supervision of Dr Ramesh Sagili at the Oregon State University Honey Bee Lab. Mustafa is focusing on finding an effective dose of oxalic acid for Varroa mites in honey bee hives and also investigating the nutrition effects of pollens on European foulbrood disease.



Emily Carlson is a graduate research assistant and PhD candidate at Oregon State University in the Honey Bee and Pollinator Health Labs. She has earned a graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation and a graduate scholarship from the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees. As a science policy fellow for the Entomological Society of America, Emily advocates for the needs of beekeepers and all issues that touch entomology in Washington DC. Her thesis project involves understanding changes in pesticide risk to pollinating insects with varying landscape context and pollen nutrition. Her previous experience includes riparian restoration and science education. Emily has a passion for working with diverse stakeholders towards the common goal of pollinator conservation.



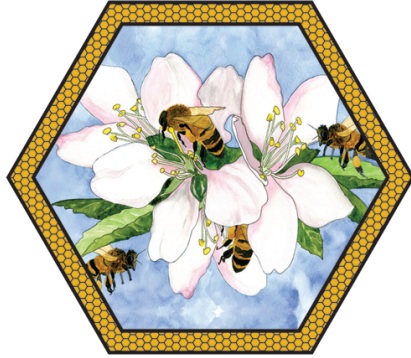
Dewey M Caron is emeritus professor of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware and affiliate professor, Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University. He has had professional appointments at Cornell, University of Maryland, and University of Delaware, a sabbatical at the USDA Tucson lab, and Fulbright grants in Panama and Bolivia. Dewey continues to be active with the Eastern Apiculture Society and, since moving to Oregon, the Western Apicultural Society (WAS). He is currently member-at-large to the WAS Board and represents WAS on Honey Bee Health Coalition, including major writer for *Tools for Varroa Management* and *Hive Health Best Management Practices*. In retirement, he remains active in bee education. He is author of *Honey Bee Biology & Beekeeping* and *The Complete Bee Handbook*.



In the early 1960s, Marjie Ehry and Alan Ehry joined the Oregon State Beekeepers Association and became submerged in every function of the group. In about 1965, Marjie began helping set up the OSBA honey exhibit at the Oregon State Fair. Today, the display is the largest educational attraction at the state fair. Next, she learned the ropes of judging honey, taking classes throughout the years to increase and refine her skills. Among her many activities and varied beekeeping experiences, Marjie was the Oregon Honey Queen program coordinator and chaperone, is a founding member of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association (1967), and has served as OSBA president. Her mission has been, and continues to be, sharing the story of the miraculous honey bee and encouraging beekeepers to work together.

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Jeff Everett is a fish and wildlife biologist with the US Fish & Wildlife Service in Portland, Oregon, where he serves as the lead biologist for Franklin's bumble bee and Western bumble bee. He works on a variety of bumble bee ESA-listing and recovery projects, and represents the Service on several regional and national pollinator teams. In his spare time, he has worked as the sage-grouse coordinator for the Service for the past 10 years and served on the team that arrived at the not-warranted determination for the species in September 2015. Prior to that, he worked on renewable energy development and permitting throughout the Pacific Northwest and as a private lands biologist in western Montana. Jeff and his wife have four busy kids, two lazy cats, one oblivious rabbit, and no bees.



John Gibeau is the founder of Honeybee Centre, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada, a fully integrated beekeeping company with 38 employees in two provinces. The business provides over 5,000 beehives for blueberry pollination, operates a country store and restaurant, manufactures beekeeping products, teaches courses, provides beekeeping consulting services, and handles honey bees, bumble bees, and wasps for the film industry. John designed, developed, and taught the commercial beekeeping program at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey, British Columbia, and, as co-founder of Bee World Project, designed and worked in beekeeping development projects in Ethiopia, Uganda, Dominican Republic, and Haiti. He holds degrees from the University of Alberta and Simon Fraser University.



After a short six-years long career as a public-school teacher, **George Hansen** transformed a hobby beekeeping operation into a commercial endeavor. Starting from a few swarms and retrieved nuisance hives, the Foothills Honey Company LLC now runs 7,000 colonies in three states. Today the focus of the beekeeping is primarily pollination service. Concentrating on a succession of pollinations has required targeted management strategies to keep the hives in good pollinating condition from January to October. As George and his wife Susan transition their business to their sons Matt and Joe, George remains an active member of the beekeeping community as well as serves on boards and steering committees. He and Susan also maintain an "overlarge" garden and spend time in painting studios!



