

The Monthly Extractor

Volume 41, Issue 7

July 2016



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

From Our President

Greetings Fellow Beeks and Bee Enthusiasts!

It has been a great month for beekeeping! Clusters are busy creating community while becoming better beekeepers through Bee Cafés, Hive Dives and specialty workshops. Bee buddies have been made and SCBA beekeepers are progressing in skills through collective knowledge and sharing. I am truly proud to be a member of this Association with all we have done and continue to do.

Summer is here and with it opportunities to share your knowledge and stories - tell friends, neighbors, 'the check-out clerk at Fircrest' about your beekeeping adventures, you would be surprised at how much interest is out there when someone hears you keep bees, take the opportunity to give a bit of education about the wondrous *Apis Mellifera*.

KEEP AN EYE OUT:

The "Defensive Bee Task Force" that formed last month is busy working on completing SCBA Best Management Practices (BMP) for the Apiary and Beyond. This document will help you become a better beekeeper, community member and over all responsible steward of the bees. The information will be placed on sonomabees.org and sent via email to all membership - please share it.

Additionally, the Task Force is producing the new SCBA Public Relations video; scheduled to be completed mid July. We need everyone's help to launch it virally! The video will be placed on sonomabees.org and a link sent via email to all membership - please share it in every type of social media you are involved in - LETS MAKE THIS BIG.

I urge you all to get out and involved, let the energy of our association vibrate throughout Sonoma County.

Bee Well!

Cheryl Veretta
President

This Month's Calendar

Monthly Meeting

July 11 - NO MEETING.

Cluster Picnics are being planned. Cluster leaders are sending out invitations to their members. If you do not hear from your Cluster Leader, contact Christine Kurtz,

August 8 - Movie Night! - "The Vanishing of the Bees"

September 12 - What's In Your Hives? - Christine Kurtz

October 10 - Gardening for Bees - Kate Frey

November 14- Bumblebees and Other Native Bees – Robbin Thorp

December 12 - Potluck

Upcoming Community Events:

July 22- August 7. Sonoma County Fair

August 13-14. Gravenstein Apple Fair

September 6-8. Heirloom Expo

September 18 – Master Gardeners' Blooming Backyards

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My July

Beekeeping To-Do List by Serge Labesque

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Self-sufficiency, how admirable!

A bee colony covers all its needs through the work of its cooperating members: The bees build and furnish their home out of the wax they produce and shape with their own bodies; they can repair their comb when it is damaged; bees maintain the temperature, relative humidity and carbon dioxide close to optimal levels within their brood nest; they can defend their nest; they produce their own food, too; not only the royal jelly, but also the bee bread and honey, which they elaborate out of pollen and nectar; the foragers collect these renewable resources on plants they've helped propagate through their pollination work. Add to this list of feats that they prevent or address various health problems by collecting resins and other substances. You can say that bees are self-sufficient. Isn't it presumptuous to think that they need our help?

I would like to be as independent, as self-reliant as the bees and other non-domesticated animals are. But I must admit that I do not have the strength or the willpower to achieve that level of physical and mental freedom. For us, to be self-sufficient requires ignoring insatiable wants and limiting our desires to goods that we can afford and produce. In these times of material affluence and technological prowess, very few people could live like our hunter-gatherer ancestors did, even if they really wanted to. In many ways, civilization has disabled us.

Even though very few of us are ready to give up our smartphones for a life by the light of homemade beeswax candles, beekeepers can at least experience some of the joys and rewards of self-sufficiency in their apiaries. Keeping bees can indeed be quite simple. Think about it: When we rely on the bees' innate abilities, there is no sugar, medication, or foundation to buy; we can fabricate all we need with our two hands out of materials that are around us; our bees may come from swarms that we first collect and then multiply to expand our apiaries. Isn't this the epitome of sustainable beekeeping?

