



# BEE LINES

Regularly scheduled meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at [1305 Pine Avenue in Snohomish](#) in the Christ the King Lutheran Church building.

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## March 10

March 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

Have you ever asked yourself?

- How do I choose plants for a small scale, honeybee friendly garden?
- What pollens best attract and support our honeybees?
- Do honeybees see color and dimension? How does this affect what plants they pollinate?

Carol Schram, Washington State University Master Gardener, will be answering these questions and more at our March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carol is a formally trained WSU specialist and very knowledgeable about honeybees and pollination.

Please join us for what promises to be an information packed presentation ~ see you there!

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Introductions were held with the topic being the color of your hives.

Treasure Report:  
\$1,116.29 checking.  
\$837.82 savings.

New Business:

Rachel introduced the hive deco contest. There are not a lot of rules or requirements. The contest is for members only. Send no more than three pictures per entry. Send separate emails for each entry. Pictures will be brought to the June meeting for voting. Prizes have been donated by Beez Neez. Contest and contact info can be found on the club website.

Members of the club purchased goatskin bee gloves through David. An order of at least three pairs was needed to get free shipping.

Dr. Brad Weeks gave a presentation on apitherapy. Dr. Weeks talked about how having a fever when sick, or swelling when stung is actually a good thing. It shows that your body is acting properly and shows that you have a strong immune system. He talked a little about honey having healing properties. Honey can be used to treat burns, surgical dressings, anti-fungi, anti-acne, pink eye, sore throat, and more. To treat pink eye, you would apply a small amount of honey to the eye. For a sore throat you should fill you nose with honey and lay back. Dr. Weeks also mentioned that there is no general threat to young children eating honey.

Dr. Weeks recommends having a bee sting kit available close by at all times whether or not you know you're allergic.

If you have any questions for Dr. Weeks, feel free to email him at [md@weeks.com](mailto:md@weeks.com)

Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

Club News.

### Field Trip to Bee Haven:

Join the club at Bee Haven on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm. Tim and Connie Bueler, sideline beekeepers and owners of Bee Haven Honey and Pollination in Snohomish, Washington have graciously invited the NWDBA to tour their beekeeping operation and attend a demonstration on "How to Hive a Package of Bees". We hope to see you there!



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Bee Haven Honey  
Tim and Connie Bueler  
7914 69<sup>th</sup> AVE  
SE

Snohomish, WA 98290  
Connie's Cell Phone: (425) 334-9684

Driving Directions from the intersection of WA-9 and 2nd St, Snohomish  
-Travel west on Riverview Rd for 1.5 mi. following the river to the left.  
-Turn Right onto 69th Ave SE.  
-Bee Haven is the third driveway on the left.  
You'll see our sign.

Honetstix (Nature's Kick Corporation) has donated 6000 honeystix for us to hand out at the fair this year. They are always very popular, check out the link on our website

### **Mentors Needed.**

We now have a mentor list on our website for folks to contact mentors directly. If you are willing to be a mentor please send me your info and I will add you to the list.

### **Swarm List.**

The list has been updated using the current membership list, if you believe you have been left off in error please let me know.

Our glove order went well with 24 pr going out to members who ordered. Gloves have arrived

and will be available for pickup at the meeting on Tuesday.

Don't forget our hive decorating contest, details on the website.

We still need a volunteer to design our booth for the fair this year, if interested please contact any of the club officers.

Jim from Beez Neez tells me package bee orders are ahead of last year, if you need bees don't wait too long to place your order or you may have trouble getting them.

### **Regulations and signs the end is near.**

There has been an increase in good news for beekeepers when it comes to regulation, New York is on the verge of overturning a longtime ban on beekeeping, Florida introduced a "Honey Standard" which will protect against adulterated honey and if you look hard enough on the web you will find all kinds of good news. But, with the good comes the bad and we don't always see it or realize that it affects us just because the headlines don't mention bees. Here are a few examples that have come to light recently.

1. A farmer in Snohomish (who also keeps Bees) was told to stop using wood chips on his property because he was polluting with them, even though the same county uses them every time they create a wetland area during road construction.



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2. The same farmer had to submit a mitigation plan for being in a killer whale breeding habitat even though he is several miles upstream on the Snohomish river (anybody ever seen an Orca in the River ?) You can read about Bruce's many issues with the state here, <http://ebeyfarm.blogspot.com/>
3. Another individual, this time in King County wanted to start farming on 89 acres of farmland he purchased, he needed to pave over an existing gravel road to improve access, the plans cost him \$1000 (one page) and the actual work was going to cost \$8000. The county wanted to charge him \$22,000 just to review and approve the one page drawing.
4. The same person was offered an old double wide mobile home that he could turn into a large chicken coop or storage barn, the county insisted he put in a septic system including paying all the fees associated with this, needless to say he has decided to cut his losses and leave that county. You can read his story here, [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/opinion/2011235123\\_bruce03.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/opinion/2011235123_bruce03.html)
5. Finally several of you may have heard about the 21 Acre project in Woodinville, they are an organic farm that had all kinds of plans for pea patches and educational workshops and the like, they scaled back to their current operation once the permit fees reached \$100,000.
6. Here is their website, <http://21acres.org/>

Without farms we would all go hungry, without local farms we would lose many valuable areas to place bees. As long as the county/state sees permits as a way of raising revenue we will lose this valuable resource. It is only a matter of time until somebody decides to start charging beekeepers for what we do. I should add that Snohomish County prides itself on being farm friendly, kinda wonder how bad it would be if they took the other stance.