

Lewis County Beekeepers' Association:

September 2011 Newsletter

In this Edition:

- Upcoming LCBA Events
- Notes from LCBA's August 10, 2011 Meeting – featuring discussion of 3 Bee Problems and Bob Harris's notes on how NOT to start a honey business.
- Prepare to Over-Winter Your Bees: Suggestions
- Cooking with Honey: August Recipes
- LCBA / WASBA Information Items, News & Announcements

Upcoming LCBA Events:

- September 14: LCBA Monthly Meeting – *PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT TIME & PLACE!*
 - Tom Wood will show us his unique set-up for greenhouses pollinated totally by honey bees and explain his bee-friendly design. Please bring folding chairs for our meeting and Q&A to follow.
 - Time: 6 p.m. (but come on along later if you can't be there right at 6)
 - Place: Tom Wood's greenhouse, 289 Dykeman Road, Adna, behind Adna Elementary School. Look for a signpost with "LCBA" next to a long gravel drive to the greenhouse.
 - LCBA Board elections
 - Our Bylaws provide for elections in September. This year, the President, Treasurer, and Mentorship Coordinator offices are open. The following LCBA members are candidates for these offices:
 - President: Ted Saari
 - Treasurer: Jon Wade
 - Mentorship Coordinator: Brandy De Melt

- **If you are interested in serving, please contact LCBA Secretary Susanne Weil at 360 880 8130, or LCBA Vice President Norm Switzler at 360 330 1788.**
- **October 3: Apprentice Beekeeping Class begins, taught by Bob Harris and Norm Switzler. For dates, times, and registration information, see “News and Announcements,” below.**
- **October 12 meeting – we’ll probably be at the courthouse for a discussion of over-wintering bees. We’ll talk about our upcoming topics at our September meeting.**
- **November 9 meeting: We would like to have our Honey Extraction Workshop in November, but we need a location. If you can host the club for this workshop, please contact Susanne at the # above.**

Notes from LCBA’s August 2011 Meeting

President Bob Harris introduced two visitors from Lacey, Bill and Julianne, who heard about us online and may be moving to Lewis County. Bob then brought up three weird issues that have befallen members’ bees.

Beekeeping Q&A: 3 Odd Problems

First Problem: Peter Glover passed around a section of frame from a hive in trouble. There were very few bees in the hive and many dead ones below its entrance. The comb had some sealed but punctured brood cells that looked suspiciously like foulbrood.

Bob Tuininga asked if the bees could have gotten into pesticide or herbicide, and Susanne reported that a herbicide treatment had been done in adjacent state land the previous week. Pattern kill is one possibility. Pat thought that the brood pattern looked like drone comb and was consistent with a laying worker, whom you will never find. If you pull the hive apart and shake the frames, she’ll fall out and not be able to get back in b/c she doesn’t know the way back, whereas the foragers do. Then you can marry the hive to another hive box, or requeen. Bob suggested going into the bottom box and looking for a queen. Tim Weibel looked at the comb sample and said it looked like classic “pepperbox” queenless drone brood.

[Sequel: Peter and Susanne re-inspected the hive the next day and found not only no queen, but only about 100 bees. They had too little capped food supplies or brood to be combined with another hive. But at least it was not foulbrood!]

Second Problem: Bob reported on Heather Sherwood’s 8 hives that had been beaten up by a bear out in Cinebar (some of the hives were trapezoidal rather than square, and the frames were mashed). Bob volunteered to try to salvage these bees. These bees did not want to die! Bob was advised just to shove the best frames together and let the bees work it out. Bob reduced them to 3 stacks (2 deeps, a deep, and a medium), prayed over them, and is hoping they’ll over-winter.

