

# The Local Buzz

March 2017



## President's Message, Jerry Van Heeringen



We're traveling as I write this, in Sydney Australia right now. While we've been to many places in the area we haven't seen any bee hives or met any beekeepers. To be honest that's not why we came here but when we travel we're always on the lookout. I did however read about a couple of local beekeepers, Doug Purdie and Vicky Brown. In 2008 Doug had read about the worldwide bee decline and wanted to do something about it so he became a beekeeper. They got together in 2010 to form "The Urban Beehive". Their goal is to place bee hives all around Sydney. They are fortunate as Australia is the last continent to be free of varroa mite. Along with a small group of helpers they keep bees in backyards, parks, businesses, and rooftops all over the city, even in the Botanical Gardens. On a global level it's a small thing they are doing but if we all do our part, maintaining healthy colonies, monitoring varroa levels, and continuing to breed and use varroa resistant queens along with research at institutional levels we can make a difference.

## February 6th Meeting – 7:00 PM

### All about SWARMS

March program is a tag team event: Brion Dunbar will be talking about swarms, and how to prevent them, and Lynn Williams will be talking about how to retrieve a swarm when necessary and the options for capturing them. He will bring the equipment he uses and demonstrate their use. Additionally he will discuss current swarm hotline procedures and other general information regarding swarm calls.

## Dinner Before the Meeting

No dinner scheduled this month.

## Bee Bits

Randy Oliver, Contributor

Sorry, Bee Bits is not available this month.

## Volunteer Opportunities – Fair Booth Committee

Our club is looking for members to join the Fair Booth Committee.

Duties include:

Prior to the Fair: oversee the cleaning and prep of the booth

During the Fair: replenish the booth with supplies such as honey, tasting spoons, literature etc.

After the fair: properly and safely store the items from the booth.

Training is provided.

Interested members should contact Jerry Van Heeringen at 913-5709 or Randy Oliver at 277-4450

## **Minutes from Last Meeting**

**From Jack Meeks, Secretary**

No minutes available.

Finance from Janet Brisson

DecBegin \$5193.38; Inc\$29.00; Exp\$169.00 Dec End \$5053.38

Jan Begin \$5053.38; Inc\$231.00 Exp\$451.56 Jan End \$4843.82

## **Beginning Beekeeping Class in April**

**Submitted by Randy Oliver**

I've booked a room for a Beginning Beekeeping class at the Fairgrounds on April 15.

Cost will be \$45. Those interested can email me at [randy@randyoliver.com](mailto:randy@randyoliver.com).

## **Goodies Sign-up**

**Karla Hanson, Coordinator**

Please let me know if you can bring a treat for any of the coming meetings.

We only need a couple of folks each month, so pick a month and let me know. Contact Karla Hanson, [queenbeez@att.net](mailto:queenbeez@att.net)

## **Swarm Hotline List**

**Lynn Williams, Coordinator**

The NCBA "Swarm Hotline List" is in the process of being created for 2017.

You must renew your listing every year, even if you were on the list in previous years.

Note that many calls come from the Yuba City/Marysville area.

If you want to be included as someone who can be called upon to retrieve a honeybee swarm then please send the information below via email to Lynn Williams at [iamlynn@hughes.net](mailto:iamlynn@hughes.net).

1. Name:
2. Phone Number(s):
3. Any area limitations:

## **Membership Dues**

**Janet Brisson, Treasurer**

The Nevada County Beekeeper's Association is needs you! Please continue to be a valuable member.

2017 Dues are \$20/yr. (print newsletter) or \$15/yr. (email newsletter).

Are you current? Look at your email Subject or at your mailing label. If you see "Dues R Due!" you are not current. Please renew your membership or join today. April is the final issue without a current membership.

Payment is accepted 3 ways.

1. At the March meeting (try to bring exact change)
2. Online at <http://nevadacountybeekeepers.org> (Members section)
3. Make check out to NCBA and mail to:  
NCBA C/o Janet Brisson  
20693 Dog Bar Road Grass Valley, CA 95949

Any questions, please feel free to call me at 530-913-2724 or email me at [rubes@countryrubes.com](mailto:rubes@countryrubes.com)

## **On The Road**

### **Janet Brisson**

I love listening to Podcasts on my phone when I'm driving by myself or gardening. My favorites have been 'Stuff You Missed in History' and 'This American Life.' I had no idea these gems existed until our son set up our phone with the Podcast App and showed us how to go about it.

