

October 16, 2013
2013 Fall Issue



the Queen City BUZZZZZZ

Regina and District Bee Club (RDBC)

Special Interest Articles:

- Agribition 2013 2
- SBA 2013
Convention and
Tradeshow 2
- 2013 Fall Social 2
- Honey Today 5

Individual Highlights:

- President's Report
Continued 2
- Rant to Rave on The
Bee Movie from 2007
Continued 3
- Happy Fall
Recipes 4
- Geoff's Corner 5
- About Our Club 5

President's Report

Well another year is wrapping up. Hopefully it was a successful year. By now your bees should be fed and treated, and you should be thinking about wrapping your hives. In a short time the bees will be all hunkered down for winter and you will be thinking about next year's season. It's an excellent time to analyze your year, what things were a success and what things you want to avoid.

The fall social is in October.

It is a great opportunity to meet like-minded individuals and learn about bees. This year we will be doing demonstrations for cream and lip balm making. These events require a lot of organizing; it's nice to have a good turn out so be sure to attend.

Agribition is also coming up. Last year was my first time volunteering and I really enjoyed it. The trade show booth offers individuals the opportunity to sell their products. It is a

great informational tool as well. The Agri-Ed display is an excellent spot to teach people young and old about bees. The observation hive is always a highlight - it generates quite the buzz. Knowledge and experience level are unimportant. In most cases you will know more than the general public, and there are always a few very experienced beekeepers around.

Continued on page 2



Rant to Rave on The Bee Movie from 2007

I figured I would do a rant on the Bee Movie, starring Gerry Seinfeld. Yes it's a rather tardy review - I know. Robin, our resident media expert, will likely have some opinions on my amateur review. =)

I am not an expert in beekeeping, in fact this movie came out the year I started looking into beekeeping. Nor am I a professional critic. However, as a beekeeper, I tend to lean towards bee-related media of all sorts, and have learned that I defend the industry, bees, honey, and everything in between with a subjective

vehemence. Thusly, armed with an opinion of how this movie lacked in facts, albeit based on a blurry memory of it, I set out to watch it again for the first time and document everything that bugged me about it. Ba-doom pish!



The Bee Movie is a cartoon, and cartoons by nature have the implicit right to reflect

reality and/or distort it every which way. This cartoon is big on enlightening us with real life facts about bees, though, which I suppose gave me the idea to review it. Its contents indirectly touch on a larger matter that has hit the presses over the last several years regarding the decline of bees and how important they are, and so I think it's important that a media piece like this be as close to accurate as possible. Everyone is paying more attention to honey bees because of the issues arising around them.

Continued on page 3

Agribition 2013

This year the Canadian Western Agribition is November 11-16, 2013, at Evraz Place in Regina.

The RDRC will again be providing honeybee education for school children and the general public at the Agri-Ed booth.

The observation hive makes it a very popular booth, therefore we need about four volunteers per day. A lot of knowledge about bees is not necessary because most children and people know very little to nothing about bees. There is always another volunteer at the

booth to answer a question that is beyond your knowledge.

In fact, this is a great opportunity to learn more yourself by listening in on other conversations and by meeting other beekeepers.

If you are able to help during the day at the booth, please contact Colette at fort.trail@yourlink.ca or 306-699-2599. Don't be surprised if you get a call from her this fall!

The RDRC is once again having a booth at the Trade Show to showcase

and sell the products of the hive.

If you are interested in selling some of your product and working at the Trade Show Booth, please contact Linda at gl.kletchko@gmail.com or 306-771-2053. It's a great opportunity to meet people from all around the world and to work alongside some great Bee Club members. Not to mention the exposure your product will receive as hundreds of people stop by the booth!

An email will be sent out in the near future outlining the standards, as set by

the Bee Club that must be met when selling product at the Trade Show.

Please stay tuned and consider volunteering a day or an afternoon at this year's Agribition Trade Show.



*Colette &
Linda*



President's Report Cont'd

On the subject of volunteering, a great big thanks goes to Colette Stushnoff, Sig Splett, and Dennie Fornwald for their recent efforts at the science center. They spent a day talking to groups of students about pollination and the importance of bees to our society. There is a

lot of negative stigma about bees and one of the club's jobs is to educate the public. This is why volunteer efforts from members is so important. They talked to more than 100 kids from Bienfait, Wilcox, and Estevan schools. Great job guys!



Andrew



SBA 2013 Convention and Tradeshow

Location: Elk Ridge Resort, Waskesiu, SK

From: Wednesday, November 27

To: Friday, November 29

Link:

<http://www.saskbeekeepers.com/econvention>

Convention Registration

Early Bird: (due by Friday, October 25) \$100/day or \$150 for all 3 days (cash, cheque, or Paypal payments) – Sorry no refunds for early bird tickets.

