
THE BEE LINE



The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 29, Number 10

November/December 2004

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Media Release – October 26, 2004

The 2005 Bee Masters Course will be offered February 28-March 4, 2005 at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada, just outside the scenic city of Vancouver.

Bee Masters is a week-long, intensive course in advanced beekeeping that has been held every second year for 53 years. The course is offered jointly by the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and Simon Fraser University, and includes topics (such as) spring, summer and fall management, overwintering, queen rearing, swarming, bee behaviour, hive products, adult bee diseases, exotic mites, nucleus production, bee brood diseases, pollination, and much more. The course combines illustrated lectures, laboratory periods, social events, lots of discussion, and an optional final examination. Participants are expected to have previously kept bees and to have some knowledge about bees and beekeeping; hobbyists, sideliners, and commercial beekeepers are welcome, and all will benefit from and enjoy this course.

Lecturers for the 2005 course include Keith Delaplane, University of Georgia; Rob Currie, University of Manitoba; Stephen Pernal, Agriculture Canada; Tanya Pankiw, Texas A & M University; Mark Winston, Simon Fraser University; Paul van Westendorp, BC Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Margriet Dogterom, Crop Pollination Consultants and many others.

For further program and registration information, contact:

Conference Services

Simon Fraser University

Halpern Center, 8888 University Drive,

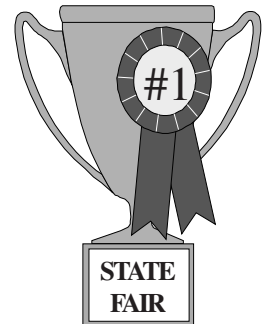
Burnaby, B.C. CANADA V5A 1S6

Tel: 604.291.4910 or 604.291.3012; Fax: (604) 291-3420

E-mail: Conference_Services@sfu.ca

Web-Site: <http://www.sfu.ca/beemasters2005>

**WE HAVE
WINNERS!!**



The following individuals put in a lot of effort working our booth at the Oregon State Fair and have won prizes accordingly:

GraceAnn Kite of Stayton, Jim Walker, and Jenny Bee were all awarded free one-year memberships in the OSBA.

Douglas Woods of Mulino won free registration for the recent Fall Conference in Newport.

Congratulations, winners! Your hard work and long hours volunteered on behalf of the OSBA are very much appreciated. You have set a wonderful example for our membership.

A big, heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you!



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Oregon State Beekeepers Association

The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association and is published ten times a year. Subscriptions are included with OSBA membership.

To join the OSBA, complete the membership application in this issue and send with payment to: **Phyllis Shoemake, 1702 Toucan Street NW, Salem, OR 97304.**

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ADVERTISING RATES

Business ads, per issue:

Business-card size:	10.00
Quarter-page:	25.00
Half-page:	50.00
Full-page:	100.00

Copy, art and payment must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication.
Contact the Editor for any special requirements and mechanical information.

Classified Ads, 30 words, per issue

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Non-members	\$5.00

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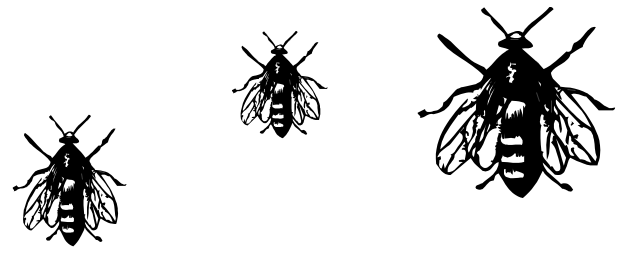
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President's Message

by Kenny Williams

Two years after the retirement of Mike Burgett as honeybee entomologist at OSU, there at last seems to be some movement toward keeping the position alive. The OSBA has found a solid ally in Dr. Anita Azarenko, interim head of the Horticulture Department at OSU. Those members who attended our fall conference at Newport got an introduction to this articulate and focused speaker. In Dr. Azarenko we have the insights of a university insider who is familiar with university ways, and her counsel has been invaluable.

Soon we hope to have a meeting with Dr. Thayne Dutson, Dean of OSU's college of Agriculture, which will include a few beekeepers along with impacted stakeholders, parties affected by the need for healthy beehives, such as the fruit, nut, and seed industries. Also, in the upcoming 2005 session of the Oregon Legislature, we will probably introduce once again a bill seeking funding for the position. Of course there are no guarantees, but we do have reason to feel hopeful.

