



# The PSBA BUZZ

June-July 2010

Volume 9, Issue 6-7

## EVENTS at the Arboretum Center

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

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

### June 22

Speaker:  
Robin Foster –  
Bumblebees

### July 17<sup>th</sup>

PICNIC!  
No meeting on July  
27.

Website:  
[pugetsoundbees.org](http://pugetsoundbees.org)

## PSBA OFFICERS

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## Hive Calendar

### PREVENT ROBBING OR STARVATION

#### June: Major Lowland Nectar Flow

Check for swarm cells each 7 – 10 days. Blackberry, the major lowland Puget Sound nectar flow, starts in June and lasts 2-4 weeks, depending on altitude, weather, and location. Remove and extract capped supers. Bottle and sell honey and beeswax. Harvest & Migrate

**July:** Check for swarm cells each 7 – 10 days. Re-queen as soon as the blackberry flow is over. Harvest and extract capped supers. Optionally, migrate to the mountains for fireweed. Collect and freeze pollen for use next spring. Bottle and sell honey and beeswax.

### NECTAR FLOW/POLLEN:

June: Blackberry (lowlands), Dandelion & Clover, Huckleberry

July: End of lowland and beginning of higher elevation Blackberry. Dandelion & Clover  
Fireweed

## June Meeting

### TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2010

**Beginners' Instruction: 6:30 – 7:15 p.m:** current month to-do items

**Main Meeting: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.: Robin Foster (Professor & Chair, Department of Psychology, University of Puget Sound): Recent research on bumblebee brain and behavior.** Most studies of social insect brains have focused on honeybees and ants, which have distinct division of labor and live in large colonies. With Susannah Hannaford at the University of Puget Sound, Robin has focused on the behavior and brains of bumblebees, whose small colonies typically include fewer than 100 workers. Worker bumblebees carry out tasks both inside the hive (e.g. brood care, nest temperature regulation, and nest maintenance) and outside the hive (e.g., foraging for pollen and nectar). Robin will summarize recent findings on the brain structure of worker bumblebees in relationship to age, behavior, and experience.

## July Meeting

### Annual picnic Saturday July 17th

From 12-3 next to the club apiary behind the Graham Visitor's Center. Bring a potluck dish to share. The club will provide beverages and dessert. This is fun opportunity to socialize and network with other beekeepers. There is always great food and conversation! **NOTE: There is no club meeting in July - just the picnic.**

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#### PSBA TRUSTEES

Brian Allen (2009-10)  
Mark Paris (2009-10)  
Rob Stevens (2009-10)  
Corky Luster (2010-11)  
Patti Loesche (2010-11)  
John deGroot (2010-11)  
Christine Ranegger (2010-11)  
Laura Lovell (2010)  
Brad Jones (2010)  
Robert Clark (Lifetime)  
Bill Rahr (Lifetime)

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We're on the Web!  
[www.pugetsoundbees.org](http://www.pugetsoundbees.org)  
[www.psbees.org](http://www.psbees.org)

## Announcements & News

### PSBA Apiary Work Party!

If interested in maintaining the club's apiary, and learning something new? Join a work party? It's a great chance to ask questions and help the club's bees. New and old beekeepers are welcome! If you want hands-on experience, bring a bee suit if you have one, or wear light colors and close up neck, arm, and leg holes.

Current and future Work party organizers: Contact them if interested in helping.

June 17<sup>th</sup>: 2-4pm - Tim Todd 253-941-9855

July 10<sup>th</sup>: 2-4pm - Christine Ranegger 206-933-8951

July 17<sup>th</sup>: 2-4pm - Mark Paris 206-499-2839

Aug 7<sup>th</sup>: 11-2pm - Nancy Beckett 206-937-5583

Aug 28<sup>th</sup>: 12-2pm - Tim Todd 253-941-9855

**PSBA- In the Community:** On 6/5/10 several PSBA members volunteered to educate others about bees and sell honey at the reFresh Southwest festival in West Seattle. Our booth was the most interesting one there! (editorial opinion ☺)



Bruce Becker (in striped shirt) challenging folks to find the queen. More info about the festival, and pics, can be found [here](#) and [here](#)

### Ask the Bee Geek:

At the next PSBA meeting, a designated bee geek (i.e., one who knows a lot about beekeeping) will be available in the lobby to answer any beekeeping questions you may have. (This is a great opportunity to try to stump the bee geek too!) Bee Geek duty will rotate from meeting to meeting, so if you think you know your stuff- put your name in the hat to be the next bee geek!

**Bee Beard, Anyone?** If there are any beekeepers who'd be interested in helping out an ad campaign - by donning a bee beard, please contact [Tom Sobotta](mailto:Tom.Sobotta@dnaseattle.com), Account Director, [www.dnaseattle.com](http://www.dnaseattle.com) Phone 206.770.9615, 206.812.1681

### Core Boxes

Please remember to bring your package core boxes to the meeting for a \$5.00 refund from Cary Therriault

## Master Beekeeper Apprenticeship Test

If you are taking this test, please complete/ return it to Van Sherod at the monthly meeting, or call Van or Barb Sherod 206-284-1520 to make other arrangements. If you are interested in taking this (open book) test you can purchase the companion booklet for \$10 from Van.

## Bee Related Websites:

[Apiary Registration form](#) Register your hives! Note: [new state tax exemptions](#)  
<http://www.beetight.com/> Free Application for tracking hives. Phone app version available.  
[Artful Beehives in West Seattle- check 'em out!](#) For Fun!  
[www.wasba.org](http://www.wasba.org)- provides Honeybee Diseases / Pests on the WA State Beekeepers Web Site.  
[HONEYBEE-NEWS.com](http://HONEYBEE-NEWS.com) delivers up to date news and educational information for the beekeeping industry, both hobbyist and commercial beekeepers.

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## Marketplace/Lost and Found

**Wanted:** one or two children's bee suits to fit my 6, 9 & 11 year old children, who are enthusiastic about helping dad work with our backyard beehives. Please contact Nathan to arrange an exchange. [Nathan.rausch@sprint.com](mailto:Nathan.rausch@sprint.com) (425)278-7544

**Found:** tan, knit scarf- left at Patti's work party on May 23rd. Please contact [Mark Paris](#), 206-499-2839

### Got gear? Sell your stuff here!

Short ads are run for free for members of PSBA. Fee for non-members is \$25. Send your ads to [editor@psbees.org](mailto:editor@psbees.org).

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## Please return library materials!

Many items are missing from our library. Please return your PSBA library items by bringing them to the monthly meeting or mailing them to Nancy Beckett, 6308 50th Ave. SW., Seattle, WA 98136.