Former Project Apis m. Board Chair **Pat Heitkam** has been keeping bees since he took a colony for payment at his bike shop. That was 35 years ago, and he is now a major queen breeder in Northern California, a honey producer, and a commercial pollinator. He works for Heitkams' Honey Bees in Orland, California, with his son Russell. Pat has served the beekeeping industry on the board and also as president of several organizations, including the American Beekeeping Federation, the California State Beekeepers Association, and the California Bee Breeders Association, over the years. He is now retired.



Russell Heitkam is a second-generation beekeeper and Northern California queen, queen cell, package, and nuc producer. He also brokers about 7,000 hives from Oregon and Washington for almond pollination. He notes that, "We try to make honey, but mostly don't."



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Zip Krummel always thought he would become an entomologist (social insects like ants and bees) while growing up, but the Vietnam War totally changed his direction. Thirty years later, he retired from the Marine Corps—and totally failed at retirement. After 34 years in public education as a teacher, counselor, and school psychologist, then Dr Krummel tried retirement again—and failed miserably. He is now in his 25th year as a professor of Psychology at Columbia Gorge Community College and thinks he might try retirement again in maybe three years. It was nine years ago that he found his interest in social insects re-awakened, so he bought a swarm of bees and a top bar hive. With education from the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and all the wonderful beekeepers willing to share, he now maintains six hives.



Max Kuhn became interested in beekeeping in about 2004 when a swarm of honey bees landed on a bush in his front yard. A beekeeper came right over, arriving in shirt sleeves and armed with a cardboard box. He proceeded to shake the bees into the box, place it in the back of his pickup truck, and drive away—leaving a trail of honey bees flying behind his truck. Max was stunned! He purchased his first package of bees a few years later. A Lane County Beekeepers Association one-day bee school galvanized his interest. He has earned Washington State Beekeeper Program certificates at the Apprentice and Journeyman levels, and Oregon Master Beekeeper Program certificates at the Apprentice, Journey, and Master levels. Max urges anyone considering beekeeping as a hobby or occupation to get started.



Kelly Kulhanek has a BS in Molecular Environmental Biology from UC Berkeley. She completed her PhD in Entomology in Dr Dennis vanEngelsdorp's Bee Lab at the University of Maryland. During her PhD, she worked with the Bee Informed Partnership to study beekeeping management practices and colony health and survival. She joined the Washington State University Bee Program as a postdoctoral researcher in 2020, and recently began a new role as assistant professor of Pollinator Research and Extension. She plans to build a program based both on regular communication with stakeholders to address needs such as locally specific best practices for bee management and crop pollination and on extension programs that will put the latest research into the hands of stakeholders.



Jen Larsen is program coordinator for the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and the Master Melittologist Program.



Andony Melathopoulos is associate professor in Pollinator Health Extension in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University, which is the first such position in the US. He also sits on the Steering Committee of the Oregon Bee Project, which coordinates pollinator health work across state agencies, leads the Oregon Bee Atlas, and hosts a weekly podcast called *PolliNation*.



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Jeremy Mitchell became interested in honey bees while a student at Oregon State University. He graduated with his BS degree in Recreation Resource Management and Natural Resources in 2012. The following spring, Jeremy enrolled in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program, where his love for bees was solidified. Jeremy now runs Flying Bee Ranch in Salem, Oregon, with his partner, Delsey Maus. Together they have transformed their once-sideliner beekeeping operation into a popular tourist destination and long-term resource for hobby beekeepers in the Willamette Valley. Their farm store offers beekeeping supplies, classes, nucs, and varietal honeys. Jeremy is the current OSBA regional representative for the North Willamette Valley and a member of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association.



Tammy Horn Potter has been the Kentucky State Apiarist since 2014. Her primary responsibility is hive health, so she does inspections of commercial migratory operations, samples for the USDA, and also collects native bees for the USDA Native Bee and Wasp Survey. She is also the author of four books: *Bees in America: How the Honey Bee Shaped a Nation* (2005); *Beeconomy: What Women and Bees Teach Us About Local Trade and Global Markets* (2012); *Flower Power: Establishing Pollinator Habitat* (2019); and *Work I Knew I Must: Forty-one Years of Factory Life* (2021).



