

# The Monthly Extractor



Volume 40, Issue 5      May 2015

**Monthly Meeting: May 11th**  
**6 p.m.** Come and chat with beekeepers, bring questions, meet cluster leaders, check out our library, buy plants and enjoy refreshments.  
**7 .m.** Dr. Allan Smith-Pardo from APHIS will give a talk about the work they do at USDA-APHIS-PPQ to protect the US honey bees and native bees. Learn how our tax dollars are spent to help our bees.

This is our newsletter that reflects the various techniques, theories and art of sustainable beekeeping.

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## From Our President:

Greetings SCBA Members!

Wherever the term “busy as a bee” came from, that is how I’m feeling. Spring has sprung, we are all feeling busy, and, hopefully, you are graced with lots of bees.

Thank you to Jen Espinoza for her recent letter to the editor in The Press Democrat. It was educational about how to help the bees as well as what to do if you see a swarm (call a beekeeper! with reference to our website and our Swarm list). Thank you Jen! Jen and her team of Educators have been doing an amazing job visiting classrooms and education our younger humans. If you would like to help and join the team, please contact Jen at [education@sonomabees.org](mailto:education@sonomabees.org).

We have been having some problems with our membership website, so if you are trying to renew your membership but you can’t access the website, please send an email to SCBA’s VP of Membership, Kelli Cox, at [1stvp@sonomabees.org](mailto:1stvp@sonomabees.org). She will be happy to help you in any way she can. Thank you to Kelli, and her team, Linda Burns and Jim Spencer, for their commitment in keeping our members set up!

An announcement/reminder that this year we are not having a general meeting in July (so, **no meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>**). We are having the annual Members’ picnic on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at Riverfront Park in Petaluma. We look forward to seeing you there!

Finally, a huge thank you for the diversity we have in this organization, which includes numerous styles and methodologies in beekeeping. As humans, it is so valuable to educate ourselves and form our own opinions, while holding and respecting those of others. We can surely see this diversity in the amazing variety of articles and messages written in these newsletters. Thank you to everyone who shares his or her opinions herein and in our beekeeping community.

*Laura Baker, President*

## **My May Beekeeping To-Do List By Serge Labesque © 2015** **Beekeeping magazines**

Beekeeping magazines have a huge influence not only on their readers, but also, albeit indirectly, on other beekeepers and on the bees. Unfortunately, they systematically endorse conventional practices and they promote methods that, while maximizing beekeepers' incomes, are often abusive and damaging to the bees. Their strongly biased perspective disregards alternative approaches that make the stewardship of the bees a priority over short-term human benefits. The lines of the beekeeping press mention the important place of the bees in our ecosystem only to hypocritically maintain a favorable light on the industry. Don't get me wrong: I see no harm in generating financial gains from managing bee colonies as long as this is achieved through genuine respect for the species.

I used to read bee magazines voraciously from cover to cover as soon as they arrived in our mailbox. This is no longer the case, even though I still receive and read several of them every month. You might say that I have become disenchanted by the beekeeping press, but not by the bees, as I find them more fascinating than ever. So, whether I like what I read or not, I keep myself informed about what is published in the beekeeping world. This also makes it obvious to me where my personal approach to beekeeping stands in this context: I advocate not interfering with the process of natural selection, and therefore no treatment whatsoever for pests and diseases, not feeding colonies and using bees only from our own local areas. Fortunately, I am in good and rapidly expanding company!

Presently, I am paying a little more attention than usual to the copy of the "bee magazine" that is in front of me. Ads that offer honey labels, queens, smokers and a plethora of other beekeeping bits and pieces frequently interrupt the flow of the articles. The authors consider the price of honey, the advantages of hive ventilation, the crystallization of honey, beekeepers' conventions, rules to grade honey, overwintering and winter losses, breeding bees for increased productivity, how to drive bees out of honey supers, feeding with sugar syrup, "improving" bee strains, a new parasitic fly, choosing a microscope, and more.

Well, this is pretty much what you can find in any beekeeping magazine these days, isn't it? The notable differences between this particular issue and most others that come to my desk are that the pages are all in black and off-white and that varroa mites are not mentioned. It's a copy of the October 1, 1897 issue of *Gleanings in Bee Culture*. Some things may have changed in beekeeping, but fundamentally, 118 years later it's still "same-old-same-old".

