

BUZZWORD

WEST SOUND BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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

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

NOVEMBER 2012

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*Photo taken at The Conservatory
at The Bellagio in Las Vegas, NV*

UPCOMING BEE-RELATED EVENTS

NOVEMBER

West Sound Beekeepers Association General Membership Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 11/20/2012
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Location: Stedman's Bee Supplies
3763 NW Anderson Hill Road
Silverdale, WA
Topic: **Presentation from 2012 Scholarship recipient**

GONE MISSING

Five honey bee related dvds were purchased and directly donated to WSBA's library late last year (late October/early November.) Before they were even checked in and prepared by the librarian, all five disappeared. If you borrowed these dvds and forgot to return them, please do so now. These materials were intended to be used in public presentations and to benefit ALL the members of the Association. We would love to have them back. The titles were:

NOVA: Tales from the Hive
City of Bees
Nature: Silence of the Bees

Organic Beekeeping 101
Vanishing of the Bees

If you have these dvds, please return them. If you know who has them, please ask them to bring them back. THANK YOU!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Due to the transition period for new officers, no President's Message was available for November 2012.

OCTOBER MEETING INFORMATION

At the October WSBA General Membership meeting the 2013 Budget was presented and voted on by the members present. Following only a few questions/clarifications, the budget was unanimously approved.


Due to the lack of some key information the 2012 Audit was not complete at the time of the meeting so a complete audit report was not available.

Nominations for new officers and trustees were accepted and voted on with the following results:

President – Brandy William
Secretary – Katrinka Kuney
Trustee – George Purkett

Vice President – David Mackovjak
Treasurer – Frank Wilson

Congratulations and thank you to those volunteers who accepted their nominations and are willing to give their time and effort on behalf of the Association – we greatly appreciate it!

 **BUZZNOTE:** Incoming WSBA president and trail blazer, Brandy Williams, is the Association's first woman president!

QUEEN REARING GROUP

West Sound Beekeeping Association
by David Mackovjak, Queen Rearing Chairman




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.

David Mackovjak
Queen Rearing Chairman
trimack@prodigy.net



(Editors note: David tells me the Queen-Rearing Group should start up again in either December or January.)

 **BUZZNOTE:** Why do bees have sticky hair? (They use honey combs...)

TREASURER'S REPORT & AUDIT RESULTS

10/19/12

On Tuesday, 10/9/12 a treasury audit of West Sound Beekeeping Association (WSBA) was conducted by Jean Ball and David Mackovjak. The treasurer for the association is Selena Clements and she was present during the audit.

This audit was conducted based on bank statements, deposit slips, receipt book and the club's check book. The treasurer was unable to provide the previous 2011 audit. The May and Sept 2012 banking statements were initially missing; however replacement copies were acquired on 10/19/12.

From the Oct 2011 Buzzword, the results of the 2011 audit were posted, therefore the audit team elected to conduct the audit from: 11/1/2011 to 9/30/2012.

Accounts:

WSBA maintains three separate accounts at Kitsap Bank and they were reviewed for this audit:

	11/1/2011	9/30/2012
Checking Account	\$1,640.52	\$3,640.97
Saving Account	\$3,884.19	\$3,885.97
Reserve Account	<u>\$4,500.17</u>	<u>\$1,601.97</u>
Total	\$10,024.88	\$9,128.91

Debit:

The checks written during the audit period were checks #1038 through #1066 which represents a total of **\$7,592.63**. All but the following checks have cleared:

Check #	
1043	\$23.00
1058	\$89.00
1060	\$62.60
1061	\$46.99
1064	\$216.62
1065	\$75.96
1066	\$200.91

<Total \$576.08 outstanding>



BUZZNOTE: Where did Noah keep his bees? (In archives...)

Treasurer's Report & Audit Results (continued)

Revenue:

A total of 13 deposits were received in the checking account for a total amount of \$9,017. There was \$2,900 transferred from our reserve fund to the checking account; thus a total of **\$6,117.00** was actually collected by WSBA.

The savings account generated \$1.78 in interest and the reserve fund generated \$1.80 in interest for a total of **\$3.58**.

Summary:

WSBA show a revenue stream of \$6117.00 and an expenditure of \$7,592.63 which represents a negative cash flow of \$1475.63. This value would have doubled but was offset by the funds raised by the Christmas party and summer training classes. Over all this is in line with the 2011 "special expenditures" and accounts for several large expenses to include instrumental insemination equipment, honey extractor and light box for WSBA.

