Pollinator Week is being celebrated nationally June 19-25. If you’re reading this newsletter, please take initiative and spread the word about what we can do to protect Honey bees and all pollinators! It’s been ten years since the U.S. Senate dedicated a week in June to address declining pollinator populations. Ten years! And because Honey bees and pollinators are still struggling, Bonnie Morse and her team of visionaries, in collaboration with Mark Winston and The Center for Dialogue at Sir Simon Fraser University, initiated The Bee Audacious conference. It was a “collaborative working conference using dialogue to envision bold evidence-based ideas through which honeybees, other bees beekeepers and pollination managers could prosper” held in Marshal, CA December 11-13, 2016.

The resilience of all pollinators is awe-inspiring. Resilience is defined as the strength of spirit to recover from adversity. We beekeepers know there has certainly been enough adversity in this industry to last a couple of lifetimes. Bad weather, pesticides, poor nutrition, pests and pathogens are some of what contribute to the global crisis besetting pollinators today.

Since the CCD alarm was sounded over a decade ago, attention has been on the beekeeping industry like never before. The fact that pollinators are mankind’s “Canary in the coal mine” has attracted a lot of attention. And, as money goes where the attention flows, organizations for pollinator protection and honey bee health have been created. At the Bee Audacious Conference, most groups recognized the need for a national or global pollinator alliance; an organization where all stakeholders from all industries work in concert on pollinator health and preservation to effect the changes necessary to support the well-being of all bees, wild and managed, thus benefiting butterflies, bats, bugs, and birds too.

Most of the break out groups at Bee Audacious agreed that two forms of national leadership would be helpful. The first would be to “centralize efforts and develop a unified message for lobbying and public outreach that would address issues common to all bees (wild and managed)” (p. 58).
The second would involve “a Bee Corps focused on assisting beekeepers (commercial and small scale) [with]:

- Centralized communications systems and information databases
- An online platform for updated, central, reputable information
- Targeted and coordinated response to pests and disease
- Beekeeping training and extension
- Funding for research and initiatives
- Technical assistance and resources
- Public education and outreach
- Lobbying force
- Support for quality honey and hive products.”(p.59)

Nutrition and forage is crucial for pollinator health. “Bee health…is as much about people, including non-beekeepers, as it is about bees,” says Neal Williams, from UC Davis’ Department of Entomology and Nematology. He advocates that “better forage opportunities and habitat promotes diversity of wild bees. These also appear to promote survival of managed honey bee colonies.” Mark Winston, professor of Apiculture at Simon Fraser University and author, proposes that “Beekeepers might become habitat managers, earning income by designing and implementing management zones and practices that foster and sustain wild bee populations. Honey bees would be a part of this system, but diminished from the current model in which honey bees are moved long distances, often a number of times a year and possibly to their detriment.” (p.25) Food for thought, right?

Most groups at Bee Audacious agreed that minimizing honey bee stress could be achieved by “building more sustainable food systems [produces the] opportunity to build a new model for sustainable agricultural and livestock practices.”(Bee Audacious report p.30) To achieve this goal we all need to continue this discussion, review, and model the successful alternative farming practices already established. We must regenerate the soil, provide ample open space for nutritious pollinator forage and seriously consider reducing our dependence on pesticides. By the time we achieve these objectives, perhaps with the help of science and a paradigm shift in how we keep and treat bees, varroa will be a distant memory.

What are you doing during Pollinator Week (and daily for that matter), to inspire and motivate others to act in support of pollinators everywhere? It’s a question that must be asked of everyone. Bee Audacious participants made a pledge to share audacious ideas about pollinators after the conference. Our nutritional requirements and our food supply will be severely depleted without pollinator health. What is your vision of a food insecure world? What can we do to show our gratitude, love and respect for all pollinators?

Allow Pollinator Week to drive your consumer habits for 7 days. Purchase organic meats, fruits and vegetables from your local farmers, buy honey from your local beekeeper, plant nutritious pollinator forage, and tell all of your friends what you’re doing and why! Who knows, maybe your consumer habits will change for good!

