



September 2022 NEWSLETTER

LANE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
130 HANSEN LANE, EUGENE, OR 97404

Website: www.lcbaor.org

Email: lcbaor@pacinfo.com

President: Brian McGinley 541-521-7523

Vice President: Nancy Ograin 541-935-7065

Treasurer: Polly Habliston 541-461-0339

Secretary: Paula Sablosky 541-206-7173

Board Members: Fonta Molyneaux 541-592-9332

Matt Stouder 541-619-5582 * Pam Leavitt 541-344-4228

Lynn Hellwege 541-513-2074 * Brian Jackson 541-513-3716

Past President: Mike France 541-232-1610



President's Message by Brian McGinley

You do something successfully for over fifteen years and you would never expect 'humility' coming into a conversation with another experienced beekeeper. But this week, our conversation deserved a reminder of this word as we recounted situations when our bees showed us new things to learn about them.

Yesterday I was reminded of this valuable lesson as I sat in the backyard and enjoyed a beautiful summer evening after dinner. Bored with my book and phone distractions, I looked up to see the makings of a swarm coming from my most robust hive. Surely this can't be happening, it's almost September for honey's sake. And it's way too small for any self-respecting swarm. I must be mistaken. After five minutes I wandered into the midst of this cloud of maybe 500 bees and I knew I was not mistaken. The swarm (or absconding) slowly started to settle into the grape arbor over the host hive, while a cluster of bees on the hive's front porch were vigorously fanning queen scent coming from the virgin queen inside. Later that night I placed the swarm in a nuke and went to bed.

Next day I was on the phone looking for answers from my mentors. Absconding won the bet if the hive had a high mite load and no virgin queen or queen cells were found. Supersedure ruled the day if the old queen ran out of gas and I could find a virgin queen or closed queen cells. Anyone care to place a bet? Thankfully I promptly found a robust virgin queen in the hive. So an inspection of the hive twelve to fifteen days later will tell me if she found enough drones to mate with successfully or I'd be in the market for a mated queen. I'll be humbly waiting the next two weeks.

You don't want to miss this month's meeting with Carolyn Breece as our speaker from the OSU Bee Lab. She will be talking to us about how to get our bees through this winter.

GENERAL MEETING

September 20, 2022

New Time 7:00 pm

Come early to socialize and share your Questions with experience beekeepers.

Doors open at 6:30pm

NO Early Class

General Meeting

Topic: Let's Get Your Bees Through Winter

**Speaker: Carolyn Breece
OSU Honey Bee Lab**

Program begins at 7:00 pm

Presentation is in-person only

Trinity United Methodist Church
440 Maxwell Road, Eugene
Turn West off River Road (South of Beltline)

Inside this Issue:

Upcoming Events /Webinar	2
OSBA Conference /New Members	2
National Honey Month /Refractometer	2
September Winter Stores/ Nectar Dearth	3
Busy Bee	4
Sept Bee Tips	5
Extractor Information/Queen's Bees	5
LCBA Leadership	6
Duties of the Officers & Directors	6
Honey Donation Request	6
Aug Meeting Highlights	7-8
Uniting Colonies in the Fall	9
OSBA Conference Agenda	10
OSBA Conference Registration Form	11
Classified Ads /Contact Info	12
Officer Directory	12
Links	13

Upcoming Events

Sept 25th - Save the Bee 5K Run/Walk

Location: Richardson Park, Veneta, OR

For more information and to register:

<https://www.savethebee.org/run-for-the-bees/>

Oct 28-30th - OSBA 2022 Fall Conference

Location: Florence Events Center, Florence, OR

Tentative agenda and registration form on pages 10 and 11.

For more information on the conference and to register:

<https://orsba.org/2022-fall-conference/>

OSBA State Conference Auction

Each year the Oregon State Beekeepers Association has a silent/benefit auction, with all the money going to the Honey Bee Lab for research. It is always fun to see what people bring to help raise money. If you want to contribute to this worthwhile cause, please log on to the OSBA website: orsba.org to read about the process to submit an item.

Upcoming Webinar

September 27 – At Home Beekeeping Series

Topic: Behavior, Chemical Ecology, and Genetics of Varroa Destructor, T. Reams, Texas A&M University

Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm PST

Join via Zoom at: <https://auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838>

Join via Facebook Live at: <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/>

(If you use Facebook, after logging in, click on more, then events.)

Refractometer

LCBA has three refractometers to check the moisture content in your honey. Remember honey is not honey unless the moisture content is 18.2% or below. We will have one of our refractometers available at our monthly meetings to test your honey. If unable to attend call or email one of the members below to schedule a time to check out your honey.

