

January Club Meeting

In case you missed it, here's what happened at our January meeting

With fans blowing fresh air in from the outside and everyone (over 20 of us) properly masked, we had our first in-person meeting in nearly two long years. Pat Wackford, our new club president, introduced the board members in attendance to the group. She also asked for a volunteer to become the representative for OSBA. (Subsequently Max Kuhn volunteered, thanks Max!)

Our Bee-ginning Beekeeping Course which will be held at OCCC on March 9 from 1-4:00PM at the Newport campus. All paid members are welcome to attend the class at no cost. Pat, Judi, Becca, Max Jim and Jacob have volunteered to lead various parts of the class which includes beekeeping vocabulary, hive equipment, protective gear, where to find help and resources, and challenges & opportunities. We will then finish up with a Q&A session. We have 21 people signed up so far. This is a great vehicle to introduce more people to our club and recruit new members.

We discussed what we all needed to do to prepare for spring. It is a good time to do an inventory of your equipment to see what needs to be repaired or replaced, look for sites to hang baits for swarms, clean up frames and replace about 20% of them each year.

Feeding pollen patties can be done all year. Make sure to read the ingredients as they can vary widely. Some have no pollen and are comprised of only 'pollen substitute' – add real pollen to the feed. An ideal mixture in equal parts pollen, substitute and sugar syrup.

Plant pollen for the bees is available from a number of trees and bushes including acacia, alder, hazelnut, ivy, willows and cascara. Starting a bloom log is helpful to see when pollen is available and when you may need to supplement. More native plant descriptions are available at these websites:

<http://www.lincolnsxcd.org/native-plant-database.html>
https://bentonsxcd.org/plant_cat/native/

Where can I get Bees?

Brad York from the Tillamook club wanted us to know that they will have nucs for sale through their "Farm Store" for \$145. You must join the Tillamook Bee club for \$20 to get this price, and you are responsible for picking up their bees.

Their website is tillamookbeekeepers.org

Bees are also available from Shonard's, Old Sol Apiaries (John Jacobs), Starr Farms of Eugene and Pacific Apiary Collective www.pacbees.com.

