



<http://ejbees.org>

# EJ'S NEWS

**Volume – 7**

Gloria Neal- Editor

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

**January, 2018**

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### **CLUB MEETING**

**Jefferson County Library**

**Sat. January 13th, 2018**

**Board Meeting .....9:00a.m.....**

**PROGRAM: 9:30am**

**TONY WELLER**

will present a demonstration on making his sugar fondant and show new videos taken inside his colonies.

Bring an example of your favorite wasp trap. We will have a round table discussion on robbing and wasps.

## THE PREZ SEZ

Dear Fellow Bee Keepers

Welcome to our new beekeeping year. Our association is only as strong as its members and it is time to again recruit new members. These can be folks who were members in the past as well as prospective new members. Last year Harry Prather streamlined his beginning beekeeping classes. It's a much more condensed schedule that concludes in April thereby fully prepares new beekeepers to be ready to care for their bees by the end of April. (see page 3)

In this month's meeting we'll ask input from our members regarding the type of programs you'd like to see in 2018. As usual I expect that we'll have a mix of outside presenters as well as input from our experienced beekeepers. The periodic round table discussions are extremely informative as everyone seems to have constructive input on what works and what doesn't when it comes to keeping bees in our local environment.

It is encouraging to follow the tremendous scientific efforts made to control the varroa mite. We still have a long way to go but from what I've read we are making progress. Another pest, the small hive beetle was first spotted in the U.S. in 1996. It has spread rapidly and can cause considerable damage to weak and even stronger colonies. I haven't heard of this pest impacting our area, but it is something to be aware of and something we'll likely address at one of our meeting.

Your officers, trustees and our volunteers look forward to serving you in 2018.

Respectfully, Dave Morris

Thanks to Gail Moa for sharing this website with us...Check it out!

<https://www.keepingbackyardbees.com/gardening-for-bees/>

## 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](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...

Happy New Year to all of you!

We are looking forward to 2018 being a successful beekeeping year for you and your "girls"!

Last fall I received many calls from beekeepers who were having a lot of problems with aggressive wasps and hornets attacking their colonies. It takes very little time for a weak or small colony to be overpowered by powerful bees, and it is very difficult to stop a robbing frenzy, once it gets started!

Once the guard bees are killed, these marauders will eat eggs, brood, honey and the bee population left in the colony. We see this particularly in the fall when the wasp numbers are highest.

This month's round table topic will address this problem. It may be early in the year for wasps, but the old saying of "forwarned is forarmed"... I believe applies here.

We also encourage you to bring your homemade wasp traps that worked for you last year, to share with our members.

We will also have another presentation by Tony, with videos from inside his colony, and also his presentation on his fondant recipe. Please share this with your beekeeping friends...

*That's the buzz for January.*

*Gloria* [gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com](mailto:gloria@tarboovalleywoodenware.com)

EJBees Websitr:

[EJBees.org](http://EJBees.org)

BEEZWAX by John Martin



# JANUARY'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 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.

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\*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.



Quilt Board

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

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

## 2018 APPRENTICE BEE CLASSES

It is, I think, time to start planning the 2018 Apprentice Class schedule. 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.--- LESSON 1 The Honeybee and Her Products

Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00a.m. to 12:00a.m.--- LESSON 2 Making Woodenware-- Required equipment

LESSON 3 Getting started

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

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

April 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00a.m. to noon---LESSON 7 Swarms

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

LESSON 9 Fall and wWinter management

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am to noon- LESSON 10 Queen rearing, Marketing and Final thoughts.

May 26<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup>!

Harry



# BUZZING WITH

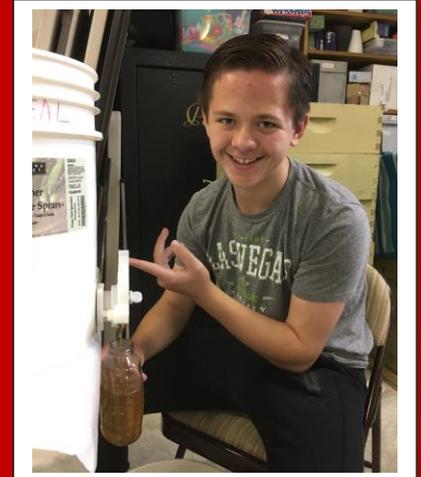


## Blake

**Bee-lieve me. It's a fact!**

Honey bees maintain a constant temperature of 93 degrees within the cluster ---

*Must-bee warm!!-----Blake*



Bee bread is made by worker bees. The recipe calls for pollen, honey, and a dash of glandular secretion. Tucked into the comb, it ferments. The fermentation releases nutrients from the pollen and creates antibiotics and fatty acids that inhibit spoilage. One job of younger bees is to eat this bee bread, then secrete it thru their hypopharynx, a tiny globular gland near the jaw. This secretion is essentially bee spit, but is known as ROYAL JELLY.

## 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

## LOCAL BEE RESOURCES

### TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

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

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

#### **NEW ITEMS AVAILABLE:**

**FONDANT Boards....\$20.00 Special till Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>....\$16.00**

**QUILT BOARDS....\$21.00 Special till Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> : \$17.00**

(no other discounts apply on special sale items)

#### **January Sale Items**

Winter Patties....\$3.00

**Provides carbohydrates and only a small amount of protein. Does not encourage brood rearing.**  
**(Tip: dip your hands into sugar before handling patties.)**

**PARA-MOTH-** for storing your used Bee equipment

(Protection against wax moth damage)

**1# container- \$18.50 (3 oz. per stack of up to 5 honey supers )**

**NEW WEBSITE:** [tarboovalleywoodenware.com](http://tarboovalleywoodenware.com)

**NEW EMAIL:** [frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com](mailto:frank@tarboovalleywoodenware.com)