



CENTRAL COAST  
BEEKEEPERS  
NEWSLETTER

December 2017

ISSUE NUMBER 21

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 24TH, 2018

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS AND  
HAPPY NEW  
YEAR**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**BY Rick Olson**

This is my final message as club President and I want to let you know how much I have enjoyed the opportunity. We have had a very successful year and I hope you have all enjoyed hearing from the excellent speakers we have had this year and that you have taken advantage of the many community education events that the club has participated in. There are some fantastic opportunities coming up in 2018 and I hope to see you all there and at regular club meetings during 2018.

I hope you were able to make it to the November honey tasting and Christmas party. We had a large selection of honeys to compare. It's always amazing to taste the various flavors that are produced from different areas along the coast. Our members donated a truck load of equipment and bee products for the raffle--everyone went home something!

All your hives should be fed and tucked in for the winter. Check weight of hives by lifting from the back and make sure moisture is not collecting on the inner cover. If hives are light you can feed them fondant or hard candy such as candy canes.

Continue to check for Varroa mites--they are the number one problem facing beekeepers. There should be a minimum of capped brood at this time of year so think about a winter treatment to kill phoretic Varroa mites. I've already had a couple of dead out this month so I'm keeping a close eye on hive health during the next few crucial months.

At our November board meeting we welcomed our new board members for next year--Mark Aiassa, Gaelyn Matthews and Pat Wackford. We then elected our new officers for 2018. Patti Johnson and Pat Wackford will be co-presidents, Stan Scotton will continue to be our treasurer and Becca Fain will continue to work as secretary. Continuing board members include Kathy Cope, Jon Sumpter and Neill Crawford. Congratulations new officers and board members.

## **Message from our new co-President**

**By Patti Johnson**

2018 activities for our club are going to take off at a quick pace. As you are aware, there is no December club meeting so we wanted to give you a heads up as to what will be happening at the next meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Come ready to have some fun as we work on making fire starters and prepare our wares for sale at the first annual "Oregon Coast Honey Lover's Festival"

that will be taking place on February 17<sup>th</sup> in the Yachats Commons. In addition, it will be a good time for those of you who wish to sign up to volunteer for the event.

As we mill around, working on our projects, this meeting will also be an excellent opportunity to compare notes about how our bees are doing, a chance for new beekeepers to ask questions of more experienced bee keepers and some time to think a bit about the year ahead.

It will be a fun and provide valuable time to get to know each other. See you then!

Next meeting is Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Newport Library. We will begin the meetings a half hour earlier in 2018 as the result of our club survey where members stated an interest in starting the meeting a half hour earlier to have more time to socialize.

We will be making Pinecone fire starters to sell at the Yachats Coastal Honey Lover's Festival as well as several other products. We look forward to seeing you then!!

## **The First Annual Coastal Honey Lover's Festival in Yachats on Saturday February 17th, 2018, in the Yachats Commons from 10am-4:00pm**

Club co-President, Patti Johnson, is working with the Yachats Chamber of Commerce to help coordinate this new festival which will highlight one of the primary products of the hive – Honey. The festival will include a honey tasting along the lines of a wine tasting to introduce attendees to the variety of coastal honey colors and flavors as well as provide our club and other coastal clubs with the opportunity to promote ourselves, attract new members and educate the public about honey, pollinators and bees specifically. There will also be presentations from experts on various aspects of pollinators and an intro for folks interested in getting involved with beekeeping.

The club will be assisting Patti as she coordinates the volunteer pool needed to support the event. We will also have an educational booth as well as a booth for the club to sell

some wares and raise some funds to support honey bee research and other club activities. The sales booth will be large enough to allow any individual club members to bring and sell any of their own honey or bee related products at a pro-rated rate depending on sales. The cost of the booth is \$50 so it would cost only a fraction of that to sell your products but you would have to arrange to have someone in the booth during at least part of the event. It is anticipated that the event will attract several hundred participants and there could even be more as the Chamber will be publicizing it across the state, several of the hotels plan to provide weekend “Valentine” packages and several restaurants are planning honey centric menus as well as the brew pub offering a Mead selection.