Many beekeepers and scientists tell us that to keep bees alive and to manage them we need to feed them, to treat them against pests and diseases, and to provide them with foundation so that they can build their comb. No, they don't! This disables the bees and makes them dependent on us. This is the damaging process of domestication. Beekeeping equipment suppliers want us to think that we must have and buy all the gadgets and gizmos they have on their shelves, in their catalogs and stock rooms. No, we do not!

Granted, it does not make economic sense for us to produce everything, our food, furniture, artwork, or most

of what we need or want. Yet, the honey that we harvest from our very own hives is particularly delicious, isn't it? This is because it tastes a little like self-sufficiency. And no, we don't even need an extractor to get it.

July in the apiaries

Now that we have entered summer, life and work in the apiaries are very different from what they were only a few weeks ago. The bees are attuned to the conditions that prevail around them and they adjust to the seasonal changes in the weather and in the nectar and pollen flows. We do well following their lead and anticipating the hot and dry weather that is coming. For the bees, the next goal is the preparation of their nests for next winter. In spite of the honey that easily captures our attention as we manipulate the hives, we should not lose track of this most important goal, the preparations of the colonies for winter. Indeed, we only have a few months to ensure that the colonies will enter winter healthy, in well-organized and provisioned hives, and with good queens.

The colony populations have reached their maximum for the year and the brood nests have begun their gradual summer reduction in size. After the interruption in the nectar supply that idled the foragers at the end of spring, an early summer honey flow provides welcome stores this year. The combs of honey are swelling and fresh wax is turning them white. It has been a few years since we last saw this phenomenon in this area. It's beautiful and delightful! However, the vegetation is starting to show that the drought is not over. So, let's be prudent when we harvest and not deprive the bees of what they might need, as it is probably only a matter of time before summer nectar dearth returns. Some of the spring honey has already been harvested. This helped keep the hives within manageable dimensions. The wet frames were returned to the hives they came from in the evenings. Proceeding this way eliminates the risk of spreading pathogens between hives and prevents triggering robbing, which is always a risk at this time of year.

Hive inspections are less frequent during the summer than during the spring, and they are brief in order to avoid triggering robbing. Often, they are also limited to the inspections of the honey supers, unless some other cues lead us to the brood nests. These signals may be obtained by watching the flight paths, hive entrances, or by examining the ground in front of the hives or the monitoring trays. The main concerns are colony health and the quality of the queens. The mite populations are building up, and it valuable to observe how our bees are dealing with these pests. Colonies that show no defense against them or that have failing queens can easily be requeened at this time of

year. The brood chambers of the hives do not really need additional space for brood rearing, unless they hold very young queens.

However, good air circulation is beneficial. So, frames without comb can be kept in place. It is safer to remove wax foundation that has not been drawn though, as it might be destroyed when the bees cannot produce wax.

Unlike in the spring, the honey supers do not need as much excess space during the summer. As I am learning to manage my colonies with double-deep brood chambers, I am finding out that this point has particular importance. This is because the brood nests will have to be established in the lower part of the large combs by the early fall, along with adequate stores. Leaving too much space in the honey supers prevents this desirable hive configuration from happening altogether.

Striking the right level of hive ventilation in summer is a fine point in the art of beekeeping. It is easy to burden bees with insufficient or excessive air circulation in the hives, which can force them to work hard to maintain the right conditions within their brood nest. Many factors, such as the type of equipment in use, the location of the hives, and how they are managed can make a huge difference. So, adjusting the size of the entrance and hive volume, providing adequately-sized upper ventilation and protection from the intense afternoon summer sun, monitoring trays, and several other hive features must be considered. Needless to say, water should be available to the bees at all times.

Hives that receive early morning sun are prompted to forage before the nectar becomes desiccated on the flowers. Therefore, they benefit from this source of nutrients and moisture. Also, as long as the size of the entrances are somewhat reduced, the bees can defend them against robber bees and yellowjackets, which fly out early. Note that this is a detail that may affect hive ventilation.

The season of colony reproduction is over. It's only the odd late swarm that prompts us to somewhat reluctantly start another hive. Certainly, these are more trouble than they are worth, but who can say "no" to bees?