Jason Rowan has been keeping bees since 2002, beginning as a hobbyist and growing quickly to a sideline business while he still worked his day job. Then in 2008, he officially switched to full-time commercial beekeeping, pollinating local crops as well as California almonds, and selling honey and wax on a wholesale scale. Today he has over 1,500 hives. His educational background is in Botany and Horticulture (graduated from Oregon State University), and he and his bees now actively participate in OSU entomology research projects. He is a past Lane County Beekeepers Association board member, was the South Willamette Valley regional representative for OSBA, and is a past OSBA vice president.



Ramesh Sagili is a professor in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. He obtained his PhD in Entomology from Texas A&M University specializing in honey bee research. His primary research focus is honey bee health, nutrition, and pollination. Ramesh initiated the creation of Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and chaired the Oregon Governor's Task Force on Pollinator Health. Ramesh's research program addresses both basic and applied questions to improve honey bee health and nutrition, and hence the majority of his research projects are collaborative efforts involving beekeepers and growers. He has authored several important research and extension publications and received several awards, including the Entomological Society of America's Pacific Branch Research Award.



Staci L Simonich is Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at Oregon State University (OSU), and a professor in Environmental and Molecular Toxicology and Chemistry at OSU. She has received an MBA from Oregon State University and PhD in chemistry from Indiana University. Prior to joining OSU, she worked in the consumer product industry with Procter & Gamble. With over 120 peer reviewed publications and numerous awards to date, her laboratory research focuses on understanding the fate, chemistry, and transport of pesticides and other semi-volatile organic compounds, as well as human and environmental exposure to these pollutants. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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Paul Stromberg is a hobbyist beekeeper, who began his beekeeping journey as a 12-year-old and kept bees into his early 20s. He took a 15-year break and has been beekeeping ever since. He is currently president of the Portland Metro Beekeeping Association. In September of 2021, he received his Master-level certification from the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program. He has particular interest in queen rearing and nucleus colony management. Paul has given multiple talks to local bee associations on these topics and has put on queen-rearing classes. He is an avid gardener and has spent the last 2 years (i.e., COVID project) converting his yard into a large pollinator garden.



Ellen Topitzhofer is a research assistant with Oregon State University's Honey Bee Lab. She has been working with commercial beekeepers mastering on-the-ground testing and applicable research since 2012.



Linda Zahl notes that backyard beekeeping became an obsessive hobby starting 13 years ago when a swarm landed in her front yard. The extension office set her up with a local person who told her that he would help only if she became a beekeeper. So, she became a beekeeper! Today she keeps about twenty colonies and sells a few of her surplus nucs. She has almost finished the Journey level in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and each year mentors Apprentice-level students. Currently, she is president of the Columbia County Oregon Beekeepers Association.

OSBA Presidents Since 1921

1921–1922	A.J. Sanford	1947	R.L. Sanford	1979	Jack Rowland
1923	K.D. Raker	1948–1949	G.W. Nichols	1980	Gene Garner
1924	J. Skovbo	1950	Jake Bennett	1981–1982	Paul Heins
1925	C.C. Harris	1951	J.O. Kane	1983–1984	George Hansen
1926	W.G. Rodda	1952–1953	W.W. Foster	1985–1986	Bob Arnold
1927	M.M. Mead	1954–1955	J.W. Wright	1986–1987	George Hansen
1928	J.D. Harrah	1956–1957	Herman Larsen	1988–1992	Marge Ehry
1929	B.L. Ferguson	1958	H.A. Scullen	1993–1994	John Mespelt
1930	W.G. Rodda	1959–1960	Delmar Smith	1995–1996	George Hansen
1931–1932	S.D. Williams	1961–1964	Rex Bunnage	1997–1999	Torey Johnson
1933	J. Skovbo	1965–1966	Raymond Sager	2000–2002	Ray Varner
1934	A.J. Sanford	1968–1969	Walter Vail	2003–2006	Kenny Williams
1935	G.W. Nichols	1970–1971	Wesley Kester	2007–2009	Chuck Sowers
1936–1937	Lewis M. White	1972	Donald Grigg	2010–2012	Jan Lohman
1938	A.J. Sanford	1973–1974	LaVerne Boylan	2013–2015	Paul Andersen
1930–1941	W.D. Haskell	1975–1976	Alan Ehry	2016–2018	Harry Vanderpool
1942–1946	H.J. Moulton	1977–1978	Thomas Thayer	2019–	John Jacob



