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EJ'S NEWS

Volume – 7

Gloria Neal- Editor

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

December, 2018

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CLUB MEETING

Jefferson County Library

Sat. Dec. 8th,2018

Board Meeting9:00a.m.....

PROGRAM: 9:30am

"Tricks of the Trade,

Honey Tasting.

**Items made from hive
products**

Mead tasting

THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

Thank you to everyone who has worked to make our Association valuable to our members. It really helps to have so many experienced beekeepers in our midst to offer sage advice. I know I've learned a great deal over the past six years. My problem is that I keep forgetting key points like weighting down a hive cover. Yes, I did make that rookie mistake when we went on vacation in early November. Evidently, we had some high winds and one of the covers flew off and allowed rain to infiltrate the colony. Needless to say...we lost the colony.

In October, Rich Thomas suggested that we meet in December to sample our honey and other bee products and discuss a variety of beekeeping topics. Rich offered to lead the meeting and even bring in some of his mead for tasting. Thank you, Rich, for taking the lead on this. Normally, we don't meet in December.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our final meeting of the year next Saturday.

Respectfully,
Dave Morris

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: David Morris

Vice President: Frank Neal

Secretary: Nancy Morris

Treasurer: Harry Prather

Trustees:

Paul Jendrucko

Micheal Cavett

John Liczwinko

Slovenia

EJ BEES' WORKERS

These people have volunteered to head committees in 2018:

APPRENTICE CLASSES: Harry Prather

NEWSLETTER: Gloria Neal

gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

MEDIA CONTACT: Gail Moa

WEBSITE: Mike Edwards

MEETING AND ACTIVITY

CO-ORDINATORS:

Tony Goldenberg, Harry Prather,
and Gloria Neal

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Get a headstart on your apiary
needs!

November 15th
thru
December 15th, 2018

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

Thanks to all who have helped in making our 2018 year a great success! Our officers, trustees, Newspaper reporters, those who have helped with the classes, those who stepped up to help a beekeeper who needed some help with their bees, and those of you that shared your valuable honey bee wisdom with the rest of us. I could fill pages with all the people in our club who have stepped up to fill in the gaps! Thanks Again!!

We will have a December Meeting, this year, thanks to Rich Thomas, who decided it would be fun to have a get-together.

Bring at least a ¼ cup of your favorite honey, or a special honey, from another area, for a honey tasting extravaganza.

Also, If you have any special "tricks of the trade" to share with the club. (tricks defined as processes or manipulations which you have discovered or invented which makes your beekeeping easier)

Then we will have members share items made with bee products with recipes, if possible.

We will have a mead tasting and general hubbub talking about the preceding year and the new year to come!

Please plan to attend and bring any items that you would like to share with the club...

That's the buzz for December,

Gloria 360-301-1850

gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

BEEZWAX



DECEMBER'S HONEY-DO LIST

- * **Keeping any winter die-off bees cleared from the entrance is important.**
- * **Feeding fondant or candy boards is a wonderful alternative for a colony short on food stores. A quilt box above it assures you that your bees are kept dry and warm when feeding on the candy. Never feed your honey bees liquids during the winter!**
- * **Make sure your bees have good ventilation during winter.**
- * **Keeping a journal on your bees is an important part of beekeeping. Winter is a great time to review your notes on your colonies and decide what changes to make next year.**
- * **Winter is a great time to make repairs to any woodenware that needs some fixing.**

THE LITTLEST BEEKEEPER

You may have wondered how our "Littlest Beekeeper , Zachary,did with his bees this year.... the rest of his story as told by his grandfather, William.

Zachary's updates have not been overly frequent. The summer has been a little discouraging to him. One of his hives decided to swarm while we were on vacation. We lost the swarm, but the hive provided itself with a very good queen. They appear to be going into winter very healthy.

His other hive became VERY defensive. They are the strongest of all our hives, but not suitable for Zachary. Zachary, his dad, and I opened the hive in July. It was obvious that they had no intent of us bothering them. So, we closed them up and walked away, but they pursued us. I received 20 to 30 stings after walking about 75 yards away from them to remove my gear. His dad received several stings even further away. We now all vote against ventilated gloves. A few days after this experience, they assaulted our dog several feet away. It has been fun watching these bees take out the yellow jackets. I think they have helped to protect all our hives by decreasing the number of robbers.

We have requeened all my hives with Old Sol queens that have produced very gentle offspring. So, I am swapping Zachary for one of my hives. He was discouraged for a while, but has not lost interest in his bees. His defensive hive was a healthy lesson for him. He now knows why I push him to wear his protective gear. He no longer waits till I am working with the bees to come help without wearing his gear.

We are thankful for your support in getting Zachary off to a great start





BUZZING WITH



Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Heater bees are the bees in the colony who vibrate their abdomen and flex their wing muscles to keep the cluster and brood warm

..... Blake



2019 BEEKEEPING CLASSES

Once again, the East Jefferson Beekeepers Association will be sponsoring an Apprentice Beekeeping Class for any and all novice beekeepers. The class will start on the second Saturday in February and last until the end of May. It will cover all of the necessary aspects of beekeeping to allow for successful beekeeping through the first year. The club meetings and presentations should provide any additional knowledge and/or opinions necessary to give more confidence in your skills.

THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR CLASSES IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Feb 9 Lesson 1 The Honey Bee – Honeybee Basics
- Feb 23 Lesson 2 Keeping Honeybees
- Lesson 3 Equipment
- Mar 9 Lesson 4 The Apiary
- Mar 23 Lesson 5 Bee Disease
- Lesson 6 Honey Bee Pests
- Apr 13 Lesson 7 Spring
- Apr 27 Lesson 8 Summer and Swarms
- Lesson 9 Fall and Winter
- May 11 Lesson 10 Honey Harvesting and Product Marketing
- May 25 Review /Test

In addition, weather permitting, I would like to have a couple of visits to the Chimacum High School apiary for some hands-on training, and we may do some things from the back of my truck. Both of these would be after class.

The club is also adding a mentoring program that will link the apprentice beekeeper with an experienced beekeeper in the same area, to give yet more hands-on support.

As always, I would love to have anyone teach any of the classes. Don't worry that you don't know enough. You never really learn a subject until you try to teach. Just let me know which lesson you would like to teach. It's first come, first served.

Harry Prather

WASHINGTON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING CONFERENCE

Join us on Saturday, February 9 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, WA.

Our speaker line up includes:

- Jerry Bromenshenk from the University of Montana speaking on mobile apps for pest and disease management in honey bees
- Jenifer Walke of EWU - Artificial Nectar vs Sucrose. Effects on the microbiome and the bee gut
- Ari Alvarez of BeeManiacs on Mead Making

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

NEW EMAIL: frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

Get a head start on your honey bee needs for next year! **10% off** all items in our shop from November 15th to December 15th.2018

No other discounts apply during this time.

KEEP BUZZING WITH BLAKE

Oxalic Acid treatments for your bees

For information, call Gloria and leave a message for Blake.

He will return your call....360-301-1850