In summary, this month:

- Keep an eye on the health of the colonies.
- Provide adequate air circulation through the hives (upper ventilation slots and follower boards).
- Be aware of situations and manipulations that can trigger robbing.
- Beware of the fire danger while using the hot smoker in dry grass.
- Make sure that the components of hives fit tightly to prevent secondary entrances that might allow robber bees to enter hives.
- Ensure that sources of water are continuously available to the bees.
- Provide filtered afternoon shade, if at all possible.
- Adjust the size of the hive entrances, particularly those of developing colonies to reduce the risk of robbing.
- Follow-up on the development of young colonies (Keep notes!)
- Evaluate the quality of young queens. Replace failing or undesirable queens.
- Consider combining or requeening inherently weak colonies or those that are not developing properly.
- Monitor swarm traps.
- Keep some equipment at the ready to catch the occasional swarm.
- Manage honey supers (less space is needed as the nectar flow decreases).
- Finish harvesting surplus spring honey, but do not overharvest, particularly from hives kept in the dry hills, where the bees will be consuming more honey during the summer than they will be producing.
- Extract and bottle surplus honey.
- Return extracted supers to the bees for cleaning or re-filling.
- Discard old and misshapen combs and frames.
- Remove frames of undrawn beeswax foundation.
- Render wax from discarded frames and from capings (separately). Solar wax melters work very well at this season.
- Routinely clean and scorch tools and equipment.

Serge Labesque
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Bee Plants of the Month

By Alice Ford-Sala

Beneficial Tree of the Month

Catalpa Indian Bean

Family Bignoniaceae

This large tree with huge heart-shaped leaves has spikes of open white flowers that allow bees easy access to the abundant nectar found within. The flowers have nectar guides- stripes of yellow and orange- that lure bees and butterflies in for a sweet treat while they pollinate the flowers.

Catalpas are native to the mid-west to southern United States, though they do very well here in California.

Catalpa bignonioides is a smallish tree, which grows 30-40 feet high. *C. speciosa* has larger leaves and grows up to 50 to 90 feet tall, and at least 30 to 40 feet wide. They prefer well-drained and good to average soil, with moderate water needed. They seem to be pretty adaptable, I have seen them thriving and blooming in areas that don't get much water.

The abundant flowers are known for contributing to a generous honey harvest. The flowers give way to long bean-like seed capsules (called Indian beans) they are not edible, though they may have some medicinal uses.

The trees are deciduous and can be messy with dropping the seed capsules and later in fall, the leaves.



Catalpa Indian Bean

Native Plant of the Month

Leopard Lily, *Lilium L. paradinum*

What can be lovelier than hiking or strolling along a stream and coming upon a stand of Leopard lilies? I have to admit that memories of camping in the Sierra and north coast mountains are accented with these beauties beckoning in a cool glade.

The stems reach 3 to 5 feet in height with clusters of nodding "turk's cap" flowers in charming orange with leopard spots and long stamens capped with reddish anthers. The green strap-like leaves are up to 8 inches long. They will spread over the years to form a colony if they like where they are growing.

In our home gardens or other cultivated areas, give Leopard lily even moisture-remember she is a woodland girl- and good soil. Full sun to partial shade in cool summer areas, partial shade in hot inland areas is most appreciated. Bees visit the flowers as well as hummingbirds that will swoop right by your ear to visit a favorite food source.



Leopard Lily

Flowers We Can Count on For Nectar and/or Pollen in July



Pelargonium odoratissimum (scented geranium)
By Ettamarie Peterson



Sunflower By Ettamarie Peterson



Allium By Ettamarie Peterson



Gaillardia (Blanket Flower) By Cheryl Verreto

BEE WISE:

“Life is Temporary”

by Emery Dann

My bees remind me that my life is temporary. Bee-cause of this, I have a limited number of choices in the time I have left. The life of a bee, of course, is much shorter than my own—days, weeks or a little more than month vs. a (?) limited number of years for me.

