

# The Monthly Extractor

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September 2023

## President's Message

Happy September! I don't know about you, but I feel like it has not been a very hot summer, so far. But, since everything else is about a month behind, due to the crazy winter we had, I suppose the heat may still be coming in September and October.



It has been a weather roller-coaster.

Believe it or not, now is the time to start planning and prepping your hives and gardens for the winter. This is the perfect reason to come out to the General Meeting,

on Monday September 11. It's all about winterizing. We will discuss extracting honey, moving frames, changing the size of your hives, and using insulation, among other topics. Don't miss this one!

The fair season is always the time that our organization needs its volunteers the most, and this year has been no different. So, I just want to say THANK YOU to all of you who have been volunteering and working so hard to support SCBA at all the August events. From setting up to breaking down, there was so much planning, designing, building, and chatting with the public about bees and gardens, that we needed all-hands-on-deck ... and that's what we got. Thank you all, with a special thank you to Shannon Carr for taking the extra time to make sure all the events ran smoothly and successfully.

Speaking of the events, on the day after the county fair ends each year, there is a huge plant sale in the garden pavilion. It was my first time shopping there this year, and it was amazing! There were so many great deals on every plant possible that the shoppers needed a rolling garden cart to take their haul back to their cars. So, Shannon set up an SCBA info booth/cart rental. For a \$5 donation to SCBA, attend-



ees could borrow a cart for shopping and unloading their plants. It was a fantastic idea and the shoppers were so grateful. SCBA made more than \$150 in donations in just a few hours! Great job Shannon and everyone who lent their carts for the fundraiser.

Things in SCBA are gearing up and there are a lot of fun activities coming before the end of the year. So, keep your eyes peeled for the email announcements headed your way and don't forget to put it all in your calendar.

See you out there!

Carol Ellis  
[president@sonoma-bees.org](mailto:president@sonoma-bees.org)



**One of the wagons, loaded with plants on their way to their new home**

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*The SCBA newsletter reflects the various techniques, theories and art of sustainable beekeeping.*

## August was Quite a Month for SCBA

By Shannon Carr

At our August General Meeting, we had an amazing speaker, Nina Sokolov. Nina is from UC Berkeley and joined us to talk about her research on how climate change is affecting pollinators and how dry years vs wet years affect disease transmissions



amongst honeybees within a colony and how that can transfer to native bees at the flower. SCBA's general meetings are a great place to learn more about what is going on in the beekeeping community, not just locally, but more globally and a

great place to meet other members and swap stories and buy pollinator plants. They are also open to the public.

Sonoma County was abuzz with fairs in August, and the SCBA participated in both the County Fair and the Apple Fair in Sebastopol. More than 80 members volunteered their time and talent to make both events a huge success for SCBA. Take a look at the following pages for photos and details.

In September we will continue the outreach with tabling events at Friedman's Home Improvement and Prickett's Nursery. Friedman's has been great supporter of SCBA this year and we will be in their nurseries in Petaluma on September 2, Santa Rosa



on September 3, and Sonoma on September 16. We also have a table at Prickett's Nursery's Customer Appreciation Event on September 9. If you are interested in helping with any of these events, please contact me at [programdirector@sonomabees.org](mailto:programdirector@sonomabees.org).

**One of the VIBees that visited SCBA's tent at the County Fair.**

## SCBA General Meeting

September 11, 2023; 6:00 – 8:30  
Druids Hall, 1011 College Ave., Santa Rosa

Even though we are in the middle of summer, now is the time to start preparing for winter. We will be going over:

- The basics of what you need to do to get your hive ready for winter
- Behavior changes you may start seeing in the bees you manage
- The microclimates of each cluster and how preparations may differ from cluster to cluster
- To wrap or not to wrap
- Mites. Bees have mites and what can be done to help mitigate the problem.

Plus, SCBA's Gardening for Bees program has pollinator plants! Lots and lots of pollinator plants will be available. We will open the Druid Hall's doors early, at 5:30, to accommodate G4Bs biggest pollinator plant sale of the year.

You do not want to miss the September General Meeting!

## SCBA CALENDAR

The [SCBA online calendar](#) is updated frequently. Check it out to see current events.