Eugene- Judy Scher, 541-344-2144, judyscher@gmail.com

Elmira - Ken Ograin 541-935-7065, woodrt@pacinfo.com

Cottage Grove - Francis Rothauge 541-520-8391
(no email)

OSBA Fall Conference Registration Drawing

Oregon State Beekeepers Association (OSBA) Fall Conference takes place October 28th-30th at the Florence Events Center. LCBA is providing a free conference registration to encourage members to attend.

LCBA will be holding a drawing at the conclusion of the September meeting for the free registration.

The club requires anyone putting their name in for the drawings to be a member of LCBA and you must be present to win. One entry per person per household. The value of the individual registration fee is \$150. This does not include lodging or meals.

The winner is required to submit a short article for the November newsletter on their conference experience and something that they learned at the conference.



HELP SAVE THE HONEY BEES BY CELEBRATING NATIONAL HONEY MONTH

It's September, National Honey Month and the third year of the Honey Saves Hives program! So, what's the buzz? Protecting honey bees has become increasingly important as these pollinators are crucial to maintaining the health of our ecosystem. Not only do they produce the all-natural honey we enjoy, but honey bees pollinate more than a third of the foods we eat.

To celebrate National Honey Month, the [National Honey Board](#) has partnered with Brandi Milloy, a food reporter and lifestyle expert, and Joshua Snyder, baker and meal planner. Together, they're helping to spread the word about how we can all help save hives by purchasing honey and made-with-honey products! They have also partnered with brands that share their common goal of supporting honey bees. Visit HoneySavesHives.com to learn more about how you can help honey bees.

Welcome New Members

Keith Balderson	Eugene
June & Jim Kjelde	Cottage Grove

September Food Stores

By Ken Ograin

Food sources will soon be getting harder for your bees to find in many parts of the state. Keep an eye on your hive entrance and if you see a lack of activity or no pollen coming in, it may be necessary to supply them sugar syrup and protein patties. Feed one part sugar to one part water and add real pollen to your protein patties.

If your hive has a scale, it is easy to see when there is no nectar coming in as the bees will be consuming their honey stores. I doubt we will see temperature getting down into the 50s, but, if we do, keep in mind that bees will not be taking up sugar syrup. You will then need to feed sugar cakes. Keep checking your hives weight by hefting the back of hive. There should be time to build up hive food stores before consistent cold temperatures arrive. If you have screen bottoms, you can use the sample board to confirm they are consuming food stores. There will be yellow wax bits on your sample board.



How to Recognize a Nectar Dearth

by Rusty Burlow

Excerpt from [Honeybee Suites](#)

How do I recognize a nectar dearth is a common newbie question and a hard one to answer. I think most experienced beekeepers know which plants are in flower in any season, which bloom follows another, and how long each lasts. They are attuned to variations in the weather from year to year, and they know if things are early or late.

Here in the coastal Pacific Northwest, we can expect the summer dearth to follow the blackberry bloom - an event that coincides with the beginning of the dry season. Also "dearth" will mean different things, depending on where you live. The dictionary defines dearth as "a scarcity or lack of something" - a definition with some wiggle room. A nectar dearth in some areas means there is a lot less forage than before; in other areas, it means nearly a complete absence of nectar.

But no matter how you define dearth, the bees know the real status of the nectar flow. Honey bees behave in distinctly different ways when nectar shortages occur, so that is the surest way to recognize a dearth. No doubt, different beekeepers will notice different behavior changes, and not all bees in all places will behave the same. Nevertheless, below is a list of behaviors I have noticed over a number of years. Just remember that your list may be different.

- Your bees may get more defensive toward you. The bees that seemed so gentle up till now, may suddenly display impatience with the beekeeper.
- Robbing and fighting may occur. You may see a tussle on your alighting board or dead bees on the ground in front of the hive.
- Similarly, bees will investigate promising smells. They may check out your bee suit, your hive tool, or you, especially if you use scented products. They check out anything that may contain a drop of nectar.

Once you recognize a dearth, you may want to take actions to minimize the damage a dearth can cause.

Click on link below for article on nectar dearth and some considerations for colony management.

<https://www.honeybeesuite.com/what-is-a-summer-nectar-dearth/>

Busy Bee

Oregon State Fair

Several of our members helped out at the Oregon State Beekeepers (OSBA) exhibit at the state fair last month.

The OSBA booth is a popular stop, with colorful displays, extensive literature on bees, beekeeping and pollination. There was also a display of the winning entries for honey and wax products. But the most popular draw in the booth was the observation hive where young and old clamor to seek out the queen.



