



# BUZZWORD

West Sound Beekeepers Association <http://www.westsoundbees.org/>

Proudly serving bees, their keepers, and the public in Kitsap County, WA

(Editor's note: I'm working on the interactive newsletter!)

## Refreshments:

Thank You Mary Felts  
for volunteering!

## Journeyman Beekeeping Class

6 PM January 18

7 PM Regular Meeting

## Program:

David Mackovjak presents

## Winter Management

## Meeting Schedule:

### Journeyman Beekeeping Class

6PM Tuesday 18 Jan 2011

Journeyman Beekeeping

### Regular Meeting

7PM Tuesday 18 Jan 2011

### Steering Committee Meeting

7 PM Tuesday 01 Feb 2011

### Queen Rearing Group

Meets after the Steering Committee

Meetings at Stedman's  
Beekeeping Supplies in  
Silverdale

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Dennis Heeney's Insulated Hives  
Styrofoam, washers & screws combine to keep  
bees warm and dry



Jason Deal Accepts the WSBA  
Beekeeper Of The Year award

# WSBA Business Meeting Minutes January 4, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm

Officers in attendance were: T.J. Jorgenson, President; David Mackovjac, Vice President; Christine Torres, Secretary.

Also attending were George Purkett, Pat Kuney, Thelma and Aaron Booth

## Old Business:

Class schedule change to twice monthly ( first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 pm) starting in February was adopted, pending approval of the Stedman's (T.J. Jorgenson will talk with them.)

The following have agreed to teach classes alternating With Paul Lundy:

Basil Gunther ;George Purkett; T.J. Jorgenson;David Mackovjak; Pat Kuney; Jason Deal

## New Business:

- January's meeting topic: Winter Management presented by David Mackovjac
- The Mission Vision "Building better beekeepers and a more informed public" was agreed on.
- The Annual Budget will be voted on electronically (per by-laws). T.J. Jorgenson to tabulate.
- A supplemental budget ("wish list") was handed out for discussion of priorities.
- A Question Box (with answers e-mailed or possibly a newsletter column)
- Q & A period after the meetings was suggested to help keep the classes from running over time.
- Also suggested was a member survey so we can better address members needs.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm

*Submitted by Christine Torres, Secretary*

## December 2010 Treasurer's Report

December 2010 saw a respectable boost to the Association's coffer thanks to a very successful auction at the Christmas Party. When all was said and done, we took in \$508 at auction which, I believe, is an Association record! A HUGE thanks to all who donated goods as well as all who bid at auction (even our waitress made a bid on the beautiful honey bee puzzle provided by Paul Lundy and Lisa Knox!)

Income for the month was:

Auction ~ \$508

2011 Dues ~ \$120

Interest ~ \$.54 (woo hoo!)

**TOTAL INCOME: \$628.54**

Expenses for the month included:

Labels for the library ~ \$9.11

Cardstock for bookmarks ~ \$24.97

Webhosting ~ \$46.99

Holiday Party ~ \$158.03

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$239.10**

## 2011 Budget

The Budget Committee, consisting of TJ Jorgenson, George Purkett and Kim Redmond, met on Wednesday, December 29, 2010 to put together a draft budget for 2011. The draft was delivered to the Steering Committee via email prior to the January 4, 2011 Business Meeting. Printed copies were delivered to the meeting to accommodate anyone who had not seen the email version. The 2011 Budget has been approved as submitted and will be made available at the January 2011 meeting.

*Submitted by Kim Redmond, Treasurer*

## Message from the President

January is misleading. It seems that every year, the lower depths of January's betrayal become more and more foggy and dark. Yes, it's winter, and it seems as though this would be an excellent down time for all the activity on the ole' homestead. The largest part of the garden is just sitting there, waiting for the promise of summer's bounty. The chickens can't seem to decide on whether they want to molt or lay or end up in a soup pot. The bees only venture forth from the hives on the rare days of atypical sunshine. To the untrained eye, it would seem that this would be the month that our family stays indoors, catching up on our chess skills, collecting moss or cultivating mildew.

