



<http://ejbees.org>

# EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

**Volume – 6**

Gloria Neal- Editor

**APRIL, 2017**

## INDEX

Editor's notes.....Pg. 2  
 Board of Officers.....Pg .2  
 Honey-do List.....Pg. 3  
 Portland Bee event.....Pg. 3  
 Buzzing with Blake.....Pg. 4  
 Class Update.....Pg. 4  
 Bee Resources.....Pg. 5

## **CLUB MEETING**

**Jefferson County Library**

**APRIL 8th, 2017**

**Board Meeting**

**.....9:00a.m.....**

**Club meeting at 9:30 a.m.**

**Causes of colony collapse  
 and ferel queens on the  
 peninsula and western  
 Washington**

**By Tim Lawrence**

## THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Bee Keepers,

Our April program will once again feature Tim Lawrence. Tim provided an excellent presentation last year and will address two timely and related topics. First, he'll address the most prevalent causes of colony loss in Western Washington. He'll also address research done by WSU on feral queens especially on the Peninsula. Tim is the WSU Extension Director in Island County. He has his Ph.D. from Ohio State University in environmental sciences with a focus on human dimensions. He has more than 25 years of Extension experience in both Community Development, and Agricultural and Natural Resources. He's been keeping bees for 53 years, holds a Bachelor's degree in Apiculture and Pomology, and was a commercial beekeeper for more than 20 years and has an adjunct appointment the Entomology Department and Honey Bee Health Program at Washington State University.

Speaking of colony losses, there are two loss survey's underway across the country. One is run by the Bee Informed Partnership and includes an optional Management survey in addition to the colony loss survey. The survey can be found at <http://26.selectsurvey.net/beeinformed/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID-2017> The Colony Loss Survey evolved from a winter loss survey conducted 11 years ago. Now summer losses are also monitored. The National Management Survey is conducted annually in conjunction with the Colony Loss Survey. The two surveys are used to establish relationships between colony losses and colony management (including disease treatment strategies, supplemental feeding, etc.) and/or other factors that may influence colony health (such as colony location, honey production, and forage type).

Another colony loss survey is now being conducted by National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) of the USDA. This is NASS' first quarterly colony loss survey. I urge you all to participate. As hard data is available it should help us all become better beekeepers.

Respectfully,

Dave Morris

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: David Morris

Vice President: Frank Neal

Secretary: Nancy Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

Trustees:

Paul Jendrucko

Calvin Lomsdalen

Linda Pfafman

## EJ BEES' WORKERS

These people have volunteered to head committees in 2017:

**APPRENTICE CLASSES:** Harry Prather

**NEWSLETTER:** Gloria Neal

[gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com](mailto:gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com)

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Gail Moa

**WEBSITE:** Mike Edwards

## MEETING AND ACTIVITY

### CO-ORDINATORS:

Tony Goldenberg, Harry Prather, and  
Gloria Neal

EJBees Websitr:

[EJBees.org](http://EJBees.org)

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## EJ Beekeepers...

**April may be known for it's showers...but as for me and the "girls", we are looking for some warmer days!**

**We have had some wonderful presentations at our club meetings with more to come!**

**Many of us are already giving thought to where we plan to put our bait hives after Tony's demonstration on catching swarms with bait hives at March's meeting.**

**Harry sent me an email about a new product that looks promising for fighting Varroa. It's called the Bee Gym. It involves no chemicals and is a framework that is inserted into the hive box and uses the bees natural scratching techniques to dislodge and injure the Varroa mites. Find it by going to [beegym.com](http://beegym.com) to get the rest of the story.**

**March's Meeting will be another one you won't want to miss. Our speaker will be Timothy Lawrence. Well, that's the buzz for April!**

*Gloria*

## NEW FDA ALERT-

**Recall Epipen and Epipen Jr Auto Injector  
voluntary recall**

[Drugs.com](http://Drugs.com)

## APRIL'S HONEY-DO LIST

Our bees become active in the spring, but their honey stores may be getting low. They could very easily starve as the queen starts laying and the demand for food and pollen increases. You may need to supplement your colonies.

