

Dear Beekeepers,

This is a quick informational email with details about **this Wednesday, March 11, LCBA Bee Sales**, including links to order & membership forms. Also this Wednesday: **talk by Dan Maughan on how cold over-wintering improves colony survival**. Also: warnings from the USDA about Giant Asian Hornets and Houdini Flies; offers of free locust trees; the results from LCBA's 2019 audit committee; news about our upcoming events. When I get to spring break, I'll do a proper write-up of Rick Battin's fine presentation on mason bees (meanwhile, you can see a PDF of Rick's slideshow on our website:

[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/Get\\_To\\_Know\\_Spring\\_Mason\\_Bees\\_Rick\\_Battin.14131809.pdf](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Get_To_Know_Spring_Mason_Bees_Rick_Battin.14131809.pdf) . I'll also write up my February overview of Tom Seeley's

recommendations of how we can improve bee survival by employing some practices of wild honey bees in our own managed beekeeping (meanwhile, you can view my slideshow on the website:

[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/The\\_Lives\\_of\\_Bees\\_Seeley\\_or\\_LCBA\\_Feb\\_2020\\_mtg.4384120.pdf](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/The_Lives_of_Bees_Seeley_or_LCBA_Feb_2020_mtg.4384120.pdf) ). If you have trouble opening these links, visit

[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/monthly\\_meetings](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/monthly_meetings) and scroll down to February and January 2020 meetings).

**Wednesday, March 11: Bee Sales, 5 pm to 6:30 p.m; 6:30 – 8:30, Meeting & Speaker, Dan Maughan on Improving Colony Survival By Cold Storage Over-wintering. Reminder—we are back in Washington Hall 103 on the Centralia College campus (701 W Walnut, Centralia WA 98531).** FYI for our new members, our meeting starts with a social time at 6, and business meeting after the speaker. **Also at this meeting: vote on whether or not to move our holiday potluck to a January new year's potluck;** updates on our beekeeping classes, Youth Scholars' progress, the Apiary update, & a call for mentors to help support our big class of new beekeepers!

**2020 Package Bee Orders: To order bees, you must come to this meeting or send a proxy; you must also be a member current on dues, which you can pay when you order bees (\$40: the form is on downloadable on from our homepage under the membership link:**

[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/2020\\_LCBA\\_Membership\\_Application.3172811.pdf](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/2020_LCBA_Membership_Application.3172811.pdf) (if you have trouble with this link, please go directly to

<https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/home/membership> and download it there: scroll down under "Join").

**Payment:** We can take cash or checks, but not credit cards. PLEASE, if you are writing checks for membership and for multiple vendors, write different checks for each: this LITERALLY saves our volunteers hours of time!

**LCBA Club Prices & Order Forms from Beeline Apiaries:** Prices without tax for those with current WA Apiary Registration Number (without this, WA tax applies; for those prices, see the order form): 3 lb. Italian & Carniolan, \$120; 4 lb. Italian & Carniolan, \$135; 5 frame Italian & Carniolan nucs, \$153; Extra Queens Italian & Carniolan, \$43. Delivery date for the club is Friday April 17 beginning at 12 noon. Date is subject to change, so please prepare to be flexible. On the pickup date, the board will have volunteers on hand to help with bee pickup and to answer questions. **Beeline Order Form:**

[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/2020\\_LCBA\\_Bee\\_Order\\_Form\\_1\\_Beeline\\_Apiaries.53152111.pdf](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/2020_LCBA_Bee_Order_Form_1_Beeline_Apiaries.53152111.pdf) . If any problems opening these links, please go directly to Upcoming Events, [https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/upcoming\\_events](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/upcoming_events) , and download them there. We will also have some hard copies at the meeting.