Wendy had a couple of dozen hives in Ontario, Canada before she moved to Northern California 5 years ago. She keeps a couple of small apiaries in the foothills of the Sierra. Wendy has worked as a Honeybee Health Advisor and Research Trial and Education Coordinator for NOD Apiary Products, and is now an independent consultant for the North American beekeeping industry. Contact her via email wemather@gmail.com

Learn more at http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=5306

Research - Listen to Presentations

Mitigating Potential Impacts of Neonicotinoid Insecticides on Wetland Ecosystems, by Dr. Christie Morrissey

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4kRZ0Xnamc

Neonicotinoid Insecticides: Efficacy, Non-target Effects, and Best Management Practices, by Dr. Christian Krupke

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0sw5elo9ic
Last June beekeepers, farmers, farmworkers, scientists and environmentalists came together to organize the “Keep the Hives Alive Tour.” We documented the Tour with two films: a “primer,” and a full documentary film. The Keep the Hives Alive films tell the story of the tour, including how beekeepers, farmers and community leaders are all coming together to help solve the pollinator health crisis.

You can help:
- Educate your community about the decline of bees and other pollinators by watching the film(s).
- Urge local, state, and federal governments as well as retailers to adopt policies to reduce pesticide use and support sustainable agriculture.
- Grow our movement to protect bees, butterflies, and other pollinators through pollinator week and other community events.

Follow the link to learn how you can help!

(http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=5424)
Why Does Bee Health Matter? The Science Surrounding Honey Bee Health Concerns and What We Can Do About It

The Honey Bee Health Coalition proposed this paper topic to CAST, (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) and helped fund its development by an independent team of experts, led by Dr. Marla Spivak. Finding solutions means realizing that there is a problem. Most scientists and beekeepers agree that honey bee health decline is the result of multiple stressors. Although some are simple enough, most of the stressors are interacting in nature. Honey bees positioned in landscapes dominated by row crops will benefit from increases in pollinator forage plantings. Bringing critical foraging opportunities and habitat back to such areas through careful and appropriate pesticide use, conservation, and sustainable agriculture practices will help ensure the availability of pollinators needed to secure a stable food supply. Read the paper at https://www.cast-science.org/file.cfm/media/products/digitalproducts/QTA20171_Bee_Health_565CB839D149E.pdf

Bee Forage and Nutrition

The Coalition’s Forage and Nutrition Workgroup unveiled its “Beekeeper Insights on Honey Bee Nutrition Supplements” report in an ABJ Extra article. The article and report highlight the challenges bees face on the forage and nutrition front; explores why, when, and how beekeepers use nutrition supplements; and charts a path forward to enhance the research and resources available to beekeepers.

This summer, the Honey Bee Health Coalition will launch a competition to find the most innovative ideas to tackle honey bee nutrition challenges. Anyone with an idea for a creative new solution to advance, disrupt, or pioneer the field of honey bee nutrition will be invited to apply. Finalists will have the opportunity to pitch their ideas to leaders in the beekeeping industry, and a chance to win prize money to implement their projects. Stay tuned for additional information. Find more at http://honeybeehealthcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Summary-Report-Beekeeper-Insights-Honey-Bee-Nutrition-Supplements-April-2017.pdf
**Bees Matter**
Coalition members helped launch the **Bees Matter program**, along with other partners. This new effort is focused on creating a platform for conversation, dialogue and information sharing regarding modern agriculture and the importance of ensuring a healthy environment for honey bees, which play an important role in Canadian food production and agriculture. Bees Matter also is working to equip Canadians with useful information on how they can help support honey bee health. For example, Bees Matter has designated the week of June 5 as National Planting Week and is urging people to plant a pollinator friendly garden. Learn more by visiting **www.beesmatter.ca**

**Academic collaboration**
In an effort to track this problem and gather better data, the Bee Informed Partnership, Michigan State University, and the University of Maryland - College Park have launched **MiteCheck**. The program allows beekeepers to report mite counts and infestations — and to track geographic trends in mite populations.

**Seeds for spring flowers for honey bees!**
Pollinator Stewardship Council has partnered with Ohio Prairie Nursery in support of pollinator habitat. **You can get native seeds for eastern U.S. planting zones here.** Select “Support our Cause” ([http://www.ohioprairienursery.com/?ref=pollsteco](http://www.ohioprairienursery.com/?ref=pollsteco)) to view featured seed selections to benefit pollinators. **A portion of sales generated from our website will help support our work.**

**Seeds for honey bees WEST of the Mississippi**
To increase plant biodiversity, improve gardens yields, and make a positive difference for the future, plant for pollinators WEST of the Mississippi with bbbseed. [https://www.bbbseed.com/articles/plant-for-pollinators-project/](https://www.bbbseed.com/articles/plant-for-pollinators-project/)

**Betterbee Has Seeds for Pollinator Habitat**
Betterbee was at the Massachusetts Beekeepers Assn. Spring Meeting offering a variety of seed mixes for beekeepers to plant. You can find seven seed mix varieties at their [website](http://www.pollinatorstewardship.org)

**Planting forage for our bees is important; and beekeepers can lead by example!**

**Pollinator Stewardship Council**
1624 Idlewood Ave., Akron, OH 44313
832-727-9492 **[www.pollinatorstewardship.org](http://www.pollinatorstewardship.org)**

**We are also on** [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com)
We are member supported! The Pollinator Stewardship Council is a nonprofit organization; donations are tax deductible.

