

Dear Beekeepers,

LCBA has some exciting upcoming events to share now that we're in "active bee season"! First up:

Our May 9 LCBA Meeting Will Focus on Swarm-Catching Strategies. Who would say no to free bees? Swarms are not only free, but may bring feral genetics to improve your apiary's diversity. LCBA President Kevin Reichert and Apiary Manager Cody Warren will share tips on how they capture swarms. If you'd like to get on our swarm capture list, you can sign up at this meeting. We'll also have Bee Q&A and talk over spring management strategies. Please bring your questions & experiences to share. ***FYI – on May 9 only, we are meeting in Washington Hall 105 at Centralia College. Time: Social time 6-6:30, presentation 6:30-7:30, short business meeting & beekeeping Q&A follows.***

Special Double-Header Workshop - Spring Management AND Bee Photography, Saturday, May 11!

Now that you have bees, or overwintered bees for the first time, how do you know if they're thriving, and what can you do to support them? Come to this workshop and go through hives with LCBA mentors to learn spring -management techniques. Also, would you like to document your apiary adventures with great photos? Megan Asche, our April speaker and an award-winning insect photographer, will share her methods, so bring your camera – as well as protective gear. We'll have one workshop from 10 a.m. to noon, and another from 1 to 3 pm; both topics, spring management and photography, will be covered at ***each*** workshop. ***For directions, please RSVP to secretary@lcba.community - even if you know where it is, please let us know you're coming. The club will provide water, pop, and light refreshments.***

Master Gardener's Annual Plant Sale, Saturday, May 18, 9 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, May 19, 10 am to 3 pm at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds: Great opportunity to buy locally grown plants, raised by LC Master Gardeners, for reasonable prices: perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs, ground-covers, grasses, berries, vegetables, and tomatoes will all be available.

June 13 LCBA monthly meeting: Planting for Pollinators with Master Gardener & Journeyman Beekeeper Terrie Phillips. Around midsummer, our forage will start to dry up – but you can plant forage to bloom in the later part of summer and into fall. Terrie will share her expertise and experiences planting for bees from a beekeeper's point of view. We'll be meeting back in the Walton Science Center, Room 121, at Centralia College. Time: Social time 6-6:30, presentation 6:30-7:30, short business meeting & beekeeping Q&A follows.

Saturday, July 13: LCBA's 11th Annual Summer Potluck, Lintott Alexander Park in Adna, 3 to 7 pm.

More details later, but please mark your calendar for fun, fellowship, and our youth scholarship fundraising drawing with great beekeeping items to win.

Questions about meetings, or any other LCBA matters? Please email Susanne at secretary@lcba.community, or call 360 880 8130.

Take care & "bee happy!"

Susanne Weil, Secretary, LCBA, secretary@lcba.community; 360 880 8130