September 2 – [East Cluster Café](#)

September 2 – [Community Outreach Friedman's Petaluma](#)

September 3 – [Community Outreach Friedman's Santa Rosa](#)

September 9 – [Community Outreach Prickett's Nursery Santa Rosa](#)

September 11 – [SCBA General Meeting](#)

September 16 – [Central Cluster Café](#)

September 16 – [Community Outreach Friedman's Sonoma](#)

September 18 – [Beekeepers Zoom Forum](#)

September 23 – [South Cluster Café](#)

September 24 – [North Cluster Café](#)



# In August, All the County Is A Fair!

*Months of planning, days of set up, hundreds of smiles.*

SCBA hosted an amazing exhibit at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Thank you Gülten Eicher, Mendy Tuhtan, Antonia Cerniglio, Kim Bergstrom, Franny Minervini-Zick and Frank Gibbons for coordinating, creating, and leading our amazing Sonoma County Fairgrounds exhibit! Gülten brought hundreds of plants to showcase and display. Mendy and Antonia built the dinosaur egg nest, replica of an ancient mud hive, a replica of a bee encased in amber, and created a fun scavenger hunt for kids that kids of all ages enjoyed. Franny brought the dinosaur skeletons and Frank built a beautiful frame for the banners and coordinated an observation hive for every day of the fair. Thanks also to the more than 60 members who helped put this event on. Members joined to help set up, run the booth on a daily basis, and came out to tear down and pack up. We also participated in the annual Hall of Flowers Plant sale, providing information on SCBA and pollinator plants, and we raised some money by renting out wagons to people buying plants from the Hall of Flower displays.

Photos and text by Shannon Carr, Program Director



**Bradley Mark and Gülten Eicher**



**Jamie Storck**



**George Ellison and Franny Minervini-Zick**



**Setting up SCBA's Fair Exhibit**



**Dan Berry, Peggy Clark, Gülten Eicher, Andrew Benson, Becky Jackson helping at the Sonoma County Fair**



# Prehistoric Fair Fun for All Ages

This year's County Fair theme was Jurassic Park! Our exhibit was both fun and educational with facts about bees and bee-keeping through time. Did you know bees evolved from predatory wasps more than 130 million years ago and survived the mass extinction event that killed the dinosaurs? That people have been harvesting honey from bees for more than 8,000 years. These are just a few of the facts people learned from our exhibit along with information on essential plants for any pollinator garden. Kids were invited to explore the exhibit through a scavenger hunt.



*A family participating in our exhibit's scavenger hunt*



*Antonia Cerniglio talking about the observation hive with one of our young visitors*



*Two young visitors show off their scavenger hunt cards.*



*Wagons for rent.*



# Sebastopol's Apple Fair Gives SCBA Another Chance To Show off the Bees

The last weekend of the Sonoma County Fair was also the weekend of the Sebastopol Apple Gravenstein Fair. More than a dozen members joined Program Director, Shannon Carr, over the weekend to talk to our community about honey bees and pollinator plants.

Sylvia Cook led an arts and crafts table, working with kids, coloring pictures of bees and building bee rafts from old wine corks educating about the importance of providing water (and flotation devices) for pollinators.

Thank you to Ettamarie Peterson and Andrew Benson for bringing their observation hives, which are always a great experience for people to witness bees and what goes on inside a hive.



*Like bees, visitors kept busy with hands-on activities.*



*Always an educator, Ettamarie Peterson explains brood, honey stores, and bee behavior.*

## Bee Talk!

# September: Look Ahead, and Mind the Spark

By Mohammed Ibrahim

1st Vice President



September marks the end of the beekeeping season in most climates, which means the bees are beginning to prepare for winter. September, also National Honey Month, is an essential time of year for beekeepers and honey makers. During National Honey Month, we are psyched to celebrate how

honey enhances our lives and appreciate the product of the hive.

While the weather is still warm, ensure the colony has enough honey stores for winter. Historically in Sonoma County, with the brood nest in the lower brood chamber, you should have about 40 lb. of honey, equal to one super in the upper chamber. If not, start feeding through October.

Feeding will introduce robbing if not done right. The recommendation is to feed later in the evening if you use an entrance feeder. Otherwise, the internal feeder will be the best option. At this time of the season, the heavy syrup is easier for the bees to process and store as honey (2:1 ratio of two volumes of sugar to one volume of water). Reducing your hive entrance and installing robber screens is a very effective way to help weaker colonies.

Beekeepers start consolidating extra volume in the hives, ensure the hives have good shape structure, no cracks or gaps between brood boxes. Avoid hive manipulation and be mindful of when and how long you are doing your inspections. At this time of the year, once every two weekends should be sufficient inspection for healthy colonies.

