



THE BEELINE

Olympia Beekeeper's Association Newsletter March 2011

Next Meeting: Roosevelt Elementary School 1417 San Francisco Ave. NE
Monday March 14, 2011
Beginning Beekeeping Class at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting follows at 7:00p.m.
Program Topic: "Bees: the Human Dimension"

Guest Speaker for March Meeting - Tim Lawrence has his Ph.D. from Ohio State University (OSU) in environmental sciences with a focus on human dimensions. In addition, he holds a Master's in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology from OSU and Bachelors in Apiculture and Pomology from UC Davis. His primary interest is in the implementation of environmental programs, local officials' response to environmental regulations, and multi-jurisdictional collaboration. He has more than 18 years of Extension experience in both Community Development, and Agricultural and Natural Resources. He has worked with Sea Grant programs in California and Ohio and collaborated with numerous Sea Grant programs around the county. Currently he is the Director of WSU Extension in Island County. Tim was a commercial beekeeper for more than 20 years and has a part time appointment with the Department of Entomology Honey Bee Health Program at Washington State University. He enjoys outdoor activities, meeting new people, walking with his Golden Retriever, and taking on new challenges. He has been married to Susan Cobey for nearly 30 years.

Bee Packages and Ordering – Be prepared to make payment on your bee orders for this spring. The exact cost is not known as of today, however, a firm cost should be known by meeting time. Costs are expected to be similar to last year's order, which was \$56 per 3 lb. package if you have a package to return. Otherwise, expect a cost of about \$60 to \$65 per 3 lb. package. Your order should arrive in mid-April.

Community Opportunities – I receive email inquiries frequently from local citizens wanting to find local honey, beeswax, and pollen. I generally steer them in directions known to me. However, it would be great to have a list of honey and non-honey resources within our organization that would be willing to entertain such inquiries. Drop me an email if you are interested in being added to a 'vendors list' I will gladly either refer them to you, or provide you with their contact information. Thanks!

Beekeeping Calendar for March – 'Register your hives with the Department of Agriculture. March 1 -15, open hive and check honey stores to be sure there are at least four combs of honey in the hive. Feed syrup if there is less than two combs. Clean the hive bottom board. Mouse guards may be removed about mid month. If colonies are 10 to 12 combs of bees, begin comb rotation - two or three combs with young brood and eggs to center of bottom box and empty combs to sides of brood (next to honey) in second box. If colony is 12 to 15 frames of bees with four to six combs of brood, add the first honey super over a queen excluder.' Courtesy of neighbors in the Northwest District Beekeeper's Association in Snohomish.

Signs of Spring! - My neighbor's yard has exploded with bulb flowers, particularly crocus! It's a sea of purple across the street. The sweet cherries are just starting to show their buds, as are the

raspberries, blueberries, and even my lonely pie cherry tree is showing green tips. Bird migrations are underway. I've been hearing the ethereal calls of the varied thrush in the mornings, red-wing blackbirds in the afternoon, and starlings all day! At night the frogs are rehearsing in great numbers.

Feed your little darlings if their hive boxes are lightweight. They've been busy and their numbers may be increasing. If you don't have time to make syrup or candy, some beekeepers lay some newspaper down across the tops of the frames, pour some granulated sugar in a pile on one side and poke a few holes on the other side and close the lid. The moisture in the hive should cause the sugar to firm up and the bees can make their way to the sugar.

News, Trivia, and Facts – follow the links to read!

- **Slow Food USA:** Much of the plant-life we depend on for food exists thanks to honeybees. **Now the bees are depending on us to return the favor.** Click here to **sign The Slow Food USA petition calling on the EPA to solve the mystery that's killing our buzz:**
http://org2.democracynaction.org/o/5986/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=5833
- **Clinical Trials to Start for Bee Venom Arthritis Product**
Apimed, Inc. US Chief Operating Officer Robert Brooks PhD announced the company received a clearance letter from the US Food & Drug Administration on December 22nd authorizing the company to proceed with its Phase III clinical trial. Apimed plans the launch of its Phase III Apitox, a honeybee toxin, for the indication of pain and inflammation of osteoarthritis early in 2011 with clinical sites in India and the United States. Apimed is a South Korean pharmaceutical dedicated to biological pharmaceutical products for unmet medical needs. This is the first US Phase III clinical trial for a Korean pharmaceutical company. The company continues to explore its Apitox product for the multiple sclerosis indication, but has not filed its intention to conduct a clinical trial for this indication. A Phase III clinical trial is the last development phase of clinical studies leading to submission of a new drug application in the US leading to marketing. *Robert Brooks PhD, Chief Operating Officer, Apimed, Inc. 3418 Big Rd, Zieglerville, PA 19492 dbrooks@apimed.com*
- American Bee Journal link: <http://www.americanbeejournal.com/>
- Washington State Beekeepers Association link: <http://www.wasba.org/>
- The Barefoot Beekeeper link: <http://www.biobees.com/>
- The National Honey Board link: <http://www.honey.com/>

Predictions for March 2011 – From the Farmer's Almanac

- MARCH 2011: temperature 47.5 ° (0.5 ° above avg.); precipitation 4" (avg.);
- Mar 1-4: Heavy rain, then partly sunny, cool;
- Mar 5-8: Rainy, mild;
- Mar 9-10: Partly sunny, cool;
- Mar 11-14: Rain and chilly;
- Mar 15-22: Sunny, turning warm;
- Mar 23-26: Showers, seasonable;
- Mar 27-31: Sunny, warm.
- April and May will be cooler and drier than normal.



