



CENTRAL COAST BEEKEEPERS NEWSLETTER

January 2019

ISSUE NUMBER 35

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 23RD, 2019

President's Message By Jon Sumpter

Hello, my name is Jon Sumpter and I am your new president of the Central Coast Beekeepers' Association. I thank you and will do my best to work with this group.

A little history is in order. I am a retired machinist/welder from the local shipyards and logging operations around the Pacific Northwest. My introduction to bees was one sunny Sunday morning in 2003 when a friend arrived and unloaded a rather decrepit brood box hive. Laughingly he said these bees arrived and took up residence in a pile of empty bee boxes. A swarm from who knows where. I've had bees since and I'm still learning.

We're all dealing with the same thing - change. This week is supposed to be raining, windy and freezing cold off and on. My hives have been flying most of this month, so are the yellow jacket wasps. Putting out a wasp trap January 7th was not on the calendar. Taking a sniff, there is a hint of the scent of brood. Some things do go on.

The goals of our group as I see them is education for ourselves and others (other ideas are welcome). As above I learned about bees the hard way. When I entered the

OSU Master Beekeepers as an apprentice the knowledge came as a wonderful flood. Joining CCBA is another great source of friendship and hard-won knowledge. I'm finding we are all untitled mentors, sharing and listening. Even the newcomer has something to add.

Goals for this year is to have short official meetings then have an interesting guest or activity each monthly meeting. The board is investigating having 4 board meetings a year and every member is welcome to attend. The board meetings times will be announced in the monthly newsletter. I'll try to have an agenda for each monthly meeting ready for the newsletter.

This month Dr. Eric Brown DVM will be making a presentation about what he needs to prescribe medication for our bees. There is a group of laws limiting the use of antibiotics on farm animals he is subject to and so are we.

Some folks abused the antibiotics by putting them in feed stuffs for weight gain not health. The microorganisms became immune to the antibiotics. We get the immune microorganisms, making these medications ineffective for human health use. We are paying the price.

The Honey Lovers' Festival is coming up and it's fun. We have 2 tables. Six volunteers are desired for the table. Two persons, two hour shifts then you get to goof off until the "Honey Hoe Down" starting 6PM.

If you have a few minutes...take a picture of a bumble bee. There is a study of North American bumble bee's population needing input. Send your picture(s) to "Bumblebeewatch.org"

As a reminder, it is time to begin thinking about starting a club membership or renewing your current membership, particularly if you want to order bees through us in 2019 as our suppliers require that all orders come from active club members. If you have not paid/renewed yet, you can either bring your dues to the

January meeting or send them, along with the attached membership form to the treasurer – Gaelyn Matthews at P. O, Box 414, Seal Rock, 97376. Membership runs on a calendar year, so your membership will run through the end of 2019.

Our January meeting is Wednesday January 23rd at 6 pm at the Newport Library. January's guest speaker will be Dr. Eric Brown, Jon Sumpter's veterinarian. With the new regulations regarding getting antibiotics for our bees, he will be speaking on what he needs to know in order to dispense medication for our bees.

ORDERING BEES WITH US IN 2019

We will need to know if you are interested in joining our 2019 group order of bees by the end of the January 23rd club meeting. We now have a firm price on both packages and nucleus hives (nucs). The 4-pound packages (as opposed to the 3-pound packages typically available from other vendors) will be \$95 per package plus a \$5 fee on your entire order (no matter how many packages and/or nucs you order) to cover transportation costs to a location near you. The nucs will be \$110 plus the \$5 fee on your entire order as outlined above, per nuc with a laying queen and 5 frames of brood and honey stores. If for some reason you will be unable to join us at the January meeting, please respond back to this e-mail with your name and order request by January 23rd. We tentatively plan to deliver the bees in early April, but once again this will depend on the weather. We will be driving them down 101 and will arrange a delivery to a convenient location along the highway for you.

THE 2019 HONEY LOVERS FESTIVAL IN YACHATS IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Mark your calendars for February 9th and be sure to join us at the Festival in Yachats. The club will have a booth and we will be asking for volunteers to assist with the booth at the January meeting. See schedule below:

Oregon Coast Honey Lovers Festival – February 9, 2019

Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Yachats, Commons, **441 Hwy 101**

Festival Wristband: Individual \$5.00 Children under 12 free

Ongoing **Education / Displays (MP room)**

>Central Coast Beekeepers Association >Lane County Beekeepers Association >Bee Life Video >Pollinator Restoration Project >Photo Display >Dr. David Gordon, Oregon Coast Bee Display

Vendors (MP room, Pavilion)

>Shonnard's Nursery >Honey Tree Apiaries >Mushroom Peoples Honey >JW Mercantile >Nectar Creek >Beekeepers Carpenter, Valkyrie Long Hives >Mountain Rose Herbs > Mercer Ridge Farm Honey Products

10:30-11:30 **Honey Tasting #1 (Room 5)** Jeffrey Warren is the owner/operator of JW Merc and is a connoisseur of specialty honeys. Jeffrey spent many years in the food and wine industries honing his culinary senses. He will offer a delightful, sensory tasting, featuring a flight of unique honeys, helping you to experience the subtle differences of each.

