



# EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

**Volume – 6**

Gloria Neal- Editor

**March, 2017**

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## **CLUB MEETING**

**Jefferson County Library**

**March 11th, 2017**

**Board Meeting**

**9:00a.m.**

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

## CATCHING SWARMS

### USING

### BAIT HIVES

By Tony Goldenberg

## THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Bee Keepers,

It is a relief to see the extraordinarily wet and cold February in our rear-view mirror. March temperature are still not up to normal but at least the dampness is receding. The bees who survive this winter are indeed hearty little creatures.

Our past president, Tony Goldenberg, made an interesting presentation last year about swarming and specifically capturing swarms from your or other hives using bait hives. Tony will again present on this interesting topic in our March meeting.

Tim Lawrence from the WSE Extension program on Whidbey Island will be back with us again in April. Tim can discuss a wide variety of bee topics so put your thinking caps on and help us select a topic at our March meeting.

### Trivia for the month:

Skeps are domed or conical hives woven out of coiled ropes of straw, sedge, reed or willow. Skeps were among the earliest purpose-built hives in Europe. The word skep is derived from the Old Norse skeppa, meaning "basket" or "bushel."

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 2017:

**APPRENTICE CLASSES:** Harry Prather

**NEWSLETTER:** Gloria Neal  
Then waiting

[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

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## EJ Beekeepers...

**Well, March came in like a Lion, so hopefully it will go out like a Lamb.**

**The “girls” have been out in the heather and crocus, bringing the pollen in. That’s encouraging!!**

**Thanks to Paul Lundy for giving the presentation last meeting on American Foulbrood. It was encouraging to know what to watch for and if caught early, it can be controlled!**

**I’m looking forward to Tony’s presentation this month on “Bait Hives”. He has been very successful with catching swarms by setting up bait hives, then waiting and watching for them to move in!**

**If you’re interested in adding to your apiary or catching your swarms... instead of seeing them fly off, don’t miss Tony’s presentation on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March!**

**If you have a honey bee subject that you would like to see covered in a club meeting, you can contact me at the e-mail in the column at left.**

**Well, that’s the buzz for March!**

*Gloria*

EJBees Websitr:

EJBees.org

### BEEZWAX by John Martin



### BEEZWAX by John Martin

## MARCH'S HONEY-DO LIST

Our bees become active in the spring, if they survived the winter, 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.

\* 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.

\* Don't feed syrup until the nighttime temperatures are generally above 50 degrees.

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

\* Feed Pollen patties this time of year.

\* 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>

Start your "honey bee journals for 2017. They are invaluable when evaluating our colonies. Can we remember the date and details of a hive inspection done in May of 2015? Accessing the growth or decline of a particular colony? Keep track of the health of your bees!

If your colony has died, seal it up and remove it to prevent robbing and possible disease spread.

**Portland Urban Beekeepers is bringing in Michael Thiele  
to speak  
on March 18th.**

□ **Registration for the event is online:**

<https://portlandurbanbeekeepers.org/thiele-march2017/>



# BUZZING WITH



## Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Apis Mellifera: Apis means "swarm"  
Mellifera means "honey bearing"

-----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.

Mar 11	(#4) Spring Management
Mar 25	(#5) Swarms
Mar 25	(#6) Summer Management / Products of the Hive
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 [frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com](mailto:frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com)

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

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

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

Thank you,

*Leah Hollon Paquette*

*Owner/Maker*

*Giving Thanks*