

November 2013

# OLYMPIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



## Christmas Party

The December 9th meeting Christmas Party will begin at 7pm following the Apprentice and Journeyman Classes.

The OBA will provide turkey, ham and drinks. Please bring a covered dish and your own plates and utensils.

Presents for the White Elephant gift exchange (\$20 limit).

It's up to the individual whether to wear an ugly sweater or other holiday attire.



# NEWS AND INTEREST FROM THE NOVEMBER 18, 2013 MEETING

## Secretary and Treasurer Report, President's Message, Up-coming Program

### Meeting Minutes

#### Olympia Beekeepers Association Meeting

November 18, 2013

#### Old Business

The Treasurer's Report and Minutes from the October 2013 meeting were approved.

#### New Members

Two new members introduced themselves.

#### New Business

##### Educational Program update

Laurie Pyne, Bob Smith, Renzy Davenoport and Roger McMaster met to discuss the OBA Educational Program. Roger and Renzy are the official instructors for the Apprenticeship Education Program. Bob Smith is the Education Chair and facilitates the Journeyman Education Program.

Renzy spoke about the components of the Apprentice course and encouraged members to continue onto the Journeyman course after the completion of the Apprenticeship course.

Apprentice and Journeyman classes now take place simultaneously, at 6:00pm on the second Monday of each month, prior to the OBA meeting at Chinook Middle School. The Journeyman group meets in the cafeteria, and the Apprentice group meets in small gymnasium.

Bob Smith distributed Apprentice course completion certificates.

Approximately 8 people in attendance indicated that they had completed the Journeyman class.

##### Christmas potluck at the next OBA meeting

Please bring your own plate and silverware plus a dish to share. The club will provide ham, turkey and beverages. Andréa Broyles volunteered to cook the turkey. Patrice Donovan volunteered to cook the ham.

A white elephant will be held, so please bring a gift that costs no more than \$20.00.

Apprentice and Journeyman classes will still be held at 6:00pm prior to the potluck.

##### More than Honey Film Screening

Laurie viewed the facilities at The Evergreen State College for the screening of the film *More Than Honey*, which will take place there on March 1 or March 8, 2014. This will be a community event to advocate for bees. Once the date is confirmed it will be announced.

##### Thurston County Fair Booth

Thurston County Commissioner Sandra Romero has emphasized that she would like the OBA to have a stronger presence at the Thurston County Fair as a voice for bees and beekeeping. The Club is seeking items of interest for the fair booth like display hives, comb samples, outreach materials, etc.

##### WSU neonicotinoid factsheet

A link for this will be posted in the Beeline newsletter.

##### New OBA website

The new OBA website is currently being built. During transfer to the new site, the old site will be down for a short time.

##### OBA club clothing

Items are available for pick-up at tonight's meeting.

##### New beeswax product

Laurie shared a new beeswax product that she discovered called 'Bee Wrap', a food storage alternative.

**Updates from Mark Emrich, WSBA President:**

Both the WSBA Apprentice and Journeyman courses are currently under review. New course texts will be released next summer. Several groups outside of Washington have contacted the WSBA requesting use of the course for their own educational programs. Mark noted that there are several counties in eastern Washington that require beekeepers to hold an WSBA Apprentice Certificate in order to keep bees.

Mark just finished writing a \$63,000 grant application for neonicotinoid hive testing in Thurston County.

**Motion from Gail Booth to donate bees**

Gail suggested that the club purchase bees for a needy family through Heifer International as it has done in the past. Each hive costs \$50.00 including set up and instruction to the receiving family. A discussion ensued and the motion was carried that the club would purchase 2 packages of bees for donation. Gail will complete the necessary paperwork.

**Program:**

Thomas Mani reported on the Pacific Northwest Treatment-Free Beekeeping Conference. Dixon Fellows reported on his trip the International Beekeepers Convention in Kiev, Ukraine.

President's Message:

Dear Members,

The holidays are upon us and it's hard to imagine we're near the end of the year. This is the time for all of us to look forward to a new year, the spring "start" of beekeeping and other post-winter activities. It's never too early to start planning for your spring apiary, take stock of wooden ware, make repairs, catch up on BeeCulture issues and finally

digging into those beekeeping books we've been meaning to read. Your board and officers will be meeting soon to plan for 2014. Please let us know if you've got a speaker that might be of interest to the club, an activity we can engage, or how we might extend our reach into the communities we live in to inform the public about the importance of bees and how to support them. If you've got an idea please feel free to share as we work to set the calendar for next year.

A few people had inquired after last meeting regarding obtaining additional OBA embroidered logo sweatshirts. We need a minimum order of 12 items to submit the order, so if you're interested, please e-mail me at [LMPCarl@gmail.com](mailto:LMPCarl@gmail.com) and we can hopefully, get enough folks to submit an additional order.

On behalf of all of us at OBA, we extend our very best wishes to you and yours for a warm and joyful holiday season. Hope to see you at the Christmas party!

Laurie

Invitation: To All who attend the OBA meetings:

Please consider presenting a short (about 5 minute). 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 Rich to get on the agenda: [rich.beekeeper@gmail.com](mailto:rich.beekeeper@gmail.com)



**Still working on the new Webpage, sorry for the delay. Have a wonderful Holiday Season. Not a great deal of news for this issue since everyone is busy with other endeavours and special projects. Besides, the girls are nestled in their winter ball.**





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Reminder: Apprentice Beekeepers Class is growing so arrive early if you want a seat.

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.

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**2014**

**January:** TBA

**February:** Nominations for officers requested.  
Plan your bee order.

**March:** Order bees. Elect officers.

**April:** Bees arrive.

**May:** TBA

**June:** Last meeting before summer break.

**July:** Summer break. Picnic (?)

**August:** Thurston county fair.

**September:** Meetings resume. Dues payable

**October:** TBA

**November:** TBA

**December:** Christmas Potluck

**Monthly Meetings:** held the second Monday of each month, excluding July and August.

**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.