



The PSBA BUZZ

January 2009

Volume 8, Issue 1

EVENTS at the Arboretum Center

Graham Visitor Center
2200 Arboretum Drive E.,
Seattle, WA 98112

(Meetings are the 4th Tuesday
of each month except July and
December.)

January 27

Woodenware assembly

February 24

Mason Bees: Dr. Evan
Sugden

March 24

Bumble bees: Margot
Dogtraum

PSBA OFFICERS

President

Nancy Beckett
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Vice President

Ambra Wadley
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Secretary

John deGroot
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Treasurer

Bruce Becker
253-638-9112

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Hive Calendar

Read, plan, repair, sell

Do not disturb hives. Keep entrances free from ice. Read technical books and journals. Make plans for the coming year: medication, requeening, equipment purchases, and migrations. Buy, build, and repair woodenware and equipment. Buy the bottles and packaging you will use this year. Package and sell last year's honey and wax. Render old combs into clean wax.

January Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009

Beginners instruction: 6:15 – 7:45 pm

Van Sherod's beginner's lesson precedes the main presentation. Priceless instruction for all. This is the time of year to start planning.

Main meeting: 7:30 – 9 pm

Woodenware assembly, featuring three presenters: Jim Olsen on equipment assembly; John deGroot on frames, wiring and foundation; and Mike Doren on nucs, lids and bottom boards.

Club Notes

Happy New Year to you all!

The New Year seems to be a time of reflection and hope for me. I reflect on those things that did or didn't happen last year and I am hopeful that this new year will in some way be better than the last.

What do you think about?

Now that the snow has left us (hopefully) we can get back to being thankful for rain because at least it doesn't pile up and have to be plowed or not. In the November newsletter John deGroot, club secretary, asked about our resolutions for 2009. What did you come up with?

I would like to thank our past officers and trustees for their service in 2008 – president, Richard Sirota; vice president, Steve Collins; secretary, John deGroot; treasurer, Ambra Wadley and Bruce Becker; newsletter editor, Ira Collins and Cynthia Salzman; apiary manger, Bruce Becker and trustees, Krista Connors, Mike Doren, Jerry Gallaher, Joyce Danners, Thane Lewis, Jim Olsen, Allan Timlick and Tim Todd.

Thank you also to the incoming officers and trustees – president, Nancy Beckett;

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster
Cynthia Salzman
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Apiary Manager
Tim Todd
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PSBA TRUSTEES

Krista Conners (2008-2009)
Joyce Danners (2007-2008)
Mike Doren (2007-2008)
Jerry Gallaher (2008-2009)
Thane Lewis (2008-2009)
Nancy Beckett (2008-2009)
Jim Olsen (2008-2009)
Allan Timlick (2007-2008)
Tim Todd (2008-2009)

PSBA TRUSTEES

Robert Clark (Lifetime)
Bill Rahr (Lifetime)

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We're on the Web!
www.pugetsoundbees.org
www.psbees.org

vice president, Ambra Wadley; secretary, John deGroot; treasurer, Bruce Becker; newsletter editor, Cynthia Salzman; apiary manager, Tim Todd; and new trustees Mike Doren, Jim Olsen, Rob Stevens, Brian Allen, and Mark Paree and continuing trustees Jerry Gallaher, Krista Conners, and Tim Todd.

We have several volunteer opportunities in our club and will let you know what they are throughout the year. Please consider getting involved because it is fun and you will always have a chance to learn more about beekeeping and some very interesting people.

The purpose of our club is to protect honeybees, educate beekeepers, encourage good bee management practices and encourage good public relations between beekeepers and the public. I hope you renew your membership, if you haven't already, attend meetings so you can learn more about beekeeping and volunteer with a great bunch of beekeepers. You will be glad you did and so will we.

Nancy Beckett
Club President

Marketplace

For Sale

Thriving poison-free insect removal business; JERRY THE BEE GUY. I will teach the new owner safe poison-free removal of honeybees, bumble bees, wasps, hornets, and yellow jackets, and their nests with brood comb. Must not have allergy to bee or wasp stings, and not afraid to be stung. Knowledge of use of small power tools, basic carpentry, and wood frame construction very helpful. Sale includes Astro van with specialized equipment, cell phone number known throughout Puget Sound area, web site, and client base of 1,000. Work half-year at your own pace. Contact Jerry Mixon at jerry@jerrythebeeguy.com for more detailed information

Bee Boxes (unassembled)

Eastern Washington wood worker is offering inexpensive bee boxes, just like last year. We've got a unique connection, which cuts out the middleman. He supplies boxes to all of the large commercial beekeepers in the state, and for a short time, we have an opportunity get the same boxes at the same low price WITHOUT ANY DELIVERY COST! Boxes don't have carved-in handles; they have easy to grab cleats. Must be a current Association member. Deadline for orders is February 6. Expected delivery date early March. You can pick them up or I will bring them to the March meeting.

Deeps \$8.00 commercial grade, \$7.00 Budget grade (plus tax)
Westerns \$6.50 commercial grade \$5.50 budget grade (plus tax)
5 frame nucs this year at \$7.50 each. (plus tax)
We are still including the cleats for free.

Please contact Jim Olsen at 206-919-2945 or jao@coredesigninc.com to pre-pay for your boxes.

Got gear? Sell your stuff here!

Short ads are run for free for members of PSBA! The fee for non-members is \$25. Commercial ad rates: \$15 for ¼ page, \$50 for ½ page, or \$75 for a full page. Send your ads to editor@psbees.org.

Bees in the news

Portuguese Apitherapist to Live on Diet of Bee Products

Apitherapy News, 12/29/2008

Beginning in January, Portuguese apitherapist Antonio Couto will seek to live exclusively on a diet of beehive products. Apitherapy News asked Mr. Couto about his experiment. He will track the progress of his dietary experiment online.

Q: *Could you tell us a little about yourself?*

A: My name is Antonio Couto, I am 46-years-old, Portuguese, live in Lisbon, where I have an apitherapy office.

Q: *Why did you choose to undertake this experiment?*

A: First of all because I know that way is possible to keep our body in balance (nutritionally and physically) and also because I want to know in my case how far I can go.

Read the entire interview at <http://tinyurl.com/753ln5>.

Honey laundering: A sticky trail of intrigue and crime

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer published a two-part investigative report on the questionable practices of the honey import and distribution industry in the U.S.

Read the full article at http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/394053_honey30.asp

Food dance gets new life when bees get cocaine

By Pam Belluck, *The New York Times*, Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Buzz has a whole new meaning now that scientists are giving bees cocaine. To learn more about the biochemistry of addiction, scientists in Australia dropped liquefied freebase cocaine on bees' backs, so it entered the circulatory system and brain. The scientists found that bees react much like humans do: cocaine alters their judgment, stimulates their behavior and makes them exaggeratedly enthusiastic about things that might not otherwise excite them. What's more, bees exhibit withdrawal symptoms. When a coked-up bee has to stop cold turkey, its score on a standard test of bee performance (learning to associate an odor with sugary syrup) plummets.

Read the entire article at

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/06/science/06bees.html?_r=1&ref=science.

Life Cycle of the Honey Bee

For a quick lesson in honey bee development, watch this YouTube video prepared by Dadant and Sons:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSk_ev1eZec
