

Washington State Beekeepers Association
PRESENTS

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
BEEKEEPING
 CONFERENCE



Wenatchee Convention Center

WENATCHEE, WA

FRIDAY
OCT. 2

SATURDAY
OCT. 3

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Acknowledgments back cover

BIG THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING CONFERENCE

2026



WELCOME!!!

Welcome to the 2026 Pacific Northwest Beekeeping Conference presented by the Washington State Beekeepers Association!

We are so happy to be with you all in Central Washington this year! An extra special thank you to all of those who attended last year - welcome back! This year we are sticking with our single-track format with five incredible speakers, but we're also adding two NEW Microscopy Workshops led by WSU on Saturday afternoon!

All attendees receive a souvenir tote bag and stemless mead glass! General Admission also includes a new Friday Lunch and your Dinner at the Washington Beekeeping Awards Banquet on Friday evening! Gather your friends (and their cash) at your table for our famously fun Dessert Auction after dinner, before closing the evening with our Live Auction! While exploring the Vendor and Club Booths over the weekend, be sure to cast your vote in our third blind, "No-Rules" Honey Tasting Contest with the yellow ticket in your welcome bag (more tickets are available for purchase at the WASBA booth)!

WASBA Serves WA Beekeepers in the Following Areas:

- To help maintain vibrant local beekeeping organizations
- To assist the agricultural community
- To improve relations between Beekeepers, Government Agencies, and the Public
- To promote beekeeping and bee products in our state and abroad
- To promote and maintain industry connections at the state, national, and international level
- To collectively represent all Beekeepers of Washington State
- To promote and enhance beekeeping research in the State of Washington

**WASBA
MEMBERS!**

ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY MORNING

Saturday, October 3rd from 8:00am-8:50am

All WASBA Members are welcome - join now for 2027!



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From your first hive to a full apiary, Woods Bee Co. is here to support beekeepers with quality products, education, and a strong local community.



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the PNW!*



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For hive updates,
seasonal tips
and upcoming events.



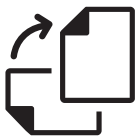
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CONVENTION CENTER MAP



WENATCHEE
CONVENTION CENTER



Walking Bridge



WENATCHEE CONVENTION CENTER LOWER FLOOR

AGENDA

FRIDAY, 10/02

12:00–1:00pm — **Check In**

WASBA Booth in the Red Lobby

1:00–1:20pm — **Conference Welcome**
Alan Woods, WASBA President

Fuji Room

1:20–1:50pm — **WA Regional Breakout**
Club Presidents & Area Directors

Fuji Room

2:00–2:50pm — **Dr. Brandon Hopkins**

★ **Keynote Speaker**

***Balancing Colony Health and Crop
Production: New Insights into
Honey Bee Health***

Fuji Room

3:00–3:50pm — **Kamon Reynolds**

Dialing in Your Varroa Management

Fuji Room

4:00–4:50pm — **Taydin Macon, Molly Quade,
Bri Price, Mckaela Hobday,
& Janae Becher**

WSU Bee Program Student Talks

Fuji Room

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2026



AGENDA

FRIDAY, 10/02

5:00–5:50 pm — **Break, Social, Vendor Time**

Orchard Room South

6:00–10:00 pm — **Awards Banquet Dinner***

*Orchard Room South *must have prepaid ticket*

6:00–6:30 pm — **George Hansen**

Project Apis m. (PAm)

Orchard Room South

7:00–7:30 pm — **Dessert Auction***

*Orchard Room South *more info on page 12*

7:30–9:00 pm — **Live Fundraising Auction**

Orchard Room South

By joining WASBA you support beekeepers around WA and help promote best practices in beekeeping.

Get up-to-date news, research, and regulations impacting beekeepers and bees | Network with other beekeepers state-wide | Classes and mentors | Legislative impact | Community | WASBA voting rights

JOIN WASBA!

www.wasba.org/membership



Join NOW and your membership is valid through the end of 2027!



