



The Bee Line

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Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association



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OREGON MASTER BEEKEEPER PROGRAM
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Best of wishes throughout 2023,
Everyone!

Executive Committee Elections

Those of us who attended the General Membership Meeting at the Florence Events Center/online this past October witnessed, among other things, a round resembling *musical chairs* as elections took place for the OSBA Executive Committee. The round was relatively brief because Secretary Barbara Derkacht and Treasurer Rebecca Fain, along with most of the OSBA Regional Reps, had decided to sit this one out. As the music slowed to a stop, we saw Jeremy Mitchell jump from the North Willamette Valley rep seat into the one labeled vice president. Joe Maresh, who had occupied that seat, laid claim to the president chair that had been occupied by John Jacob. We then watched as John scrambled to the nearest spot, past president, which Harry Vanderpool had just vacated. There was no contest. Harry nodded and exited the stage entirely. The buzz slowed for but a moment as players spied Jeremy's unoccupied seat. They also noticed two additional available seats, those that had contained North Coast Rep Max Kuhn and Southwestern Oregon Rep Eric McEwen, who were keeping watch from the sidelines. Satisfied that their places were to be filled, both took a quick bow and quietly followed where Harry had led. The event came to a flurried close as simultaneously Nathan Rich nabbed Jeremy's seat, Rick Olson followed suit with Max's chair, and Andrew Watson slid into Eric's.

- ❖ Much appreciation for all who have served and decided to remain seated this round!
- ❖ Many thanks to John, Joe, Harry, and Jeremy for all their contributions to the work of the organization—with an extra round of applause, loud enough for Harry to hear from wherever he has gotten off to for now. He has met with success in navigating multiple rounds—alternating between president and vice president in the early/mid-2000s and then, still agile despite his 10-year pause, reclaiming the president chair in 2016. Such skill will no doubt enable him to gain re-entry should he some day so decide!
- ❖ And now let's put our hands together again (claps and high fives) in welcoming Rick, Nathan, and Andrew! They introduce themselves in alphabetical order below.

We look forward to the ongoing sharing of ideas, energy, and enthusiasm that lies ahead. As we all know only too well, there's quite a lot of work yet to be done! RM

Rick Olson

I've been a beekeeper for twelve years—the first 5 don't count. Got serious about keeping bees alive when I joined the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and got to the Journey level. Started raising queens 5 years ago and am trying to establish a sustainable apiary using all the tricks I've learned over the years from the OMB Program, fellow beekeepers, and trial and error.

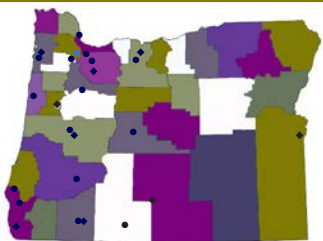


Nathan Richard

I have lived in Salem, Oregon, for over 40 years, and my wife and I have four grown children, ten grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. We have been beekeepers for 6 years now and have been members of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association for that same length of time. My then son-in-law was interested in beekeeping and asked me

Continued on page 14

OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



OSBA OFFICERS

President

Joe Maresh—503.703.5060; joemaresh@bctonline.com

Vice President

Jeremy Mitchell—503.399.8407; osba.vice.president@gmail.com

Secretary

Barbara Derkacht—503.631.3063; bderkacht@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Becca Fain—541.997.3792; rfain18@gmail.com

Past President

John Jacob—541.582.2337; oldsolbees@gmail.com

♦ OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

North Coast

Rick Olson—541.991.7946; mowgli667@yahoo.com

South Coast

Mureen Walker—541.373.7997; mureen98@gmail.com

Columbia Basin

Bill Edwards—541.354.2223; bfamily@live.com

Eastern Oregon

Jordan Dimock—541.372.2726; beelady60tamera@aol.com

Portland Metro

Tom Cinquini—503.547.5386; tomcinquini@gmail.com

South Central Oregon

Christy VanRooyen—541.885.0959; vanrooyen.christy@gmail.com

Southwestern Oregon

Andrew Watson—boradabeedoc@gmail.com

North Willamette Valley

Nathan Rich—mnmrichard@gmail.com

South Willamette Valley

Tim Wydronek—541.740.4127; timwydronek@comcast.net

• AFFILIATED REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Central Coast Beekeepers Association

Meets 1:30 PM, fourth Wednesday, Newport
President: Pat Wackford—pwacky@charter.net
Website: www.ccbaor.org

Central Oregon Beekeepers

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

Columbia County Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:00 PM, first Thursday, St. Helens
President: Linda Zahl—503.799.7073

Columbia Gorge Beekeepers Association

Meets 6:15 PM, third Wednesday, Hood River
President: Jerry Frazier—jerry1.frazier@gmail.com
Website: gorgebeekeepers.org