Third Problem: Jeff & Janet Anderson caught a swarm in late June out of one of their apple trees. It completely filled one deep. Four weeks later, they looked at it, and it looked like a very small amount of brood, but six to seven supersedure cells. They had never seen the queen but decided to put another box on since there were plenty of bees and some brood. Does this mean that the queen was puny, and the bees hatched out a new queen? Dave thought that a weak queen would not be a cause for swarming. A week later, the supersedure cells were all empty, and the bees seemed to be dismantling them. There are no eggs, no capped brood, and the bees are putting honey in the area where you would expect the queen and brood to be. There are empty cells where you might expect brood to be – but no brood, though on top they are filling cells with honey. He has searched every frame extensively and has found no queen. Why would the bees keep gathering nutrition for a hive without brood to feed, though? Pat said that they may just peter out, and when the weather gets cold enough, they may just die. The best thing to do would be re-queen – it is not too late – as long as they get a queen right away, she can lay brood well into September – or combine with another hive. It is too late to get them to hatch out another queen on their own, but you can still order a queen and get one express delivered within a week.

A little more mystery: one of their other colonies has two supers on it, so Jeff looked for brood there with the idea of transferring brood to the floundering hive. But even that hive has no brood! Their third hive is chock full of bees; he has not yet checked it for a queen. Pat and Gary suggested ordering a new queen, combining the two weak hives, and dousing them with 50-50 mix of sugar water & Honey B Healthy: they would have almost two months to build up for winter, still.

In other news: Sheila Gray has started beekeeping with a top bar hive. She'll keep us posted on how this kind of hive works out.

August Speaker: Bob Harris, “Starting a Honey Business: Learning by Accident”

Bob, as many know, is a dairy farmer: he started with one, and had so much fun that now he and Sharon have four. Bees are similar: it's hard to stick with just one hive. Bob did confess, though, that he had visions of dollar signs and honey sales and sending his kids to college. So this evening's talk is about how NOT to start a bee business. Bob started at the same time LCBA did, in 2008. Years ago, serving at Fort Knox, Bob had a farm and got some bees when a nearby farmer drove up on his tractor and asked if Bob was not using all his land yet, could he keep some bees on Bob's property? Bob's mom is an entomologist, so he's always been fascinated by insects, and Farmer Miller became Bob's bee mentor. Bob now realizes that he knew relatively little about bees. Mr. Miller brought over the bees (suited up; Bob wasn't suited up, and got his first stings). The bees were set up and apparently happy, and Bob was off soldiering during the day when Mr Miller worked his bees, so Bob didn't learn too much at this time. However, the vision of dollar signs got implanted by Mr. Miller, who made money “hand over fist” with his bees.

Bob made the decision, thus, to go into beekeeping based on what someone else told him, not what he learned for himself. Bob says this is the first mistake. Bob asked if anyone in the club does make money from bees. Pat makes some money on a hobby basis. The Gieses, Roy Schaafsma, and a few other absent members are professional beekeepers. Another member noted that he had made some money from beekeeping when he did it on a larger scale. Years ago, people used honey as a sweetener and did more of their own food preparation and preservation, so more people sought honey.

Bob's father asked him to come home when he finished his military stint, sold his farm, and moved back to Seattle, and took over his father's farm after his father passed away. [???] \$5100 later, Bob now has 18 hives; his income to date has been \$680. This year is the first he's made money selling honey. He expects this will grow now that he's gotten it going, but it was not instant wealth.

So: do you really want to go into the bee business, or do you want to be primarily a hobbyist who might sell a little on the side in hope of defraying some of the startup expenses? Bob urges anyone thinking about a bee business to think about this carefully. Beekeeping can be like a marriage, good or bad, because of the emotional drain and demands that go along with the rewards. Beekeeping is not something you can just easily stop doing, so you need to think carefully in advance.

When Bob came to Lewis County and decided to try bees again, he decided to learn more up front. In 2008, Bob brought Jim Bach, a very experienced apiarist from Yakima who is now WASBA Secretary, to have a beekeeping workshop, and there was so much interest that LCBA was born as a result. Jim explained that the process of getting a mentor is the most critical thing you can do: it is important to read and learn, but actually having a knowledgeable person to talk to makes an enormous difference. As LCBA has grown, many members have found a mentor or two within the group to click with. There is diversity of experience and background, shared lessons, shared failures, shared successes, and we support each other and learn from each other.

