



<http://ejbees.org>

# EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

**Volume – 5**  
Gloria Neal- Editor

**MARCH, 2016**

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## THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Bee Keepers.

Your board is attempting to compile a better record of past board and membership meetings, especially minutes from past board meetings. This information will be included in the Secretary's minute books and passed on to future officers of our association. Kees Kolff provided helpful input. Additional help in this area is requested.

As a follow up to Gary Coyer's presentation in our January meeting, I visited Chimacum High School and the apiary site Gary has selected. Initially Gary had challenges getting permission but after careful consideration his proposal was approved. At our February meeting, your trustees agreed to first waive membership and class fees for students. Secondly, based on our strong financial position, and the need to find a new association apiary site, the trustees approved financial assistance to help set up two colonies at the high school.

In spite of technical difficulties, Harry Prather provided an informative presentation on the use of Oxalic acid for Varroa mite control. Oxalic acid or wood bleach was recently approved by the EPA as an effective and safe method of control. It has been approved and used in Europe for many years.

This month we'll discuss splitting or dividing hives as a way to increase the number of hives as well as a preventative tool for swarming. As most of us know, prevention of swarming is always a challenge.

Kees Kolff has arranged for Timothy Lawrence to present to us in April. Tim is the Director of the WSU Island County Extension Service and can present a wide range of topics. We'll pin down a subject at our March membership meeting.

Sincerely,  
Dave Morris

## CLUB MEETING

**March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Jefferson County Library**

**Board Meeting - 9:00 a.m.**

**Club Meeting 9:30 a.m.**

**SPRING EQUALIZING**

**AND SPLITS**

.....

**APPRENTICE CLASS 10:30 a.m.**

**March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**SPRING MANAGEMENT**

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**NO CLASS!!**

2016

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: David Morris

Vice President: Frank Neal

Secretary: Nancy Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

Trustees:

Calvin Lomsdalen

Linda Pfafman

Paul Jendrucko

## EJ BEES' WORKERS

These people have volunteered to head committees in 2015:

**APPRENTICE CLASSES:** Harry Prather

**NEWSLETTER:** Gloria Neal

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Gail Moa

**WEBSITE:** Mike Edwards

**MEETING AND ACTIVITY**

**CO-ORDINATORS:**

Tony Goldenberg, Harry Prather, and  
Gloria Neal

**2016 CLUB DUES ARE OWED  
NOW.**

**\$24.00 PER PERSON**

**\$36.00 PER FAMILY**

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## **EJ Beekeepers...**

**Thanks to Harry for updating the club on Oxalic Acid and how to use it! Here is a website link to Bee Culture Magazine on Oxalic Acid, Vaporization of Varroa mites. Thanks, Harry!**

<http://www.beeculture.com/sublimation/>

**March's meeting will be on equalizing and splitting your colonies. If your bees came thru the winter healthy and strong, you may want to split those colonies before they decide to do it themselves and swarm!**

**And since we're on March to-do's, don't forget to apply for your Apiary registration.**

**Your fee goes into a research fund that includes projects of benefit to the apiary industry:**

**\*Overwintering trials for colony survival**

**\*Pesticide residue in wax**

**\*Nosema research and much more....**

**CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE FOR INFO AND WAYS TO  
PROTECT YOUR BEES**

<http://agr.wa.gov/PlantsInsects/Apiary>

**This month's recipe is Honey b Healthy Knockoff. We've used this with great success when adding it to our syrup for our bees. Check out the great website at the bottom. There's lots of info on the uses of essential oils and bees.**

**Well, that's the buzz for March!**

*Gloria*

It is March now and the Apprentice Beekeeping classes have started. It's still not too late to get into our classes , tho.

Here is the schedule.

