Adapted from our friends at the Oregon State Beekeepers Association by packages, and nucs, and stay warm!

mice, bears, and humans) have not been bothering (e.g., chewing, eating, or vandalizing) the hives. Check your apiary occasionally.

spells. Do a cursory check for weight (lift the hive to assess) and to determine whether or not the hive is alive (place your hand on the outer cover and shake it to test for the buzz of a live colony). Note: As a rule, never open a hive during the winter unless there is a good reason and the weather is mild. As a general rule, never open a hive during the month of December.

Cluster, move closer to stored honey, and make those all important cleansing (defecating) flights.

Dan Carr will talk about his experiences working with the wonderful beekeepers and the hives in his home apiary. He has been a beekeeper for over a dozen years as an agriculture and environment Peace Corps volunteer in Malawi, and has been a beekeeper ever since. After returning to the United States and managing Stone Barns' bees for three years, he joined SOBA and has been an active member ever since.

Sources for Local Propolis

It turns out that propolis has very amazing health benefits to bees. One of Dr. Spivak's graduate students demonstrated that propolis has a very powerful glucan that fight off infection.