

April 25, 2015
2015 Spring Issue



the Queen City BUZZZZZZ

Regina and District Bee Club (RDDB)

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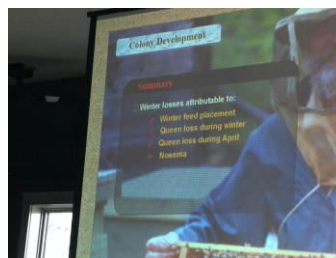
AGM Report

The Regina & District Bee Club's Annual General Meeting took place on March 14, 2015 at the Deer Valley Golf Club and Estates in Deer Valley, Saskatchewan. It was a great day spent at a wonderful venue. There was approximately 90 people in attendance; this was double from the AGM held the year before.

Andrew Hamilton, President, spoke about the numerous events that the Regina & District Bee Club took part in last year. These events included the Secret Garden Tour, Organic Connections, Agribition, and the Beginner Beekeeping Course, along with a couple presentations at school. Andrew also discussed the new programs the Club has taken on, including the Drawn Comb Program and BeeMaid Bulk Order Program.

Guest speakers at the meeting included:

- Lloyd Harris – who provided an update to the Overwintering Fall NUC program.



- Jake Berg, President of the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association reminded us of the June 20 SBA Field Day being held at Tisdale, the SBA annual convention being held in December and the CAPA (Canadian Association of Apiculturists) convention being held in December.
- Geoff Wilson, Provincial Specialist in Apiculture

spoke on Pest Management including American Foul Brood and what measures should be taken to prevent this disease. Refer to the attached document for his treatment specifications.

Two new Directors were voted onto the RDDB Board, Kaylin Henry and Yens Pederson, each to serve a two year term. Resolutions were passed.

Dedicated member and educator, Doreen Bradshaw, presented Keara Lueke with a special Agribition jacket that Ken Caswell, a long-time member wanted her to have. Many other raffle prizes were won throughout the meeting.



The AGM ended with an "Open Forum" where questions were asked and answered.

 Linda



New Beekeeping Course - What to do in the First Month!

When: April 28th, 2015, 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Where: Hamilton Apiaries (Directions below)

Evening will include instruction needed to get you through the first month of having bees. There will be time for Q & A with Geoff Wilson the Provincial Apiculturalist after the instruction session. It is highly recommended all new beekeepers take the SBA Beginner Bee Course being offered June 6th and 7th.

Instruction: Subjects being discussed include hiving a package, hiving a nuc, feeding, brood chamber setup, starting a hive with foundation, monitoring your hive for space, monitoring your hive for proper build up.

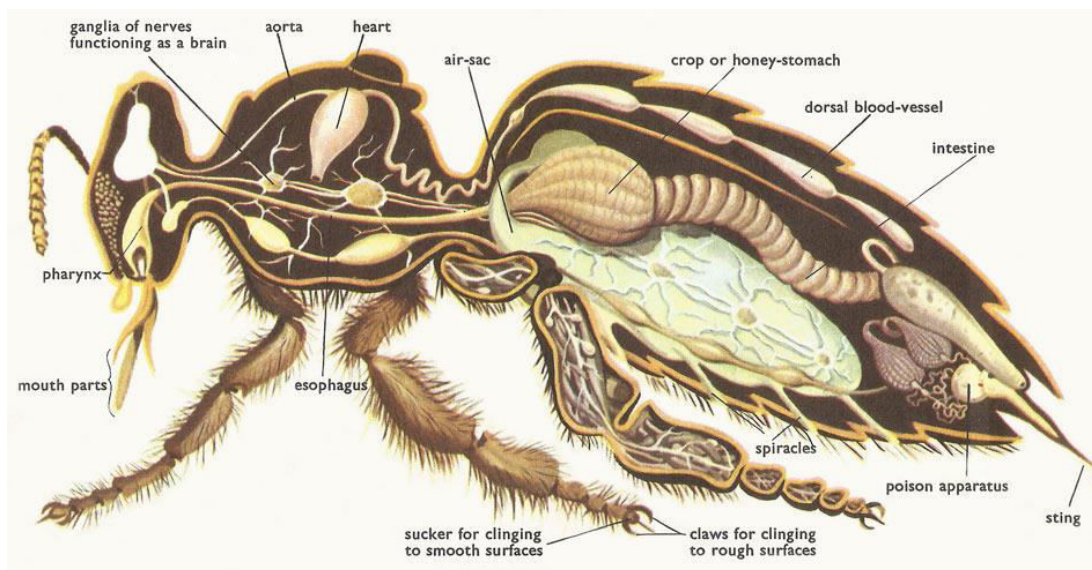
Cost: Regina & District Bee Club members pay \$15 at the door, non-members pay \$40.

