

The Nevada County Beekeepers Association



President's Message

Boy, November already! First an advertisement: I have an 8-plus frame electric honey extractor for sale for \$325.00. Give me a call for more information 263-5618.

I would like to say congratulations to Randy Oliver. He was voted "Beekeeper of the Year" by the California State Beekeepers Association. I can't think of a more deserving person, it's about time!

My bees are in bed and fed for the winter. I'm busy assembling equipment for 300 splits in spring. Hope everyone's bees are strong and healthy going into winter. Remember: take your losses in the fall. Join us for dinner at Lin-Q before the meeting, see next article.

Your President, Rob Slay

November 7th Meeting

We are proud to announce that Dr. Dewey Caron will be our guest speaker for our November meeting. Dewey is the author of "Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping," and "Africanized Bees in the Americas". He currently is at Oregon State University in Corvallis after 27 years of teaching at the University of Delaware and hosting the Eastern Apicultural Society (like our WAS, only much bigger). Dr. Caron will be discussing the latest in beekeeping. This is a not-to-miss program! We are lucky and honored to have Dr. Caron.

Join us for a no-host dinner with Dr. Caron at Lin-Q buffet in the Raley's shopping center in Grass Valley at 5:30 PM before the meeting.

Bee Bits

By Randy Oliver

I hope that you are all enjoying this incredible fall as much as I and my bees are! It is making up for our miserable spring. I actually had a yard from which I could shake fresh nectar from the combs last week! And the pollen—I don't know where the heck they are finding it (I've been searching for the sources) but in some yards the combs have fresh bright orange and yellow pollen aplenty, and in one yard there were white loads coming in at the entrances.

Last week we were working in the afternoon next to a tree covered with mature English Ivy just starting to bloom. There was only a bee or two poking around. But when we returned the next morning, the entire tree was roaring with bees happily working the now-opened blossoms.

Our late honeys and honeydews (collected by the bees from sap-sucking insects) have generally been dark reddish and strong flavored, with a distinctive aftertaste. So we have been carefully hand selecting our combs frame by frame for extracting. Many are half and half—with light honey above, and dark honey filled in afterward below.

This has been a heavy mite year, so I would definitely recommend that you do some sort of mite monitoring <http://scientificbeekeeping.com/sick-bees-part-10-mite-monitoring-methods/>. Otherwise, the colonies are going into winter in exceptionally good shape, and are still actively rearing brood. Interestingly, 30 years ago in this area, virtually all the queens would be completely shut down by November 1st. I'm only seeing a very few that are doing so now.

Note that some colonies that suffered from starvation this spring never put on enough honey for adequate winter stores. Now would be a good time to go and heft the front of each hive. I like mine to weigh about 60-65 lbs at the front handgrip (total hive weight about 125 lbs). It is not too late to swap combs of honey or to feed heavy syrup.

Since colonies continued to rear drones all summer, I took a gamble and made a number of splits in mid September with queen cells. I got good mate out, and plan to overwinter the nucs. This is a great way to have fresh young queens in the early spring.

I also split a number of my Russian hives midsummer, and the splits have built up well. I am becoming more and more enamored with the Russian bees, as they seem to be very well adapted for stationary beekeeping in Nevada County. They are a more robust "natural" bee than our standard Italians, and are well suited for our winters, early honey flows, and dry summers. If you would like to purchase Russian nucs next spring to try them out (I wouldn't count on "Russian" queens being purebred unless you purchase them from someone who actually mates them out in a Russian yard), then let me know, and I will put you on the list.

Goodies Sign-up

Please let Karla Hanson at queenbeez@att.net know if you can bring a treat for any of the coming months. We need three people per meeting for treats. At the next meeting I will send out a

sign up list for goodies for all of those have not already signed up by sending me an email. Please make sure that whatever you bring does NOT have hydrogenated oils in the contents. Our bees bodies don't like poisons and neither do ours...

Thank you, Karla

Raffle HELP!!!

We always need more contributions to the raffle! We beekeepers are a creative bunch, and appreciate a wide variety of things; plants are always a great item to bring. Almost everyone loves having more plants. Do remember, for every item you bring, you will get a free ticket for the raffle. So look around the house and see what you can find for the next raffle.