In a related matter, OSBA members voted at our fall business meeting to dedicate the monies generated at our auction each year to a fund to be used for research by what we hope will be the next OSU honeybee entomologist. Approximately \$5000 was raised at this year's auction. By bringing money to the table, OSBA will be seen as a committed player in the eyes of OSU decision-makers. Also, the membership voted to explore additional methods of fund-raising for this research fund, such as member self-assessment per hive or per pound of honey. This could swell our current five thousand dollars to seven or eight thousand.

These ideas will be discussed by a committee consisting of the Board plus interested OSBA members, when the Board meets next in early January at Salem or Corvallis, on a weekday evening or a Saturday. At the time of the Beeline going to press, these specifics were up in the air.

Any OSBA members interested in participating in this process should contact me personally as soon as possible so I can let you know when the meeting will take place. My telephone number and address can be found at the back of each issue of the Beeline.

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FROM THE LANE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MEETING RECAP- October 19, 2004

The club was treated to a fascinating talk about "The little Honey Bees of South East Asia" given by Dr. Michael Burgett, Emeritus Professor of Entomology, OSU. Before discussing his South East Asia research Mike shared with us the path that led him there. Apparently he was offered a Graduate Student position at Cornell the catch being that it was for Honey Bee studies ONLY! Well he took the position and as the saying goes "the rest is history" at least 35 years worth of beekeeping!

Twenty-two years ago he was due for a sabbatical and decided to spend in South East Asia where 7 of the 9 species of the honey bee live. He has studied and traveled to that area of the world ever since. In 2003 he began a new study in North Thailand dealing with *Apis florae* F. and Colony Biometrics. Mike showed some dramatic slides of these bees and their open one comb colonies. They may occur on branches the size of your finger just 5 feet from the ground. This makes them very susceptible to human interference. These combs are collected and sold in local markets. Through his studies Mike has discovered many interesting facts such as they only dance on top of the comb and only horizontally showing the direction to the food source. Also there are only about 30 drones in the hive. He studied the 'work' habits of these drones even going so far as to have the drones marked! This was fraught with difficulties though as the bees were prone to abscond!

From this research he suggested that beekeepers in the Willamette Valley should strive to have as little drone comb as possible in their hives. Perhaps a target of rotating out 15% of frames a year would be good, picking the worst ones, thus reducing drone comb. This should be done 1 week before the honey flow as the bees are geared up to make comb at that time so would do well on new

foundation. Mike mentioned that his research on *Apis florae* has been submitted for publication so watch for it! It should make a fascinating read!

Dr. Burgett also encouraged members of the club to speak with BIG growers, especially those that grow pears and other plants that are dependant on bees for pollination, and ask them to write the Dean of Agriculture requesting that the State Apiarist be reinstated. He emphasized that it is important to include these farmers as they represent \$\$\$\$ in the agricultural scene of Oregon. The Dean may be contacted by writing:

Dr. Thayne Dutson, Dean
College of Agricultural Sciences
STAG Hall, OSU
Corvallis, OR 97331

A number of announcements were given at the meeting including a report that we sold 56 jars of honey at the Home Show! Also a U of O student, Julia, asked for help with a research project that she and another student would like to conduct concerning bees. A number of members volunteered help and hives!

-Katharine Hunt LCBA Secretary

BEELINE Editor's Note: A big thank-you to the LCBA for sharing this very informative and interesting feature story with the OSBA membership!

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Queens, Bees, Honey & Pollination

OSBA FALL CONFERENCE REPORT

by Ken Ograin

This year's conference was held at the Agate Beach Inn in Newport. What a beautiful location this was for the conference, no trains or trucks and no steel bridge. It was just a short walk to the beach and the weather was very cooperative with lots of sun and just a few showers. Fourteen of our members and family attended and all enjoyed the conference and the beach. Several speakers put on very informative talks although there was no earth shattering news.