By observing the beekeeping landscape that is depicted in the bee press, I can assert that there is a lot of room for improvement in the way mainstream beekeepers manage bees. And from the bees' standpoint, it's urgent that real progress be made.

### **May in the apiaries:**

March delivered May weather. Then, freezing cold nights in early April damaged tender vegetation. A brief period of colony propagation and queen rearing began quite early this year, and there was no spring honey flow in my neck of the dry hills. None. Now, the hives are light, maintaining barely enough stores to cover the day-to-day needs of their large brood nests, which, not surprisingly, are starting to shrink. To top this off, the dreaded California buckeye trees began to bloom two weeks early. In effect, summer dearth is already here. Hives that are in more fortunate areas may present a more pleasing picture, but it's nonetheless going to be a long summer for many bee colonies. This is not a complaint. It's a realistic assessment of the situation, which must be made in order to decide how to manage our colonies during the next months. So, now what?

Well, we have to face another lean year. Very early in the season, given the lack of rain, I set aside any thoughts of harvesting honey. There is no surplus honey. Under these conditions, it seems logical to keep the number of colonies low, particularly where nectar and pollen will be in short supply. It will also be helpful to the bees if we pay attention to reducing stresses that may be due to poorly configured equipment and to unfavorable locations. This includes keeping the size of the hive entrances correctly adjusted, while maintaining adequate ventilation, and, if possible, providing shade and awnings. At a minimum, I'll ensure that my colonies are prepared for intense robbing situations by fine-tuning the hive openings according to the colonies' relative strength. Doing this can save hives that would otherwise be in danger due to no fault of their own. The monitoring trays will remain in place in order to make sure that the inside of the brood chambers can retain enough humidity for the brood. There is a fine line between insufficient and excessive hive ventilation in hot dry weather: In either of these opposite cases, the bees have to work hard to gather more water and to evaporate it. Although we cannot fabricate a honey flow, we can at least make sure that our equipment does not needlessly penalize the colonies. Let's not forget that in recent years, similar stressful conditions to those we can anticipate for this summer and the lack of forage have led many colonies to abscond.

Regular visits to the apiaries and hive inspections allow us to be of assistance in the development of our young colonies by providing the comb space they need. It's beneficial to maintain comb-building opportunities in the hives by inserting a few empty frames: They will be available, should the bees need the comb, and if they can produce wax. If they cannot, the placement of these empty frames alongside the brood nests instead of in their center will promote beneficial air circulation without desiccating the brood. We can also monitor the quality of their queens. This time of year is when the presence of clustering spaces

between the hive entrances and the brood nests is most important, and, where warranted, the addition of nectar storage space needs to be done early, especially in strong mature colonies.

**In summary, this month:**

- Inspect hives regularly, when foragers are out in large numbers.
- Open the entrances of hives to match the forager activity.
- Avoid congestion of the brood nests.
- Offer comb-building opportunities.
- Add supers to provide nectar storage space.
- Maintain adequate clustering space between the brood nests and the entrances.

- Watch for signs of spring diseases.
- Ensure adequate air circulation through the hives.
- Perform hive divisions.
- Follow up on earlier hive divisions.
- Monitor swarm traps.
- Keep some equipment at the ready to catch the occasional swarm.
- Rear queens.
- Pull weeds from around the hives.
- Harvest surplus early spring honey.
- Discard old and misshapen combs.
- Render wax from discarded frames.
- Routinely clean and scorch tools and equipment.

Serge Labesque © 2015

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## **Bee Plants of the Month By Alice Ford-Sala**

Native Plant of the Month  
Angelica breweri  
Brewer's angelica  
Apiaceae (Carrot) family

You may recognize Angelica from hikes through the mountains, it is often growing in cool part- shade by streams or seeps. The Apiaceae family is characterized ferny foliage and umbrella shaped flowers that are actually clusters of many minute flowers that attract all manner of bees and other beneficial pollinators. The insects can rest on the huge- 10 inches across- white blossoms and sip nectar from those flowers. Anise swallowtail butterfly larva feed on the leaves and stalks. The fragrant leaves and sweet flowers make a nice addition to a woody garden. Plant Angelica towards the back of a bed, she can grow up to 6 feet tall with the flower stalk.