The next thing besides learning is forecasting. Bob has realized this over time. Before you decide that you want to make beekeeping a money making enterprise, consider carefully what you have and what you want to accomplish. It was that examination that Bob made a few years ago that led Bob to decide that he did not want to keep bees primarily to make money; rather, if that developed as an adjunct to his farm, that would be a nice outcome. There is a breaking point where if you put in too many hours, it stops being fun. If, on the other hand, you are sure that you want to be a commercial beekeeper, then you need to plan carefully as you buy equipment and supplies. Otherwise, you end up with gear that you don't need and don't use.

One of the hard lessons Bob has learned this spring, when he was spinning out last year's honey, is that the marketing piece of a honey business is tough. For every neighbor who knows he has honey, he has someone who expects to get a few quarts of honey. Neighbors are forgiving about bees . . . provided they get some honey. Then there are family members and friends: they, too, want honey. Bob needs to sell a certain amount to sustain the hobby itself, but he can't *not* give some away. So Bob had to ask himself: how much did he need for his family, his extended family, Sharon's extended family, and all the neighbors? That added up to about 1/3 of his yield. That's of about 900 pounds of honey from 11 hives. It's about 12 pounds to a gallon of honey, so Bob had 75 gallons of honey. This may not be a great year for honey: like last year, we had a long, cold, wet, spring and not much of a summer, and this year, a number of members observed they'd seen less available food for bees. If there is less yield, Bob can't expect to make as much, or will have to gift less. There is a break-even point: to sell honey, you need bottles and lids, labels, and do some promotion.

Gary noted that one thing that may make all the difference is that commercial is \$1.50 a pound and three pounds to a quart. If you go to stores, they sell for [what did he say?] Gary sells for \$12 a quart; Bob for \$16. At \$4.16 a quart, to compete with stores, you cannot break even. Bob is only selling his honey from the farm; he has about 70 clients who come to the farm for eggs and then see the honey

and want it, so he is not having to pay for an extra venue to sell, but others would have to find a venue, and that's more cost overhead.

Shirley Swinth asked when the point comes when Bob has to pay taxes. Bob said that because it is a food product, he does not have to pay taxes. What about regulations? There are no licensing requirements in Lewis County. The only requirement Bob is aware of is labeling requirements: what it is and where it comes from. As long as you are a hobbyist, and not a business, no one cares. But if you have a real business, then you have to deal with those issues.

How many hives would you have to have to be in business? Numbers like 200 were floated. Gary Stelzner noted that the Gieses are making less on the honey than on the pollinating aspect of their work. How long does it take to recoup expenses in income? You have to add up all your expenses and do as much advance projection as you can: it may be two or even three years before you have enough to consider selling. Dave said that he earned money for ten or fifteen years, but then, when bees keep dying, you have to ask yourself: is it worth it? At that point, if you go on doing it, you have to love doing beekeeping and not expect a profit. Knowing what Bob knows now, he assumes his original mentor, Mr. Miller, was really just breaking even rather than making money "hand over fist."

Bob's mantra: invest, wait, invest, wait, bad winter, invest more, wait . . . you see the picture. If he makes \$700 per year, it will be several years before he breaks even. He will still have to buy packages, replace supplies, etc.. Bob did this really more for the love of the bees than for the love of money.

One final note: Bob's little farm in Kentucky was close to Walter Kelly Bee Supply – never live that close to a bee supply place. It is just too big a temptation. If you go near, leave your wallet at home. If your wallet is in the car, it's too close.

Inspections: how often? Bob, about once a month. Pat inspects every ten days to two weeks, but he doesn't tear the frames apart – a quick look, a couple frames, and you know what is going on.

Jon Wade had one comment: he was glad he didn't bring his wife tonight, so she doesn't see the numbers. . . .

Peter asked what happens if you try to sell your honey as comb honey. Bob said that he knew of no one but Dave Smith who has ever tried it: he got \$3.50 per super for comb honey. If you cut out the comb, then the bees have to make the comb. That can jack the price up to where it is not affordable.

