

# The Monthly Extractor

To increase interest in and knowledge of bees and beekeeping for the hobby and commercial beekeeper, and to educate the general public in the value of bees.

**Calendar of Events (all monthly meetings are now at New College 6<sup>th</sup> and Wilson St. Santa Rosa)**

**May 7 – Day Under the Oaks at Santa Rosa J.C. Volunteers will be needed!**

**May 8- Monthly Meeting-Speaker will be Dr. Eric Mussen, U.C. Extension Entomologist**

**May 13 & 20- Hands on class to inspect beehives at Fred and Donna Nelson's Apiary Call 575-9761 to reserve a place. This is a free event for members thanks to the Nelson's!**

**June 12- Monthly Meeting- Honey Extraction demo and frame wiring demo**

## From Your Editor

This was the first year since I have been on the swarm list that I did not pick up a March swarm. All I got in March was a cold! Once the rains stopped in April, I was called at least once a day and sometimes three times! My own bees started swarming before the rains quit but refused to come down out of the trees until warmed by the sun. Then they all took off! It was a strange happening but I was able to show a lot of school children what a swarm looks like! One day I had no less than 4 swarms hanging in my trees, so much for good management of bees.

The May and June issue of the Petaluma Magazine put out by the Argus Courier has a great story about honey bees. The reporter interviewed a lot of us and got some great quotes and photos at the Wallenstein's Lavender Bee Farm. This should do a lot for Petaluma honey sales!

I hope all of you are planting lots of bee friendly flowers as Dr. Frankie told us. I put in a package of wild flower seeds in and around my rose garden to replace the weeds that have grown there other years. They haven't started to bloom yet but they came up well. I have a lot of calendulas in that garden now too. Right now I have two flats of statice growing in the greenhouse which I will put there and in another location. Watch which part of the statice the bees go to. The colorful part are not true flowers. The intermittent little white flowers are the true source of bee food. You can learn a lot about flowers watching your bees forage.

Thanks to Mickey Marshall's generous tomato plant donations to the raffle last month I have two nice healthy tomato plants already out. I bought two zucchini plants at the store to get a head start on the season.

They have started the male flowers but so far no females. I know by the end of the summer I will be tired of zucchinis but right now I am hungry for fresh garden produce! My Oriental peas never did come up!

Speaking of the raffle, the members are doing a great job of bringing in items to share and buying raffle tickets, too. These funds are important to us as you can see in our treasurer's report. The insurance payment is a new bill we will be paying and of course the rent. It is also nice to know we can donate some to good beekeeping causes, too. So keep up the good work, folks!

Keep your eye on the City of Petaluma. The animal regulation committee is drafting a plan to allow beekeeping in the city limits. They had me come in and plead the case for bees. I told them the managed beehives are not only good for the city but a good way to ensure bees remain in the city. The details of the wording are now being worked out and will be presented this summer to the City Council to vote on along with other changes to the section of the city codes dealing with animal regulations. The regulations will be something like two hives per property and faced so the bees' flight path will not interfere with pedestrian and other traffic. I got the ball rolling in response to some new members who live in the city limits and want to legally keep beehives in their garden. I will let you know when it goes before the council for approval.

Kathy Cox is so busy with her bees and swarm chasing that she had no time to write any words of wisdom for this month's edition.

**Did you know that if you bring a raffle prize, Leonard would give you one free ticket?**

**That's right! 1 free ticket!**



**Such a deal!**

**It doesn't have to be new nor bee related, just something someone would like to win.**

**Last Meeting Donors: beekind, Mickey Marshall, Kathy Cox, Richard Wallenstein, Jackie Whitford, Leonard Riepenhoff, Carlos Bottini, Ettamarie Peterson.**

## I Learned About Beekeeping From This

By Ettamarie Peterson

This year's swarm season taught me one important lesson. I was able to capture two very large swarms within a week. Unfortunately I made the same mistake with both of them however. I caught them in my nuc sized boxes and neither swarm appreciated being squeezed into small spaces. They both refused to stay! How dumb can I be? I should have remembered they left their original hive to get away from crowded conditions so why should they want the new home to be crowded! What was really stupid was repeating the same mistake! Sometimes I am just a slow learner!

**Board meeting for March held Apr. 3, 2006  
(March meeting delayed)**

Hosted at Beekind by Katia Vincent

In attendance:

Leonard Ripenhoff (Raffle Chair) and spouse, Lynn, Ettamarie Peterson (Editor), Sean Straw (Secretary), Katia Vincent (VP) and spouse, Doug; Kathy Cox (President), Donna Nelson (Treasurer) and spouse, Fred

Poster locations - Feed store @ 4 corners (Todd & Stony Point). Hector's Honey (Fulton) , Nelson's (Occidental Rd. Santa Rosa).