Angelica has a long history of medicinal uses in Western and Asian practice. The dried root is often used for a variety of illnesses, as well as the leaves and seeds. It is a traditional sweet, candied and used to decorate cakes. Brewer's angelica will grow in light shade or full sun, needs some regular water, at least once a week.

**Beneficial Plant of the Month**

Peony Paeoniaceae family

Who can resist the sweet fragrance and frilly beauty of peonies? Not bees! I caught one intensely collecting huge grains of pollen and drinking nectar on my tree peony the other day- would have made a beautiful photo, but by the time I found the camera and got back, she was gone. I wish I had more time to hang out in my garden and take pictures. Anyway, peonies- herbaceous as well as tree peonies- are long-lived plants that you can enjoy for years to come. They need: winter chill (tree peonies need less chilling than herbaceous), good, fertile soil and regular but not excessive water, and full sun.

They are typically planted from rhizomes in the fall, they will not flower if planted more than an inch or two deep. They need good air circulation to avoid mold. You can find some in bloom now in nurseries.

Enjoy the many shades of pink or purple flowers and then take care when planting them, as they don't like to be disturbed once planted. When you have planted them in a good spot, they'll grow and bloom for many years. Make sure to get peonies that aren't so frilly as to obscure the center, as bees need to get in to enjoy that gorgeous pollen.

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## **BEE WISE: "BEE DANGERS—THIS YEAR!" by Emery Dann**

This year has more hive dangers with the drought we are experiencing. The 4-year drought is not over! There is a major shortage of available ground water for shrubs and trees. The nectar and pollen available seems to be less than years with normal rainfall. It all depends on your area in Sonoma County. Residents have cut back on watering their landscape and I am even seeing trees that are showing signs of stress from lack of water. Maybe your area is not suffering as much, but this will be a difficult year for bees through a dry summer and into the fall and winter. Our challenge will be to keep our bees healthy, alive and prepared for winter. I see very little new wax being produced NOW, mid-Spring. If there is capped honey, it may be gone *BEFORE NEXT WINTER!* Many hives could be lost this year because of the drought. We must be careful removing the precious stores of honey our bees will need to survive this winter!

WHAT CAN WE DO? Reduce the size of our hives. This depends on the number of bees in the hive and where they are located. Guard your bee's drawn comb frames. They are *gold!* Remove frames and boxes, if there is

too much unusable space and the bees are not able to draw out comb. This creates too much loss of heat. Leave some room under the cluster.

Wax moths and hive beetles larvae destroy precious comb our bees desperately need. These pests will ruin wax comb by tunneling, eating stores, create webbing and defecating as the larvae grow to maturity. Check your top hive feeders where there are less bees and these pests may be hiding under the cork or comb bees have made up there. Substitute pollen patties can also attract wax moths and hive beetles to feed on and hide under. Know what is happening inside your hives!

Top entrances and leaving bottom entrances wide open may allow pests to enter areas in the hive that are unprotected by our bees when bees cluster together at night. I keep my hive entrances reduced for this reason. Bees cannot easily defend a wide-open hive entrance 24/7! Monitoring internal stores in the hive this year is critical. Protect your hives from yellow jackets invasions, honey bee robbing, rodents, ants and other pests that may threaten your hives this year. Watch for too many Varroa on your monitor trays. Frequent inspections outside the hive and regular, complete inspections inside the hive have never been more important this year!

To feed or not to feed is a big question? One Internet resource source is: [bees@bushfarms.com](mailto:bees@bushfarms.com) under the heading of "Feeding". Michael Bush recommends *NOT feeding*. He quotes a book entitled, 1,000 Questions to Beekeeping Questions, 1917, by Miller, "The best thing is never to feed them, but let them gather their own stores. But if the season is a failure..., better feed than to let the bees starve". Michael has a few suggestions how to do it and what not to do.