Honey Hut has supplies like queen excluders: contact Tim Weible, 736 1015.

Medicating: Bob and Jason tried Fumagillin and didn't like it. Others have used the powdered sugar. Bob asked who used Hop Guard. Gary did, and said they were long black strips that dripped and stuck like tar. Though he did not lose the hive he put them in, he did not care for Hop Guard.

Questions about how many deep bodies to put on: more bees, more room, more foragers, more honey? VP Norm Switzler has convinced Bob that for our climate, it is better to split than to use a third deep body, and Bob found that a third deep body did not yield more honey. The multi-deep strategy works best in much warmer climate.

Business Meeting Notes:

- Honey extraction meeting: we will put off the honey extraction workshop till October or November, when we have an idea of how many need the chance to do it. The Sherwoods have sold their extractor. Norm has one. Olympia beekeepers have two extractors that they loan to club members only. We could consider doing this. Jamie Alwine noted that in that club, one member passes the extractor on to the next. Susanne volunteered to find out the price: we can put it to a vote at the next meeting. Bob has an uncapping tank and can bring that to a workshop.
 - Given the season, when is the time to pull the supers? Probably anytime after the middle of August, was the answer. The bees need time to build up added supplies to overwinter. Some wait till September. Pat noted that in September, nights are colder, bees go down and cluster, and it is easier then to pull the supers.
- September meeting – Pat Swinth has a friend, Tom Wood, who would like to invite the club to visit his greenhouse and see his set up. He’s located in Adna, near the high school. Pat will check if we could meet at his place at 6 pm on Wednesday the 14th.
- At our September or October meeting, we will give instruction on how to prepare to winter bees.
- Gardening For Everyone: LCBA will have a table at this annual Master Gardeners’ event on September 17, in Washington Hall at Centralia College. GFE is free and open to the public. Susanne and Peter will be there and other LCBA members are welcome to join in and spread the word about our group and beekeeping in general. If you’d like to help, please contact Susanne.
- LCBA elections report:
 - Susanne reported on nominations progress: thus far, Jon Wade is willing to stand for Treasurer, and we are still seeking a presidential nominee. Bob noted that this group is at a critical point in its growth. New ideas are needed. You don’t have to be a bee expert to step up. Ted Saari is interested and has been in leadership situations before. He is willing to run.
- Norm and Bob will do a September apprentice beekeeping course through Extension. Bob is doing an additional course in Cowlitz County this fall.
 - Elections will be at September’s meeting: our bylaws provide for officers to serve two year terms. These are staggered so that the entire board doesn’t turn over at once. The president, treasurer, and mentorship coordinator are up for election this year. Nominees will be announced at our August meeting.
 - President: Bob is “term limited out,” but will remain on the board as past president and will continue team teaching the beginning beekeeping course with VP Norm Switzler. All present thanked Bob warmly for his generous service and for his vision in starting up the Lewis County Beekeepers back in 2008.

- This means that we need a new president. Susanne, as secretary, and Norm, as VP, are serving as a nominating committee (see contact info above if you would like to serve).

Over – Wintering Your Bees: What to Do to Get Ready:

Below are notes from our October 2010 meeting, when we last discussed over-wintering. September is the time to start preparing the bees. We'll have more Q&A at our September meeting.

September is time to start feeding bees to prepare for winter: what should you mix with bee food to supplement bee health? Honey B Healthy and lemon verbena is what Jason uses. Others use fumagillin. A new medication being tested now, but not yet approved, called Hop-Guard or apistan, supposedly will take care of tracheal, varroa mites, etc.: it has formic acid in it and comes in strips. It may be organically certified soon. It reduced mites in some hives to 2% for overwintering. Hop-Guard received emergency approval in Hawaii to deal with their severe mite problems. It may be approved in Oregon soon; Montana already has approved it. *See notes, above, re: our August 2011 discussion of Hop Guard.*

Late feeding of sugar water mixture: do bees contract dysentery if they are fed this late in the season? Experienced LCBA members said that late feeding may cause dysentery, but since the bees may starve if they are not fed, particularly in this challenging weather year, then we may as well feed them. However, for fall feeding, it is important to feed a 1:1 sugar: water mixture, so that the bees don't have to expend energy fanning off excess moisture.