AGENDA

SATURDAY, 10/03

8:00–9:00am — **Check In** (*if not already*)

WASBA Booth in the Red Lobby

8:00–8:50am — **WASBA General Meeting**

All Members Welcome

Fuji Room

9:00–9:50am — **Kamon Reynolds**

Splitting is Fundamental

Fuji Room

10:00–10:50am — **Dr. David Peck**

*Collective Intelligence and the Dance
Language of Honey Bees*

Fuji Room

11:00–11:50am — **Frederick Dunn**

*The Extraordinary Honey Bee and
How its Anatomy Helps it Accomplish
its Many Tasks*

Fuji Room

12:00–1:30pm — **FREE! Lunch**

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Orchard Room South

—  —
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AGENDA

SATURDAY, 10/03

1:30–2:30pm

Dr. Adam Pachl

Norroa - A Novel Approach to Varroa Mite Control

Fuji Room

Microscopy Workshop #1



Bri Price, WSU Bee Program

How to Quantify Nosema Infection

Gala Room 3

2:30–3:30pm

Dr. David Peck

Virulence Evolution: Never Underestimate a Parasite

Fuji Room

Microscopy Workshop #2



Bri Price, WSU Bee Program

How to Quantify Nosema Infection

Gala Room 3

3:30–4:30pm

Speaker's Panel Discussion



Moderated by Jeff Ott, 'Beekeeping Today Podcast'

Fuji Room

4:30–4:45pm

Conference Closing

Alan Woods, WASBA President

Fuji Room

SPEAKER ROSTER

Frederick Dunn, Cornell University Certified Master Beekeeper & 'The Way to Bee' Podcast [BIO pg.13]

- *The Extraordinary Honey Bee and How Its Anatomy Helps It Accomplish Its Many Tasks* [SAT 11am]

Dr. Brandon Hopkins, WA State University [BIO pg.14]

★ **KEYNOTE!** *Balancing Colony Health and Crop*

Production: New Insights into Honey Bee Health [FRI 2pm]

Adam Pacht, Greenlight Biosciences [BIO pg.15]

- *Norroa - A Novel Approach to Varroa Mite Control* [SAT 1:30pm]

Dr. David Peck, BetterBee [BIO pg.16]

- *Collective Intelligence and the Dance Language of Honey Bees* [SAT 10:00am]
- *Virulence Evolution: Never Underestimate a Parasite* [SAT 2:30pm]

Bri Price, Washington State University [BIO pg. 15]

- *Nosema Diagnostic Microscopy Workshops* [SAT 1:30/2:30]

Jeff Ott, 'Beekeeping Today' Podcast [BIO pg. 18]

- *Conference & Speaker Panel Moderator* [SAT 3:30pm]

Kamon Reynolds, Tennessee's Bees [BIO pg. 17]

- *Dialing in your Varroa Management* [FRI 3pm]
- *Splitting is Fundamental* [SAT 9am]

Alan Woods, WA Master Beekeeper, WASBA [BIO pg. 17]

- *Conference Remarks & WASBA General Meeting* [SAT 8am]



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BANQUET & AUCTION INFORMATION

After the presentations end Friday evening get ready to join in some fun during the **WA Beekeeping Awards Banquet Dinner** including the famous Dessert “Dash” Auction followed by a delicious Banquet Meal and closing with a Live Fundraising Auction!

Your Lunch and Dinner Tickets are in your Welcome Bag (if not, please visit the WASBA Booth). Please have your Dinner Ticket folded to display at your place setting Friday evening so staff knows what type meal you have chosen and if you have any allergies.

Have your sweet tooth ready for our famously fun **Dessert Auction!** Make friends with table-mates and decide on a dessert to pool your money for... the table with the highest amount wins first choice of desserts to share after dinner! (info on next page)

BIG THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

MUST SHOW VALID ID PROOF OF 21+ AGE TO PURCHASE MEAD

FREE!
Souvenir Glass

for all general admission tickets



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FOR SALE!**



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DESSERT AUCTION/DASH RULES

The Dessert Auction involves each table combining their bids to claim one of the delicious desserts available. The table with the largest bid gets first chance at dashing to the dessert table and picking the dessert of their choice! Complete the Dessert Auction card on your table and bid high to be the first table called and be fast to get your favorite dessert because the next winning table number will be called quickly!