Coos Beekeepers Association

Meets 6:00 pm, fourth Thursday, Myrtle Point
President: Ann Marineau—annmarineau@gmail.com

Douglas County Bees

Meets 6:00 PM, first Wednesday, Roseburg
President: Robert Baune—541.863.9414
Website: www.douglascountybees.org

Klamath Basin Beekeepers Association

Meets 9:00 AM, fourth Saturday, Klamath Falls
President: Lorena Corzatt—541.892.8402
Website: www.klamathbeekeepers.org

Lane County Beekeepers Association

Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Eugene
President: Brian McGinley—56magoo@gmail.com
Website: www.lcbaor.org

Linn Benton Beekeepers Association

Meets 6:30 PM, third Wednesday, Corvallis
President: Steve Oda—steve@lbba.us
Website: www.lbba.us

Oregon Prison Beekeepers

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

Oregon South Coast Beekeepers Association

Meets 6:00 PM, third Thursday, Gold Beach
President: Maarten Van Otterloo—maartyvo@gmail.com

Portland Metro Beekeepers Association

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Gladstone
Pres: Paul Stromberg—president@portlandmetrobeekeepers.org
Website: portlandmetrobeekeepers.org

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, first Wednesday, via Zoom
President: Brett Hiram—president@portlandurbanbeekeepers.org
Website: portlandurbanbeekeepers.org

Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association

Meets 6:30 PM, first Monday, Central Point
President: Noah Clipp—noahtitus@gmail.com
Website: southernoregonbeekeepers.org

Tillamook Beekeepers Association

Meets 1:00 PM, second Saturday, Tillamook
President: Brad York—dbradleyyork@gmail.com
Website: www.tillamookbeekeepers.org.

Tualatin Valley Bee Keepers Association Inc

Meets 6:00 PM, last Tuesday, virtually-North Plains
President: Debby Garman—tualatinvalleybeekeepers@gmail.com
Website: tvbabees.org

Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association

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

Message from the President

Hello Fellow Beekeepers,

I would like to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Winter is a good time to reflect on how things worked out in the last beekeeping season and what we can do to improve on our beekeeping skills.

These are some things I'm going to work on, my organization skills and staying on top of my mite loads easier said than done. I will attempt to raise some of my own queens again this spring. If the weather cooperates and if it doesn't, I have a fallback plan. I will buy some queens. I like to requeen my hives every year, and the only way to track queens that I have figured out is to mark them. It doesn't always work out, but that is the plan. Another of my main goals is to make lots of honey so that means I need to move my bees around and look for good honey-producing sites. So, as you can see, I have my work cut out for me. The road to hell is paved with good intentions.

I realize that the last 3 years were hard on people and our organization because for a while we were not able to meet in person and we had to move online to meet and learn how to use Zoom. That was not easy for a lot of us. Through these times the OSBA did lose some membership, but not a lot. The OSBA to its credit has persevered, we are still here and functioning and that is a credit to the membership and some hard-working individuals. It took a lot of ingenuity and hard work.

I myself and some of the officers would like to poll the OSBA membership to see what is important to the membership, so you can expect to see a short questionnaire some time this spring. I encourage you all to respond to the questionnaire. The organization is only as strong as its membership.

I would like to thank all of you who attended, in person and online, the annual OSBA Fall Conference in Florence. It was a great success. For those of you who did not attend, I was elected president at our annual meeting and Jeremy Mitchell was elected as vice president. Rebecca Fain, the treasurer, and Barbra Derkacht, the secretary, were re-elected.

I look forward to working for and representing the OSBA.

Joe Maresh

A Favorite Honey Bee Plant: January/February

Glen Andresen

Scientific name: *Mahonia x media* 'Arthur Menzies' (*M. lomariifolia* x *M. bealei*, but some confusion as to exact parentage)

Common names: Arthur Menzies; mahonia; (often incorrectly identified as Oregon grape)

Portland-area bloom time: November, December, January, February

When the sun comes out in December and the temperature approaches 45°F, I wish I had an acre of 'Arthur Menzies' planted! Alas, I have but one, but it's a big one now, reaching eight to ten feet. I also have another *Mahonia x media* cross called 'Charity' that also blooms in a similar time period and will be of similar size. Add to these Mahonias a smaller Mahonia cross (maxes out at 3 feet), a cultivar named 'Soft Caress,' plus the spring-blooming native Oregon grape Mahonias, and we have about a half year of marathon Mahonia bee bliss.

I have not ever (if my memory serves me correctly, which is less and less often these days . . .) given my Mahonias any supplemental water in the summer. These Mahonia crosses are becoming more and more available in area nurseries. It's a great winter-time plant for the bees, and the yellow blossoms are a welcome sight for winter weary beekeeper eyes.