Daphne Luke - willing to print membership applications @ school where she works. Serge & Shelley to distribute some.

Leonard Ripenhoff provided some train ride vouchers for giveaway at the raffle if the raffle proceeds are over \$75. He then had to depart.

Kathy had previously given Ettamarie the permission to go ahead and obtain insurance for the association.

Arrange to write checks directly for the new college rent, rather than having board members pay out of pocket and seek reimbursement.

Sean presented raffle, memberships, and other funds collected at the March meeting.

Standardized newsletter advertising rates - tabled.

Sean to contact Shelley Arrowsmith for info about East county sites for member posters.

Check Farm Trails for info on association members who have storefronts.

Sean requested that those who have any documents for fliers and other association publications should provide him an original so that they can be archived and centralized.

Questions that came up at this meeting: capacity of the meeting space? Measurements of the room? Library Cabinet? Library Labeling?

Katia motioned that the Association use Ettamarie's address as the physical address as required by state paperwork for various filing requirements. Sean seconded. Vote: unanimous yea.

Postbox - we should get a second key (through the post office). The official contact list at the PO needs to be updated to reflect the current people authorized to retrieve mail.

Everyone needs to write down their job descriptions so that we can sort out more official duties

Ettamarie Peterson motioned that the Secretary should hold a secondary key for the POB, and be identified to the Post Office as an authorized user, so that mail can be retrieved in the event that the Treasurer is unable.

VOTE: unanimous yea

Donna to obtain another key to provide to Sean at a future board meeting.

Michael Johnson has volunteered to be the Librarian. Ettamarie motioned for Michael to be accepted as the new Librarian. Sean Seconded. vote all approved

Solicited donations from board members for the lawyer gift basket.

Solicit donations from members for various functions? Ettamarie's insurance report was tabled by Kathy.

Petaluma Animal ordinance issue also tabled.

Discussion about changing the seating setup at the general meeting.

Sean to take measurements of the meeting space so that various board members might have a better idea as to how to lay out the room.

We need to ensure people use the microphone at the meeting location so that everyone can hear what is being said. Speakers should repeat questions from the audience.

Sean to look into a cordless mic arrangement.

Extractor rental - the extractor rentals need to cover maintenance costs. Sean motioned to raise rentals to \$5 per day. Ettamarie seconded. [vote not formalized?] We need to label the individual machines to identify them as separate hardware.

Kathy raised the matter of sponsoring a Bees for Development hive, and discussion ensued about ways to improve the visibility of honey bees and of the association. Sponsoring digitization of a volume of the ABJ was also raised. Sponsoring a 4H participant, etymology scholarship grant (lots of overhead there to review candidates)

Ettamarie had the current newsletter printed at a new printer, Allegra, which is affording us substantial savings over our previous printer.

Donna - Financial report. February and March newsletters, were the substantial expenses for this period. Current checking balance is \$2882.02, Savings \$3027.01

We need to work on budgeting and projecting income and expenses over the year.

The Curriculum Guide, aka "Bee Book" we produced at some point could be printed and distributed to schools in different areas at no charge as part of our non-profit/charity mission.

Katia motioned that we hold a board meeting which is dedicated to budgeting. Sean and Ettamarie simultaneously seconded. Vote was unanimous.

We'll be holding an auction later in the year, and if it brings in sufficient additional funds, then we'll hold off from raising dues, otherwise, raising dues may be considered for stabilizing the association finances.

Sean requested that the Treasurer provide the accounting summary as a computer file so that inclusion on the website or newsletter can be performed more effectively.

Kathy to announce that we will have a silent auction at the November Potluck.

Ettamarie reported on the insurance policy obtained for the association. \$343 per year, with \$2M general aggregate limit, \$1M personal/advertising injury, \$100K damage to premise with \$500 deductible, 1K medical expenses for any one person.

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*March Board meeting minutes continued*

Sean motioned that we send postcard to expired members. Voted: unanimous.

Katia indicated that insurance documentation can be issued with names of (fair) venues on them as needed. Harvest Fair: comb honey category?

Ettamarie to talk to some fairs (such as Sonoma-Marin) about the association sponsoring awards.

Fred suggested recognizing a "junior beekeeper" at the November potluck.

Raise reciprocal links at the general meeting (and in the newsletter): solicit website information from members, review them for appropriateness of linkage to the SCBA site. These will be linked from the member data, and only CURRENT members will have links - if someone's membership expires, their link will as well.

Katia reports that Gordon Frankie should be at the April meeting at 7:45pm, and we should be prepared for him to start at that time. Ettamarie will bring a projection screen in case New College doesn't have a suitable one.

Katia motioned that the Secretary should be the swarm chairperson. Unanimous.

