

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BIRDBRAIN? By Lennie Copeland

Chickens are smarter than you may think. Researchers are finding cognitive abilities that chicken lovers have long recognized and that do not flourish in unnatural settings like factory farms. Chickens have more than twenty-four different vocalizations. They have calls to warn of a predator above in the air and another for a predator on the ground. They squawk to announce the laying of an egg and the rooster squawks to announce "come and get it" when he's found a tasty morsel to share with the hens - and they come running. Chickens make fewer calls or none at all when they are alone. Even unhatched chicks speak, making stress peeps when cold, upon which the mother rolls or moves the eggs in the nest. When they hatch, they already know their mother's voice.

Chicks learn by watching the mother hen. When she puts out her food call, the chicks begin pecking at the ground. Hens that were taught to eat only red-colored food reacted with scratching and loud clucks when her chicks started to eat blue-colored food. Numerous studies have shown how chicks learn by imitating their mothers, for example to dive in for a dust bath or to follow the mother into the coop at night.

Chickens have good memories, remembering people, places and things after months. I had a rooster that welcomed me at my gate but would take an aggressive stance against anyone else coming through. I had a hen that found her way into my office every day to lay an egg on my couch. She also would spot me heading for the garden and come running after me, knowing I would be digging up bugs.

Chickens have a sense of time. In one study chickens learned to wait for their food and promptly arrived at the feeder after the allotted elapsed time. Object permanence is an ability developed in children by age two or three, meaning they know that an object still exits even if hidden and they can no longer see it. Chickens develop this knack by five days old. They also recognize differences between objects. When five day old chicks were shown two different quantities of food, then the food was moved behind a screen, the chicks went straight to the larger target. Chickens have been taught to peck at buttons of certain colors or shapes to release food. They also can target a moving object, for example not leaping after a grasshopper but going to where it will land. Chickens display teamwork like guinea hens, for example, when ganging up on a rattlesnake, pecking it until it dies or goes away.

Chickens also display emotion, including bonding, friendship and mourning. A rooster will act worried when a hen is missing from the flock. A hen is demonstrably anxious when she can't see her chick. The pecking order is a natural process that establishes order in the flock. The hierarchy determines a queue for feeding, drinking, egg laying, roosting and mating. With top ranking comes responsibility, for example dominant roosters (the strongest and healthiest) watch out for the hens. High ranking chickens have first choice in where to roost. If a rooster considers you to be part of the flock, he may challenge you for dominance by flapping his wings, running at you with head held high and chest thrust out. He may jump at your legs with his talons. It may be annoying, but hey, he's just being a rooster

Finally, did you see the chicken on *America's Got Talent*? Without assistance, an Aracauna hen tapped out America the Beautiful! Perfectly...on a piano!!!

#### Ono Grange 396-2322

Grange Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is July 12th.

Junior Grange meets at 6 p.m.

General Grange Meeting starts at 7 p.m.

#### **Neighborhood Watch**

Neighborhood Watch meets **Saturday**, **July 8th** at the Ono-Igo Community Church. **Meetings start at 10am**. Agenda: Flag Salute, Jan. minutes, Committee Reports, Old Business, New Business, Adjourn.

### Ono-Igo Community Church 396-2277

Sunday Service Times.--- 9:30 a.m. Conversation Service
11 a.m. Traditional Service

**Igo Store** 396-2292

Open Everyday. French Fry Friday starts at 6p.m. Breakfast every Sunday at 8 a.m. Call the store for more info

## Ono Store 396-2300

The wonderful Lost Boys are back at the Ono Store on Fridays at 7 pm, playing guitars, banjos and trumpet and singing like mad, creating a foot-stomping crowd.

Acoustic Jam has started up too, Saturdays at 7 pm, in the patio at the Ono Store. Everybody welcome. This weekend we will start serving milkshakes, vanilla, chocolate and strawberry and on occasion banana. Every weekend we serve specials, Saturday and Sunday starting at noon. We have served French Dip, Pot Stickers, Kielbasa, Spare Ribs, Quesadillas and more. Upcoming includes: Chicken Satay, Meat Loaf, Pulled Pork, French Onion Soup and other tasty dishes, all home-made.

On the second and fourth Saturday nights at 7 pm we have Karaoke with Cal Hodges as DJ. Singing, dancing, good times.

On the third Saturday each month at 3 pm we have a group birthday party for all those born during that month.

On the nights that we have entertainment, we are open 'til 11 or 12 pm. In addition to our famous burgers, we now serve pizza.



