

# The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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Zan Hare

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**Image above:** Bill Ruhl in George Hansen's bee yard. Bill has seen enormous change in all that's been learned since his early years. At that time beekeepers didn't know how the queen was mated, whether with one drone or many.

## WORKING BEES: "There's something about it..."

*Rosanna Mattingly*

Bill Ruhl has vivid memories of working bees as a young teen with his brother. Together they were schooled in beekeeping by the seven–eight colonies his family kept for honey production. Their Father, who was a butcher, didn't really know any more about beekeeping than they did. Their main source of help was a neighbor who worked on a section gang for the railroad that ran through his hometown of Tekoa, Washington. Tekoa, located about 40 miles southeast of Spokane, had about 1,300 residents during that period. Bill's father had bought a house there in 1901 and in time added onto it. But in 1909 he moved to Nebraska, where he married and farmed. In 1913 he moved back to Tekoa with his family. Bill was a middle child, with two older brothers and two younger sisters. George, the brother Bill worked bees with, was born in 1912 in Nebraska. Today Tekoa is a farming community and the property that contained the house in which Bill was born in 1919 is a park located three–four blocks from the town's center—complete with tennis courts.

Bill's interest in bees grew out of the enjoyment he felt while working them. He remembers doing a report on bees in an 8<sup>th</sup> grade agriculture class in Tekoa. They used eight-frame hives, which Bill likens to the hollow trees bees frequent in the wild.

Although many of us know Bill through his work with honey bees, he did not start out to become a beekeeper. Instead, as he recalls, he wanted to be an airplane mechanic, an interest tempered by the cost of school. At that time, the training cost \$1,200. Bill made \$3 a day during harvest—the boom time of year. Despite his Father's misgivings, Bill found the opportunity to become a mechanic through the Army Air Corps. He joined in 1939, and spent the next six years fulfilling one of his life's dreams. Bill didn't keep bees again until 1950.

Only 12 weeks after he married Wilma in 1942, Bill found himself overseas. The couple wouldn't see one another again for many months. Bill traveled the world during that time. When

*Continued on page 7*

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Here is a tip for any out-of-work writer: The 2006 California almond pollination scenario is a story begging and screaming for ink thoughtfully scribed on paper. All of the elements of a well-rounded odyssey have delicately played out as the season has unfolded. Stress, tension, pressure, and suspense were all there, as in all years. Now add treachery, greed, arrogance, and at times, anger! Panic, fear, suspicion, and hand wringing; what a story! Sorrow, regret, chagrin, and further resolve. It is all there. Beekeeping blogs and message boards were buzzing in January with secondhand accounts of the many pitfalls facing loads of hives attempting entry into California from Eastern states. Several Oregon beekeepers found themselves swept up in a flurry of last-minute lateral movement in contracts for a variety of reasons. Thankfully, it looks as though they all got plugged in somewhere as the season approached.



Speaking of the season, let's talk about weather. But first, a little refrain that my retired neighbor taught me: Grant me the serenity to change the things I can change, accept the things I cannot change, and the wisdom to know the difference.

OK, now where were we? Oh yeah, weather! As soon as our pallets hit the ground in California, we experienced several days of record temperatures. Temperatures hit 79 degrees on our second day! By the time we were ready to head home, the hives were wall-to-wall with eggs. The hives were beautiful!

As this is written, almonds have just weathered a few freezing days. Reports of bloom damage have been posted. As you read this, you know the outcome; as I write this, I do not. What kind of weather can we hope for, once the bees are back home? Remember last year? George Hansen reported that there was a springtime period of rain, 66 out of 69 days last spring in his hometown. I personally found myself FEEDING hives, nestled in a sea of bloom, during that same period. This year *just has to be* better, right? Of all of the problems that we face, from my point of view boredom seems awfully low on the list.

Have a great spring!

*Harry*

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## BREEDING FOR RESISTANCE

Marla Spivak and Gary Reuter are working to breed honey bees that are resistant to diseases and parasitic mites. In this way, they aim to reduce the amount of antibiotics and pesticides now used to manage honey bee colonies. Spivak and Reuter have prepared a six-page fact sheet, "A sustainable approach to controlling honey bee diseases and Varroa mites" (SARE Fact

Sheet #03AGI2005), summarizing their research on breeding for resistance and hygienic behavior, as well as providing information on testing colonies for hygienic behavior. Thom Trusewicz has placed the fact sheet on the OSBA web site. It is also available at: <http://www.sare.org/publications/factsheet/0305.htm>.