Recommendations:

1. The WSBA Board directed in the Fall 2011 the reserve fund be maintained at a balance of \$4500. Recommend \$2900 be transferred back into the reserve fund within the next 30 days.
2. To improve the ability to accurately develop a budget and better track funds; all future submission of receipts will use the attached form as provided in Appendix A.
3. It was noted, deposit receipts were not consistently used. All monies given to the treasurer are required to generate a deposit receipt.
4. Several outstanding checks are greater than several months old. Outstanding checks greater than 4 months should be investigated/resolved by the treasurer.
5. Recommend the WSBA treasurer audit be conducted semi annually vice annually. With the recent increase of expenditures and incomes over the last two years, an increased audit periodicity will ensure accounting accuracy and allow for better budget health.

From the documentation provided, WSBA accounts accurately represent the state of funds for WSBA. This audit was completed satisfactorily.

Sincerely,

David Mackovjak _____ Jean Ball _____

Noted, Selena Clements _____

Sample Form for Reimbursement Request

Date: _____

From: _____

To: WSBA Treasurer

Enclosure: (1) Copy of receipt(s)

Subject: Request of Reimbursement of Funds

1. Request the following to be reimbursed based on the following expenditures:

Expenses:

Scholarships	_____
Business Registration Fees	_____
Beeginner Beekeeping Books	_____
Class Handouts & Costs	_____
Newsletter	_____
Library Expenses	_____
Queen Rearing Program	_____
Member Acknowledgements	_____
Club Apiary Expenses	_____
Door Prizes	_____
Office & Meeting Supplies	_____
Website Hosting	_____
Holiday Party Expense	_____
Fair Supplies	_____
Picnic Supplies	_____
Memberships and Dues	_____
Speaker Reimbursements	_____
Travel	_____

Total _____

Sincerely,

WSBA Member

2013 APPROVED BUDGET

	<u>2012 Budget</u>	<u>2012 Actual</u>	<u>2013 Budget</u>	
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Program Income				
Queen Rearing Donations	124.00	26.00	13.00	
General Donations	3.00	10.00	5.00	
Beeginner Study Guides	250.00	170.00	250.00	
Library Donations	3.00	1.00	1.00	
Scholarship Donations	15.00	7.00	4.00	
Dues - Annual Membership	2,040.00	2,376.00	2,040.00	Assumes 85 members
Program Service Fees				
Introduction to Beekeeping	200.00	0.00	200.00	
Advanced Beekeeping Class	1,000.00	600.00	600.00	
Queen Rearing Class		1,550.00	1,000.00	
Investments				
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	4.00	2.37	4.00	
Other Types of Income				
Queen Sales	150.00	4.00	50.00	
Special Events Income				
Special Events Contributions	0.00	700.00	400.00	Xmas party
Assoc Honey Sales @ Fairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Income	<u>3,789.00</u>	<u>5,446.37</u>	<u>4,567.00</u>	
Gross Profit	3,789.00	5,446.37	4,567.00	
Expense				
Awards and Grants				
Scholarship	** 400.00	200.00	400.00	
Total Awards and Grants	400.00	200.00	400.00	
Business Expenses				
Business Registration Fees	10.00	10.00	10.00	
Total Business Expenses	10.00	10.00	10.00	
Operations				
Beginner Beekeeping Books	250.00	440.00	250.00	
Class Handouts & Costs	450.00	0.00	250.00	
Newsletter	100.00	0.00	100.00	
Library Expenses	200.00	160.25	200.00	
Queen Rearing Program	100.00	75.00	200.00	
Beginner Beekeeping classes			300.00	George's new class
Adv & Queen rearing classes		1,205.60	1,000.00	
Member Acknowledgements	56.00	0.00	56.00	
Club Apiary Expenses	800.00	685.31	800.00	
Door Prizes	180.00	0.00	180.00	
Office & Meeting Supplies	25.00	0.00	25.00	
Website Hosting	60.00	46.99	60.00	
Total Operations	<u>2,221.00</u>	<u>2,613.15</u>	<u>3,421.00</u>	
Other Types of Expenses				
Holiday Party Expense	0.00	278.75	300.00	
Picnic Supplies	95.00	50.96	95.00	
Speaker Reimbursements	100.00	175.00	100.00	
Fair Supplies	25.00	50.00	25.00	
Memberships and Dues	85.00	89.00	85.00	
Total Other Types of Expenses	<u>305.00</u>	<u>643.71</u>	<u>605.00</u>	
Travel and Meetings				
Travel	0.00	100.00	0.00	
Total Expense	<u>2,936.00</u>	<u>3,566.86</u>	<u>4,436.00</u>	
Net Ordinary Income	<u>853.00</u>	<u>1,879.51</u>	<u>131.00</u>	
Net Income	<u>853.00</u>	<u>1,879.51</u>	<u>131.00</u>	