Lynn Hellwege and Matt Stouder



Lynn & Tami Hellwege and Matt Stouder



Paula Sablosky with Pat Van Dyke, Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Thank You LCBA Member Volunteers!

Lynn & Tami Hellwege	Becca Fain
Matt Stouder	Rick Olson
Paula Sablosky	Jeff Warren
Amy Sierezga	Max Kuhn

Western Oregon Expo

LCBA participated in the Western Oregon Expo on August 20th-21st in Cottage Grove. Fonta Molyneaux and her daughter Iylah manned the display table. Below is Fonta's article on their experience.

My daughter Iylah and I set up the LCBA booth at the recent Western Oregon Expo faire. The faire was celebrating their 90th birthday.

This local traditional arts faire featured a huge indoor area where folks entered their agricultural products, livestock, prize winning flowers and arts and crafts! The faire had demonstrations, booths, food, and music! It was such a fun family event where everything was free from the tractor pulled train to many free crafts and games for the whole family. A great time was had by all!

I brought my Oregon Bee Project native bee collections, and some interesting comb and frames for LCBA display table. It really drew folks into the booth! Iylah enjoyed handing out information about planting for pollinators and people loved dropping by to share their interest or experiences with bees!

A highlight was Iylah winning first place in both the jar and comb honey competitions for teens. She is very proud of her top bar hive she manages all by herself. I won 1st place in the comb competition for adults and 2nd and 3rd in jar honey!

Our farm took Best in show for our heritage garlic, in farm produce category! It was really a delight ! LCBA members are highly encouraged to enter their honey and farm products next year and enjoy a wonderful local event with a long tradition in Oregon history!



LCBA Display Table



Iylah's Winning Entries

Fonta Molyneaux



September Beekeeping Tips by Chuck Hunt, LCBA Member

1. All honey should be removed and mite treatments in hives. Make sure to do a mite count after the mite treatments are completed. I usually like to use a 72 hour mite count as I think the extra time gives a better count.
2. You might want to look into the various alternative treatments for mites. There are numerous treatments available. Make sure to monitor mite counts with any treatment you use and carefully observe its effect upon brood, bees and queen.
3. Check all hives for adequate winter stores. In the Willamette Valley bees require at least 50 lbs. of honey to properly survive the winter. This is about one western super of honey on top of the hive. If your hive has less than this, there is still plenty of time for feed in Sept. (and usually early Oct.). Feed sugar syrup which is as close to two part sugar and one part water (by volume) as you can. The bees do not have to evaporate this mixture much in order to store it and it does not cause as much brood rearing stimulation as less concentrated solutions of sugar.
4. If you use entrance reducers, these should be placed on the hive sometime in September. Place them on the hive after the weather has cooled as then there will be no need for the bees to cool their hives by fanning. This usually means that the daytime temperatures will not get much over 70 degrees. Try to put screen mouse guards on your entrance reducers.
5. Yellow jackets are a grave threat to your bees. Yellow jacket control is very important at this time and going into October. Traps that are based upon pheromone research and are specific to yellow jackets are readily available at garden and home or hardware stores. They are safe for bees and deadly for yellow jackets. Use them to eliminate attacks by yellow jackets on your wintering hives.
6. Make sure that your hive tips forward very slightly so that rain and moisture run out of the hive during the coming winter. This tilt need not be very much (one quarter inch higher in the back than the front is fine) but a forward tilt will greatly assist winter survival. The bottom boards should also be off the ground and on a hive stand for the winter. A brick or stone on the top cover helps to ensure that winter winds do not blow the top of your hive off causing a total hive loss. By early October, let the bees use propolis to seal the cover down and close any cracks in the hive. Don't disturb the hive again until early spring so that this propolis is not broken.



Extractor Information

The club has five extractors with hot knives for use by its members. These are on a reserved use basis. Please limit your use to no more than three days, and always clean the extractor before returning or passing along to the next member. Extractors clean very easily if cleaned with warm soapy water and flushed out with a garden hose after you finish for the day. If you wait until the next day cleaning is more difficult. These manual three space frame units are easy to use and transport.

Eugene, Cal Young Area - Pam Leavitt - 541-344-4228

Eugene, North River Road Area - Katie James 541-688-4111

Pleasant Hill - Tina & John Franklin 541-953-2028

Elmira - Ken Ograin 541-935-7065

Creswell - Amy Sierzega 541-505-4033

Remember--return it on time, and return it clean!

Did You Know?

The 9/13/2022 New York Times printed an article about the very old and well-established tradition in England to tell the bees when their master had died.

