

October 2015

OLYMPIA BEEKEEPERS



REPORTS, NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Important !!!!

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Submit your Hive of the Year Entry Now!

It's harvest season, and it's time to update your records, spiff up your hives, and prepare for the

First Annual Hive of the Year Contest!

Win Big! Prizes for Oldest Hive - Most Productive Hive - Prettiest Hive

Pick up entry form at the next meeting

Or download entry from this link: [\(link\)](#)

Enter as many hives as you wish

Entries must be submitted by November Bee Club meeting.

Winners announced and prizes given at December meeting

November Program

Topic: An Inside Look at the Package Bee Business; the New Oxalic Acid Vaporizer for Varroa Control; Beekeeping Q&A

What: Mike Radford of Northwest Bee Supply will share adventures of transporting northwest package bees; Mike will also explain how the new oxalic acid vaporizer works to control Varroa mites.

President's Message

It's Thanksgiving month, the holidays are fast approaching and we're wrapping up the year, which is almost hard to believe. As "gratitude" is at the heart of this month's big holiday, I'd like to first thank board members Mechele Linehan, vice-president; Duane McBride, membership director; Mary Haynes, secretary; Andrea Broyles, treasurer; Bob Smith, education director and club officers Paul Longwell, librarian and fair chair; David Bruun, our program chair; and Jim Rieck, mentor chair for all their hard work and numerous contributions to the club, our membership, beekeeping and the community. Abundant thanks also to Bert Lewis for leading on our club apiary; Dixon Fellows for maintaining our observation hive(s); Nathan Allan for his website work; Kathy Miles for all her work making sure we have refreshments at each meeting; Gail Booth for welcoming and checking in new apprentice beekeeping students and for leading the swarm team and Dana Smith for sending out email notices and the newsletter. To the incredible Airbee team of Jim Martin, Roy Manicke, Frank Scolaro, Phil Yarosz and Bruce Longmire that manages the hives at the Olympia Regional Airport, abundant thanks for all you do. All of these folks have given countless hours to various projects and events on behalf of the OBA and it is appreciated beyond words. And to all of the folks who offered their time and talents, helping at outreach events or in other ways that benefit bees and the organization, huge and heartfelt thanks to you. And, last but not least, to our fabulous membership who's collective energy, minds and spirit make it all possible. We're really making a difference in our communities, our county and beyond on issues that impact our bees and raising general awareness.

This year, our association grew by leaps and bounds in a vast array of ways. The culmination of several years of work with county and other local governmental and agency officials led to the signing of a multi-jurisdictional memorandum of understanding regarding the use of neonicotinoid pesticides as well as the launch of a county-wide "Bee a Pollinator" public awareness campaign with a gala event at Panorama in Lacey. We continue to meet to discuss planning and engagement for next year. Mechele and Duane took on the herculean task of package bee ordering and in March we participated in our first Honeybee Legislative Day at the Capitol and in our first student Green Congress at the Evergreen State College. We also participated in the STEAM event at East Olympia Elementary School, two programs at the WET Science Center, the kids camp at the Hands on Children's Museum, our first ever Sand in the City event in Olympia and our first-ever invitation to the Nisqually Watershed Festival. Our bees were a hit wherever we went. Paul Longwell did a stellar job as Thurston County fair lead this year (and also got himself a nomination and seat on the fair board!) and we also participated in the Grays Harbor Fair for the first time. We collaborated with the Port of Olympia and installed two hives of bees at the Olympia airport, had a display at the TEDx Olympia event, the Tumwater Farmer's Market

Kid's Day and expanded our lending library for members. We continue to collaborate with our fabulous partners at the Sustainability in Prisons project to provide education and bees and beekeeping programming for inmates. On the heels of our first multi-club officers meeting in Centralia last month, we'll also be looking at ways we can work together to bring workshops or other programming to members collaboratively. We had a slate of fabulous speakers at our meetings this year, and we are working on developing a great line-up for next year as well.

Your officers will be meeting on November 17th to plan for 2016. If you haven't yet remitted your dues, please see Duane McBride, our membership director, at the November meeting. Your dues are so important and are the means by which we pay for our meeting space, speakers, programming, insurance, etc. If there's a speaker or program you'd like to recommend, please let us know. Mike Radford from Northwest Bee Supply will be presenting the evening's program on package bee production and whatever else he can fit into the hour at our November meeting.

Our December "meeting" will be the Christmas party and potluck, details of which are forthcoming by the busy bees on the party committee lead by David Bruun.

Journeymen group is starting up again at Gail Booth's home. If you're interested in participating, please contact Gail at: gail30@msn.com

Looking forward to seeing you 9th!

Laurie

Secretary's Report

Olympia Beekeepers Association Meeting October 12, 2015

Call to order at 7:07 p.m.

Welcome to new members!

Laurie asked for correction to the September 2015 minutes. None were offered and they were accepted as written.

Treasurer's report from Andrea

Checking has 1,366.27

Saving has 4,366.27

The report was accepted as written.

Old Business

The Nisqually Watershed Festival was a great success! The participants set up in the new insect room. A big thank you to Dixon Fellows, Patrice Donovan, Perry Holtzberry, Phil Yarosz, and Marjorie and Bob Smith for the awesome help!

Laurie Pyne presented the Mark Savage Lifetime achievement award (the real one this time, since it had not arrived last month) to Gail Booth.

New Business

Laurie Pyne introduced Mark Emrich and acknowledged the three years of tremendous service representing our club as president of the Washington State Beekeepers Association level. Thank you Mark!