So, when I was at 2016 Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) Conference in New Jersey last August, I found myself sitting at a table with a bunch of beekeepers. One of the men asked if I remembered him from 2012 American Beekeeping Federation in Hersey, Pennsylvania. I recognized him in general, I talk to a lot of people at these functions, but nothing really stood out. He told me he interviewed me on video on how to use our Screened Bottom Boards. That I do remember, I have his interview on our website in the 'In the News' section here <http://countryrubes.com/in-the-news/>

I loved that interview, and told him he did a wonderful job. I always thought it was for their club's website. Someone else said this is Kevin Inglin and have I heard of the 'Beekeeper's Corner Podcast?' I said no, but I knew how to look for podcast and while sitting at the table I found it on my phone and hit the subscribe button.

When I got home from New Jersey, I hit the ground running, we were putting in a new house, there was no driving, no gardening and then the insane family holidays which we hosted over 20 relatives.

In January I had to drive to Southern California and back by myself. I turned on the podcast app, finished the podcast that I last listen to, then automatically the next in line was Episode #101 of The Beekeepers Corner. I was a captive audience. What Kevin does is takes publications from scientist and breaks them down so the average beekeeper can fully understand them. He also tries out new gadgets, like a tiny camera to look inside his beehives, and evaluates them. He interviews other beekeepers, scientist and merchants with new products (like me). He has honey based recipes, I just made the Honey Mustard Roasted Garbanzo Beans, Yum! And when he travels all over the world for his 'day job,' he always tries to find a local beekeeper to work with. He mentioned a web page <http://www.bkcorner.org/> where you can find links to everything he talks about and more podcast, there are 100 of them.

Kevin's podcast are listened to all over the world. You would think, New Jersey, on the other side of the US for us, but everything he talked about applied to beekeeping in California. If you listen to podcast, put this one on your list. You will be glad you did.

## **From the Librarian**

### **Tynowyn Slattery**

Library books are checked out for 1 month, if you want to extend it for a second month just call or e-mail.

Remember...If you can't make meetings to return books, you can always mail them to:

Tynowyn Slattery 20493 Rome Road Nevada City, CA 95959 [swoolman@saber.net](mailto:swoolman@saber.net) 530-265-6318

## **Raffle Prizes**

We always need more contributions to the monthly raffle! Almost everyone loves having more plants. Be creative. For every item you bring, you receive a free raffle ticket. The raffle helps with the club's expenses.

Thanks!

## Eucalyptus Honey & Australia

Submitted by Diane Benton

In the US almost all Eucalyptus honey is made from the "Blue gum" eucalyptus tree so they just call it eucalyptus honey. Blue gums were brought to the states in the 1800's to be grown for use as railway ties but that didn't work out!

However in Australia there are close to 900 species such as Yellow box (which is the most popular), Iron Bark, Blackbutt, and Rose Gum.

While American Foul Brood is now a serious problem in all of Australia, there is no Varroa. But they do have Nosema.

" It has been observed that bees foraging on red stringybark during a wet autumn may develop nosema disease. Keeping dry apiary sites, keeping the spare supers off the hives, re-queening in midsummer, and refraining from hive manipulation or movements in the winter, are desirable if nosema disease is to be controlled."



## Song of the Bees

Submitted by Brion Dunbar

This song cracked me up, but you got to love their dedication!

<http://honeybeesuite.com/a-song-of-the-bees/>



## Backyard Beehives

Submitted by Jerry Van Heeringen

I've recently had a request through our website for information regarding restrictions placing "backyard beehives" in the county. Oddly enough we don't seem to have that information within our club; I guess no one has asked recently. I will review and summarize the Land Use Code concerning this and post it for next month. In the meantime you can drill down to the current county ordinance located in Land Use Code/Zoning Regulations/Animal Keeping and Raising by starting on this page:

<http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/countycounsel/Pages/County-Codes.aspx>

Apiaries are allowed without limit on AG, AE, FR, REC, IDR, PD, TPZ, P and OS land zones. They are limited to 20 colonies per acre on RA, R1, R2 and R3. They are not allowed in Commercial and Industrial District Zones.

No apiary shall be located within 100 feet of any other property boundary without the consent of the adjacent parcel's owner. All hives must be registered with their county ag department (state law); Nevada County waives the registration fee of \$10 for hobbyists, as defined as 10 hives or less. The registration includes the location of the hives.