WSBA 2012 CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year the WSBA Christmas party will be held in the Evergreen Room of the Silverdale Community Center located at 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA.

Last year the party was held at the same building but in the 300 square foot Cedar Room. This year we'll have a 3,003 square foot room with a stage and kitchen facility – all at an hourly rate that is less than last year's!

The party starts at 6:00 pm and is a family-friendly potluck format so bring the family and your favorite holiday fare and join us! This year's events include the 2012 Best Honey competition, presentations and a lively auction. Be sure to bring a sample of your honey to enter in the competition and any items you'd like to donate to the auction. Proceeds from the auction go directly to the Association. **DON'T MISS IT!**




Paul Lundy provides auctioneer services and humor at the 2011 Christmas party!

FONDANT AS EMERGENCY WINTER FEED

Bring 7 lbs. of sugar, 1 lb. of water (2 cups), and 1 1/2 lbs. (about 1 1/8 cups) HFCS (or 2:1 sugar water) to a slow boil while stirring until candy consistency is reached - about 220 to 230 degrees F. Take the candy off the heat and stir in 1 lb. of pollen substitute with a whisk. Pour mixture into a mold and allow it to cool.

Here's an experiment for feeding bees during the winter:

Using an inner hive cover with a round center opening, add 1/2" trim completely around the edge of one side. Smear a little vegetable oil around the neck of a standard canning jar and place it face down over the hole. Mix a batch of fondant (recipe ABOVE) and pour into the modified cover. Once the fondant is cooled remove the canning jar. Cover fondant with 1/2" mesh wire, tacking into sides. Place inner hive cover fondant-side down over frames. This will provide emergency feeding while helping to absorb some moisture generated in the hive during the winter.

 **BUZZNOTE:** Why did the bees go on strike? (Because they wanted more honey and shorter working flowers.)

JOINT WA STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOC & WAS CONFERENCE

Special Field News Forager, Brandy Williams 10/06/2012

About 150 people attended the joint Washington State Beekeepers Association and Western Apiculture Society meeting Thursday 10/4 to Saturday 10/6 in Tukwila, Washington. At least six members of West Sound Beekeepers Association attended the conference, which included meetings of the associations. Below are some notes on the speakers' presentations.



Conference photos courtesy of Brandy Williams

Friday morning's sessions illustrated the diversity of approaches to beekeeping.

Jim Bach discussed the economics of beekeeping. What return on investment makes sense to continue to invest family funds in beekeeping? Colonies need to survive to keep beekeeping economically viable.

Louis Matej recently spoke to West Sound Beekeepers Association. He currently chairs the Washington State Beekeepers Association Master Beekeeper Education/Certification Committee. He described the requirements for each state certification level: apprentice, journeyman, and master beekeeper. The program was founded in 1985 by 11 beekeepers. Today there are 2404 apprentice, 90 journeyman and 5 master beekeepers.

Carolyn Breece described the Oregon Master Beekeeper program jointly sponsored by the Oregon State Beekeeping Association and Oregon State University. They modeled their program on the WSBA program. Learning goes both ways, and WSBA is implementing some of the Oregon program's innovations, notably implementing a mentorship program for journeymen.

Dr. Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman, Research Leader of the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson Arizona, described Almopol, the computer model the lab generated to predict almond yields and the economic impact of honeybee pollination. The model was loaded with CIMIS weather data and bloom start dates from years of data collected by Blue Diamond Growers. From 2009 to 2012 the model closely predicted actual yields. The model is available here: <http://gears.tucson.ars.ag.gov/almopol/>. Dr. DeGrandi-Hoffman commented, "If I was an almond grower I'd try to get every bee I could out there" because of the economic return on investment.