The June general meeting will be extraction night.

13 MAY @ Beekind - extractor class.

Apiary Inspection 13th & 20th May @ Nelson Apiary.

Pack a bag lunch.

Tee shirts - we're down do about a dozen. Printing involves a set-up and per shirt cost. Ettamarie is using a printer in Petaluma for some shirts of her own which is less expensive than the outfit we previously used for the association shirts.

Respectfully submitted, Sean B. Straw

**SCBA General Meeting 2006-04-10 @ 7:00 pm**

Held at the new meeting location, New College in Santa Rosa.

Kathy Cox came in early to speak to new members helping them with questions they had as beginners. She hopes to do this for each meeting as long as there is a need.

52 attendees, including presenter.

Secretary arrived about 30 minutes late for the start of the meeting, and has no notes for the Q&A session.

Some members have expressed interest in tagging along with more experienced members on swarm calls. If anyone is interested in tagging along on swarm calls, please contact Sean Straw so that we can identify you to other beekeepers.

Several members related recent swarm experiences - now that the sun is out, the swarms are coming out. Kathy Cox reported status of a bee tree in Marin which was being cut down.

The association is looking for bee-friendly establishments in Eastern Sonoma county to place membership posters in. Please contact Sean Straw if

you have sites to suggest. If you have a storefront for your honey, you can request a membership poster.

We have at least one active member who is unable to house beehives on her property due to proximity to Buckeye (a tree), which is toxic to bees. There are no doubt many city dwellers who would like to expand their beekeeping interests, but do not have the space on their own properties. Please contact Sean Straw or Ettamarie Peterson if you have information on people interested in hosting hives on their property, so that we can collect and publish the information in the newsletter. Katia indicated she has some out apiary contacts.

Ettamarie Peterson motioned to donate US\$150 to the American Bee Journal digitization project. Jackie Whitford seconded the motion. This project is digitizing the first two years of the journal (from the mid-1800's). This is the cost of digitizing ONE volume. Passed: Vote: 40 Yea, 0 Nay. More info (and other digitized texts) at: <http://bees.library.cornell.edu/> A similar, perhaps inter-related project is at: <http://www.easternapiculture.org/programs/DigitizingLi.st.shtml>

Ettamarie Peterson motioned to donate US\$50 to Bees For Development, which sets up beehives in developing countries, and teaches people there how to raise bees, so that they can benefit from them (including better pollination of their gardens, so that they get better yields, etc). It's a worthwhile project, and is a registered charitable trust in the UK. Ettamarie has posted to the sonomabees discussion list about them, though one member suggested that we bring back more information about the organization for review. Passed: 34 Yea, 1 Nay. More info at: <http://www.planbee.org.uk/>

Hans Schrader brought an inner cover with venting holes - approx 1" holes drilled along outside edges, 2" from the box edge (so over the second frame), intended to alleviate ventilation problems in the hive.

Kathy Cox recommended that people use follower boards to reduce moisture problems in their hives, allowing the moisture to come down the sides of the hive, rather than raining down upon the bees.

Shelley Arrowsmith volunteered to provide the honey for the May meeting (we pay rent for the use of the meeting space, but also provide a jar of honey). This is an excellent opportunity for individuals to showcase their honey to the students and faculty at the New College facility - be sure to include contact information with your honey so that interested parties might be able to order more honey from you!

**Speaker: Professor Gordon Frankie**, entomologist at the University of California, Berkeley

There are 1600 Native Species of solitary bees in California, and 3500 in the US. 82 have been identified in Berkeley alone.

The lifespan in a lab setting is 30-40 days, but in nature, perhaps 3 weeks, so the solitary bee doesn't have a lifespan significantly different than that of a

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*General April Meeting minutes continued*  
honey bee.

They use Douglas fir sticks with holes drilled in them to provide nesting spaces for the solitary bees, then they can cut them lengthwise to inspect the structure inside.

As with ants and wasps, only the female bee stings - the stinger is an extension of the ovum depositor.

The Blue Orchard bee is actively used for pollination. Some countries lack natural pollinators and must hand pollinate crops with paintbrushes!

1000 plants were surveyed in Berkeley. Of these, 50 were California natives, and 950 were 'exotics' (any plant not native). The native bees were sighted on 39 of the natives (78%), but only 90 (9.5%) of the exotics, demonstrating a strong preference for pollination activity on plants native to their area.

Some popular plants:      Asterracea (Sunflower, etc),  
                                  Grevaiacea (Geranium), Lamiaceae (esp.  
Salvia, aka Sage), Polygonaceae (Eriogonum),  
Buckwheat family, Rhamnaceaea (Ceanothus,  
"California Lilac"), Rosacea (several)

Native bees are active on warm sunny days (>64°F), little or no wind, high atmospheric pressure, and when the plants are in full flower. Honeybees seem not to pay attention to atmospheric pressure.