Mahonia x media 'Arthur Menzies'



Winners of the 2022 OSBA Honey Show



Extracted Liquid Honey

1. White

First Place: (tie) Nathan Richard; Linda Zahl

Second Place: David Matis

Third Place: (tie) Eric Walls; Fonta Molyneaux

2. Amber

First Place: Robin Martins

Second Place: David Martinez

3. Dark

First Place: Nancy Ograin

Second Place: Ada McClory

Third Place: Brad York

Specific Honey Variety (extracted)

First Place: Brad York

Block Beeswax

First Place: Kevin Murphy

Beekeeping Photo (People's Choice)

Photo THEME: "Find the Humor in Beekeeping"

Winner: Morris Ostrofsky (Daily Bee Briefs with Bailey the dog)

Special Awards

\$100 Prize: Best of Show:

Kevin Murphy (Block beeswax)

\$75 Prize: Sweepstakes:

Robin Martins (Extracted honey—Amber)



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2022 OSBA Honey Show

Bonnie King

The OSBA Honey Show is held during the annual conference each year, providing fun and “a little healthy competition” for beekeepers from throughout our state.

Entries were received Friday evening and Saturday morning, and then the judging began.



“Many people really look forward to the opportunity to be a part of the honey show,” said OSBA Judge Marjie Ehry. “Whether they take first place or not, they learn a lot about competing and really enjoy showcasing their products.” Sharon Schmidt served

as the judge’s honey steward, and Debbie Gomes assisted.

The photography was judged by People’s Choice this year, so all members at the conference were invited to vote on their favorite. The theme for the photography competition was “Find the Humor in Beekeeping” and there were several very clever photos entered.

Photographs were displayed in the events area, and the winner was announced at the banquet that evening.

After judging was finished [see results, page 4], honey and products from the hive entered into the Honey Show were sold at auction. Proceeds from the Honey Show auction are used for future cash prizes, ribbons, and Honey Show promotion.

The auction took place Sunday afternoon with Andony Melathopoulos splendidly serving as auctioneer.

“We would like to see a lot more entries next year. We’re going to start reminding people much earlier, so they bring the best examples of their crop to show off!” added Marjie Ehry.

2022 OSBA Fall Conference

Thank you, Everyone!



Photos: Appreciation to Mureen Walker

Our 2022 Fall Conference brought together respected researchers, experienced practitioners, beekeepers of many stripes, and others for a couple of days filled with learning, sharing, and exploring possibilities—both in person and online. This would not have happened without all who planned, executed, participated, sponsored, and the support provided by this year’s gracious advertisers and exhibitors. Together with our fine cadre of presenters, they are listed in the conference program at: <https://orsba.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2022-conference-program.pdf>.

Among our objectives during the conference each year is to raise money for research, a major part of which involves the conference auctions. For 2022, the auctions raised a total of \$22,805.72, to which is to be added GloryBee’s generous match. Benefit auction donors included Jackie Parks Burris, Dewey Caron, Marjie Ehry, George Hansen, Heitkams’ Honey Bees, John Jacobs, Tillamook Beekeepers

Association, and Kenny Williams. Those who donated to the online auction were *Bee Culture*, Beetanical Apiary, Kathy Cope, Rebecca Fain, Pam Leavitt, Rosanna Mattingly, Mercer Ridge Farms, Old Sol, and Jim Parrish. In addition, OSBA-affiliated regional associations together presented \$15,600 to Ramesh Sagili for the OSU Honey Bee Lab, to which OSBA added a match of \$4,600.

In addition to those who managed the OSBA Honey Show (see story above, this page), we also appreciate the contributions of Paul Stromberg and Carolyn Breece in audio/visual production, the volunteer works of Clara Kuhn, Pam and Les Leavitt, Nancy Ograin, and Max Simon, and the donations of wine for our conference banquet made by Jordan and Tammy Dimock, George and Sue Hansen, Ryan and Stacie Lieuallen, and Vince Vazza & Jan Lohman. We further acknowledge with our ongoing gratitude everyone not named!

RM



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Keeping Bees in January–February

Todd Balsiger

I hope you put the hammer to Varroa and struck while the iron was hot—specifically that you took advantage of the treatment window to reduce Varroa numbers significantly during the broodless period. I think it is very important to start the year off with low Varroa mite loads—the lower the better. Randy Oliver suggests only one mite in a sample of 300 bees in the spring. That's a very low infestation rate, equivalent to 100 mites per 30,000 bees.

If you run Randy's Varroa growth projection model in Excel, you can understand the importance of starting the year off with low numbers. Using his default settings along with no treatments, if you start January 1 with 100 mites, then you can expect that hive to crash by mid-October. When starting with 500 mites, you can now expect that hive to crash by August 1.