## **WILLAMETTE VALLEY BEEKEEPERS HONOR JIM WALKER**

*Harry Vanderpool*

The officers and membership of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association delivered their highest award, the WVBA Honorary Lifetime Membership Award, to Salem beekeeper Jim Walker in Salem in January. This honor is awarded on the basis of a wide array of criteria, such as: service to the industry, to our state and local associations, and to local beekeepers, along with innovation in one's individual operation. Based on these considerations, the group unanimously confirmed Jim's nomination.

Jim, a former Oregon State Hive Inspector, a micro-commercial beekeeper, director in the WVBA, and OSBA member, was one of several nominees. Around 30 years ago, Jim caught his first glimpse of beekeeping after helping a friend construct boxes and frames. Shortly afterwards, his friend called him and asked if he wanted a swarm. Jim quickly threw together some used hive parts that he had gathered and soon had his first hive of bees.

After much time and study, Jim became a beekeeper. One day while purchasing some hive parts at a local feed store, he was made aware of the WVBA. He has been a highly contributing member since that day some 20 years ago. "Jim is always silently there, steadfast. He's just there for beekeepers," says Susan Rauchfuss, WVBA Treasurer. "He always shows up, whether asked to or not, when help is needed," Rauchfuss continues. "Jim often brings door prizes and always sticks around after the meeting to answer questions for the newer members."

In 1985, Jim took a job with the Oregon Department Of Agriculture in the Apiary Inspection Program. Initially inspecting hives in Coos, Curry, and Douglas counties, then on to Marion, Polk, Lynn, and Washington, it was not

long until Jim inspected hives throughout the state. When tracheal mites were new on the scene, Jim assisted in the extermination of 300 hives that broke quarantine. He and others constructed plastic tents and hired an exterminator to fumigate the hives. Foulbrood hives were often burned in place. Not everyone was happy about that. Nevertheless, Jim made many lasting friendships during his six years in the inspection program.

Now retired, Jim works with his grandson Brady to pollinate crops from cherry blossom time to pumpkins. In fact, last year he was driving away from one of his out-yards when someone waved him over to the side of the highway. Seeing that Jim was wearing his white coveralls, the tailgater asked, "Are you a beekeeper?" Right there, another pumpkin contract was born! It sure pays to live right, now doesn't it?

Well, after 15 years of friendship, association, and collaboration with Jim, I have learned this very important principle: It's all about giving, helping, and supporting our fellow beekeepers. Jim sets the bar a notch higher for support of the industry. It's never about "me me me." It's about the new folks, the associations, the industry, and, of course, the bees. I believe that the success of our industry in the long term may depend on the continuation of this vital principle. Please join your fellow beekeepers from the Willamette Valley in thanking Jim for all of his good work and ongoing support for Oregon beekeepers.



Jim Walker (with plaque) shown here with (left to right) Ken Kite, Susan Rauchfuss, and Mike Rodia.

## OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Columbia Basin:** Debbie Morgan

3800 Benson Rd, The Dalles; (541) 298-5719

**Eastern Oregon:** Jordan Dimock

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**Metropolitan Area:** Chuck Sowers

26730 S Hwy 170, Canby; (503) 266-1740

**North Coast/Webmaster:** Thom Trusewicz

90041 Logan Rd, Astoria

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**South Coast:** Joann Olstrom

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**Southern Oregon:** Pat Morris