Nevertheless, January is the month that holds the most promise with its myriad of opportunities ready to peak their heads out of the damp cold earth. This year, like many others in the past, finds me slumped in my comfy chair, perusing seed catalogs with pencil and graph paper in my hand, planning this year's garden. Of course we have the ole staples of potatoes, beets, broccoli, various greens, peas, beans, garlic and our favorite onion varieties. This year, I have plans to build a poly-tunnel to hopefully extend the growing season long enough to realize a harvest of various heirloom tomatoes and peppers. Ideas are beginning to take shape. Challenges are presenting themselves. January is the month for planning and preparation.

Included in the plans of where to add additional garden beds and what treasures to experiment with this year, are my considerations for nectar producing plant species. My hope is to plant a large volume of attractive, beneficial, nectar producing plants that will be friendly to bee foraging and honey production during the height of some of our more pronounced dearths. After sampling so much honey this year that, due to the variety of nectar sources, had such a colorful swatch of flavor notes, textures and complexity, I am inspired. To consider that honey coming out of our families humble backyard apiary carries with it the "terroir" of our little stake of Kitsap county is already a very pleasing experience. To think that potential exists for the bees to make honey with even a larger variety of palate tingling complexity due to our spring plantings is even more exciting! This is going to be a fun year!

Some of the plants catching my attention are varieties of Vetch, Clovers, the infamous Phacelia, knapweed, milkweed, and some others. I will be judicious, but have found forgiveness with the abundance of nettles and thistles on my little parcel of paradise. Learning how to work with my surroundings to aid to my operations benefit is an ongoing quest. A quest that is likely never to end. Thanks to the bees, I have found a new appreciation for many things, including what I have previously only considered weeds. Now I consider some of the weeds precious sources of nectar when the bees need it the most!

One part of the mission of WSBA is building better beekeepers. The pursuit of taking beginners and helping them prepare skills needed to successfully raise bees is one of the many things our membership excels at and is one central component of that mission. That instruction has helped me as well as countless others become beekeepers. On that note, I want to acknowledge that our beginning beekeeping class is fixing to start again on the third Tuesday of February. This year the class schedule is a bit different from previous years, as the class will be meeting every two weeks, on the first and third Tues of the month at 6 pm. Due to the expert tutelage of our membership, students will learn a skill, pursuit, passion or even obsession that has far reaching benefits both in the scope of raising local awareness on the importance of beekeeping, but also their own personal gratification. It is going to be a great time! I hope to see you at the next meeting!

TJ Jorgenson



**Himalayan Sarcococca: Winter honeybee plant; *S. hookeriana*. Grows well in PNW in shade, even under Cedar trees.**

Picture source: <http://novice-beekeeper.blogspot.com/2010/03/photos-by-chris-jackson.html>

# WSBA Queen Rearing Group Update



Jason with new batch of queen cells



George demonstrating proper grafting technique

The Queen Rearing group held their first meeting of the 2011 year on Tuesday 1/4/2011. The Queen Rearing group will meet on the first Tuesday of the month following the WSBA business meeting held at Stedmans. The business meeting starts at 7 PM and the Queen Rearing meeting will start at approx 8 pm or after the business meeting ends.

During the meeting the purpose and goals of the Queen Rearing group were discussed and confirmed. Last year we met 5 of our 6 goals. Training on queen rearing methods was given to both the queen rearing group and WSBA club, four grafting sessions were held, we grafted over 300 queen cells with improved results each time. Paul Lundy taught and demonstrated hygienic testing and we demonstrated that none of our hives were considered hygienic. We learned (or relearned) how weather can impact the success of mated flights and the importance of enough drones. We did not get outside clubs involved with ours and we will work on that this year. We added a "stretch goal" this year and that is to actually artificially inseminate a queen. 2010 was a great year for the WSBA Queen rearing group and we are looking forward to being even more successful this year!!