If I have a weak hive, I need to find out *WHY* this hive is weak. Combining 2 weak hives may or may not be a good idea depending on what the problem is and how much stores is in those hives. The feral hives in Sonoma County feed themselves. They have to make it or they do not survive. The feral hives or managed hives that survive, have what it takes and can remain stronger! Weak hives or weak swarms usually do not survive even if we feed them. The presence of a good queen is critical for every hive that survives. My preference is to *not* feed for many reasons, unless it is critical for me to save a good hive. Bees have survived through droughts, fires, floods and storms before... My job is to assist my bees and keep healthy, strong hives. As Serge Labesque so often says, feeding affects the gene pool and can weaken the local bees in your area. BEE ALERT! BEE VIGILENT! BEE AWARE! There are more *dangers this year* for our bees!

### On Pondering About Bee By Christine Kurtz

There are two things for sure about bees. One, they are on a schedule and two; they will make a liar out of you. This was the very first thing said in the introduction at the UC Davis weekend long Queen Rearing class on April 11-12. This rang so true to me. On the point of view of rearing queens schedule is of the utmost importance, you have to count days and do the math. You have many queens, painstakingly grafted into artificial queen cups or an inverted swath of comb with young larvae or whatever method of choice, incubating in one hive. One day late harvesting the cells and the first queen that emerges dispatches all the others, there goes all your queens! Schedule with bees is not limited to queen rearing however, it actually drives the hive. Even though there are things that bees do seasonally and we know how long each caste needs from egg to emergence, each hive has its own intricacies, drive, recovery, ailments, issues and challenges which fine tunes that schedule. Add to their keen knowledge the nectar flow curve that determines their wax building capabilities, their potential of expanding their colony or establishing a new one. This year nectar sources are already waning at the end of April, new wax is painstakingly drawn out in weeks rather than days (not considering here the artificial intervention of feeding sugar water which gives them a fake nectar flow). Bees going into survival mode months earlier than in the past is really disconcerting but a reality we may have to get used to, this will make our bee season shorter and the bees



must work harder and faster to survive. All these factors are put into account and their schedule is followed. One thing they do unequivocally not consider is you the beekeeper and your own schedule. They do not sit there and negotiate their calendar with yours. Your vacation, your meetings, your busyness and even your fear to go into your hive will not stop the bees following their schedule and do what they need with what they have. I have seen countless of hives this year where the beekeeper had no idea their hive swarmed, or more space was not given and the brood nest was honey compacted restricting the colony to grow, or comb was build in any available space needing "surgery", cutting the comb and grafting it back into frames so that hive inspections are possible again. Beekeeping essentially has to be bee driven not human drive. That is hard for us.

As for bees making us "liars" is just another lesson the bees so readily will teach you. Mostly it is done unintentionally. We human beings tend to assume, as we often think in one dimension and in a very linear way. Bees will readily teach you otherwise. There is nothing one dimensional about bees and often our ego driven thinking that we know so much or everything, makes us come to erroneous conclusions. There are always more than one factor involved concerning bees, some we see and most we don't. My first lesson in this was a few falls ago when I helped another beekeeping doing a last inspection before winter. One hive was textbook ready for winter, there were stores pollen wise, nectar was deposited into he brood nest, capped honey on top, and bees had shrunk to overwintering proportions. The other hive had zero stores and there were more bees in there than ever, spewing out all over the place as we inspected. My comment was that the first picture perfect hive was going to survive and the other not. Lo and behold the total opposite happened. The one without stores ended up robbing the one with stores and making it through. At the time it never occurred to me that that could happen. There is nothing constant with bees. Things are ever changing. There are multidimensional factors happening in a hive, many of them unseen by us that determine the success of a hive. I have learned to enjoy my bees in the now, feeling blessed that they are with me as I sit with them and watch them every day, giving the best support I know how but at the end knowing I am not in control.

The queen-rearing workshop was exceptional



and I hope it will be offered again next year. We had morning in the classroom learning bee biology and different ways to raise queens and afternoon hands on practicing grafting or being in the bee yard looking at applied queen rearing and health checks. I found Elina Nino and Bernardo Nino really open and non-judgmental to the different beekeeping backyard beekeepers practice which makes me hopeful that we can all work together to find solutions or at least to talk to both sides of the fence between commercial and backyard amicably, learning from each other rather than lashing out. My notes are long and still being compiled in a coherent way from that long weekend workshop and I am still digesting all the information and thinking endless hours about how can we use queen rearing to help beekeepers in our association to make spreading our local survivor stock more rapid and efficient. I have made 8 splits this year from my hives and given them away only asking that if they survive and thrive I would be the first recipient of a split next year, but 8 compared to the hundreds of packages that went out recently seems a drop in the bucket. The challenge comes on how to do it, where to find the resources financially and having enough resources bee wise to raise the queens, the time necessary to dedicate to such an endeavor, the scheduling set by the bees that must coincide with yours, the success rate and promises that the bees can make you a liar about. So keep tuned. The wheels are churning.