1. **Work with your tablemates to complete the “Dessert Auction Bidders Card”.** If you are paying with a card or IOU, you must settle your debt before the end of the night. Bidding Cards and envelopes will be collected before dinner is over.
2. **Pick one person from your table to be the Dasher**
3. **The dessert dash will begin right before the auction.** The announcer will announce the table with the highest bid amount to start and then call the next highest in approx 5 seconds until all the tables have been called. **Once your table number is called, your Dasher will run (the more animated, the better for all of us watching!) to the dessert table and pick the dessert of their table’s choice to bring back and share.**



SPEAKER BIOS

FREDERICK DUNN

Cornell University Certified Master Beekeeper
'The Way to Bee' Podcast



Fred is a honey bee educator, focusing on backyard small-scale beekeeping. He shares the intricacies of bee biology and management primarily through his YouTube Channel (Frederick Dunn) and podcast, 'The Way To Bee'.

He manages many Bee Hive configurations with his wife, Annette, on their rural Pennsylvania property, and has been managing, and observing honey bees and their secrets at close range since 2006. As a Cornell University Master Beekeeper, Fred uses scientific methods to improve management practices and evaluate tools and hive configurations across a broad spectrum. He seeks validation to many questions and concerns through basic backyard experiments that most beekeepers can do themselves.

11:00–11:50am
SATURDAY, 10/3

*The Extraordinary Honey Bee and How its
Anatomy Helps it Accomplish its Many Tasks*
Fuji Room

HEY
BUSY
BEE! 

Join us for the **LIVE AUCTION** following the Banquet Dinner on Friday night! Stretch your card-raising arm and get ready to bid on some unique and exciting items like:

- A huge 20 Frame Extractor donated in Loving Memory of Kenneth L. Bible
- George Hansen Original Encaustic Painting
- 25 Italian Queen Package
- Honey from the Sustainability in Prisons Project
- Wooden 5 frame NUC box (No livestock)
- WSU Cougar Gold Cheese & Wine Packages
- A Trip to the Honey Capital of the U.S. - North Dakota!
- Oxalic Acid Vaporizers & **MUCH MORE!**

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DR. BRANDON HOPKINS

Washington State University

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**



Dr. Hopkins is an Associate Professor in the WSU Honey Bee Program. He worked on cryopreservation of honey bee semen and other assistive reproductive techniques in honey bees during his graduate studies. His current research focuses on honey bee reproductive biology, germplasm collection and cryopreservation, as well as honey bee health and pest management through research apiary laboratory oversight and field research. Brandon is highly driven by the supportive community of beekeeping. The immediate needs for solutions to issues around Varroa control and improved management practices have inspired a large part of his research efforts. He aims to develop and deliver practical solutions to commercial beekeepers and the agricultural industries reliant on pollination services.

2:00–2:50pm

FRIDAY, 10/2



KEYNOTE

***Balancing Colony Health and Crop Production:
New Insights into Honey Bee Health***

Fuji Room



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WIN AN ELECTRIC EXTRACTOR!

ONLY 30 TICKETS SOLD \$50 EACH

VISIT THE WASBA BOOTH TO PURCHASE!



**WASBA
MEMBERS!**

ANNUAL MEETING SAT MORNING

Saturday, October 3rd from 8:00-8:50am

All WASBA Members are welcome - join now for 2027!

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ADAM PACHL

Greenlight Biosciences

Adam is in charge of coordinating the bee health products for GreenLight Biosciences in North America. He coordinates field studies for products that are currently on the market as well as work with our development teams on trials for products that are in development and gives input on which products the company should be developing. He works with stakeholders throughout the industry and keep up to date on the latest research and market trends to ensure GLB stays on the cutting edge of the beekeeping industry.



