

Douglas County Bees
Monthly General (email) Meeting
December 7th, 2020

Good afternoon members,

I decided to wait until I got the November bank statement so that I could report accurate facts along with all the rest of what is happening and the 'check list' for Fall beekeeping that Robert compiled.

I know it was a big disappointment to not be able to meet at the court house this month. In an effort to keep everyone informed with Douglas County Bees business and affairs, this email will suffice as our line of communication until we can develop something better for you. (At the very least this is something, and way better than nothing and complete silence from your DCB Board members!)

The Treasurer's report: The checking account has a balance of \$2,692.88 . A payment of \$94.91 was an electronic transfer from the account to Harland Check Printing for our business account checks for Douglas County Bees. They are business "safety" checks and have two lines for the signatures. They should last a while. The dollar that Beau donated to get the Paypal account back up and running NEVER hit our account. (doesn't matter.... Beau got fed up with Paypal's shennigans and fired them. Our take on the dollar donation from Paypal would have been only sixty-something cents anyway...we get a better deal with Square) The dollar that Beau donated to Square to establish our account to receive payments via the internet was received as .81 cents. Our 3rd quarter ending 2020 from AmazonSmiles community donations brought in \$12.41 . Here's where I can segway into reminding everyone to designate your Amazon account on line to participate in the community rewards. This costs you nothing! Amazon will automatically donate a portion of your purchase to Douglas County Bees. Also, if you shop at Fred Meyers, you can link your Fred Meyers card to a charity (Douglas County Bees) and every quarter Fred Meyers will mail us a portion of their community donations too. The savings account still has the \$30.00 that we put in it last month.

We did have it arranged with Roundtable Pizza on Stewart Parkway to have our December meeting in their meeting room. But... that got cancelled too. Since some of our members are not able to climb the court house stairs out front to gain access to our meetings at night (the handicap access is closed after hours at the court house) we thought the Roundtable facility would serve our elderly and surgery-recovering members better. The idea was to come a bit early, have dinner and the meeting would follow immediately afterwards. The only requirement that Roundtable asked of us was that our group "collectively") please spend at least \$50.00 in food orders. Which isn't going to be a problem at all. So hopefully Oregon's second round of "just 10 days" will allow us to meet at Roundtable in January 2021.

We have been getting calls and inquiries about colonies of bees from cut-outs/relocations for 2021. Instead of telling people to call back in the Spring when it is more bee-friendly to “re-home” the bees, we have started a list of recipients along with potential cut-out locations should the bees survive the winter where they are at present.

Beau is still working on the donated langstroth hive that the club will be using as a demonstration tool in the future should we ever be allowed to attend shows again! It is at the decorating stage now and looking really nice.

Fall (Oct – Dec) Check List for Beekeeping:

(suggestions were taken from our favorite beekeeping manual: Beekeeping for Dummies) Most of all of the following can be for langstroth and top bar hives.

*Inspect your hives

-make certain the queen is present

-verify that honey stores (capped honey) is ample for your hive to overwinter

-feed 2:1 sugar syrup, drivert sugar if needed

-ventilation

*Tx for pests

*Set out YJ traps

*Reduce entrances

*Install mouse guards

Going into Winter things to do:

*continue to check on hive food supplies and act accordingly

*is hive warm

*is hive dry/water protected

*monitor activity at entrance on the warmer days

Winter things to do:

*Clean, repair, store empty hives and equipment

*make wish list for new wood ware/equipment that you need/want and hopefully have it in your possession in time for Spring and ready for the bees!

Have a very Merry Christmas everyone.

Beau Miakinkoff, secretary/treasurer

Douglas County Bees