



# The PSBA BUZZ

February 2010

Volume 9, Issue 2

## 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.)

### Feb. 23

Woodenware Assembly  
Top Bar Hives

### Mar. 23

Mason Bees: Dave  
Hunter of Hunters  
Mason Bees, LLC will  
talk about importance  
of Mason Bees and  
how best to raise them.

## PSBA OFFICERS

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## Hive Calendar

### Examine, 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 not otherwise make it to summer. Feed all hives in order to medicate with fumagillin (Fumidial B).

### Nectar flow/Pollen:

Crocus, Heather, Skunk Cabbage, Pussy Willow (pollen), Maple, Apricot

## February Meeting

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

**Beginners' Instruction: 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.:** Woodenware assembly

**Main Meeting: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. : Top Bar Hives:** Speaker: Brice Howard began beekeeping as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Paraguay, South America, in 1994. For more than two years as a volunteer, through 1996, he worked with small scale Paraguayan farmers to begin managing bees for honey production. Many of those he worked with chose top bar hives for their apiaries. Since 2001 Brice has worked with top bar hives in the Puget Sound area. Brice will be giving an overview of this hive type and method of beekeeping, with slide show and equipment demo.

## Announcements & News

### PSBA Sponsored Beginning Beekeeping Classes:

Graham Visitors Center Washington Park Arboretum Sessions	- Sat Feb 27 and Sat March 6 from 12pm-5pm - Sat March 20 and Sat March 27 from 12pm-5pm Cost \$40 for either two day session <a href="#">Registration form.</a>
Meadowbrook Farm North Bend, WA	- Mon Feb 1,8,15, 22nd 7pm - 9pm - April 17th, 18th 12pm-4pm Cost \$30 for either series, For more info <a href="#">Meadowbrook Schedule</a> or contact <a href="#">Bob Combs</a>

### Time to Order Bee Packages

It is that time of year to consider purchasing your 3lb package needs for this spring! Packages will arrive direct from California to Bellevue - available the second or third weekend in April. All orders need to be prepaid by the end of March.

This year the packages will cost \$80 each. The \$5.00 increase in cost will be refunded to the beekeeper once the core package bee box is returned. If you currently have core boxes needing to be returned please get in touch with Cary, or bring them to the next PSBA meeting.

The packages come with either an Italian or Carnolian queens. Individual queens are

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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)

\$18.00 each. Please make checks out to Earl Kanz and mail them to Cary at the address: Cary Therriault : 3045 125th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98005

### Swarm List Sign up.

If you have an interest in capturing swarms, and want to be on the Swarm list, send your name, phone number, and the area that you would like to be listed under to Jim Olsen at [jao@coredesigninc.com](mailto:jao@coredesigninc.com) by the end of February. This list will be sent early in March to many agencies that will call upon this list, if they have a swarm. See the [2009 swarm list](#) on the website for area's listed.

### Field Day—mark your calendars for May!

The club's annual Field Day event will take place this year on Saturday, May 15, This is an educational event that includes inspection of the club's hives. Look for more details in coming newsletters.

### PSBA Logo

We would like to explore a new design for our club logo. Are you a professional graphic designer? If so, would you consider designing a new club logo pro-bono? If you are interested please contact Nancy Beckett, [enbee555@gmail.com](mailto:enbee555@gmail.com) or 206-937-5583.

### A Note from WSU Diagnostics Lab

Washington State Beekeepers – please note changes to the [WSU Honey Bee website](#) - the most important is a short video on proper packaging of samples for diagnosis of tracheal mite, varroa mite, and nosema. We also have a new data form that should be sent with each sample - please take a look! To find the video and proper form to include please go to <http://apis.wsu.edu> - click on the Diagnostics Lab link.

### 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.

### Another Survey from Washington State Beekeepers (WASBA)

Help us assess what is happening to our honey bees in Washington State- Please take this very short survey about how many of your hives survived the winter, so far. Click [here](#), or for more information, email Paul Lundy at [editor@wasba.org](mailto:editor@wasba.org).

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## Marketplace

### 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).

### 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.

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