The Daily Mail, a British newspaper, reported "that the royal beekeeper, John Chapple, at Buckingham Palace has informed the Queen's bees that the Queen has died". Many beekeepers are aware of the tradition, but not as many practice it. The editor of BeeCraft, a British Beekeeper magazine, said, "It's generally thought to be a good and nice thing to do".



The Queens hives with black ribbons placed by John Chapple, Queens' beekeeper for 15 years.

Be a Part of the LCBA Leadership!

Elections for the 2020 LCBA Officers and Directors will take place at our November meeting. This is an opportunity for you to take a leadership role in your club. Participating as an officer or board member gives you a chance to help ensure that our club has great educational meetings, and continues to grow and educate the public on the importance of bees.

Positions available: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and board members. We can have up to five board members. The board has approximately four meetings per year or as needed. Please consider running for a position. This is a great way to become more involved in our association and to get to know our members. It can also be a lot of fun!

We want new faces, fresh ideas, and new perspectives

Contact one of the members below members below if you would like more information or are interested in running for an office.

Katharine Hunt keehhunt@gmail.com 541-607-0106

Pam Leavitt pamseaver2000@yahoo.com 541-344-4228

Nancy Ograin nancy.ograin@gmail.com 541-935-7065

Honey Donations Request

By Pam Leavitt

2022 has been an unusual year for accumulation of surplus honey from our members colonies. The common concern has been less than normal stores, likely due to the wet weather in spring. My daily rain gauge tally from May 1, 2022 until June 16, 2022 totaled 7.13 inches of rain! These are usually months when our foragers are bringing in nectar in sizable amounts to fill the cells. Different locales in the county can certainly account for more success for some beekeepers than others.

Every year the club has asked for donations of honey and many members have been generous in the past. We are again asking if you have any to share, please contact Katharine Hunt, keehhunt@gmail.com. All donations will be combined to be bottled by the Ograin's, labelled per Oregon law, and sold locally.

The funds generated are used for donations to the Honey Bee Lab at OSU. Thank you if you are able to donate.



Duties of the Officers & Directors

President: The president shall be the principal executive officer of the association and shall preside at all the meetings of the members and of the board of directors.

Vice-President: In the absent of the president, the vice-president shall perform the duties of the president and also any other duties as may be assigned by the president or the board of directors. Maintain the inventory of property belonging to the association.

Secretary: The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meeting of the members and of the board of directors and also perform any other duties as may be assigned by the president or by the board of directors.

Treasurer: The treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds of the association, make payments for debts incurred by the association, and produce an annual budget to be approved by the board. Also perform any other duties as may be as assigned by the president or by the board of directors.

Directors: Directors shall attend board meetings and act on behalf of the membership in all matters before the board.

Go Your Local Organic Farm to Table Store Go

Find Beekeeping Supplies Here



- Hive Components
- Frames & Foundation
- Tools & Smokers
- Protective Clothing
- Nutrition & Pest Management
- Books




Mon-Sat 10-6
Sunday 10-5

downtoearth Eugene.com

532 Olive Street
541-342-6820

Facebook Twitter Instagram

UNIQUE EUGENE



August General Meeting Highlights, by Paula Sablosky, LCBA Secretary

“All Hail the Queen”, All You Want to Know About Queens, by Thad Starr, Starr Farm Queens

Thad talked about the queen basics. The queen is the leader of the colony. The colony needs a queen to function. There are two pheromones present in a bee colony, the queen pheromone and the brood pheromone, and both are necessary. The queen is quickest to hatch and the longest to live. Queen pheromones when present make a calm hive. Thad has noticed that within his tenure as a beekeeper, the productive lifespan of a queen has been greatly reduced. It has been his experience that is so rare to have a productive queen past two years. The bees have also been superseding or swarming on a rapid pace the last few years. No one knows why. Thad stated that we don't have pure strains of bees anymore. The reputation of various honeybee species does not coincide with the known traits within the United States. A queen that is very productive can be mean and a queen that is gentle can be lazy.

When you choose a queen Thad wants you to know the difference between a queen's reputation and her traits. Carniolans are suppose to be gentle, fly on cooler days, have smaller nests. That is not always true. We don't have pure stains anymore in the US. When choosing a queen for her traits you have to remember her traits are present, but not 100% guaranteed. We have a lot more choices now besides Carniolans and Italians. Thad feels that the environment that the queen came from plays a larger role in a queen's temperament.

