



<http://ejbees.org>

EJ'S NEWS

Volume – 7

Gloria Neal- Editor

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

April, 2018

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CLUB MEETING

Jefferson County Library

Sat. April 14h,2018

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

PROGRAM: 9:30am

IDENTIFYING DEAD OUTS

AND

**HONEY DO'S IN THE APIARY
 NOW**

Class starts today at

11:00 a.m.

on April 28th

Class at 9:00 a.m.

See page 3 for details

THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

After a relatively normal winter, Nancy and I were looking forward to examining our colonies in March. But on the few warm days where it might have worked we were not available. They had to wait until last week when we had a beautiful plus 60-degree day and determined that 3 out of 4 colonies came through fine and one was impacted by a late winter mouse. The mouse guard was installed, and the colony is still functioning although weakened. Patience is certainly required for beekeepers this time of the year. Looking at the weather back East this year, with one storm after another, we are blessed. It will be interesting to see how that cold weather pattern impacted beekeeping in that part of the country.

I'd never heard of apitherapy before but recently ran across an article about a lady in Spain who suddenly died while undergoing bee acupuncture. This is a procedure where bee stings are used instead of needles. The 55-year-old patient was receiving a treatment to relieve tight muscles and stress, according to a case study in the *Journal of Investigational Allergology and Clinical Immunology*.

However, the session quickly went south when the woman "developed wheezing, dyspnea, and a sudden loss of consciousness immediately after a live bee sting." Apitherapy is a type of alternative medicine that uses various honey bee products, such as honey, bee wax, and pollen. More extreme procedures, like live bee acupuncture, use bee venom.

During these sessions, a practitioner places a live bee on the patient and squeezes the insect's head until the needle emerges to insert into the body. The bee dies shortly after stinging. Proponents say the therapy is effective at treating various diseases and alleviating pain. However, the journal's authors say it's dangerous. "The risks of undergoing apitherapy may exceed the presumed benefits, leading us to conclude that this practice is both unsafe and inadvisable."

The unnamed victim, who had no reported diseases, had been receiving apitherapy treatment for two years every month without any reaction, according to the journal. The recently published case study doesn't specify when the woman started experiencing problems with the treatment. The journal says she was rushed to the hospital, where she died from multiple organ failure. The journal's authors say it is possible for someone to have a deadly reaction after having the procedure so many times before. "Repeated exposure to the allergen was found to carry a greater risk of severe allergic reactions than in the general population." This is the first reported death caused by bee venom apitherapy in a patient who was previously tolerant of the treatment, according to the journal.

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

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

EJBees Website: EJBees.org

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

Happy Spring to all of you!

Our colonies are really buzzing on these warm spring days. I have heard from a number of beekeepers who already have their colonies bursting with activity and bees.

It is so encouraging to see the colonies in our area coming thru the winter strong and healthy! Thanks to all the research going on, we have some methods to fight the Varroa that are working, without having to use the harsh pesticides in our colonies.

That said, there is the occasional colony lost from robbing, dampness, or other reasons. This months topic will cover what we should be doing in the apiary this time of year. Also, we may have some new beekeepers who may have lost a colony, and aren't sure what happened to their bees. We will have a time for those beekeepers to ask questions of our experienced beekeepers about their deadout colonies. For more on this, see page 3 in this newsletter.

We hope that many of our experienced beekeepers will participate in this worthwhile endeavor.

We will need to have some experienced volunteers after the meeting, to look at any frames or hives in the parking lot to evaluate and offer answers to questions.

Rich Thomas will be heading this...

That's the buzz for April.



Calvin demonstrating March's topic, "Using nucs in the apiary"

Gloria gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

BEEZWAX by John Martin



EVALUATING YOUR DEADOUTS

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This month we will be focusing on our new beekeepers who already have hives, and since they may have evaluated their overwintered or non overwintered colonies, our April meeting is to access why they lost a colony, the relative strength of their hive management, and offer suggestions for the new seasons' success!

So, for this meeting, the new beekeepers will bring their questions of the experienced beekeepers in the group.

