



The PSBA BUZZ

October 2008

Volume 7, Issue 8

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.)

October 28
MEETING 6:30-9
pm
Beginners
Instruction
6:30-7:15 pm
Main
Presentation:

Nov. 18 (3rd
Tuesday)
Potluck and
election of
2009 officers.

December
No meeting.

2009

January 27
Woodenware
assembly

February 24
Mason Bees: Dr.
Evan Sugden

March 24

Hive Calendar

Prepare for winter

Install mouse guards, tip hives slightly forward to ensure dry conditions. Formic Acid, Coumaphous, and Apistan must be removed before winter. Feed or combine any hives that are too light to survive until early next summer. Bottle and sell honey and beeswax. Evaluate this year's hive management results and plan for next year.

October Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Beginners Instruction: 6:30-7:15 pm

John DeGroot will teach the beginner class.

Main Meeting: 7:30-9 pm

Doris Mech, will talk about using honey in cooking, focusing on recipes from her cookbook. Ambra Wadley will show how to make craft gifts from beeswax and honey, including covered pinecone fire starters; lip balm; hand cream; remedies for small cuts, bruises and burns. Directions will be included to take home.

Club Notes

Bee one with the seasons

We now have only one task to complete our beekeeping season. That is to make sure our hives are viable to survive the winter. Lift your hives and feel if they are heavy enough with honey to supply food for the bees throughout the winter. If not, consider either putting some honey-filled combs into your foundations or feeding your bees. If you feed your bees, here are a few suggestions. Feeding should only be done for a short time period. Make the sugar water solution a little thicker than spring because excess liquid can cause diarrhea in the bee population. Feed to build up the hives only until the steady rains come. Then you will have completed the last of the season's chores.

Beekeeping is intermingled with the seasons of nature. Bees remind me of when I lived on a farm. I knew spring was coming because the earth started to lose its frosty hard surface and become soft. As spring progressed, it was time to plant the vegetable seeds and starts and cultivate the soil. Summer would begin with small plants sprouting and starting to mature. Throughout summer the abundance of food would keep coming. As fall drew near, as it does now, the leaves began to turn and the growing season slowed. The crops were harvested, the honey extracted and the soil turned for the last time. I never had the experience of feeling the seasons as when I lived on a farm. It was as if I could see time flow by.

Time and the seasons can be experienced by the phases of the bees. I look forward to spring, when the bees become active and I check to see how they are doing. I am always surprised when they are strong and ready to start the season. Feeding,

Bumble bees:
Margot Dogtraum

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PSBA TRUSTEES

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(2007-2008)
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(2008-2009)
Thane Lewis
(2008-2009)
Nancy Beckett
(2008-2009)
Jim Olsen
(2008-2009)
Allan Timlick
(2007-2008)
Tim Todd
(2008-2009)

preparing supers, changing out old hardware are all ways we communicate our appreciation to the bees. We share in the production and total experience of honey creation. Without the bees, there would be no honey. Without beekeepers, there would be no honey to enjoy and nourish us. So as fall ends and winter is here, enjoy the seasons of nature and enjoy a nice hot cup of tea, with honey of course.

—Richard Sirota, PSBA president

Marketplace

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.

Announcements

[Club newsletter editor transition](#)

The newsletter editor position unexpectedly became vacant recently, and Cynthia Salzman agreed to step in as the new editor. Please forgive any delays or glitches while we are in transition. Meanwhile, send your article ideas or submissions to editor@psbees.org. Thank you!

PSBA TRUSTEES

**Robert Clark
(Lifetime)**

Bill Rahr (Lifetime)

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