**LCBA Club Prices & Order Forms from Kevin Mills/Hive 5 Bees:** Kevin is selling nucs with Kona queens for \$140 each. His pickup date is not yet set but will be on or close to Beeline's and pickup will be at Beeline. Kevin has a limit of 50 nucs, so first come first served. **Hive 5 Order Form:**  
[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/2020\\_LCBA\\_Bee\\_Order\\_Form\\_2\\_Hive\\_5\\_Bees\\_1.53152130.pdf](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/2020_LCBA_Bee_Order_Form_2_Hive_5_Bees_1.53152130.pdf)

**Alan Woods** is taking bee orders directly and offering a \$10/nuc discount for LCBA members (you have to let them know). His nucs are \$160. The bees are German Carnica and will be in new Pro-Nuc boxes and if you return the box in usable condition, they will give \$10 back. You can also just put a deposit on a nuc, which is \$60, and pay the balance by March; they would then take the \$10 discount off the balance when you pay at the store. Pickup will be at their store end of April/beginning of May, weather dependent. Packages are \$140 and LCBA members get a \$5 discount. Alan's contact information is on LCBA's website under Beekeeping Supplies:  
[https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/beekeeping\\_supplies](https://www.lewiscountybeekeepers.org/beekeeping_supplies) .

Finally, **Mike Radford/Northwest Bee Supplies** is not offering a club price, but is selling his PNW-raised nucs and has a few left. Mike delivers to specific pickup locations: for prices & more info, visit Mike's website at <https://www.northwestbeesupply.com/> No LCBA club price.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- **April 8 Monthly Meeting: Dr. Dewey Caron on Africanized Honey Bees & 2020 Bee Surveys.** Dewey spends winters in Bolivia working with beekeepers & will share his insights into African genetics and behavior, here & there. Also, he'll have information & forms to help us participate in 2019-20 overwintering survival surveys: the PNW and Beeinformed Partnership surveys.
- **May 2-3: LCBA at the Spring Youth Fair** in the Exposition Building at the SW WA Fairgrounds. We'll have our Observation Hive, a honey tasting, "Bee Face" photo board, show & tell items, & more. If you'd like to volunteer, please email [secretary@lcba.community](mailto:secretary@lcba.community). LCBA members who volunteer get free tickets & parking passes.

**Free Locust Trees – Great Bee Forage!** Steve Michaud has over 20 of these in pots (3' to 4' tall). They are free for the asking. Steve can be reached by email at [stevemichaud@comcast.net](mailto:stevemichaud@comcast.net) or by phone at 206-999-0500.

**Giant Asian Hornet Warning:** WSDA's recording of the webinar "Asian giant hornet in the Pacific Northwest" that the Washington Invasive Species Council and WSDA hosted last month is now available on:YouTube: [https://youtu.be/36TFu\\_W1Vio](https://youtu.be/36TFu_W1Vio) and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WASStateDeptAg/videos/626667411460518> . WASBA also has linked

WSDA's website with an information sheet: <https://wasba.org/news/the-usda-has-published-guidelines-related-to-the-asian-giant-hornet/>. For more information, contact Karla Salp, Communications, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Office: (360) 902-2178; Cell: (360) 480-5397; email, [KSalp@agr.wa.gov](mailto:KSalp@agr.wa.gov) . FYI, WASBA has updated its website nicely & it's worth a look.

**Houdini Fly Warning:** WSDA is warning us to beware of the mason bee klepto parasite, the Houdini fly, which parasitizes the pollen needed for baby mason bees to thrive. For information, visit: [file:///C:/Users/Susanne%20Weil/Downloads/PestAlert-HoudiniFlyFeb2020%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/Susanne%20Weil/Downloads/PestAlert-HoudiniFlyFeb2020%20(1).pdf) .

**LCBA Audit Committee Report:** Steve Grega (chair), Gillian Davis, and Allen Walton reviewed our 2019 expenses and revenues with Treasurer Rick Battin. Steve presented the results, which showed LCBA's books in balance with no problems, and the club in its best shape ever fiscally, at the February business meeting. Thanks again to the audit committee for their work and to Rick for his careful stewardship. If you are an LCBA member who would like to read the report, please email [secretary@lcba.community](mailto:secretary@lcba.community).

**Questions about meetings, or any other LCBA matters?** Please email Susanne at [secretary@lcba.community](mailto:secretary@lcba.community), or call 360 880 8130.

Take care,

Susanne Weil, Secretary, LCBA