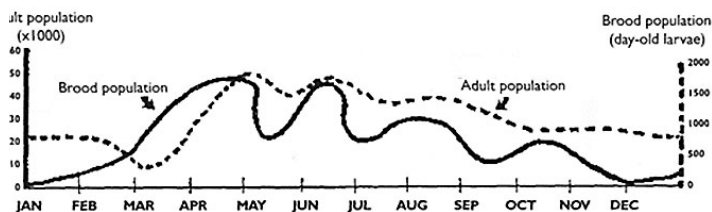
It's also much easier to manage Varroa throughout the year if you start at low levels. I can suggest three treatment options at this time of year: Apivar, HopGuard, and oxalic acid.

Apivar® (amitraz-impregnated strips): Many commercial beekeepers use this product at this time of year (particularly down in the almonds). Typically, they don't treat again until June or July. I am told this product works best in late winter and spring. This treatment takes a total of 8 weeks for maximum efficacy, but most mites drop within the first 3 weeks.

HopGuard®: You can use this all season; it's organically approved. It is very effective in late fall and winter with no brood in the hive.

Oxalic acid: Vapor or dribble when broodless. It has an 80–95 percent efficacy at this time.

Oregon has been getting warmer. New record highs are recorded regularly now, including this past November. Our hives were not broodless after this past Thanksgiving. Below is a temperate seasonal graph which shows approximate adult bee and brood populations throughout the year.



From: bee-health.extension.org/seasonality-of-brood-and-adult-populations-basic-bee-biology-for-beekeepers.

Because of the narrowing window for when hives are truly broodless, I've begun to do multiple late fall and winter treatments with oxalic vapor with no apparent deleterious effects (½ teaspoon per two deep brood boxes). In general, I apply oxalic vapor 3x about a month apart.

I monitor the mite drop 3 days after a vaporization on about 10

percent of my hives. My decision to treat again is based on mite fall. A high mite drop from a few of my hives will dictate another treatment for all of my hives. My first application this year was in early November. My highest drop was 500, followed by 200, a handful in the 100 range, the balance well below 100. Some hardly any.

You may be wondering, can we calculate an infestation rate after a treatment like oxalic vapor from mite fall? I think we can. This is how I did it for the hive that dropped 500 mites. Let's estimate that the adult bee population in November was around 30,000 and that about 20 percent of the mites were in capped brood (I got these estimates from Ramesh Sagili and Randy Oliver concurred). Let's also assume that oxalic vapor killed 85 percent of the phoretic mites (this is a guess). Here's my math: Phoretic mites (1.15 x 500) = 575. Total number of mites including those in brood (575 x 1.20) = 690. This equals a 2.3 percent infestation rate (690/30,000). Not good. Fortunately for me, this hive was an outlier. Incidentally, when I treated this hive again in early December, its drop was only 86, which using the same math above represents less than 1 mite in 300 bees (anything above 90 would be greater than 1 mite/300 bees).

There may be flaws in my logic or in my estimates, but I think it is mostly right and it gives me an idea of what is acceptable and a way of checking infestation rates in the dead of winter. I will resume using Dawn Ultra (1 tablespoon per gallon of water) and Randy's sampling cups when the weather improves.

Okay, enough about mites. What else do we need to worry about in January and February? Starvation. Heft hives for weight. Provide emergency feed like Baker's fondant (expensive, hard to find), hard candy boards (laborious to make), or even granulated sugar over the cluster on newspaper or adjacent to the cluster in division board feeders (easy to do, no guarantee of success). Maybe you have some frames of capped honey? Place them on either side of the cluster. I see that Dadant offers winter patties that contain sugar, material called Artificial Pollen 23 (AP23®), and Honey-B-Healthy—ingredients are listed on the package. I suspect they work well. Don't feed sugar water yet, not until the bees start flying—maybe by late February.

The following is Randy Oliver's recipe for healthy hives:

1. Keep young, vigorous queens (he suggests replacing queens older than 18 months).
2. Provide good nutrition.
3. Control Varroa all year (we covered parts of this).
4. Minimize toxins in the hive (maybe stop using amitraz as it is not going to work eventually and we need to know how to get by without it).
5. Be proactive rather than reactive.



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BEEKEEPER EVENTS

— 2023 —

January 4–8: American Beekeeping Federation Annual Conference & Tradeshow. Jacksonville, Florida.
Information: www.abfnet.org/page/2023-conference-schedule

July 31–August 4: Eastern Apiculture Society Conference, Past, Present and Beyond. Amherst, Massachusetts.
Information: easternapiculture.org/conference/eas-2023/

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Representative

Southwestern Oregon

Not much happening. Colonies are mostly up to weight, but clusters tend to be a bit smaller. *Andrew Watson*

Regional Associations

Central Oregon Beekeepers

I don't know about the rest of Oregon, but in Central Oregon, we tend to have everything buttoned up and tucked into bed by mid-November with not a lot happening until late January or early February for migratory beekeepers or late March for hobbyists. We are, however, seeing quite a bit of interest in winter OA treatments.

