



## LANE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

130 HANSEN LANE, EUGENE, OR 97404

President: *Chuck Hunt* (541-607-0106)  
 Vice-President: *Ken Ograin* (541-935-7065)  
 Treasurer: *Nancy Ograin* (541-935-7065)  
 Sec./Newsletter: *Kathy Hunt* (541-607-0106)  
 Board of Directors: *Gene Garner* (541-746-5972)  
                           *Denny Jessup* (541-687-0912)  
                           *Jim Sheridan* (541-344-1354)

## DEC. 2001 NEWSLETTER

## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, Dec. 18th, 2001**  
**7:30 P.M.**

*(Building will be open for early "bees"  
 7:00 p.m.)*

## LOCATION:

**Santa Clara Community Center**  
**2615 River Road**

**PARKING: Instant Lube lot N of**  
**S.C. Community Center**

**TOPIC: "TIE UP LOOSE ENDS"**  
**a**  
**Year End Round Table**  
**Discussion**

- \* What did you learn new this year?
- \* What did the club do well this year? What wrong? What would you like to see more of?
- \* Why are we growing?

**Also: ELECTION**  
**of**  
**LCBA**  
**2002 EXECUTIVE**

*Extra Club T-shirts were ordered so... if you still have not gotten that special person a special gift; well.... here is the solution!!!*

## NOVEMBER Happenings

MEETING RECAP- Nov. 20th

The weather was terrible and thus fewer than usual members gathered to watch an excellent video dealing with "The Killer Bee". Comments made included "That was cheerful!" and "Just before Thanksgiving ... to cheer you up!"

All kidding aside it was a very interesting Sierra Club video and it is important that we know about Africanized bees and their habits.

Club business included the 2002 Bee School. A site has been reversed for this annual event It will take place on Saturday, March 23rd at the Irving Grange. A Committee was struck with a number of people volunteering for either set-up, advertising, refreshments, or program. Be assured that there is still room for you on the committee. Remember that club members that help with the school get to attend free of charge! The registration fee has been set at \$35 for a family and \$25 for an individual in advance and \$5 extra at the door. So.....don't forget to join the committee at the December meeting.

It was announced that the final amount of money raised for bee research by the club at OSU Bee Lab was \$350.

Two members, Mike Harrington and Jonathan Loftin were nominated at the November meeting to stand for the 2002 Board of Directors. Don't

forget that the new slate of officers will be elected at the December meeting. There is still time to nominate someone! To do so either contact Ken Ograin at 935-7065 or e-mail woodrt@pacinfo.com or nominate them at the December meeting!

To round out the evening those present were treated to a taste of blueberry jam made with honey! As you may remember a few months ago I mentioned that someone had called for advice about using honey in canning and I had neglected to get his name. Well it turned out that it was Tom White! His jam was delicious!!!!

Katharine Hunt



## KEN OGRAIN'S NOTES

**Xmas List:** If you're going to see Santa soon, you should ask him for the hottest gift for the beekeeper this year! It's the screen bottom board! You can make one or buy one, but it is something you need and it's the best thing you can do for your bees. Screen bottoms will tell you a lot about what is going on inside your hives, plus it gives them some added ventilation.

Spring will be here before you know! So....you need to start thinking about spring treatment of your hives. January will be the time that I will be putting in our order for mite strips.

Also, think about equipment, NEW boxes for splits or frames for replacements. So get a list together of the things you want to do.

*It's time to get involved.* Maybe you have heard about the Postal Service and Federal Express getting together. FedEx will be handling priority mail and this means that there will be no more shipments of bees or queens by the postal service. Federal Express does not handle live animals. So how will beekeepers get their new queens? While this will not be a major problem for large beekeepers who may order 20-50 queens at a time. What this will mean for the backyard beekeeper when he needs 1 or 2 queens at a cost of 8 - 10 dollars apiece is you will be paying more for the next day air shipment than the queens cost. This is how you can get involved. We need to ask this question of our senators and congressmen. "Did anyone look at the effect this joining of services between USPS and FedEx would have on the 1000's of Beekeepers"? The major queen raisers are in the southern states and Hawaii. The post office has supplied this service for over a 100 years until August of 2001. Because of recent events you can not sent letters to them so I have included e-mail web site addresses for all of them.

