



# EJ'S NEWS

EJ is East Jefferson Beekeepers Association's Mascot.

Volume 9

Gloria Neal, Editor

March 2020

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CLUB MEETING at

Jefferson County Library

**Saturday,  
March 14th**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Board Meeting**

**9:30 Club Meeting**

**Asian Giant hornet**

**& Spring In the Apiary**

**To be taped**

**Class...**

**11:00...The Apiary**

**12:00...Makeup**

## **THE PREZ SEZ**

Dear Fellow Beekeepers,

Unfortunately, as explained elsewhere in this newsletter, the Jefferson County library has determined that having more than 10 people in our meeting room increases the chances of spreading the corona virus. We received no explanation on why 10, is the magic number, but so it is. We will have our board meeting and scheduled apprentice beekeeping classes, since the numbers are within the library's policy numbers. The meeting will be held as scheduled and will be video taped and made available to our membership on-line for those not attending. If we have more than 10 people at the meeting, we may have to keep the attendance to 10. We are open to any suggestions, you may have.

*It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's Father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.*

Sincerely,

Dave Morris

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President:** David Morris

[djmorris@aol.com](mailto:djmorris@aol.com)

**Vice President:** Rich Thomas

[richandsusi@cablespeed.com](mailto:richandsusi@cablespeed.com)

**Secretary:** Susie Thomas

**Treasurer:** Harry Prather

**Trustees:**

**Paul Jendrucko**

**John Lizwinko**

**Mike Kelley**

## EJ BEES' WORKERS

**APPRENTICE CLASSES:** Harry  
Prather

**NEWSLETTER:** Gloria Neal  
[Eastjeffbees@gmail.com](mailto:Eastjeffbees@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE:** Mike Edwards

## APRIL'S CLUB MEETING

**DATE HAS BEEN**

**CHANGED TO**

**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**(FIRST SATURDAY)**



<http://www.ebjbees.org>

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

EJ Beekeepers...

Beekeepers are people who are pretty good at finding a problem in a colony and being able to switch gears and address the needs of their honey bees.

This time, it's not that easy! Normally our Bee Club meetings are once a month, and have the advantage of all our experienced beekeepers coming and sharing their valuable knowledge. We have had the best of educations for all of us.

The Jefferson County library has instituted a temporary limit of 10 people for any gathering at the Humphrey Room, so we will have to change our meetings and activities at the library until they are able to relax their restrictions. So, concerning the March 14th meetings, please note the following:

The Apprentice Class on "The Apiary" will be held at 11:00 AM as planned. A make-up (repeat) class on "Beekeeping" will be held from 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM for those who missed the first hour of class 2 weeks ago.

The Executive Board meeting for March, 9:00-9:30 AM, will be a "Board only" meeting...so please contact Dave Morris or Rich Thomas if you have something you would like to bring up to the Board (emails at left).

Because of the limits, we plan to go ahead with the planned program for a limited general meeting, including some words on the Giant Asian Hornet, and on the early spring preparations you should be making in your apiary. Jim Gurney will record it on video, and we will send a link that will enable bee club members to view the presentations. Our thanks to Jim and Rich!

*That's the buzz for March.*

*Gloria*

360-301-1850 [Eastjeffbees@gmail.com](mailto:Eastjeffbees@gmail.com)

### BEEZWAX

KIDS TODAY... THEY WANT EVERYTHING HANDED TO THEM!

WANT TO WATCH TV?

SURE! HAND ME THE REMOTE!

By John Martin

TM & © 2020 John Martin

<http://www.beezwaxcomic.wordpress.com/beezwax>

ARTIST: 3-18

## 2020 APPRENTICE CLASS SCHEDULE

**March 14, 2020 ---- 11:00 - 12:00 Chapter 4: The Apiary Chapter 2:**

**12:00 - 1:00 Chapter 2: Keeping Honeybees [MAKEUP]**

**March 28, 2020 ----- 9:30 – 10:30 Chapter 5: Honeybee Diseases**

**11:00 -12:00 Chapter 6: Honeybee Pests**

**April 4, 2020 ----- 11:00-12:00 Chapter 7: Spring Management**

**April 18, 2020 ----- 9:30 -10:30 Chapter 8: Summer & Swarms**

**11:00 -12:00 Chapter 9: Fall & Winter Management**

**May 9, 2020 ----- 11:00 -12:00 Chapter 10: Honey Harvest, Product Marketing**

### **IN THE “BEE” GARDEN**

I heard the familiar Flight-of-the-Valkyrie buzz against the quiet of the shed - a HUGE bombus. In truth my distance sight is not the best - it could have been something else, as in the case of my 90 year old mother who thought she was dealing with a pesky crane fly that turned out to be a bat. I’m pretty sure my visitor was indeed a bombus - in any event, a pollinator of some kind. Perhaps a queen looking for a nice spot to start a nest? I will encourage her to one of the piles of branches I’ve amassed over the past few years.



Ah, pollinators. With our honeybees hunkered hives, it’s encouraging to see the hummingbird, bombus, even yellow jacket (sort of) reminding us warm weather is just around the corner. The Indian plum has been in bloom for the past few weeks - one signal that gardening season will soon be in full gear. The small area of lawn I did not leave to meadowing, (my word) that I kept manicured is reminding me the task of tending to its putting green-ness (also my word) also approaches. Freshly-cut grass is the quintessential scent of spring, but with that comes carbon monoxide fumes. Last summer I resorted to using a respirator, this season I have a new plan that includes (1) a bee lawn, and (2) a battery-operated lawn mower.

