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EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

Volume – 6

Gloria Neal- Editor

February, 2017

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CLUB MEETING

Jefferson County Library

February 11th, 2017

Board Meeting

9:00a.m.

Club meeting

9:30 a.m.

**"HONEY BEE BROOD DISEASE, A
BEGINNERS GUIDE TO AMERICAN
FOULBROOD...TREATMENT AND
BEST PRACTICES"**

By Paul Lundy

THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Bee Keepers,

American foulbrood is the discussion topic for our February meeting. While this is an important and devastating disease, Varroa mites remain the most significant cause of hive mortality and will be the topic of several discussions throughout 2017. We had a good discussion of this and other topics at our January meeting. I know we all learned a great deal from the more experienced beekeepers in our association and greatly value their knowledge.

Over the past two years we've had several presentations on how to treat for mites. Harry Prather's introduction to Oxalic acid treatment last year was a case in point. I'm sure we'll have a follow up discussion on the various options and when to apply them as we get into the season. One thing everyone seems to agree upon is now is not the time to treat. Spring will be upon us soon enough so make sure you attend our meetings and stay ahead of the game.

Respectfully,

Dave Morris

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: David Morris

Vice President: Frank Neal

Secretary: Nancy Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

Paul Jendrucko

Calvin Lomsdalen

Linda Pfafman

EJ BEES' WORKERS

These people have volunteered to head committees in 2016:

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

EJBees Websitr:

EJBees.org

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

The sun has been out the last few days.... looks so inviting from inside the house, but I notice that the "girls" have only been flying when the North wind stops blowing. Walking out the door, I can see why....Brrrr! it's still pretty cold out there.

We did have enough of a window of warmth to go out and quickly peer down thru the hole in the inner board to see that the girls were surviving. Gave them some cane sugar and closed them up until it's warmer and we can give them some pollen patties, and do a more thorough check.

American Foulbrood has been identified in a couple of the apiaries in this county and Clallam. This is a very serious disease and can spread very quickly thru neighboring apiaries and any feral colonies if not stopped! More on American Foulbrood on page 3.

This month, Paul Lundy will present "Honey Bee brood disease, a beginners guide to American Foulbrood...treatment and best practices." Please mark your calenders and come!

You won't want to miss Paul's presentation!

Well, that's the buzz for February!

Gloria

BEEZWAX by John Martin



FEBRUARY'S HONEY-DO LIST

*When opening colonies this time of the year , be mindful of leaving colonies open only as long as necessary.

*Checking the weight of your colonies when it's too cold to open the boxes, will give you an idea if your bees need supplemental feeding.

*If feeding bees this time of year, feed fondant or sugar cakes. Cane sugar can be fed on inner board.

Sugar cake recipe below...

5 # CANE SUGAR

7 ½ OZ. HOT WATER PLUS 1 TBSP. WHITE VINEGAR

Mix well and pack into a foil cake pan, press down, let dry. Sugar cakes can be fed to bees during the winter months.

* Pollen patties can be fed during the spring months. As the weather gets warmer this month and your "girls" are bringing in pollen, these patties are great for supplementing as the queen prepares to start laying/

HONEY BEES ARE UNDER ATTACK

There have been reports of a number of honey bee colonies testing positive for American foulbrood in our county and neighboring counties.

American Foulbrood is the most widely spread and destructive of honey bee brood diseases. It is highly contagious. Once a colony has American foulbrood it can spread very quickly through an apiary, neighboring apiaries and feral colonies. The spores of this bacterium can live up to 40 years on Bee equipment, tools and in honey.

On Saturday, February 11th, at the county Library in Port Hadlock, at 9:30 a.m., East Jefferson Beekeepers are hosting Paul Lundy, Past President of the Washington State Beekeepers, who will present:

Honey Bee Brood disease, a beginners guide to American Foulbrood...

Treatment and best practices.

Make sure you don't miss this meeting! Members and non-members of the Association are invited.

REMEMBER...

It's not the beekeepers "fault" if his bees bring home "American Foulbrood"

IT IS the beekeepers "fault" if the disease is not dealt with when found in the Apiary.



BUZZING WITH



Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Bees have been around for 30 million years

..... "That's pollon-ty of bees"

----- Blake



Classes

Welcome to all the new beekeepers who somehow obtain this description. This is just a brief description. I will have a complete synopsis and class schedule at the first session next Saturday.

Apprentice Beekeeping Class will start up again after the meeting on Saturday, February 11 2017 at the Port Hadlock library, as usual. I will be registering students before, during, and after the meeting, and hopefully start the discussion before 11:00.

The first session will be on the honeybee biology and hive products. Don't let the title intimidate you. We won't be dissecting anything, just talking about the little darlings and what we steal from them. Did you realize that the honeybee is the only insect from which we steal products. We may eat other insects from time to time, but the honeybee is the only one from which we obtain other things.

The second session will be on Saturday, February 25 2017, again at the library. We have two lessons. The first is a description of necessary beekeeping equipment, both for the beekeeper and for the honeybee. The second covers the first steps in getting a colony started, including setting up your hive, getting a group of bees, and and putting the two things together. It should be interesting.

You are, of course, all welcome to attend the meeting. The subject of this month's discussion is available elsewhere in the newsletter.

Harry

LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

Frank Neal- Ph. # 360-301-0686

REMEMBER, CLUB MEMBERS GET 5% DISCOUNT.

New Website: tarboo_valleywoodenware.com

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

Thank you,

Leah Hollon Paquette

Owner/Maker

Giving Thanks