



The

November 2010

# BUZZWORD

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

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

(Editor's note: The interactive newsletter is scheduled to appear this winter!)

## Refreshments

?

## Journeyman Beekeeping Class

6 PM November 16

7 PM Regular Meeting

T'was the morn after Hallow'een  
And all through the yard  
Irrefutable evidence  
The Bees were on guard...

(see picture below)

## Meeting Schedule: Journeyman Beekeeping Class

6PM Tuesday 16 Nov 2010  
Journeyman Beekeeping

### Regular Meeting

6PM Tuesday 16 Nov 2010

### Steering Committee Meeting

7 PM Tuesday 07 Dec 2010

**Queen Rearing Group**  
Meets after the Steering  
Committee

Meetings at Stedman's  
Beekeeping Supplies in  
Silverdale

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Meet Wuzzbuh (see page 3)



# West Sound Beekeepers Association Meeting Minutes

First Journeyman's Class

Jim Carlson opened the meeting at 7:07

It was decided that the business was already conducted during the business meeting so we moved on to  
**Election Night...**

**TJ Jorgenson- President**

**Kim Redmond -Treasurer**

**David Mackovjak- Vice President**

**Christine Torres- Secretary**

Kim Redmond gave a demonstration about honey tasting. She recently held a honey tasting where guests compared the bouquets of honey varieties. The *honey bear* went to the honey tasting with Kim and Larry. We look forward to hearing about his adventures with Paul for next month.

Sign up for snacks and attendance.

Volunteers needed for organizing a place for the December party which will be held on Dec. 21st. The location is still to be determined. Keep thinking about auction items.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22

Everyone tasted honey and delectables from Kim and Larry's honey tasting event.

Submitted by: Rosanne Carlson

## Steering Committee Meeting - November 2, 2010

**Old Business:** Kim Redmond distributed a list of potential restaurants available for our party and auction. It was decided that Hale's Ale House in the Kitsap Mall, located in Silverdale, was the best suited restaurant for our needs. There for that's where it will be held at Tuesday, December 21st at seven p.m.

**New Business:** Darren volunteered to get the Beekeeper of the Year plaques engraved.

Submitted by: Christine Torres

## Tech News

### **NEW PHONE APP** Gary Johnson, Maryland BKA

A useful new app that teaches everything you need to know about honeybees has just been released for the iPhone and the iPod Touch. "HoneyBees! 1.0" is a fascinating educational app that goes into the world of beekeeping and honeybees. Launched by Smiley Cat Software, the app is great for people wanting to learn about honeybees from gardeners, beekeepers, homeowners, and students. There are lovely photographs which are used to aid the teaching about how the bees live, work and take care of each other. A beekeepers diary section shows the work of the beekeeper and how the hives are cared for. The app follows the work from January through to spring as the bees start their work collecting pollen and nectar. Updates are added throughout the year as the bees' work progresses. The app has information about bee life cycle, diseases, how important bees are for the environment and economy, and where to order beekeeping equipment. Users will find the app educational and entertaining.

HoneyBees! 1.0 is on the App Store for only \$1.99. iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch required with OS 2.1 or later.

### **RECORD KEEPING ONLINE** Erica Lowther Nottinghamshire BKA

[www.beetight.com](http://www.beetight.com) is a bee record-keeping site. I have been using it for the last couple of months. You can update your inspection record from your computer or on your smart phone in the field. It has lots of useful bits and pieces and it is free to use for 6 hives or less.

### **Also:**

a 'Hive' game can be downloaded for the Iphone from [www.LotuslandsStudio.com](http://www.LotuslandsStudio.com)

# Message From The President

Greetings fellow Beekeepers,

**As I sit and write this, the first President's message I have been asked to pen, the Bees are flying with the weather being unseasonably warm and sunny. They are bringing in various colors of pollen from mysterious sources (at least to me). The yellow jackets and their relentless attacks are being met with the predictable bee defiance. But most significantly, the perfume rising out of the hives on this warm sunny November day, is intoxicating and has fast become one of the most enjoyable parts of my trip out to my backyard bee pasture.**

**I had no idea that when I started down the road to keeping bees a year ago, I would discover yet another world that until now was completely hidden from me. Not unlike my awakening to bird watching, the realization that such industry as a colony of bees was being undertaken right beneath my nose was, to say the least, illuminating. The effort, time and resources that the bees undertake and exploit continue to amaze me. As my first year ends, I can safely say that the cliché is true: The bees have taught me so much, but mostly they have taught me patience.**

**I have made more than my share of mistakes, mostly out of zeal to ensure I do it "Right". I have witnessed the results of both good and bad management decisions. I was fortunate enough to realize a modest honey crop, caught some swarms, increased my number of hives through splits, started a business and stressed and sweated when each one of my many mistakes seemed to spell the doom of my efforts. Still, the bees keep on trucking.**