**Purpose: The Queen Rearing group is to provide an opportunity for members of WSBA a venue to learn and explore the art of queen rearing and produce quality queens.**



## **2011 Goals for the Queen Rearing group of West Sound Beekeeping Association (WSBA):**

- 1. Explore and document different physical methods of queen rearing**
- 2. Educate both the Queen Rearing group and the WSBA on queen rearing**
- 3. Provide quality queens to the Queen Rearing group and WSBA**
- 4. Investigate and conduct hygienic testing**
- 5. Explore drone management methods**
- 6. Invite at least two other local beekeeping associations to our meetings**
- 7. Artificially inseminate a queen (stretch goal)**

**Resources** – The WSBA will support the queen rearing group by providing up to four hives for queen rearing purposes. Additionally they will provide resources for purchasing queen rearing equipment as needed as defined within the scope of the WSBA annual budget.

**Training** - Training will be provided on different methods of queen rearing. We would like the members of the Queen Rearing group to be active participants and to conduct research and report back to the Queen Rearing group what they have learned. This then would allow us to collectively take that knowledge and experiment/apply it to the Queen Rearing apiary.

**Schedule** - A tentative schedule of hands-on-demonstrations and skill events was also discussed and confirmed (dates subject to weather and hive strength)

**Friday, 8 Apr 11** - Cloaking setup demonstration, 6-6 pm Stedmans

**Sunday, 10 Apr 11** - Queen rearing grafting demonstration, 1-3 pm Stedmans

**Tuesday, 19 Apr 11** - Queens handed out, 6-7 pm Stedmans

**Friday, 6 May 11** - Cloaking setup demonstration, 6 pm Stedmans

**Sunday, 8 May 11** - Queen rearing grafting demonstration, 1-3 pm Stedmans

**Tuesday, 17 May 11** - Queens handed out, 6-7 pm Stedmans

**Friday, 10 Jun 11** - Cloaking setup demonstration, 6 pm Stedmans

**Sunday, 12 Jun 11** - Queen rearing grafting demonstration, 1-3 pm Stedmans

**Tuesday, 21 Jun 11** - Queens handed out, 6-7 pm Stedmans

The Queen Rearing group is open to all members who are interested in learning about the art of queen rearing or would just like to learn more about bee keeping. To be included in queen rearing correspondence please send me your name, phone number and email address.

Thanks and looking forward to seeing a great turnout at our next Queen Rearing meeting on 1Feb11!! Come join all the fun!!

David Mackovjak  
Queen Rearing group leader  
[Trimack1@yahoo.com](mailto:Trimack1@yahoo.com)  
360-340-0381



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jim and Rosanne Carlson whose names were picked in the "Paid Members" drawing at the Christmas party! Although they were unable to attend the party, their 2011 dues had already been paid so they were eligible for the drawing. They won a Savannah Bee Company gift bag (seen here, lower right part of picture) which included the much-coveted honey pump and bottle. Way to go Jim & Rosanne! And thank you for supporting your Association by paying your 2011 dues.

# WHAT ARE BEEKEEPERS DOING IN JANUARY?

Ever wonder how beekeepers spend their time in the "off-season"? Here are just a few things you might find us doing:

- Continuing to check the weight of our hives every few weeks to be sure our bees have enough reserves.
- Making sure the hive entrances remain unobstructed by leaves, dead bees and debris.
- Putting together our wish list of woodenware and deciding how many more hives we want this year.
- Deciding where we're going to situate new hives (and how we're going to break the news to our loved ones...)
- Reading books and articles about beekeeping.
- Writing articles for our beekeepers association newsletter.
- Attending our beekeeping association meeting and getting to know our fellow beekeepers.
- Volunteering to talk to a local organization about beekeeping.
- Eating lots of honey.

What are YOU doing?