1333 Rogue River Hwy, Gold Hills

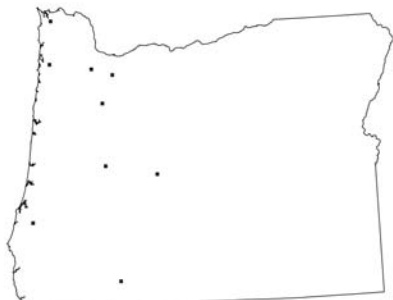
(541) 855-1402

**Willamette Valley:** Fritz Skirvin

6694 Rippling Brook Dr SE, Salem

(503) 581-9372

## OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS



### Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, third Tuesday, Bend

Deschutes Public Library, Hutch Rm

**President:** Dennis Gallagher

(541) 389-4776; denbend@coinet.com

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Glenda Galaba

(541) 383-1775; galaba@msn.com

### Clatsop County Beekeepers

Meets 7 pm, third Wednesday, Astoria

Extension Office, 2001 Marine Dr, Ste 210

**President:** Steve Lindros

(503) 325-1127; slindros@hotmail.com

**Vice Pres:** Don Thompson; (503) 458-6714

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Marylyn Sanbrailo

(503) 717-8448

### Coos County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 pm, third Saturday (except Dec)

Ohlsen Baxter Bldg, 631 Alder St, Myrtle Pt

**President:** Thomas Kyelberg

(541) 297-4017; usvi@charter.net

**Vice Pres:** Spike Richardson; (541) 267-4725

**Secretary:** Marcia Burgdorff; (541) 888-5695

**Treasurer:** Jane Oku; (541) 396-4016

jane\_oku@hotmail.com

### Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, third Tuesday, Eugene

EWEB Meeting Rooms, 500 E 4th Ave

**President:** Mike Harrington

(541) 689-8705; beekeeper@comcast.net

**Vice Pres:** Morris Ostrofsky

(541) 685-2875; ostrofsky@pacinfo.com

**Secretary:** Barbara Bajec

(541) 767-9086; mbartels@bbastrodesigns.com

**Treasurer:** Nancy Ograin

(541) 935-7065; woodrt@pacinfo.com

### Portland Area Beekeepers

Meets 7 pm, second Thursday, Oregon City

Hous Auth Clackamas Bldg, 13930 S Gain

**President:** Sam Hutchinson

(503) 829-7744; samh@molalla.net

**Secretary:** Paul Hardzinski; (503) 631-3927

**Treasurer:** John Keeley

(503) 632-3682; keeley81@bctonline.com

### Southern Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, first Monday, Central Pt

So Or Res & Ext Ctr, 569 Hanley Rd

**President:** John Jacob

(541) 582-BEES; oldsol@jeffnet.org

**Vice Pres:** Brian Bolstad

(541) 512-2364; bolstad815@hotmail.com

**Secretary:** Mysti Jacob; (541) 582-2337

**Treasurer:** Laurie Boyce

(541) 846-0133; leanira@hotmail.com

### Tillamook County Beekeepers

Meets 7 pm, first Thursday, Tillamook

Forestry Building, 5005 Third St

**President:** Bob Allen; (503) 322-3819

**Vice Pres:** Terry Fullan

(503) 368-7160; tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Wayne Auble

### Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, last Friday, Beaverton

OSU Ext, #1400, 18640 SW Walker Rd

**President:** Todd Balsiger

(503) 357-8938; toddbalsiger@comcast.net

**Vice Pres:** Andrew Schwab

(503) 537-0506; Pyr4ausi@verizon.net

**Secretary:** Preston Gabel

(503) 530-1436; preston@gabelhaven.com

**Treasurer:** Walt Amour; (503) 690-9930

### Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 pm, fourth Monday, Salem

Chemeketa Comm College, Bldg 34, Rm A

**President:** Fritz Skirvin; (503) 581-9372

**Vice Pres:** Mike Rodia

(503) 364-3275; drodia@yahoo.com

**Secretary:** Evan Burroughs

(503) 585-5924; n7ifj@qwest.net

**Treasurer:** Susan Rauchfuss

(503) 391-5600; smokfoot@cyberis.net



## NEWS FROM THE REGION

### Lane County Beekeepers

See: <http://www.lcbaor.org> for the February newsletter.

### Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Todd Balsiger says there's not much to say, except that it was quite a debacle for some of the group's members to send their hives to California this year. In the end, most hives found a home among the "ammonds." He continues, "in a nutshell," they worked with a dynamic play between supply and demand. This month the group will again focus on novice and beginning beekeepers, many of whom have not seen the components of a bee hive. They are going to bring all the pieces to the meeting so that folks can see what they're talking about.

**Note:** It is a busy season. Hope to learn more about what other groups are up to for future issues of *The Bee Line*.

### Taking a Pulse

Sheryl Johnson at Ruhl Bee Supply notes that the web store is now up and operational. Finally, folks can order online. Package bees are selling out, so she suggests that those interested place orders soon. As for the many losses again this year, Sheryl says that the hives she has seen suggest a variety of reasons. Mites are not the only factor, though they definitely play a large role. Some of the losses also have been related to starvation, foulbrood, and queenlessness. In addition, cold temperatures appear to have been involved in some cases, and Sheryl emphasizes the importance of adding good lids and bottom boards to hives at the beginning of winter. She also emphasizes the need to pay attention to the timing for application of treatments. More and more folks have purchased medications late in the season. She notes that many waited until October and even December this year. And some did not medicate at all. Sheryl believes this has had an impact.