Directions: From Ring Road drive 9.6 km's (6 miles) North of Regina on highway #6. Turn right (East) on to the #734 (Zehner grid). Drive 3.2 km's (2 miles) and turn left (North). Just before this turn going North you pass an old stone house with a large dugout in front of it on your right side (South side of road). Drive 2 km's (1.25 miles) and turn into the driveway on the left (west side). The road turns into a summer road after this point so you can't go any further. The driveway y's, go straight and skip the first turn.

Questions:

email: ilovebees@reginabeeclub.ca
phone: 306-526-9277

Internal Anatomy of the Honey Bee



Did You Know?

-  All beekeepers are required by law to Register with the Provincial Apiculturalist.
-  You must have a permit to sell bees and equipment, if you are buying bees and equipment ask to see the permit.
-  Only hives with removable comb are permitted to be kept May and June is swarm season, so hives need to be monitored closely.
-  July and August is honey season so hives need to be monitored for space.
-  Canola honey granulates quickly so it is important to remove honey from the bees every few weeks and extract it immediately.

Beginner Beekeeping Course

The [Saskatchewan Beekeepers' Association](#), the Regina and District Bee Club, Saskatoon Bee Club, and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture are pleased to offer the fourth annual two day Beginning Beekeepers Courses in the Regina and Saskatoon area.

Come and enjoy this two day course which enables participants to experience both theory and practical field experience. Participants of all experience levels are welcome.

Workshop lessons include:

- Standard beekeeping equipment
- Honey bee colony assessments
- Basic bee biology
- Seasonal beekeeping responsibilities
- Extracting/ processing honey
- Disease and pest management practices

Dates: The Saskatoon course will be held Saturday May 23 and Sunday May 24. The Regina course will be held on Saturday June 6 and Sunday June 7.

Lunch: Provided with registration fee

Time: 8:30am both days

Location: The Saskatoon area course will be held in Clavet at Lalond's and the [Regina area course will be located in St Josephs \(click for MAP\)](#).

Cost: \$200.00 CAD

Registration: Please complete and return your registration form as soon as possible. Download the registration form, print it and mail it into the address at the bottom of the page. Click here to download the form for [REGINA](#) and [SASKATOON](#)

Refunds will be issued minus a \$25 administration fee up until

this date as well. A charge of \$25 will be applied to NSF cheques. Please note that this workshop has space for limited participants. Please bring a bee hat and veil, a bee suit and proper footwear, there will be hands-on instruction in the bee yard. Note: Please contact Jessica Morris if you need a bee hat and veil.

Contacts:

Registration
Pam Yule
306-314-9571
info@saskbeekeepers.com

Other inquiries
Jessica Morris
306-262-3322
jessmorris48@gmail.com



Queen Rearing Course

The [Saskatchewan Beekeepers' Association](#) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture are pleased to offer the third biennial Queen Rearing Course, held in the Prince Albert area. Instructors include Saskatchewan's Provincial Specialist in Apiculture Geoff Wilson and the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association's Technical Adaptation Team. Come and enjoy this one day course which enables participants to experience both theory and practical field experience.

Workshop lessons include:

- Queen and Drone Biology
- Honey Bee Genetics & Breeding/ Stock Selection
- Methods of Queen Rearing/Protocol for Rearing Queens
- Preparing Cell Builders
- Queen Cell and Mated Queen Care/Transportation and Introduction
- Grafting/ Preparation of Cell Bars

Dates: May 29

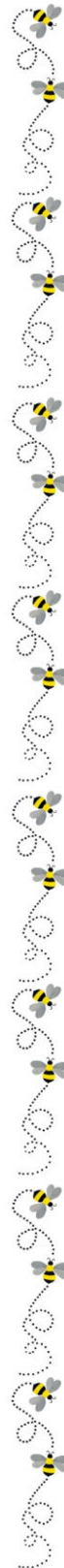
Location: Prince Albert area

Price: \$175.00

Registration: Click here for an information sheet - [QUEEN REARING](#). And here for Queen Rearing [REGISTRATION](#).

Contact:

Jessica Morris at: 306-262-3322
jessmorris48@gmail.com



AGM Continued: "My Advice to a New Beekeeper..."

