

# Buzzword



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**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, Aug. 19,  
2003

**Summer Potluck Picnic**

Bring a dish to share  
Arrive at 5:00p.m., Eat  
at 6:00p.m.

Hosticka Residence  
10982 NE Tulin Rd  
Kingston. Ph 297-3614

**OFFICERS & COMMITTEES**

- President:  
Bob Martello 360-830-5456
- Vice President:  
Stephen Augustine 360-779-1210
- Secretary:  
Tricia Sullivan 360-779-1210
- Treasurer:  
Susan Hosticka 360-297-3614
- Educational Materials:  
Barbara Stedman 360-692-9453
- Librarian:  
Roy & Vickie Barton 360-613-0175
- Newsletter Editor:  
Stephen Augustine 360-779-1210

**Bee There or Bee Square**

By Paul Hosticka

Just when you thought it was safe to start reading the *Buzzword* again here I am back with more vacuous dribble. I can hear palms slapping foreheads all over the county, but hear me out and you will be rewarded, I promise. It is August and that means the annual gala potluck picnic, an event that is circled on the calendars of beekeepers and law enforcement agencies for miles around. This Tuesday the 19th we will gather and celebrate at our place here in Kingston, see map if you need directions.

Since it has been a good year

and honey prices are up we are pulling out all the stops and throwing a grand bash and all as a benefit of your membership in the West Sound Beekeepers



Association. Get here around 5, swap lies and refresh until around 6, fill your belly to the brim, stagger home and be in the sack by 9. What could be better than that for classy entertainment?

Here is a sampling from the tantalizing menu for which we have spared no expense to

assemble for your gastronomic pleasure. If Bob can get his truck fired up we will have a 300 gallon tote of High Fructose Corn Syrup straight from the Minnesota Corn Processors vat in Puyallup, nice and warm, just like the bees prefer it. Bob guarantees he can pump a gallon down your gullet, clap your jaw shut and send you packing for the hors d'oeuvres table in 15 seconds flat or the second gallon is on him. To tickle your pallet and prepare you for the main course the appetizer will be Bridge Comb Bits, fresh

*(Continued on page 3)*

**Don't Let Bees Become Junkies**

*Dr. Marla Spivak comments on accepting the Eastern Apicultural Society's James I. Hambleton Award given to the year's outstanding researcher.*

Honey bees are in crisis, Dr. Spivak said in her acceptance address, and beekeepers are not helping them much. Bees are certified "junkies" and beekeepers have become their "pushers." A new set of rules is necessary to get the bees off the chemical/pesticide treadmill. Her advice was direct and to the point:

1. Stop right now any preventative feeding of antibiotics.
2. Cull combs to remove AFB spores and pesticide/antibiotic residues.
3. Leave mites in colonies; do not try to eliminate them all; in some cases bees can sustain 10% to 15% infestation with little harm.
4. Pesticides "pamper" bees; let them use their own innate defense mechanisms. Use selective breeding to give bees tools to work with and

then leave them on their own. This includes incorporating hygienic behavior, SMR and characteristics of other stocks (Russians).  
5. Use IPM now! This means thinking before acting; apply pesticides only as a last resort. Use soft chemicals when possible. Again, leave mites in the colony so the bees have a long-term fighting chance on their own.

She concluded that none of the above will be easy, but beekeepers must quickly learn what other farmers now take for granted. Integrated pest management is here to stay and is the best option to save the bees and beekeeping industry in the long run.



## Northwest Corner Fall Conference

This is a tri-state event including the Washington State Beekeepers annual meeting.

### Where:

Hood River, Oregon at the Hood River Inn

### When:

November 6, 7, & 8.

Visit [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org) for more details.

## BASICS IN NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING

Adapted from Ron Bennett (<http://members.aol.com/beetools/>)

**A**ugust is the month to wrap up your honey crop and prepare for next year. You should remove your honey supers and extract or prepare your cut comb. But, keep supers on your hives with a few empty combs on strong colonies, especially those that are overly heavy with stores in the brood nest. You still have a lot of bees in your hive and even though the blossoms that are on now are not the most desirable for honey, the bees need something to do and somewhere to put the nectar. Honey that the bees produce now is honey they will winter over with.

But, don't tempt robber bees by exposing honey. As

you remove the supers from the hives, cover them immediately and remove them from the bee yard as soon as possible. Once robbing starts, it is very difficult to stop and can cause the death of several of your hives!

Yellowjackets are also normally a problem this time of the year and exposed honey will draw them right to you.

