

The Local Buzz

November 2015



President's Message, Brion Dunbar

Hope your bees are looking good and getting ready for winter. I've fed my colonies two rounds of 3 lbs pollen substitute in the last month or so. I'm also feeding syrup to the ones that are lighter than 95-100 lbs. It is interesting to watch them over this period, some that were small and broodless 6 weeks ago are now building up nicely.

In the next month or so we need to nominate folks for NCBA officers for next year. If you are interested please talk to me or any of the board members. It doesn't take that much time and there will be 'old timers' around to help out as needed.



November 2nd Meeting – 7:00 PM

Grass Valley Veteran's Memorial Building – 255 South Auburn Street in Grass Valley

Our speaker this month is Debbie Nowland of Nowland Bees. Debbie will talk to us about how she makes balms and candles using , of course, bees wax.

Minutes from Last Meeting Submitted by John Meeks, Secretary

Pres Brion Dunbar opened with Q&A. Varroa is heavy all over U.S.

One third of US hives are in North and South Dakota, and most operators have 10,000 hives.

Check weight of your hives at one end with luggage scale or fingertips. Lightweight hives may need pesticide, sugar feeding or protein supplement. If a bottom box has little or no honey, it can be removed and a short super added on top, saving the queen and the winter brood from having to heat empty comb. Beekeepers from Europe and Asia are inserting commercial size beeyards in prime locations in this area. Proposals to protect established beekeepers by limiting numbers of new colonies within minimum distances from previously registered locations, otherwise registering new locations, with commercial fees charged.

Program: Janet Brisson "Winter Feeding." While powdered sugar dislodges Varroa mites not protected in sealed larval cells, granulated sugar can be used for feeding the hive for extended times. Newspaper is supported by a frame like a queen excluder, surrounded by a short spacer or super, on top of the hive. A layer of sugar on the paper is moistened with water spray. The bees can use the sugar if it's kept moist, with pollen substitute next to it on the frame.

From the Librarian

Tynowyn Slattery

Remember...If you can't make meetings to return books, you can always mail them to:

Tynowyn Slattery 20493 Rome Road Nevada City, CA 95959 swoolman@saber.net 530-265-6318

Recipes

Submitted by **Karla Hanson**

Homemade Honey Marshmallows

<http://www.momypotamus.com/skip-the-peeps-make-healthy-marshmallows-at-home/>

Ingredients:

- 1 cup filtered water (split into half cups)
 - 3 tablespoons grass-feed gelatin
 - 1 cup honey
 - 1 teaspoon organic vanilla extract
 - 1/4 teaspoon unrefined sea salt
 - Natural food dye, optional
- * You can also reduce the amount of vanilla by half and add a different extract for flavoring: peppermint, orange, lemon, etc.

Equipment:

- Pan, 8×8 or larger
- unbleached parchment paper
- stand mixer or hand mixer
- candy thermometer
- mixing bowl

Directions:

Grease an 8×8(or larger) pan and line with parchment paper in both directions. Leave some length to use as handles when removing your finished marshmallows.

In your mixer bowl, add the gelatin with 1/2 cup of water

While the gelatin is softening, pour the other 1/2 cup of water in a sauce pan along with the honey, vanilla and the salt. Turn the burner to a medium high heat, bringing the mixture to a boil. Place a candy thermometer in the sauce pan and continue to boil the mixture until it reaches 240 degrees (the soft ball stage). This will take approx. 7-8 min. Immediately remove from the sauce pan from the heat.

Turn your standing mixer to low/med. Slowly pour the honey mixture into the bowl combining it with the softened gelatin. Turn the mixer to high and continue beating the mixtures until it becomes thick like marshmallow creme (about 10 min).

Note from Heather: If you want to add natural food dye at the very last stage of mixing the marshmallow batter to tint them, go for it! I used red to create light pink.

Turn off the mixer and transfer the marshmallow creme to the prepared pan. Remember, if using a coating, add it to the bottom of the pan first before transferring the marshmallow creme. Smooth the top (add more coating if using one). Pat to smooth again. If you are not using a coating then lightly grease your hands with oil and pat smooth. This will keep it from sticking to your fingers. Alternatively you can press it down with parchment paper, leaving it there till the marshmallows are completely set.

To Add More Color

1. While you're waiting for the marshmallow to set, add a few drops of natural food coloring to a bowl of finely shredded coconut flakes and mix thoroughly. Keep adding dye until the flakes reach the color intensity you like. (I created three different bowls with varying color intensity). After the marshmallows have set, cut them up and roll them in the coconut. If you're feeling adventurous you might try tinting the coconut with beet juice and then drying them in the dehydrator before using.
2. When the marshmallows are set, remove the parchment paper and cut into squares. Enjoy!

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Goodies Sign-up

Karla Hanson, Coordinator

Please let me know if you can bring a treat for any of the coming meetings. We only need a couple of folks each month, so pick a month and let me know. Contact Karla Hanson, queenbeez@att.net

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The Nevada County Beekeepers Association is dedicated to apiculture education and promotion of the art and science of beekeeping among beekeepers, agriculturists, and the general public. This is a "not for profit" organization. Donations are welcomed.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Grass Valley Veteran's Memorial Building at 255 South Auburn Street in Grass Valley. All visitors are welcome. Use the back entrance.

The newsletter is published monthly as a service to the membership. Articles, recipes, commentary, and news items are welcomed and encouraged. Contributions should be received by the 20th of the Month to be included into the next issue. Submit to garyg@newpress.com

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Nevada County Beekeepers Association

Officers

President – Brion Dunbar	559-1422
briond@aja.com	
Vice President – Jerry Van Heeringen	913-5709
jerryvan29@gmail.com	
Secretary – Jack Meeks	432-4429
jackvmeeks@gmail.com	
Treasurer – Janet Brisson	913-2724
rubes@countryrubes.com	

Board Members

Leslie Gault	346-7092
Randy Oliver	277-4450
Karla Hanson	265-3756
Deborah Morawski	675-2924

Committee Chairs

Swarm Hotline -	
Karla Hanson	265-3756
Lynn Williams	675-2924
Librarian – Tynowyn Slattery	265-6318
Membership – Janet Brisson	913-2724
rubes@countryrubes.com	
Newsletter Mailing – Steve Reynolds	268-2133
Newsletter Editor – Gary Gustafson	478-1216
garyg@newpress.com	

Nevada County Beekeepers Association



c/o Janet Brisson
20693 Dog Bar Road
Grass Valley, CA 95949
First Class Mail

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Program:

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