Christine Kurtz, Honey Bee Consultant  
[Petalumabeelady@yahoo.com](mailto:Petalumabeelady@yahoo.com)

## May Program

What does APHIS stand for? It is the acronym for Animal, Plant Health Inspection service.

They are part of the United States of America's Department of Agriculture so our tax dollars support it. Reading their web site we learn that their mission is *to protect the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources*. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is a multi-faceted Agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. These efforts support the overall mission of USDA, which is to protect and promote food, agriculture, natural resources and related issues.

To protect agricultural health, APHIS is on the job 24 hours a day, 7 days a week working to defend America's animal and plant resources from agricultural pests and diseases. For example, if the Mediterranean fruit fly and Asian longhorned beetle, two major agricultural pests, were left unchecked, they would result in several billions of dollars in production and marketing losses annually. Similarly, if foot-and-mouth disease or highly pathogenic avian influenza were to become established in the United States, foreign trading partners could invoke trade restrictions and producers would suffer devastating losses.

In the event that a pest or disease of concern is detected, APHIS implements emergency protocols and partners with affected States to quickly manage or eradicate the outbreak. This aggressive approach has enabled APHIS to successfully prevent and respond to potential pest and disease threats to U.S. agriculture.

## Regional Cluster Updates and News By Thea Vierling

There's lots going on in all of our clusters. Many hive dives are coming up for small groups of 5-6 folks. Also there are lots of cafes most of which are in the evening or late afternoon. These include casual socializing with SCBA members who live in your immediate surroundings ( Find out who your bees are "hanging with"). There are usually "hot" discussions about all kinds of topics: foundation or not; feeding or not, treating or not, how much honey to take or not, requeening or not (How to requeen!), any kind of hive management or none at all. As you know if there are 10 beekeepers gathered around, they get pretty buzzed up about the "right" way to keep bees!

The goal of the regional groups is to try to get you involved in hands on activities with beekeepers in your area so you can help each other and more importantly learn from each other!

If you have not attended any of the activities planned by your cluster leaders, please write them and ask how you can get involved. Look at it this way; it is your loss if you don't get involved!

Here is a story from an East cluster member who was not a member the first year, lost their hives and now is a member and has been involved in a cluster activity.

*We have recently joined the Sonoma County Beekeepers Association and it has been a very educational and beneficial experience for us. In so little time we have had access to hands on training and have met some amazing people. We have felt a strong sense of community within the association and are proud to be members. Getting to know individuals in your cluster gives you other benefits besides just information and training. Membership and participation within your local clusters opens you up to opportunities in participating in hive splits and or catching swarms. With the help of others in our local group we were able to be part of a successful hives split. We look forward to splitting our hive in the future in order to help other members obtain healthy local bees.*

~Eric and Alicia

## How to Join Your Regional Groups (AKA Clusters) By Thea Vierling

Several folks have asked how they can join a Regional Group. Well the answer is easy, write to your cluster leader and introduce yourself. Hopefully they will get back to you but if not, write to me:

[regionalcoordinator@sonomabees.org](mailto:regionalcoordinator@sonomabees.org)

[southcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:southcluster@sonomabees.org) Sally McGough

[northcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:northcluster@sonomabees.org) Lynne Black

[eastcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:eastcluster@sonomabees.org) Lizanne Pastore

[westcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:westcluster@sonomabees.org) Chris Dicker

[centralcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:centralcluster@sonomabees.org) Chris Conrad

## [Minutes of Board of Directors – Follow this link](#)

### **SCBA General Meeting April 13, 2015**

Met at the Rohnert Park 4-H building at 7:00 pm. About 110 people present.

President, Laura Baker introduced Melissa Bates, the new Swarm Chairperson. There was a show of many hands of people who have caught swarms recently.

