



sonomabees.org

Membership Tiers

Updated July 2021

Donors

Donors are those who wish to support SCBA but do not desire membership in the association. Whether or not you want to help the bees, improve the quality of forage in our community, or support our work with students, every dollar donated helps SCBA fulfill our mission of educating new and seasoned beekeepers on beekeeping techniques and educating our community on the importance of pollinators to our environment.

To donate to SCBA please [click here](#) or navigate to our website and find the DONATE button in the menu. You can also choose SCBA as your non-profit of choice when shopping on Amazon Smile.

Every donation counts and is important to us, no matter how small!

Members

With over five-hundred members SCBA is the largest beekeeping association on the west coast and possibly the entire country! Our association exists for our members, and most choose to participate and volunteer in one, or more, of our two amazing programs. Membership is perfect for beekeepers both new and experienced, gardeners, educators, and those who wish to see our pollinators thrive.

Worker Bee Membership: \$100/year

This basic membership level is essential as it helps us pay our ongoing administrative costs such as facilities, insurance, event costs, staff, speaker costs, and supplies.

“In the end, however, the best teachers will be the bees themselves, and the best classroom time for beekeepers will be spent in the apiary, the place where we keep bees, wearing a bee veil, smoker and hive tool in hand and with propolis under the finger nails. So, attend classes and workshops, and join your local beekeepers’ association.”
— Serge Labesque

Membership Benefits Include:

- 10 general membership meetings
- Subscription to *The Extractor*
- Two tickets to the annual picnic and holiday party
- Access to the SCBA library
- Regular regional cluster meetings
- Ongoing educational forums for both beginners and seasoned beekeepers
- Hive-dives and beekeeping workshops

- Propagation workshops and discounted pollinator-friendly flowering plants
- Access to our private Facebook groups
- A culture of mentorship and support

Queen Bee Membership: \$250/year

This membership allows for growth within our programs and for us to develop, expand and reach out into our community. Queen bees help fund our Beekeeping and Gardening Programs. Our Queen Bees are essential in allowing us the ability to create pollinator habits outside of SCBA and within our community at community and school gardens. Thereby our Queen Bees are improving the quality of life for our bees in Sonoma County beyond our local beekeepers and their gardens!

“When someone helps me, I feel I should pay the favor forward. This means I enjoy going to help others when they ask. If all of us have this attitude, we will have better bees with happier, more confident beekeepers!”

— Ettamarie Peterson

Membership includes:

(in addition to the Worker Bee membership)

- Ongoing recognition on our website
- Name badge for general membership meetings with Queen Bee recognition
- Discounts to events and workshops with fees attached (in development)
- Gift of stickers, coupons for SCBA plants
- Potential for coupons for local beekeeping and nursery businesses (in development)
- Choice of gift:
 - SCBA hive tool
 - SCBA trowel
 - Option to opt-out of gift basket; you are saving us money

Local Beekeeper and Nursery Business Membership: \$300/year (or \$150 + in-kind donations)

“We have to actively beekeep, share our bees, be like the bees, be helpful communities. This is what will distinguish the bee haver versus the beekeeper.”

— Christine Kurtz

Our Sonoma County beekeepers and gardeners require local business to help us develop our craft and care for our bees. We wish to honor these local businesses with a special membership category of their own! Please note that this membership category is reserved only for local businesses that directly provide beekeeping supplies/services or nurseries.

Membership includes 1 queen bee membership and:

- Monthly mentions in our newsletter *The Extractor*
- Ongoing link on our website
- Mentions on our social media accounts which have over a thousand followers
- SCBA sign for display in local business

Sponsors

The bees can keep their comb clean, expand or contract their colony size, and do so much on their own, but they depend on their forage and habitat for sustenance and protection. For some of our members, going beyond membership and sponsoring our work is a meaningful way to emulate the forage that surrounds our hives and nourishes them. Individuals and businesses that do not fall in the local beekeeping and nursery category may also choose to become habitat level sponsors, thereby supporting our hard work in our apiaries and our community.

Habitat level - Hedgerow: \$500/year

"When we create habitat - places for birds, butterflies, bees, and other wild creatures to live, find food, and reproduce - we are helping to restore a small part of what has been lost. These creatures are an integral part of our lives and the health of the plants we grow. They clean up excess seeds and bugs, pollinate our fruits, vegetables, and flowers, prevent disease in the garden, and fascinate us with their relationships to each other and with the plants they depend on for survival."

- Nancy Bauer

For those with means enough to go beyond the above and wish to support others who cannot afford our membership, our habitat level memberships demonstrate a deep care for local pollinators and a commitment to their healthy future. Hedgerows are vital nectar and pollen sources amidst barren landscapes such as vineyards and other monocrops, and our hedgerow level habitat membership embodies this support.

Membership includes 1 queen bee membership and:

- 2 mentions on our social media accounts which have over a thousand followers
- 2 recognitions in our newsletter *The Extractor*
- Ongoing recognition on our website
- Appreciation gift

Habitat level - Meadow: \$1,000/year

“When California was wild, it was one sweet bee-garden throughout its entire length, north and south, and all the way across from the snowy Sierra to the ocean.”
— John Muir

Meadows are beautiful sights for us and oceans of forage for honey bees and pollinators. Help us transform Sonoma County into one sweet bee-garden with our Meadow level habitat membership.

Membership includes 2 queen bee memberships and:

- 4 mentions on our social media accounts which have over a thousand followers
- 4 recognitions in our newsletter *The Extractor*
- Ongoing recognition on our website
- Appreciation gift

Habitat Level - Canopy: \$2,500/year

“Every child should have mud pies, grasshoppers, water bugs, tadpoles, frogs, mud turtles, elderberries, wild strawberries, acorns, chestnuts, trees to climb. Brooks to wade, water lilies, woodchucks, bats, bees, butterflies, various animals to pet, hayfields, pine-cones, rocks to roll, sand, snakes, huckleberries and hornets; and any child who has been deprived of these has been deprived of the best part of education.”
— Luther Burbank

Above the meadows and hedgerows is the canopy. These mighty trees sink carbon and water, provide home for wild bees and countless pollinators, shade the ground during our hot, dry summers, and often bloom as well. Our canopy level habitat membership shows the deepest commitment to our work and ongoing mission.

Membership includes 2 queen bee memberships and:

- Monthly mentions on our social media accounts which have over a thousand followers
- Monthly recognitions in our newsletter *The Extractor*
- Ongoing recognition on our website
- Appreciation gift