Please be aware of the fire danger when using the smoker in dry-grass areas.

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## Serge's September Hive To-Do List

- Assess the colonies, their health, queens, brood nests and stores.
- Monitor the progress of the colonies in their preparations for fall and winter.
- Requeen or combine hives that are not performing satisfactorily and those that have failed or failing queens. Note that only healthy hives should be combined.
- Reduce the unused volume of the hives. (Follower boards greatly facilitate this.)
- Consolidate honey in honey supers. (Reduce the volume of the honey supers with follower boards.)
- Manage frames in preparation for fall culling of the old and misshapen ones.
- Beware of yellowjackets and of the risks of robbing. If necessary, reduce the entrances of developing colonies and of those that are under attack.

Make sure the hives have no secondary entrances.

- Avoid hive manipulations that can trigger robbing.
- Provide and maintain sources of water.
- Provide some afternoon shade, if possible.
- Ensure that hives are adequately ventilated.
- Harvest, extract and bottle surplus honey, if there is any, and in moderation.
- Return wet frames and cappings to the bees for cleaning (by placing them on top of hive top feeders or inner covers during the evening).
- Render wax from discarded frames and cappings.
- Beware of the fire danger when using the smoker in dry-grass areas.
- Routinely clean and scorch tools and equipment.

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# Fall Gardening – What to Do?

By Ann Gallagher White  
2nd VP of Gardening

September is my birthday month and harvest time is my favorite time of the year. Fall, especially this year, presents a fresh start for my gardening year as numerous health considerations (family illness, surgery and covid) conspired to thwart gardening progress this spring and summer. Our family has progressed through these challenges, and I am thankful for that. Likewise, I am grateful SCBA is making the most of one of life's challenges (to help overcome the continuing threat to pollinator health) by creating a community (G4B/ Gardening for Bees) to grow pesticide-free forage for our bees and to support pollinator health. Here are my suggestions for what to do in the fall garden:



**Plant; plant; plant!** SCBA's amazing Home Nurseries Group grows pesticide-free pollinator plants, and we will offer our plants for sale at our general meeting on September 11 at the Druid's Hall. You do not want to miss this! The plants are always reasonably priced. We sell tried-and-true pollinator plants. Support SCBA, come to the general meeting and leave with great plants! For more information on plants for summer/fall bloom, check out our G4B dearth plant list on our SCBA [website](#) and SCBA Master Gardener Ellen Sherron's recommendations. Now is the time to add plants (three or more in a group is optimal) for more blooms come spring.

**Plant a porch/balcony pollinator garden.** If you have a small balcony or porch, growing pollinator forage is a different experience than if you have more acreage. Your contribution of a garden this fall means more pollinators flourishing. Period. Here is a resource for your consideration in [starting a pollinator garden in a small area](#).

If you already have a small pollinator garden, refresh the tired soil in containers, remove dead summer plants and blooms, add fresh seeds and plants, and don't forget to add mulch to the top layer of soil.

An amazing fall-blooming succulent you can use in a container garden or plant in the ground is the pink/burgundy-flowering succulent, Autumn Joy Sedum, which is both hardy and drought tolerant. Follow these links for [seeds](#) and for its [pollinator properties](#) and more general information.

**Plant a fall vegetable garden.** If you want to plant fall vegetables, [this site](#) that has lots of information.

**Improve soil quality.** Adding compost to soil is the best way to improve soil quality. You can make it or buy it. If you choose to make it, you may want to consider planting a cover crop this fall that will create food and forage during the winter and improve soil quality. [Fava bean](#) roots break up hard soil, plus create forage and you can cut them down and compost the greens, leaving the roots underground to add nitrogen to the soil. Sow in late summer for a late fall harvest. I have not tried planting a cover crop yet but certain G4B members swear by it. I plan to try it this spring.

**Take stock of summer/fall blooms.** During later summer and fall, I admire what is growing or blooming to remove, transplant, or add forage for continual seasonal bloom to benefit pollinators. One of my favorite summer/fall bloomers is [Old Fashioned smoke tree](#), a burgundy pollinator plant now blooming (from June to September), creating incredible color and texture. Drought and clay soil tolerant, deer resistant, and forage supply for the pollinators during dearth in the summer and fall garden. It is a tree/large shrub that produces abundant forage.

