



BUZZWORD

WEST SOUND BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

<http://www.westsoundbees.org>.

Proudly serving bees, their keepers, and the public in Kitsap County, WA and beyond!
January 2015

EVENTS Coming up

WSBA January MEETING

Date: **Tuesday, 1/20/2015**
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Location: Stedman's Bee Supplies
Topics: (Plans for the year, Needs of the Bees in January)

WSBA February MEETING

Date: **Tuesday, 2/17/2015**
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Location: Stedman's Bee Supplies
Topics: (Not yet announced, check wsba website for update)

WSBA Beginning Beekeeping Class

Date: **Tuesdays, 2/24/2014 - 3/31/2014**
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Location: Silverdale Community Center -Evergreen Room

WSBA March MEETING

Date: **Tuesday, 3/17/2015**
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Location: Silverdale Community Center -Evergreen Room
Topics: (Not yet announced, check wsba website for update)
Notes: The March meeting will be part of the beginning class. If you want to listen in on the beginning class before the meeting, it starts at 6pm.

Note:

Events through March were included as we are still looking for a newsletter editor and we may not find one before April.

Notable notes about our most recent events

WSBA Board Meeting

Date: Jan, 1/13/2015, 6pm at Stedman's Bee Supply

Notes:

Disclaimer: This is not the official meeting notes, it is just what I remember.

We have no newsletter editor and need a volunteer to be found soon. Contact any Board member if you are interested.

We need to find a mentor coordinator to pair up experienced beekeepers with new beekeepers. (We have been unable to get this effort going.) Contact any Board member if you are interested.

Beginner class dates and logistics are set. Info to be added to the website by Jan 20. We will have a flyer for members to distribute as well. We can always use more speakers for the beginner class for those members wishing to earn points toward journeyman certification. George is leading the effort on the Beginning Beekeeping class.

Member renewal forms are now on the website. We have reduced the annual membership to only \$20. Hopefully we will keep members longer with a lower membership cost.

No apiary report. It was too dark to go out a take a look at bees. Larry and Gerry have stopped by the apiary and cleaned up the fall debris a couple of times. Thank you both.

We have a few more books purchased to go into the lending library. There were a lot of cards in the checkout box which indicates we have a lot of members reading material, or they have neglected to bring the materials back.

The December meeting had a lower than usual turnout due to late notice of the event going out to members. In years past, we have sent out newsletters, postcards, emails, facebook posts, and personal phonecalls. The best attendance was from the personal phonecalls. A better effort should be made in 2015.

There will be fewer hands-on classes this year than last year. We have stretched the few instructors too thin and need to start growing more instructors.

The queen rearing in the northwest class will be reduced from 2 days to 1 day and will focus on growing queens in smaller apiaries.

There was surprisingly few members other than the current board members at the board meeting which is open to all members. There is no better way to encourage the direction of the association than by attending the meetings and taking part. George.

West Sound Beekeepers Association

January 6, 2015

Treasurer Report

(Bank statement dated 12/31/2015)

Money Market Reserve account: \$4507.57

Savings account: \$3890.35

Checking account: \$7642.58

Deposit None

Checks Cleared in December

Total (previous check to WA State Beekeeper Assn)
\$995.00

Total membership Dues paid for 2015 = 11

Elizabeth Bianchi
WSBA Treasurer

Member Contributions

In bee news:

Our apiary was pared down to five hives last fall. After having many more and a few less, that seems to be the magic number for sustainability on our property. At least in terms of forage and management.

We had two hive tops blow off in one of those nasty wind/rain storms a month or so back. The hives got pretty soaked so we don't hold out hope of them surviving until Spring. They are still active. But not quite as healthy as they were a few months ago. The other three hives appear to be doing quite well.

I made quilt boxes for all five hives back in September. I think they like them a lot. When I went out to put them on I didn't use my smoker, I didn't use gloves or a veil, I didn't use my brain. For some reason I thought they would be in their "cold and slow" phase so they wouldn't be too fussy when I popped the tops to quickly put on the quilt boxes. I was so wrong.

When I built the quilt boxes I didn't worry about a hole for the feeder jars because we left a TON of honey in all of the hives. Their stores probably look like Costco's shelves!

We still have 3 westerns with frames of honey that we have not extracted yet. We stuck them in a back room where we continue to forget about them. The magnitude of our laziness is astounding! But thinking about them right now makes my mouth water...

Kim.



STEDMAN'S!

MEMBERSHIP FORM (Dues Reduced to \$20 for 2015 !!!)

Member dues support the Association's goals of promoting better understanding and appreciation for honey bees and beekeeping by providing community awareness of the positive effects of beekeeping and topnotch educational beekeeping classes for all experience levels.

Being a paid member of West Sound Beekeepers Association also puts the Association's extensive library at your disposal, allows you the use of the Association's extractor, provides you with the opportunity to have input on the direction the Association takes, makes you eligible to be an officer of the Association and puts you in touch with a lot of fun beekeepers! For only \$20, every member of your household becomes a member - what a great deal!

To join or renew your membership simply fill out the following form and bring it, along with your payment, to the next monthly meeting. Or you can mail the form with your payment to the WSBA Treasurer (address below.)

****PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WSBA****

NAME: _____
MAILING ADDRESS: _____
PHONE & EMAIL: _____

Mail this form along with your check to: Elizabeth Bianchi, WSBA Treasurer
15017 118th Ave NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98329



The WSBA association apiary in July 2014