Our association usually takes December off, starting meetings again in January. This year we'll be emphasizing in-person meetings with at least a couple of field days during the year. We'd be interested in working with other associations on coordinating a "harder to get" speaker who might be able to talk to a couple of organizations while in Oregon. This year we're going to also be emphasizing items that will be of interest to more experienced beekeepers. Finally we're going to continue education about how and the importance of keeping those "nasty" Varroa under control.

Wishing you a happy holiday season, a good winter, and best of luck with your bees. As always, please accept our invitation to attend any of our meetings. *Allen Engle*

Coos Beekeepers Association

For a newly established association (May 2022), our members have gotten a lot done and have become a tight-knit group of people, helping one another and stepping up when needed. We recently had a Show 'n Tell that brought in various types of feeders, different styles of bee suits and gloves, a bee vacuum, top bar adaptations, oxalic acid application supplies, a mason bee house and even hive leg additions to deter ants. All these promoted questions and discussions on many topics, from winter feeding to bee sting treatments.

Winterizing was the focus of another meeting with the discussion ranging from quilt boxes to winter feeding, then side-tracking

to mite control, then to equipment and storage. Members are thirsty for information and time to collaborate with one another. Our association is providing this for each other.

Our association apiary has two strong hives that are being used to teach members what to look for during inspections and to discover how to maintain a colony.

On the business side of things, we adopted bylaws/constitution, established ourselves as a nonprofit/tax exempt association, and recently applied to become affiliated with OSBA. Planning for next year has us looking forward to a variety of statewide speakers, field days, and potluck socials. *Ann Marineau*

Douglas County Bees

From all of us at DCB to all of OSBA, members and affiliates, we wish you a happy and successful 2023 year. *Beau Miakinkoff*

Portland Metro Beekeepers Association

Happy New Year, Beekeepers! In December, association members from Portland Metro Beekeeping Association met and shared in a holiday potluck. In addition to food and merriment, members participated in a honey tasting and honey swap. It never ceases to amaze the differences in honey color and flavors across the Portland metro region—such wonderful variety!

January is a time to reflect on the old, and welcome the new. We welcome a new secretary to the board, new association members, and planning for the next year. With the new year, we have completed a website refresh, are creating a association calendar for beekeeping and association activities throughout the year, and planning has already begun for our annual Bee Day in the spring. We are excited to have one of our association members, John Rockrohr, host Bee School on the first two Saturdays in February. Anyone who is interested in this opportunity can visit our website, portlandmetrobeekeepers.org, for more information.

In the hives, the cold weather and shorter days mean brood production is at an all-time low in December and January, making it an optimal time to treat for mites. It is a good idea to aim for slightly warmer days for best efficacy using oxalic acid vaporization or dribble. Why? A tight cluster may inhibit effective distribution of the treatment, so a looser cluster will likely yield better results. It's also a good idea to check your hives' food stores. A low-tech way to do that is to simply lift the hive, or gently (and safely!) lift the back end of a Langstroth. If it is very difficult or impossible to lift, then honey stores are likely in good shape. If it is light or easy to lift, get those candy boards or fondant ready and start feeding! There is nothing worse than spending the time and resources to get your hives ready for winter, obliterate the mites, just to have your colonies starve before the spring flow. *Jamie Caldwell*

Portland Urban Beekeepers

Another year done—where does the time go? We wrapped up

The Bee Line

the year with back-to-back in-person meetings in November and December. In November we heard from Mandy Shaw, who talked about the Bee Informed Partnership's Sentinel Apiary Program, and we voted on our board members for 2023. The PUB is excited to welcome Brent Hirak and Richard Coss as our new president and vice president and so thankful for the work from outgoing President Ian Horvath and Apiary Manager Bruce Koester.

For December we were excited to return to our in-person honey tasting. We had about 35 people turn out for the event, and 15 people brought honey. We had some interesting entries to include a very butterscotch-y honey from Mexico and an entry from Bogotá, Colombia. Our own PUB apiary came in 3rd! We'll be back on Zoom again in January, but it was really nice to meet in person again and we look forward to getting together at smaller gatherings throughout the year in addition to our monthly Zoom meetings. Hope to see you at one!

