



<http://ejbees.org>

EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

Volume – 4

Gloria Neal- Editor

February, 2015

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CLASS SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Feb 14 (#3) Making A Start in Beekeeping- Gloria Neal

Feb 28th (#4) Spring Management- Cal Lomsdalen

EJ BEES 2015 programs

This is a tentative list of club programs. We would love to have your suggestions for possible speakers or subjects for August, September, or November.

February - What's New in Bee Equipment...Frank Neal

March - Warre HivesHarry Prather

April - Swarm traps, catching, and hiving...Tony Goldenberg

Removing honey bees out of building walls...Gloria Neal

May - Queen Rearing -

June - Toxic Weed Program

July - Things to do with beeswax / Preparing honey for the fair

August - Final Prep for fair

September- Honey Tasting and....?

October – Honey bee anatomy ...Mike Edwards

November -

Dec -No Meeting

CLUB MEETING

February 14

held at

Jefferson County Library

Board meeting 8:30 a.m.

Club Meeting 9:00 a.m.

APPRENTICE CLASSES

Sat. Feb. 14th

10:30 a.m.

Class # 3

Sat. Feb. 28th

Class # 4

2015

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President:

Vice President: Diane Ginther

Secretary: David Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

TRUSTEES

Frank Neal

Dan Lockhart

Linda Pfafman

Ej bees' workers

These people have volunteered to head committees:

APPRENTICE CLASSES: Harry Prather

NEWSLETTER: Gloria Neal

MEDIA CONTACT: Bonnie Osmer

WEBSITE: Mike Edwards

JEFF. CO. FAIR:

Warren Osmer, Frank Neal, Harold Homberg

MEETING AND ACTIVITY

CO-ORDINATORS:

Tony Goldenberg, Harry Prather, and
Gloria Neal

MEETING CONVENER: Kees Kloff

EDITOR'S NOTES

EJ Beekeepers...

January's apprentice class started with a great group of potential beekeepers! Their enthusiasm is so contagious, it really makes me excited to share our beekeeping experiences with them and see them enjoy their own colony of honey bees! It's not too late to start the classes if you know of someone who has expressed an interest in beekeeping.

Thanks to David Morris for taking the position of Secretary for the club! We really appreciate you, David!

Tony shared a recipe for sugar bricks that he had fed to his bees. It's like a fondant, but doesn't require cooking over the stove. I was interested in Tony's recipe, so I made some bee bricks. There was no time consuming standing over the stove, stirring for what seemed like a LONG time! I'm sharing Tony's recipe in the recipe section! Check it out!!

For the past few months you may have noticed a new section in our newsletter..."Buzzing with Blake". For those of you that haven't met Blake, he is our 12 year old grandson. He is going into his third year as a beekeeper, is Ryan's younger brother, and is the youngest member of EJ Bees to earn a beekeeping apprenticeship. He is a joy and big help for me in the apiary. I hope you are enjoying his little column.

If you or someone you know would be interested in writing articles for our newsletter, we would love to have someone else's input!!

Well, that's the buzz for February,

Gloria

WSU DIAGNOSTIC LAB WEBSITE

entomology.wsu.edu/apis/diagnostic-lab/

BUZZ WORTHY PLANTS FOR FEBRUARY



HELLEBORUS

One plant I have just this year added to my Bee garden is the Helleborus or Christmas Rose.

On the warm days, the bees seem to be waiting in line to collect the nectar and pollen of this plant.

This beautiful plant blooms during the winter, is lightly fragrant, and at maturity grows up to 13 inches.

Requirements include partial to full shade, moist to well-drained soil, mulching in summer to maintain moisture. Hardy to -30 degrees F.

CLUB DUES FOR 2015

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP WITH EAST JEFFERSON BEES,
IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY
DONE IT.**

METABOLIC WATER is a by product of the digestive process as honeybees consume sugars and fats for energy. This is accelerated as the colony starts raising brood and holding a brood temperature of 92 to 95 degrees F, and there is obviously a great deal of food being consumed! During late winter and early spring is when ventilation of the hive is especially important!

FEBRUARY'S HONEY-DO LIST

For the Apiary

Continue to monitor your colonies from the outside as well as the occasional quick peek inside the lid on a warm day. More colonies are lost to starvation during these months than exposure when taking that quick peak.

Check the weight of your colonies. They will usually start feeling lighter when lifted by the back at the bottom board. Hopefully, if they seemed light, you have already been feeding them. As the days and nights are still below 45 degrees, your bees won't break the cluster in order to travel very far for food. Dry cane sugar or fondant should be fed, if needed. They may still starve unless the outside temperatures gets above 55 degrees or the food source is located on a screen or in a frame feeder near the cluster.

Ventilation in the hive starts getting critical at this time of year. As the colony has the occasional warm day, and the fielders start bringing in nectar and pollen, the queens may start laying and with the added brood requiring more food, the metabolic water in the hive increases, and so does the moisture!

Time to start getting old frames and woodenware cleaned up and repaired for next Bee season.

Check the entrances, and using a stick, make sure to clean dead bees away from inside of entrance. Blocked entrances can kill healthy bees that can't get out! If they don't have an upper entrance, check your colonies more often and clear entrances regularly!

A good precaution, so you don't spread diseases between your colonies, is to clean your hive tool every time you use it! Keep a spray bottle of rubbing alcohol, and a clean rag or paper towels in your bee kit.

Remove any dead-outs as soon as you find them! Clean or destroy, depending on circumstances. If your not sure why your bees died, you can send a fresh sample to:

Dept. of Entomology, Washington State University

166 FSHN, Pullman, Wa. 99164-6382



RECIPE

TONY'S SUGAR BRICKS FOR THE HONEY BEES

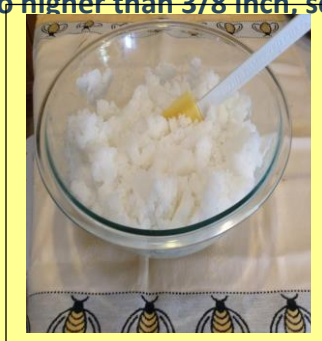
5# CANE SUGAR

7 ½ OZ. BOILING WATER

1 TBSP. APPLE CIDER VINEGAR

(Be sure to measure exactly) Too much liquids will make it soupy, and too little will keep it from caking together. You can add a ½ tbsp.. Honey bee healthy, but make that part of your measured liquids. Pack into foil cake pans making sure it is no higher than 3/8 inch, so your bee boxes still fit together. Let it set for a couple weeks or until hard.

I was kinda in a hurry. so I put my bricks in my dehydrator for about 4 days on medium low...it worked and my bees were all over it!



BUZZING WITH

Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Only the honey bee improves the environment and doesn't prey on any other species.....remarkable!

-Blake



LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

TARBOO VALLEY WOODEN WARE

Remember, Club members get
5% discount.

Stop by and shop for sale items!

Ph. # 360-301-0686



**OPEN TO ANY BEEKEEPER OR INDIVIDUAL
WHO IS A MEMBER OF EJBEEES AND WANTS TO
PROMOTE SALE OF PRODUCT RESOURCES OR
SERVICES.**

Members advertise free.

If you're a business, the charge is \$5.00 for a business card
size ad, unless you are offering members a discount, Then
your ad is free.

To place an ad, email Gloria at
gloria@tarboovalleybees.com

**YOUR AD
HERE**