Further, the wet winter and early freeze, as well as stress from viruses, no doubt contributed to losses. Folks who provided medications during the first part of August and still experienced losses may have some resistance to the treatments used.

Sheryl strongly recommends the use of screened bottom boards during the summer months; she also recommends some kind of treatment for mites, as well as the practice of alternating treatment types. Apistan seems to work best if used in alternate years. Mite-Away II and Sucroside are options for treatment. Application of Sucroside, however, is time-consuming and so this treatment is more reasonable for beekeepers with relatively few hives. In addition, its use is restricted to fall, because application during springtime would introduce too much additional moisture into the hives. CheckMite+ and Api Life VAR have been reapproved for use in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. They will be available for purchase as soon as the paperwork goes through, and likely by the time this newsletter goes out. In addition to alternating and paying attention to the timing of treatments, Sheryl suggests the importance of not using too much of any one thing and staying in contact with other beekeepers.

Margaret Forsythe from GloryBee Foods says that they have been selling package bees for the last few weeks and are taking orders for April. She notes that prices are up a bit. They are planning an event for those who purchase package bees April 14-15 with on-site demonstrations on installing and caring for bees. Margaret says that beekeepers are buying available medications, Apistan, Terramycin, and Sucroside, and that GloryBee too is waiting for shipments of CheckMite+ and Api Life VAR now that they have been reapproved.

Some of the questions beekeepers are asking involve when to start feeding bees and how much to feed. Margaret says that they are recommending the general beekeeping practice

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## The Bee Line

### Taking a Pulse (continued from page 5)

of going to the back of the hive and lifting. If there's no resistance, then the bees need to be fed. While the weather is so cold, she says they have been recommending a feeding of 2:1 sugar:water; that will change to 1:1 as temperatures rise. They are reminding folks not to open hives on days with temperatures 30 degrees and below. In addition, many folks are still asking about starting up. Margaret says the cost averages about \$200 plus the cost of the bees. This depends, though, on such things as the bottom boards; for example, screened bottom boards cost somewhat more than the regular kind. Margaret expects that as the season warms and the bees are out with the sun, more beekeepers will be inquiring also. She recommends that folks attend the Lane County Beekeepers bee school on March 25 in Eugene, and notes that last year topics ranged from starting a hive and using medications to making mead.



## NATIONAL HONEY BOARD NEWS

The National Honey Board is funding six production research projects in 2006 to study a variety of colony health issues. Funding for the projects totals \$63,475. Among the research topics we can look forward to learning more about are the following:

Hygienic removal by honey bees of reproductive parasitic *Varroa* mites. Researcher: H. Glenn Hall, University of Florida.

Is propolis effective against American Foulbrood and *Varroa destructor*? Researcher: Marla Spivak, University of Minnesota.

Environmental and genetic traits of bees that resist disease and increase productivity. Researchers: Jay Evans and Jeff Pettis, USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory.

Co-encapsulation of attractants to improve biocontrol of *Varroa* in honey bee hives. Researcher: Kelly Cartwright, Agricultural Research Initiatives, Inc.

Investigating *Bacillus thuringiensis* CRYIII toxin for the biological control of small hive beetle (*Aethina tumida*). Researcher: Audrey Sheridan, Mississippi State University.

*Varroa* mite control using mineral oil and essential oils in honey bee colonies. Researcher: Jeff Pettis, USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory.

For information on the research projects, contact Charlotte Jordan, National Honey Board project manager at (800) 553-7162.

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## KEEPING BEES IN LATE WINTER AND EARLY SPRING

- Lift hives to find any light ones. Provide light hives with emergency feed of dry sugar or sugar candy on top of the brood frames.
- Move stores of honey closer to the brood frames.
- Continue to repair / assemble the coming season's equipment.
- When daytime highs are above 55 degrees, start feeding brood pollen supplement and cane sugar syrup.
- Make up or buy at least six 5-ounce pollen supplement patties per colony. Store in freezer until needed.
- Check stored frames for wax moth infestation.
- Determine threshold levels for *Varroa* treatment. Consider use of management modifications as well as chemical treatment options.
- Use preventative doses of Terramycin for American foulbrood.
- Check for tracheal mite infestation and treat accordingly.