Some other plants with a significant bee relationship:

"Pride of Madiera" – Coriopsis exotic: Laneria,  
Eryngium martinum "Sea Holly" zucchini &  
squash rely on bee pollination, Native Poppy,  
native Sunflower, Phiscillia Vicita  
(?), Buckwheat - very attractive

Roses mostly don't attract bees. Hybridization probably doesn't help much. NATIVE roses are attractive to bees. [NATIVE] Lotus Scoparus (yellow flowers) - LOTS of nectar. Often confused for Scotch Broom, it is used for erosion control.

Dr. Frankie talked about Miller Creek Middle School in Lucas Valley which has a Native California Bee Club.

He announced a "Bug Day" - 20 May, at the Randall Museum.

Alice Waters (of Chez Panisse) - funded a program in Berkeley "The Edible Schoolyard" <http://www.edibleschoolyard.org/> There is a similar program is the Peabody Charter School Program in Santa Barbara. He is also happy about the "Farm to Schools" Program - bringing local farm produce to schools for meal programs.

Dr. Frankie is convinced, "Gardening is Contagious."

Dr. Frankie is presenting on "Pollination Ecology of Spring Wildflowers" at UC Hastings Reserve in Monterey County, 2-4 June, 2006:  
<[http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/workshops\\_2006.html#jun2](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/workshops_2006.html#jun2)>

[useful related resource, not presented at the meeting:  
<<http://www.sercal.org/activities.htm>>]

At the close, Dr. Frankie shared his three display trays of solitary bees. Some local bees look somewhat like flies, others are bright yellow and might easily be mistaken for tiny yellowjackets.  
Respectfully submitted, Sean B. Straw

#### **April Treasurer's Report:**

Opening Balance	\$2882.02
<b>Income</b> Mar. raffle	\$150.00
Apr. raffle	\$74.00
H. Alvarez Har.Fair fee	\$108.30
T-shirt sale	\$15.00
Total Income	<u>\$347.30</u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Leonard Ripenhoff (raffle)	-\$140.96
E. Peterson (newsletter)	-\$135.75
Sean Straw (swarm list)	-\$142.53
Kathy Cox (room)	-\$50.00
Allegra Print & Imaging (newsletter)	-\$81.30
<b>total expenses</b>	<b>- \$550.54</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$2,678.78</b>
<b>Savings Account</b>	<b>\$3,029.58</b>

#### **Board meeting Apr. 17, 2006**

Hosted at Donna Nelson's

Turn north at 38' 25.39" N / 122' 47.68" W

Attendance: Kathy Cox (President) + spouse, Donna Nelson (Treasurer) + spouse, Ettamarie Peterson (Editor), Sean Straw (Secretary), Katia Vincent (VP), Mike Johnson (Librarian), Eric Onkin (interested member)

Q: What chemical in almond honey puts bees to sleep?

General chatter about how to get Sonoma County Honey recognized as a local interest.

Individuals might try to hash out deals with wine tasting cellars to provide honey through them, in much the same way that local cheese is.

Lynn Ripenhoff to be recognized as co-chair of the raffle.

VOTE:

\$1 = 1 raffle ticket  
\$5 = 6 raffle tickets  
prize = 1 raffle ticket

Ettamarie motions to change the ticket arrangement as above, seconded by Katia. VOTE: unanimous yea.

Sean officially apologized for seeming to take over the raffle announcing at the April General meeting.

Leonard had provided some information on revising the raffle process. Member April Lance sent a letter with recommendations as well. The board discussed and brainstormed other approaches, and formulated the following:

Final raffle sales to be held at end of first break. As  
*Continued on next page*

### *April Board meeting continued*

people buy tickets or present raffle items, their name is written on a whiteboard, along with the number of tickets to be issued. the start and end numbers of the ticket range issued. No ticket stubs are presented to the member. Tickets are separated and placed into a bin for jumbling (as usual), and the raffle chair extracts tickets and notes an incrementing call number next to the appropriate name on the whiteboard, a number of times equal to the number of prizes on the table. This defines the order in which people can claim their prizes. After the winners are determined, the whiteboard is placed into view. At the end of the main presentation, winners can come collect their prizes. Collections should be in order of the numbers as listed. The Raffle chair might opt to call the names over the PA system. As prizes are collected, the numbers are erased from the board.

This approach will remove the confusion from the raffle period, and eliminate issues with conversational noise drowning out the raffle calling. People merely need to look to the board to see if they've won anything.

VOTE: unanimous yea

Sean will provide a whiteboard and marker at the next general meeting.

How to deal with people who don't claim their prize in a timely manner?

If you're leaving, please cross your name off the board.