(continued next column, right)

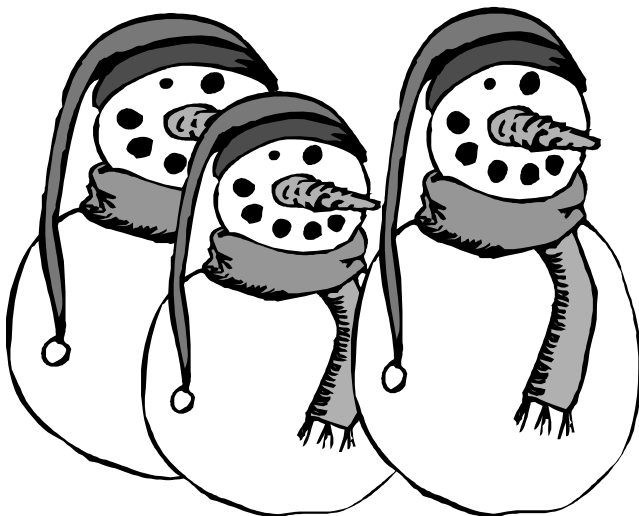
Dr. Dewey Caron's talk on IPM supported my feelings that monitoring was the key to modern hive management. He also said that the days of being a beekeeper are gone. He feels that it is time that beekeepers start to manage treatments not to just follow.

Dr. Anita Azarenko, Interim Head of the Department of Horticulture, OSU gave an update on the status of having an apiarist at the university. After all the cuts last year there are many needs and at this time the earliest we could see this position return would be mid 2006. She has pledged to do everything she can to see that this happens, as she understands the importance of the honeybee as a pollinator for the crops of Oregon Farmers.

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*Our thanks to the LCBA for providing this report.
- Editor*

MORE CONFERENCE REPORTS, AS WELL AS PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE EVENT, WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE BEELINE



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BEE NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

“Mad” Honey Can be a Hazard to the Heart

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - The cases of 19 patients sent to the emergency room by a dose of “mad” honey highlight the not-so-sweet side of the food, according to Turkish researchers.

The honey, produced from the nectar of certain rhododendron species, has long been linked to food poisoning, with most of the documented cases occurring in Turkey. In the country’s Black Sea region, mad honey is used as an alternative medicine for gastrointestinal problems and as a sexual stimulant.

However, the honey can contain substances called grayanotoxins, some of which may cause low blood pressure, slowed heart rate, vomiting, dizziness and other symptoms.

In the 19 cases reported in the November issue of the *Emergency Medicine Journal*, most patients had dips in blood pressure and heart rate, and all suffered nausea, vomiting, dizziness and weakness. Four had a complete atrioventricular block, in which electrical signals fail to pass normally from the heart’s upper chambers to the lower ones.

The patients, all seen in one ER in 2002, responded well to treatment with the drug atropine, said lead study author Dr. Hakan Ozhan, of Abant Izzet Baysal University of Duzce.

Although most instances of poisoning by mad honey have occurred in Turkey, rhododendron species in other countries also have the potential to yield toxic honey, Ozhan told Reuters Health.

And, he and his colleagues note, with the growing consumption of imported and unprocessed “natural” honey worldwide, the possibility of honey intoxication should be kept in mind whenever a healthy person has an unexplained drop in blood pressure and heart rate.

Processed honey, according to Ozhan, would not be expected to contain grayanotoxins. And, he noted, it’s also easy for a beekeeper to know whether a nest contains mad honey, because it tastes different from the non-mad variety.

In Turkey, Ozhan pointed out, people knowingly buy mad honey to use as medicine or to boost their sexual prowess.

Many of the patients in this report had ulcers, he and his colleagues found. And, Ozhan noted, a number were grooms who had eaten the honey in preparation for their wedding nights.

SOURCE: *Emergency Medicine Journal*, November 2004.

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Oregon State Beekeepers Association General Membership Meeting October 29, 2004 Agate Beach Inn -Newport, Oregon

The General Membership Meeting of the OSBA was called to order at 5:10 PM by Kenny Williams, President.

Phyllis Shoemake distributed the Treasurer’s Report. She discussed the Financial Summary through 9/30/2004 and reported that there are still bills to pay from the convention and income received. Cheryl Johnson made a motion that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted which was seconded by Harry Vanderpool.

Kenny Williams discussed the Executive Board’s work during the year. We held three meetings this year, we worked with OSU to try to get a position back, our website has improved greatly and there are over 1500 hits on the website per month. Susie Rauchfuss complimented Thom on what a wonderful job he has done with the website.