We will be looking for club members willing to take a 3 and a half hour shift – either from 9am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm-4pm. The volunteer opportunities are as follows:

**Rovers:** Club members dressed in their bee protective gear roving the floor to answer questions and direct folks to various talks, tastings, etc. We need 2-3 on the floor at any time.

**Children’s area:** 1-2 people to help with coloring, putting up pictures, helping to get them seated for puppet show.

**Booth :** 2-4 people to help with the club educational as well as sales booths.

Some other more time limited volunteer opportunities include:

**Set-up crew:** 3-4 folks on Friday night to set up tables, chairs and assist with club booth set-up. Time to be determined.

**Clean-up crew:** 4 people Saturday from 4pm – to 5pm.

We will also be handing out flyers at the next club meeting and asking that you distribute them at local businesses in your area to help promote the event.

It is not necessary for you to be a club member to volunteer as we would love to have you participate if you are interested. If you are interested in volunteering, either respond to the e-mail that this newsletter arrived with or sign up at the next meeting.

## IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018

The cost of membership is \$15 a year for an individual or \$25 for a family payable to CCBA. You can send your check with the attached membership form to club Secretary Becca Fain at 89135 Spindrift Way, Florence, OR, 97439 or you can bring your dues to the January meeting. If you are planning to take advantage of our low cost bee purchase opportunity in 2018, it will be necessary for you to have paid your membership before

ordering bees. We will be completing the order in January. The membership dues are used to support club presentations and other club related expenses.

## The Buzz about Friday in the Apiary

By Pat Wackford

On Dec 15<sup>th</sup> I attended Friday in the Apiary at OSU. The weather was overcast and in the 40's. Carolyn Breece, from the OSU Bee Lab, led the field study.

Two of the participants had purchased infrared apps and devices that attached to their cell phones. We visited several hives in the apiary and were able to view the heat signature of the bees clustered in their hives. We observed that some clusters were in the bottom supers and others were in the top supers. The phones showed the center of the clusters to be red, and then orange, and then yellow on the edges of the cluster. We also saw that in some hives, bees were located in the center frames, but in others some were located closer to the sides of the super.

Later we went into the classroom where we enjoyed hot coffee and cocoa and treats. There, Carolyn provided jars and craft materials to make sugar shake jars, for mite testing, for ourselves and for gifts.

## LAST CALL FOR DISCOUNTS FOR CLUB MEMBERS !!!!

An awesome [Trifecta Beekeeping Event](#), sponsored by **Brushy Mountain Bee Farm** and **BG Bees**, will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at the Best Western PLUS Hood River Inn in the Columbia Gorge, Hood River. Guest speakers include:

- **Thomas D. Seeley** presenting
  - *Darwinian Beekeeping*
  - *The bee colony as a honey factory*
    - Dr. Seeley is a biologist and writer and a professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University. He teaches courses on animal behavior and does research on the behavior, social life, and ecology of honey bees. He is an avid beekeeper and began keeping bees while a high school student, when he shook a swarm into a box and brought it home. His scientific work is summarized in four excellent books: *Honeybee Ecology* (1985), *The Wisdom of the Hive* (1995), *Honeybee Democracy* (2010), and *Following the Wild Bees* (2016).

You will remember Dr. Seeley's engaging and informative presentations from last year's OSBA conference if you were able to attend.

- **Andony Melathopoulos** presenting

- *Where is the Value of Valuing the Pollination Services of Bees to Agriculture?*
- *Doing the Multiplication: Expanding your apiary the old school and "the Next Generation" way*
  - Dr. Melathopoulos is an Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health Extension in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. His work at OSU comes out of a mandate from the Oregon Legislature to create a state-wide pollinator safety and outreach program. Prior to coming to OSU, he was a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Biology at the University of Calgary working with Shelley Hoover and Ralph Cartar on canola pollination. He holds an Interdisciplinary PhD from Dalhousie University (2015) and a Master of Pest Management from Simon Fraser University (1999). Formerly he worked as the chief technician in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Apiculture Research program (2000-2012).