Katia motions to adopt the above described raffle procedure, Ettamarie seconds. VOTE: unanimous yea. The goal is to simplify and speed up the raffle process so that people can get on with visiting others or returning home rather than going over their numbers constantly.

Historian position is still vacant. Ettamarie is going to write up a description of the position in the newsletter.

JUNE:

Sean - Pneumatic frame assembly, Dowel frames demonstrated, extraction, Fred - hand crank  
Katia will be bringing a supply of frame and foundation components.

Donna - status of POB keys.

Ettamarie - Insurance

Ettamarie - Serge to speak at Western Apicultural Society 2006 Conference. July 24-27.

Sean suggested we try to have a board huddle at the beginning of the general meeting, or ensure to provide Kathy with agenda items so that she knows to announce things or call on different board members.

Board to meet at 4:30pm at a restaurant in Railroad Square for dinner with Dr. Mussen. There was discussion of donation to his entomology department - Dr. Mussen doesn't take a stipend fee.

Gravenstein Fair - "horseshoe shaped" presentation area, with educational info in middle.

Lottery for table positions (rather than free-for-all). "Bee good neighbors" - need to deal with participants piling up materials high on their table. Each person should be

allotted an EQUAL space - 10x10 or whatever. No expanding into your neighbors' space.

We should compose and present guidelines for honey judging to the Harvest Fair. Honey needs to be tasted, not merely looked at. Containers and fill levels need to be standardized.

Donna - financial report.

We had substantial expenses this month (additions to the library, posters, swarm letters, newsletter with swarm insert). Current checking balance is \$2678.78, and savings is \$3029.58

Worth noting is that our new newsletter printer - Allegra Print & Imaging in Santa Rosa, at which member Geoff Whitford works, is affording us substantial savings over our previous printer. Thanks to Geoff and Allegra Print & Imaging for their support.

Ettamarie will acknowledge Allegra Print & Imaging in the newsletter.

Sean brought membership posters along to the meeting - providing one for Nelsons to display at their stand, and another for Kathy.

Ettamarie brought plans for a Kenyan Top Bar Hive which she obtained as a handout while at Apimondia 2005.

Library needs more books targeted at beginners.

Donna presented Sean with some swarm letters which had been returned NDA. Sean to check for newer contact addresses and/or remove the entries from the database.

Donna also contributed to the Lawyer gift basket, with an abundance of honey.

Respectfully submitted, Sean B. Straw

### **What's In Bloom**

Thanks to the April showers we have plenty of May flowers. The apples are blooming. Dandelions, borage, vetch, berry vines, California poppies, Oriental poppies, wild celery, filaree, lilacs and roses also bloom this month. May looks like a good nectar flow month!

### **Historian's Position**

The job of historian is really quite simple. The duties are to save copies of the newsletter, punch three holes in them and store them in a loose-leaf binder. Other things that ought to be saved are documents pertaining to the association and clippings from newspapers. A scrapbook with pockets should be started for these.

Sean Straw is also planning to put some documents in the electronic archives so the historian would provide him with these.

Any volunteers?

## My May Beekeeping To-Do List

By Serge Labesque

The cold wet weather we experienced in March and early April has set the stage for intense swarming with the first days of really nice spring weather.

On the positive side, ground moisture content is such that we may enjoy an extended and generous summer honeyflow this year.

The threat of an early and rapid Varroa mite population build-up is considerable. Preparations for drone brood trapping need to be made.

### In the bee yards:

- Hive inspections need to be frequent enough to maintain an effective program of swarm prevention and control. These should include:
  - Management of the brood nests.
  - Reduction of congestion in the brood chambers, brood nest expansion, forager and brood equalization, reversing, introduction of frames of foundation, etc.
- Hive divisions.
- Supering
- Queen rearing is in full swing this month.
- Nuc formation and evaluation.
- Pull weeds.
- Assessing colony health status.
- Enjoy the bees.

### At home:

- Have swarm-catching equipment ready.
- Routinely clean and scorch tools and equipment.

Serge Labesque © 2006

## Member Ad Space

(free ad space to all members)

**For Sale by Kathy Cox: Queens** for sale in May (Sorry long rainy spell delayed rearing and mating.) \$19, \$20 if marked. **Nucs** available in May \$120. This includes 5 frames with pollen and nectar, approx. 3 pounds of bees and their queen. **Full size hives for sale in May-** 8 frames of drawn comb, honey, pollen and a 2006 queen. Bottom, deep and migratory top. (This hive will bring you honey this year.) \$200.

Bee class: Hive inspection class, \$35.

Call for dates and reservations. See eggs, larvae, capped pupae, capped honey, nectar, pollen, drone cells and adults, worker cells and worker bees, nurse bees, queen supercedure cells, swarm cells and more.