When do you need a new queen? What is a queenright colony? Hives will defend whatever it thinks is queenright. If you have a laying worker or a drone laying queen, the colony will think it's queenright and the colony to behave as a colony. The beekeeper does not want this situation and it is hard to correct. Why did this happen? The queen could have poorly mated or injured. There are lots of possibilities. Some signs of a missing queen is the bees are listless, lack of eggs or brood. You need to learn how to interpret the false signs of bee activity; aggression, bringing in pollen or false queen cells. If there is poor or spotty brood, replace the queen. A two-year queen is 60% as productive as a year old queen. Thad believes that in order to survive our winters, a hive needs to have a minimum of six to eight frames of brood created in August/September.

Introducing your queen is straightforward. Kill your old queen, make the colony desperate and they will accept the new queen. A 24 hour waiting period with no queen is optimum for acceptance of a new queen. Any longer than that, will send the colony in a direction that is very difficult to redirect. Having a five frame nuc on hand is very beneficial for correcting situations such as laying worker and or drone layer. An accepted queen will be freed from her cage in three days and will start laying in three days.

Evaluating the size of the queen does not dictate her ability to lay eggs. The size of the queen is determined by the space of the cell that she was raised in and how much nutrition she received during her development. The value of a queen is determined by how many eggs she can lay in a day. Look for lots of eggs, look at how big the brood pattern is. Use all five senses to get the overall sense of your hive's health. If you want honey, you need a young queen that will produce a big population.

How to know you have a good queen? She's a keeper if she has a good brood pattern and placement, abundance of honey and pollen, propolis production, hive temperament and there is a good population of bees.

How do I become a better beekeeper? Keep reading vs watching vs doing. Mistakes actually make you a better beekeeper. You will learn more from making mistakes than from watching a mentor. Don't get discouraged, set goals and aggressively manage your mite load.

***NOTE:** Thad's presentation is posted on YouTube. Contact Nancy, nancy.Ograin@gmail.com, for link.



She's a Keeper!

highlights continued

August Early Meeting

Oxalic Acid Vaporization by Fonta Molyneaux and Brian Jackson

Fonta and Brian's presentation was on using the oxalic vaporization method to control varroa mites. One of the things that is so important is when you treat. Varroa mites start ramping up when the queen starts shutting down egg laying, preparing for winter. You need to intervene before she starts laying the fat winter bees otherwise your bees won't make it through winter.

Oxalic acid is made by plants so is an organic acid. Oxalic acid and formic acid are the only two certified treatments for organic beekeeping. Oxalic acid kills phoretic mites (mites present on the bees). It does not penetrate the brood caps where the mites breed, so repeat treatments are needed to eradicate enough mites to keep bees healthy. Mites hatch every 21 days.

Beekeepers must follow the label directions. You must use a respirator mask that is approved for organic vapors, wear gloves, use eye protection and wear long sleeves and long pants. The powder used in vaporization does not contaminate food, water or feed. Be sure to purchase only oxalic acid dihydrate for your treatments.

The label also says you cannot treat while the honey supers are on. Currently there is a petition to change the label on this statement and also the amount you can use for treatment. There is a lot of research going on and papers being published by apiculture research labs which are specially looking at these changes in efficacy and dosage. Currently, the dosage level is one gram per brood box.

Formic Acid vs Oxalic Acid Vaporization:

Formic acid needs a three day window of 85 degree temperature or less. There is no heat index for oxalic acid vaporization. It is difficult to use formic acid during the hot months of August and September. Formic acid does kill the mites in the capped cells though and requires only one treatment. With oxalic acid you have to do more than one treatment except during brood less periods.

Suggested treatment plan based on the 21 day brood cycle: A full treatment requires more than 1 single treatment.

3 single treatments 5 days apart **OR** 4 single treatments 7 days apart **OR** 4 single treatments 5 days apart

You can apply a single treatment in a brood less period between Thanksgiving and Christmas, after a hive has swarmed or on a new package of bees.

Advantages of Oxalic Acid Vaporization: No heat index requirements for use in late summer when mite pressure is the worst. It can also be used in cold temperatures 36 degrees or above. It also does not cause mite resistance. Is OMRI listed for organic practices.

Fonta and Brian talked two different types of vaporizers, the wand and the vape gun. They explained how to use and showed examples of the different equipment. Advantages of the vape gun vaporizer over the wand is there is less fire danger, no shims needed to add some ventilation, it vaporizes in under a minute and it doesn't need to reheat between hives. The disadvantage is the higher cost.

Whatever method you use to treat varroa mites, you must use in a timely matter! During late August and early September, the queen is laying fat winter bees that will extend their lifecycle from six to seven weeks to six to seven months. If these bees are damaged by mites and viruses your hive will not make it!

For further information on mite treatments check out the following websites: Bee informed Partnership, Honeybee Health coalition, Pollinator Partnership, Journal for Apiculture Research, Project Apis.