Pay close attention to colony health and take remedial measures as necessary. Remember, if you do not have an infestation it may be best to leave well alone and not use various treatments as a matter of rote. Your queens will start laying eggs now that will be hatched brood

by September first, and these are the bees that will be wintering over in your hives.

Don't work the brood nest unless necessary. The bees that are being raised now are very important to your Spring success. Watch for any signs of robbing and reduce entrances to a bee space sized slot after hot days are over.

Keep on the lookout for American Foulbrood and check your stored comb for possible wax moth infestation. And remember, if you are going to use medications - follow the directions and do not treat for more than the recommended time.



### Minutes of the Previous Meeting, July 15th, 2003

#### Treasurer's Report:

- \* Susan Hosticka gave the treasurer's report. Our bank balance in checking and savings together as of July 14 was \$4683.64 We have 72 paid members for 2003.

#### Announcements:

- \* The Western Apicultural Society is meeting at Simon Fraser University from Aug. 12-16.
- \* Thanks to Jim Willman for representing the Association at the Bainbridge in Bloom Tour.

#### Old/New Business:

- \* Paul and Susan Hosticka will be hosting the annual picnic at their house in August. It will be August 19th rain or shine. Arrive at 5 p.m. to eat at 6 p.m. It will be a potluck, please bring a dish of your choice. The Bee Association will provide beverages. Help will be needed setting up tables and chairs.

#### Program:

- \* Bob Martello posed the questions to all present: What have your beekeeping successes been? What would you do differently? We each took a turn answering those questions.

Submitted by Tricia Sullivan, Secretary, August 13, 2003

"Listen! O, listen!  
Here come the hum the  
golden bees  
Underneath full  
blossomed trees,  
At once with glowing  
fruit and flowers  
crowned."

- James Russell Lowell  
*The Sirens*

## Apimondia 2003

XXXVIII Congress  
Ljubljana, Slovenia  
August 24 - 29

*Beekeeping, A Way of  
Life*

For further information  
visit:  
[www.Apimondia2003.com](http://www.Apimondia2003.com)

...PICNIC (contd. from page 1)

from my wax bucket. A variety of floral sources and wax colors are in there, some with a hint of brood and frosted with royal jelly, and the adventurous will find a queen cell or two as a special treat. None are more than 5 or 6 weeks old and I haven't used any coumaphos in years. Then to the banquet table for the tour de force. A staple from the Stedman household and Al's secret recipe coveted by gourmets the world round, Sun-Dried Slumgum on a Stick and all you can eat, free! My advice is to pace yourself and save some room for desert because you would not want to miss out on Dale's specialty, Frozen Grease Patty. At least it was frozen but may be a bit soft due to our lack of refrigeration facilities, but that detracts from the delicate flavor and creamy texture not one little bit.

It is difficult for me to imagine that anyone would find this cornucopia lacking in any way but in the unlikely event that some guests might prefer other fare you are of course welcome and encouraged to bring a favorite dish of your own to share. You all know the routine, load up the household and come on out. Bee there or bee square and we truly hope to see you all, it is real fun. - Paul & Susan

## YELLOW JACKETS

Once hornets start robbing a hive they don't stop till they take it all.  
He stood and watched  
each one pushing past another  
through the half-inch gap of entry,  
and now saw one drag out  
a stunned bee, bite off its head,  
and fly away with the corpse.

They appeared in August  
just after the harvest,  
homing on the easy scent-  
spent honeycomb stacked for the bees  
to glean at the end of the season  
of dwindling forage: dandelions,  
a few asters by the roadside,  
even the late blooms going to seed.

But he had turned to the husbandry  
of the eighty-four thousand things,  
and this was only one of them,  
discerned but unattended,  
yellow jackets come to the hives  
like plague to Pharaoh's granaries-  
the winter honey and the bees  
vanishing one mouthful at a time.



Jim McCormick  
September 4, 2002



Paul Hosticka and Bill Jones show us a fully-capped frame of honey from one of Bill's 800-pound colonies at summer camp. Now we know why Bill got that new moving wagon!

## Refreshment Schedule

**Aug:** Summer Picnic at the Hosticka's  
**Sep:** Mike Hoey, Betty & Walter Schicker  
**Oct:** Mary Monroe & Day Slechta  
**Nov:** Nancy Jones

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment to provide refreshments for a meeting please notify Barbara Stedman by giving her a call at 360-692-9453 before the meeting date.

## Marketplace at WestSoundBees.org

*Now accepting your  
advertisements for  
free.*

This is an online page free to WSBA members to advertise honey, wax, pollen, pollination services, or other bee-related goods for sale or if you are seeking beekeeping related goods and services.