Should we insulate hives in winter, and if we should, how to do it? Opinions are divided on this question. Insulation may not be necessary in our climate: some think that insulation seals bees up too much, wrecks their ventilation, and forces them to work too hard, wasting energy trying to fan out moisture. Remember that as air can get in, so too, water vapor can escape. Bees will keep each other warm.

Don't cover your hive completely: If you do insulate, be sure that the hive entrance is not covered, so that bees can exit to perform brief cleansing flights, as well as to give moisture accumulating inside the hive a chance to evaporate. As you examine your hives for winter, make sure that each hive tips just a little forward (downward) at the entrance, so that moisture will drip out. It's also possible to leave bottom boards opened, rather than sealed, for ventilation. It is not necessary to put plastic boards underneath bottom boards.

Plywood: One member suggested putting plywood over the top of each hive to keep them dry. Be sure to put a notch into each top—or into your inner cover—so that the top of the hive is not completely sealed, depriving bees of ventilation. Put a hole in the inner cover, if your inner cover does not already have one. Jon Wade noted that he notched his inner covers by running

them through a 3 quarter inch dado on a table saw. Gary Stelzner suggested cutting a couple of slices into an inner cover.

Wrapping hives for insulation: a recent article in Bee Culture said that one of biggest problems in winter is wind. If the wind carries a chill factor, it can drop the temperature inside the hive below the outside temperature. To prevent this, you can wrap the hive with tar paper, taking care not to cover the bottom or the entrance, nor even going all the way up: the goal is to blunt the effects of wind chill. Tar paper is easy to use, as well as cheap.

Insulating with bales of hay—and keeping mice out of your hives: Bales of hay or straw can be placed around your hives as a windbreak. If you do this, though, be aware that bales of hay could encourage mice. To keep mice out, be very careful that entrances are narrowed with mesh or strip of wood, especially if the hives are low to the ground. Remember, this is the time of year when mice are looking for a home! Putting in an entrance reducer helps.

Cooking with Honey: September Recipes

Honey Salad Dressing – time to use those garden greens! (makes about 2 ½ cups)

Ingredients: 1 ¼ cups fat free mayonnaise

1 /3 cup **HONEY**

1 Tb vinegar

2 /3 cup vegetable oil

1 tsp onion flakes

2 Tbs. EACH chopped fresh parsley and prepared mustard

Directions: In a small bowl, whisk together all ingredients till blended. Cover and refrigerate till time to serve.

BBQ Bacon Shrimp: if you're looking for a treat, try this!

Ingredients: 9 slices thick bacon, cut in half

1 pound shrimp [fresh is best, but you can use frozen]

1 / 2 cup your favorite grilling sauce

1 / 2 cup chili sauce

1 / 4 cup **HONEY**

2 Tbs. lemon juice

Pepper to taste

Directions: Heat your BBQ; peel & devein shrimp, leaving tails on
On stovetop, heat a pan & cook bacon over medium heat till it is soft and rendered of some fat
Wrap shrimp in bacon & secure with a toothpick
Mix sauces in bowl, baste shrimp generously
Grill shrimp & bacon till bacon is crispy and shrimp is firm.

Baked Beans with HONEY (4 to 6 servings; what's a BBQ without beans?)

