

October 7, 2007



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.

Dates to Remember

Oct. 9: Regular meeting of NWDBA
Oct. 18-20: WSBA convention at the beautiful Sun Mountain Lodge in Winthrop. www.sunmountainlodge.com

The agenda and registration form can be downloaded from the WSBA web site at www.wasba.org.

For those who do not have internet access, I will have registration forms at the regular October meeting.

Nov. 14: Regional meeting 6:00 pm. at the Mt. Vernon Royal Fork, hosted by the Mount Baker Beekeepers.

Minutes of the September meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by President Robnett.

Roll call was by sign-in.

Minutes of the regular August meeting were approved as read.

Treasurers report: Treasurer John Bryant was absent, therefore no official treasurers report was given. Jim Tunnell reported that the association received about \$90.00 during the fair. When added to the \$1439.14 total in checking

and savings reported last month, our current unofficial total is \$1529.14 .

Old business

The Fair:

Cindy White was congratulated for her big blue ribbon which she received for making the Ag area so attractive.

Cindy then took this opportunity to present Ransom and Katrina Whipple with special fair awards for their assistance and dedication.

Cindy stated that she would be attending a debriefing at the fair grounds soon and would report back to us at the next meeting.

Other discussion and comments regarding the fair included positive comments on the layout of the Ag. area with the new storage barn placement creating a better use of space and allowing for a free flow of movement throughout the area.

The Buelers inherited the bee tents following the tear down. Most everything else that was not claimed was taken to the Beez Neez.

Announcements

President Robnett reminded everyone that election of officers takes place in No-

October 7, 2007

vember. Offices open this year are those of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The program

Tim Bueler discussed fall management of bees and other related topics. He began by reviewing some basics. First use plenty of cool smoke and take your time. Pry carefully and clean excessive propolis from the frames for greater ease in moving them about. If you observe little heads with beady eyes lined up and looking at you from between the frames give them a puff or two of smoke to drive them back down into the hive. This will hopefully prevent them from coming after you. Begin removing the outside frames carefully, starting first on the side with the least bees. This will reduce the risk of damaging your queen. Do not break up a brood nest when returning the frames. Remember to keep the side of the foundation with the "Y" visible facing the outside of the box. This has been found to keep the bees oriented thus causing less disruption in the hive. This method cannot be used with plastic foundation due to its construction, therefore the beekeeper must find another way of remembering how to return the frame to its original direction in the hive. This may be by marking the frame or by developing consistency in the way the frames are handled.

Tim distributed a list of WSDA approved pesticides, stressing that none may be used while the honey supers are on. Most require a substantial period of time to pass following their use before honey supers may be placed on the hives. This requires a great deal of planning. **All pesticides must be applied following manufacturers instructions and with WSDA approval.** They should also be used only as a part of an IPM program.

The Check Mite+ bee hive pest control strip is now approved in Washington State for control of the small hive beetle only. It may no longer be used in this state for control of the varroa mite.

While Apistan strips are still approved in Washington State for the control of Varroa mites, it has been widely reported that they have developed a resistance to Fluvalinate, the active ingredient.

Tim stressed that when treating with Mite Away 11 in the fall, feeding a 2 to 1 water/sugar mix is necessary to stimulate brood production because of the brood kill caused by the formic acid.

Feed a 1 to 2 water / sugar mix to light hives.

It is still very important to treat in the fall with Fumidil-B for control of Nosema.

October Beekeeping

Continue to feed bees if necessary. If you did not give fumidil-B in September, do so now. Follow the directions and mix the appropriate amount into a gallon of two-to-one sugar/water syrup and feed it to the bees whether they need food or not.

Please plan to attend the WSBA convention.

The program scheduled for the regular October meeting will include bee hive products.

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