- **Alison McAfee** presenting

- *Honey bee necromones: finding the brood cues that stimulate hygienic behavior*
- *Why are scientists making transgenic honey bees?*
  - Dr. McAfee is a Ph.D. working in Dr. Leonard Foster's Laboratory studying the mechanisms of hygienic behavior in honey bees.

In an effort to **partner with bee clubs**, we have been offered the opportunity to reduce the registration fee for our members by a special discount of \$10.00. Advance reservations are offered at a \$10 discount off the Early Bird pricing (\$85.69 - \$10.00 = \$75.69) but the tickets must be purchased in a block and ordered before January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Hotel rooms are available at a group discount which includes a breakfast in the hotel's restaurant by specifying **BG Bees** at time of reservation directly with the hotel (855) 214-4563:

Room Type	Fri/Sat	Sun-Thurs
Non-View Single Queen	\$134.00	\$125.00
Non-View Double Queen	\$152.00	\$143.00
Riverview Single King	\$179.00	\$170.00
Riverview Double Queen	\$188.00	\$179.00
Executive Level Non-View King	\$170.00	\$161.00
Executive Level Riverview King	\$197.00	\$188.00

Additionally, there is a "pre-event" on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, where our Guest Speakers will be conducting "in hive" presentations for a smaller group at an additional cost of \$49.37.

Both events pricing includes a catered lunch.

This will be an excellent event for anyone interested in expanding their knowledge of honey bees, their behavior and how we can better support their health in our hives. If you are interested in attending, please send a check made out to CCBA, for either the Saturday or Sunday event or both to Becca Fain, 89135 Spindrift Way, Florence, OR 97439 so that it arrives by **January 10<sup>th</sup>** to insure that our block can get the **\$10 discount**. If you are interested in attending but cannot meet this deadline, you can go online at Brushy Mountain and reserve a place for \$85.69 from 1/15/18 – 3/31/18 or \$95.88 from 4/1/18 to 5/15/18 if there are still places available as only a limited number of tickets will be available.

## 2018 Bee Purchase opportunity for Club Members

We will once again be offering club members the opportunity to purchase bees – either nucs or packages – at a highly discounted group purchase rate. The price has not yet been confirmed for 2018, but is expected to be close to last year's rates of \$110 for a nuc or \$95 for a package. We will need to let the beekeepers we purchase from know what we are looking at in terms of our order size by the end of January with a pick up date sometime in April or May. We can always adjust our order down if you find that your needs are less than you anticipated, but it is very difficult to adjust an order up so we would encourage you to be careful when determining your needs. We are aware that the end of January is early for potential winter losses, but need to give adequate time for the folks we purchase from to determine what they will need to prepare for. Please be prepared to place your order at the January meeting, though you will not need to pay for it until March. If you do not think that you will be attending in January, please indicate your order by return e-mail.

## Club 2017 Survey

It is not too late to share your opinions with the club. A copy of the 2018 survey has been attached to the newsletter e-mail and we would love to hear from you so that we can provide the structure, services and programs that best meet your needs. You can return the survey by e-mail to the clubs gmail account or you can bring your completed survey to the January meeting. Thank you in advance for helping us make the club the best it can be.

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To arrange for publication or distribution of this material, please contact the organization through their e-mail account at: [www.centralcoastbeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:www.centralcoastbeekeepers@gmail.com)

Rebecca Fain – Newsletter Editor

Board members of the organization, identified below, can also be reached at this address

President – Rick Olson

Past President – Nancy McDowell

Co- Vice President – Anne Schatz

Co- Vice President – Kathy Cope

Treasurer – Stan Scotton

Secretary – Rebecca Fain

At Large – Patti Johnson

At Large – Jon Sumpter

At Large – Neill Crawford