



<http://ejbees.org>

EJ'S NEWS

Volume – 7

Gloria Neal- Editor

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

February, 2018

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CLUB MEETING

Jefferson County Library

Sat. February 10th, 2018

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

PROGRAM: 9:30am

SAFELY EXTRACTING

HONEY BEES FROM

BUILDINGS AND TREES.

by Grant & Patsy Simpson

WHY USE SINGLE BROOD

BOXES

by Calvin Lomsdalen

.....

Classes start at 11:00 a.m.

THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

A few years ago, our former president Tony Goldenberg, turned me onto the magazine "American Bee Journal." I immediately subscribed and have been richly reward by the wealth of information contained in each monthly issue. It is well worth the modest subscription fee.

The recent issue contained an article that provided fascinating facts about California almond growing and production. Most of us already know that it has a profound impact on beekeeping in the Pacific Northwest as it results in the ready availability of package bees and nucs for us in April and May.

Other interesting factoids include:Ø 80% of all the almonds grown world-wide come from California;

Ø 1,100,000 acres (1,719 square miles) are used for growing almonds;

Ø One hundred and thirty million trees are grown for almond harvesting;

Ø Just under 2 billion pounds of almonds are produced annually with over 25% consumed in the U.S. with the balance exported. Spain is the biggest importer of U.S. produced almonds;

Ø This requires about 1.7 million bee hives to achieve effective pollination. These hives come from commercial beekeepers from around the country.

As I noted last year, almond pollination provides a large proportion of commercial beekeeper's annual revenue and helps keep pollination costs down for other crops like our fruit orchards in Eastern Washington. Many of those hives end up in Western Washington after the spring fruit pollination concludes.

As we progress through the bee season in Jefferson County your Association will focus on topics that are timely and topical. This will include outside presentations as well as round table discussions where we learn from each other.

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

LETTER FROM FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

Our February meeting will kick off our 2018 beekeeping classes. Harry has coordinated these classes for the club each year and introduces new beekeepers to beekeeping, giving them the knowledge and hands-on skills they need to be successful. Harry encourages club members to step up and teach any class that they feel comfortable doing.

Please talk to Harry and see what you can do to help out in this important class. And thank you Harry, for giving your time to give new students the classes they need to be successful beekeepers!

It's rare to have a club that has so many people willing to share their knowledge with whoever will take the time to listen and learn. Our club members are all so willing to share their knowledge and that's what makes our meetings successful.

Tony Weller shared his method for making cooked fondant at the February meeting with us. Tony uses fondant boards with quilt boards above and has been very successful in wintering over his colonies! A lot of information was shared by club members also! Thanks to all of you!!!



That's the buzz for February.

Gloria gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com

EJBees Websitr:

EJBees.org

BEEZWAX by John Martin



FEBRUARY'S HONEY-DO LIST

*During winter your bees are clustering to keep warm, feeding the colony, and occasionally on a day above 50 degrees taking their much needed cleansing flights.

*This time of year it is a guessing game to know whether your colonies have made it thru the winter or not. A stethoscope is a wonderful way to hear any activity taking place inside your colonies. Or a quick peek to check on the colony can be done on a warm day to make sure they have survived. Lifting the bottom back of your hive box can give you an idea of weight and the amount of honey stores left. (removing the top weights on your lid first, of course).

*Make sure the upper brood box is full of honey. If you need to feed colony low on foodstores, the preferred method for winter is cane sugar on an inner board or sugar cakes with a quilt board above the fondant board. Fill quilt with pine bedding.

*Winter is a great time to review your 2017's Bee journal, and make decisions on how you want to manage your apiary for next year. It is an important part of beekeeping.

*Watch for signs of Nosema, which includes signs of disentry on the hive entrances.

*Don't forget to clean out the dead bees in your entrances.



Quilt Board

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.

Feb 10th, 11:00a.m. to-12 :00p.m.----LESSON 1 The Honeybee and Her Products

Feb 24th, 9:00a.m. to-12:00a.m.- LESSON 2 Woodenware (Required equipment),

LESSON 3 Getting started

March 10th, 11:00 a.m. to noon LESSON 4 Spring Management

March 24th 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m....LESSON 5 Honeybee Diseases and Pests LESSON 6- Mites

April 14th 11:00a.m. to noon---LESSON 7 Swarms

April 28th, 9:00a.m. to 1200p.m. LESSON 8 Summer Management and Honey Harvesting

LESSON 9 Fall and Winter management

May 12th, 11:00am to noon- 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.

The text will be the new book written by the Washington State Master Beekeepers. It is available free of charge on their website, <http://wamasterbeekeepers.org/booklets/TheBeeBook.pdf>, or I will send a copy to anyone who sends me a request. e-mail at haroldp5@gmail.com.

While this book does not exactly follow the lesson schedule, it does have some advantages. First, it's free. Second, it has lots of pictures. Third, it's free.

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. See you on Jan 13th!

Harry



BUZZING WITH



Blake

Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!

Many doctors recommend bee pollen to help
decrease allergies ---

"Bee"-nificial!!-----Blake



GARY COYAN NAMED FINALIST FOR TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Chimacum High School art, food and horticulture teacher, Gary Coyan was a finalist for this year's Teacher of the Year Award, representing the Olympic Educational Service District, which includes schools in Jefferson, Clallam. And Kitsap counties. (Cydney McFarland/Peninsula Daily News)

Gary Coyan, fellow beekeeper, and member of East Jefferson Beekeeper Association, has taught beekeeping in Chimacum School for several years. Chimacum is one of the few schools in Washington State pioneering beekeeping classes and an apiary located on school grounds.

We are proud of the commitment and hard work Gary has shown to introduce beekeeping to our next generation of beekeepers.

Varroa mites are now, without a doubt, the biggest problem of maintaining a strong and healthy bee colony. A colony infested with Varroa mites will eventually succumb to death in one to two years, if left untreated.

Varroa not only kill bees and weaken colonies, but are responsible for spreading virus infections within the colony. PMS-(Parasite Mite Syndrome)

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

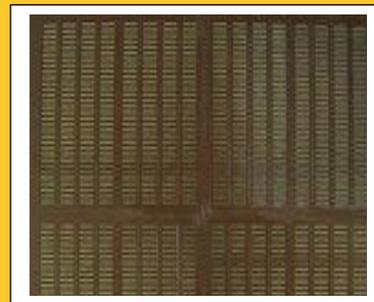
(For 8 or 10 frame brood boxes)

\$10.00 ea.



Propolis trap

\$8.00 ea.



February Sale Items

NEW WEBSITE: tarboovalleywoodenware.com

NEW EMAIL: frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com