Jessica Anderson

Tillamook Beekeepers Association

The Tillamook Beekeepers Association held their annual meeting and election of officers in November. The previous year was reviewed and was very successful. We raffled off two beehives to raise money over the year and had very successful presence at the Tillamook Headlight Herald Home and Garden show in April and the Tillamook County Fair in August. Officer elections were held, and the results were: Brad York, president; Debbie

Klumph, vice president of Community Affairs; Al Winter, vice president of Association Affairs; Patsy Weber, secretary; Jamie Hula, treasurer.

The educational portion of the November meeting reviewed preparation of our hives for winter. The association owns two LoroBees InstantVap 18V oxalic acid vaporizers. Those are being shared as members vaporize hives as they become broodless in preparation for winter. We also discussed winter feeding with sugar blocks and compressing hives down to a manageable size for winter. There have been many warm days at the coast with bees foraging and bringing back pollen.

Our association received a grant from the Tillamook Peoples Utility District to purchase bee-friendly trees. Eighty-four trees have been distributed to the City of Tillamook, Bay City, City of Manzanita, Port of Tillamook Bay, and Port of Garibaldi to supplement and renovate landscaping throughout the county.

The December meeting of the group was mostly a Christmas social occasion with shared snacks and conversation. Brad York demonstrated making lip balm from bee's wax and shea butter, and a recipe was shared for making a treatment for wooden cutting boards and butcher block counters from food grade mineral oil and bee's wax.

Planning for next year's association meetings and for our queen rearing team will begin in January.

Patsy Weber

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Executive Board Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2022

• Meeting was called to order by President **John Jacob** at 4:04 PM at the OSBA Conference in Florence and over Zoom

• Motion by Becca Fain, seconded by Debby Garman to accept minutes from the last meeting was approved.

• Treasurer's report

- o \$17,000 in grant expense repayments should come in 30-45 days
- o Taxes are being worked on, though it's been a long, frustrating process
- o Debby Garman moved and Lorena Corzatt seconded a motion that money coming in be put toward the \$500,000 Centennial Fund Raiser goal, of which GloryBee will match up to \$125,000
- o Reminder: OSBA matches, up to \$500, Association donations made during the conference
- o OSBA needs a new accountant, someone closer to Florence.
- o Budget should be ready in December.
- o Concern: The Bee Line expense – encourage more people to take this digitally?

• **VP Joe Maresh** reported on the conference – it's going well!

- o Joe also reminded everyone that putting on the conference takes many helpers. Becca Fain receives a star for her many hours (80-100) of work on registrations. Rosanna Mattingly and Paul Stromberg have also been invaluable. Thanks to everyone who helped.
- o It is unclear where the conference will be held next year. This time extra negotiations were needed to keep site costs down to 5% over last year's expenses.
- o Joe and Jeremy Mitchell will work on next year's conference – and other helpers will be welcomed with open arms.

• Reports from Regional Reps and Association Presidents were put off until the general meeting tomorrow.

- o Finance will create a committee to find a way to get more information out to the associations.

• Jan Lohman

o Fund report – with a reminder that we need to keep a relationship with OSU through the NW Apiculture fund.

•NW Apiculture Fund for Honey Bee Research, Ext & Education

Current Use (4100-160290) \$8,074.31 as of 9/30/22

Endowment (6220-160290) \$101,191.17 as of 8/31/22

•OSU Apiculture Fund

Current Use (4100-160320) \$35,666.80 as of 9/30/22

Endowment (6220-160320) \$75,354.44 as of 8/31/22

•Herman A Scullen Entomology Memorial Fund

Current Use: \$5,586.84

Endowment: \$73,655.20

Jan also presented the slate of officers for next year

- President: Joe Maresh
- Vice President: Jeremy Mitchell
- Secretary: Barbara Derkacht
- Treasurer: Becca Fain
- Past President: John Jacob

• **Mike Rodia** gave the residential beekeeping report stating that one of the two towns with laws against in-city beekeeping

has rescinded that law.

• **Bonnie King** – activities director

- o Ag Fest in April was very successful as lots of people – 22,000 – came!
- o State Fair – also very successful as the floral department gave us extra space and has indicated a desire for OSBA to have even more next year
 - Storage unit where state fair supplies are stored needs to be cleaned out.
 - Bonnie will do an inventory.
 - There needs to be a committee for the fair event – which Bonnie intends to have by next meeting; contact her via email to volunteer.
 - We need more kids' activities and hands-on activities to make this very popular booth even more so.
 - Bonnie asked for a raise from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for running the AgFest booth in the spring (2 days + 2 days setup/breakdown) and State Fair booth (11 days + 4 days setup/breakdown), and organizing the OSBA summer picnic.

• **Rosanna Mattingly** was unable to attend but sent a report via email.

