



ONTARIO BEEKEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION
Since 1881

O B A S P R I N G M E E T I N G 2 0 1 3

Honey House Open House
Saturday March 23, 2013

Osprey Bluffs Honey Company
Hugh Simpson Beekeeper/Proprietor
634386- 63 Road, Grey Highlands ON
Ph 647-272-5006 • www.ospreybluffshoney.ca

Welcome to Collingwood and to Osprey Bluffs... we are a small commercial beekeeping operation keeping about 200-300 hives in yards across Grey and Dufferin Counties. Focused primarily on honey production and selling most of the crop at wholesale in barrels. There is some work done on a limited basis for wholesaling in pails and jars and a few gate sales. The beekeeper works solo and imports assistance from son Alex and daughter Melissa as necessary (and available) ...when time allows, Hugh's wife Anita renders wax for bulk sales and sells candles and a line of skin care products made by hand from hive and farm grown products. The honey house was built in 2010 with this beekeeping operation's size and product - focus in mind, there's also an old wood shop for equipment-making and repair and an even older barn for chickens and hay – come visit and feel free to poke around.

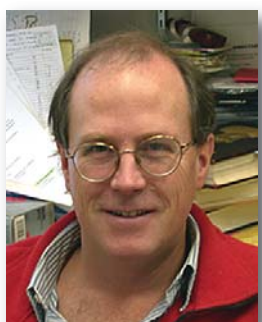
Guest Speakers



Graham Parsons Biography

Graham Parsons hails from the small town of Meskanaw located in northeast Saskatchewan. When not in school he spent much of his time outside and in the beeyard as the son of a commercial beekeeper. Following high school he spent 7 months in New Zealand working for Kintail Honey, a large commercial beekeepers on the North Island. Following the return from overseas he enrolled in a course in Integrated Resource Management in Prince Albert, graduating in 2007. With the ink on his diploma still drying he took a position with an environmental consulting company in Saskatoon

where he worked for 2 years. A further two years at the University of Saskatchewan earned him a Bachelors degree in Renewable Resource Management, graduating in June 2011. He is currently the lead for the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association Technology Adaptation Team. This program focuses on practical and applied research into honey bee disease, improved management and extension of the work to beekeepers. He is also working on his masters at the University of Manitoba under the guidance of Dr. Rob Currie. His thesis work involves studying factors contributing to the high winter losses of Canadian bees.



R.W. Currie Biography

Dr. Rob Currie is a Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology, in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the University of Manitoba, Canada. Dr. Currie obtained a B.Sc. in Zoology (1979), and an M.Sc.(1982) and Ph.D.(1986) in Entomology all at the University of Manitoba. After completing his Ph.D. his research focused on developing a system for the pollination of hybrid canola seed that is still in use today. In 1989, he moved to Simon Fraser University as a Post Doctoral Fellow, where he worked on the commercial development of queen mandibular pheromone for use as crop attractants and for colony management. In 1991, he began his appointment in the Dept. of Entomology at the University of Manitoba, where he teaches course in beekeeping, pollination biology, insect pest management and general agriculture and has received numerous awards for his teaching. He has served in a number of leadership roles as President of the Entomological Society of Manitoba, President of the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists and Chair of the Canadian Bee Research Fund and served on numerous committees within these

organizations. He has served on many national committees to develop standards for industry, including the Pest Management Regulatory Agency's for development of pesticide endpoints for pollinators and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for bee biosecurity. Dr. Currie has over 33 years of experience in apicultural research and training of graduate students. He and his students have presented over 80 presentations of their research to research and industry groups over the past 10 years. His contributions have been recognized by the Alan Clemson Memorial Foundation Award/ for Excellence in Honey Bee Research, Australia: New South Wales Beekeepers Association and the Bee Hive Award, from the Manitoba Beekeepers Association. He is currently the leader of the Managed Pollinator working group for the NSERC-Canpolin network and a participant in the multidisciplinary Genome Canada Bee-IPM project. His current research focuses primarily on understanding the biology, physiology and behaviour of managed and native pollinators and the parasites, pathogens and other stressors that affect their survival and in developing ways to effectively manage these problems.