

THE MARIN BEEK NEWS

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September 2012

What You Missed



Our last meeting was the annual potluck dinner. Over 50 Beeks and friends descended on the American Legion Log Cabin to share food and drink, stories about bee adventures and a myriad of different topics. It's a great way to get to know your fellow club members on a more personal level.

A big thank you to Anna Taylor Gravley for organizing the signups on line (a first for our club) and for all the folks that pitched in to help set up, clean up, etc.

Club members Bonnie Bollengier and Gary Morse held a drawing for all beekeepers that completed the annual bee survey. Prizes were various bee equipment donated by Bonnie Bee & Company. Thanks to Bonnie and Gary for their generous donation.

What's the Buzz

Our next meeting will be on Thursday September 6, 2012 at the American Legion Log Cabin, 20 Veterans Place, San Anselmo, CA. starting at 7:30 pm.

Our guest speaker will be Alan Hawkins. Alan keeps bees in several areas in California, including the Green Gulch Zen Center on Mt. Tam. His discussion will include beekeeping strategies for particular micro-climates.

Upcoming Meetings:

October 4, 2012

[Bonnie Bollengier & Gary Morse](#). Our own club members and owners of "Bonnie Bee & Company" will discuss the first club order of nucs with Marin queens & future plans to develop local stock.

November 1, 2012

[Kate Frey](#). Kate is a world class garden designer and consultant, specializing in sustainable, bio-diverse, ecological gardens and landscaping, including the [Melissa Garden](#) bee sanctuary in Healdsburg. Kate will present her "pollinator garden slideshow."

December 6, 2012

John Miller & Hannah Nordhaus. Touted as "a revelatory, bittersweet investigation into the state of commercial beekeeping in the 21st century," this duo will talk about "[The Beekeepers Lament](#)," written by Ms. Nordhaus about John Miller (commercial beekeeper). Mr. Miller is widely known for his charisma as a speaker — this is one not to be missed!

January 3, 2013

[Steve Sheppard](#). Dr. Sheppard is Department Chair of Entomology at Washington State University. His area of interest is population genetics & evolution of honey bees, insect introductions & mechanisms of genetic differentiation.

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February 7, 2013

[Kirk Visscher](#). Dr. Visscher is an associate professor of entomology at UC Riverside. His research interests include the social behavior and ecology of social insects with emphasis on honey bees, which occupy a special place among the social insects because they are among the most behaviorally complex, the most amenable for study, and of the greatest benefit to man.

March 7, 2013

[Kirk Webster](#). Kirk Webster is a master natural Queen Breeder living near Middlebury, VT. His queens are selected for VSH (Varroa Selective Hygiene). Colonies that display this characteristic detect infested larvae and then uncap & remove them.

April 4, 2013

[Heather Mattila](#). Heather Mattila is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Wellesley College. Professor Mattila's research focuses on the role that intracolony (within-colony) genetic diversity plays in the organization of communication and division of labor in honey bee colonies.

May 2, 2013 & June 6, 2013

TBD

From the Desk of the Librarian

Greetings from the Library.

The Club library is a resource for members of the Marin Beekeepers and is set up at the back of the hall each meeting. We've had a few donations over the summer, so come by and have a look. Members can sign out books and with the understanding that they will be returned at the following meeting so that others in the club may enjoy them. Please dig out the books you've borrowed and bring them by the library table on Thursday.

"Books are the bees which carry the quickening pollen from one to another mind."
James Russell Lowell

Extraction Party

As in the past, Dave Peterson will be hosting an extraction party at his Honey House (garage in Ross) for Members with 30 or less frames to extract on September 22 & 23. Send an e-mail to arrange a time to:

Dpeterson307@aol.com

Marin Bee Census Survey



The results of the 2011 Marin Bee Census Survey are in. The results were posted on the Buzz on August 9th. Thank you to Bonnie Bollengier for conducting the survey and tabulating the results once again.