## Keep Posting Those Beekeeping Flyers!

Last month a flyer was sent out for people to post so people could easily join the association, take beginner beekeeping classes, or contact the association for any arcane reasons. This is still the best time of year to post these flyers. Beginner Beekeeping classes start in February so there is time for people to get off to a good start! This month the flyer will be in the e-Buzzword *and* sent as a separate pdf. Find old newsletters at: <http://www.westsoundbees.org/newsletters.htm>  
Copy these flyers, slit for info stub removal and post in a public area.



More of Dennis Heeney's Insulated Beehives. Note one of the control hives (uninsulated) visible in this shot. Also you can see his welded metal beehive stands. Not visible are slanted entrance boards and screened bottom board with tray inserts. Good Beekeeping practiced here! This is the first year for this experiment, lucky bees!

# 2010 West Sound Beekeepers Association Christmas Party

Here's a little 2010 WSBA Christmas Party Trivia for you:



- In attendance were 28 adults and two children (in this instance I have included George and Kiva in the "adult" section)
- There were 14 entries into the honey tasting
- George Purkett's "Wildflower #1" was the winning entry, receiving 5 votes
- Edged out by a single taste or taste bud, Basil Gunther's "Egdon" (entry earned second place, receiving 4 votes)
- 26 items were auctioned off
- The auction raised \$508
- We took in 2011 dues for one more member
- Jim and Roseanne Carlson won the "Paid Members" raffle for a Savannah Bee Company gift bag - it will be brought to the January meeting

## Time to Renew Your WSBA Membership for 2010!

Share your triumphs, your sorrows, your discoveries  
With people who actually know what you're talking about  
All together we know so much more than one  
By helping others we help ourselves  
Queen rearing workshops - Live demonstrations  
Help when you need it - Food - Friends - Fun  
Refreshments and door prizes at the meetings  
Hear strange stories and share your stranger one  
At \$2 a month, while actually helping the world  
What are you waiting for?

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Yes! I want to be a member of West Sound Beekeepers' Association during 2011. I have enclosed a check payable to West Sound Beekeepers Association, a registered non-profit association.

Check one:  \$24 annual household membership dues (one Membership covers the whole family)

\$34 Bee-ginner class fee (\$24 membership dues + \$10 study guide OPTIONAL)

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS (for newsletter): \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Information is confidential and will not be shared or sold

Please return to:  
Kim Redmond  
WSBA Treasurer  
P.O. Box 536  
Chimicum, WA 98325

# Recipe Corner

## CRUNCHY HONEY GRANOLA

*Perfected & submitted by Kim Redmond*

Put oven rack in center position and preheat to 325°.

Mix honey and butter in small saucepan and heat on low, stirring until melted.

Mix oats, coconut, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, flax seed and salt in large bowl. Pour honey butter over mixture and stir until well combined.

Spread evenly in a thin layer on baking sheet and bake until fragrant and golden brown, (20-30 minutes), stirring every 5 to 10 minutes to prevent from sticking or burning. (Granola will crisp as it cools so don't overcook.)

Cool on baking sheet on wire rack and then transfer granola to a large mixing bowl and stir in dried fruit.

Can be cooked like oatmeal, served as a cold cereal, or just eaten by the handful as a healthy snack.

3/4 c honey  
1/2 stick butter  
3 c old fashioned oats  
1/2 c sweetened coconut flakes  
3/4 c roasted, salted sunflower seeds  
3/4 c roasted, salted pumpkin seeds  
1 c dried blueberries or cranberries  
1/4 c banana chips, chopped  
1 T flax seed  
1/2 t salt (optional)

### Promote Beekeeping and Help New Beekeepers Off to A Good Start!

I urge all members to post this flyer or a copy of it, or several copies, in places where it can be seen by the public at large. This will help bees, beekeepers, potential beekeepers and beekeeping in general. Beekeeping classes make a great gift!

Please be sure to cut in between the tear-off information stubs so people will encouraged to take them!

Thank-you,

The editor