Experienced Beekeepers were asked to write down their advice to a New Beekeeper:

1. Don't assume Youtube / Internet advice applies here.
2. Beee Happy ☺ Do your research. Read a lot of books.
3. When in doubt, put on an EXTRA BOX!!!
4. You can use a Shop Vac® and blow the bees off the frames. A lot less stings!!
5. Find a mentor
6. Check for and remove swarm cells in Spring and Early Summer
7. Take the Beekeeping Course. Get a mentor. If you can, have a partner
8. Crying is OK! Don't quit → it'll get better.
9. Take part in Club Activities. To network with other Beekeepers.
10. Honey is not for Money
11. Start small. Find a mentor
12. Don't do it if you don't like it
13. Read lots of books/websites. Talk to people
14. A mentor is a must. You learn as you go.
15. Make sure you check regularly for lots of space in hive during honey flow
16. Always smell like your Sunday Best when you visit your hives
17. DON'T PANIC. When working with bees. Bees, like most insects/animals, sense fear. One is protected when proper gear is worn.
18. Protect!!! Against mites and AFB. The rest is common sense.
19. Start lifting weights. Those supers are heavy!! ☺
20. Start with 8 Frame mediums to save your body lifting. When unsure what to do, DO NOTHING until you know by asking some advice.



New Additions to the RDBC Board



Yens Pedersen - I currently have one very small urban hive which I have kept in Regina for three years. Long before that, I grew up on a third generation commercial apiary (which my sister now operates) and spent 10 summers beekeeping. I have enjoyed working with bees from an early age, but didn't want the work of a full sized hive, which is why I designed the micro hive (about 1/2 the size of a nuc). I enjoy educating the public about bees and have given several tours of my hive.



Kaylin Henry lives in Regina where she is expanding her beginner beekeeping knowledge. While living in Victoria, BC, she learned about hobby and urban beekeeping practices. She is looking forward to connecting with the Saskatchewan beekeeping community and keeping bees.

For Sale

Honey

30 & 50 lbs pails

5 Frame Nucs & Queens



available after early June

To place order
Contact
Lloyd Harris
306-584-9563
Lharris@agview.sasktelmail.com

President's Report

Well 2015 is off to an excellent start for the Regina & District Bee Club. We had a successful AGM and our membership has almost doubled this year.

I would like to offer a warm welcome to all our new members and remind everyone to feel free to send suggestions, comments, and questions to the llovebees email address. The executive team uses the information to improve the club. I also want to welcome our two new executives to the team. Kaylin Henry and Yens Pederson have joined Judi Gazda, Linda Kletchko, and myself, Andrew Hamilton, on the executive team.

We received a lot of positive feedback regarding the AGM and club programs. If you are interested in any of the programs, be sure to contact the executive

team in order to take-part.

Something else we are offering this spring is reduced pricing on Apivar strips for club members. You can purchase strips from the club for \$3 a strip to a maximum of 40 strips.

The sign up for the Beginner Bee Course is also going well. I encourage anyone interested to sign up ASAP as spots are filling up. The next club event is our field day which is usually held in June.

The executive board wants to hear some suggestions from members on what they would like out of a field day. The sky is the limit, so feel free to offer suggestions or venues for a field day.

We have had a high demand for nucs again this year and continue

to receive orders. Hopefully we have minimal winter losses and a good spring build-up for the nucs. We don't need another 2014 spring!

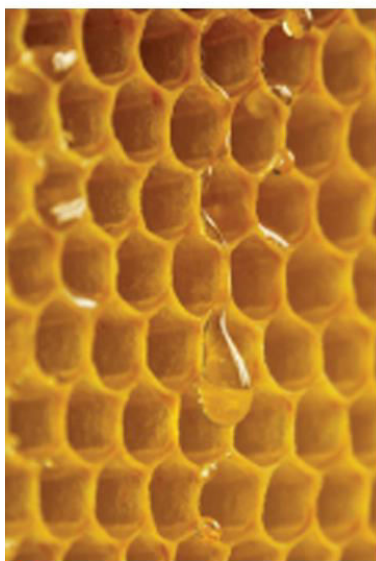
There is another new thing the club is going to try this year: offering travel reimbursement to club members for volunteering their time at education events. We have already received three requests since AGM to provide speakers for public education events. If you are interested please feel free to offer your time, volunteers usually find the experience very rewarding.

 Andrew



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Crunchy Honey-Yogurt Breakfast Parfait

Crunchy Honey-Yogurt Breakfast Parfait

- 1 large- banana, sliced, divided
- 1/3 cup - honey, divided
- 1/2 cup - plain yogurt, divided
- 1/2 cup - crunchy granola, divided



High Impact Honey Vanilla Ricotta Pear

Reserve several slices of banana for garnish. Layer 1 Tablespoon honey, 1/4 of the pre-sliced banana, 2 Tablespoons yogurt, 2 Tablespoons granola, 1/4 of the sliced banana, 2 Tablespoons yogurt, 1 Tablespoon honey and 2 Tablespoons granola in parfait glass. Repeat for second parfait. Garnish with reserved banana and honey.