***Note:** Brian Jackson makes the vape gun demonstrated in the presentation. Do not purchase one of the cheap ones. They do not work. Contact Brian or Fonta if you need help on figuring out what to purchase. Contact info in our directory in the newsletter.

Contact Nancy, nancy.ograin@gmail.com, if you would like the audio presentation.



Vape Gun Vaporizer



Wand Vaporizer



Uniting Colonies in the Fall

by Dewey M. Caron

Standard advice for fall is to unite weaker colonies to stronger ones using the newspaper method. This advice goes back to Langstroth's time or probably earlier. Take your losses in the fall. Don't let colonies that might be saved simply die out over winter for lack of sufficient adult population or adequate honey stores. Colonies require strong populations to successfully overwinter.

Of course, like much in beekeeping there is the "fine print" with this advice. One of the major tenets of uniting is that neither colony to be combined has disease. Another is timing is everything, so uniting needs be done "early enough" to allow the reconstituted colony to organize its nest to enable the cluster to stay in contact with honey stores. Since both colonies likely have a queen, you need to select the strongest/youngest queen (vs. allowing the bees to select).

One consequence of combining two weak colonies is that it could result in one weak or maybe only a marginally stronger one, but the "justification" for uniting is that the resulting colony will now be a stronger colony, better fortified to survive winter.

The mechanics are relatively simple. Reduce both the strong and weaker colony to a single box. Remove the queen from the colony you plan to eliminate in the morning or day before. Then when flight has ceased or diminished for the day, open the strongest colony, put a single sheet of newspaper on top of the top bars (can be tricky in the wind), punch a few holes with the hive tool then move the second box on top. Close colony and leave undisturbed for a couple days. Do check for robbing though as uniting could start robbing.

You can do some extra things to "help" ensure a smooth union of the two colonies. You can heavily smoke both colonies, you can spray bees in both boxes with scented sugar syrup and/or feed sugar syrup in a top feeder. You can also put a single box, the weakest colony, on top of two boxes of your strongest colony. In most instances with fall uniting, it is best to have the queen and most brood frames in the lowest box below the newspaper. When reducing a 2-3 box strong colony to a single box, you need to temporarily "store" frames with bee bread and stored honey. These will go back into the top box once union has been accomplished.

Uniting is a lot of work, but also, before we elect this management, we should consider the risk of successfully overwintering the united colony. The first assessment should be what will be the "benefit" of an united colony? Does your strong colony really need more bees/brood/frames? Will a colony only be using 3-5 frames (which is a weak fall colony) be struggling to keep brood warm and often with only a few honey resources, really help the stronger colony? Honestly evaluate how exactly a weak colony will help the stronger colony.

Look seriously at the weak colony and determine why it is a weak colony? Did it have a brood disease (chalkbrood or European foulbrood)? Did it have a queen replacement event (swarmed or replaced its queen at inopportune time)? Does it have a mite/virus disease problem? Is it's queen the one you want to keep to head a united colony? Will she be the "best" queen to insure the united colony rears the fat-body-rich worker population? If you answer yes to any of the first three questions and no to the queen issue then you should question what might be accomplished by union of the two colonies.

There is an alternative. Overwinter the weak colony as a resource hive. A resource hive, often called a nuc, is a smaller colony. It has less brood, fewer adults and usually a newer/younger queen. They need fewer resources to overwinter, often only two support frames with honey/ bee bread. You can always do a double nuc, two 4/5 frame boxes, one on top of the other. In this case the top box should mostly be filled with bee bread and honey frames.

Resource hives can be overwintered as a stand alone or as a double. You can also push two together (single or doubled) as stand alones or two might even be wintered above a strong colony with a double screen between. Nucs may be overwintered in separate boxes or in an 8/10 frame standard box with plywood divider between so bees are in completely separate sides. Overwintering nucs will benefit from having additional side and top insulation.