- o Please thank folks for sending in reports, letting us know what is going on in their areas.
- o There's still confusion about the rep position, that the rep is the representative for a local group or groups. Yet, OSBA is here for all beekeepers and beekeeping issues throughout the state, whether or not a person belongs to a local group—or to OSBA—the rep is for the region.
- o The new printer is working out great, at similar cost for OSBA. Because of the timing of the change, they have rushed some of the printing as well. She thanks them for their work.
- o Many have renewed during conference registration time, and she has now added all who have registered as nonmembers to the membership file. Most (about 3/4), however, have not renewed. She will send reminders and mail out a postcard in a month or so to all who have not renewed.
- o The associations are asked to let her know of changes with their officers as they complete elections. She will update and send out the affiliation form with instructions toward the end of November.
- o Please take photos during the conference and send for the website!

• **Old Business** – none offered at this time

• New Business

o George Hansen made a pitch for funding for the non-profit Project Apis m. (PAm) Please see their website for valuable information about this important research funding effort; donations can be made from the website. Also see the article in The Bee Line.

- PAm supports research in other parts of the US, besides Oregon, and Canada.
- He pointed out that it's important to have local associations donate so large donors will see that beekeepers support PAm's work.
- It's particularly helpful for donations to be directed to the unrestricted fund. Donating garners donors a newsletter!
- See the Honey Bee Health Coalition website as it has a catalog of all bee research in the US.

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- o **Ramesh Sagili** offered ideas around maximizing funding for the OSU bee lab. At this time, giving funds to OSBA (which would be matched), who would then donate to the ag research foundation, particularly to the endowment to support the bee lab seems to be the best option.

- o Joe Maresh moved and Debby Garman seconded a motion to donate \$15,000 from last conference's auction proceeds. Motion carried

- o Becca Fain moved and Joe Maresh seconded a motion to allocate the above mentioned funds as follows:

- \$1,000 to WSU
- \$2,000 to PAm unrestricted fund
- \$12,000 to OSU with an inquiry as to where this would best be given
- Motion carried
- Depending on OSBA finances, a decision will be made at the January meeting whether or not to give more.
- Note: Andony Melathopoulos communicated to Joe Maresh that funding should be directed to the bee lab as Andony's work is funded by the State through the department of agriculture.

- o Next year's conference registration – we need an easier way than is currently used; we need something that will do labels and name tags and organize registrations.
- o Delegates to American Beekeeping Federation conference in Florida

- Jan Lohman is going
- Jeremy Mitchell requested that if he went, OSBA pay the registration fee.

- **Next meeting** will be January 13, 2023, at 6 PM over Zoom.

- Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Derkacht

Oregon State Beekeepers Annual General Meeting Florence, Oregon Conference Center October 29, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President **John Jacob**.

Motion to accept minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the The Bee Line was passed.

Treasurer's Report, **Becca Fain**

- There are no conferences expenses in yet, but at this point the treasury is \$3,000 ahead of expenses and a check for \$18,000 is expected from a grant.
- Funds donated by associations were \$15,600, so with the OSBA match of up to \$500 per donation, \$20,200 was collected for the OSU bee lab.
- GloryBee is matching funds raised by the in person and online auctions.

Vice President's Report, **Joe Maresh**

Conference report

- Through an oversight, a late fee didn't get applied to late online registrations.
- The cost of the conference maybe going up for next year. It is unclear where next year's conference will be

held.

- Much thanks was extended to Becca Fain, Rosanna Mattingly, and Paul Stromberg for their help making this such a successful conference.

- At last year's auction, \$15,000-\$20,000 was raised. It was moved that this money be distributed as follows:

- o \$2,000 to PAm
- o \$1,000 to WSU
- o \$12,000 to OSU bee lab

Motion passed.

Grants and Foundations, **Jan Lohman**

The endowment fund at the OSU Foundation really would like an endowed chair at OSU. [see Executive minutes for totals]

Nominations, **Jan Lohman**

Jan announced the slate of officers and the list of Regional Representatives for 2023. A motion to accept these officers and representatives was made and passed.

Regional Representative and Association President Reports

- **Noah Clipp**, president of Southern Oregon Beekeepers, reported that they've enjoyed a record number of members and people at various schools they put on.

- **Andrew Watson**, new representative for Southwestern Oregon region, reported that what's going on in southern Oregon could be interesting to other Oregon beekeepers – changing flowers and climate made it a hard year for beekeepers in the southern region.

- **Mureen Walker**, representative for the South Coast region, reported that things are coming back and their region had a good showing at the fair.

- **Svetlana Maslakova** reported for the Coos County Beekeepers.

- **Linda Zahl**, president of Columbia County Oregon Beekeepers, reported that people really appreciated meetings over Zoom and that their area had a great blackberry flow. She also gets the prize for great bee costume!

