



The PSBA Buzz

February 2012

Volume 11, Issue 2

Meetings:

Arboretum

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

February 28th

Goals and Planning
for your beekeeping

March 27th

TBD

PSBA OFFICERS

President

Brad Jones
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Vice President

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Secretary

Patricia Foote
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Treasurer

Bruce Becker
206-527-0226
treasurer@psbees.org

Newsletter Editor

Krista Conner
206-938-5158
editor@psbees.org

Apiary Manager

Position is open
If you are interested,
please contact Brad
Jones

Hive Calendar

Feb or March

Usual nectar sources are Crocus, Heather, Skunk Cabbage, Pussy Willow Pollen, Maple, Apricot, Alder for pollen in late March

Examine and feed if necessary

On the first 55 F+ afternoon, go through hives briefly: clean hive bottom boards and clean out dead hives. Feed hives that will otherwise not make it to summer. Feed all hives in order to medicate with fumagillin (Fumidal B). If medicating in the spring with Apistan or Coumaphous, install at the middle of March to allow enough time after removal for the required 'medication free' period before installing honey supers. Do not use Menthol or Formic Acid Gel packs in the spring; temperatures do not become consistently warm long enough in advance of the nectar flow to install and remove per the label recommendation.

February Meeting

Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of each month except July, November, and December

Beginner's Instruction: **6:30-7:00**

Tim Comstock will present this month's beginner's session.

Beekeeping Q&A: 7:00-7:30

General Meeting 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Goals and planning: What do you want from your beekeeping?

David Feinberg will present this month's topic.

Announcements & News

PSBA Beekeeping Classes: Learn "How to Become a Hobby Beekeeper" PSBA is sponsoring a beginning beekeeper class for 2012, in March. Class content will include: honeybee physiology and behavior, beekeeping equipment, procedures and best practices, diseases and parasites, and related topics. Classes are taught to a beginner's level of understanding and (**NEW!**) will include the Washington State Beekeeping Association's Apprentice Beekeeper test and booklet. The class consists of 10 classroom hours divided into successive Saturdays and a 'hands on' session at the club apiary in mid-April (date tbd). Advanced registration preferred. Please pay the club treasurer, Bruce Becker, \$50 for enrollment in one of the classes:

Class: Saturday 17th Mar. noon to 5 in greenhouse (arrive 15 minutes early). And, Saturday 24th Mar. noon to 5 (arrive early)

PSBA TRUSTEES

Nancy Beckett (2012-13)
Gail Eshom (2011-12)
Keith Glatzer (2011-12)
Kevin Gow (2011-12)
Jason Hanson (2012-13)
Barnaby Hoyt (2012-13)
Steve Near (2011-12)
Bob Redmond (2011-12)
John Woodworth (2012-13)
Robert Clark (Lifetime)
Bill Rahr (Lifetime)

Master Beekeeper Apprenticeship Test

If you are interested in taking this (open book) test you can purchase the companion booklet for \$10 from Krista Conner. Contact: krconner (at) aol.com
More information about the certification steps: <http://www.wasba.org/master.htm>

2012 PSBA Membership Dues Reminder! Please don't forget to renew your annual membership by paying \$20* at the next meeting February 28th. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please mail your dues to: Bruce Becker, 6535 - 42nd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Thank you for your continued support!

*Note: Membership dues are tax deductible since PSBA is a 501c3 organization.

Apiary Manager needed Aaron Lum has been our Apiary Manager for over a year and he now has to step down from the position. If you might be interested in the position please contact Brad Jones, club president. Thank you Aaron for taking such good care of our bees.

A list of local and national beekeeping suppliers is now available at the monthly meetings and on the web site: <http://pugetsoundbees.org/links/suppliers/>

Apiary Work Party Time at the Arboretum Apiary

If you are interested in maintaining the club's apiary and learning something new, join a work party! It's a great chance to ask questions, help the club's bees and the apiary.

If interested, contact one of the work-party organizers below:

Next party: Sunday, March 4th, 11 am to 1 pm or when finished (Weather permitting)

Contact: Kevin Gow 206-633-3577

Work to do: Prepare hives for packages and check the status of the over wintered hives.

Future parties:

March - 2 nd half - Bruce Becker	206-527-0226
April - 1 st half - Pat Foote	206-286-1356
April 2 nd half - Barnaby Holt	206-579-4021

Marketplace

Short ads are run for free for members of PSBA. Fee for non-members is \$25.

Send your ads to editor@psbees.org

Ballard Bee Company- We are now accepting deposits for 2012 bee packages. Beginner kits (10% off retail discount), hive bodies, bases, tops and frames with foundation, queens, medications and feeds as well as many other supplies for beekeepers. Go to www.ballardbeecompany.com

Bee Packages: 2012 Package bees - Cost per package is \$90 which includes a \$5 refundable deposit on return of the core package bee box. (Price may be subject to change). Delivery 2nd to 3rd weekend in April (weather depending)-pickup in Bellevue. Choice with each package: Italian or New World Carniolan queen!

Individual queens are \$25 each. More info: Cary Therriault cktherriault@comcast.net

Snoqualmie Valley Beekeepers - Wooden ware and bees for sale until Feb 28th - PSBA members will be able to order bees and woodenware even if you're not a SnoValley Member! For more info:

<http://www.snoqualmievalleybeekeepers.org/store/group-buying/>

Beekeeping Apprentices wanted: Seattle Bee Works is accepting applications for 3-4 beekeeping apprentices for 2012. Need a mentor? Want to learn to beekeep without the expensive setup? Get in touch! Krista@seattlebeeworks.com

Want to be part of the Fremont June 16 Solstice Parade? Plans for a marching bee colony are in the works! Participants will dress as bees (drones, worker, 1 queen) and beekeepers to create a "marching" bee colony in the Fremont Solstice Parade. Lots of fun to be had! If interested in marching, or helping organize/provide technical advice contact Laura Lovell for more info: kqandll@earthlink.net

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