Call Kathy at 707-823-2804. Don't forget to leave your phone number if you leave a message!

### beekind store

We have packages of bees left. 80.00 per 3lb package and laying Italian queen and 5.00 deposit on the cage. We also have plenty of beekeeping equipment. Our classes are open (no reservation needed).

### Courses in Beekeeping at beekind Store in Sebastopol (see ad)

**13-May** EXTRACTING HONEY - Readyg Hives for the Honey Flow:

TIMELY ACTION-GROWING YOUR APIARY- ADDING BROOD CHAMBERS AND SUPERS and DISCUSSION AND DEMONSTRATION ON EXTRACTING HONEY

Noon - 2PM \$15

**May 27** Hive Inspections:

HANDS ON HIVE INSPECTION

Noon - 3PM \$ 35

**June 3** Beehive Management with Follower Boards

DISCUSSION ON IMPROVEMENTS TO HIVE CONDITIONS THAT CAN REDUCE STRESSES ON BEES. Approximately one hour class with allowance for questions and answers.

Taught by Serge Labesque (SRJC Beekeeping Instructor)

10AM - 11AM \$25

**June 10** Bio Dynamic Beekeeping as taught by Michael Theile

1-3pm

Cost TBA

**17-Jun** Pest Management:

DISCUSSION ON IDENTIFYING PESTS AND TYPES OF CONTROL AVAILABLE.

11AM - 12:30 \$15

**17-Jun** Requeening and Over-wintering bees:

DISCUSSION ON GETTING READY FOR THE WINTER AND REPLACING THE QUEEN

2PM - 3PM \$10

### Leonard Riepenhoff

is selling very nice plastic tubs for selling and storing honey. The 1 ½ pound size is \$7 for 50 (14¢ each) or \$65 for 500 (13¢ each).

The 3 pound size is \$9.50 for 50 (19¢ each) or \$85 for 500 (17¢ each).

These will not melt in the microwave if you are warming honey at half power properly.

Call Leonard at 525-8424. He will bring samples to the meeting again this month.

Leonard is also looking for a young, strong apprentice to work with him and his bees.

**Ettamarie Peterson**-Beautiful BEE QUEEN t-shirts for sale at \$16 (includes tax). The art work is from one of my favorite photos and is done by a silk screen process that washes very well. All sizes are available. Call 707-765-4582 or e-mail [Peterson@svn.net](mailto:Peterson@svn.net) to order. I can bring yours to the meeting.

### Day Under the Oaks Volunteers

So far the volunteers are as follows:

**10 a.m. to Noon** –Rick and Joanne Wallenstein  
Liz Russell and Serge Labesque

**Noon to 2 p.m.**- Don and Mickey  
Marshall, \_\_\_\_\_ More  
volunteers needed for this shift!

**2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**- Ettamarie Peterson, Fred  
Nelson, Katia and Doug Vincent.

*As you can see we could use more volunteers especially from Noon to 2 p.m. It is a fun day.*

### JUDGES COMMENTS AT A MEAD TASTING AND WHAT THEY REALLY MEAN

**From *The Beemaster***, newsletter of the Nottinghamshire Beekeepers Association  
Good presentation- OK you can polish a bottle - now work on your mead  
Condition- Shame about the taste  
Thin- Use more honey next time, you tight-fisted  
\*\*\*\*\*

Aggressive on the palate -I choked on this one  
Peppery- Needed a pint of water afterwards  
Slightly over-acid- Burnt a hole in the show bench  
Good farewell -Sorry to say goodbye to this one  
Good body- Still had parts of bees in it  
Cloying- Stuck my lips together  
Harsh palate- Stripped the roof off my mouth  
Acetic- Best with chips  
Full-bodied -Got me quite excited this one  
Well-balanced -I could still stand afterwards  
Harmonious assemblage- I want to marry this one  
Gorgeous- I get a bit affectionate after tasting all the entries  
High alcohol -Try using it as paint stripper  
Chemical flavours- Recommend you use it for clearing the drains  
Out of class- What part of "dry" don't you understand?  
Infected- So my steward tells me - I didn't dare taste it  
Medicinal flavours- Reminded me of the cough mixture I had as a child

### Honey Recipes of the Month

#### Honey Lemon Poke Cake

3/4 c. honey  
2/3 c. cooking oil  
2 c. sifted flour  
3/4 c. fresh squeezed lemon juice  
2-1/2 tsp. baking powder  
2 c. powdered sugar, sifted  
3 large eggs  
Juice of two more lemons

Preheat oven to 350°. Blend together honey, eggs, and oil. Beat in flour, baking powder and lemon juice until have a smooth cake batter. Pour into approx. 9 x 9" or slightly larger baking pan and bake about 30 minutes (or until edges of cake begin to brown). While cake is baking, prepare lemon topping by mixing until smooth the powdered sugar and the juice of two more lemons. When cake is done, remove from oven and immediately poke holes all over cake through to the bottom with a large dinner fork or 2-tined meat fork. Then spread the topping evenly over the hot cake. Let it cool in the pan before cutting or serving. For a sharper lemon flavor, cut and freeze the cake overnight before serving (the juice in the topping "crystallizes" in the cake).  
- *G. Pfost* from Sacramento Beekeepers' Newsletter (from your editor-I made this cake and it was so delicious Ray and I ate the whole thing in a day!)

