

Natural Beekeeping Class - 10/12/2013

Vicki Basham, a member of the Bee Group from the Gathering of Gardeners, has organized an all-day beekeeping course featuring Serge Labesque, a treatment-free and natural beekeeping expert from the Northern Bay Area. Transition Aromas is pleased to sponsor the event and the Aromas Grange is providing the space. Beekeepers from all over the surrounding South Bay counties are planning to attend this special event. And you're invited, too! See details below.

If you have any questions or want further information, contact Vicki at 831-601-4758 or email VBasham@Serenogroup.com.

In a nutshell:

WHEN: Saturday, October 12, from 9:00 am till 4:30 pm

WHERE: The Aromas Grange at 400 Rose Avenue, Aromas, 95004.

COST: \$50. Preregistration and payment must be accomplished by October 1st. The fee is nonrefundable, so please be sure you can come! Make the check out to Vicki Basham and mail to:

Vicki Basham
6998 Valle Pacifico Road
Prunedale, CA 93907

MORE DETAILS: Serge Labesque may be the only beekeeping instructor in California to teach treatment-free beekeeping. He is especially well known in Sonoma and Marin Counties, and teaches beekeeping classes at Santa Rosa Junior College. He's frequently a guest speaker at the San Mateo and Santa Clara bee guild meetings. But he's never been quite this far south to teach, so we're especially excited that he happily agreed to teach his beekeeping class in our neck of the woods.

Serge Labesque keeps local bees only, and does not use any treatment whatsoever in his colonies for pests or diseases. He keeps about 60 hives and has an amazing survival rate, averaging 85% in the last three years. In his classes, he teaches the management techniques that he attributes to his success.

The class will take place indoors from 9:00 till lunch. (PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH! Water will be provided.) Directly after lunch, we'll take a 15-minute walk to visit a student's hives. Serge will demonstrate a hive inspection and answer questions. After the inspection, we'll go back to the classroom for the last couple hours. Vicki will provide each student with a detailed handout for the class.

If you'd like to learn a little more about Serge Labesque, you might find this article interesting: <http://www.sfgate.com/homeandgarden/honeybeechronicles/article/Serge-Labesque-builds-a-better-beehive-4599463.php> We hope you can come! Please preregister soon!