Thea Vierling introduced the Cluster Leaders and how to contact them by email. She also told of upcoming workshops in August with Sam Comfort! Stay tuned for more info from your cluster leader of when and where.

Kelli Cox asked new members to stand and introduce themselves. There were a dozen or so.

Cathy Kopshever asked for volunteers to sign up for various Earth Day events, and especially for someone to lead the Sonoma County Fair exhibit. She gave the date of July 5<sup>th</sup> for the Annual potluck Picnic. There will not be a regular meeting in July due to the picnic. See the newsletter for details.

Jen Espinoza talked about her work with the elementary schools. Contact her if you'd like to help with the children's presentations throughout the county.

The 50/50 raffle winner got \$96, and another received a bottle of Port. Come each month and buy tickets for your chance to win half of the pot.

First Speaker, Dr. Thea Vierling, with a doctorate in Biology spoke on Sex in the Garden. A book by Angela Ovary by that name was highly recommended.

- An ovary is the ripened fruit. Homey comes from NECTAR. To reproduce is to "make a copy." Examples of Non-sexual reproduction: Runners (exact clone of parent); underground roots (also exact clone); and cuttings (exact clone). Plants are so good at asexual reproduction because sexual reproduction is not easy or dependable. Sexual reproduction 1) depends on pollinators; 2) is competitive; and 3) there's no guarantee of pollination.
- But sexual reproduction is needed for adaptation and a means to evolve.
- Furthermore, plants must be cross-pollinated by another plant, not itself.
- Honeybees are great pollinators. They fly, have hairy bodies, a pollen pouch, live in colonies, and they need to feed their young.
- Not all flowers have nectaries, thus don't give bees a source of nectar. During drought, a plant can't produce as much nectar.
- Bumble bees "buzz pollinate" tomato plants with vibration.
- The squash family produces lots of male flowers at first, then once the bees are used to coming around, the female flowers grow. There is usually lots of cross-pollination on pumpkins to give strange combinations if you re-grow the seeds.
- Some bees and flowers evolve together.

Second Speaker, Cheryl Veretto is a Master Gardener, speaking on Planting for Bees in all Four Seasons.

- Bees must forage for their food. Nectar gives them energy; pollen gives them protein. But they don't eat these foraged products as they travel; they must bring them back to the hive to be processed. Nectar gets evaporated into honey, and pollen gets mixed with honey to ferment into 'bee bread.'
- In the predominately vineyard areas of Sonoma County, bees can't find much to forage on. Grapes don't need bee pollination, thus have nothing to offer bees. The local Girl Scout troops are getting permission to create and plant Bee Patches in some vineyards. EDUCATION is the key to get others planting for bees.
- Our CA bees are active nearly year-round, with barely a winter lull. Other harsher-climate states have much longer winter periods of bee inactivity. But we can plant for all 4 seasons to have something blooming every month. Plan! Propagate your own cuttings. Get and give seeds at the Seed Bank in Sebastopol. Exchange plants with other bee friends; bring them to a meeting to be sold as a donation to SCBA.
- The [Sonoma County Master Gardener website](#) has lists of plants you can download. Our own SCBA website also has some lists to consult.

- Consider what space you have and be diverse with heights and colors. Even some weeds are good to let bloom (like dandelion) then break off the bloom before it goes to seed.
- Deadhead perennials after bloom to get better growth and more bloom.
- To really attract bees, have a large swath of one plant (minimum of 3 square feet). Bees forage on one kind of plant per foraging trip—they don't jump from one kind of plant to the next.

Some bee plants highlighted:

- Tansy, *Phacelia tanacetifolia*—one of the highest nectar producing.
- Squash—male squash bees spend the night in the closed blossom to get first chance at the females in the morning.
- Lavender—bumblebees fight possessively over the blooms.
- Melissa officinalis and Mints
- CA Buckwheat, *Eriogonum fasciculatum*—be careful with rot as seedlings. Don't overwater.
- Borage—spreads by seed. Edible, great nitrogen for compost.
- Asters—takes one year of careful watering to establish most perennials, then you can leave them alone, mostly.
- Crab Apples
- Poppies—*Papaver somniferum*
- Thistles and artichokes
- Sunflower, *Helianthus*
- Buddleia—butterflies mostly attracted here.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted, Becky Jackson, Secretary