**The following Honey and Orange Loaf recipe is the official recipe for entries in the National Honey Show in England this year.** It might be fun if we had a contest to see which one of our members could make the best Honey and Orange Loaf. Maybe we could have each member bake 3, 1 for the judges to taste, 1 for members to sample and 1 to donate to New College. This is just an idea of mine. Let your me know what you think of this idea  
[editor@sonomabees.org](mailto:editor@sonomabees.org) or call me at (707)765-4582

▲ **Honey and Orange Loaf. Exhibits must be made from the following recipe :- Ingredients:** 60g/2oz margarine, 285g/10oz honey, 255g/9oz SR flour, 1 egg, pinch of salt, juice and rind of 1 large orange.

**Method:** Cream honey and margarine. Add beaten egg and the orange rind. Sift the dry ingredients and add them alternately with the orange juice. Put into greased and lined 1kg/2lb loaf tin and bake at 160 ° C/325 ° F/Gas mark 3 for 60-75 min.

## Swarm Information left out of last month's newsletter insert:

### ZONE2: Sonoma and Sonoma Valley

**Larry Mead** 707/322-2232 structural extractions

**Doug Vincent** 707/481-6249 located in Marin M-Th  
**Shelly Arrowsmith** Arrowsmith Farms 707/935-3420

C:707/337-7549 no wall extraction; available anytime  
**Glen Murphy** 707/495-4712 structural extraction; 24 hour emergency service

**Kent McRee** Luck of the Irish Bee Removal 707/938-5368 fee; structural extractions; also remove yellowjackets and wasps

**Katia Vincent** Beekind 707/824-2905 707/477-7378 no fee for easy swarm; can do colony relocations, structural extractions, work with contractor.

**Coral Pawka** 707/321-4137 707/829-SAVE \$25 minimum fee; swarms; wall extractions; relocation

**Rick & JoAnn Wallenstein** Lavender Bee Farm 707/763-4777 707/789-0554 C:707/480-2264 no charge to remove simple swarms; no structural extractions

**Mike Setlak** Bee Rescued 707/778-3708 C:707/953-8951 fee dependant upon distance; structural extractions

**Fred & Donna Nelson** She Hasta Bee 707/575-9761 707/478-3121 707/293-6657 \$35 fee; no structural extractions

**Bill Wiebalk** 707/321-6645 Sonoma - Glen Ellen - Kenwood ; no fee for simple swarm

**Hector Alvarez** Hector's Apiary Services 707/579-9416 C:707/328-1813

fee dependant upon distance; also removes Yellow Jackets; available any time

**Ettamarie Peterson** Peterson's Farm 707/765-4582 707/479-1613 no fee; no structural extractions

**Rob Berkemier** 707/484-5048 fee; extractions, references, contractor

### ZONE3: Santa Rosa and Sebastopol

**Eli Gifford** 707/829-0203 C:707/490-5441 no fee; no structural extractions; M-F after 4pm; weekends

**Ken Kaufman** 707/545-3369 C:707/228-5283 M-F after 3pm; weekends; no structural extractions

**Scott About** 707/975-4836 no fee for swarms; fee for structural extraction; available anytime;

**Briana Kelly-Brennan** 707/823-1271 no fee; Fridays and Sundays all day; other days by arrangement; no structural extractions

**Tom Ryan** 707/823-9190 no fee; no structural extractions

**Theodore B. Richardson** 707/874-2816 no fee; swarms only; no structural extractions

**Deborah & Djubaya Grace** Catchtail Gardens 707/824-4408 C:707/849-7448

no fee for basic swarms; structural extractions optional; available anytime

**Harvy Goodman** 707/480-9141 fee varies; structural extractions; M-F by arrangement; weekends any time

**Coral Pawka** 707/321-4137 707/829-SAVE \$25 minimum fee; swarms; wall extractions; relocation

**James Kennedy** 707/824-1257 C:415/240-3290 Sebastopol area only; no fees; no structural extractions

**Bob Le Roy** 707/887-2434 no fee for basic swarm; swarms and structural extractions

**Joe Martinez** 707/522-5956 no fee; swarms only - no

structural extractions

**Rob Berkemier** 707/484-5048 fee; extractions, references, contractor

**Larry Mead** 707/322-2232 structural extractions

**Katia Vincent** Beekind 707/824-2905 707/477-7378 no fee for easy swarm; can do colony relocations, structural extractions, work with contractor.