**Remove/move plants.** Plants that do not bloom or are not thriving may be divided, moved or removed, an important part of fall gardening. If you decide to move or remove a plant because it is diseased or not blooming, evaluate why the plant did not succeed and decide on a replacement better suited to your space. Please consider giving healthy pesticide-free plants away to another gardener or to G4B. We gratefully accept donations and may use donated plants in projects. If you do move plants before the rains come, remember to water them.

*September Gardening, continued next page*

# Be Aware of Inadvertent Pesticide Usage

*By Ann Gallagher White  
2nd VP, Gardening*

Here are a few tips to help you maintain a pesticide-free garden and to fight the good fight to avoid adding more to our glorious fall gardens and neighborhoods:

**Treating plants** – Beware of misleading product names/investigate before you buy. If you treat your plants for disease or infestation, research the active ingredients in the treatment to make sure you are not using a pesticide. For example, “Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Rose and Flower Care” contains a neonicotinoid (imidacloprid) – it kills all pollinators, although the label only says that it kills offending insects “and more.” (Well, “more” means everything, including bees.) You can find out about ingredients in the Bayer garden treatments and a large array of other products at [Whatsinthisproduct](#). Bayer products containing neonics have deceiving names such as, “Bioadvanced Three in One Insect and Disease Control.” If you have it in your garage or shed, take it to a toxic waste collection site to save the bees and other pollinators, as this product (and all neonics) is [highly toxic to bees](#).



**Buy untreated seeds.** Sadly, even our farmers often do not know that the seeds they are planting are killing pollinators according to this [2020 study](#) by The Xerces Society. You can always buy organic seeds you know have not been treated. When you purchase seeds for your garden, ask if they have been treated with pesticides. If the packages do not say they are untreated, you cannot assume that the seeds are in fact untreated. Check out the SCBA G4B seeds (and their sources) [here](#).

**Buy untreated plants.** When buying plants, make sure they are not treated with pesticides – only purchase from [safe and reputable nurseries, such as those recommended by The Xerces Society](#). Ask before you buy. G4B plants come from our Home Nurseries Group and are never treated with pesticides.

**Educate friends and neighbors.** SCBA has developed an informational [pesticide flyer](#) under the gardening tab to help our members educate neighbors and friends about the issue gently. Consider printing the flyer and handing it out in your neighborhood.

Participate in a group to help members recognize businesses that support pollinator health. SCBA is interested in hearing from you. Should we let businesses know our members are concerned about the products they sell and use? Please reach out if you want to have input regarding recognizing local businesses that do not use/sell harmful pesticides: [2ndVP@sonomabees.org](mailto:2ndVP@sonomabees.org) This is an inquiry only. If SCBA members are interested, we will set up a call to discuss how to move ahead with an agenda and next steps. Garden on!

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*September Gardening, from previous page*

**Check out the Master Gardeners' list.** For a comprehensive list of what to do this month (and every month) in the fall garden, see the University of [California Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County resources](#).

Happy gardening and happy fall! If you want to reach out, my email is [2ndvp@Sonomabees.org](mailto:2ndvp@Sonomabees.org)



## CLUSTER NEWS

### In-Person Cluster Cafes: The Heart of SCBA

*By Kelli Cox, Regional Cluster Coordinator*

It has been a wild and busy month. We are still getting reports of swarms! So many things to talk about in your Cluster Cafes. And, speaking of Cluster Cafes, the Cluster Coordinators are reporting great turnouts and lots of interesting conversations. Thanks to many of you for stepping in to help our



Newbees with their hives and participating in the Forums.

Starting in September, there will be ONE Forum on the 3rd Monday of the month. We are hoping by merging the beginner and seasoned beekeeper forums we will be able to have

more robust conversations by using breakout rooms. We will have a forum in September and October, but none in November and December.

The Cluster Coordinators had a great meeting to begin to prepare for next year and finish out this year. There are going to be a few changes to the calendar (to be revealed later) with the hopes of getting more of you involved in the cafes.

I am SUPER EXCITED to announce Sacha Lepley, our current co coordinator for Central, is going to be stepping into the role of Regional Cluster Coordinator next year. Thank you Sacha!

This means we will need another co-coordinator with Susan Kegley for Central Cluster and are also looking for Coordinator(s) for East Cluster. Please contact me if you are interested.