### Honey Extraction House

A to Z Supply has a honey extraction house available for rent. Equipment is provided and the room is heated and there's lots of hot water for cleanup.  
For more information: 530.273.6608

**Dadant Little Wonder Honey** Extractor with stand.  
Hand extracts 4 deep or shallow frames per load. Used twice. Excellent condition. \$380 for both.  
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**Used bee keeping supplies – for sale**  
60 frames for wired foundation, 10 for \$5.  
Call for more info Greg 530 906-4811

**Nucs for sale in April.**  
\$150 for 5-frame with first year queen.  
call Brion at 559-1422

### **A to Z Supply** ☐

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SAT: 8 AM—5 PM  
SUN: 9 AM—4 PM  
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sales@atozsupply.com



### **McClaghry Farms**

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*For current prices visit our*  
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[www.mcclaghryfarms.com](http://www.mcclaghryfarms.com)



### **Sacramento Beekeeping & Honey**

2110 X Street  
Sacramento, CA 95818  
(916) 451-2337 Fax (916) 451-7008  
[www.sacramentobeekeeping.com](http://www.sacramentobeekeeping.com)  
[info@sacramentobeekeeping.com](mailto:info@sacramentobeekeeping.com)  
Open Tuesday through Saturday  
10:00-5:30  
Call now to order!

Family owned business since 1985  
Come and see us!

- Everything you need for backyard beekeeping & lots more
- Exclusive U.S.A. dealer for BJ Sherriff suits
- DIY candle and soap making - scents, molds, dyes, wax, etc.
- Honeycomb sheets for rolling candles - over 30 different colors!
- Bee themed gifts & decor for home and garden
- Wide variety of books - children's, beekeeping, DIY soap & candle making

Advertising space (3" by 2") is available here and need not be bee-related.  
Advertising rates are \$7 per year for NCBA members and \$16 per year for non-members.

### **A TO Z SUPPLY**

### **Beginning Beekeeper's Classes with Gary McClaghry**

**MARCH 18, 2017**

\$40 per person  
Reference Material and Lunch Provided  
Call for registration: 530-273.6608

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. Donations are welcomed.

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. Use the back entrance.

The newsletter is published monthly as a service to the membership. Articles, recipes, commentary, and news items are welcomed and encouraged. Contributions should be received by the 20th of the Month to be included into the next issue. Submit to [garyg@newpress.com](mailto:garyg@newpress.com)

Advertising space (3” by 2”) in this newsletter is usually available and need not be bee-related. Advertising rates are \$7 per year for NCBA members and \$16 per year for non-members.

**Visit Us at:**  
[nevadacountybeekeepers.org](http://nevadacountybeekeepers.org)

## Nevada County Beekeepers Association

### Officers

President – Jerry Van Heeringen	913-5709
<a href="mailto:jerryvan29@gmail.com">jerryvan29@gmail.com</a>	
Vice President – Amy Hustead	613-7171
<a href="mailto:fawkes1977@gmail.com">fawkes1977@gmail.com</a>	
Secretary – Jack Meeks	432-4429
<a href="mailto:jackvmeeks@gmail.com">jackvmeeks@gmail.com</a>	
Treasurer – Janet Brisson	913-2724
<a href="mailto:rubes@countryrubes.com">rubes@countryrubes.com</a>	

### Board Members

Leslie Gault	346-7092
Randy Oliver	277-4450
Karla Hanson	265-3756
Deborah Morawski	675-2924
Brion Dunbar	559-1422

### Committee Chairs

Swarm Hotline -	
Karla Hanson	265-3756
Lynn Williams	675-2924
Librarian – Tynowyn Slattery	265-6318
<a href="mailto:swoolman@saber.net">swoolman@saber.net</a>	
Membership – Janet Brisson	913-2724
<a href="mailto:rubes@countryrubes.com">rubes@countryrubes.com</a>	
Newsletter Editor – Gary Gustafson	478-1216
<a href="mailto:garyg@newpress.com">garyg@newpress.com</a>	

All area codes are 530 unless noted otherwise.

## Nevada County Beekeepers Association



c/o Janet Brisson  
20693 Dog Bar Road  
Grass Valley, CA 95949  
First Class Mail

**March 6th Meeting – 7PM**  
All about preventing and retrieving SWARMS