



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

Sept. 11: Regular meeting of NWDBA

Oct. 18-20: WSBA convention at the beautiful Sun Mountain Lodge in Winthrop WA. 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, yes I know that you are out there, I will have registration forms at the regular September meeting.

Minutes of the August meeting

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

Treasurers Report:

Checking account: \$606.80

Savings Account: \$832.34

Treasurer John Bryant reported that the silent auction brought in \$358.02.

Minutes of the July meeting

Minutes of the July meeting may be reviewed in the August [BEE LINES](#).

The program

President Robnett explained and demonstrated the use of shaker boxes. This is a technique he learned while studying beekeeping this spring with a major queen

and package bee producer in California.

The Fair

It was announced that the deadline for submitting open class entry forms for honey is Saturday, August 18th.

The NWDBA booth

Some time was spent in determining who had custody of what part of the booth display and what new items would be displayed. The question was asked how we would use the extra space that we would get in return for securing the area lights etc. at the end of each day. The answer seemed to be that we would use it very well. Set up will be on Wednesday the 23rd and the Buelers will bring in their special gentile bees on Thursday morning.

Following a very brief report by Stan Pallo on the Apiary Advisory committee meeting held in Ellensburg this afternoon, John Bryant put a motion on the floor to have the NWDBA write a research grant request for the Mt Vernon Apiary to be submitted to the Apiary Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Cindy White. Motion passed.

A motion was passed to send Lawrence Oberholtzer a get well card.

Fair Booth a success

The fair booth was once again a huge success. From the set up, to staffing, to tear down there were few problems. Jim Ullman, with his keen eye for design, and great crew assisting, as last year, set up the most attractive educational booth in the fair. The Buelers brought in the most gentle bees imaginable. There were times when it seemed that we would be short on staffing, however someone always seemed to step up and fill in.

There was a steady flow of people coming through, leaving little time to sit down. What were these people asking about, or what were they most interested in? A few were interested in getting started in beekeeping. The most frequently asked questions, however, were about those "disappearing bees". There is definitely a great concern out there about the health of the honeybee population.

The most tense situation arose when someone from the noxious weed booth became obnoxious himself when he came over to our booth and ranted at Jerry about the Japanese Knotweed which we had placed near the bee tent, to show the fair goers what the last major nectar source is in this area. He then tore it from the display, destroyed it, and threw it into the garbage can screaming that it is illegal to possess. It did not go unnoticed however, that a specimen remained on display at the noxious weed booth.

So that there is no misunderstanding, neither the NWDBA or to my knowledge any of its members who advocate planting any noxious weed for bee forage. To be sure, most of us beekeepers, like the passionate person from the noxious weed booth, if not doing battle with Japanese Knotweed, are doing battle with blackber-

ries, morning glory, ivy, and wisteria, to name only a few, which are also bee forage.

September Beekeeping

You may re-queen your colonies now if you did not do so in the spring. Unite weak colonies. To winter successfully, each colony must have the equivalent of ten fully capped frames of honey in the second hive body plus honey arches in the lower hive body, and two or more deep brood frames of pollen. If stores are insufficient, the colonies should be fed a 2:1 sugar syrup mixture. Use top feeders to prevent robbing. Start feeding early in the month, because the bees will not store the syrup and cap the cells when the weather turns cool. Feed one gallon for each deep comb of needed stores. The last gallon should contain Fumidil-B. Feed pollen supplement as needed. Extract the honey now and give the wet combs back to the bees to lick clean.

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.

(editors note): I am currently working on a report pertaining to the Apiary advisory Committee which will include a questionnaire. This will be sent out to all of the WSBA affiliates in our district.

Please plan to attend the WSBA convention.

I am proud to be a part of such a group who would give so generously of their time, talents, display items, inventory and yes, bees for such a good cause as our bee booth is in promoting beekeeping. Stan Pallo, Editor

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