Butterfly Pavilion
https://www.butterflies.org/

A.H. Meyer & Sons, Inc.
http://www.ahmeyerandsons.com/

People and Pollinators Action Network
http://www.peopleandpollinators.org/

Selb’s Hoosier Honey
http://www.selbshoosierhoney.com/

Strachan Apiaries
https://www.strachanbees.com/

Sunshine Apiary, Inc.
https://www.facebook.com/sunshineapiary

Tennessee Beekeepers Assn.
http://www.tnbeekkeepers.org/

Empire State Honey Producers Assn.
http://www.eshoa.org/

Smith Farm Pure Honey
www.smithfarmpurehoney.com/

Randy Oliver
http://scientificbeekeeping.com/

Old Mill Honey Co.
Foothill Honey Farms
Wind River Honey Co.
Miksa Honey Farms

California-Minnesota Honey Farms
Rick Smith
Bob McDonnell
Samuel Hall

Headwaters Farm
Hiatt Honey, LLC
South Dakota Beekeepers Assn.
Bret Adlee

Indian Run Apiary
California Apiaries, LLC
Harmony Honey Co.

Red-Headed Honey https://redheadsthoney.com/

Sunrise Feed & Supply
http://sunrisefeed.com/

Kentucky State Beekeepers Association
http://www.kysabeekkeeping.org/

Browning’s Honey Co., Inc.
http://www.browninghoney.com/

Wilson County Beekeepers Assn.
http://wilsoncountybeekkeepers.org/

Hackenberg Apiaries
http://hackenbergapiaries.org/

Nashville Area Beekeepers Assn.
http://nashbee.org/

Delta Bee Club
http://www.deltabeeclub.org/

Colorado State Beekeepers Assn.
http://coloradobeekeepers.org/

Heartland Apicultural Society
http://www.heartlandbees.org/

Portage County Beekeepers
http://www.portagecountybeekkeepers.com/

Beekeepers of Middle Tennessee
http://bomtn.org/

Northern Kentucky Beekeepers Assn.
http://www.nkybeekkeepers.com/

Geauga County Beekeepers
http://www.geaugacountybeekkeepers.org/

Nature’s Own Designs Apiary Products
http://nodglobal.com/

Essex County Beekeepers’ Assn.
http://www.essexcountybeekkeepers.org/index.shtml

Los Angeles County Beekeepers Assn.
http://www.losangelescountybeekkeepers.com/

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Assn.
http://www.pasatubeekeepers.org/

The Studio Digital http://www.thestudiodigital.com/

Beekkeeping Insurance Services
http://www.beekkeepingins.com/

Crop Pollination Association of Australia
Wilson County Beekeepers
The Wilson County Beekeepers Association of Middle Tennessee

Milledge Honey Farms
Queens & Queen Cells (Florida)

Browning’s Honey
Butterfly

Crop Pollination Association Inc.

Delta Bee Club

Smith Farm

Heartland Agricultural Society

Tennessee Beekeepers Association

Beekeepers of Middle Tennessee

Nashville Area Beekeepers Association

Geauga County Bee Keepers

Essex County Beekeepers’ Assn.

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association

Northern Kentucky Beekeepers Association

Seib’s Hoosier Honey
A.H. Meyer & Sons, Inc.

People and Pollinators Action Network

Bee pollination: the future of Australia’s Food Security

CSBA

Colorado State Beekeepers Association

Empire State Honey Products Association

Sunrise Feed & Supply

Celestial Honey

NOD

APIARY PRODUCTS

The Studio Digital

Creative Strategy

The Studio Digital

Creative Strategy
Together we make a difference for beekeeping, for pollinators, for a sustainable and affordable food supply.

Your membership and donations support our work to protect managed and native pollinators from the adverse impact of pesticides. Please become a member or make your tax deductible donation today!

Complete this form and mail your check to the address listed, or go online today to http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=2940.