The bottom line: Seriously consider if that weak colony will help benefit a stronger colony if both are free of unexplainable problems. If you don't elect to unite, add an extra honey frame to the weaker colony for them to use as a resource and protect it from winter temperature extremes

OSBA 2022 Fall Conference

Tentative Agenda

Friday October 28

10:00 AM–NOON Encaustic Painting Workshop* (Backstage of the Auditorium)
George Hansen, Foothills Honey Company

1–4 PM Beekeeping Basics (Auditorium)
Dewey Caron, University of Delaware, Emeritus

4:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

5:00 PM Registration & Submit Auction Items (Lobby)

5–6:00 PM Submit Honey Show Entries (Green Room)

7:00 PM Evening Social (Events Area)

Saturday, October 29

7:00 AM Registration (Lobby)

7:45 AM Welcome & Announcements (Auditorium)
John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA

8:00 AM Women in Beekeeping (Auditorium)
Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

8–9 AM Submit Honey Show Entries (Green Room)

9:00 AM Profile of a Comprehensive Beekeeping Company
John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, British Columbia

10:00 AM Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

10:30 AM Title TBA
Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

11:15 AM Title TBA
Ellen Topitzhofer, Oregon State University

NOON Introduction to OSU's New Dean of College of Agricultural Sciences
Staci Simonich, Oregon State University

12:10 PM Break

12:15 PM Luncheon* (Events Area)

Presentation: Title TBA
Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University

1:45 PM Data-Driven Best Practices for Small Apiaries
Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University Bee Program

2:30 PM Pollinator Habitat
Tammy Horn Potter, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

3:30 PM Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

4:00 PM Listed Bumble Bees in the Western US, and What Comes Next
Jeff Everett, US Fish and Wildlife

4:45 PM General Membership Meeting (Auditorium)

6:00 PM Social Hour (Events Area)

7:00 PM Banquet* (Events Area)

Presentation: Title and Presenter TBA

Sunday, October 30

7:00 AM Registration (Lobby)

7:45 AM Welcome & Announcements (Auditorium)
John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA

8:00 AM Integrated Pest Management for Varroa—Novel Approaches from the WSU Bee Program
Kelly Kulhanek, Washington State University Bee Program

9:00 AM You Too Can Kick the Habit: Commercial Success Using Different Mite Controls
Russell Heitkam, Heitkams' Honey Bees

9:45 AM Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

10:15 AM Commercial Beekeeping in British Columbia and Alberta, Canada
John Gibeau, Honeybee Centre, Surrey, British Columbia

11:15 AM OSU Research Projects
Presenter TBA

NOON Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

12:15 PM Luncheon* (Events Area)

Panel: The Symbiotic Relationship Between the Commercial and the Hobby Beekeeping Industry
Panelists TBA

1:20 PM Honey Auction (Events Area)

1:45 PM Title TBA
Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University

2:30 PM Break (Lobby | Exhibitor Area)

2:45 PM Title TBA
Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University

3:45 PM Final Comments & Adjourn
John Jacob or Joe Maresh, OSBA

*Added cost in addition to Registration. Children must be accompanied by an adult for Encaustic Painting Workshop.

Session recordings will be available to all registrants until December 31, 2022.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

❧ 2022 Fall Conference Registration Form ❧

October 28, 29 & 30, 2022

Florence Events Center | Florence, Oregon

Please fill out clearly and completely!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Additional Family Members Attending: _____

Company: _____

*Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ *email: _____

Attending in person: _____ Attending online: _____ Undecided: _____

*Conference programs will be mailed to online and undecided participants. Should we need to go virtual, they will be mailed to everyone. Email addresses are required for providing online access to conference proceedings, available to all registrants until December 31, 2022.

Event			Cost
Friday Night Hospitality Room			Complimentary
Full Conference ^{1,4}	Online Member Individual - \$100		
	Online Nonmember - \$140		
	In-Person Member Individual - \$150		
	In-Person Nonmember Individual - \$190		\$
	In-Person Member Family - \$180		
	In-Person Nonmember Family - \$220		
Encaustic Painting (Limit: 30) ²	\$20 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Beekeeping Basics (Limit: 40)	No Additional Cost	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Luncheon	\$22 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Saturday Banquet	\$55 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Sunday Luncheon	\$22 per Person	Number Attending: _____	\$
Note: Please indicate any special dietary needs, including vegetarian: _____			
Research Donation ³			\$
Annual OSBA Dues ⁴	\$40 per Person	Number: _____	\$
TOTAL ^{5, 6}			\$

1) Attendees qualify for preregistration rate if application form (with registration fee) is postmarked on or before October 8. No refunds after October 14, 2022. Late online registration and on-site registration rates are: Full Conference, \$190.00; Full Conference Family, \$220.00.

2) Children attending the workshop must be accompanied by an adult.

3) The Oregon State Beekeepers Association is classified as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Research donations made out to the OSBA may be deductible; please consult your accountant.

4) Please include completed membership form(s). Nonmember conference price includes a complimentary OSBA membership for 2023.

5) Checks payable to OSBA; mail with completed registration form, **postmarked no later than October 14**, to: **Oregon State Beekeepers Association, 2022 Fall Conference, 89135 Spindrift Way, Florence OR 97439.**

6) Hotel reservations are not included in these costs. Special rates may be available. See: orsba.org.

