



The

LCBA B U Z Z



August 2025

Providing Education in Sustainable Beekeeping

**Monthly meetings in room 109 of
Washington Hall, Centralia College;
exceptions will be published in advance.
Club apiary is at 765 North Fork Road**

August activities and events



August - no monthly meeting, we will be at the SWW Fair!

August 23- Saturday at 1:00- club apiary workshop. We will be checking supers, see if there are capped frames to store for extraction. We'll start preparing for fall buildup to have strong hives going into winter.

September 13 - regular monthly meeting, Jason Bramwell will be speaking on queen rearing, a fascinating topic!

Anaphylaxis training teaching video will be shown after the speaker. This is a WASBA prepared video with a short 10 question post test . A training completion certificate will be obtained from WASBA for those who complete the test.

SURVEY COMING!! You may see a survey in your inbox in the next couple of months; we are gathering information about club membership, class and educational needs, ways to improve membership numbers and member retention. Please take a few minutes to provide some honest feedback - it can be anonymous, and it will help us tremendously to have the information! Suggestions to improve our club are most welcome!

Entering honey in the SWW Fair in August

Be sure you have completed your online registration form. You need to bring that form with you on Monday, August 11th between noon and 6 pm to the Floral Building. Cody or Bev will be there to take your entry. Pickup of your entry will be on Sunday August 17 from 7-9 pm or Monday 18 from 9am to noon. Remember to bring a clean jar held upright to keep honey off the inside of the lid, and wrap it in a towel after cleaning off all fingerprints. Review judging criteria below to help you present an award winning jar! Good luck!

Comb Honey Judging Scorecard

Accuracy of Cut edge: square, 4 parallel sided cuts	15
Neatness of cut edge: no ragged edges	15
Uniform depth and filling of cells, even appearance	15
All cells complete: absence of uncapped cells	15
Clean dry cappings: no pollen, no leaking cappings	15
Uniform color of honey	15
Cleanliness and general appearance of package	10
Total Points Available and Awarded	100
Judges comments:	

Jar Honey Judging Scorecard

Container appearance - 10 points

- a) no fingerprints, dirt or smudges etc. on jar
- b) lid seal free of honey, rim of jar clean, etc.

Moisture content - 20 maximum

- a) Less than 15.5
- b) 15.5 - 17.0
- c) 17.1 - 18.0
- d) without wax
- e) greater than 18.6

Absence of Crystals - 10 points

Cleanliness of honey - 40 points

- a) without foam or bubbles
- b) without lint or dirt
- c) without other debris, etc.
- d) without wax
- e) without bee body parts

Flavor - 10

- a) free from fermentation smell or taste
- b) free from scortched/burned flavor

Accuracy of jar filling - 10

Precise filling - head room between 3/8 and 1/2 inch with no visible gap between honey level and cap

Total Points Available and Awarded



T Shirts (\$15) Hoodies (\$25) and caps (\$15) available at the monthly meetings

Highlights from July speaker, Dawn Beck on Fat Bodies in bees
The number one message I think we all heard was KEEP VARROA COUNTS DOWN! This is critical starting early to mid July to have a healthy generation of bees to start overwintering. If you didn't treat in early to mid July, treat now!! Dawn uses OA extended year round, and puts Formic on early to mid July. The varroa mites eat the bee's fat bodies, possibly one of the most important organs of the bee. Damage to the bee's fat bodies is the #1 reason to treat bees. Studying the feeding glands, functions of vitellogenin, pollen, immunity - there is a lot to understand about bees development and health! Bees can tolerate cold and damp but if they die from varroa when the colony numbers diminish there are not enough bees to keep the colony warm. Going into fall, around 50% of frames should be food. Dawn recommends moving pollen and food frames to top center of deep as early as possible so as bees consume lower stores and move up, there is plenty available. The most important message from this talk was to keep mite counts down!

A resource for further reading is theapiarist.org lots of good material on varroa treating. The site has a 'tags' heading that has a great list of topics where you can find and read archived articles

Phil Wilson sent the following article about rare bee finds in Washington
<https://pnwag.net/two-dozen-rare-bees-discovered/>

Article from WSU bee research:

Yellow-Legged Hornet: What Beekeepers Need to Know | WSU Extension Publications | Washington State University

Link to interesting article regarding causes of colony losses with commercial beekeepers this year

<https://share.newsbreak.com/dyk39imo>