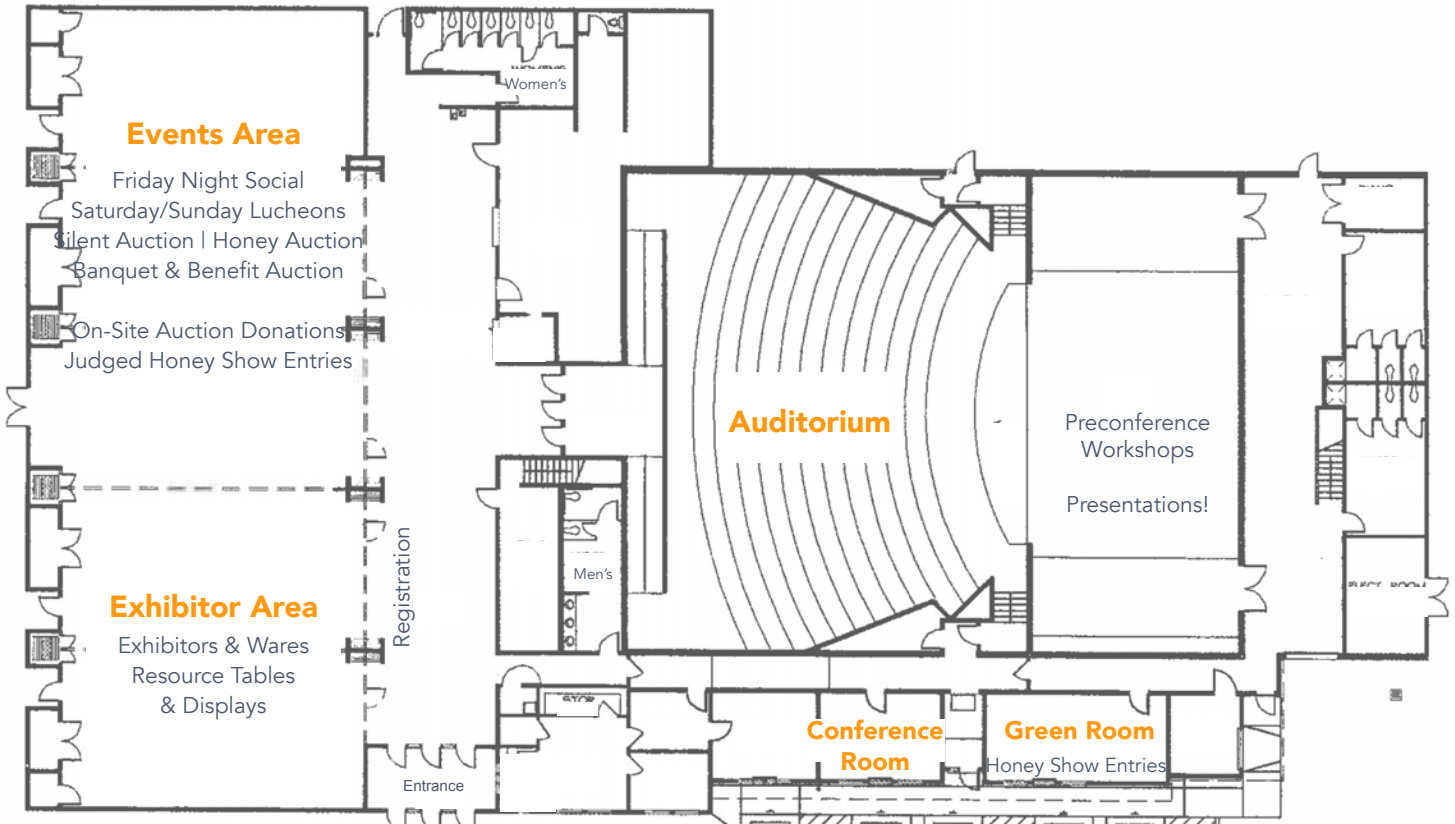
Session and Event Locations



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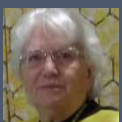
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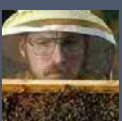
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South Willamette Valley: Tim Wydronek
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Conference Agenda