When opening the colonies this time of year it needs to be a brief check, unless the temperatures are warm enough not to chill the brood by leaving the colony open too long. I usually wait till it's above 55 degrees with no wind on a sunny day in the early spring to do a quick inspection of the colony and brood. 60 degrees is much safer.

### \*MAKE SURE THAT YOUR COLONIES ARE QUEENRIGHT.

\*When feeding bees syrup in the spring, feed 1 part sugar to 1 part water..

\*Continue to feed Pollen patties until your bees are bringing in plenty of pollen..

\*Colonies should have a minimum of 3 to 4 full deep frames of honey for brood raising.

Time to register your colonies with the state. This small fee is used for research that supports projects of benefit to the apiary industry.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Phone # 360-902-2094

Check their website at <http://agr.wa.gov/PlantsInsects/Apiary>

## RANDY OLIVER SPEAKING IN EVERETT

The Northwest District Beekeepers Association is proud to announce that Randy Oliver of [scientificbeekeeping.com](http://scientificbeekeeping.com) will be speaking in Everett, WA on Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Randy is a commercial beekeeper in California, a careful researcher, and the author of a monthly column in American Bee Journal. It has been a long standing goal of NWDBA to bring Randy Oliver here for a speaking engagement and to make it available to as many beekeepers as possible. Doors will open at 12:30 PM and the talk will run from 1-5 PM, with a couple of intermissions. We have a limit of 300 seats and anticipate selling out, so please buy your tickets early.

The topics to be covered will be "Reading the combs to understand colony conditions over the season" and also Randy's recent research on varroa mite management including the most current information on his experiments using oxalic acid applied dissolved in glycerin. Definitely bring your note pads and an extra pen in case you run out of ink!

Location: Everett PUD Auditorium, 2320 California St, Everett, WA 98201

Date and Time: Sept 9th, 2017. Doors open at 12:30PM and the talk runs from 1PM - 5PM Price:

\$25 (tickets are available through [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) by searching for Randy Oliver)



# BUZZING WITH



**Blake**

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!  
Honey bee Larvae are fed around  
1300 times a day.....  
That food must "bee" delicious  
-----Blake



## Class Update

Here is the proposed class schedule for this year. I urge anyone with an interest in any of the topics to volunteer to teach the class. After all, you really never understand a topic until you try to teach it.

You will notice that the order and topics has changed for this year. If you have any questions about just what a topic is supposed to cover, just ask. For example, mites are now somewhat covered in Diseases and Pests with more in Brood Diseases.

- Apr 8            Apiary – Start Smoker, inspect empty hive (weather permitting)
- Apr 22        (#7) Fall Management
- Apr 22        (#8) Diseases and Pests
- May 13        Apiary – Inspect Hive (weather permitting)
- May 27        (#9) Brood Diseases
- May 27        (#10) Apiary Mangement and Product Marketing
- June 10       Test Open Book Multiple Choice

The apiary visits will, I hope, be at the Chimacum High School apiary. I understand they have two dead-outs for us to clean and inspect, and two new colonies to inspect when the time comes.

Harry Prather,  
Class co-ordinator and teacher

## LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

### TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

Frank Neal- Ph. # 360-301-0686... (If stopping by, PLEASE CALL AHEAD)

**REMEMBER, CLUB MEMBERS GET 5% DISCOUNT.**

**New Website: [tarboovalleywoodenware.com](http://tarboovalleywoodenware.com)**

**NEW email: [frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com](mailto:frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com)**

**CHECK OUT OUR "NEW"  
ULTIMATE STYLE BOTTOM BOARDS  
AND FRAME GRIPS**

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

**Please call:**

**Helena Paneyko**

**360-774-1513**

Hi! I have a business making and selling beeswax candles and things. I am tapping out my current source and am looking for more wax. If you know anyone who might have wax for sale (especially large quantities), please give them my email address. You can check out my website if you

like. [givingthanksgardens.com](http://givingthanksgardens.com)

Thank you,

Leah Hollon Paquette

Owner/Maker

Giving Thanks