Thanks, Karla

A to Z Supply <input type="checkbox"/>		
13396 Ridge Road Grass Valley, CA 95945 530-273-6608/274-3871		
NOW CARRYING A <input type="checkbox"/> FULL LINE OF <input type="checkbox"/> BEE KEEPING <input type="checkbox"/> SUPPLIES <input type="checkbox"/> STOP BY AND CHECK IT OUT. <input type="checkbox"/>		
HOURS: M-F: 730 AM—530 PM SAT: 8 AM—5 PM SUN: 9 AM—4 PM www.atozsupply.com sales@atozsupply.com		

Dan Wheat Sr. of [A to Z Supply](#) also wanted us to let everyone know that they have finished their honey extraction house and it's now available for rent. Cost is \$15.00 plus 15 cents per pound extracted. There is a 6 frame electric extractor,

hot knife, and uncapping sink. The room is heated with lots of hot water for clean up. Client is responsible for clean up. Also available is a 4 frame extractor for \$15.00 per day.

For Sale: Country Rubes Combo Screened Bottom Boards

Special NCBA Club Price! Call Janet for details. 530-913-2724 or email at rubes@countryrubes.com

From the Librarian...

A new DVD..."QUEEN OF THE SUN" What Are the Bees Telling Us?

It is a documentary DVD, directed by Taggart Siegel; director of photography, edited by Jon Betz and Mr. Siegel; music by Jami Sieber; produced by Mr. Siegel and Mr. Betz; released by Collective Eye Inc. 1 hour 22 minutes. I ordered this DVD after hearing so much about it after last year's film festival. Because of conflicting release dates, it just arrived.

With all the professional production values put into this feature, it is a real pleasure to watch: beautiful landscapes, sympathetic people, who really care about the bees, and good music. I would recommend it to anyone for being so well done and certainly to anyone in the general population who would benefit from knowing where the food comes from.

That said, I'm afraid, it's pretty much preaching to the choir for members of the Association; most of us have been dealing with the problems addressed in the film (pollution, parasites, toxins, viruses) for a while now and those who are new, are here because they already know and are choosing to do something about it...but, check this out anyway...sure, it's got it's editorial slant, but it's not the, "hard hitting", rant that the advertising

blurb made it out to be and besides, it's a great opportunity to get a glimpse of more of our, sometimes, slightly quixotic beekeeping fraternity/sorority. That is, besides at our regular meetings.

Thanks to all the library "good citizens" who mailed your late books back although, we are still missing quite a few books and need to replace the ones that got away, but before we vote on spending the money next meeting, please check around for any of the books on the list below or maybe you have an extra copy you could donate.

To help make things a bit more clear and keep the library functioning, a copy of the library use agreements will be given out when anyone pays the first time fee and will be on the table during meetings when the library is open.

Happy Reading,
Tynowyn

MISSING BOOKS

The Complete Guide to Beekeeping
The Hive and the Honeybee Revisited Roger Hoopingarner
Keeping Bees

Honey from Flower to Table

The Hive And the Honey Bee Dadant

Beekeeping: A Practical Guide by Richard Bonney

Natural Beekeeping by Ross Conrad

Cottage Cosmetics by Linnie McNaughten
Bee Propolis: Natural Healing From the Hive
Sierra Nevada Wildflowers by Elizabeth Horn
Honey: The Gourmet Medicine

The Bible of Bee Venom Therapy Curative Properties of Honey and Bee Venom by N. Yoirish (Jun 2001)

The Sacred Bee by Ransome

How to Decorate Beautiful Ukranian Easter Eggs by Luba

video...An Introduction to Beekeeping by Ed Weiss
Honeybees & Beekeeping: A Year In The Life of an Apiary.....

Beeswax Molding & Candlemaking Richard Taylor
The Monk and the Honeybee VHS **out of print**
Video: Discovery Channel Bees DVD
Video An Introduction to Beekeeping
Sierra Nevada Natural History Storer & Usinger
unable to find a replacement Bees: Alfalfa
Pollination Mastering the Art of Beekeeping by Abebi
unable to replace "What's Buzzing?" video
Making Aroma therapy Creams & Lotions
A Guide to Observing Insect Lives by Donald W. Stokes

If you know the whereabouts of any of these, please return them or let me know.