There was an Area two meeting this last month that included Lewis and Thurston and Pierce counties. Attendees shared common problems and collaborated for solutions. Shared and talked about a queen bank, joint programming, educational events, beekeeping issues and how to make our programs stronger.

Mark and Laurie will be meeting again with Sandra Romero in a collaborative effort to help

pollinators. If you have ideas you would like to share please contact Mark Emeich or Laurie Pyne.

At the Washington State Beekeepers Level, Franclyn Heinecke will be stepping down as the area two representative. That position is open to members interested in serving at the State level.

Attention Farm Bureau members! The Bureau is looking for a beekeeper to serve on its board.

Glen Buschman has announced a new meeting for the Native Pollinators group. People interested in studying and discussing native pollinators will meet at Traditions Café in downtown Olympia on October 26th at 7:00 p.m.

The Sustainability in Prisons Program which was initiated two years ago is moving forward. They did not get a grant that they applied for this past year but would like to move forward by providing educational services to their inmates. Previously Laurie Pyne and Renzy Davenport provided a program on bees and Renzy taught the Apprentice level classes at both Stafford Creek and Cedar Creek facilities. Paul Longwell will be teaching the upcoming Cedar Creek Apprentice classes starting this month.

Chair reports

Jim Reick asked for two mentors. He needed one mentor for a person in West Olympia who was having difficulties and another for a couple in Nisqually who do not have bees (but are preparing for next spring). He asked for and received volunteers to mentor both parties.

David Bruun reported on plans for the upcoming Christmas party. He will be accepting forms for the Hive of the Year contest until November. There will also be a honey judging contest. Queenline jars were made available for people who wanted to enter.

Duane McBride says dues are due!! \$25.00 check or cash accepted!

Bob Smith apologized for forgetting Apprentices books at home. He borrowed books from Paul Longwell that he will replace, so that Paul can teach his class.

Pat Sturgill asked Bob when the Journeyman classes will resume. Bob stated that it was difficult to be in two places at one time. Laurie interjected that the board would be discussing the issue and offering up suggestions at the next meeting. Laurie then asked how many would attend on a different day than the General meeting. Approximately ten people showed interest. Laurie then asked Gail Booth if she would be willing to organize a Journeyman class next month. Gail agreed to do so and asked people to sign up on an information sheet during the break.

Mark Emrich announced that he has stepped down as the Washington State Beekeepers Association President. He thanked the membership for their ongoing support over the last 3 years.

The new President is Gary Clueit from Bellingham. He is an investor, entrepreneur and has lived around the world. He has had his own foundation since 2002 to support education in Sub-Saharan Africa. He also a beekeeper.

There were a couple of changes to the by-laws at State level to allow for electronic voting for Board resolutions and to allow the Board to do business electronically.

We continue to work with the MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Program) to get money for forage and monitor Department of Transportation cutting schedules. Will be drafting programs in the spring for moving forward.

There will be new Bills in the legislature this year, primarily forage based.

Our Master Beekeeper program will be online going forward. Cost will be \$20 for all three

programs as well as PDF files of the curriculum (book) and test that can be downloaded. Students will download test questions and submit electronically to be scored. The curriculum will also be offered in Spanish to facilitate its use by students in New Mexico and Puerto Rico who will be able to participate in the program starting in January. This program will help our program creators evaluate the effectiveness of the curriculum and test questions.

Mark offered condolences to the family of Ron Babcock, our Western area Representative at large who passed away last week. That state board position is now open should anyone be interested.

Mark then presented the Washington State Beekeepers Association Beekeeper of the Year Award to Laurie Pyne. Mark made mention of Laurie's achievements: here in Olympia, throughout the state, and nationally as he presented the award. Laurie graciously accepted the shiny new smoker saying thank you to all.

Pat Sturgill moved that the association sent a get well card to John Thompkins who suffered a severe heart attack last week. Laurie noted the club's "Sunshine Fund" for such instances and once she receives contact information will see that it is sent.

Gail Booth also mentioned that a past member who dropped out of beekeeping because of health, Paul Mullins, passed away recently. Flowers will be sent to his family (wife) as well.

Break

Program Ron Fessenden Md MPH on the health benefits of honey.

Native Pollinators Study Group

Habitat Building

Making homes for native pollinators

Monday, November 23, 2016



Bumble bee using old bird house



Aggregation of mining (ground) bees



Mason bees in mixed tunnels

Native Pollinators (Thurston Co)

Traditions Cafe

Monday November 23, 7 pm

Building homes and habitats

Where do the pollinators live?

What habitat designs have you tried?

Do you have favorite building materials?

What works and what doesn't?

Are there design projects that you want to try?

What have been your biggest challenges?

Do you have books / publications / websites on this topic that you recommend?

Please invite friends, forward this invite.

No meeting in December. January topic to be decided.

Join us the 4th Monday of most months at Traditions, 7 p.m.

360-352-9009 • olypollinators@aol.com

<http://olypollinators.blogspot.com/p/study-group.html>

Thank you Traditions! Visit their store and cafe during regular hours, (10 to 6). We will "pass the hat" for their expenses.

(<http://www.traditionsfairtrade.com/>)

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: Jason Long, WSU, speaking on cold winter storage.

August: "Inside the Hive" Dr.Najera

February: Megan Taylor, WSU speaking on Old World Bee Geneteics

September: Time to renew membership.

March: Tim Lawrence, WSU

October: Health Benefits of Honey

April: Package Introduction

November: TBA

May: Preventing Swarms and Splits

December: Christmas Party

June: Pests and Treatments

July: Dr. Caron

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.