Friday, October 28

10:00 AM–NOON **Encaustic Art Workshop*** (Auditorium Backstage)—George Hansen, Foothills Honey Company

1–4 PM **Beekeeping Basics** (Auditorium)

Dewey Caron, University of Delaware, Emeritus

4:00 PM **Executive Committee Meeting** (Conference Room)

5:00 PM **Registration** & Submit **Auction** Items (Lobby)

5–6:00 PM Submit **Honey Show** Entries (Green Room)

7:00 PM **Evening Social** (Events Area)

Saturday, October 29

7:00 AM **Registration** (Lobby)

7:45 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Auditorium)

John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA

8:00 AM **Women in Beekeeping** (Auditorium)

Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

8–9 AM Submit **Honey Show** Entries (Green Room)

9:00 AM **Profile of a Comprehensive Beekeeping Company**—John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, BC

10:00 AM **Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

10:30 AM **Your Queen Problems Are Our Queen Problems**
Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

11:15 AM **Overwintering Queen Banks in Oregon—2022 Update**—Ellen Topitzhofer, Oregon State University

NOON **Introduction to OSU's New Dean of College of Agricultural Sciences**—Staci Simonich, Oregon State University

12:10 PM **Break**

12:15 PM **Luncheon*** (Events Area)

Presentation: **OSU Honey Bee Research and Extension Program Overview: Proudly Serving Oregon Beekeepers**
Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University

1:45 PM **Data-Driven Best Practices for Small Apiaries**
Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University Bee Program

2:30 PM **Pollinator Habitat**

Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

3:30 PM **Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

4:00 PM **Listed Bumble Bees in the Western US, and What Comes Next**—Jeff Everett, US Fish and Wildlife Service

4:45 PM **General Membership Meeting** (Auditorium)

5:00 PM **Silent Auction** Ends

6:00 PM **Social Hour** (Events Area)

7:00 PM **Online Auction** Ends

*Added cost in addition to Registration.

7:00 PM **Banquet*** (Events Area)

Presentation: **The Bee Biz from a Historical Perspective**
Pat Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

Sunday, October 30

7:00 AM **Registration** (Lobby)

7:45 AM **Welcome & Announcements** (Auditorium)

John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA

8:00 AM **Integrated Pest Management for Varroa—Novel Approaches from the WSU Bee Program**
Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University Bee Program

9:00 AM **You Too Can Kick the Habit: Commercial Success Using Different Mite Controls**
Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

9:45 AM **Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

10:15 AM **Commercial Beekeeping in British Columbia and Alberta, Canada**—John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, BC

11:15 AM **Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Oxalic Acid Vaporization Method to Control a Honey Bee Pest Varroa destructor**—Mustafa Bozkus, Oregon State University

11:38 AM **Pesticide Exposure and Hazard Quotients: Understanding Where Pesticide Hazard Comes From in the Landscape**—Emily Carlson, Oregon State University

NOON **Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

12:15 PM **Luncheon*** (Events Area)

Panel: **The Symbiotic Relationship Between the Commercial and the Hobby Beekeeping Industry**
Andony Melathopoulos, Moderator, with Max Kuhn, Jeremy Mitchell, Jason Rowan, and Linda Zahl

1:20 PM **Honey Auction** (Events Area)

1:45 PM **Comparison of Varroa Mite Testing Methods: Alcohol Wash, Powdered Sugar Shake, and Carbon Dioxide**
Paul Stromberg, Oregon Master Beekeeper

2:07 PM **A Tale of Two Projects: Beekeeping as Both Sensory and Therapeutic**

Zip Krummel, Oregon Master Beekeeper

2:30 PM **Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

2:45 PM **Making It All Fit Together: Pollination, Reducing Pesticide Exposure, and Adding Bee Pasture**
Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University

3:25 PM **Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program**—Jen Larsen, Oregon State University

3:45 PM **Final Comments & Adjourn**

John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA





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Program and Abstracts



Friday, October 28

PreConference Workshops

Encaustic Art Workshop (Events Area)