Tynowyn Slattery
20493 Rome Road
Nevada City, CA 95959

Sacramento Beekeeping Supplies

- Complete line of all beekeeping supplies
- American dealer for Sheriff suits
- Gifts—bee themed children's wear, tableware, garden décor, etc
- Books—children's beekeeping, homemade cosmetics, candles
- Beeswax candles, molds, waxes (soy and paraffin too) dyes, scents, and wicks
- Honeycomb sheets for rolling candles—35 colors

2110 X Street, Sacramento, CA 95818
(916) 451-2337 fax (916) 451-7008
Webpage at www.sacramentobeekeeping.com
email: info@sacramentobeekeeping.com
Open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 – 5:30
MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE QUICK SERVICE

Hive Space Available

Several acres in Rough and Ready are available to a beekeeper for placement of hives. Please contact: Julie and Steve Herrlinger, 12345 Pioneer Road, Rough and Ready at 272 2527 or jmulchinator@gmail.com

October Minutes

President Rob Slay opened with Q&A. More than a dozen members brought honey for sampling. Widely different tastes were described and enjoyed.

MOTION: Steven Reynolds: Reelection of present officers for coming year approved by unanimous voice vote. President Rob Slay; Vice Pres Jeremiah Farrell; Secretary Jack Meeks; Treasurer Janet Brisson. Board members will remain the same as this year.

MOTION Janet Brisson: Approve donation of \$400 to ScientificBeekeeping.com for support of continuing services to our club, the beekeeping public, media and research programs. Approved unanimous voice vote.

Finance: Janet Brisson. Begin Sept \$4382.23; Inc\$225; Exp \$157.63; End Sept \$4449.60.

Jack Meeks, sec

Planting Bee-Friendly Landscape

In an Associated Press article dated October 21, 2011, journalist Gosia Wozniacka reports that more and more farmers are planting bee friendly plants near their crops and in landscaping in an effort to attract and sustain native bees and honey bees. The non-profit Xerces Society out of Portland Oregon has initiated a pollination program with the intent to educate and support pollinator habitat, and a number of California farmers are having successes with the program.

To find the full article, Google 'Xerces farmers in California use bee friendly plants to attract native pollinators'.

The Nevada County Beekeepers Association is dedicated to apiculture education and promotion of the art and science of beekeeping among beekeepers, agriculturists, and the general public. This is a “not for profit” organization. Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Grass Valley Veteran’s Memorial Building at 255 South Auburn Street in Grass Valley. All visitors are welcome. The newsletter is published monthly as a service to the membership. Articles, recipes, commentary, and news items are welcomed and encouraged. Submission by email is encouraged. Please submit to Leslie Gault at lesliegault@yahoo.com. The deadline for the December 2011 edition is November 25th. A limited amount of advertising space (business card size 3” by 2”) is accepted and need not be bee-related. Rates are \$1 per issue or \$7 per year for NCBA members and \$16 per year for non-members. All revenue from advertising goes to the Association treasury and helps offset the cost of producing and distributing this newsletter. To receive the Local Buzz via email: please email your request to lesliegault@yahoo.com

Nevada County Beekeepers Association 2011 Officers
President: Rob Slay..... 263-5618
Vice President: Jeremiah Farrell..... 743-2842
Secretary: Jack Meeks..... 432-4429
jackm@nccn.net
Treasurer: Janet Brisson... 530-913-2724
rubes@countryrubes.com

Board Members:
Larry Merritt..... 613-3923
lameritt@theunion.net
Randy Oliver..... 277-4450
Charlie Whittlesey 292-3249
or 755-0468
Deborah Morawski...675-2924
Karla Hanson..... 265-3756

Committee Chairs
Swarm Hotline: Karla Hanson..... 265-3756
Lynn Williams 675-2924
Librarian: Tynowyn Slattery... 265-6318
Newsletter Mailing: Steve Reynolds..... 268-2133
Newsletter: Leslie Gault..... 346-7092
lesliegault@yahoo.com
Honey Extractor: Karla Hanson..... 265-3756

Nevada County Beekeepers Association



c/o Steve Reynolds
PO Box 548
Chicago Park, CA 95712
First Class Mail
November 2011

November 7th Meeting

Dr. Dewey Caron will be discussing the latest in beekeeping 7 PM Vets Hall. No-host dinner at Lin-Q buffet in Grass Valley 5:30 PM. See inside for details.