

West Plains Beekeepers Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2013 6-8pm at the Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA

6:30pm Rob Henry gave a presentation on swarms. Some causes of swarms are not enough room in the hive and poor ventilation. Look for swarm cells now. If the bees are crowded, they could be making plans to swarm. The swarm cells (supercedure cell) look like a peanut on the bottom of the frame. If you see these, your hive is preparing to swarm. You can add more clean frames or another super to give them more room to work. You may want to get an extra box ready to catch the swarm if they do swarm. We have a list of people on our website (<http://www.wpbeekeepers.org/Swarmcatchers.htm>) that will help with swarms. If you would like to add your name to the list, please email Ellen at westplainsbeekeepers@gmail.com. You can contact someone on this list if you would like to make arrangements to watch. Presentations are at <http://www.wpbeekeepers.org/> under presentations. Rob's presentation will be posted there soon.

Rob Henry opened the official meeting at 7 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes for April were approved. **Treasurer's Report:** \$1,638.82 in the treasury.

Upcoming Community Events are a good opportunity to share our knowledge about beekeeping. The club calendar is at <http://www.wpbeekeepers.org/calendar.htm> If you'd like to volunteer at an event for a few hours, email Ellen at westplainsbeekeepers@gmail.com.

Turnbull NWR Open House May 18th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will have a display and encourage members to attend. www.fws.gov/refuge/turnbull/Events/Event_Details/Floods_Flowers_Feathers_Fest.html

Medical Lake Founders Day June 15 <http://www.medical-lake.org/news.asp?id=261>

Cheney Farmers Market. Tuesdays 2-7pm. **Opens June 15** <http://cheneyfarmersmarket.com/EVENETS.html> We've been offered a spot at the market if we are interested. We would need people to commit to a few hours on Tuesdays if we get a booth.

Cheney Jubilee July 13, 14 at the Safeway parking lot. 2720 1st St Cheney WA 99004

<http://www.cheneyjubilee.com/> BBQ competition, live music, kids pit. We find out on May 10th if we get a space.

Washington State Beekeepers Convention held in Federal Way on **October 3-6** Detailed information at the Washington State Beekeepers website. <http://wasba.org/events/2013-10>

Classes— A suggestion was made to do Beekeeping classes at the Cheney Rec Center. Someone should check now to see if we can do classes there.

Journeyman Beekeeper classes—We need more Journeyman beekeepers. We only have a few Master beekeepers in Washington State. Jim Miller will teach the Journeyman class on October 12 and 19 at the Pizza Factory in Medical Lake. He will teach skills to pass the Washington State Beekeepers Assoc. journeyman test and how to use the microscope to inspect your bees. You have to pass the Apprentice class exam before taking the Journeyman class. Information on this class will be on the website later. More information on becoming a Journeyman beekeeper is at <http://wasba.org/master-beekeepers-program/journeyman/>

Top Bar Hive class will be taught by Jack Miller on October 26. More information will be available later.

New Business

Nominations for new officers will be in June. Fred Pollard is the new Nomination Committee chairperson.

Motion to print more **WPBA flyers**. Cost is about \$144. Approved to be printed.

Jim Miller talked to Professor Quinlin, a botanist at EWU. She wants to write a grant about flowers and bees. She wants us to be part of a study in about a year.

Education Committee Let Ellen Miller know if you'd like to volunteer to help educate people at events. We need **volunteers to do presentations at future meetings**. If you'd like to do a presentation, email Ellen at westplainsbeekeepers@gmail.com.

There was a suggestion to invite the Noxious weeds inspector to lecture at a meeting.

Research Committee Kevin will wait to resubmit the grant for the Synthetic Feeding Experiment.

Media Committee Fred reported that Julia got a job. He thanked Tom for setting up the Facebook page. In the future we hope to have a chat forum and link our webpage to the Facebook page. For more information on Facebook, contact Fred at r90k@centurylink.net

The meeting adjourned at 8pm. The next meeting will be June 7th at 6pm at the Pizza Factory in Medical Lake. Hope to see you there.