**Summary of presentation by Linda Gorman aka Honey Lady, Bee Queen**

Linda has been hooked on bees since 2006 and is currently president of Homer Area Beekeeping Association that has a website and a facebook page, offers mentors and meets annually at the Methodist Church.

“Homer Girls Honey” can also be found of Facebook

Interesting Facts

* There are over 4,000 species of bees
* They are threatened by floods, fires, mites, the Chinese Wasp (now present in WA State), Almond Orchards and Bears
* Also threatened by ROUNDUP. Ban that stuff!
* 1/3 of our food is pollinated by bees
* The average bee lives only 6 – 8 weeks
* Honey bees have a brain the size of a sesamie seed, but VERY dense, hence very intelligent
* They have 2 stomachs, 5 eyes and an impressive tongue for sucking, cutting and picking
* Last year there were close to 100 known bee keepers in Homer with an estimated 12 million bees
* The male drones are pretty much useless, but the busy female worker bee may produce 1 ½ teaspoons of honey in her lifetime
* Stoked Honey offers winter storage in a temperature and humidity controlled connex
* The most popular species for Homer bee keepers

Carnolian – They fly over a 3 mile radius, handle the cold and wet, winter over well but tend to swarm

Buckfast – Fly in a 1 mile radius from ‘home’, very prolific producers but not as ‘tough’

Linda showed us many slides and covered other topics such as purchasing of bees, feeding, life cycles, swarming & the harvesting of honey.

She welcomes queries and is most willing to share her wealth of knowledge and practical experience.