The Umbrella is a community-run newsletter published with the intention of highlighting local events, local businesses, local groups, and local people. If you would like the contribute a story please contact Ed at 396-2277.

July 2017 By Chic Miller

Wasps, hornets, bumblebees, and yellow jackets. It's that time of the year. Those pesky summer varmints are lurking everywhere, building their nests in trees, shrubs, sheds, decks, attics, and eaves. Any well protected nook or cranny will do. They buzz about, coming from out of nowhere, to sting your best pal. He's curious, eager to know what that buzz is all about. Soon, much to his dismay, he's going to find out the hard way....then yee ouch!! It's all over but the yowling. That evil stinging creature has left his mark.

This tiny stinger is loaded with painful toxins. Your first instinct is to pinch it with your fingers and pull it out. Wrong! This will squeeze the remaining toxins into your pet and worsen an already painful situation. Instead, to remove the stinger, simply scrape it with a credit card or dull knife.

Most stings occur on the mouth, nose, or neck, thus the facial pawing, scratching, and rubbing begins. This is due to the immediate pain and swelling. Drooling and hives may soon follow. These mild symptoms are rarely life threatening. They can normally be treated with any of the following home remedies.

You can start by applying a cold, wet compress, using a rice filled sock, a frozen bag of freezer veggies or jello, semi-frozen in a Ziploc bag. This will reduce swelling and dull the pain.

You can also try apple cider vinegar, lemon juice, olive oil, or a moistened tea bag applied as a wet pack. A paste made from baking soda, Epsom Salts, sugar, meat tenderizer, or milk of magnesia have been said to work wonders. I have also been told that a slice of onion applied directly to the sting will give instant relief. Who would have guessed???

For hives you can try calamine lotion, aloe vera, or cortisone cream and there's always the old standby, Benadryl.

A product that I swear by, which has many uses, is NuStock, a <u>wonderful</u> product used to reduce pain at the sting site, or also can be used to reduce itching associated with hives.

Keeping your "home pharmacy" stocked with these inexpensive items may save you an unexpected and costly trip to the vet.

If symptoms should worsen or involve respiratory distress, trembling, weakness or pale gums....<u>Get To The Vet – Pronto.</u>

Preventing bee stings from occurring in the first place is probably impossible. Your pal is inquisitive, curious, and downright nosey! Spritzing daily with diluted Skin-So-Soft oil is an easy bug deterrent that works well, is very inexpensive, and smells great!

Keep in mind that stinging insects pose a real threat to your pet. They are dangerous, being capable of stinging numerous times, thus possibly being life threatening.

Your vet's phone number and an after-hours emergency number should always be kept handy. Please have a pet safe and stingless summer! And that's what all the buzz is about!

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# Rattlesnake Expert to Speak at Neighborhood Watch Meeting Saturday, July 8th. 10 am Ono-lgo Community Church

You are invited to the July 8th meeting of the Neighborhood Watch. It will be held in the Community Room at the Ono-Igo Community Church. The meeting starts at 10 am and will feature a guest speaker from Shasta County addressing the current issues and updates on the local Rattlesnake population. Thank You for showing up and supporting the community.

## Summer Vacation Bible School at Ono-Igo Church

Welcome to Bible Blast to the Past! Get ready for a life-changing adventure taking place right here at: Ono-Igo Community Church Each day begins at Blast to the Past Bash where kids will sing, shout, praise, pray, and be introduced to a Bible story and the daily theme. Then after they experience the other activities of the day, kids gather back at Bible Blast to the Past Bash to be encouraged to love God and to be motivated to serve others.

Other sites at Bible Blast to the Past include: Timeless Truth Tent where kids will explore the Bible story in a variety of interactive ways; Backtrack Bazaar where kids have time to move around, have fun, and fill up on snacks; Discovery Ruins where kids discover ancient arts and facts through science and crafts; and Mission Quest Cave where kids are encouraged to serve others! All these fun activities connect to the Bible story, Bible memory, and the timeless truth of God's everlasting love! The staff is waiting for some brave time travelers to join them in serving and having fun! There is also a **TEEN GROUP** available.

When: Sunday, July 16 through Thursday, July 20

Time: 5 pm - 8 pm

Place: Ono-lgo Community Church
Dinner begins at 5 pm for <u>participating families</u>. The program concludes each night at 8 pm with dessert.

Contact: Ed and Clara Sulpice RSVP (530) 396-2420 Let us know if you can join us. We'll save you a seat.