JOINT WASBA/WAS CONFERENCE (continued)

Several challenges face commercial honeybee operations. In addition to controlling varroa impacts, Dr. DeGrandi-Hoffman suggested that the industry needs to rethink overwintering strategies. Growers also need to reduce pesticide exposure. "We have no idea" how new pesticides are affecting bees.

Don Aman's presentation discussed outreach activities of the <http://www.yakimabees.com/> Central Washington Beekeepers Association. The group will hold a "Vanishing of the Bees" event on Saturday, October 13 which will include updated information from some of the original contributors.

Melanie Kirby learned to keep top bar hives as a volunteer with the Peace Corps fifteen years ago. Now she and her partner raise queens in the mountains of New Mexico. In 2007 Kirby started organizing other beekeepers to share information. This year they organized as the <http://www.rmsqbcoop.org/> Rocky Mountain Survivor Queen Bee Co-op. The current members of the collective are women and several are top bar beekeepers. Kirby and the co-op members are working to develop a pedigree production protocol and are trading bees to increase genetic diversity. They practice a no treatment system, feed sugar rather than high fructose corn syrup, and practice conscientious mating conditions, leaving mating nucs undisturbed for an extended period of time. The group plans to issue a manual in January of 2014.

The Friday afternoon sessions focused on scientific research and commercial developments.

Eric Olson discussed his experience overwintering bees in controlled atmosphere storage. Previously Olson's Honey had overwintered bees in a yard in California. Winter losses had increased until in 2011 he lost 9000 hives. The images he shared of the emptied hives were harrowing. In addition to the devastating economic loss Olson described the psychological impact of losing so many bees. "It was a disaster," he said. "I've never been lower."

Olson decided he could not suffer that experience again. His friend Tom Hamilton was overwintering bees indoors. In Eastern Washington Olson knew controlled atmosphere (CA) storage units which were empty because new buildings had been built with improved technology. Olson housed 11,700 hives in two buildings through last winter, monitoring and controlling the temperature, oxygen and CO2 levels.

This year he is celebrating the success of the experiment. "We are having a Cinderella year," he said. Proving the technique will require replicating the success. He plans to over-winter his hives in CA buildings again this year.

JOINT WASBA/WAS CONFERENCE (continued)

Jason Long, one of Dr. Sheppard's students, presented data from the single study on oxygen levels in overwintering bees and discussed the study CA overwintering study WSU will conduct next year. In addition to collecting data from Eric Olson's and Tom Hamilton's bees, they will conduct experiments in controlled chambers in Pullman. The study will run from November through January and measure carbon dioxide and oxygen levels, temperature, and food consumption. They will measure bee population, brood, and honey levels before and after the storage.

Dr. Steve Sheppard of WSU described his team's efforts to increase the genetic diversity of American bee stock which has been frozen since importation was halted in 1922. His team has collected genetic stock from Italy and Russia. Dr. Sheppard has amusing stories about extracting semen from drones at night in hotel rooms!

He also announced that WSU is putting their queen feedback form online. WSBA has distributed queens from the WSU line. The web form will make it easier for club members keeping those queens to provide data to the university on the results.

Megan Taylor presented a proposal for a study to compare the genetic diversity of Old World and New World bee populations. This would provide information to California commercial queen rearing operations and indicate whether additional Old World material would increase American genetic diversity.

Brandon Hopkins presented new developments in bee germplasm preservation at WSU. Cryopreservation allows semen to be stored for years, conserving genetic diversity and permitting the reconstitution of subspecies if any should be lost. Commercial breeders can also use the technique to breed through time and space with convenient storage and shipping.

Morris Ostrofsky concluded the day with a lively presentation on using nucs for swarm prevention, hive increase and queen rearing.

Saturday morning kicked off with **Bill Markus** presenting on the Skagit Valley Beekeepers Queen Rearing Project. Members of the WSBA queen rearing group attended. Bob Arnold followed with a presentation on preventing swarms.

Oregon State University **Ramesh Sigili** reported the results of varroa and nosema treatment studies. He noted Mite Away Quick Strips were highly effective at the cost of significant brood loss. He also studies nutrition, a neglected subject, and concludes that a well fed hive is healthier and is better able to resist pests and diseases.

Dr. Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman provided an update on Hopguard trials. Her team tested Hopguard on package bees and concluded it is a good idea for package sellers to use the product to sell mite-free bees. Summer treatments did not seem to be effective or necessary but fall treatments definitely knocked down mites. Later this year she will have the results of one versus three fall treatments.