Classified Ads

Bee-related classified ads cost \$5.00/month for non-members and are free to members. Classified ads run for three issues and may be renewed by contacting the editor. Bee-related business ads start at \$35. To place an ad, contact Nancy Ograin by the 1st of the month. 541-935-7065 or via e-mail nancy.ograin@gmail.com.

Support Dr. Sagili's OSU Bee Lab

Oregon State Beekeepers Association has set up a fundraiser to help raise monies for Dr. Sagili's research and students. You can make a difference by donating today and help in raising research funds. Every little bit helps! Thank You!

[Donate Here](#)

[Fundraiser by Rebecca Fain : Help Us Save The Honey Bees \(gofundme.com\)](#)

2022 LCBA New/Renewal Memberships

\$25 per year per calendar year (Jan-Dec 2022) per household or family.

Please remit payment to:

LCBA Treasurer, Polly Habliston
1258 Dalton Dr., Eugene, OR 97404
polly@uoregon.edu

Membership forms for new members and renewals are available on the LCBA website. [Click here](#) to access.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT INFORMATION

The LCBA newsletter is published eleven times a year by the Lane County Beekeepers Association, 130 Hansen Lane, Eugene, OR 97404. Sample copies may be requested from the editor. Copyright resides with individual contributors. If you would like to reprint anything you see here, please contact the editor. Permission is normally granted freely for non-profit use. For advertisements, please contact the editor or the association treasurer by the first of the month.

Editor: Nancy Ograin 541-935-7065 nancy.ograin@gmail.com

For discounts on American Bee Journal subscriptions contact Nancy Ograin for discount form.

Advertise Here

2022 Officers and Directors

President: Brian McGinley	541-521-7523	56magoo@gmail.com
Vice-President: Nancy Ograin	541-935-7065	nancy.ograin@gmail.com
Treasurer: Polly Habliston	541-461-0339	polly@uoregon.edu
Secretary: Paula Sablosky	541-206-7173	mygarden122@gmail.com
Directors:		
Matt Stouder	541-619-5582	stoudermatt@gmail.com
Fonta Molyneaux	541-592-9332	wildeverlastingfarm@gmail.com
Pam Leavitt	541-344-4228	pamseaver2000@yahoo.com
Lynn Hellwege	541-513-2074	lwege4@comcast.net
Brian Jackson	541-513-3716	brian.honeypaddle@gmail.com
Past-President: Mike France	541-232-1610	michaelj62@gmail.com
Committees:		
Library - Anita & Arthur Jones	541-937-2244	beesherenow@gmail.com
Bee School - Pam Leavitt	541-344-4228	pamseaver2000@yahoo.com
Website / Swarm List - Judy Scher	541-344-2114	judyscher@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Ograin	541-935-7065	nancy.ograin@gmail.com
Facilities Coordinator - Jim Rundall	541-688-1925	fjrundall@comcast.net
LCBA Scholarships - Katharine Hunt	541-607-0106	keehhunt@gmail.com
Oregon Master Beekeeper Coordinator - Rita Ostrofsky	541-685-2875	ostrofsky@pacinfo.com
OMB Regional Representative - Rick Olson	541-997-3792	rolson2@attglobal.net
Best Practices Liaisons for Lane County - Mike France	541-232-1610	michaelj62@gmail.com

Links



<http://www.lcbaor.org/>



Bee Informed
Partnership

<https://beeinformed.org/>

Oregon
Master
Beekeeper
Program



[https://
extension.oregonstate.edu/mb](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mb)

Friday in the Apiary

[https://extension.oregonstate.edu/
mb/friday-apiary](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mb/friday-apiary)



<https://orsba.org/>



[Honey Bee Lab](#)

[Pollinator Health](#)

[Oregon Bee Project](#)

[PolliNation Podcast](#)

[Bee Diagnostics](#)



Honey Bee Health
Coalition

**Tools for Varroa Management
& Supporting Videos**

<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/>

Best Management Practices for Bee Health

[https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resource/
hive-health-best-mangement-practices/](https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/resource/hive-health-best-mangement-practices/)

Varroa Management Decision Tool

<https://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/varroatool/>



<https://www.honey.com/>



Issues • Innovation • Impact

A Part of the Cooperative Extension System

Honey Bee Health

Resources, Research and Beekeeping
videos

<https://bee-health.extension.org/>

Beltsville Bee Lab

[How To Send A Sample To Beltsville, MD for Diagnosis](#)

The go to for American foulbrood.

**Residential Beekeeping: Best Practices for Nuisance
Free Beekeeping in Oregon**

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9186>