- **Paul Stromberg**, president of Portland Metro Beekeepers, reported that it's been a busy year as the association is getting used to using a new platform to organize their membership, website, and sales. The association buys in bulk and passes the savings on to members. They would like to participate in collaborative things with other associations.

- **Debby Garman**, president of Tualatin Valley Beekeepers, reported that they've got good membership numbers and that their field days have been especially helpful for new beekeepers. They have found hybrid meetings a challenge, however.

- **Brad York**, president of Tillamook Beekeepers, reported that they had a great honey flow this year and that beekeepers got lots of honey. Membership has really grown this year with 67 new members. The association has hosted four beekeeping classes.

- **Brian McGinley**, president of Lane County Beekeepers, reported that while in person meetings are drawing people, some members still want Zoom. While they are thriving and doing well, it's a challenge keeping people once they find out what beekeeping is really all about. The association is making outreach and training efforts.

- **Jeremy Mitchell**, representative for North Willamette Valley and representing Willamette Valley Beekeepers,

Residential Beekeeping Chair, **Mike Rodia**

- There used to be two cities in Oregon that banned beekeeping; however one (St. Helens) has changed its policy and now permits beekeeping within the city. (The other, Klamath Falls, has not changed its policy.)
- Residential Beekeeping Guidelines need to be shared, especially with new beekeepers. Handouts seem to be a better option than just referring people to a website address. Mike has these handouts and is happy to share, but please let him know – and remember that mailing large quantities of printed material at the required first class rate is expensive.
- A new revision of this document may require new extension service approval.

Activities Director, **Bonnie King**

- Participation at the State Fair was good, but honey entries were down.
- There were slots for 60 volunteers at the booth, but some people did multiple shifts – and a few did lots of shifts.
- Clubs taking responsibility for covering the booth for a day, or even just half a day, would be most helpful.
- Ag Fest in April was busy and a good time for all.
- Summer Picnic – not to interfere with association picnics – for all associations is being planned.
- Sign up to be on the Activities Committee

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 PM – the social hour was calling!

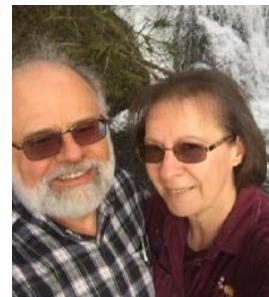
Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Derkacht



Elections—Continued from page 1

to help him get started. We attended a few meetings in the fall/winter before joining the association.

My dairy farm upbringing began to kick back in, and I was hooked on a new form of agriculture that was totally intriguing to me and kept drawing me in further until the next spring we purchased two nucleus colonies to get started. Son-in-law has since lost his desire, but I have continued and now have my wife Ruth hooked. She has been a real help, encouragement, and partner in this venture. We have grown to the most hives last summer of eighteen and will continue to slowly grow this into a “retirement hobby.”



Andrew Watson



I manage Applegate Apiaries LLC, a family bee outfit in the Applegate Valley in Southern Oregon. I was bitten by the beekeeping bug after getting two swarms in 2004. Caring for patients as a rural family practitioner, I met several commercial beekeeper families and learned about the life of professional beekeepers. In 2007, with expanding colony numbers and national healthcare changes phasing out solo rural clinics, I expanded the apiary operation to support my growing family. I and my wife, Amanda, found that running a family bee business provided a grounding framework of values for raising our children in a surrounding world of digital illusion. Working cooperatively beside other beekeeping families in almond pollination, honey harvest, and fall bee maintenance exposed our children to a “village” of people sharing similar values. With the kids raised, we have reduced our apiary to less than 500 colonies, but willing hands

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(and backs) of our adult children help during labor-intensive weeks of the beekeeping year. I enjoy sharing beekeeping ideas with individuals having an appreciation of the value of community and have a keen interest in maintaining the genetic diversity of a locally adapted Southern Oregon bee.



Oregon State Beekeepers Association Membership Form

The **Oregon State Beekeepers Association** is a 501(c)(3) 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. Members 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) Sideline (25–300) Commercial (more than 300)

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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

Thank you!

Reminder: Memberships are recorded on an annual basis—i.e., for the calendar year.

Renewals are welcome at any time, as are new members.

New memberships are applied through December 2023.



Oregon State Beekeepers Association
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517
Portland OR 97206
orsba.org

Reminder: Among benefits of membership are four free online classified ads a year, discounts on *Bee Culture* and *American Bee Journal*, and placement on the swarm call list. A notice will be sent when swarm call opens for 2023. For ads and subscription information, contact osba.newsletter@gmail.com.

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

The next issue to be printed will be the **March 2023** issue. The deadline for submitting copy is **February 10, 2023**. Please let me know if you find difficulties with the deadline so we can work out the space and timing for the material.

May all be well!

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