



CENTRAL COAST BEEKEEPERS NEWSLETTER

January 2017

ISSUE NUMBER 10

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 25TH, 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Rick Olson, President

Hello All!

Wow! What a year we had in 2016. Anne and Nancy brought the club to new highs. Congrats to them and thanks up front for their continued help and support. We couldn't have done it without you two. We had some inspiring speakers last year--tops in their field. The original bee whisperer with over 40 years of experience, Morris Ostrofsky, gave a fascinating talk on bee diseases - assessing, preventing and treating them. In October Dr. Dewey Caron's talk covered annual winter survival surveys and preparing for winter topics--mite counts, brood evaluation, treatment options (cultural, mechanical, hard and soft chemicals), feeding for winter fat bees. Dr. Caron is a distinguished expert in the beekeeping field and author of the textbook used in the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and OSU's beekeeping classes. We were very fortunate to have a speaker of his caliber come to our club and hope to have him return in 2017.

We have lots of speaking resources available to us this year--we're close to OSU and they've volunteered to help us out whenever we need them. This month don't miss Dr. Andony

Melathopoulos's talk "Doing the Multiplication: Expanding your apiary the old school and "the Next Generation" way". Dr. Melathoulos is an Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health Extension in the Department of Horticulture at OSU and has done extensive research in pollination and beekeeping. Don't miss this great presentation at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, January 25th at the Newport Library.

In February Anne Schatz, our vice president and last year's president, will be giving her talk "Strategies for Augmenting Honey Bee Forage". Anne is an Oregon Master Gardener and knows more about plants than the bees! She'll be giving advanced strategies for enticing bees into a nourishing environment of your own design.

Our Secretary, Becca Fain, is also the guiding force and editor of our as-yet-unnamed newsletter--I know we have some creative people in our club, let's come up with a catchy name this year--there must be a prize in it somewhere! Send your entries to Becca! Not only do you get the chance to see your creation splashed across the newsletter cover each month, but you could win the grand naming prize. Please get those entries in to the club email account (centralcoastbeekeepers@gmail.com). Send your kudos and suggestions to her, as well. She also welcomes articles, pictures of your adventures in beekeeping and stories--please have them emailed to her by the third Friday of each month! And if you haven't paid your dues for 2017 yet, please do so soon. Our newsletter is available only to paid members.

Speaking of our January meeting, you will remember that in the December newsletter there was an article about ordering bees this year. Well the time is now to get your order in. You can either respond to the club e-mail address – centralcoastbeekeepers@gmail.com – or place your order at next week's meeting. **YOU MUST BE A PAID 2017 CLUB MEMBER IN ORDER TO PLACE AN ORDER FOR BEES – THOSE PLACING AN ORDER BY EMAIL AND WHO HAVE NOT YET PAID 2017 MEMBERSHIP DUES SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE CARE OF THIS AT THE WEDNESDAY MEETING.** Nucs will be \$90 – which is WAY BELOW local market price and packages will be less. In order to place an order through the e-mail account, please provide your name, your e-mail and phone number and, of course, how many nuc's and/or packages you want. You can always adjust your order down before bee pickup, but you will not be able to adjust it up. It may be difficult to know exactly how many nucs/packages you will need at this point as the winter is not over yet and you may still lose a few hives before spring so order liberally and remember that you can adjust your order down before pickup and payment. Bees will be paid for when they are picked up in April or May – dates yet to be determined. This Wednesday will be your last chance to order for 2017!

See you at the next meeting!

NEXT MEETING WILL BE – January 25th, 2017

6:30 pm at the Newport Library

PROGRAM

Don't miss Dr. Andony Melathopoulos's talk "Doing the Multiplication: Expanding your apiary the old school and "the Next Generation" way"

6:30pm – 8 pm

It is time to renew memberships for 2017. In 2016 our club boasted 31 paid members, seven of whom have taken advantage of the newly offered lifetime membership (Lifetime membership in the amounts of \$200 for an individual and \$330 for a family are available this year). Regular memberships are \$15 for an individual and \$25 for a family. You can find membership and renewal forms on our web page and we will have forms available at our January meeting.

WINTER FEED FOR YOUR BEES

Andony Melathopoulos, OSU Horticulture Department, Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health Extension

Though there are winter-flowering plants growing in the wild, many pollinators don't live anywhere near them. That makes using cultivated winter bloomers an important consideration when planning a garden.