As a beekeeper, I am tuned into yearly bee cycles. By the end of winter a new cycle begins spring, summer and fall. Then I look forward again to my bees resting in the winter. Then it starts all over again the next year. I frequently check the weather report to know what my bees are experiencing and when I can assist their efforts at the best temperature for them. Beekeepers have a heightened awareness of the environment surrounding their bees seeing what flowers and when the bees are working and collecting water—even when I travel to other areas of our country or the world, I find myself looking for all the honey bee activity I can find in new to me locations. Bees do not want their lives to end—neither do I. But here are a few bigger questions I am asking for

my life: “If I improve what I’m doing right now, how will my future turn out better?” “Am I procrastinating, denying reality, or resisting changes that will affect my future, family or friends who remain after me?” Procrastination is a thief of my time and efforts. But then again, what I do or do not do TODAY affects both my bees and my future! By making small changes TODAY and avoiding my tendency to procrastinate, I can improve my life by bee-ing intentional and more effective right now!

A quote from Winston Churchill depicts a common human tendency when I avoid the changes I need to make in my life: “Men occasionally stumble over the truth but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened.”

Question #1. “What is causing me to stumble in my life?” Abraham Lincoln said, “You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.”

Question #2. For me to understand is this, “What responsibility can I shoulder and face today so my tomorrow has the best outcome, since my life IS temporary?”

Regional Groups

By Christine Kurtz Co-Regional Coordinator



Summer has arrived and so has warmer weather. In hot days 90 and above you will see umbrellas on my hives. Looks like a beachfront when you peak in through the trees. In some ways things slow down and other ways travel and activities ramp up. July has no general meeting but the regional groups will have some special event whether a pic-nic or a special bee café for you all to stay connected or find connections. Get to know who lives close by and who will give you opportunities to look in their hives. I have seen and heard of incredible generosity of shared swarms and splits and frames of brood to either

augment population or help a colony have the right ingredients to re-queen. This is beekeeping at it's best. Realizing that we are indeed in this together, like the bees the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Together everyone achieves more. I know I sound like a broken record, but I truly believe this and call me crazy but the bees told and showed me so. Watch for invitations from your cluster coordinators. They can also be reached by their SCBA e-mail addresses, which are northcluster@sonomabees.org, southcluster@sonomabees.org, eastcluster@sonomabees.org, westcluster@sonomabees.org, centralcluster@sonomabees.org. Roughly North cluster encompasses Healdsburg, Forestville, Windsor; South Cluster: Petaluma; and Novato; East Cluster: Sonoma, Kenwood, Glenn Ellen; West County: Sebastopol; Central: Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati.

On Pondering About Bees

By Christine Kurtz

Can I say things are winding down a bit? This season has been the busiest of all since I started beekeeping and I have been working bees one way or another for 7 days a week since the beginning of March. The little extra moisture has enabled the bees to exhale and swarm in earnest. It was as if the bees have been holding their breath for the last four years. Of course I have to remind myself that these are all regional specific statements, some areas continue to take a bigger brunt of our ongoing drought. It is also still felt here as moisture was increased this year but not by a lot. There isn't a lot of surplus honey to harvest. Matter of fact I am mostly leaving all the honey for the bees and reassess in the fall. Summer is long and they might need some to make it through. I have taken a few frames of sealed honey out and donated them to splits I made from my survivor colonies. This year I reserved some splits in case I loose the mother colonies. My losses didn't happen in the fall but in February after the strawberry farmer, the city and some neighbors went glycofosphate happy. Sadly done when



A feather is great for sweeping bees into the swarm box.

they were flying. I lost 6 colonies in rapid succession with some absconding in front of my eyes. I still have some neighborhood work to do. Thankfully all my losses have been recovered and spring brought an abundance of bees from swarms and splits and all my apiaries are bustling with activity.

