



BEE LINES

JUNE 2011

NORTHWEST DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Regularly scheduled meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are held at 1305 Pine Avenue in Snohomish in the Christ the King Lutheran Church building.



The Beginner Session is cancelled for the June 14th meeting.

The purpose and function of the Association is the promotion of interest in bees and beekeeping throughout the northwest district of coastal Washington and most particularly, Snohomish County.

Next club meeting Tuesday, June 14 at 7pm.

June's meeting will feature a video that explains the three types of queen rearing:

1. Non grafting
2. Grafting
3. Nicot system

This is a very informative video and should be of interest even to the newest beekeeper.

Please Note: The Beginner session before the regular club meeting is cancelled on June 14.

This session that normally starts at 6pm for new beekeepers will resume in July.

May 10 Meeting Minutes

Beginner Session
Between 6pm-7pm the

newbee hour was a discussion on all things to consider in the first month and new hive installation.

General Session
7:03 Shannon officially started meeting.

Spoke about the picnic and fair which we will need volunteers to man the beekeeping area and answer questions. The fair is August 25th to Sept. 5th.
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Are you interested in contributing content, photos or book reviews to the NWBDA Web site www.nwdba.org? Help us make this an even better content-rich resource. Contact Dave Grimes at newsletter@nwdba.fatcow.com with your ideas!

(cont.)

Treasurer's Report

John Bryant gave the report.

Checking balance was \$2665.34

Savings balance was \$838.70

Noted we will be paying \$57 more taxes than last year.

Guest Speaker

The guest speaker, Paul Lundy, President, Washington State Beekeepers Association (WSBA), was introduced.

It is an umbrella organization that represents all things local. He handed out an info sheet on the WSBA. He and his wife Lisa live in Kingston and have had a rough year with a loss of 6 of his 10 hives due to non-treatment of varroa.

WSBA talks to the press a lot. They field many phone calls and explain various things to the public. They are advocates for local beekeepers and supply

shops such as Beez Neez.

They also have connections with WA State Dept. of Agriculture. He mentioned Steve Shepherd and his programs at WSU Extension.

All are volunteers and travel quite a bit. They are comprised of local district persons.

He spoke about their website:
www.wasba.org

They represent 6 areas in WA state. David Neal of Whidbey Island is the local representative.

Last year they developed a grant to encourage local organizations to apply for grants for individual program ideas. This is done every year with one award per year.

They work with state legislators to recognize beekeepers as agricultural enterprises. The B&O tax exemption expires in 2013 and they will be lobbying to get it extended. Commercial beekeepers have argued that they don't own the

farmland, and should not have to pay the taxes for that. Their position is that beekeepers work with agriculture regarding spraying crops and aerial spraying. They collaborate in research on insecticides which are used in beekeeping.

Some of the items discussed were:

- Section 18 EPA miticide
- Section 3 coumaphos organophosphate
- apistan
- Hopguard
- Reformed apiary advisory committee which decides what to do with funds collected

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Find the official Northwest District Beekeepers Association Web site at:

<http://www.nwdba.org/>

(cont.)

He also discussed the free WSU diagnostic lab and the link on website for apis molecular.

He encouraged everyone to pay for registration of their hives in May since these funds are for the diagnostic lab.



Every year they sponsor a field day where there are researchers to answer questions. All day on a Saturday with a real lab to actually do some diagnostics and learn. They have queen-rearing nucs, examples of diseased hives, and demonstrations.

Selective mite resistant (SMR) bees are available through WSU program for queen rearing programs. He noted the major resources required for queen rearing in WA. Clubs are

encouraged to apply for grants.

He spoke about the three levels of beekeeping; apprentice, journeyman, and master beekeeper and how to obtain each level. It takes years of mentoring and testing, but gives the opportunity to teach.

The convention will be October 27-29 in Federal Way. They are currently working on local speakers.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Opportunity For Hive Placement

The newsletter editor was recently contacted by an individual who is interested in providing space for hives. Here is what they wrote:

“Both I and another office mate are interested in being a honey bee hosting site. Since you are the Newsletter point of contact, I was hoping that you would possibly be in the know of anyone looking to expand to new locations.

I live in Woodinville, near Maltby and my office mate lives in Leschi.”

So, if you are interested in expanding your hives or have a new swarm with no room to place them, contact Kelley at this email address:

betterroi@yahoo.com

New Book

“The Beekeeper's Lament: How One Man and Half a Billion Honey Bees Help Feed America” by Hannah Nordhaus

Read the review of this book in the June 4th edition of the Seattle Times:

<http://bit.ly/mHnjtM>

Article on Creating a Bee Friendly Garden

Give Bees a Chance: 4 easy ways to create a bee-friendly garden

Read the article in the online version of Sunset Magazine.

<http://bit.ly/c4HDRV>