At the Door: \$125/day or \$175 for all 3 days (cash or cheque accepted only)

Speakers:

Graham Parsons, TAT Lead Researcher for the Hive Health, Colony Mortality and Productivity Project

Geoff Wilson, Saskatchewan's Specialist in Apiculture

Jessica Morris, Technology Adaption Team Technician

Queens
Available from early June to mid August
Arrangements can be made to rear queens from a beekeepers own genetics

Honey
30 & 50 lb
pails of honey for sale

To place an order contact Lloyd Harris
(306) 347-2847

2013 Fall Social

Don't forget that the fall social is this Sunday, October 20, 2013, from 1:00pm – 5:00pm at the Golden Sunset Club, Pilot Butte.

We will be doing lip balm and lotion bar demos and socializing. RSVP to Keara at ads@reginabeeclub.ca or 306-539-2729.

We hope to see you there!

REMINDER

Rant to Rave on The Bee Movie from 2007 Cont'd

I have to say that after watching the movie, and tallying the good, the bad, and the ugly on it - my expected rant has changed to something else. Sure I can talk about the roles of male characters in the movie and how this obviously doesn't reflect the reality of gender in the hive or the roles the genders play in the colony. I could talk about how beekeepers are demonized (initially) and how the use of and the result of using smokers in the movie is flawed (this one really got to me!). There are many

little things that I could go on about too: they refer to their kin as "cousins", instead of perhaps using a generally more accurate term "siblings"; the skep-shaped wild hive that Barry B. Benson (the main bee character) and his bee buddies live in; the "election" of queens; the length of time that honey bees have been around (it's not 270,000 years - this is for all bee species as I understand it); the idea that a bee has only one job in their life; etc.

But it's a cartoon, and in



the end its advertising
1. how important bees are for pollination,
2. how we NEED to keep bees for a variety of reasons, and 3. that bees produce honey

for us AND for themselves. The movie as a whole is light, bright, family friendly, and educational. I suppose I've been turned around.

 *Cowrad*



BeeMaid

Proudly Owned by Canadian Beekeepers

Carrying a full line of beekeeping equipment from several manufacturers:
-Dadant & Sons Ltd. -Mann Lake Supplies -Maxant -Dakota Gunness -Walter T. Kelley -Medivet -Perma-Dent Foundation -Pierco -Cook & Beals -Cowen Manufacturing Co. Inc -Lewis & Sons Enterprises Ltd -Plus many more!

Whatever your requirements we would be glad to help. Quality products for the beekeeping industry, including:

-Woodenware -Queen Rearing Supplies -Package Bees and Queens
-Beekeepers Apparel -Honey Containers -Extracting Equipment
-Beekeeping Tools -Novelties -Foundation -Medication & Chemicals.

Buyers of Light and Dark Beeswax at competitive prices. We can arrange your sugar requirements, dry or liquid sugar in small lots or delivered trailer loads.

Alberta Honey Producers Co-Operative
Box 3909 70 Alberta Avenue
Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3B1
T: 780-962-5667 F: 780-962-1653

Bee Outfitters
625 Roseberry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0T4
T: 204-783-2240 F: 204-783-8468

 Bee Outfitters

Bee Outfitters
Hwy 3 West
Tisdale, SK S0E 1T0
T: 306-873-2521 F: 306-873-3455

 Bee Outfitters

Visit our website: www.beemaid.com Shop at: www.beemaidbeestore.com

Happy Fall Recipes

Halloween is quickly approaching. Children and adults alike are preparing their homes and costumes for an evening filled with ghouls and goblins, laughter and “boos.” Americans spend millions of dollars on Halloween candy each year, and much of it ends up sitting in plastic jack-o-lanterns for weeks until kids (or their parents) can eat it all.

This year, try something different: homemade candy and treats for your family! With the help of all-natural honey, we hope these fall favorites will satisfy even the most “deadly” sweet tooth! Make Halloween more than trick-or-treating; make it a family affair, full of hands-on activities and fun memories to share.

Enjoy, and have a safe and happy Halloween!



Candied Honey Apples (makes 6 apples)

- 1 cup - packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup - butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup - honey
- 1/4 cup - heavy cream
- 1/4 teaspoon - ground cinnamon
- 6 small (4 to 6 oz. each) - apples with sticks
- 1/3 cup - chopped nuts

Combine all ingredients except apples and nuts in 2-quart saucepan. Cook over medium-high heat to 265°F; stir constantly. Remove from heat. Cool 5 minutes. Holding apple by stick, roll in hot honey mixture to coat; roll bottom of apple in nuts if desired. Place on waxed paper squares to cool. Repeat with remaining apples. Makes 6 apples.