JOINT WASBA/WAS CONFERENCE (continued)

For **Dr. Sue Cobey**, queen rearing is the most fun part of beekeeping. She distinguishes queen propagation, which provides quick results, and bee breeding, a much longer term project. In the Pacific Northwest our season is so short we have to be organized to propagate bees. "When I see drones emerging, that's my grafting date," she said.

Dr. Cobey's bee breeding program steps: 1. maintain selection pressure on the population over time; 2. establish a large gene pool; 3. use a simple selection index; and 4. develop an annual program - evaluate, select, propagate. "You can do a lot by selecting who you're going to graft from," she said.

She encouraged every beekeeper, backyard or commercial, to try grafting, but noted that she considers 50 hives the minimum necessary to provide a sufficient gene pool.

UW biologist **Dr. Jeffrey Riffell** studies pollination. What flower characteristics attract bees, hummingbirds and moths? His research uncovered the ways bees mark flowers with pheromones that attract other bees to the plants. Successful flowers mimic those scents to attract pollinating bees.

Bob Redmond runs an urban bee business in Seattle, keeping bees in community gardens and open spaces. He cooperates with other businesses to build bee-friendly habitat. Redmond noted that urban environments are expanding rapidly worldwide to accommodate a human population boom. Beekeeping historically developed in the urban environment and will continue to help provide food to city dwellers.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association president **Jan Lohman** shared lessons learned on her 2100 hive operation. "It's hard work - hard on your back, hard on your emotions," she said. Her top tips: get the timing right for treatments and feeding; monitor mite levels; spend money where it makes sense; and keep records!

Beth Conrey, president of the Colorado State Beekeepers Association, discussed the innovations she has implemented, including a discounted membership fee for members of local associations and extending 501C3 status to associated clubs. Projects in process include pollinator protection week and working for passage of the Federal Highway Bee Act which would provide three-season pollinator planting in freeway strips.

Next year's WAS meeting will be in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

<http://wsunews.wsu.edu/pages/publications.asp?Action=Detail&PublicationID=30026&TypeID=1>



BUZZNOTE: If you have beekeeping-related tips, advice or great ideas you'd like to share please send them to newsletter@westsoundbees.org. (Photos are always welcome!)



NOVEMBER RECIPES

HOT HONEY DRINK



1-1/2 large lemons
1 3" piece of fresh ginger root

1 cup honey

Wash and thinly slice lemons (leaving skin on), discarding ends. Peel and thinly slice fresh ginger root.

In a clean, wide-mouth, 1 pint canning jar, pour in a small amount of honey – just enough to thinly cover bottom. Add a layer of lemon and then ginger, covering with another thin layer of honey. Repeat until jar is full. Clean and dry rim, screw on lid tightly and refrigerate, turning the jar over every other day for the first few days.

To use, stir in 2+ tablespoons to 8 ounces of hot water. This looks beautiful, keeps well in the refrigerator (although it seems to disappear quickly) and makes an easy gift. After about a week the ginger and lemon begin to breakdown into a wonderful marmalade-ish consistency.

HONEY CARROT SOUP

~National Honey Board

1 pound carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
1 onion, chopped
1/4 cup honey
Minced chives

2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
1 cup 2% low-fat milk
Ground nutmeg

Place carrots, onion and chicken broth in large saucepan. Cover and simmer over medium heat about 15 minutes or until carrots are tender.

Transfer mixture to blender or processor; blend until smooth. Return to saucepan. Add honey and milk. Return to simmer.

Serve hot or cold sprinkled with nutmeg and garnished with chives. Makes four servings.

ADVERTISEMENTS



Your bees called...they want you to stop at Stedman's!

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FOR YOUR FAVORITE BEEKEEPERS



Perfect for stuffing with all those nifty little beekeeping gadgets for the beeks on your list! Handmade of soft felt with holiday bee embroidery, stockings are \$12.50 plus postage or can be picked up at the November meeting if pre-ordered. Stockings were handmade in Rainier, WA - only 10 available. Email biz@kimredmond.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Now is a great time to send in your 2013 dues. 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.

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, gives you 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 \$24 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: Frank Wilson, WSBA Treasurer
9330 Misery Point Rd NW
Seabeck, WA 98380