1:30–2:30pm

SATURDAY, 10/3

Norroa - A Novel Approach to Varroa Mite Control

Fuji Room

BRI PRICE

Washington State University



Bri is the Extension and Outreach Coordinator for the WSU Bee Program and does statewide extension and outreach about honey bees and other pollinators through seminars, workshops, bee program blogging, attending bee association meetings, and writing factsheets. She is also a part-time Ph.D. student studying the role of sociocultural and educational factors that influence pollinator management decisions.



1:30–2:30pm

2:30–3:30pm

SATURDAY, 10/3

Microscopy Workshops

How to Quantify Nosema Infection

Gala Room 3



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DR. DAVID PECK

BetterBee



Dr. Peck is the Director of Research and Education at Betterbee in Greenwich, NY, where he assists in product development and research, and also teaches classes and develops scientifically-sound educational materials. His doctoral work in Cornell University's Department of Neurobiology and Behavior was supervised by Professor Tom Seeley. His dissertation research focused on the transmission of mites between bee colonies, as well as the mite-resistance traits of the untreated honey bees living in Cornell's Arnot Forest. After earning his degree, he has continued to research varroa/bee interactions, including fieldwork in Newfoundland, Canada (where varroa still have not arrived) and Anosy Madagascar (where varroa arrived only in 2010 or 2011). He has served as a teaching postdoctoral fellow in Cornell's Department of Entomology, and is still affiliated with Cornell through the Honey Bee Health program in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Peck has kept bees for more than a decade, though his home apiary is often full of mite-riddled research colonies so he doesn't usually produce much honey.

10:00–10:50am — *Collective Intelligence and the Dance Language of Honey Bees*
SATURDAY, 10/3
Fuji Room

2:30–3:30pm — *Virulence Evolution: Never Underestimate a Parasite*
SATURDAY, 10/3
Fuji Room



DON'T FORGET TO EXPLORE THE VENDOR BOOTHS!

Learn more about our local clubs and businesses and shop for the beekeepers in your life! PLUS, place your vote in our third annual 'No Rules' Honey Tasting Contest!

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KAMON REYNOLDS

Tennessee's Bees

Kamon Reynolds and his wife, Laurel, run one of the world's largest beekeeping conferences, the North American Honey Bee Expo. They also operate a small professional honey bee operation in Middle Tennessee and have filmed hundreds of educational videos to help share the joys of successful beekeeping. Though Kamon does 99% of the talking, Laurel has been beekeeping for 17 years and is an invaluable part of their business. Kamon's favorite part of the bee industry is meeting and engaging with fellow beekeepers. His favorite part of keeping bees is making queens and creating new splits.



3:00–3:50pm — *Dialing in Your Varroa Management*

FRIDAY, 10/2

Fuji Room

9:00–9:50am — *Splitting is Fundamental*

SATURDAY, 10/3

Fuji Room

ALAN WOODS

Washington State Beekeepers Association

Alan Woods began his life in Texas, moved to Washington and retired after a military career. He is a certified Master Beekeeper in both Washington and Montana and also teaches beekeeping education and certification classes through his business Woods Bee Co. which he owns and operates with his wife Beverly. He currently serves as the President of the Washington State Beekeepers Association (WASBA) where he is working to upgrade the Masters Program alongside WSU and partner with Hives to Heroes, GRUB and other organizations who serve our veteran community.



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JEFF OTT

Co-host *Beekeeping Today Podcast*

Jeff Ott's journey with honey bees began in childhood with a fascination for flying and crawling creatures. He first kept an observation hive on his bedroom desk, sparking a lifelong passion for beekeeping. Over the years, Jeff grew from a hobbyist to a sideline, managing honey bee colonies and providing local pollination services. His involvement with the Medina County and Ohio State Beekeepers Associations, along with his role as president of the Medina association, deepened his knowledge and network within the beekeeping community.

