

September 2015

# OLYMPIA BEEKEEPERS



## REPORTS, NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

*October Program*

**Ron Freeman, M.D.**

**"The Revolutionary Health Benefits of Honey"**

## President's Message

Hi everyone,

We're fast into the pumpkin-spice season and the final stretch for our bees prior to winter. This is the year I'm going to try the Michael Bush foam-insulation-sheet-inside-the-lid trick for reducing the difference between external and internal temperatures and see how that plays inside the hive. If any of you employed this last year after seeing his program here, please let us know how it worked!

Thanks to Dixon Fellows, Bob and Marjorie Smith, Patrice Donovan, Phil Yarosz and Perry Holtsberry for being part of the Nisqually Watershed Festival bee display contingent. We had a great day, lots of traffic and enjoyed being in the insect room at the wildlife refuge talking "bees" with all the guests. It was a glorious, sunny day that brought a lot of people out.

Rich Kalman is leading a discussion following a screening of the film "More than Honey" at the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation on October 7th from 6:30-9:30. If you're interested in joining Rich and representing the OBA, hand out club information and talk about your bees, he would love to have you there. Email me at [LMPCarl@gmail.com](mailto:LMPCarl@gmail.com) if interested.

## Important!!!!

**We will be conducting our October meeting on October 12th and NOT the 19th as previously reported. Apprentice Class will meet at 6:00 pm per usual and the regular meeting from 7-9:00 pm. Chinook Middle School will be open for our meeting on the 12th. Bee there!!**

Our speaker for the October 12th meeting is Ron Fessenden, M.D. who will be presenting a program on "The Revolutionary Health Benefits of Honey". If you've always wanted to know

what makes honey such a wonder food and healing substance, this is the talk to hear.

Mechele Linehan, Bob Smith, Paul Longwell and myself had a wonderfully informative and productive meeting with officers from the Lewis County Beekeepers Association and the president of the Pierce County Beekeepers Association this past Saturday. A few of the items discussed included: how we might collaborate on projects for members and the public; how to provide more educational opportunities/workshops, etc. for beekeepers of all levels; queen procurement/having a queen bank; junior beekeeping programs/scholarships and buying package bees.

As always, if there's something you're interested in seeing the club engage or you would like to participate in, please let us know.

See you on Columbus Day!

Laurie

## Secretary's Report

### Olympia Beekeepers Association Meeting

September 14, 2015  
Call to order at 7:08 p.m.

Welcome to new members!

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

Treasurer's report from Andrea. Checking has 1,308.29

Saving has 4,463.64

### Old Business

Nisqually Watershed Festival is coming up on September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thank you to all of the folks who volunteered at our last meeting!

Membership dues will be accepted during our meeting tonight.

### New Business

As reported at the last county commissioner "bee team" meeting, there is a new sign that is being installed at the Hazo House in Olympia to "Bee Friendly to Pollinators". A photocopy of the sign was shown. We will work towards getting a picture of the actual sign in place at the Hazo House to post on the website and send them a note of thanks for taking action on behalf of pollinator awareness.

Laurie met with the new director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture, Mr. Derek Sandison last week along with

Mark Emrich and Franclyn Heinecke of Pierce County. They discussed outcomes of the Honey Bee Working Group Report and the needs for bee forage. He was receptive to concerns and continues to become acquainted with his new role.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> our officers will be meeting with Lewis and Pierce county beekeeper association officers to discuss possibilities for future collaborations. They may well be joined by other organizations who are interested.

We have a brand spanking new, still in the box, deluxe extractor and electric uncapping knife donated to the club by Mr. John Bates! A thank you card was passed around in recognition of such a fantastic gift to the club.

Our next meeting will be held on the third Monday of October instead of the second because it falls on Columbus Day. The meeting date is October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Laurie presented the Mark Savage award with apologies that the shiny new smoker upon which the engraved plaque is to be mounted had yet to arrive. Gail Booth accepted her award, proudly stating that it didn't matter that the plaque was not yet on a new smoker! A temporary smoker was presented until the proper piece arrives.

Laurie Pyne accepted with gratitude the club's Beekeeper of the Year award!

There was a call out for a queen by Frank Scolaro who needs one desperately. Suggested was Beeline in Rochester and Lori Miller in Roy.

## Chair reports

**Jim Rieck** says this is a good time to look for a mentor for next year. See him during the break if

you are interested in becoming a mentor or would like to work with one!

**David Bruun** reported on plans for the upcoming Christmas party. There will be a Hive of the Year award as well as a honey judging (as well as tasting for members) by Bob Smith. Everyone is invited to compete.

**Paul Longwell** apologized that the books from our library were not at the meeting. We have received sooo many new books that the container broke! He is in the process of building a new display case. Paul also announced that he has been appointed to the Thurston County Fair Board and will be working toward allowing us to sell products at the fair. Congratulations to Paul!

**Michele Linehan** noted that the borrowing and returning of hive equipment is running smoothly and all equipment is coming back clean. She says that she is often in Tacoma overnight and that her husband has become handy at knowing where things are and where they go when returned. She asked that people returning or borrowing please give advance notice so that proper prep can be made to make sure someone is there to assist with the equipment.

**Mark Emrich** spoke to the club reporting that October 11<sup>th</sup> will be his last official day as Washington State Beekeepers President. He thanked the club for their support stating that “this is where I got my start.” He plans to

nominate Laurie Pyne as the Washington State Beekeeper of the Year.

He encouraged members to attend the State annual meeting that is coming up October 11 in Ellensburg. There will be various meetings you can participate in and make some new beekeeper friends. You can learn about beekeeping on the east side of the state, which is a whole different beast than beekeeping here in the west.

Mark has been appointed as Chairman of the Pesticide and Noxious Weed Board for Thurston County. Get in touch with Mark if you have concerns regarding noxious weeds or spraying.

**Laurie Pyne** announced that there was big news for beekeepers as a lawsuit was won against Dow for not acting in good faith and testing their product adequately! A U.S. appeals court ruled that federal regulators erred in allowing an insecticide developed by Dow (sulfoxaflor) onto the market, canceling its approval. The lawsuit was filed in 2013 by organizations representing the honey beekeeping and honey industry.

**Ron Scholzen** gave a brief report on a new substance that is helpful in treating bee stings. His Chiropractor (whom he turned on to beekeeping) uses this capsule that goes under your tongue and dissolves. It is called Apis Melifica and can be found The Olympia Food Coop and possibly local health food stores. This is not a substitute for an epi-pen, but is good for people who are starting to have mild reactions to bee stings.

**Becky Anderson** says that there will be a meeting at the club apiary this Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

- **Glen Buschmann** reported that a group will meet at the Olympia Timberland Public Library to discuss native pollinators. The meeting will be on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to just before 8:00 p.m. The plan is to decide if there is enough interest to establish a permanent group to study native pollinators and meet on a regular basis.

## **Break**

## **Program**

Ray Willard from the Washington State Department of Transportation discussed their programs for pollinators and the public.

Paul Longwell discussed preparations for overwintering bee hives.

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](mailto:Davidbruun98@hotmail.com))

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**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.*

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**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.