Agenda for March 14 meeting –

- I. Call to Order
- II. Minutes
- III. Financial Report
- IV. **REPORTS**
 - A. Website – Mark Collins
 - B. Newsletter – Kim Knust
 - C. Librarian – Susan Dolvan
 - D. Apprentice Class – Bob and Jody
 - E. Journeyman Class – Bob Smith
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Hive Component building workshop – Mark E.
 - B. Orders for Package Bees – Payment due today
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Election of Officers:
 - 1. President
 - 2. Vice President
 - 3. Secretary
 - 4. Treasurer
 - 5. Membership – Becky Emrich

Minutes from February 2011 Meeting -

President Si Thacker called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Cafeteria of the Roosevelt Elementary School.

There were 85 people present.

The minutes of the January OBA meeting were approved as printed.

Financial Report – Gail Booth

Checking Acct balance:	\$2,685.61
Savings Acct balance:	1,409.26
Cash on hand	<u>20.00</u>
	\$4,114.87

There was a motion to accept the financial report as given. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Other Reports:

1. Website – Mark Collins that it is possible to link up with Facebook off of the website.
2. Newsletter – Kim Knust thanked those who contributed input to the newsletter and suggested “to keep it coming.”
3. Librarian – Susan Dolvan was absent, but any returns could be left with Gail Booth.
4. Apprentice Class – Bob and Jody reported that there were 36 people in their class – more than 13 were new. Lesson one was covered and other tests were completed.

Old Business:

1. Journeyman Class – is available to be taken by certified apprentice beekeepers with three (3) years experience (new rule). Bob Smith stated he should have at least four people. A meeting place has been volunteered, and it was agreed to meet on the first and third Monday of each month. See Gail Booth for details of location.
2. Hive Component building workshop – Mark Emrich will lead their project at a location yet to be determined that has the space available.
2. Preliminary order forms for package bees were asked to be filled out so we have an idea of how many packages to order. We won't know until the end of February how many packages are available. There was discussion on what can be used to transport the packages. The March meeting will determine final details.

New Business:

1. New Board Positions – Membership Chair Duties would be to develop a welcome packet list. A motion was made and seconded to create a Membership Chair position. Carried.
2. Bylaws Amended – A motion was made and seconded to amend the bylaws to allow the Librarian a position on the board. Carried.
3. Proposal – Vice President Mark Emrich stated that OBA get back to selecting a “Beekeeper of the Year” award every year starting in 2011.
4. A “service award” will also be established denoting aspects of teaching, helping, etc. A motion was made and seconded to create this “Service Award” which will be represented by a stainless still smoker. Carried.
This first award will be given to Karen Barell (wife of Mark Savage), with his name on it.
5. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$250.00 to WSU for honey bee research, as a memorial to Mark Savage. Carried.
6. Screening of film “Queen of the Sun”. A representation of OBA was asked to be present to answer any questions on March 5th.
7. A request was made by the Fuchsia Society for a “Beekeeper presentation” at their April meeting re: Pollinators.

Program: A slide presentation on Bumblebees, varieties, and how to identify some kinds. A hand-out was available listing

plant species to attract and support Bumblebees in the Pacific Northwest, thanks to Janet Partlow, Nancy Partlow and Glen Buschman.

Adjourned – 9p.m. by putting tables back to where they belong.

Submitted by: A Marjorie Smith, Secretary

**Pollen / Nectar Sources in the Puget Sound
(Does Not Include Vegetables)**

January	February	March	April	May	June
Filberts Hazel Bush	Alder Hazel Bush Pussy Willow	Alder Crocus Dandelion Pussy Willow Red Bud Wild Current	Alder Buttercup Daffodil Dandelion Elm Forsythia Horsechestnut Maple Pussy Willow Salmon Berry Skunk Cabbage Sumac	Apple Azalea Blackberry Broom Cherry Daffodil Dandelion Elderberry Elm Heather Horsechestnut Madrona Maple Peach Pear Plum Raspberry Salal Tulip Tree Vine Maple Wild Mustard	Ailanthus Apple Apricot Black Locust Blackberry Borage Catalpa Cotoneaster Crabapple Dandelion Grease Wood Hawthorn Honey Locust Huckleberry Madrona Maple Mountain Ash Privet Salal White Clover Wild Mustard

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Source: Puget Sound Beekeepers Association

For Sale!

Hive top feeders - \$20.00,
Cedar bottom boards - \$10.00
Migratory cedar tops - \$10.00
Supers - 10 frame, wired and waxed
with pure beeswax foundation -
Deeps - \$38.00, Westerns - \$35.00
and Shallows - \$30.00
All equipment new, painted and
assembled.

Thanks, Jack Robertson (360)
352-9512

Kim Knust, Editor
Olympia Beekeeper's Association
To submit contributions or ideas
Email: OlympiaBeekeepers@hotmail.com
Call 360-888-3968

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