The big urge of swarming has now subsided, not that there won't be any more swarms, but the shift in my apiary has been very apparent since the beginning of June. The first thing I noticed was how the bees started to control drone populations. Since I have all natural foundation in my Lang hives, I have a decent amount of drone size cells in the spring and they are very apparent. Those have now been backfilled with nectar, which prevents the queen from laying there. I have started to move those frames up or to the edges. The girls have determined that they do not need the abundance of brothers to take care of. They are still reserving a few but a whole lot less are available to reproduce their mother's genes. Then the upper part of the brood nest, in worker size cells, the same thing is seen, nectar in the brood cells. This will start to shrink the work force. Bees are starting to get ready



My yard looks like a beach front for bees now.

for winter even though summer just began. We have that kind of climate. In other parts of the country things are just ramping up. But here, the urge to produce as many bees as possible to swarm is replacing with a slow reduction and storage of food for the future is becoming a priority.

Another astonishing thing seen in the hives this year is the incredibly diverse colors of pollen coming in and made into beebread, with more purples and reds than I have ever seen before. Some hives had frames that look like stained glass windows. Starring and wowing was



Note the colors of pollen here.

common when those frames came out at inspection. Last year we had to look hard to find pollen and the color diversity was meager.

Good nutrition has seemed so far to give healthier bees too; even varroa mites are way, way low in my apiaries. Only rarely do I see deformed wings virus and although mites will ramp up at end of summer and fall as the colonies shrink, brood nests have had beautiful patterns so far. I have seen less spring diseases than in the past. Even though I am

excited and please about this, I reserve some excitement as fall will be all telling. That is when populations are low, regeneration slowed, virus loads up and the possibilities to re-queening absent.

One thing that I did notice though is a decent amount of queen failure. Mostly cases of the queens not coming back from their mating flights. Colonies replacing their queens or making queens in splits looks textbook perfect with queen cells present, then emerged queen cells seen with some chewed from the side being the competition dispensed and then nothing, no queen. I have become hyper vigilant whenever I knew a queen was superseded or a split was making a new queen. Knowing to leave them alone for 4 weeks after spotting a queen cell(s) but then making sure that queen was there. On occasion if the bees were calm and cells polished I gave the bees another week, but anxious bees got another frame with some eggs for a second go around. I'm wondering what is happening to the queens? To identify queenlessness is not an easy skill to hone. The window until the workers start laying isn't that large and varies depending how long they had brood still present, but three to four weeks is not un-common. This problem is missed by many beekeepers and shows you how important regular inspections are. Once laying workers are present, it is a challenge to reverse it. You can add a frame with eggs from



Multiple eggs in each cell indicate a laying worker.

another colony once a week for three weeks but you need that resources and a strong colony that can afford to donate. You can combine the colony with another if you have another one, or some swear by shaking all the bees out at some distance and letting the bees fly back while the laying workers flight incapable stay behind. I've done that once and rather not again, the bees really don't like that, plus by then you have nothing but older bees and you need to add eggs and nurse bees from another colony, but it is an option. If the timing is right, I have had great luck combining a swarm to a laying worker colony via newspaper method. I put in an additional super with the swarm in it at the bottom. Then I put a sheet of newspaper with slits in it on top of that and then the laying worker colony above the newspaper.



Chewed up queen cell next to one emerged.

I was all excited to have identified 2 isolated bee yards for some queen rearing for next year, well actually one just went out the window when I recently spotted commercial beehives stuck close by in neat military formation. Argh!!! This year I was astonished to read on the Next Door chat line (where neighborhoods join and connect and network) a post from a commercial beekeeper asking anyone for space to park 40 colonies a pop because Sonoma County has such lovely forage in the spring and please help the bees. You bet I had a long response. That is not the way to save and help the bees. I spelled out the problems of our bees barely having enough forage for themselves, genetically diluting our survivor stock, and the diseases they bring in from the cesspool of the almonds. It's hard to find isolated areas with a five-mile radius that are available, but I have a little gem. Now I have to figure out how the heck I am going to squeeze in such a delicate time sensitive project in the boonies. I was told beekeeping was going to be challenging and here is biggest one.

