

## Central Coast Beekeepers Presidents' Message and General Information

Hello All!

Just a follow up to the January Central Coast Beekeepers Association (CCBA) meeting. The officers and board were announced. Here's the line-up: Co-Presidents, Nancy McDowell and Anne Schatz; Vice-President, Rick Olsen; Secretary, Becca Fain; Treasurer, Mary-ellen Townsend; Past President, Dan Speers; other Board Members are Max Kuhn, and Stan Scotton. Max is ineligible to hold an office because he's Vice President of Lane County Beekeepers and Stan is the North Coast Representative to Oregon State Beekeepers Association (OSBA). We have co-presidents this year because there is so much work to be done standing up the club, pursuing non-profit status, and crafting an organization that meets the needs of its members. Nancy is the more experienced beekeeper and Anne is a beginner, and we hope this puts us in a good position to relate to all of you, regardless of your experience level. We mentioned during the meeting that there is still a position open on the board. If you're interested or would like more information, please let us know. We would really welcome your help.

Dues were announced at \$15 a year for individuals and \$25 for families. Attached is a membership form for those of you who want to send your membership dues in to the address provided on the form or you can print it and bring your dues to the February meeting of the club. Checks for dues should be made out to the club treasurer – Mary-ellen Townsend – as we do not yet have a tax number to open an account in the club's name. Once all our paperwork is in place we will have an account in the club's name and all future checks can be made out in the name of the club.

We are in the process of developing some important resources for members. Rick Olson is working on a club webpage which will include a range of resources as well as a calendar of events. Neill Crawford volunteered to put a club Facebook page together. Awesome, Neill! We look forward to seeing you all in February where the topic for the meeting on **Wednesday, 24 Feb**, will be Spring Management of your hives – in preparation for the beginning of the busy spring beekeeping season -presented by Stan.

During the meeting, we asked you to think a bit about what activities, educational opportunities or topics, and fundraisers you would most like the club to provide or participate in. Some of the activities we have in mind are to do the county fair again in August, to have a booth at the Master Gardener Plant Sale and Garden Fair in Newport on 21 May, and the state fair, as part of OSBA. Doing booths is a great way to educate the public about beekeeping (they like to hear from beginners, too!), learn more about beekeeping by listening to other beekeepers, practice speaking at outreach events, and get to know the other club members (which is the best part). We could also have a field day to look at a hive, all manner of social events, and/or plan a bee school next year. What do you think?

Some of the educational topics we brainstormed are classes on seasonal management, swarms, forage plants and planting to cover dearth periods, allergies and stings, and the Master Beekeeper Program. Other possibilities are: mite treatments, treatment free beekeeping, honey judging and entering hive products in competitions, making splits, catching swarms, making hive components, and the specifics of coastal beekeeping. What most interests you?

We mentioned that our financial needs are fairly significant this year because of applying for non-profit status and the annual club fee to OSBA. We'd also like to start assembling books and tools to loan to

club members. So we have to think about fundraising. Any ideas? Some clubs sell member donated honey and some host annual bee training open to the public. We could make pollinator seed balls and other items. The board discussed teaming with mead makers to have a booth at the Newport Seafood and Wine Festival in 2017. Please let us know what you think, if you might be willing to donate honey, and if you have any other ideas or suggestions.

We will also need people willing to lend a hand on committees to help with publicity, organizing events and fundraising, bringing refreshments to meetings, and submitting content for the website, Facebook page and newsletter. Want to help?

Remember, this is YOUR club; officers and board are here to serve you and make sure the club best meets your needs. Help us do that by letting us know what you want. Please feel free to contact us any time with questions, ideas, concerns – just anything.

We're looking forward to an awesome year!

Nancy and Anne

### **Upcoming Events of Interest**

Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation Native Plant Sale, 4-6 Feb, McMinnville (<http://www.bentonswcd.org/programs/plant-sale/>). It's too late to order ahead for this year, but sign up for their mailing list and get a notification and sale list early next year. This one sells mostly bare root and has awesome prices. Many native plants are great bee forage!

Tillamook County Beekeepers Association meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in each month in Bay City. Next meeting is 9 Feb at 7pm. Visitors are welcome.

Willamette Valley Beekeepers Bee School, 11 Feb (four evenings) in Salem; \$45 includes book and club membership (<http://wvbahive.org/events/willamette-valley-beekeepers-bee-school/>).

Lane County Beekeepers Association meets the third Tuesday each month in Eugene and has great speakers. They do an early, more advanced presentation and a general presentation of broader interest at the meeting. On 16 Feb, the topics are Varroa Treatment and Spring Management, (<http://www.lcbaor.org/Meeting.htm>). Visitors are welcome.

Linn Benton Beekeepers Association meets the third Wednesday of each month (which is why we moved to the 4<sup>th</sup>) and often has great speakers. On 17 Feb, Karessa Torgerson (an OMB instructor and Eastern Apiary Society Master Beekeeper) is speaking on swarms. Sign up for their newsletter to get notifications and see the website for more information (<http://www.lbba.us/scheduled-speakers/>). Visitors are welcome

Benton Soil and Water Conservation Native Plant Sale, 20 Feb 8am-4pm in Corvallis (<http://www.bentonswcd.org/programs/plant-sale/>). This is the one Linda mentioned during the meeting. It's also too late to order ahead, but they have a one day sale, as well.

Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month in Salem. Their next meeting is 22 Feb. Check <http://wvbahive.org/events/wvba-meeting-2016-02-22/> for speaker updates. Visitors are welcome.

Central Coast Beekeepers Association (of course) meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Newport Library large meeting room. On 24 Feb, Stan Scotton will provide a presentation on Spring Management. Visitors are welcome.

Nectar Bee Supply Bee School, 28 Feb in Philomath. Morning session for beginners, afternoon session with more advanced topics (<https://nectarbeesupply.wordpress.com/eventsandclasses/>), although the website doesn't have the information posted yet. Call (541) 929-3524 or email [jen@shonnards.com](mailto:jen@shonnards.com) for more information.

Lane Country Beekeepers Bee School, 5 Mar, Eugene. It's \$40 for individuals, \$60 for couples (<http://www.lcbaor.org/beeschool.htm>).

The Annual BEEvent Pollinator Conference hosted by Linn Benton Master Gardeners is Saturday, 12 Mar, in Albany. This year's focus is on pollinator health and habitat; the cost is \$30 (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn/beevent>).

Tillamook Beekeepers Bee Day, 2 Apr, Tillamook. More information closer to the event.

Michael Bush giving a one day class in Hood River 23 Apr; it's \$45 and is limited to 50 people. Sign up NOW if you're interested (<http://groworganics.org/content/michael-bush-treatment-free-beekeeper-coming-hood-river>).