

Olympia Beekeepers Association - Beeline March 2016



President's Message

Hi everyone,

It's a busy, bustling time of the year as we ready for new bees and begin the new "beekeeping season" in earnest.

First, I'm very happy to report that HB 2478 passed the Senate unanimously. We're awaiting word as to when Governor Inslee might sign this bill into law and will pass that information along as soon as it is available.

Beekeeper Tim Hiatt, our WSBA state legislative chairperson; Gary Clueit, WSBA president; Franclyn Heinecke, Pierce County Beekeepers Association president and myself manned a table representing the state association and beekeeping at Agriculture Day at the Capitol in Olympia on February 23rd. We had a great time offering 8 varieties of honey for tasting and doing lots of connecting and chatting about our bees, visiting with legislators, discussing the importance of pollinators and interacting with the other agencies represented there that day. It was our first outing at this event with our booth very well-received.

We're gearing up for a big OBA season of bees and outreach as well, including managing new hives at the Olympia Airport in collaboration with the Port of Olympia; participating for the second consecutive year in the GREEN Congress for local youth at The Evergreen State College; a garden launch event at the Children's Museum in Olympia; another program for the WET Science center and a few others. We welcome your help in staffing these activities and if you'd like to be more involved with outreach and education work, please send an email to me at LMPCarl@gmail.com. I'll run down some of these activities and dates at the upcoming meeting.

The OBA was invited to have a booth at the Thurston Conservation District Plant Sale on Saturday, March 5th and many thanks to Geoff Mueller, Phil Yarosz and Duane McBride for staffing it and representing bees and the association so beautifully! I had the privilege of giving a presentation on bees to attendees in the TCD conference room and was pleased to see so many people interested and participating. This is a fabulous indication that people are eager for more

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information on bees at a time when we need everyone to pitch in to conserve and protect them. Knowledge really is power.

If you're ordering package bees, now is the time. We're including package bee ordering information in this newsletter but all should have received via special email announcement weeks ago. If you need to pay membership dues, we can take them at the meeting on the 14th or you can include in a separate check when you send your package order in. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PACKAGE BEE ORDERS TO THE CLUB P.O. BOX. The proper address to send them to is on the order form. If you have questions, please contact Mechele Linehan at mechele.linehan@gmail.com. We will be taking orders at the March meeting at a table set up outside the cafeteria.

Please take a moment to check out the new "Alternative Beekeeping" column by OBA's very own Ernie Schmidt featured on our website. Ernie's first piece is posted for your reading pleasure!

Also, we will be surveying our membership at the March meeting to compile our club's overwinter colony loss data. *If you are not able to make the meeting, please send me your name, address, total number of hives and total number of hives lost.* This information is critically important as we press forward with pollinator-related issues at the local, county and state level.

And, please take a few minutes to register your hives. The link to the forms can be found on our website. The fees to register, which are nominal, are directed to a bee-specific fund. Registering can make the difference in a pesticide spray

situation if your hives are able to be located and checked on a map prior to a spray. If you previously registered, you should get a renewal notice in the mail with your hive registration number on it.

Last but not least, it's time for officer elections again. If you have an interest in serving the association as an officer we'd love to have you! I'll be talking more about this at the meeting and we'll also be taking nominations from the floor. Elections will be held in April. Serving as a club officer is a wonderful way to give back to the club and our community and if you're working on your journeyman certification, will help you accrue your points that much faster.

We are very pleased that Dr. Danny Najera, who gave us a dynamic and stellar presentation on the waggle dance and honey bee communication last summer is back for our March meeting with the latest research he's been working on. It's sure to be a fabulous program and you won't want to miss it. In April, WSU's honey bee expert and always illuminating Dr. Steve Sheppard returns and in May we'll be welcoming back Dr. Dewey Caron. Lots of really incredible educational programming is on tap for us!

Kathy Miles does a yeoman's job of making sure we have refreshments set up every month at our meetings. Please take a moment to thank her on Monday and remember that a treat to share is always welcome on meeting nights.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday,

Laurie

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2016 OBA Package Bee Order Form



<u>4 lb. Queen Comes With Package</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Italians	125.00	_____
Carniolans	125.00	_____

<u>3 lb. Queen Comes With Package</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Italians	105.00	_____
Carniolans	105.00	_____

<u>Queens</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Carniolan Queen	30.00	_____

TOTAL COST _____
Please print clearly

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

TELEPHONE _____



*Please bring order form with check or cash to March OBA meeting
 Make checks out to Charles Schaffer*



**Payments may be paid online via PayPal to ce-schaffer@comcast.net, under send to friends. Include Name, OBA, telephone number, order: quantity & type or attach order form in email.*

Paid By _____
 if other than name on check

Check # _____ CASH Accepted by _____

of 3lb Pckg _____ **# of 4 lb Pckg** _____ **TOTAL # of Queens** _____

Should you have any questions call or text Mechele @ 610-425-7551



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[Previous month's minutes not available at time of printing - the minutes will be reviewed and approved at the March 14th regular meeting.]

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)

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 are refreshments available.

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