Honey-Whiskey Popcorn (makes 4 servings)

- Roughly 1/2 cup, depending on your pot - Popcorn kernels
- 1/4 cup - vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup - honey, such as clover
- 1 1/2 tablespoons - whiskey
- 1 teaspoon - vanilla
- 1/2 tablespoon - sea salt, large crystals

Add 1/4 cup vegetable oil to a pot with a lid. Add 1 kernel of popcorn and cover the pot with the lid. Set heat to medium-high. When the kernel pops, add enough kernels to the pot so they cover the bottom of the pot in one layer. Close the lid and

gently shake the pot. When the popping slows, remove from heat. In a large bowl, whisk honey, whiskey and vanilla together. Add popcorn and use a spatula to evenly coat. Pour the popcorn onto a silicone baking mat on a baking sheet. Sprinkle on sea salt. Place in the oven at 350°F for 10 minutes, or until the popcorn dries and develops a thin, crisp shell.



Sugar Skulls (makes 50 small calaveritas)

- 2 - egg whites
- 1 Tablespoon - pure honey
- 1 teaspoon - vanilla extract
- 3 cups - granulated sugar

Combine egg whites, pure honey and vanilla extract. Pour honey mixture into sugar. With your hands, thoroughly combine sugar and honey until you have a consistency similar to wet sand. You know you have the right mix if you can form a ball by squeezing the sugar in your hand. Tightly pack the sugar mix into the molds and wipe off excess. Invert onto a flat surface and allow to dry for 24 hours. You are now ready to decorate your skulls! You can use royal icing*, sequins, and/or edible paint to create your own masterpiece. Have fun!

*Royal Icing: 1 egg white for every 3 cups of powdered sugar. Add food coloring of your choice. Mix ingredients until completely blended.

Honey Caramel Corn (makes 6 servings)

- 1/2 cup - honey
- 1/2 cup - butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup - packed brown sugar
- salt
- 1 teaspoon - grated orange peel
- 1/4 teaspoon - baking soda
- 3 quarts - popped popcorn

Melt butter in large saucepan; stir in sugar, honey and salt. Cook and stir until mixture comes to a boil. Reduce heat to medium; boil without stirring about three minutes to 265°F. Remove from heat; stir in orange peel and soda. Place popcorn in large oven-safe bowl; slowly pour syrup over popcorn while stirring. Turn onto greased 15-1/4x10-1/4x1/4-inch baking pan. Bake at 250°F for 45 minutes; stir every 15 minutes. Cool. Break into serving-sized pieces. Store in airtight container. Makes three quarts (six servings of two cups each).

See something you like?

Have questions?

Do you have ideas or feedback?

Let us know!!!

1132 Broadway Ave. E.
Regina, SK S4N 1A8

PHONE:
(306) 757-5958

E-MAIL:
ilovebees@reginabeeclub.ca

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.reginabeeclub.ca



Geoff's Corner

Have questions and need information about beekeeping in Saskatchewan?

Do you want to become a registered Beekeeper in our Province?


Contact Saskatchewan's Provincial Apiarist:


Geoff Wilson (306.953.2304)


Email: geoff.wilson@gov.sk.ca



Honey Today

 Wholesale Honey was averaged at \$4.52/lb during September 2013.

 Retail Honey was averaged at \$5.82/lb during September 2013.

 Canadian Bulk Honey was averaged at \$2.12/lb during June 2013.

Statistics taken from the National Honey Board



About Our Club...

The Regina and District Bee Club has been active in the City of Regina for over fifty years as a cooperative for ordering honey bees and as a network for education and information on beekeeping.

It is a priority to inform members about current issues in the beekeeping industry to ensure that a proactive role is taken with all industry issues such as bee diseases, mites and pesticides.

The Regina and District Bee Club participates in the Agri-Ed Show Case at Canadian Western Agribition. The focus is to educate children from Grades 4-6 about agriculture and food. Club members volunteer their time to speak about the

bees and beekeeping to well in excess of 10,000 visitors each year.

The Regina and District Bee Club in partnership with the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association profile the bee keeping industry as a whole in the Trade Show area in order to:

- Promote and sell products of the hive;
- Inform visitors about the industry and its role in the Saskatchewan economy; and
- Develop a relationship with other Saskatchewan agriculture producers.

Want to Advertise in the Queen City Buzzzzzz?

Business Card \$10.00

1/4 pg \$25.00

1/3 pg \$30.00

1/2 pg \$45.00

1 pg \$80.00

Our next Newsletter will be in January. Deadline for submissions is January 6, 2014.

Membership Benefits:

- A cooperative for ordering bees;
- At the annual meeting, guest speakers are invited to give presentations on current issues;
- Communication of industry issues to enable members to have a voice in provincial decision making;
- Hold "Field Days" to enable members to learn about beekeeping best practice methods; and
- Information and support system for fellow beekeepers.