We will have a time after the meeting for any beekeepers who would like to have their empty deadouts or their frames evaluated in the parking lot at their vehicle.

Hopefully this will be helpful to the new beekeeper, and be an encouragement to everyone!

APRIL'S HONEY-DO LIST

Goal is to bring your bees to high population, without swarming, so they start to peak at the time of the main honey flows, but not before.

* Apiary permits are due in by April. Go to pestprogram@agr.wa.gov or call : 360-902-2070

* Make sure your colony is queenright and laying eggs. If needed, replace the queen with a purchased one and watch for signs of swarming.

* Give your colonies pollen patties and syrup to stimulate development.

* Check honey stores every two weeks from March till May, until the start of honey flows.

* If using natural alternatives for Varroa control, like DRONE Comb, be sure to take out and freeze drone comb before the drones emerge.

2018 APPRENTICE BEE CLASSES

I will continue the three classes a month schedule I implemented last year, but I will not schedule apiary visits. Instead, we will have the apiary visits after lessons, weather permitting.

April 14th- LESSON 6- Summer Management 11:00a.m. to noon.

**April 28th, 9:00a.m. to 1200p.m. LESSON 7- Fall Management
LESSON 8 Diseases and Pests**

May 12th, 11:00am to noon- LESSON 9 Brood diseases
LESSON 10 Queen rearing, Marketing and Final thoughts.

May 26th, 9:00a.m. to 10 :00a.m. REVIEW /TEST

I hope to have three apiary visits. One , we will inspect a vacant hive, just to get the idea of how to manipulate the woodenware and what to look for when inspecting a hive. The second and third will look at occupied hives to reinforce the proper techniques.

I think the Master Beekeepers registration fee is still \$10.00, but of course that is subject to change. The club membership fee is \$24 for an individual or \$36 for a family, That brings the total to \$34 for an individual or \$36 for a couple.

Harry



BUZZING WITH



Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Bees do not have knees,
they have six jointed legs

But no kneecaps!!-----Blake



"THE LITTLEST BEEKEEPER"

I heard about Zach from his grandfather when he called me to order Zach's birthday present for this year...honey bees! After hearing about Zach's love of honey bees I asked his grandfather, William, to tell me about Zach. Here is our little beekeeper's story...

Zachary started helping his grandfather with his honey bees at the age of 4.

At the age of five, he was becoming comfortable around the bees, his bee gloves were swapped out with garden gloves...big mistake... he received 3 stings thru the gloves. He took it very calmly and said, "Granddaddy, I think a bee nicked me". Of course he got lots of attention from Grand Mama, when he showed her his battle scars.

His birthday present for his sixth birthday was his very own nuc in a hive. His garden gloves were replaced with better gloves.

2017 was not a good year for Zach's bees. His hive did not make it! Zach is going into 2018 determined to have a successful hive!!

This year he is getting his birthday present a little early... "cash", which he took to the post office and bought a money order to pay for his own two nucs of Old Sol Bees.

His nucs should arrive in time for his 7th birthday. This year he plans to invite his friends to his apiary so he can teach them about honey bees!



WAY TO GO ZACH! WE NEED MORE BEEKEEPERS LIKE YOU! WE WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ZACH AND HIS GRANDFATHER, WILLIAM, AND FOLLOW WITH PICTURES THROUGH OUT THE SUMMER!

LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

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

TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

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

REMEMBER, CLUB MEMBERS GET 5% DISCOUNT. New Item:

New Items:

Robber screens

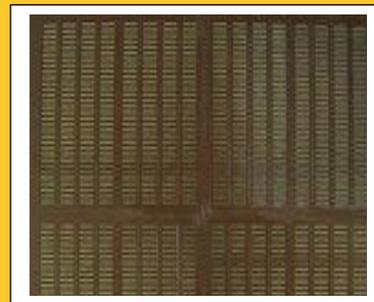
(For 8 or 10 frame brood boxes)

\$10.00 ea.



Propolis trap

\$8.00 ea.



NEW WEBSITE: tarboovalleywoodenware.com

NEW EMAIL: frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com