**Source:** *Honey Bee Pests and Diseases Update* from OSBA Honey Bee Workshops.

**Working Bees** (continued from page 1)

discharged in 1945, Bill bought a house on Bell Drive in Portland. At first Bill was able to find work at \$1.45 an hour as a journeyman specializing in aircraft instruments. But he was laid off when that appropriation ran out. He took a job with Oregon Rubber Mat Manufacturing, located at 92<sup>nd</sup> and SE Stark, where he made \$5 a day. It proved to be a fateful decision. His boss, Theodore Hansen, was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and told Bill that it was only a matter of time before the appropriations ran out for good. Even so, Bill left to go back to work as an airplane mechanic when a position opened up. About the time this second appropriation was running out, Mr. Hansen called and offered Bill a job as shop foreman at Oregon Rubber Mat. Though Bill considered the option of moving across the country chasing mechanic jobs, it was then that he chose to put down roots. Daughter Kathleen was born in 1947.

During the three–four years Bill worked as foreman, the rubber mat business moved to 7315 NE Glisan. When Mr. Hansen’s health began to fail, he sold Bill the business. Bill borrowed the necessary \$2,000; he put \$1,500 down and used the rest for capital. Bill ran the business out of the Glisan property at first; in 1950, the year Bill, Jr., was born, he bought a building at 9509 SE Division. Bill got a bit more than he bargained for, however. The building’s walls housed a swarm of bees, and that swarm brought him back into beekeeping—and into selling honey out of the rubber mat store. Bill kept about 15 hives on the roof of the building for several years. He remembers bringing them down one year for pollination. After that, he says, they mostly stayed at ground level.

During this period, Bill and Wilma rented a house on SE Main and bought the lot where the house Bill lives in to this day now stands. He built that house, subcontracting things like the brick and sheetrock, and doing what he could. As an example of his attention to detail, Bill recalls doing the wiring. He had never done this before. He put in extra outlets and made both

Bill Ruhl—teacher, mentor, and student of the bees. One of his first lessons was taught one summer when he and his brother George were taking off honey late in the season. Bill says he got about “50 stings” through his white shirt. He remembers being quite weak as a result and has never forgotten the importance of using a smoker.



Thom Trusewicz

the upstairs and downstairs fully functional. The wiring inspector found only one staple missing in all that work, and remarked that the extra outlets represented how a house *should* be wired. Bill and his family moved into the basement of the house in 1952. It was five years before they were able to move upstairs.

When the freeway took the Division Street property in 1970, Bill moved the business to the 1400 block of NE 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Bill’s association with bees also took a turn in 1970. The owners of Williams Bee Supply, Les and Roscoe Williams, decided to close their store at 9500 SE Halsey the last of June that year. But they found no one with enough cash to buy the \$50,000 inventory. A group of beekeepers pooled their resources, but even that was not enough. It was then that Les Williams offered Bill, who was one of their customers, the business—for nothing down. Bill signed three notes, one-third due in each of one, two, and three years. Bill took over the inventory and, though he didn’t know it at the time, would have no trouble making good on the notes he’d signed. He even added 6% interest. At the time he signed the notes, honey was 12 cents a pound. But Bill got lucky. Honey went to 18 cents a pound within the next 90 days. Within one year honey was 35 cents a pound, where it stayed.

*Continued on page 8*



Les Williams remained involved and helped with the business start-up. Wilma took care of much of the business aspect of things, including the bookkeeping. She also ran the store during the many afternoons that Bill spent out in the bee yard or duck hunting, another love of his life. They both enjoyed travel worldwide during this time.

Bill sold the rubber mat business to Sheryl and Ed Johnson around 1980. Then, when he decided to retire in 1986, he sold the bee supply business to them—as he remembers, with nothing down. Wilma passed two years later. Bill says he could not have managed the business without her.

Now remarried, Bill and his wife Geyne both laughed out loud as Bill related how her family thought he had “hypnotized” her when she told them she was going to marry a beekeeper! Geyne is so afraid of bees, she remembers that her brother would simply hold a bee on the end of a yardstick to keep her out of the house. They’ve been together now for 14 years.