**Treasurer's Report will be printed next month.**



**Extractor Techs- Call Ettamarie 707-479-1613 or Janet Leisen 707- 528-2085 or Denny Pederson e-mail [denny1@sonic.net](mailto:denny1@sonic.net) to rent the electric extractor for \$5 a day. Rental fee is \$5 per day. Denny is located in Forestville. Janet is North of Santa Rosa. Ettamarie is in Petaluma. There is a hand extractor at Deborah Rogers' home and her e-mail is [deborah@olivequeen.net](mailto:deborah@olivequeen.net) She lives in Glen Ellen.**

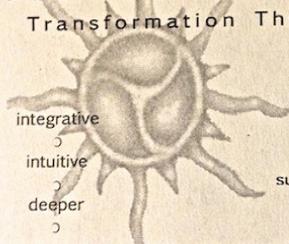
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[www.beeconsciousremoval.com](http://www.beeconsciousremoval.com)

*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 honeybees is cordially invited to attend. You do not need to be a member nor a beekeeper to attend these meetings. Dues can be paid online at our website [sonomabees.org](http://sonomabees.org), at our monthly meeting or by mail. Please see our web site for the application and various kinds of memberships available.*

*Our mailing address is*

Sonoma County Beekeepers' Assoc.  
P.O. Box 98  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0098

### **2015 Board Members and Other Helpful People**

Pres. Laura Baker [President@sonomabees.org](mailto:President@sonomabees.org)

Past Pres. Ettamarie Peterson [pastpresident@sonomabees.org](mailto:pastpresident@sonomabees.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. Membership Kelli Cox-- [1stVP@sonomabees.org](mailto:1stVP@sonomabees.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Ettamarie Peterson --[2ndVP@sonomabees.org](mailto:2ndVP@sonomabees.org) - 707 479-1613

Secretary – Becky Jackson - [Secretary@sonomabees.org](mailto:Secretary@sonomabees.org)

Treasurer Denise Wright [Treasurer@sonomabees.org](mailto:Treasurer@sonomabees.org)

Librarian –Nadya Clark [Librarian@sonomabees.org](mailto:Librarian@sonomabees.org) 707-938-4762

Reps. at Large –Cheryl Veretto [atLarge1@sonomabees.org](mailto:atLarge1@sonomabees.org), Chris Conrad

[atLarge2@sonomabees.org](mailto:atLarge2@sonomabees.org), John McGinnis [atLarge3@sonomabees.org](mailto:atLarge3@sonomabees.org)

Volunteer Coordinator – Cathy Kopshever [volunteer@sonomabees.org](mailto:volunteer@sonomabees.org)

Editor Ettamarie Peterson – [Editor@sonomabees.org](mailto:Editor@sonomabees.org) 765-4582

Swarm Chairperson- John Krafft [swarms@sonomabees.org](mailto:swarms@sonomabees.org)

Webmaster- Cheryl Veretto [Webmaster@sonomabees.org](mailto:Webmaster@sonomabees.org)

Education- Jen Espinoza – [education@sonomabees.org](mailto:education@sonomabees.org)

Historian – Kirstie Stramler [historian@sonomabees.org](mailto:historian@sonomabees.org)

Regional Coordinator- Thea Vierling – [regionalcoordinator@sonomabees.org](mailto:regionalcoordinator@sonomabees.org)

#### **Regional Group Leaders:**

[southcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:southcluster@sonomabees.org) Sally McGough

[northcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:northcluster@sonomabees.org) Lynne Black

[eastcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:eastcluster@sonomabees.org) Lizanne Pastore

[westcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:westcluster@sonomabees.org) Chris Dicker

[centralcluster@sonomabees.org](mailto:centralcluster@sonomabees.org) Chris Conrad

The colony this 4-H girl was inspecting was a swarm captured by Ettamarie Peterson. It has done so well this past year that Marcus Sugihara, her other 4-H beekeeping project leader helped her split it in late April. All of Liberty 4-H bee colonies are swarms caught by the leaders or the children. In April Ettamarie even taught a dad the fine art of swarm catching! Now his son has two colonies!



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