

June 2016

OLYMPIA BEEKEEPERS



Bee to Bee

aBee - “As patterns go, your’s seems odd.”

aBee - “You got it. I will be ready for my first flight tomorrow - wish me luck.”

bBee - “Well, it could be that snoot full of neonicitoids I inhaled yesterday.”

aBee - “I haven’t been out yet but I have heard of this problem.”

bBee - “It could also be that noxious weed killer that the county is using. Seems to addle my brain and corrode my antennae.”

aBee - “Big Dave the drone told me about County weed sprays and to steer clear of road side food stops.”

bBee - “He is correct, look for a fresh flower bed, garden, and some large black berry patches where the forage killers can’t get to them.

President's Message

Hi everyone,

With the first heat wave of summer behind us, the blackberries and fireweed are blooming like crazy around here and the bees are building up nicely. Some folks have been lucky enough to get a swarm or two although swarm season seems to be much slower this year than in years past.

A special thank you goes to Glen Buschmann for organizing the team to participate in the East Olympia Elementary STEAM event. Abundant thanks, also, to the team that made that event so wonderful for the hundreds of students that participated that included Phil Yarosz, Pam Binder, Maren Anderson, Norman Ott and Judy Andrew. Couldn't do it without any of you!

And thanks to the fabulous beekeepers that assisted at the WET Science Center on May 21st including Duane McBride, Phil Yarosz and Maren Anderson. Each time we do one of these events, we're reaching a wider segment of the public and making inroads in providing them great information about bees and shattering the misconceptions and misinformation that is rampant out there.

Last Wednesday evening I was very honored to receive, on behalf of the Olympia Beekeeper's Association, a Certificate of Appreciation for our continued service to the Thurston County Fair from the Thurston County Fair Board. Thanks to the Fair Board, and our very own Paul Longwell who now serves on that board, for all the work they do in keeping the fair running and a great event from year to year. And, Paul will be seeking folks to sign up and man our booth at the fair this year, so even if you're new to beekeeping (as I was when I took my first fair booth shift) it's a great opportunity to learn more, interact with the public and help your association. Don't be intimidated; it's fun, interesting and rewarding to spend a little time in the Bee House!

It's that time, once again, to choose our OBA Beekeeper of the Year and Mark Savage Lifetime Achievement Award Winners. If you're not going to be at the next meeting, please email me your nominations to LMPCarl@gmail.com

We will be having summer meetings again this year; information will be provided at the next meeting, in the next Beeline and on the website so mark July 11th and August 8th on your calendars now! Beekeeping class will also be meeting ahead of the regular meeting, per usual, during July and August.

This month's presenter is Hillary Burgess from the University of Washington. Hillary did her master's thesis on landscaping for pollinators, and here's a link for a bit more information about her work: <http://www.biodiverseperspectives.com/author/hkb10uw-edu/> We're excited to welcome her to the OBA for our June program.

A few pieces of membership news that I do want to make everyone aware of is that Marjorie Smith's recent undwerent hospitalization and surgery. Marjorie is now recovering and we'll provide more information as it becomes available. Please keep Marjorie and Bob in your thoughts through this next recovery phase. Also, I just learned that Pat Sturgill's father recently passed away and we send our deepest condolences to Pat, Mary and their family.

That's it until the meeting next week. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Laurie

Secretary's Report Olympia Beekeepers Association Meeting May 9, 2016

Call to order at 7:00 p.m

The Secretary report for April approved as written. (?)

Treasurer's Report: New Treasurer David is compiling a report for next meeting

Old Business:

The OBA will once again be doing a special presentation at the WET Science Center on May 21st from 12-4. Still need 2-3 volunteers.

Thursday June 2nd the OBA will be at East Olympia's STEAM event. 3-4 volunteers needed. It is an all day program from 9-3:30 and Glen Buschmann is heading up the team for that day.

Two upcoming workshops at WSU. "Starting Right with Bees" is June 17th and 18th, and a Queen rearing workshop on the 19th. You can register online and find out more information about the classes here: <http://entomology.wsu.edu/apis/>

New Business:

New Board members introduced. President Laurie Pyne, Vice Pres Mechele Linehan, Treasurer David Bruun, Secretary Stefanie Booth, Membership chair Duane McBride, Mentor Chair Brian Offord, Librarian Ernie Schmidt, Program chair Patrice Donovan, Education chair Bob Smith, and Website editor Nathan Allan. Much appreciation to all outgoing chairs for all their contributions to the club!

Sampling for the USDA APHIS Bee Pest and Diseases Survey Project, a national survey of honey bee pests and diseases funded by the USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is being conducted by WSU PhD student Meghan Asche. This survey is being conducted in an attempt to document which bee diseases, parasites, or pests of honey bees are present and/or likely absent in the United States. Sampling will be done from May 16-20. Must have 10 colonies or more to participate.

Chair Reports:

Club Apiary - Bert reports that all looks well. Hive inspection dates will be coming up and he will let us know.

Swarm line - Gail reports that it has been a quiet spring so far, and that a few swarms have settled in to old hives that died over the winter. The benefits and application techniques of Lemongrass oil as an attractant were discussed.

Unofficial native pollinator chair - Xerces Society will be doing 3 workshops in the King County area soon. Glen will be at Prairie Appreciation Day on Saturday the 14th, and the Pollinator Appreciation Society will be meeting May 23 at Traditions Cafe.

Guest Speaker - Dr. Dewey Caron spoke on winter losses and varroa mite control.

www.pnwhoneybeesurvey.com/survey

www.beeinformed.org

For free download 'Tools for Varroa Management referenced by Dewey, go here: <http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroa/>

Invitation: To All who attend the OBA meetings:

Please consider presenting a short (about 5 minute) show-and-tell topic at an OBA meeting. For example, you may:

- * review a piece of beekeeping equipment you either constructed or purchased
- * recommend a book or video from the club library, or elsewhere
- * describe a new twist on an old process for doing something related to bees
- * show something you, or someone else, made from a hive product (wax, honey, propolis, royal jelly)
- * introduce us to an educational web-resource related to beekeeping
- * talk about something else bee-related that our members would find interesting--Bee Creative! Share your Knowledge, Help make our meetings interesting and useful.

Please contact David to get on the agenda (Davidbruun98@hotmail.com)

Reminder:

Plants, books, seeds, and other artifacts are always appreciated for the meeting raffle.

And, if you have a tasty snack to share, everyone enjoys something sweet.

January:

February:

September: Time to renew membership.

March:

October: TBA

April: Dr. Sheppard on program status

November: TBA

May: Dr. Caron

December: Christmas Party

June: Hillary Burgess, Plant Expert from WSU

July: *Location and Program TBD*

August: *Location and program TBD*

Monthly Meetings: held the second Monday of each month.

Place: Chinook Middle School, 4301 6th Ave NE, Lacey, WA

Time: 6:00 pm for Beginning Beekeeper's Certification Program, 7:00 pm for the association meeting. Meetings are held in the Cafeteria. Beekeeping class meets in the central hall Science Room.

Agenda: Each meeting is conducted with old and new business, and a program related to beekeeping. Attendees, if they choose, donate a gift for the raffle table. The Treasurer and Membership Chair sell tickets for \$1.00 and at the break there is refreshments available.