**Rick & JoAnn Wallenstein** Lavender Bee Farm 707/763-4777 707/789-0554 C:707/480-2264

no charge to remove simple swarms; no structural extractions

**Peter Fallon** 707/577-0589 no fee; no structural extractions

**Frank DeCoite** 707/773-2289 707/235-3664 no fee for swarms; fee for structural extractions; available weekdays after 5pm and on weekends

**Kent McRee** Luck of the Irish Bee Removal 707/938-5368 fee; structural extractions; also remove yellowjackets and wasps

**Richard McLaughlin** 707/823-0472 C:707/322-8678 no fee; simple swarms only - no structural extractions

**Brian Sarasy** 707/829-0988 no fee; fee for structural extractions

**Barbara-Jo Alois** 707/545-5956 C:707/322-3672 no fee; no extractions; available any time

**Doug Vincent** 707/481-6249 located in Marin M-Th

**Benjamin Schmid** 707/575-4778 707/292-8256 no fee for simple swarms; also deal with mean bees & africanized

**Linda Bodwin** 707/575-3687 C:707/484-7511 fee; Fri/Sat/Sun anytime; no structural extractions

**Fred & Donna Nelson** She Hasta Bee 707/575-9761 707/478-3121 707/293-6657 \$35 fee; no structural extractions

**David & Carol C. Bassing / Cole** 707/823-0914 C:707/481-0788 no fee; available anytime

**Hector Alvarez** Hector's Apiary Services 707/579-9416 C:707/328-1813 fee dependant upon distance; also removes Yellow Jackets; available any time

**Daniel & Jennifer Young** 707/824-2235 C:707/548-8076 no fee; M-F by arrangement; weekends anytime; no structural extractions

**Glen Murphy** 707/495-4712 structural extraction; 24 hour emergency service

**Mike Setlak** Bee Rescued 707/778-3708 C:707/953-8951 fee dependant upon distance; structural extractions

**Joey & Liz Romo / Russell** C: 707/477-2930 C: 707/696-0861 swarms free; \$30/hr for structural extractions

**Joseph Michalek** 707/539-0905 Santa Rosa only; except Sunday; no charge; no structural extractions

**Kathy Cox** Bloomfield Bees & Bouquets 707/823-2804 fee; also structural extractions

**Note: These names appear in random order. If you look on the [www.sonomabees.org](http://www.sonomabees.org) swarm pages the order will change each time you go to that page.**

**Sean Straw, our web master has fixed it that way to make it fair for all of the swarm catchers.**

**If you want someone to get a swarm, please use this corrected list for these two zones and the other list you got last month for the other zones. Do not call Sean unless you want your name added or subtracted from any list currently on the web.**

**SCBA Executive Board 2006**  
**Pres. Kathy Cox** [president@sonomabees.org](mailto:president@sonomabees.org)  
**823-2804**  
**Past Pres. Spring Maxfield**  
[pastpres@sonomabees.org](mailto:pastpres@sonomabees.org) **527-5913**  
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**Editor Ettamarie Peterson –**  
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**Swarm Chairperson- Katia Vincent**  
[swarms@sonomabees.org](mailto:swarms@sonomabees.org)  
**Extractor Tech- Call Ettamarie 765-4582 or**  
**Spring Maxfield 527-5913**

*Regular monthly meetings of the Sonoma County Beekeepers' Association are held on the second Monday of each month, at 7 pm. The meetings cover a wide range of topics of interest to beekeepers. Everyone wanting to learn about honey bees is cordially invited to attend. You do not need to be a member nor a beekeeper to attend these meetings. Please contact the treasurer to pay dues.*

**Wanted: Someone to be our new historian. Ettamarie will be happy to train you!**

### Honey Bee Trivia

- It takes 8 to 10 pounds of nectar to make a pound of honey.
- It takes 8 to 10 pounds of honey to make a pound of beeswax.
- To produce a pound of honey, bees travel about 55,000 miles, and visit some 2 million flowers.



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**21 West 7<sup>th</sup> St. Santa Rosa** **Western Farm Supply** **707-545-0721**

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The Monthly Extractor  
 Sonoma County Beekeepers' Assoc.  
 P.O. Box 98  
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A BEE'S POEM

REMEMBER, HUMANS, WHEN YOU BUY  
 OUR PRODUCT SWEET N' RUNNY,  
 US BEE-BUGS REALLY GAVE OUR ALL  
 TO BARF UP ALL THAT HONEY!



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