Ingredients: 4 slices bacon, diced
1 / 2 cup chopped onion
4 1 / 2 cups cooked navy beans (OR substitute 3 15 oz. cans of cooked beans)
1 / 2 cup EACH of **HONEY** and ketchup
1 Tb. EACH of prepared mustard and Worcestershire Sauce

Directions: Saute bacon & onion till onion is tender;
Combine with remaining ingredients in shallow 2 quart oven-safe baking dish
Cover and bake at 350 degrees F. for 30 minutes [IF you are using pre-cooked beans, just warm them]
Uncover and bake 45 minutes longer [Unless . . . see above]

Berry Honey Milkshake (4 servings; nonfat suggestions below are optional and ingredients with more calories can be substituted!):

Ingredients: 1 pint nonfat vanilla ice cream OR nonfat frozen yogurt
1 basket strawberries, hulled; or berry assortment – use about 2 ½ cups fruit
1 / 2 cup nonfat milk
1 / 4 cup **HONEY**
4 small mint sprigs [optional]

Directions: Combine all ingredients except mint in blender and blend about 30 seconds till smooth and creamy; serve immediately in tall, chilled glasses, and garnish with mint if you like.

- *Enjoy!*

LCBA / WSBA News and Announcements:

Need Beekeeping Supplies? Here are two options:

Honey Hut at Centralia Deli Steakhouse & BBQ, 708 Harrison Avenue in Centralia. Call Tim Weible, 736-1015, for more information about supplies and prices. Tim has pretty much everything you may need by way of supplies in stock: suits in small to XX, gloves, boxes assembled or unassembled, supers, wax and plastic foundation, frames, tops, bottoms, smokers, tools, and books. The Honey Hut also sells local honey, and even mead!

Janet Brisson of CountryRubes.com – who spoke to our club about using powdered sugar to treat for mites, and demonstrated her special bottom boards – is going to be attending the British Columbia Honey Producers Association Conference (BCHPA), October 20th to 23rd and will be driving through Washington. She is offering us the opportunity to purchase equipment at a discount on her way up. To see her materials, check her website: <http://www.countryrubes.com/>. If you are interested, please contact Susanne at 360 880 8130 or sweil@centralia.edu, and she will help coordinate: Janet is leaving on October 15 and so would need orders before that. She will be here about October 18. Here is what Janet has to offer, and all of these prices include Washington State Tax:

Blems - \$33.00

Robbing Screens - \$15.00 These are the new types with closable entrances and easy to install tabs, check out the website for pictures and a movie here:
<http://countryrubes.com/ordersquestionsstuff/orderpage.html>

Entrance Reducers - \$2.00

8-Frame Adaptors - \$6.00

Gridded Observation Boards \$8.00

All woodenware is weatherproofed by boiling in a solution of paraffin and tree rosin for long life.

Apprentice Level Beekeeping Class starts October 3, 2011

Bob Harris and Norm Switzler are offering the apprentice beekeeping class through Lewis County WSU Extension again this fall. Their overall focus will be the unique challenges and benefits of beekeeping in the Pacific Northwest. A workshop manual is included in registration, and those who complete the course and pass the Washington State Apprentice Beekeeper level exam open book test will receive a certificate. After that, they can go on toward the Journeyman and Master Beekeeper levels.

When: Classes will be Monday, October 3, 10, 17, and 24, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Old Credit Union Building, one block north of the Old Historic Courthouse.

Cost: \$40 per person OR \$60 per couple

Registration: You can mail a check payable to Lewis County 4-H SRT to 351 NW North Street, Chehalis WA 98532, or drop it off at the Extension office. If there is still room, you can register on the first night of class – just come a little early.

Two upcoming conferences for beekeepers:

“Bee A Survivor,” October 20-23, Vancouver, B.C.

Allen Garr (bygarr@telus.net) of the British Columbia Honey Producers wants us to know that their group is mounting an educational conference – 2 days of workshops and lectures - to help beekeepers understand and deal with the problems we are all facing. The meetings are geared for all beekeepers, from hobbyists to commercial. Among the academics that are working in the field and willing to share their experiences with us are UBC’s Dr. Leonard Foster, Oregon State’s Dr. Dewey Caron, University of California at Davis’s Sue Cobey, and Dr. Steve Pernal with the Canadian agricultural research station at Beaverlodge. For more information, visit www.bcbeekeepers.com.

Washington State Beekeepers’ Association, Annual Conference: October 27-29, 2011, Federal Way, SEATAC

Theme: “Sustainable Beekeeping: Success for Commercial and Non-Commercial Apiarists.”