The bee-lawn will sport many flowers already in place: white clover, sweet alyssum, creeping thyme, dandelion. Other flowers will be sown or planted as soon as I denude select swatches of sod. I can satisfy my need for order by mowing at six inches, and close-crop paths to my chicken coop and library-shed.

Are you intrigued? Here are two links to get you started. Happy Gardening!

### **FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES**

**Rhody Parade...May**

**Dave Noble presentations...July 25TH**

**Jefferson County fair...August**

**For info on these events...**

**[richandsusi@cablespeed.com](mailto:richandsusi@cablespeed.com)**

### **GARDEN LINKS**

**<https://www.mnn.com/your-home/organic-farming-gardening/stories/bee-lawn-leave-certain-weed-flowers-intact-help-pollinators>**

**[https://www.americanmeadows.com/wildflower-seeds/wildflower-mix/alternative-lawn-wildflower-seed-mix?adpos=&scid=scplp2336&sc\\_intid=2336&gclid=Cj0KCQiAqY3zBRDQARIaJeCVxNnDIUBWJfz8huzVmVjXeVmfz6uG6UApCBolQ2ofmsKLBdvCdlWISgaAsIYEALw\\_wcB](https://www.americanmeadows.com/wildflower-seeds/wildflower-mix/alternative-lawn-wildflower-seed-mix?adpos=&scid=scplp2336&sc_intid=2336&gclid=Cj0KCQiAqY3zBRDQARIaJeCVxNnDIUBWJfz8huzVmVjXeVmfz6uG6UApCBolQ2ofmsKLBdvCdlWISgaAsIYEALw_wcB)**

**<https://www.mnn.com/health/healthy-spaces/blogs/meadows-grasslands-biodiversity>**

## It's GREAT to be a member of EJBees!

### Do you know all the benefits of being a member of East Jefferson Beekeepers Association?

Well, not just members, but anyone in the general public can enjoy the following: • Receive the EJBees monthly newsletter • Visit the EJBees website ([ejbees.org](http://ejbees.org)) • Attend EJBees monthly meetings • Connect to other beekeepers.

### Only EJBees MEMBERS receive the following benefits:

1. Get a 5% discount at Frank Neal's Tarboo Valley Woodenware

2. Participate in EJBees classes on beekeeping

3. Link up with an EJBees mentor

4. Become an EJBees mentor!

5. Have access to EJBees equipment

6. Access notes on methods (e.g., the "Alcohol Wash" for mite counts), and to detailed write-ups and audio or video recordings of special presentations on beekeeping (e.g., "Apiary" Dave Noble, Sept 2019; Jim Ullrich on Mason Bees, Feb 2020, etc.)

7. Obtain a swarm through the EJBees swarm response "rescue" program

8. Participate in great events such as the EJBees entry in the Rhody Parade and the Jefferson County Fair beekeeping booth, etc.

9. Become automatically an associate member of Washington State Beekeepers Association

10. Contribute a "photo of the month" to illustrate your special technique, method or observation

11. Vote on matters concerning the operation and direction of the EJBees organization.

### BEST INFORMATION ON THE ASIAN GIANT HORNET...

An active hornet nest was found and destroyed in Nanaimo B.C. in September 2019. Other sightings by private individuals are along the boarder in White Rock B.C., Blaine, WA and Custer, WA.

Dispersal is about 20 miles from the foundling nest. This calls into question whether the hornets found in Blaine come from 1st or 2nd year nests since Blaine is at the extreme end of this range. Nanaimo is about 20 miles across water from Vancouver, the suspected entry point.

They do not like plains or prairie but rather forested landscape. Human transport is not ruled out. This would be accidental (hopefully) in garden materials, pots, straw etc. The larva are used as food in Japan.

A citizens initiative is employed in Nagoya, Japan to use bottle traps to monitor hornet populations.

Hornets can be tagged with radar detecting devices (developed for tracking birds) to disclose the location of nests.

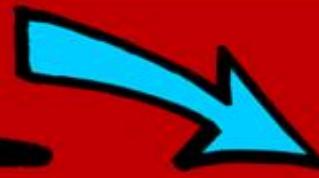
2 other links:

[agr.wa.gov/hornet](http://agr.wa.gov/hornet)

[https://cms.agr.wa.gov/WSDAKentico/Documents/PP/PestProgram/Vespa\\_mandarinia\\_NPRG\\_10Feb2020-\(002\).pdf](https://cms.agr.wa.gov/WSDAKentico/Documents/PP/PestProgram/Vespa_mandarinia_NPRG_10Feb2020-(002).pdf)



# BUZZING WITH



# Blake

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

When a foreging bee gets caught in a rainstorm, she will seek shelter under a flower or leaf.....

rain, rain, go away.....Blake



### KEEP BUZZING WITH BLAKE

Oxalic Acid treatments for your bees

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

[buzzingwithblake@gmail.com](mailto:buzzingwithblake@gmail.com)

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

### TARBOO VALLEY WOODENWARE & HONEYBEES

Frank Neal- Ph. # 360-301-1850...

**5% discount for EJB club members for bee supplies**

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

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

**PLEASE CALL AHEAD!**