10:00 AM–NOON

George Hansen, Foothills Honey Company (Auditorium Backstage)

Encaustic is an ancient art medium using beeswax. The wax is pigmented and applied hot while it is liquid. Because the layers of wax are fused together with heat, encaustic is often referred to as *painting with fire*. The workshop will give attendees a chance to actually paint and create, while a variety of techniques will be demonstrated. Materials will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Beekeeping Basics Course (Auditorium)

1:00–4:00 PM

Dewey Caron, University of Delaware, Emeritus

Course will be geared to beekeepers with from 1 to 5 years of experience. It will be all about healthy bees and sustainable beekeeping. We will start with getting colonies through the winter, what to do in the busy spring population explosion, halting swarms, baiting/capturing swarms (of other beekeepers, of course), supering, and then finishing with a honey of a harvest.

Registration and Evening Social

OSBA Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

4:00 PM

Registration and Submit **Auction** Items (Lobby)

5:00–7:00 PM

Submit **Honey Show** Entries (Green Room)

5:00–6:00 PM

Evening **Social** (Events Area) with folk-duo **The Queencatchers**

7:00 PM

Saturday, October 29

Registration (Lobby)

7:00 AM

Online Auction (Ongoing)

General Session (Auditorium)

Welcome & Announcements

7:45 AM

John Jacob or **Joe Maresh**, OSBA

Women in Beekeeping

8:00 AM

Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Based on travel to five continents and including NASS statistics, this presentation introduces women beekeepers and researchers from around the world as well as includes an overview of international beehives and hive management strategies.



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Profile of a Comprehensive Beekeeping Company

9:00 AM

John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, British Columbia

Honeybee Centre, a comprehensive beekeeping business since year 2000, has 38 employees and provides honey and pollen production in two provinces, pollination services, a retail country store location, wholesale products, courses, manufacturing of specialty honey, and other bee products.

Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area) | Sponsored by **Beekeeping Insurance Services**

10:00 AM

Your Queen Problems Are Our Queen Problems

10:30 AM

Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

Queen breeders are fighting the same problems as our customers: Looking at the economics of buying queens and helping them succeed.

Overwintering Queen Banks in Oregon—2022 Update

11:15 AM

Ellen Topitzhofer, Oregon State University

Beekeepers can offset the increasingly high demand for new queens by overwintering late-season queens in bank colonies. After winter, beekeepers can use these queens to replace failing queens in colonies prepared for almond pollination services. Ellen will discuss: 1. How to build and maintain bank colonies, 2. Tips on the best overwintering approach, and 3. OSU study results on queen survival rates, queen reproductive quality, and colony performance after queen banking.

Introduction to OSU's New Dean of College of Agricultural Sciences

NOON

Staci Simonich, Oregon State University**Break** (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

12:10 PM

Luncheon (Events Area—Preregistration required)

12:15 PM

OSU Honey Bee Research and Extension Program Overview: Proudly Serving Oregon Beekeepers**Ramesh Sagili**, Oregon State University

This presentation will highlight research and extension projects executed by the Oregon State University Honey Bee Lab over the past decade that have made significant positive impact on the beekeeping industry in Oregon and the United States.

Data-Driven Best Practices for Small Apiaries

1:45 PM

Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University

This talk covers a three-year study testing data-based best management practices for small apiaries. Based on years of Bee Informed Partnership survey data, four management practices were found to be correlated with reduced winter colony loss. Kelly used these practices in real apiaries over a three-year period to test their effect on Varroa loads and colony health and survival. This talk will cover which practices seemed to have the biggest impact on the bees.