Today, Jeff lives in Olympia, Washington, and is a Master Beekeeper certified by the University of Montana and the Washington State Beekeepers Association. He founded the popular *Beekeeping Today Podcast* with the late Kim Flottum, reaching thousands of listeners each week. Jeff also produces the podcast *Honey Bee Obscura* under his media company, Growing Planet Media. His work continues to educate and inspire beekeepers worldwide.



3:30-4:30pm — **Speaker's Panel Discussion**

SATURDAY, 10/3

Fuji Room



LIMITED RAFFLE

WIN AN ELECTRIC EXTRACTOR!

ONLY 30 TICKETS SOLD \$50 EACH

The winner will be drawn at the end of the Conference on Saturday and posted on wasba.org

& DON'T FORGET TO EXPLORE THE VENDOR BOOTHS!

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WSU STUDENT BIOS

4:00–4:50pm

FRIDAY, 10/2

WSU Bee Program Student Talks

Fuji Room

JANAE BECHER

Ph.D. Student, Basu Lab



Janae's research focuses on understanding nutrient conversion from flower to colonies and how gut microbiome can shape the overall nutritional health. She is investigating products bees consume and manipulate, both

compositionally and microbially. Janae graduated in 2024 with a B.A. triple major in Biochemistry, Environmental Studies, and German from Augustana University, SD. At Augie, Janae facilitated the start of the bee program and continues to be an advisor and mentor for the undergraduate student-led program. Along with her research at WSU, she participates in the music department, playing her French horn in different ensembles throughout the year.



MCKAELA HOBDAV

Ph.D. Candidate, Basu Lab



Mckaela's passion for apiculture began during her undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University, where she worked as a lab technician studying wild honey bee diseases. She then earned her master's degree at Mississippi State University, where she worked on several projects involving pollinators, but primarily studied European Foulbrood (EFB). Now, at WSU, Mckaela is collaborating with researchers across Mississippi, Washington, Oregon, and California to better understand the prevalence and impact of EFB during blueberry pollination.



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TAYDIN MACON

Ph.D. Candidate, Hopkins Lab



Taydin Macon is a Ph.D. Candidate co-advised by Dr. Brandon Hopkins and Dr. David Crowder. His research projects investigate many of the problems faced by commercial, sideline, and hobbyist beekeepers. Specifically, Taydin has conducted research on novel methods for pest and pathogen detection in colonies, novel varroa mite treatments, and supplemental fungal extracts for promoting honey bee health. Taydin is also interested in statistical analysis for data driven colony management.



MOLLY QUADE

Ph.D. Student, Hopkins Lab



Molly Quade began working in the bee program at Washington State University as an undergraduate, where she assisted on a collaborative project with Paul Stamets investigating the role of *Ganoderma resinaceum* (Reishi mushroom) extract in enhancing honey bee immune systems. This experience sparked her interest in insect-fungi relationships, and since then, she has contributed to a variety of projects focused on integrating fungal applications into commercial apiculture. Now a Ph.D. student at WSU, Molly is researching the use of *Metarhizium* and other entomopathogenic fungi in Integrated Pest Management, with a focus on developing strains for Varroa mite management. She plans to continue her research in fungal strain selection, with the long-term goal of advancing the application of fungi in commercial beekeeping and sustainable agriculture.



VOTE NOW! BLIND HONEY TASTING CONTEST

Every attendee gets a vote! Taste them in the Vendor Room!

20



NOTES

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal lines.

2026

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THIS PROGRAM BELONGS TO:

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS **THANK YOU TO:**

The WASBA Conference Committee:

**Alan Woods, Bri Price, Ellen Miller, Jeff Ott, Patrick Dougherty, Dawn Beck,
& Martina Schmidt & WASBA Member Volunteers!**

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PO BOX 4824, SPOKANE, WA 99220

f www.wasba.org

Martina Schmidt, Executive Director

(509) 855-8604

info@wasba.org