Overall it's been an amazing season and as you can tell an obsessed beekeeper is already planning next year. My obsessed counterparts know exactly what I am talking about. June is time to plan next season. Crazy huhn!?

Christine Kurtz
Honey Bee Consultant
Petalumabeelady@yahoo.com

June General Meeting Minutes

By Secretary Becky Jackson

Held at the Rohnert Park 4-H Center, about 110 members present.

President Cheryl Veretto opened by announcing we're 416 members strong! She then welcomed visitors: Caleb & Sebastian, Deb, Bill, Susan, Patrick, Lisa, Denise, and perhaps a few more—the mic was not working well.

We had a Q&A session, with the most discussion around the California Buckeye tree's poisonous pollen and bees seen collecting it. For more info, UC Davis website has addressed it. Also a question of bee plants for shady gardens: Bergenia (Pig squeak), Heuchera (Coral Bells), Hellebore, Bergamot.

Cheryl also announced that a video is being produced to represent SCBA as a public service announcement for our group. She welcomes hi-def video and pictures to be submitted to her. She further announced that a "Best Management Practices" list or contract is being drawn up and will be required for new and renewing members to sign. There will be a new page describing it on the website by the end of the month. This is in response to the public hysteria surrounding the Concord bee incident in the news recently. Hopefully all the beekeepers associated with SCBA will not make the mistakes that cause public hysteria and jeopardize us all who keep bees near our neighbors.

We need volunteers! We need leaders! Thanks to John McGinnis who will lead the County Fair display. The Children's Museum will host a gathering of SCBA members wanting to volunteer, and how to do it, on June 30th. This isn't strictly for museum volunteers, but for ALL volunteers for ANY of our events.

The 50/50 Raffle was next with \$101 going to a lucky winner. Thanks to Mikayla for heading the ticket sales.

Christine Kurtz, Regional Coordinator reminded us there is no regular July meeting here. There will be picnic and potluck gatherings within each Cluster instead. She also has a bag full of 1.25 Reader glasses available for free, if you want a pair, contact her.

Rita Maloney, 2nd VP said there are some events needing volunteers that are being sent out by email from the cluster leaders. Please consider helping when you get the email, or come to the Children's Museum and sign up. Tour around and see the observation hive.

Rita next introduced our speaker tonight, Jerry Draper from San Anselmo. He's a member of the Marin Beekeepers, and a computer programmer. His talk is on Electronic Hive Monitors.

Why monitor? For personal interest; as a Citizen Scientist to input your data to BIP; it's less intrusive to the colony; or you're a lazy beekeeper!

You can monitor for:

- Sound and vibrations, which can clue you into, swarm activity.
- Heat, which tells the health and size of the brood ball.
- Count foragers, which tells if a flow is on.
- Temperature, which tells of the colony strength.
- Humidity, which tells if they need more ventilation (like in winter).
- Weight of hive, which gives the most info about what is happening in the hive.

He uses open source software, Linux. And Wi-Fi can send the info to you and you can see it on your computer anywhere. He uses the Hivetool System, developed by Paul Vonk. Go to Hivetool.org or hivetool.net for info. Jerry uses Raspberry Pi (a circuit board running Linux). Here are the steps he advises:

1. Purchase Raspberry Pi with Wi-Fi (\$60).
2. Go to Hivetool.org and buy the "developers kit" (\$47 for the interface board w/ USB ports)
3. Purchase the scale, or scanners you wish to use.

He said electricity is needed, or a battery. It can't be solar operated, but a solar panel might be able to charge a battery.

Jerry and his wife, Mia McNeil set up a non-profit: www.superorg.org. He says it will be up and running by this year. His email: jdraper@superorg.org.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Jackson, Secretary

[Links to Association Reports:](#)

June Board Minutes - www.sonomabees.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/6-June-Board-Minutes.docx

Contact Information

Regular monthly meetings of the Sonoma County Beekeepers' Association are held on the second Monday of each month, at 7 pm at the Rohnert Park 4-H Building. 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, at our monthly meetings or by mail. Please see our Website 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

Extractor Techs- Call Ettamarie 707-479-1613 or Janet Leisen 707- 528-2085 or Denny Pederson e-mail denny1@sonic.net to rent the electric extractor for \$5 a 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 She lives in Glen Ellen.

