

Douglas County Bees  
Monthly General (email) Meeting  
**January 11th, 2021**

Good Evening Members,

I was waiting for the snail mail to deliver our bank statement before I wrote and sent out this newsletter that will serve as our monthly general meeting notes (again). Sure hope this not being able to meet in person will end soon.

First off.... Happy New Year to each of you!

Treasurer's report:

Checking account has \$2,749.88 as of 12/31/20 We received one membership renewal for 2021 and a check from the Costco Members Donation program...where the employees can make donations to non-profit organizations via their paychecks and then Costco uses a service through Frontstream to forward those donations to the respective non-profit organizations that the monies were designated. You can imagine my surprise and shock to see a check written out to Douglas County Bees for \$45.00 arrive in the mail. I, being my skeptical self, didn't believe it was a "real thing" I went on line to do some investigations, called Costco to make some inquiries, and even when I took the check to the bank, asked the bank to please verify that it is an actual check and not some scam.....like the kind that if you deposit the check into your account and then find out that your account has been wiped out clean of all the funds....those kind of checks! LOL, luckily this Costco Check was the real deal (not a scam)  
Savings account has grown by .04 cents. Non-designated funds has a balance of \$1,970.04 and the Equipment funds has \$30.00

As all of you know by now, An email has been sent out calling for members to mail in your renewal dues. \$12.00 per family/household. Since the actual meeting every month is still under Kate Brown's extended covid restrictions it is best to just mail in your checks to the address listed below in this email. It is very important that you do send in your renewal application with your payment. We will be using this application to update our member roster with a valid physical mailing address as well as any email address changes and phone number changes you provide. (we have discovered that the lack of keeping the physical mailing addresses on record, we created a snafu with getting our OSBA affiliation renewal paperwork renewal completed as they would like us to have done) Which now provides me with a nice segue — if you sing it...

Very happy to announce that our OSBA Affiliation renewal for 2021 is complete. This allows DCB a voting seat on the OSBA Executive Committee, A listing in the OSBA newsletter, the OSBA membership directory to include such things as our meeting times and place, our officers, our contact information, being on their swarm call list, and our website listed. We also get to post our upcoming events in their newsletter "The Bee Line" and on their website. We get

recognition and inclusion in OSBA educational and support activities, a free “scholarship” to attend the OSBA Fall Conference and liability insurance coverage, when conditions are met, for approved public events. I want to thank everyone that responded to my “urgent request for information” email that I sent out a couple days ago.

Secretary report: I received one membership renewal in December... he sent it in early! Please try to take care of renewing your annual membership via regular mail with your paperwork included to me as soon as possible.

I received, just today, in the mail, AmazonSmiles’ confirmation letter that they have our new address and new bank account information so they can direct deposit our AmazonSmiles earnings from the community rewards program that they have.

We are in the process of making arrangements to attend the Umpqua Valley Home Builders Association 2021 Home And Garden Show that will take place March 5th, 6th, and 7th. The booth space is free for DCB ( we are claiming our 501C3 status here to save money) We are only required to furnish a “Door Prize” to the Show (one for each day) in-leu of booth fees that would normally cost us \$500.00. I have already gone shopping and purchased 3 very nice bee-themed items that came to a whopping total of \$28.97 ! (I already informed Phil that I went over the budget of no more than \$20.00 and he said it was all good..... that’s a good thing too, because the President of the club was with me when I purchased those items and he liked them very much and approved it on the spot... so, folks... it was all done legally!)

I do have plenty of the wild flower seed packets and the honey sticks to put out on the tables at the show for “give-a-ways” to the people that visit the booth. I have a FEW items that we can “raffle ticket” sell but would like a few more items to be donated from our members, if possible. We can use this show as a “fund-raiser” as well as being the normal information booth about bees for the community.

Also...probably the most important...I need volunteers to man this booth. The following is the show schedule:

Friday, March 5th 11:00am – 7:00pm

Saturday, March 6th 10:00am – 5:00pm

Sunday, March 7th 10:00am – 6:00pm

Please get back to me on what days and which hours you would like to volunteer to man this booth. It’s not too difficult...you don’t have to be a BEE expert (text books will be on hand to help you look up answers to questions) Just be as helpful as possible to give out the information to people that they are looking for. And...of course take in the \$\$\$ for the raffle tickets that you sell for the raffle items that we will have on the table.

Please take a look at the attached photos! We have a refurbished basic Langstroth hive to include in our booth as a demonstration model. The only thing I have remaining to do is to clear coat the outside. Waiting for a non-rainy, somewhat warm day to do this spraying. Robert and I will be right across the aisle from the DCB booth (we requested this on purpose so that we could be close on hand to help if needed) We can't man the DCB booth and the Bodacious Creations booth at the same time, so DCB members are greatly needed to step in and lend a hand here. Robert and I will set up the booth and take down the booth. We are there anyway doing our own booth, it is no problem for us to make the extra time to do DCB's booth too.

Notes from the President: Robert's suggestions for January Beekeeping is to start planning out your garden. Cruise through seed catalogs for bee-friendly plants that your bees will love. Prep the garden areas now while the ground is soft and will be ready for those seeds when the weather warms up. Have you finished cleaning up the used hives and are ready for Spring time? Do you have the new equipment prepped and ready for Spring? Robert has 3 potential cut-outs in his "follow-up" note book. He is taking names and phone numbers and asking the people that want the bees removed to please wait until Spring so that the bees have a better chance to survive. So far, the people have been very agreeable and will wait for him to call back.

I think that's all for now, folks! —that's quite enough, right? :)

Beau Miakinkoff – secretary/treasurer