Pollinator Habitat

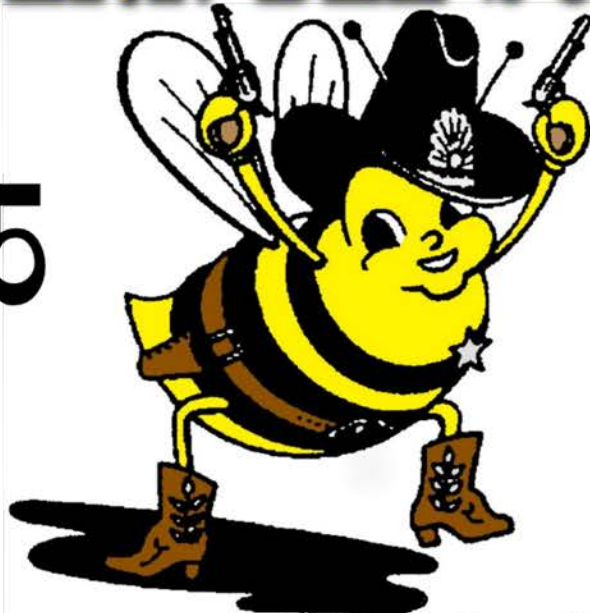
2:30 PM

Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

This talk introduces federal habitat programs as well as common trees and wildflowers, including microscope slides of pollens. Some tips for creating burn breaks and reforestation are also included.

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Listed Bumble Bees in the Western US, and What Comes Next

4:00 PM

Jeff Everett, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Franklin's bumble bee (*Bombus franklini*) was listed as *endangered* under the Endangered Species Act in September 2021. Franklin's is only the second bumble bee listed under the ESA, and only the ninth bee listed overall; more than 1,500 species across many taxa have been listed since the ESA was enacted. Several more species of *Bombus* native to the Pacific Northwest have been recently petitioned for listing under the ESA and are currently in status review, including Western bumble bee (*Bombus occidentalis*), Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee (*Bombus suckleyi*), and the American bumble bee (*Bombus pensylvanicus*). Extensive gaps in the understanding of key bumble bee life history characteristics make it difficult to apply meaningful conservation and recovery actions for these species after listing. This presentation will review the status of the listed and petitioned species, discuss what happens after a species is listed, and suggest how these listings could impact the beekeeping community.

OSBA General Membership Meeting (Auditorium)

4:45 PM

Silent Auction Ends

5:00 PM

Social Hour (Events Area)

6:00 PM

Online Auction Ends

7:00 PM

Banquet (Events Area—Preregistration required)

7:00 PM

Presentation: The Bee Biz from a Historical Perspective**Pat Heitkam**, Heitkams' Honey Bees

Abstract not available.

Benefit Auction to Follow— **Sunday, October 30** —**Registration** (Lobby)

7:00 AM

GENERAL SESSION (Auditorium)**Welcome & Announcements**

7:45 AM

John Jacob or **Joe Maresh**, OSBA**Integrated Pest Management for Varroa—Novel Approaches from the WSU Bee Program**

8:00 AM

Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University

The Washington State University Bee Program has several ongoing projects looking into novel ways to manage Varroa populations. This presentation covers topics ranging from trials on a new Varroa treatment to using indoor storage of colonies to manage Varroa. These various projects are designed to meet the needs of beekeepers, ranging from hobbyist to commercial.

You Too Can Kick the Habit: Commercial Success Using Different Mite Controls

9:00 AM

Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

Abstract not available.



**Thank you to OSBA for looking out
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Commercial Beekeeping in British Columbia and Alberta, Canada

10:15 AM

John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, British Columbia

Honeybee Centre operates close to 3,500 colonies and is a migratory beekeeping company with base operations in the Vancouver area of British Columbia and the Peace River region of Alberta. In addition, the company brokers honey bee colonies for the blueberry pollination business. This discussion on commercial beekeeping, found of Honeybee Centre, will take you on a one-year visual tour of migratory beekeeping in Western Canada—from a densely populated urban area to a spectacular Northern community where the average honey crop can reach over 300 pounds, the largest in the world.

Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Oxalic Acid Vaporization Method to Control a Honey Bee Pest *Varroa destructor*

11:15 AM

Mustafa Bozkus, Oregon State University

Beekeepers around the world have faced the challenges of controlling *Varroa destructor*, which is a devastating parasitic mite of the honey bee (*Apis mellifera*). Oxalic acid (OA) is a natural chemical that beekeepers have used to control Varroa mite. Recently, the vaporization method of OA has been gaining popularity among beekeepers. There are only a few studies that have investigated the efficacy and safety of the oxalic acid vaporization method in controlling Varroa mites. We evaluated three different doses of oxalic acid (1 g, 2 g, and 4 g) and a control group (no OA) to find an efficient and safe dose of OA. We also assessed any potential negative impacts on brood and adult bees. Although our statistical analysis is not yet complete, 4 grams of OA caused more Varroa death than the other groups and did not have major effects on overall hive health.