Please contact Stephen at phone 779-1210 or email Stephen@lalgudi.net

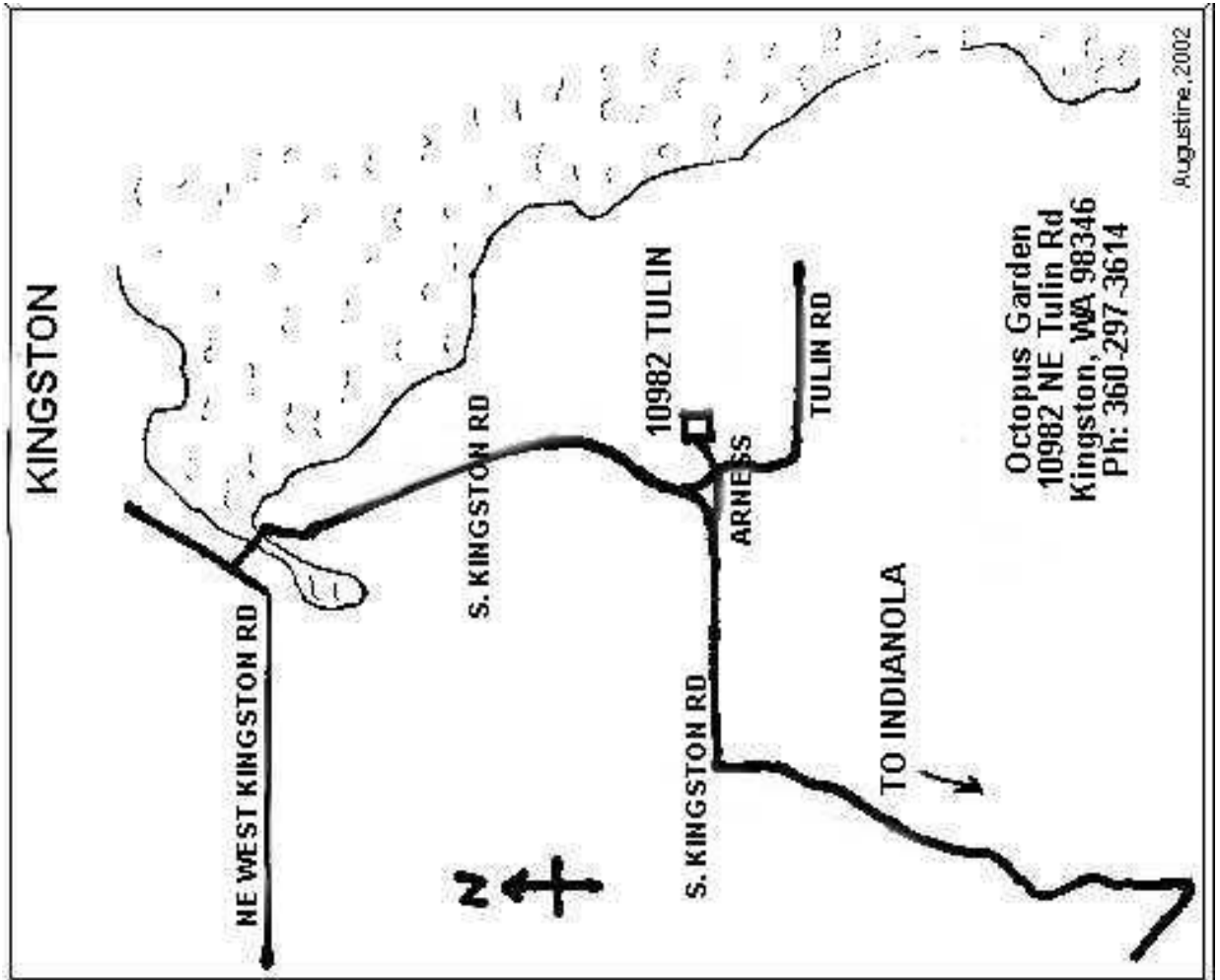
## Editor's Note:

Articles of interest to beekeepers and announcements of interest to Association members are welcomed and encouraged.

Submit articles and announcements to Stephen Augustine:

Email: stephen@lalgudi.net  
Mail: 401 B Liberty St NW  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

# Summer Picnic - August 19, 2003 Map to the Hosticka Bee Ranch



West Sound Beekeepers Association  
10982 NE Tulin Rd  
Kingston, WA 98346  
<http://www.westsoundbees.org>

Next Meeting- Summer Picnic  
Tuesday, August 19  
5 p.m. at Hosticka's