10:30-11:30 **"Weird and Wonderful Bees of Oregon" (Room 8)** Dr. Sarah Kincaid is an entomologist and pollinator specialist in the Insect, Pest Prevention and Management Program with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. She is also the co-founder and ODA lead for the Oregon Bee Project. Sarah will speak about

a few of the 500 species of bees in Oregon and specifically about five very cool bees that visit in our gardens and backyards. The talk will focus on concepts for creating and maintaining bee habitat in a backyard setting and introduce some some state initiatives to protect bees.

- 11:30-12:30 **Puppet Show #1 (MP room)** Penny Walters, who has a MA. in education is a writer, producer and director of original musicals that she performs at schools, festivals, libraries...anywhere where kids and families gather. Her fun and energetic show will help both children and adults gain a better understanding of honey bees and other pollinators.
- 11:30-12:30 **"Designing A Pollinator Garden" (Pavilion)** Andrea Shonnard
This year marks Shonnard's 35-year anniversary! Shonnard's Nursery, Florist and Landscape has been the go-to for Corvallis gardeners, providing plants, gardening supplies and helpful advice (and more recently beekeeping supplies.) Andrea grew up surrounded by plants, acquiring knowledge and appreciation for plants and their varying attributes. With her wealth of knowledge, she will provide you with the basics of designing a beautiful pollinator garden. And even if you are unable to attend the talk, don't miss the wonderful array of plants Shonnard's has for sale in the Pavilion.
- 12:45-1:45 **"Honey Bees: Insights on Some Fascinating Bee Behaviors and the Africanized Bee" (Room 8)** Dr. Ramesh Sagili Dr. Sagili is an Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. He obtained his PhD in Entomology from Texas A&M University in 2007 specializing in honey bee research. His primary research focus at OSU is honey bee health, nutrition and pollination. He initiated the creation of the Oregon Master Beekeeper Program and received many research awards and has authored several publications. Today Dr. Sagili will illustrate fascinating behaviors of honey bees and share the history and update us on the status of the Africanized bee.
- 12:45-1:45 **Mead Tasting #1 (Pavilion)** Phillip Lorenz and his brother Nick co-own Nectar Creek, in Philomath Oregon. While they sold their first batches of mead in their home town of Corvallis, their success and the growing demand for their product pushed them to a larger facility in Philomath. The brothers focus on Session Meads, which are meads less than 10% ABV and carbonated. The meads are light, clean and refreshing, made from raw honey sourced directly from sustainable beekeepers.
- 2:00-2:45 **Puppet Show #2 (MP Room)** Penny Walters

- 2:00-2:45 **Honey Tasting #2 (Room 5)** Jeffrey Warren
- 3:00-3:45 **“The Medicinal Properties of Honey” (Room 8)** Fred Selby is the Department Manager and Beekeeping Specialist for Shonnard’s Nursery. As a second-generation beekeeper from Chico California, Fred managed his father’s commercial apiary for 15 years, including caring for 6,000 hives and raising over 30,000 queens. For most of Fred’s life, he has used honey for more than a just delicious substitute for sugar. He will share some of honey’s beneficial properties for healing, and share some of the reasons it should be a part of your first aid kit as well as in the kitchen.
- 3:00-3:45 **Mead Tasting #2 (Pavilion)** Phillip Lorenz
- 4:00 **Honey Festival Ends**
- 6:00-9:00 **“Honey Hoedown and Bon Fire”**
Music by “Red Diesel” \$5.00 entry fee
Sliders/mead available for sale

Honey Bee Health Coalition releases new guide, tool to help beekeepers make informed hive management decisions

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina & Tempe, Arizona, Jan. 9, 2019 — The Honey Bee Health Coalition unveiled two new resources for beekeepers today — a best practices guide for hive health and a decision support tool for taking on the honey bee’s most dangerous parasite. An expert team of beekeepers, entomologists, extension and regulatory agents, bee suppliers and apiary inspectors produced and reviewed Best Management Practices for Hive Health: A Guide for Beekeepers. The Coalition contracted Dewey Caron, emeritus professor of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware and affiliate professor at Oregon State University’s horticulture department, to draft the 80itpage guide, available for free download at <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/hivehealthbmps>. “The guide includes information about safety considerations, apiary setup and maintenance, pesticide exposure, pests and dis