Our Clusters are getting stronger as more people join and it's thanks to the amazing dedication and care from your Cluster Coordinators that we are seeing this growth. I am beginning to feel the same sense of excitement for the cafes and General meetings that I felt prior to Covid. I look forward to seeing your faces albeit once a month and can't wait to see more of them as time goes on.

Kelli Cox, Regional Cluster Coordinator 707 280-4376

### West Cluster Shares Brunch and Fall Tips

*By Cheryl Koeller, West Cluster Coordinator*

It was a beautiful morning for our August Brunch Bee Cafe. We had a delicious selection of muffins, zucchini bread, scones, sliced tomatoes, quiche, potato casserole and fruit.

Our discussion about preparing for fall included checking monitoring boards for varroa mites, being careful when doing hive inspections because yellowjackets and robber bees are more active now. Also providing shade and water to help the bees with temperature control of their hive, which allows them to take better care of the brood and collect stores.

Connie talked about gardening chores for fall, telling us that the next few months are an excellent time to plant natives as well as the importance of mulching, and pruning and trimming back perennials. We also talked about leaving hollow stems and dried flower beds to serve as overwintering habitats for native bees. This is also a time for planting bulbs and cool season crops.

I can't tell you how happy I am to tell you that we have locations for our September and October Cafes! I look forward to visiting member homes and seeing their apiaries and gardens.

I think hosting a Bee Café is one of the easiest ways to volunteer AND you are rewarded with a truly enjoyable experience of great food, good company and being able to learn and ask questions about beekeeping and gardening. Each month at our Bee Café we talk about what is going on in the apiary and garden and what we should be looking for and doing...OR NOT doing in each area. We usually have a short presentation and conversation about the month topic. Of course, if you ask five beekeepers about how to do something, you can get five different answers.

#### SAVE THE DATE!

Our September Bee Café will be on Sunday, September 17. The topics this month are "Reducing the Hive" and "Composting/Sheet Mulching." Gülden Eicher is a Master Gardener and she will be demonstrating and talking about composting, sheet mulching, vermi compost, etc. An email

*West Cluster continued next page*

# Central Cluster Talks Honey Stores, Mites & Native Bees

*By Susan Kegley & Sacha Lepley, Co-Coordiators*

Central Cluster met at Bees N Blooms for our August Cluster meeting. We had a small group (around 10 or so) that had a good time discussing what's going on in the hives at this time of year. We talked about the variability in honey stores this year, from wild abundance in some hives, to not much in others due to the late swarms. This led to a discussion of how to judge whether to harvest honey and if so, how much to leave the bees for winter.

We discussed the need to freeze honey frames if they were not going to be processed right away, to avoid potential damage from wax moths and small hive beetles. We talked about Serge's technique of monitoring mites monthly using an oiled monitoring board placed on the hive for 24 hours. Mite counts each month over the year provide a good measure of how well that particular colony can handle mites. If they aren't doing so well, best to requeen and hope for better genetics. If they are doing well, mark that hive as a good one to split from in the spring!

We ended the meeting with a stroll through the Bees N Blooms flower gardens to look for native bees and check out which flowers are blooming now, so we can think about what to plant for next year. Flowers that were blooming included gold-enrod, Agastache (Hyssop), milkweed, Sedum (Stonecrop), zinnias, mint, oregano, savory, cone-flowers, sunflowers, and Rudbeckia. Trees that are blooming now include Chaste Tree (Vitex) and Red Flowering Gum (Corymbia ficifolia), both of which the bees love.



The next Central Cluster café is on Saturday, September 16. Location TBD. If you are willing to host, contact Susan or Sacha. We will do a deeper dive into preparing for winter. Please register so we have an idea of numbers.

Want to host a hive dive? Please contact Sacha Lepley, 707-696-4622 or Susan Kegley, 510-759-9397 to make this happen!



## ***West Cluster, from prior page***

invitation for this event will be sent the first week of September.

West Cluster calendar is getting busy! Coming soon events include:

- Hive dive
- One of our members has offered to help you mark Queens in your hive (this year is still RED)
- Workshop on putting together wax foundation frames
- Workshop on cleaning equipment.