Mar 12 (#4) Spring Management

Mar 26 Day before Easter – no class

Apr 09 APIARY VISIT– Inspect Hives after Winter (Weather Permitting)

Apr 23 Canceled - Package Day (probably)

May 14 (#5) Swarming

May 28 (#6) Summer Management and Honey Production

June 25 (#9) Honey Bee Mites / (#8) Diseases and Pests

July 09 APIARY VISIT – Hive Inspection look for problems

July 23 (#10) Pollination, Queen Rearing, Marketing

Aug 6 (#7) Fall Management

I am skipping the day before Easter, so you can all participate in Easter Egg hunts. In addition, no class is scheduled for Package Day. Since we are going into August, remember that meeting is the FIRST Saturday because of the Jefferson County Fair.

PLEASE let me know if you would like to conduct any of the sessions. You don't really understand a topic until you try to teach it. Plus, I really don't want to be the only instructor. The students benefit from different viewpoints.

Note that there are two hands-on sessions still scheduled at the apiary. These require more than one beekeeper to help the students. All help will be appreciated.

I anticipate another great year in class, so invite your friends, neighbors, casual acquaintances, and anyone else who might have an interest to check it out.

Harry

## REGISTER YOUR HIVES BY APRIL

To register your hives with the State ... go to WSDA...  
Plant protection division  
Beekeeper/broker Registration. ..Or phone 360-902-2070.  
It's only \$5 to register 1 to 5 hives...

## MARCH HONEY-DO LIST

### For the Apiary

Make sure your colonies have ventilatio. It's still possible we could get some cold weather.

Keep checking your colonies for weight. If we get a warm 60 degree day, it might be the opportunity you need to go into your colonies and check their brood nest, find your queen, and make sure the food stores are where the "girls" can reach them if it should turn cold.

Using a sticky board under the screen, you might want to check the mite load. 24 mites in 24 hours means you may want to do a mite treatment.

It's still important to keep your entrances clear if you see a lot of winter die-off blocking the entrances. Give the "girls" a helping hand.

I like to watch the "girls" coming back on a warm day. Lots of pollen usually means you still have a queen and she may be laying already!

Keep an eye out for Nosema or dysentery on the frames or entrance. Treat if needed.

We have started feeding pollen patties, since our neighbors have called and said that our "girls" are in the chicken feed looking for pollen, again. Nothing like chickens for our pollen barometer...

### Facts from "At the Hive Entrance" by H. Storch

In the morning, one observes a large amount of condensation at the hive entrance.

These colonies are already nursing large areas of brood. The amount of water found condensed at the hive entrance in the morning serves as a barometer for the egg-laying and the yield of the colonies.

Strewn around the hive entrance are hard, rounded wads of pollen, which often have a white coating on one side.

The bees are working on frames that have not yet held any brood, and are preparing them for egg-laying. The pollen from the outer frames, which is often fermented, and covered with a layer of mold is removed from the cells and thrown out of the hive.



# MARCH RECIPE

## HONEY B HEALTHY KNOCK OFF

Bring 5 cups water to a boil

Add 1/8 tsp lecithin granules, stirring quickly until dissolved.

Remove from heat and add 2 ½ lbs. sugar. Stir until sugar is completely dissolved.

Stir in essential oils. 15 drops spearmint oil, 15 drops lemongrass oil.

I add a little foodcoloring so I know it is the concentrate.

**THIS SOLUTION IS VERY CONCENTRATED AND WILL HAVE A VERY STRONG SCENT; IT SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT OPEN AROUND BEES AS IT COULD INCITE ROBBING. STORE CONCENTRATE IN REFRIGERATOR.**

To Use: Add about 2 tablespoons of concentrate to one gallon of sugar syrup.

<http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/varroa/honeyBhlth.htm>

<http://honeybhealthy.com/conrad.pdf>



# BUZZING WITH



# Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

A honey bee visits 50 to 100 flowers per trip!!

Bee-yond Bee-lief.....

..... Blake



## LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

### TARBOO VALLEY WOODEN WARE

- Ph. # 360-301-0686

Remember, Club members get 5% discount.

Looking for someone who would  
like to put Honey bees on my  
property...

Please call:

Helena Paneyko

360-774-1513

# YOUR AD HERE