Peter DeFazio

[www.house.gov/htbin/wrep\\_findrep](http://www.house.gov/htbin/wrep_findrep)

Gordon Smith

[www.senate.gov/~gsmith/webform.htm](http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith/webform.htm)

htm

Ron Wyden

[www.senate.gov/~wyden/mail.htm](http://www.senate.gov/~wyden/mail.htm)

## ODDS & ENDS

This is the space set aside for such things as honey recipes, reports from bee conferences, ideas you would like to share with other beekeepers, etc. Be sure to submit items by the end of the month for the next newsletter!

## UPDATE: NORTHWEST CORNER FALL CONFERENCE

Further details about the annual fall conference held Nov. 8-10 at the Best Western Inn, Hood River, OR were received after the November newsletter was "put to bed". As mentioned previously only four LCBA members were able to attend, but they all had a good time. Susan Dolvin found a quilt store that was having a great sale. She now has

lots of "bee" material and a quilt! Nancy Ograin, Mike Harrington and Ken Ograin went exploring farm stands and found plenty to bring home. The conference was informative also, with the National Honey Board hosting the opening night with a wonderful buffet. There were speakers from Canada and the U.S. with topics from marketing to breeding. Although varroa was talked about by everyone and a lot of work has been done there were no magic bullets. Breeding of resistant queens is getting a lot of attention and holds the most hope of winning the battle. Mite Resistant Queens (SMR) and the Russian Queens seem to have what it takes and for \$50 you can to.

Ken Ograin



## CLUB MEMOIRS

While looking through copies of old club newsletters to see when the "FIRST" newsletter was produced, the Editor discovered that there had been a time when honey recipes were *regularly* featured! So unless one of you submit a recipe these *old* recipes will be once again featured for the next few months! The first recipe was submitted by AnnaBell Birch for the May, 1982 Newsletter. So those of you that froze rhubarb last spring here is a delicious sounding recipe!

### AnnaBell's RHUBARB CUSTARD PIE

1 9 or 10" unbaked pie shell  
3 egg yolks, beaten  
2/3 cup honey (room temp.)  
1/4 tsp. Salt  
3 egg whites, beaten stiff  
3 cups cut up rhubarb  
Boiling water with 3 tbsp. honey in it  
3 tbsp. Flour  
1 tbsp. Butter

Preheat oven 425 . Place rhubarb in deep dish or bowl. Add boiling water. Cover and let stand 20 minutes. Drain rhubarb. Add egg yolks, honey, flour and salt, stirring together. Fold in egg whites. Put in pie shell and dot with butter. Bake at 425 for 10 minutes, then 350 for 30 minutes.



## RUSSIAN HONEY BEE QUEENS RESISTANT TO VARROA IN OREGON

The Russian queen bee/mite resistance research project which received a SARE Farmer/Rancher grant from the Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, US Department of Agriculture, has completed its second year of work. This work continues to involve Kenny and Heike Williams, Bertie Stringer and Marshall Dunham, and Chuck and Katharine Hunt. In the early spring of 2001, the project decided that there were not enough Russian queens left to adequately complete the research. The surviving Russian Queen hives were not medicated in 2001. Mite counts were taken on each hive and the two hives that had the most bees, the best honey production, and the least mites were selected as breeder queens in order to increase the numbers of queens for subsequent research.

Kenny and Heike Williams arranged for an isolated mating yard in the coastal range west of Summit and the project raised 25 new (Oregon) Russian queens. This goal was assisted by the fact that Russian queens, even when mated with Italian (or other) drones will still produce pure Russian drones for mating (since drones have a mother but not a father). Thus, a number of crossbred Russian queens were obtained from California breeders and the isolated area west of Summit was flooded with Russian drones. Mating was successful and the resulting 25 pure bred (Oregon) Russian queens are being wintered over for further research next year.

It is hoped that the research project will repeat this process again next year. Thus, the (Oregon) Russian queen or queens that produce the most bees, the most honey, and have the least mites will be used to produce another generation of queens and resistant bees. The project has become not just passive observational research but an active breeding program to produce a genetic line of bees that will be suited to the Oregon climate and mite resistant. It is hoped to introduce additional genes into the queens that will be produced, but the continuation of the project hinges upon funding since it is very labor and equipment intensive for the beekeepers involved.