**Yet, through it all, and at every twist and turn in my journey, was the West Sound Beekeepers Association and its members. When I have had questions, there has never been a shortage of people willing to go out of their way to help. The combined experience and dedication contained in our membership at WSBA makes it an invaluable resource to the beekeeping community in little ole' Kitsap and Washington state as a whole.**

**It is a privilege for me to have been asked to serve as the president of WSBA for the next year. I am sure I will step on my shoelaces more than once and beg forgiveness in advance. I anticipate yet another great year of the sharing of knowledge and fellowship around our common interest. I am excited about the future our club has, the vital experience that ALL members can bring to the table and the downright fun we have had at meetings where a myriad of subjects are discussed. Whether it's the beginners and journeyman classes, the regular meetings with the variety of topics or the important efforts of the queen rearing group, our club has it all, and the dedicated volunteers that work so hard to ensure its success. Now, I'm off to make peanut butter and honey sandwiches for my children and watch the bees dart around in the cool autumn sun. Happy November, WSBA! We'll see you at the meeting!**

TJ

## WUZZAT?

Why is there a picture of a honey bear on the front page? Perhaps this excerpt from an email from Kim Redmond will shed light on the matter:

*"At the next meeting we give a honey bear bottle to one of the members and task them with photographing the bottle in a unique/interesting place. Then have them submit the photo and a comment/story about it to Basil.*

*The following meeting, that member hands it off to another member to do the same thing.*

*In twelve months we'll have enough photos with captions that we could put together an association calendar to offer to the public in exchange for donations. (And hopefully the calendar will inspire the public to eat more honey.)"*

## Poetry Corner



### **BADLY STUNG!**

All summer long, with gloves and veil, I've kept myself protected  
Yet now must tell a sorry tale, about one spot neglected.  
My nose's tip the veil would touch, and oft I speculated  
Whether, if bees assailed me much (for I am sore bee-hated)  
Sometime or other I might get a sting on the projection  
Of my proboscis through the net at the veil's intersection.  
It seemed a most unlikely thing, that any insect archer  
Should thus exactly aim a sting; so fear took its departure.  
But wise philosophers have taught truth is more strange than fable  
And my delusion came to naught like the old tower of Babel.  
Achilles could not wounded be, save in one spot his heel  
Yet there, with dire fatality, was aimed the deadly steel  
And I, impervious everywhere, save at my nose's tip,  
Received a wicked dab right there, that made me "tear and rip!"  
It was a bright and lovely day, that third of this November,  
But oh! the mischief was to pay, as I shall long remember!  
While I was packing up my bees with forest leaves and chaff,  
A Parthian arrow hit my nose just at its ultimatum  
And a not mild expletive rose, "'Confound the bees, I hate 'em!"  
The nasal organ quickly swelled to twice its usual size:  
While tears of pain and anguish welled from both my weeping eyes.  
My none too lovely phiz' was shorn of all its scanty beauty  
And for three days I went forlorn, unfit for public duty.  
I now must have a glass-front veil or a wire face-protector,  
And prove no more, as in this tale, a stupid nose-neglecter

**Wm F. Clarke, American Bee Journal, 19th November 1886**

# Modified Ventilated Inner Hive Covers

By Kim Redmond

It's a good time for beekeepers to be thinking about things they can do to help their hives through the bad weather - thought I'd share my approach this year.

Last year I used a ventilated inner hive cover on one hive as a test. It's really just a spacer with holes that are screened over and I attached it to an inner hive cover. There's an entrance cut out that provides upper access (which the bees really seem to like) and I used a piece of hard fiberboard insulation inside during the harshest weather. That hive came through winter really strong and I attribute it's healthy survival to the modified ventilated inner hive cover (MVIHC.) Of the hives that did not survive, two of them were lost to excess moisture...moldy bees.



This year all of my hives (except the tbh) are going into winter with MVIHC...with a little modification (surprise!) Instead of the fiberboard insulation I made inserts out of burlap and pine shavings. I think the shavings will cut down on the excess moisture in the hive and still provide insulation. Although the inserts are fairly thick, I tried to make sure they are somewhat loose inside the MVIHC so that they don't completely block the vents and the bees can still use the upper entrance if the weather allows. I also sewed a circle in the middle and cut it out to keep the hole in the inner hive cover clear.

If anyone is interested in more information about these they can email me at [biz@kimredmond.com](mailto:biz@kimredmond.com) or come to the November meeting - I'll bring one in with me. Paul Mottner at Stedman's has made up several of the ventilated spacers and it's really easy to attach them to an inner hive cover (or just set them right on top!) I'll try to have them available at the next meeting.



# 2010 West Sound Beekeepers Association Christmas Party

Come one, come all! This year's WSBA Christmas party will be held at Hale's Alehouse in Silverdale at the Kitsap Mall, in a private room reserved just for us!