OLD BUSINESS

George Hanson reported that the Honeybee Workshop Report was approved and the final money was distributed. He plans to do a mass mailing for updates. One workshop is scheduled for Nyssa, Oregon and there will be more discussion at the Luncheon.

GUIDELINES FOR GOOD BEEKEEPING

Harry Vanderpool reported that the Guidelines have been published in the Bee Line and we are ready for a vote. Discussion was held where George Hansen suggested a grammatical error be corrected and words added to make the guidelines more accurate. George Hansen moved that we accept the Guidelines for Good Beekeeping and Cheryl Johnson seconded the motion. It was suggested by Cheryl Johnson that we post the Guidelines in the Bee Line twice a year to keep the membership reminded of these things.

Phyllis Shoemake has completed the Membership List. There are probably a few errors, but we will make corrections as they come along and publish a list of corrections to be included in the Membership Booklet. E-mail addresses were discussed

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Thanks to Kenny Williams for this report- Editor

NATIONAL HONEY BOARD NEWS

Press Release:

Honey Re-Listed for Export to the EU

(LONGMONT, Colo.)—The European Commission has re-listed the United States as a third country eligible to export honey into European Union member countries. In June of 2003 the EU had banned exports of honey from the United States.

Although there is not a demonstrable issue with U.S. honey quality, there exist differences in the regulatory approach taken by the European Union and the United States in guaranteeing product purity. In response to the ban, the U.S. honey industry, the National Honey Board and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration crafted a proposal to demonstrate and assure the purity of U.S. domestic honey to the European community.

In late September 2004, the European Commission accepted the proposal. Under the program, exporters must adhere to specific requirements for each shipment destined to a European Union member country. A package containing specific information and samples for these requirements is available at <http://www.nhb.org/buzz/euprogram.html>.

Funded by the honey industry and operating under USDA oversight, the National Honey Board is a research and promotion Board dedicated to increasing the demand for honey and honey products in the marketplace.

OREGON BEEKEEPERS DISPLAY UNITY

by Harry Vanderpool

As the 2004 O.S.B.A. Fall Conference banquet began and Dr. Tew was preparing to convey his keynote speech, we spoke for a few minutes. I thought that you might like to hear what he had to say.

“You know,” Dr Tew said, as he surveyed the crowd, “I attend meetings such as this all across the nation. I can tell you; I have never seen such a unified group of beekeepers. This is unbelievable! You really have something special here.”

I thought his comments were nice, and, of course, I agreed. But I wondered if it was just a standard compliment. I stopped wondering after I heard the same sentiment from three other speakers.

In hindsight, I wish I would have thought to give them a brief overview of 2004 Oregon Beekeeping:

--There would be accounts of beekeepers rushing their crews to an overturned semi-load of hives to help a fellow beekeeper during a time when they were scrambling to keep their own schedules.

--There would be stories about beekeepers traveling to all parts of our state to help conduct the Honey Bee Workshop program.

--There would be many beekeeper / days spent lobbying, or at our state land grant college, working for the common good of all.

--Then, there are the bee schools, mentoring, and many, many other efforts that were performed in 2004, unselfishly for the good of all.

Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Even in the quiet moments spent standing over an open hive with a new beekeeper, your efforts produce something that cannot be ignored. And that is the cumulative effect that those thoughtful moments have on all of us, as a strong and unified association.

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NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING TIPS - November/December

by Harry Vanderpool, WVBA

November marks the end of our close association with the bees for the year. Cheer up!! There are many things that you can do to help your bees, and your operation.

Take a walk in your apiary weekly. Conduct a visual inspection of hive entrances. Watch for signs of mice or other animal vandalism.

Spend a cool, clear day gathering up all of the rotten, broken-down hive parts, pallets, etc. Make a small fire and keep it burning until your place sparkles.

Try to disturb the bees as little as possible. As the weather cools down, the bees will cluster into a tight unit centered around the brood area. They must keep the brood warm, regardless of outside temperatures. If you must rescue a hive in the dead of the cold with a manipulation, try to work *around* the cluster rather than through it.

December 21 is the first day of Spring in the bee world. Are you ready for your next year in beekeeping? It could be the best year ever! It's "New Year's Resolution" time, folks! Settle on a resolution that will improve you as a beekeeper and your operation as well.

Sit down and make a winter to-do list. Hang it on the fridge for a few days so that you can add to it as things pop into your head. Make a final copy and hang it where you can't miss it. Now, get to work!