Chuck Hunt

## POLLINATION SURVEY

Did you contract to pollinate a crop this year? If you did there is a survey to be completed that would help Dr. Michael Burgett and the OSU Honey Bee Lab in their studies. Copies of the survey will be available at the December meeting.

## ABF 59th ANNUAL CONVENTION

If you happen to be in Georgia during January you may want to take in the annual American Beekeeping Federation's convention in Savannah. It occurs January 16-19, 2002 with registration due by Dec. 28th. An interesting added attraction to the conference is the "Beekeeper's Antiques Roadshow & Bee Market". That's right! There will be well know collectors available to evaluate your beekeeping items and you can also rent a table to buy, sell or trade collectible bee and honey motif items. Sound like fun? See the registration form at the December meeting!

## OREGON AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

The purpose of AITC is to help young people gain a better understanding of agriculture, the source of our food and fiber and its impact on our economy and daily lives. The Program Director, Tami Kerr contacted LCBA to see if there were any beekeepers that were willing to go into classrooms and share their knowledge. Well we were able to inform her that LCBA members already do this and we would be pleased to be a resource for the program. The Foundation has developed educational units about agriculture including one about bees. If you are interested in this program please either contact this newsletter editor or go to AITC's home page at <http://AITC.orst.edu>.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### DECEMBER MEETING

The club will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 18th for its monthly meeting.

**THIRD TUESDAY  
SANTA CLARA  
CIVIC CENTER  
2615 RIVER ROAD**

## LOOKING AHEAD:

### ANNUAL DINNER—JANUARY

Suggestions are needed. Where should we hold our annual dinner? The Sizzler is already booked. Do you know of somewhere that we could hold a potluck (using honey recipes)? Any ideas? *Please* call a member of the Executive with your suggestions .....promptly!!!!

## MEMBERSHIPS

Membership in the Lane County Beekeepers Association costs \$12.00 per year and is due at the January meeting. It is pro-rated a \$1.00 a month after March for NEW members only!

Renewal of your membership will always be the yearly rate no matter when you renew. Membership Dues are for the calendar year and as stated above are due in January.

If you see a bee beside your mailing label that means you have not paid your dues yet this year!

Some of the benefits of being a member include interesting topics and discussions at monthly meetings, help on beekeeping questions, a monthly newsletter, discounts on bee magazines, and the use of the club's extractor and videos. Dues should be submitted to the Treasurer Nancy Ograin, 88632 Faulhaber, Elmira OR 97437-9718.

## CLUB VIDEO

Most of the videos are out and about! *PLEASE* don't forget to bring those you borrowed to the December meeting and exchange them for others!

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Member bee-related ads are free. Bee related ads will cost \$5.00 for 3 months for non-members. To place an ad contact the editor by the 1st of the month. (541-607-0106) e-mail [cwhunt@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:cwhunt@oregon.uoregon.edu)

## CLUB T-SHIRTS

As mentioned earlier in the newsletter there are still NEW t-shirts available for purchase.

### EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Frank Moffit (541-782-5568)

Wax foundation - Western & Deep  
Mixed Tops & Bottoms - Migratory  
Trailer - \$1000  
Stainless Steel Strainer - \$20  
Electric Wax Melter - \$100

### SMOKER FUEL FOR SALE

George Tuinstra (541-726-0929)

Clean Burlap grain sacks suitable for smoker fuel. 50 sacks \$12.50

### CUSTOM BUILT EQUIPMENT

Kristine & Cliff Levin (541-998-5898)  
[kjlcccl@hotmail.com](mailto:kjlcccl@hotmail.com)

Will assemble and/or paint frames and supers, tops and bottom boards for a fee.

### EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Robin Gage (541-746-0808)

metal tank with water jacket  
13 3/4" x 19 1/2" x 8" deep \$50

### BEEKEEPING HELP WANTED

Wild Harvest Honey (541-456-263)

Corvallis area beekeeper seeks steady part-time help in spring and summer. Please call regarding details: Wild Harvest Honey, Blodgett, OR.



# Lane County Beekeepers Association



OREGON

Lane County Beekeepers Association  
 130 Hansen Lane  
 Eugene, OR 97404



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