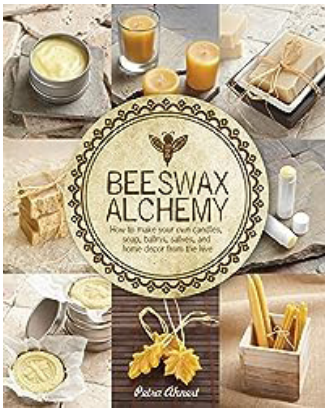


## SCBA BOOK NOOK

### Beeswax Alchemy: How to Make Your Own Soap, Candles, Balms, Creams, and Salves from the Hive

By Petra Ahnert

*Beeswax Alchemy* offers a basic introduction to the art of extracting and purifying beeswax, as well as countless ideas for what to make with it. Some of recipes include skin care creams, lip balms, candles, soaps and other home products such as beeswax ornaments and wax fabric. This book is a great place to start prepping for upcoming Christmas presents from your hive.



We have more than 250 books and DVDs in the SCBA Library. *Beeswax Alchemy* is just one of many books about bees, gardening for bees, and products from the hive in our collection. You can view all our books and DVDs available to you at [SCBA-Library](https://www.scba-library.org).

We are looking to expand the SCBA library with current books and resources. If you have any suggestions for books related to honeybees, beekeeping, native bees, gardening for bees, and products of the hive, please email your suggestions to [Librarian@sonomabees.org](mailto:Librarian@sonomabees.org).

SCBA Library is available to members at in-person general meetings and during the week by appointment. If you are interested in checking out a book, email our librarian at [Librarian@sonomabees.org](mailto:Librarian@sonomabees.org) to plan to pick up one or two of the books or DVDs available to SCBA members.



## GARDENING FOR BEES

### G4Bs Offers Plants and Workshops for Members

By Kim Bergstrom, G4Bs Coordinator

At our September meeting, we will be having a large plant sale, that will include rosemary, abutilon, salvias and much more! Fall is actually a GREAT time to plant perennials because the plants get the benefit of late fall and winter rains to establish themselves before the predominant growing season in the springtime.

The G4Bees group has also been working on several workshops for the fall:

1. Pollinator Gardens: We have had a number of requests from members to teach folks how to build a pollinator garden from scratch, so in September we will be having 2-3 opportunities for you to come and learn how and what to plant. One session will be planting "Pollinator Gardens in containers", so if you don't have a lot of space but want to provide needed forage for your bees, be sure to look out for this offering.
2. The benefits of and how to build a hedgerow: Hedgerows are linear arrangements of shrubs trees and other plants that serve various ecological, environmental, and agricultural purposes. They also offer numerous benefits to our pollinators including providing a diverse range of nectar and pollen sources, nesting sites and shelter, and high plant diversity which attracts a variety of pollinators. In October, we will provide several locations and dates across the county to learn how to plant a hedgerow and an opportunity to roll your sleeves up and help out!

So be on the lookout for these opportunities during the fall, and we hope to see you at the plant sale on September 11.

## Good Things Come to Those Who Wait and Watch the Thermometer

By Rachel Parker

With our gangbuster spring and summer, many beekeepers are harvesting honey, extracting it, and then deploying a variety of techniques for using the comb. One of our youngest members of SCBA, Nicolas Bard, and his mother, Sara, came across this recipe for Honey and Beeswax Ice Cream in a book they checked out from the library, Anna Hingham's *The Last Bite*. Hingham is a well-regarded pastry and dessert chef in London, and her 2022 cookbook has many restaurant-worthy recipes. In this creamy dessert, you melt honey and honeycomb and bring them up to 300F – caramelizing the honey. You need to watch this process carefully – and a thermometer is essential. My honey and comb mixture slowly rose to 200F, then inched up to 230F, and just as I turned away, it zoomed up to over 300F. As a result, my ice cream is a little darker than what Van Leeuwen sells. Some might say burned, but I think it is tasty! Thanks, Nicolas, for your sweet and creamy suggestion!

### Honey and Beeswax Ice Cream

From *The Last Bite*, by Anna Hingham

#### INGREDIENTS

⅓ cup honey and 1 ounce beeswax, or 6 ½ oz comb honey  
1 ⅔ cups heavy cream  
3 ⅓ cups whole milk  
¾ plus 2 tablespoons egg yolks, from about 10 eggs  
½ cup caster (superfine sugar)  
1 teaspoon salt

Put the honey and beeswax, or comb honey, in a saucepan and warm over medium heat. Once the wax is melted, turn up the heat and allow the mixture to start caramelizing. It should turn a deep amber, and register 302F. Once to heat, pour in the cream, followed by the milk. The wax and honey will seize up at this point but return the pan to a low heat for 5 minutes and they will melt into the liquid. Pour into container and leave to infuse in the fridge overnight.

