## **SKAGIT VALLEY BEEKEEPERS**







Ed Markus, Editor 360 421 4296 ejmarkus@fidalgo.net August 2011 Board Members: William Markus, President 630-5086 661 0452 Mary Pat Larsen, Secretary 708 0337 Alerd Johnson, V President 360 293-7953 Scott Rhodes Treasurer 360 856 2652 Bruce Bowen, Board 360 422-5146 Ed Markus Board 360 421 4296 Charlie Langseth, Honorary Board 293-6853 Greg Fagot, Board 360 854-0424

This is the month for the Skagit County Fair and our bee booth.. Our booth set-up meeting will be Tuesday the 9th at 7:00 PM. We will have a very short Association meeting after the booth is ready. Location? In the middle of Building D very near the Fair office.

If anyone has an idea about a new mannequin I would love to hear it. We MUST be able to do better than the poor broken creature we now use! If you have honey, wax or any product of the hive, bring it in to be displayed and judged. The requirements should be online at the fair website, www.SkagitCounty.net/Fair. Scott Rhodes (856 2652) has sent out an e-mail request for folks to man/woman the booth. Please consider this. Believe me, you do not have to be a bee genius. It is a great way to meet folks while promoting beekeeping and bee awareness. And you get a pass to the fair!

If you are a gardener, it can be fun to enter garden products as well. We saw mead entered last year. I always grab my yearly two packages of yeast from the bak-

ing exhibit. The Dairy Wives make great shakes! You should come to the fair!

Bill has asked me to do a presentation in September on Jean and my trip to Italy and Switzerland. I met a commercial bee guy in OberBozen, South Tyrol and will try to do a PowerPoint presentation.

The Sue Coby queen bee group is working hard to produce local queens. I had the opportunity to buy several and I have never seen so many workers attracted to a queen cage. Pheromones plus I believe! When I banked them overnight, the workers promptly ignored another caged laying California queen and she died. Oh, well.

There are cells available as I write this. If you have a weak hive, a queenless hive or have thought about requeening before winter, get to it now. Call Karen Bean 360 599 1469. \$5.00 each cell.

Mite checks now!. With blackberries done soon, we should be thinking about mite treatments as necessary. You can pull honey later this month. That is the time for adding young queens! Then feed!

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