Today Bill has several hives in his yard and one hive at his cousin’s place. To keep the bees from bothering neighbors, he installs a Boardman feeder with water during the summer. Although Bill gave up duck hunting about three years ago because of chilblains, he isn’t giving up bees. He says he needs a sting once in a while for the pain of arthritis in his wrists and neck. Bill says he will do what he can to keep some bees for an occasional sting at his cousin’s place when he and Geyne downsize and he no longer has bees in his backyard. His eyes twinkled when I suggested he might be keeping them for more than an occasional sting.

Bill may be preparing to downsize, but there’s no downsizing his heart. What he enjoyed about the business was the training and advising, teaching others to do what he himself found so enjoyable. Bill still laughs at how it was that, once he bought the bee supply business, people began to listen to what he had

to say. Bill has taught beekeepers for many years and in many venues—at the store, Clackamas Community College, Portland Community College, and George Hansen’s bee yard. He still attends meetings and is available to help whenever needed. He understands service, is unblinkingly generous, and has served as a long-time mentor for members of the Portland Area Beekeepers Association as well as others. When asked about his recommendations for those who are considering getting into bees, Bill suggests the following:

- Put on gear and get into hives once a week. Learn by doing. Beekeepers can’t understand bees if they don’t work them. Books and classes can contribute, but there’s no substitute for getting to know the bees.
- Pay attention to chemicals, especially those used for mite control. Use *only* what has been approved and *only* as directed.

Before I left his home, Bill showed me a painting that hangs above his dining table. It is a scene reminiscent of his early years with bees in eastern Washington: bee hives in the drifting snow. When I pressed a bit to see what words Bill might use to describe his experience of working bees, what it is that has taken him out to the bee yard all these years of afternoons, he just shook his head and said, “There’s something about it....” And, perhaps we would all agree. Something about it indeed.

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## A CORRECTION

The last issue of *The Bee Line* (January / February 2006) stated that RNA viruses first turn their genetic material (RNA) into DNA and then insert it into the host cell’s DNA for replication. This is true for some RNA viruses. Most RNA viruses, however, are able to replicate their RNA without going through the additional change to DNA and insertion. They use the host cell’s processes in other ways to replicate.



**The Bee Line** is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. The newsletter is published ten times a year and subscriptions are included with OSBA membership. Send news about your bees and beekeeping, as well as corrections, letters, comments, photographs (old and new), stories, interviews, and advertising to the Editor, *The Bee Line*, PO Box 42363, Portland OR 97242; thebeeline@comcast.net.

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**Note:** Please submit all copy and art by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. The next issue is April 2006. For advertising, send payment to Co-Secretary/Treasurer, Phyllis Shoemake. Contact the Editor for additional information.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Old Sol Enterprises** presents Oregon Grown Super Queens and nucs. Mite resistant, highly productive, winter hardy and very gentle. Reserve yours now by calling (541) 582-BEES or by visiting <http://www.oldsolenterprises.com>.

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## SWEET POTATO COOKIES

### Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter (1 stick)
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 egg
- 1 cup grated, raw sweet potatoes

### Directions

Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt into medium bowl. Set aside. Cream butter or margarine with the sugar in a large mixing bowl. Mix in lemon peel, nutmeg, honey, and egg. Then stir in the grated sweet potatoes. Blend the flour mixture into the sweet potato mixture.

Place ~24 rounded teaspoons of the cookie dough onto an ungreased cookie sheet (1/2 inch apart). Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 7 minutes. Remove cookies from sheet and cool.

**Source:** <http://www.metrokc.gov/HEALTH/nutrition/recipes/spcookies.htm>

## MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLICATIONS FORM

Membership in the Oregon State Beekeepers Association is open to anyone with an interest in bees and beekeeping. You do not need to own bees or reside in Oregon to join. OSBA membership includes a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on publications, and ten issues of *The Bee Line*.

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**Membership:** \$20 per person (\$29 per person outside the US) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**Regional Association Treasurers and others:** Make check payable to OSBA and send with form to: Phyllis Shoemake, 1702 Toucan St NW, Salem OR 97304.

*The Bee Line*  
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*Enjoy all the promise of spring!*

**Oregon State Beekeepers Association** is a nonprofit organization representing and supporting all who have an interest in bees and beekeeping.

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