eases, queens and nutrition,” Caron said. “These best management practices will be updated periodically to ensure beekeepers have access to the best possible resources and strategies.” American Honey Producers Association Vice President Chris Hiatt praised the guide saying: “Learning and understanding these techniques is vital for beekeepers, and there is a lot of questionable information out there that’s not based on the latest best practices,” Hiatt said. “The guide both promotes in-hive practices that strengthen bee populations and encourages beekeepers to communicate and work with farmers and landowners to improve bee health.” Kentucky state apiarist Tammy Horn Potter said, “These best practices will help beekeepers — from hobbyists to commercial — establish and maintain the conditions necessary for healthy colonies. The guide is full of helpful photos and graphics, and the Key Points to Remember summary following each chapter will especially benefit new and small-scale beekeepers.” The Coalition also launched a new free, mobile-friendly tool to accompany its Varroa Guide. The Varroa Guide, also drafted by Dewey was first released in 2015 but Dewey has revised it and is now in its seventh edition. The Guide helps beekeepers implement practical, effective techniques to control the varroa mite, one of the honey bee’s most destructive pests. “The Varroa Guide is downloaded thousands of times every month, but in talking to beekeepers, we find many are still confused about navigating which treatments are right for their situation and conditions,” said Mary Reed, Texas Apiary Inspection Service chief apiary inspector. “With this new tool, they can input their hive conditions and management preferences and receive a list of management techniques and treatment options that fit. They can then study their options using the provided information and videos before making a decision.” The tool, can be found at <https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroatool>. “The tool asks beekeepers five basic questions and has links to background information if individuals are unsure of their answers,” Caron said. “The tool and the full download recommends beekeepers regularly monitor and manage Varroa mites. The Coalition, a diverse group of nearly 50 organizations working to improve the health of honey bees and other pollinators in the context of production agriculture, announced both new resources at annual meetings of the American Beekeeping Federation and American Honey Producers Association. Dewey represents Western Apicultural Society (WAS) as a coalition member and represented Oregon State Beekeepers Association when they were initially a member.

January Winter Bees

By Ken Ograin

Three things you need to do? Don't wait for a warm day to do these three things, heft your hive, clear entrance of dead bees and use your sample board. These tasks need to be done on a regular basis throughout the winter. Hefting will let you know if they need food and everyone should have some type of entrance reducer in use to keep mice out. Sample boards have a bigger use than just checking mite loads. If you find your hive is low on food you need to apply some form of dry sugar. This can be as simple as candy canes or you can use a candy board. We are no longer recommending fondant candy. Fondant contains a chemical, HMF (hydroxymethylfurfural), which harms bees. You can read all about it on Rusty Burlew's Honeybee Suite site <https://honeybeesuite.com/hydroxymethylfurfural-in-sugar-syrup/> See Judy's article on this page or go to our club website under recipes for information on making candy boards. It will several weeks before you will be able to use liquid sugar. You need to wait until temperatures are consistently about 50 degrees daytime temperatures and bees are flying regularly. The same holds true for entrance reducers. Keep them in and clear of dead bees until the bees keep up with household duties. While sample boards tell you about mites, they can also tell you about the health of your hive. Learn what mouse droppings look like and the different colors of wax debris. Brood capping are dark in color while honey store capping's are light in color. When temperatures are above 50 degrees and the sun is shining this will allow you to evaluate another indicator of your hives health. Here in the Willamette Valley pollen can be found everyday bees can fly. Right now dandelions are blooming in my pasture and heath/heather has been in bloom for some time now. All we need is a couple of days of warm weather and the filberts will be producing pollen. Filberts have no nectar, but lots of pollen. If you see bees returning with pollen this will indicate brood rearing. Keep doing these big three until you can do an internal hive inspection. If you find a dead hive in your apiary close it up or get it out of the bee yard.

PNW Pollinator Summit & Conference

Feb 14 and 15, 2019

Workshops - FEB 16 Location: Oregon State University, Corvallis Keynote Speakers: Sam Dr oege - Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, US Geological Survey; Elina Niño - Apiculture Extension and Research, UC Davis; Rebecca Tonietto - The Porch Project, University of Michigan-Flint

A two-day conference and an additional day of workshops designed to “connect-the-dots” between research, extension and application. This meeting is for extension agents, natural resource professionals, land managers, educators, as well as pollinator enthusiasts who want to develop or enhance the pollinator programming in their area. Conference talks will be mixed with discussion sessions, allowing participants to network and identify local knowledge and education gaps. In short, this will NOT be a conference to learn about the state of pollinator health, best practices, or new research. This will be a conference to highlight and connect agencies that have successful programs working in pollinator health. We want to understand what has been working across the state, and connect local organizations together in order to strengthen and understand the efforts in our own regions. Together we can make the PNW region the most pollinatorfriendly place in the world! To learn more about the program: <https://www.oregonbeeproject.org/pnwpollinators2019>

Fifth Annual BEEvent Pollinator Conference

Saturday, March 2nd, 2019

Linn County Fair and Expo Center, Albany

Cost: \$30

Leaf Cutter bees and Bumble bees are expected to be the focus for the 5th conference.

A full day of wonderful speakers, vendors and citizens who are concerned about the plight of our pollinators!

For more information and registration: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/linn/beeevent>

This is the official publication of the Central Coast Beekeepers Association (CCBA) for the purposes of informing and educating its membership. Any use of the materials included in this newsletter for other reasons must be approved by the board of CCBA. The information and opinions expressed by the authors in this newsletter are for informational purposes only and are not necessarily endorsed by the Central Coast Beekeepers Association.

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

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