Apple, Oat-bran and Honey Juice

High Impact Honey Vanilla Ricotta Pear

- 2 tsp honey
- 1/2 c – part ricotta cheese
- 1/4 tsp - vanilla extract
- 1 - pear, sliced

Mix together ricotta cheese, honey and vanilla. Add sliced pears and serve chilled.



Green Juice with Honey

Grilled Lamb with Spanish Sherry Sauce

- 1 – 1/2 lbs. – lean American land leg steaks, cut 1-inch thick
- 3 – Russet potatoes, cut in 8 wedges each
- 1 – red bell pepper, cut in 8 strips
- 1 – green bell pepper, cut in to 8 strips
- 1 – yellow bell pepper, cut in to 8 strips
- 1/2 c unsweetened apple juice
- 1/2 c - honey
- 2 tbsp – tomato paste
- 2 tbsp – red wine vinegar



Banana-berry Guava Smoothie with Honey

- 2 tbsp – onion, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp – Worcestershire
- 1/2 tsp – black pepper, freshly ground

Spanish Sherry Sauce: In small saucepan, combine sherry, honey, tomato paste, red wine vinegar, onion, garlic, Worcestershire sauce and pepper. Simmer five minutes. Makes 1 1/4 cups. Ignite coals in barbecue; allow to burn until bright red and covered with gray ash. Grill steaks and vegetables 4 inches from coals, cooking 5-6 minutes. Turn lamb and vegetables and brush with sherry sauce; cook an additional 5 minutes. Turn lamb, brush with sherry sauce and cook 2-3 minutes longer for medium-rare. Grill vegetables to desired degree of doneness. Cut lamb steaks into thirds and serve with grilled vegetables.

Sparkling Ginger-Infused Honey Hibiscus Drink

- 1 c – dried hibiscus leaves
- 4 c – boiling water
- 1 1/4 c – honey-infused ginger simple syrup
- 1/4 c – turbinado sugar
- 1 c – sparkling wine
- lime wedge, for garnish
- ice cubes

Ginger-Infused Simple Syrup

- 1 c – wildflower honey l
- 1,4 c – water
- 1 inch piece – fresh ginger cut in 1/4 inch pieces
- 1 lime - zest

Place dried hibiscus leaves in a large bowl. Pour boiling water over leaves and let steep for 20-30 minutes. In a pot combine honey, water

ginger and lime zest and gently warm on low. Let the ginger and zest steep for at least 10 minutes. Strain hibiscus mixture and discard the leaves. Strain ginger honey syrup and discard the ginger and zest. Combine honey simple syrup and hibiscus liquid and sugar. Stir well. Chill. Before serving, add sparkling wine. Serve over ice. Garnish with lime wedges. Blender and add honey and cayenne pepper. Blend for an additional 10 seconds to incorporate the added ingredients. Pour into a tall glass and enjoy.

Spiced Honey Echinacea Cooler

- 4 – Echinacea tea bags*
- 4 – cinnamon sticks
- 20 – whole cloves
- 1/2 c – honey
- 1/4 c – fresh lemon juice

Bring water to a boil in a medium saucepan. Add tea bags, cinnamon, and cloves ; let simmer for 5 minutes. Remove cinnamon and cloves and stir in honey and lemon juice. Place in refrigerator until chilled (approx. 1 hour). Pour over ice and garnish with fresh lemon slices. *May substitute chamomile tea for the Echinacea tea.



Club BeeMaid Order

In an effort to minimize the shipping costs members have to pay on orders from BeeMaid the RDBC board has made arrangements for bulk orders to be shipped to Regina. If you want to participate in a bulk order this is the process:

- RDBC member contacts John Sochaski with BeeMaid in Tisdale and submits order with the request to be included in the monthly RDBC bulk order; the member will pay for the order at this time.
- Orders must be submitted no later than the 25th of each month.
- Orders will be assembled and weighed by John and should arrive by the 30th of each month.
- The orders will be distributed from Linda Kletchko's place.
- Participants of the month's bulk order are contacted and must make arrangements to pick up their order within a week.
- When a member arrives to pick up their order they will be charged their portion of the shipping based on weight (payable to the RDBC).