Pesticide Exposure and Hazard Quotients: Understanding Where Pesticide Hazard Comes From in the Landscape

11:38 AM

Emily Carlson, Oregon State University

Understanding where pesticide exposure happens in the landscape is critical to implementing the best management practices that will protect bees from unintended pesticide contact. But how do we even measure pesticide risk? What models are scientists using to understand how bees are exposed to pesticides, and how does that impact real world management practices? In this talk, we will explore the finer points of pesticide exposure, hazard, and risk. Finally, we will discuss how research at Oregon State University focuses on understanding the pesticide exposure associated with on-and-off crop forage. In 2020 and 2021, we collected over 300 pollen samples to understand how pesticide hazard to bees changes throughout a pollination circuit in sweet cherry, meadowfoam, clover, and carrot seed. This presentation will examine what pesticides are found in these environments and alternative forage within these systems.

Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

NOON

Luncheon (Events Area—Preregistration required)

12:15 PM

Panel: The Symbiotic Relationship Between the Commercial and the Hobby Beekeeping Industry
Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University, Moderator, with **Max Kuhn**, **Jeremy Mitchell**, **Jason Rowan**, and **Linda Zahl**

The purpose of the panel is to discuss how hobby beekeeping and commercial beekeeping are reliant on each other. The audience will be encouraged to ask questions in writing through the moderator. Notecards will be available on the tables to write questions.

Honey Auction (Events Area)

1:20 PM

Comparison of Varroa Mite Testing Methods: Alcohol Wash, Powdered Sugar Shake, and Carbon Dioxide

1:45 PM

Paul Stromberg, Oregon Master Beekeeper

As a beekeeper, one of the most important skills to learn is the management of *Varroa destructor*. Central to this is the knowledge of the mite load in one's colonies. The ability to accurately and easily monitor the mite levels is crucial. Currently the two most accepted methods are the alcohol wash/soap bath and the powdered sugar

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shake. In this talk, we will review a study that compared these two methods in addition to a less commonly used one, carbon dioxide. We will compare efficacy, ease of use, advantages, disadvantages, and cost of the three methods.

A Tale of Two Projects: Beekeeping as Both Sensory and Therapeutic

2:07 PM

Zip Krummel, Oregon Master Beekeeper

Project 1: A Sensory Approach to Beekeeping. Taking our basic five senses, what do we get out of beekeeping? How do honey bee senses compare to ours? How much of their influence on our senses motivates us to be beekeepers?

Project 2: Beekeeping as a Therapeutic Approach to Mental Health Issues. Whether it is addiction, depression, PTSD, or other issues, the right approach to beekeeping can be noticeably therapeutic for a large number of diagnosable issues. Zip will talk about how to build a therapeutic beekeeping program and some of the key things to remember if attempting one.

Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

2:30 PM

Making It All Fit Together: Pollination, Reducing Pesticide Exposure, and Adding Bee Pasture

2:45 PM

Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University

Keeping bees healthy in Oregon is a bit of a Jenga puzzle. While we all struggle to keep diseases and mites at bay, the success of our colonies is also the product of things that are beyond our control: flowers free of toxic pesticide residues and strong summer pollen and nectar flows. But healthy bees also result from beekeepers being paid properly (for pollination, so they can invest in people and equipment). Stringing these all together is no mean feat. In this talk, Andony will cover research in his lab that aims to thread the needle across all these factors.

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program

3:25 PM

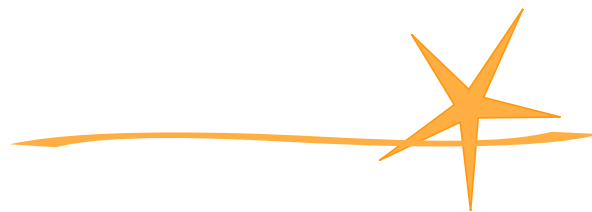
Jen Larsen, Oregon State University

Ten years ago, the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program began its first Apprentice class—and the program has grown in leaps and bounds ever since! Jen Larsen, the program coordinator, will provide an overview of how we began, what we've accomplished, and where we hope to go over the next 10 years.

Final Comments and Adjourn

3:45 PM

John Jacob or **Joe Mares**, OSBA



Please turn in Evaluation Forms at Registration or Exit!

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