This is your opportunity to hear the latest information and research pertinent to bee management in the Northwest. Advanced registration for the conference is recommended; forms will be available at WASBA.org. [FYI: 4 LCBA members went to last year’s WASBA conference – Roy Schaafsma, Gary Selzner, Peter Glover, and Susanne Weil – and found it both informative and fun. Check with one of us at our next meeting if you’d like to know more about what you might expect if you go this year, or call Susanne at 360 880 8130. For this year’s WASBA contact info, see below.]

Accommodations: Best Western Evergreen Inn & Suites: call 877-574-2464 (local 253-529-4000) and mention WSBA for conference rate (see below for details on rates).

Speakers and Topics:

Headline speaker: Dr. Dave Tarpy, NC State University: The benefits of colony genetic diversity; commercial queen quality – the good and bad.

Other speakers include:

James C Bach, WSBA Secretary, WAS Treasurer – Urban beekeeping with its nuances and issues

Dr. Gloria deGrandi Hoffman, USDA Tucson AZ –Integrated Pest Management in bee colonies.

Kirk Anderson and Mark Carroll, USDA Tucson – Results of their analysis of pathogens in honey bees in the northwest.

Dr. Ramesh Sagili, Oregon State University – Honey bee research at OSU – an update.

Ms. Jackie Park Burris, CA – Commercial queen rearing and the issues

Paul Hosticka, WSBA Treasurer – Small-scale queen rearing for non-commercial beekeepers

Washington State University will provide five speakers including:

Dr. Steve Sheppard, Thurber Professor – Importation of germplasm from Old World sources in 2011

Sue Cobey, WSU Research Associate – Propagation and distribution of novel genetic material to beekeepers

Natalie Boyle, WSU MSc student – Pesticide residues in brood comb

Brandon Hopkins, PhD student – Recent progress in above freezing storage of drone bee sperm

Beth Kahkonen, WSU Apiary and Lab Manager – Monitoring Honey Bee Colony Health

Room Rates: The Best Western room rates for a Single or Family room will be \$69 for single or double, \$79 for triple and \$89 for quad occupancy. Standard two queen-bedrooms will be \$79 for a single or double, \$89 for triple and \$99 for a quad reservation. All rooms are plus taxes and any gratuity. There is shuttle service both ways from Sea-Tac Airport in Seattle directly to the Best Western.

Have questions about this WASBA conference? For more information, contact WASBA Secretary, James Bach: 509-910-6861; jcbach@fairpoint.net or visit <http://www.WASBA.org>.

Growing Places Farm needs beekeeping supplies: If you have gear, especially bee suits and visors, that you can spare, please call Lynn Ford, 360 807 4304, or email lford@gpfep.org.

Need Help With Your Bees? Don't Bee Shy – Contact a Bee Mentor:

- If you'd like to be connected with a honey bee mentor in your area, call Susanne at 360 880 8130 or email Susanne.beekeeper@gmail.com.
- If you need help with Mason Bees, check with Kimo Thielges (kimosabe@compprime.com), or Ted Saari (KNT98632@q.com).

Would You Like to Volunteer as a Bee Mentor? Bee mentors take calls, answer questions, and may visit members' bee yards. If you're interested in serving this way, please call Susanne at 360 880 8130 or email her at Susanne.beekeeper@gmail.com.

Free Swarm & Colony Removals by our "Bee Team." If you – or someone you know – has bees in a structure and wants them removed but not killed, please call a member of the Bee Team (during winter, we would not remove bees, but we can get you on our calendar for spring). This service is free, though we accept donations to support our educational programs.

Can You Help In 2012? Want to ride along on a removal? It's fun, free, educational, and saves bees from the exterminator! Call us (360 880 8130) or email Susanne.beekeeper@gmail.com – it's a great experience!

Respectfully reported—bee happy!

Susanne Weil, LCBA Secretary: Susanne.beekeeper@gmail.com; 360 880 8130