Even a small amount of habitat will sustain bees, even rare species. These are tiny creatures. Well-thought-out landscapes can provide all the food they need in winter. Gardeners can really help with that.

Granted, there aren't that many plants that flower in winter, but what's out there adds much-needed brightness to the garden and sustenance for pollinators. Some suggested winter-blooming plants are:

Brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, mustard): If left to bloom into winter (which they will), your brassica crops will attract a bevy of bees.

Hazelnut (Corylus): Members of the *Corylus* genus - including the popular contorted and weeping hazelnuts - are one of earliest sources of pollen for bees.

Oregon grape (Mahonia): No garden - or bee - should be without one of these evergreen shrubs, especially since it's designated Oregon's state flower. But an even better reason are the insanely yellow flowers that last for weeks.

Heath and heather (Erica and Calluna): Bees zoom in to heaths and heathers like they're approaching a runway. In shades from purple to copper to gold, these low-growing plants make a mat of color throughout the year, including winter.

Winter jasmine (Jasminum nudiflora): Though it doesn't have the fragrance of other jasmines, this vining shrub has bright yellow flowers that are a welcome sight in winter.

Burkwood viburnum (Viburnum x burkwoodii): The burke Viburnum is best known for the clusters of fragrant white blooms that bees find irresistible.

Sweet box (Sarcococcus confusa): It's not the inconspicuous wispy white flowers that draw attention in deepest winter, it's the waft of fragrance that attracts both people and bees.

Witch hazel (Hamamelis): Bees get fired up over witch hazel with its crepe-paperlike flowers in colors of orange, red and, most famously, yellow.

“ Varroa Mite Guide Now Includes IPM Videos” by Dr. Dewey M. Caron

The Honey Bee Health Coalition has released a series of videos to help beekeepers promote colony health and combat costly and destructive Varroa mite infestations. The videos provide detailed step-by-step instructions on how to monitor hives for Varroa and safely treat when levels get too high. The videos complement the Coalition's wildly popular “Tools for

Varroa Management Guide”: <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/Varroa> . Dewey Caron, Western Apiculture Society representative to the Coalition, is principle author of the Tools and co-wrote and directed the video scripts, filmed at Foothills Apiary in Colton, Oregon.

“The Honey Bee Health Coalition’s Tools for Varroa Management Guide has provided beekeepers in the US and Canada with invaluable tools and techniques to confront destructive Varroa mite infestations,” said Mark Dykes, Apiary Inspectors of America. “These videos will show beekeepers real world application techniques to help correctly apply treatments.” Mark was on-camera in the videotaping. The website connection to watch the videos is <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/Varroa/#videos>

The videos provide helpful visual aids and step-by-step directions on how beekeepers can monitor and control Varroa mites through an Integrated Pest Management strategy. Both the videos and Tools Guide cover a range of strategies and tools, including the uses of Oxalic acid, formic acid, essential oils, other synthetic miticides and non-chemical treatment options. “Healthy bees support our world’s food supply and farmers everywhere. A single untreated colony can transmit Varroa mites to other nearby hives and threaten honey bee health across large geographic regions,” said Danielle Downey, Project Apis m, the second on-camera individual on the videos. “Beekeeping is becoming very popular, and often keeping the bees healthy is a mysterious learning curve. These important 'how to' videos bring the Coalition’s Tools for Varroa Management Guide to life — and will amplify its impact in the United States, Canada, and around the globe.”

The Coalition’s Tools for Varroa Management has given beekeepers the tools they need to measure Varroa mite infestations in their hives and select appropriate control methods. The guide, which has been downloaded more than 5,500 times since its release, is the newly released 5th edition. The videos are embedded within the guide for easy download. There is also a new spreadsheet for easy record keeping of your varroa management included. Spreadsheet <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/> can be separately downloaded.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio State University Bee Lab Webinars

The 2017 webinars will be available in March. The 2016 webinars are posted on their website.

<https://u.osu.edu/beelab/courses/>

Kelly's Beekeeping Website: "Lane County Hiveways"

Follow Kelly as she does her inspections, observations, and other beekeeping activities.

<http://lanecountyhiveways.com/>

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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

Rebecca Fain – Newsletter Editor

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

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