2016 Board Members and Other Helpful People

President - Cheryl Veretto president@sonomabees.org
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2nd Vice President - Rita Maloney 2ndVP@sonomabees.org
Secretary - Becky Jackson secretary@sonomabees.org
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Webmaster - Chris Dicker webmaster@sonomabees.org

Ads in This Newsletter

The monthly costs for ads are \$10 for a business card size, \$20 for ¼ page, and \$40 for a half page. Annual costs are \$60 for business card size, \$120 for ¼ page, \$240 for ½ page and \$ 300 for full page. Send jpg or Word document to the editor and money to SCBA Treasurer at SCBA, P.O. Box 98, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. The current and back issues of the newsletter are on the www.sonomabees.org web site so many people besides the 400 or so members view the ads.

Christine Kurtz

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OFFERING SUMMER CLASSES
BEESWAX CANDLES FOR SALE

WWW.PLANTSASALLIES.WORDPRESS.COM/ABOUT-ME/
PLANTS.AS.ALLIES@GMAIL.COM
707.669.4866



**CANDLEMAKING
WITH
BEESWAX**

Learn the art of beeswax candlemaking and take away the skills to do it at home!

The smell of Beeswax alone is supportive to the immune system, and burning beeswax candles cleans our air of odors, pollen, smoke, viruses, mold, dust mites, dust and other allergens. With beeswax from local beekeepers, we will learn how to make both dipped and container candles. Students will take home candles they made in class plus tealight molds and wicks to make more at home.

July 31st 2-5 pm, 2016 Cloverdale, CA
Cost \$75 includes all materials

E-mail to plants.as.allies@gmail.com or call 707.669.4866 for more information!



**MEDICINE
FROM THE
HIVE**

From honey to propolis, everything the bees make has healing qualities. In this class, you'll learn how to make bee medicine: an herbal honey, a salve with beeswax, and propolis tincture. We'll combine the bee products with common medicinal herbs you grow in your garden like rose petals, rose hips, lavender, and calendula. Everyone goes home with a salve and herbal honey!

CLOVERDALE, CA
JULY 17TH 2-5PM 2016

E-mail plants.as.allies@gmail.com or call 707.669.4866 for more information



Plants as Allies
presents...

**SUPPORTING
THE BODY
WITH HERBS**

CLOVERDALE, CA
\$5 PER CLASS - \$17 FOR THE SERIES

RSVP plants.as.allies@gmail.com or 707.669.4866

SLEEP
July 14th 6:30-8:30

STRESS
August 11- 6:30-8:30

DIGESTION
September 8th 6:30-8:30

Where you can BEE yourself



beekind®

OPEN EVERY DAY



BEES



**Packages & Nucs
BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES
HONEY - CANDLES - GIFTS**

**We buy local honey in 5 gallon buckets
Premium price paid**

921 Gravenstein Hwy. South 116 South in Sebastopol
(Next to Fosters Freeze)
(707) 824-2905 beekind.com

Visit our other shop at the Ferry Building in SF

ENTER TO WIN a FREE STARTER HIVE! Includes a basic screen bottom board, commercial grade deep or medium hive body, 8 frames with rite-cell foundation, 2 follower boards, basic inner hive cover, telescoping hive cover, entrance reducer and entrance feeder. RULES: Come into the Sebastopol beekind store anytime during any month and fill out an entry form (ask clerk). Drop it in the drawing box and wait, patiently or not. Must be present to enter but not to win. One entry per month per person. Any upgrades must be paid for. Limit: two wins per year. Drawing to be held the first week of every month for the previous month's entries. If not able to pick up win at store, winner must pay.