The next day, the wax will have set into a solid layer on top of the milk and cream. Skim off the wax and discard it. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve to remove any remaining wax, then pour it into a saucepan over medium heat.

Whisk the egg yolks, sugar, and salt together. Once the milk and cream mixture reaches a rolling boil, remove from the heat, and slowly pour about half into the egg yolk mixture, whisking as you go to prevent curdling. Pour the custard back into the pan with the remaining infusion and mix well. Check the temperature of the custard; if it is below 180F, return the custard to a gentle heat to cook the egg yolks. Stir stirring constantly until it reaches 180F. Immediately strain through a fine sieve and leave to cool. Transfer to the fridge and chill for at least 4 hours.

Churn the custard in an ice cream machine, following its instructions. Then transfer to a container and leave to set in the freezer before serving.





# SCBA Business Members, Donors, and Sponsors

## SCBA Business Members

### **Beekind Honey and Beekeeping Supply**

Doug & Katia Vincent  
[beekind@beekind.com](mailto:beekind@beekind.com)  
[www.beekind.com](http://www.beekind.com)

*Located in Sebastopol, Beekind is the place to get all your beekeeping supplies as well as gifts from the hive.*

### **Bees N Blooms**

Susan Kegley  
[Info@beesnblooms.com](mailto:Info@beesnblooms.com)  
[www.BeesNBlooms.com](http://www.BeesNBlooms.com)

*Sustaining bees, trees, blooms and you. Bees N Blooms is home to thousands of honeybees and native bees, a lavender labyrinth, a butterfly pollinator garden, and acres of pollinator-friendly plants and trees.*

### **Buzz Off Honey**

John & Darlene McGinnis  
[goahwayranch@gmail.com](mailto:goahwayranch@gmail.com)  
[www.goahwayranch.com](http://www.goahwayranch.com)

*John McGinnis, with his expert craftsmanship, makes all the equipment he sells by hand. You'll find hives, nucs, swarm traps and all the equipment in between.*

### **K2 Ranch and Vineyards**

Ken and Kat Savano  
<https://k2ranch.com/>

*K2 Ranch and Vineyards offer vacation rental, event space, and gardens*

### **Kate Gomes Real Estate, Inc.**

Kate Gomes  
[kgrealestate2016@gmail.com](mailto:kgrealestate2016@gmail.com)  
[Kategomes.com](http://Kategomes.com)

### **Marin Coastal Bee Co.**

Michael Louis Turner  
<https://marincoastalbee.com>

*Raw Pacific Coast honey and bee-hive removal Services in Marin and Sonoma Counties.*

### **R Honey Pots**

Liz & Joey Russell  
[rhoneypots@gmail.com](mailto:rhoneypots@gmail.com)

*Liz is a beekeeper and potter motivated by the intersection of art and conservation. Along with pottery she offers live bee removal and backyard beekeeping services.*

### **Sonoma County Bee Company**

Candice Koseba  
[info@sonomacountybeecompany.com](mailto:info@sonomacountybeecompany.com)  
<https://www.sonomacountybeecompany.com>

*Dedicated to the support and practice of regenerative beekeeping in Northern California, Sonoma County Bee Company maintains colonies for individuals and small businesses.*

### **Tauzer Family & Apiaries Sola Bee Farms / Honey Bee Genetics**

[info@solabeefarms.com](mailto:info@solabeefarms.com)  
[www.solabeefarms.com](http://www.solabeefarms.com)

*Sola Bee Farms prides itself on maintaining healthy bees from safe, local regions. They produce and package honey in a sustainable manner through maintaining innovative, socially responsible and eco-friendly practices.*

### **Wild Wills Honey**

Will Ackley  
[willackley@gmail.com](mailto:willackley@gmail.com)

*Beekeeping consultations including bee hive setup for new beekeepers, bee rescue, and full service bee removal. Serving Sonoma, Marin and Napa Counties.*

## Habitat Sponsors

Bees find forage in all kinds of environments -- from pollinator gardens to hedgerows of blooming plants, to meadows of wildflowers, to tree canopies. Your organization can be part of the effort to support the bees. To become a habitat sponsor, click here [www.sonomabees.org/donate](http://www.sonomabees.org/donate)

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Russian River  
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

### Pollinator Garden – \$500+





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