Pull your bee trucks into your shop and set a side a couple of hours for inspection of each one. Change fluids, bleed and adjust brakes, pack wheel bearings, check lights, etc. Don't put this off. If you do, it will not get done.

Make a point to contact a fellow beekeeper once in a while just for the sake of exchanging notes.

Order supplies for next year, comparing prices by phone before ordering. By all means, feed your "beekeeper's disease." Shoot for the quantity discount! Doesn't that idea just warm your heart?!

Does the thought of getting your books up to date depress you? Consider looking into a computer accounting program such as QuickBooks®. Such programs make bookkeeping fast, fun, and informative. They also help

you to look at your operation from a statistical point of view. Ask an association member to show you their favorite program.

Purchase all of the seasonal supplies you will need in advance for holiday retail sales.

It's time for a little winter P.R. with your farmers, growers and customers. They will remember the thoughtfulness next year.

On a piece of paper, write down all of the good reasons that you have for not attending your local beekeeper association's monthly meeting. Wad the paper up, and light your woodstove/fireplace with it. Isn't a small fire great for bringing us all down to earth? We would all really enjoy your attendance at the next meeting.

*HAPPY HOLIDAZE FROM ALL OF US AT THE
OSBA TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS, THEIR FAMI-
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Webmaster: Thom Trusewicz
(See North Coast Information)

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Meets 7 pm Wed., even # months
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slindros@hotmail.com

VP: Don Thompson
(503) 458-6714

Sec/Treas: Marilyn Sanbrailo
(503) 717-8448

Coos County

Meets 7:30 pm third Friday (except
Dec.) Coquille Annex, Coquille

Pres: Joe Goularte 541-759-4665

VP: Chuck Baim 541-347-9654

Sec: Jackie Bain-Bowen 541-572-
5718

Treas: Chuck Howard 541-267-
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E-Mail: a51301@access4less.net

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(continued next column, right)

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7065 - woodrt@pacinfo.com
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Meets 7 pm second Thursday
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503-829-7744

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keeley@bctonline.com

Sec: Paul Hardzinski

503-631-3927

Treas: Jeanette Wyman

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Southern Orego

Not yet established

Tillamook County

Meets 7 pm first Thursday

5005 Third Street, Tillamook

Forestry Building

President: Bob Allen 503-322-3819

VP: Terry Fullan 503-368-7160

tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

Sec/Treas: Wayne Auble

Tualatin Valley

Meets 7:30 pm last Friday

OSU Extension Office, Capital

Center Entrance D-1 18640 NW

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toddbalsiger@msn.com

VP: Terry Parker 503-632-3305

Sec: Dan Hiscoe 503-662-4502

hiscoe@hurrah.com

Treas: Trudy Gissel 503-429-6603

Willamette Valley

Meets 7:00 pm fourth Monday

Building 34, Room A

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1 cup Butter 1 tsp. Soda
½ cup Honey ½ cup Lemon Juice
2 large Eggs 1 tbsp. Brown Sugar
1 cup Dried Fruit 1 cup Nuts

Before you start, sample the Rum to check for quality. Good, isn't it? Now, go ahead. Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check the Rum again. It must be just right. To be sure Rum is of the Highest quantity, pour 1 level cup of Rum into a glass and drink it as fast as you can. Repeat. With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup of butter in large fluffy bowl. Add honey and 1 teaspoon of thurgar and beat again. Open second quart of Rum if necessary. Add 2 large eggs, 2 cups dried fruit, and beat until HIGH. If fruit gets stuck in beaters, just pry it loose with a screwdriver. Sample the Rum again, checking for toxicity. Next, sift 3 cups of pepper (or salt, it really doesn't matter). Sample the Rum again. Shift pint of lemon juice. Fold up the chopped butter and strained nuts. Add 1 tablespoon more of brown thurgar or whatever color you can find. Mix well. Grease oven and turn cake pan to 350 degrees. Now pour the whole mess into the oven and bake. Check the Rum again, and be to god. ###
(Great recipe!—Hic!—*Editor*)

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Membership in the Oregon State Beekeepers Association is open to anyone who has an interest in bees and beekeeping. You do not need to own bees or reside in Oregon to join. OSBA membership is \$20 per person and includes a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on other publications and ten issues of *The Bee Line*. Membership outside the US is \$29.

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