Name_____________________________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________________________________

City____________________________________________________State_____ Zip________________

Phone________________________ E-mail ________________________________________________

Website______________________________________________________________________

POLLINATOR PARTNERS

___ $25 individual, non-beekeeper  For a single individual (not a student, not a beekeeper)  Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions

___ $10 students K-college; university & govt. scientist  For K-college, university or govt. scientists’ Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions

___ $50 nonprofit partners with similar missions  For valid nonprofit organizations with similar missions, Nonprofit Partners’ Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, support letters for their advocacy (unless in direct conflict with PSC mission); possible collaborative programs, member’s logo and weblink posted on PSC member page of website and newsletter

___ $500 Beekeeping Supplier Partner  For Beekeeping equipment suppliers, producer/manufacturer of beekeeping services (pollination brokers, pest/pathogen pollinator health products, beekeeping insurance, beekeeping book publishers, etc.) Beekeeping Supplier Partners’ Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions; possible collaborative programs, article about Beekeeping Supplier Partner in member newsletter annually, Beekeeping Supplier Partner logo and weblink posted on PSC member page of website and newsletter

___ $1,000 agricultural stakeholder partners with budgets $1M+  For grower groups, garden groups, pollinator groups, farm cooperatives, food wholesalers/retailers Agricultural stakeholder partners’ Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, possible collaborative programs, presentation at member’s conference or similar about the work of PSC; member’s logo and weblink posted on PSC Home page of website and newsletter

BEEKEEPERS

___ $25 individual beekeeper with 25 or less hives  Member benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, assistance in filing bee kill reports

___ $75 individual beekeeper with 26-300 hives  Member Benefits: bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, possible collaborative programs, member’s logo and weblink posted on PSC Home page of website, assistance in filing bee kill reports.
___ $ 1.00 per hive for commercial beekeepers with 301+ hives  **Member Benefits:** bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, Company name/logo and weblink of commercial beekeeper posted on PSC Home page of website and in newsletter, assistance with a singular research or presentation project for the beekeeper, assistance in filing bee kill reports, one lab analysis of hive products (in association with Pesticide Research Institute).

**BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATIONS**

___ $ 100 for a local beekeeping assn. with 10-50 members  **Member Benefits:** bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, Club’s name listed on PSC website as a member, one presentation by PSC staff or Board member in person or via skype (dependent upon schedules and distance-travel expenses not included).

___ $ 200 for a local beekeeping assn. with 51-100 members  **Member Benefits:** bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, Club’s name listed on PSC website as a member, one presentation by PSC staff or Board member in person or via skype (dependent upon schedules and distance-travel expenses not included), assistance with a singular research or presentation project for the club or a club member.

___ $ 250 for a local beekeeping assn. with 101-300 members  **Member Benefits:** bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, Club’s name listed on PSC website as a member, one presentation by PSC staff or Board member in person or via skype (dependent upon schedules and distance-travel expenses not included), assistance with a singular research or presentation project for the club or a club member, assist with grant writing/research for a local project.

___ $ 500 for a State/Regional Beekeeping Assn., and beekeeping clubs of 301+ members  **Member Benefits:** bi-monthly newsletter, participation in advocacy actions, State/Regional group’s logo and weblink posted on PSC Home page of website and in newsletter, one to three presentations at the State/regional beekeeping group conference or similar (travel expenses not included), assistance with a singular research or presentation project for the association, assist with grant writing/research for a local project, support through PSC advocacy software of state legislative issues, assist with nonprofit development.

_____ I wish to make a charitable contribution to support your education, advocacy, and action work in support of managed and native pollinators. **My donation of $___________ is enclosed**

I would like to charge my membership / contribution to:

___Visa  ___MC  ___Disc  ___AmEx  Signature________________________________________

Number __________________________________ Expiration Date _________ Security Code_______

Please mail this completed donation form and your check made out to the:
Pollinator Stewardship Council, 1624 Idlewood Ave., Akron, OH 44313
832-727-9492  www.pollinatorstewardship.org

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE APPLICABLE REGULATORY DEPARTMENT DIVISION WITHIN EACH STATE (LISTED BELOW) BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. For more information go to
http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=5048

10
Beekeepers Working for Beekeepers

The Board and Program Director are all beekeepers. We work to:

- Raise awareness about the adverse impact of pesticides on pollinators critical to the supply of food and the ecosystem.
- Provide advocacy, guidance, and tools to document the detrimental effect of pesticides on pollinators.
- Affect regulatory processes of pesticide risk assessment, label, and enforcement.