



<http://ejbees.org>

# EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

**Volume – 4**

Gloria Neal- Editor

**May, 2015**

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## **CLUB MEETING**

May 9th

held at

Jefferson County Library

Board meeting 9:00 a.m.

Club Meeting 9:30 a.m.

## APPRENTICE CLASSES

10:30 a.m.

Sat. May 9th

Class # 7

Sat. May 23rd.

Class # 8

## E.J.Bees' Club PROGRAM

**Our guest speaker this month is Misha Meng... many of us know him as the Bee Rustler.**

**Misha will share 20 yrs of Honey Bee Rescues. A thorough investigation into his self taught harmless & chemical free removal methods of "All Stinging Things With Wings"**

**Honey bees, wasps, hornets, yellow jackets & mason bees continue to be close community guests into places where people don't want them. Sharing techniques, stories & pictures from California, Oregon & Washington ...of high angle cut-outs, swarm catch boxes, catch & release of hornets / yellow jackets, wasp venom therapy, feral bee repopulation, African bee shenanigans and a passionate quest for bare handed, veil free removals....**

**WILL BE A PROGRAM YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!!!**

## APPRENTICE CLASSES

**May 9<sup>th</sup>- Honey bee mites**

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>- Summer management and honey production**

2015

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Tony Goldenberg

Vice President: Diane Ginther

Secretary: David Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

### TRUSTEES

Frank Neal

Dan Lockhart

Linda Pfafman

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## 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...

**With April finishing up comes the task of checking and dividing my colonies , so I hopefully cut down the chances of swarming. Along with that task comes the unhappy task of requeening the colonies that have failing queens. Yesterday I had to destroy my first queen mother, and it really saddens me to have to do it. She has been faithfully supplying us with a hive full of eggs, and now that she is unable to fulfill that demand, she must be replaced...killed! As my granddaughter said, "wouldn't it be nice to give her a cushy castle to live out her last days". But for the good of the colony, the beekeeper has to step up and take matters into their own hands, which I sadly did! Now that the deed is over, and we have a young fertile queen in the colony, we can move on to seeing the colony prosper again!**

**In answer to my question on home made wasp traps, Mary Lomsdalen sent me directions on how to make the pop bottle traps! Thanks Mary!**

**You'll find the directions on page 6.**

**Below is an interesting website on swarms and swarming conditions put out by Port;and Urban Beekeepers and Honey bee allies. Check it out....very interesting! Thanks Tony!!!**

**Well, that's the buzz for May,**

*Gloria*

<http://www.thebeevlog.com/2015/04/swarm-data-april-2015.html>

# BUZZ WORTHY PLANTS FOR MAY...



**Mustard**

**Service berry**

**Thyme**

**Strawberry**

**Raspberry →**

**Blackberry**

**Blue berry**

**Clover**

**Chives**



## **CLUB DUES FOR 2015**

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

## **MAY'S HONEY-DO LIST**

### **For the Apiary**

May is a good time to order new queens and split those overcrowded colonies before they decide to build swarm cells.

If your colonies are getting crowded, you may want to divide them. If you decide to let them make their own queen, they must have eggs and young larva in the cells with a couple of frames of capped brood and PLENTY of nurse bees! They will need plenty of food, either honey or a sugar syrup feeder. Remember, it takes 45 days for a colony to raise a queen and have her brood finally emerging from their cells. That's a long time for a colony to be at a stand-still. I like ordering my queens so as not to disrupt the progress too much, but it is fascinating to watch a colony raise a queen.

Check honey stores every two weeks in May through June until the starting of the main nectar flows. Raising brood and keeping the colony fed can take a lot of food. One to one for spring syrup.

Watch for swarm cells. Reverse your hive bodies to give your colony more room if necessary.

If your frames have wax that is getting old and brittle, you may want to phase them out of your brood boxes and replace old wax with new foundation. After 5 years, it is suggested to replace your old combs. This is a good time to check your empty frames that need replacement, before the bees start using them.

It may be time to add a honey super to give your bees more room this month. You may want to add a queen excluder under your super, especially if the comb is drawn out already.

Staments fungi and bee talk:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAw\\_Zzge49c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAw_Zzge49c)



**MAY RECIPE**

**HONEY- BLUEBERRY MUFFINS**

- 2 cups flour
- 1 Tsp. salt
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1 cup milk
- 4 TBSP. Honey
- 1 egg, beaten
- ¼ cup melted shortening, or butter
- ½ cup blueberries

Combine flour, salt and baking powder.

Mix milk, honey, beaten egg, and melted, shortening or butter. Add to dry ingredients and stir just long enough to moisten dry ingredients. Fill greased muffin pans ½ full.

Bake at 400 degrees for 35 minutes, until golden brown.

Makes 12.



**BUZZING WITH**



**Blake**

**Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!**

It takes 1 ½ million colonies of honey bees to pollinate 750,000 acres of Almond trees in California--

.....The mighty pollinators!!

-Blake



## WASP TRAPS

It's simple to make your own trap. You will need:

- A clear 2 liter soft drink bottle with no cap
  - 1 cup of water
  - 1 teaspoon of dish detergent

### Now to July 4th

- 1 ounce of protein: hamburger meat, tuna fish, or canned cat food

### July 4th until the end of the yellow jacket season -

- a banana
- String and 2 paper clip
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar

Cut top 1/3 bottle and turn upside down inside.

1. Mix the water, dish detergent, and cider together, but don't mix it so well that you create bubbles. The apple cider repels honey bees, so they are not attracted to the trap. Add this to the bottle
2. Tie one end of desired bait to string and hang in bottle.

Hang bottle away from human activity.

This trap will attract yellow jackets because of the odor being emitted. The yellow jackets will not be able to figure out how to get out, eventually tire and fall into the water. As much as yellow jackets frustrate us by robbing our bee hives they are actually beneficial insects, since that will eat almost anything that gives them protein or carbohydrates. The goal is not to eliminate them but to strike a healthy balance between the number of yellow jackets and the goal of keeping bees healthy.



## LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

TARBOO VALLEY WOODEN WARE- Ph. # 360-301-1850

All 8 frame woodenware

20% off marked price.

Remember, Club members get 5% discount.

YOUR AD  
HERE

OPEN TO ANY BEEKEEPER OR INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A MEMBER OF EJBEES 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](mailto:gloria@tarboovalleybees.com)