Hive Demostration 6:30-7:30

John demonstrated mite tests on the club hives.

Treasurers Report by Cheryl Housden posted please refer to that.

OSBA Regional Rep report- Sarah Laird

-not present

OSU Liaisons report-Rick Hilton The OSU extension building is not available in December it is being re-carpeted. The Bear Hotel in Grants Pass is also NOT available. A decision needs to be made about where to have a meeting or cancel Decembers meeting.
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A position was created for Web Master/Social Media. The person filling that position is Ellen Wright.

The club has been seeking a volunteer for secretary.

Kate Womack volunteered for the position of secretary. We will officially nominate her at the October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The club extractor is hard to keep track of. John suggested selling it. Members responded that they like having one to use and felt it was an attraction for people to join the club. Greg Hernandez has one for the Grants Pass area that he feels is on a viable check out system. Someone proposed the idea of having the extractor live in one spot (Fry Family farm for example) and having members go there to use it.

We need volunteers from the Medford area and the Ashland area to be in charge of extractors.

NEW BUSINESS

Drivert -

Pallets of drivert will be at Shastina. Risa will finalize the details. Stay posted. Shastina has agreed to house the pallets of drivert and members can pick up drivert at that location on H Street in White City.

Risa polled the group to see how people best get news from SOBA; Facebook or Email. Email is how most members of our club get their information.

Greg Hernandez proposed a work day to make pollen patty and sugar bricks. Bricks are air cooled for 3 weeks or dehydrated for 12 hours in a commercial dehydrator. This would be a great club activity.
Ian Jones, our 15 year old club member and his mom Chris Jones inquired about starting a Youth Group for young beekeepers. This would be a good opportunity for anyone interested in being a mentor. Stay tuned for more news on this.

Let's Talk Bees

There were questions regarding feeding of pollen in September.

Feed pollen sub in August and September for raising the most important bees of the year. Low nutrition/mites make poor winter clusters. Nutritionally stimulate the hive to create healthy bees.

John talked about stock selection.

Data from the Bee Informed partnership is critical to understanding our bees.

* Become a Bee Informed Partner

*Master the mite count and keep records

*Data drives management

*Hygienic behavior testing is critical

"Poorly reared Queens from the best stock will always be out performed by a well reared Queen from mediocre stock."

Stock Selection criteria:

*constantly productive

*statically lower mite infection rates

*rapid build up

*reasonable temperament

*Still and calm on the comb
*Excellent brood pattern

*Heavy pollen hoarding

*repeated great hygienic behavior test results

**Successful Management**

Timing is key!

*Swarm issues

*Mites

*Raising healthy winter bees

*Nutrition

There were lots of questions about when and how much to feed.

3-6 pounds on average of pollen sub in the Fall

3-6 pounds for early build up in the Spring

If you see pollen "coming in" in the Spring start feeding.

Feed to stimulate in the Spring, feed during a dearth and again in August and September to raise FAT bees!

There are recipes/information on the SOBA website for

Grease Patties, Sugar Bricks and Fondant and essential oil spritz (lemon grass, wintergreen, tea tree oils).

**Tasks for August and September:**

*Monitor for mites and treat

*Hives should be heavy (60lbs)

*Hives boxes should be the appropriate size for winter

*prepare winter feed