As always, the Christmas party is held in lieu of the December monthly meeting so it will take place on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at the usual time of 7:00 pm. Some of you may be thinking "That's awfully close to Christmas" – but what a perfect opportunity to take a break from all the rushing and wrapping and just have fun with your fellow beeks!

Come join the holiday cheer, try out some of the fabulous fare (<http://halesalehouse.com/menu.html>), participate in the auction benefiting your Association (bring something to donate!), and cast your vote for your favorite honey at the annual honey tasting!

About the location: Hale's Alehouse at the Kitsap Mall is a fairly new establishment that received two thumbs up from Paul Lundy & Lisa Knox for the food and service. You'll be able to order off the menu and Hale's appears to have prices to fit most budgets!

About the auction: Run by your newsletter editor, Basil Gunther, the auction is sure to be funny, lively, extremely entertaining, and a boost to your Association's coffers. We welcome your donated items whether, homemade, store bought or borrowed from your neighbor (we won't tell...)

About the honey tasting: Consider entering your honey in this fun and sweet event! We will have small jars available at the next two meetings if you'd like to enter your honey in the blind taste-off. If you won't be entering, at least join in the tasting and cast your ballot for your favorite. Winner gets bragging rights for one full year!

Please let us know soon if you're planning to attend (how many in your party) so we can give the fine folks at Hale's a heads-up. Contact Christine Torres [hamsterama@g.com](mailto:hamsterama@g.com) .360.697.3622

See you there!



Get your auction items ready for this year's Auction! Many of us save items all year for this special event. The items don't have to be bee related but often are, and so make fine presents. Here are two items Paul Lundy is bringing!



# A Letter from the Incoming Treasurer:

## The Past:

As Paul Lundy mentioned in his Audit Committee Report of November 6, 2010, there was insufficient documentation to reconcile the WSBA Kitsap Bank checking and savings accounts. In addition, we're not certain if there are still unused checks. Taking on the task of Treasurer can be a challenge – especially when you have a business to run and many other things demanding your attention. We recognize that and we appreciate Lori Christi's efforts.

## The Present:

In order to tie up loose ends, we'll close out the current WSBA Kitsap Bank checking and savings accounts immediately and, with those same funds, we'll open new accounts at Kitsap Bank. This will eliminate any concerns about potential unaccounted for checks and allow us to start fresh and clean. With Barbara Stedman's permission we will use Stedman's mailing address for the new accounts to reduce the hassle of transfer/turnover to a new Treasurer (no need to forward any bank documents – or to ask for them.)

## The Future:

In an effort to keep the financial & record keeping aspects of our Association in good, clean order, my plan is to:

1. Setup the records on QuickBooks – including the current budget (I have already begun the process)
2. Reconcile the accounts every month
3. Request complete information for all monies to be deposited (new member - who? Donation – from where? Refund – for what?)
4. Require receipts for all reimbursement requests – from any member, including officers and make sure reimbursements are made within the approved budget
5. Make sure there is a current Treasurer's Reports at every business meeting (also available to any member upon request)
6. Have all the documentation ready and filed on time in order to maintain our non-profit status as well as our Master License with the State
7. Keep a current listing of paid members
8. Per our by-laws, make sure that any funds in excess of immediate operating expenses are placed in an interest bearing account
9. Make sure that all accounts are in order and reconciled when turned over to the next incoming Treasurer

Kim Redmond

## Book Review:

***The Beeman*** by Laurie Krebs & Valeria Cis

The story, in rhyme, of a child's accompaniment with his grandfather, the Beeman, as he makes his beekeeping rounds, taking care of bees, collecting, extracting, and bottling the honey; finally sitting down to consume the honey with Grandma and her delicious apple honey muffins (recipe in the back!). Although the main text is for the beginning reader or being read aloud, there are after sections that describe in greater detail about bees, beekeeping, equipment, honey, and pollination. A simple, yet surprisingly informative introduction to beekeeping for the young person that would make a fine gift!

**You can buy *The Beeman* at the November Meeting for \$8.99 + sales tax. See Basil during the break!**



## **Recipe Corner**

### **HONEY PUMPKIN PIE W/HONEY WHIPPED CREAM**

*Submitted by Kim Redmond*

#### **The Pie:**

**1-3/4 cup pumpkin puree  
2 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 cup whole milk  
1/2 cup honey  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon ginger  
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves  
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg**

**Preheat oven to 425° F. Thoroughly mix all ingredients and pour into an unbaked pie crust. Bake for 15 minutes then turn oven down to 350° F and bake additional 45 minutes to 1 hour (until firmly set.) Cool 10 minutes before slicing. Serve with Honey Whipped Cream.**

#### **The Cream:**

**1 cup heavy whipping cream  
3 tablespoons honey  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract**

**In medium bowl, beat cream with electric mixer until soft peaks form. Gently fold in honey and vanilla. Makes 2 cups.**