There is no guarantee that each month there will be multiple participants and therefore cheaper shipping. The shipping will be based on a flat rate with an added fuel surcharge. The club will pay for the shipping when the order comes in and will retain any orders that are not picked up on time or that shipping is not paid for. The percentage of shipping a member pays is based on weight, so if there is one order that is 100 lbs and an order that is 5 lbs the heavier order will pay more. You must pay your portion of the shipping at pickup before you will receive your order.

This arrangement has the advantage of lowering an individual's overall shipping cost (no matter the shipping method). The disadvantage to the arrangement is that an order placed at the beginning of the month would not arrive until the end of the month.

RDBC bulk monthly orders will operate from March 30 to September 30.

Drawn Comb Program

Many new beekeepers start out by purchasing a hive or a nuc, and then build all the remaining equipment they need. A problem arises with this process. New frames containing foundation require the comb to be drawn out (built). This is the case for both wax and plastic foundation. The issue is that the bees really have no interest in moving up into a super that contains nine frames of foundation.

In order to coax the bees up into the new super of foundation you need to alternate frames with every second frame being one which has already been drawn out. For new beekeepers the problem is where do you get that drawn comb from?

The Regina & District Bee Club has a stock of drawn comb which we offer to new members to help them get started. The program works like this:

1. A new member brings two brand new standard deep supers with 9 (or 10) brand new frames each (foundation included) to a designated board member.
2. The new member receives one of their supers back filled with 9 (or 10) frames of one year old drawn out light comb.
3. The new member can then make two supers of alternating comb and foundation to be applied to their hive(s).
4. The designated board member then gets the new frames drawn out in preparation for next year.
5. The designated board member receives one super of foundation from the club for every two supers of foundation they get drawn out.

It is important for members to know that bees require around 10lb's of feed for every pound of wax they produce, so it is important to make sure they have an adequate food supply when trying to draw out comb.

Notes:

- The RDBC will maintain a supply of between 10 & 20 supers of drawn out comb
- Excess equipment may be sold to members at current market value as determined by the board or may be raffled off at club events
- New members who have purchased nucs will be given preference (limit of two drawn out supers each unless there is no other demand)
- Supplies may be limited from one year to another so equipment is available on a first come first serve basis
- Anyone responsible for getting comb drawn out must be inspected by the provincial specialist in apiculture



Field Day & Fall Social

This year's field day has not yet been finalized. We are aiming for June so stay tuned for the information.







Do you have any suggestions for our field day and/or fall social events? We are always interested to hear what you want to do and see or if you are interested in being a host so please let us know!

Special Acknowledgements



Sigmund "Sig" Michael Splett, late of Regina, passed away on Saturday, November 1, 2014, with his family at his side, at the age of 77 years. He is predeceased by his mother Ruth, step- father Al, and father-in-law John. Sig was a great husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, great- uncle, and friend. Sig married Joyce Sleeva in 1961 and together they have three children Brent (Cindy), Lori, Jamie (Tricia); four grandchildren Sheena (Dallas), Tyler, Lexi, and Justus; two great-grandchildren Halle, Sophia, plus a third on the way. He was a great athlete, an avid outdoorsman, and very active in beekeeping. He will be forever remembered and sadly missed by all who knew him. Funeral Mass was held on Friday, November 7, 2014 at 10:00 am in St. Peter's R.C. Church, 100 Argyle Street, Regina, SK. Cremation Flowers most gratefully declined. Friends so wishing may make donations, in Sig's memory, to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, 279 - 3rd Ave. N., Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H8. You are invited to leave a personal message of condolence at the family's on-line Obituary at: www.mvalternatives.ca.

Reminders

-  Canadian Western Agribition 2015 will be November 23 – 28. If you want to sell honey at the event you should start looking into getting a CFIA number or start going through the Sask Health approval process with Max with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region.
-  The RDBC is providing Apivar treatment strips for \$3.00 up to 40 maximum purchase.
-  This year's Trade Show is looking for value added products include wax, candles, hand cream, soap, lip balm, and really anything that was made from bee products.
-  Make sure to add ads@reginabeeclub.ca to your safe senders list so that you don't miss any of our emails.
-  Remember to check out the clubs website periodically as we post new and exciting things, www.reginabeeclub.ca.
-  The Saskatchewan Highland Gathering and Celtic Festival will be in Regina May 15 - 17. Interested vendors can get more information at <http://www.saskhighland.ca/events/vendors-market> or contact Glenna Stewart at harp@accesscomm.ca.



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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 \$4.84/lb during April 2015.

 Retail Honey was averaged at \$6.49/lb during April 2015.

 Canadian Bulk Honey was averaged at \$2.08/lb during July 2015.



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.

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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 August. Deadline for submissions is July 25, 2015.

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.

