

# The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 35, Number 9

October 2010



## WHAT ARE THE BEES TELLING US?

*Morgan Rush*

**Note:** The following is an excerpt from an article first printed in the Fall 2010 issue of *Alternatives Magazine*. It is reprinted here with kind permission of the film's producer, Jon Betz.

My revelation at age 5 that bees made honey was no less astonishing than if fancy-winged faeries produced the stuff. Bees?! Until that moment, it was enough that honey came in glass jars from the same grocery store aisle as peanut butter and jelly. Until that moment, bees held no more appeal than stinging mosquitoes in striped drag. My education came in the form of a film clip on a kids' television show. The image of hundreds of insects crawling around a honeycomb gave me the heebie-jeebies. But when the soft-spoken beekeeper gently lifted a tray from the hive and the dripping honey glowed amber in the sunlight, I knew the world as a wondrous place.

*Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us?* is full of moments that inspire that kind of childlike awe of these remarkable insects. The documentary by Portland filmmakers Taggart Siegel and Jon Betz premiers September 17, but is already generating buzz at film festivals. Siegel's last film *The Real Dirt on Farmer John* was a grass-roots success earning rave reviews and 31 film festival awards. Critic Shawn Levy of *The Oregonian* called it one of the ten best films of the year.

"I'd heard about colony collapse disorder, a phenomenon where entire hives of bees suddenly die off," Siegel says. "Millions of bees have died worldwide and no one knows for certain why." But there are credible theories including some of the usual suspects such as pests, pesticides and pollution, to the mechanization of farming for mass production that results in vast expanses of a single crop inhospitable to bees. Siegel decided to bring the issue into focus with his camera. Instead of relying on one protagonist to tell the story, he filmed a cast of characters including biodynamic beekeepers, commercial beekeepers, backyard beekeepers, swarm gatherers, food activists, preservationists, entomologists and biochemists around the world. *Queen of the Sun* takes a profound look at the honeybee crisis and offers hope by focusing on a growing global community seeking balance with nature.

**Question:** A documentary about honeybees brings to mind those nature channel specials with lots of close-ups of striped insects building honeycombs; fascinating, for sure, but not necessarily something that

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Welcome  
Klamath Basin Beekeepers!

**The Bee Line**

The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. Annual subscriptions are included with membership in OSBA.

Send news about your bees and your experiences in keeping them, as well as your corrections, letters, comments, photographs and stories (both from “old” times and new), interviews, and ads and requests for advertising to me at: *The Bee Line*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517, Portland OR 97206; e-mail: osba.newsletter@gmail.com.

The deadline for submitting copy is the 10th of the month *prior* to publication. The next issue will be the November-December 2010 issue. As always, please let me know of any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

*Rosanna*

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**Advertising Costs**

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**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I recently attended the Western Apiculture Society Convention in Salem and was reminded of how important our beekeeper relationships are to me and how vital the up-to-date information is for our business. Attending meetings gives us a renewed energy and the information that is shared gives us plenty of new ideas to think about in managing our businesses. Dr. Dewey Caron and Dr. Ramesh Sagili did an outstanding job of planning the conference, and I think everyone had a great time.

On the subject of Dr. Sagili, please support his efforts to better understand our Oregon honey bees, and be sure to collect your samples and return them to the OSU lab as soon as possible. We can really begin to know our bees by following their patterns and recording the changes.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association has been working with the Oregon Department of Agriculture to approve two different Varroa mite treatments. We were elated and “jumping for joy” when we received a Section 24(c), Special Local Needs usage, approval for the Mite Away Quick Strips™ when out of the blue we were told that the strips cannot be shipped at this time because of some problem between NOD Apiaries and EPA concerning the strips. I have been in touch with the person at EPA working with this product. NOD Apiaries will need to submit more information before it will be available. I am hoping that we can clear this up soon [see page 9]. Also, on a similar note, on August 24 the Washington Department of Agriculture submitted a request for a Section 18 approval of the new product HopGuard and asked Oregon and Idaho if we would like to join with them in this request. We have submitted the necessary information and look forward to hearing from this request soon as well. My understanding is that either of these products can be used during the summer when honey supers are on. In addition, there is no need to remove either of them, because one is dissolved and the other is cleaned out by the bees. Thus, there is no chance of overuse.

It is definitely turning to fall in eastern Oregon this week. I was out in the bees today, and I could feel them hunkering down for winter. Finally, many of them have put on some weight and have built up for their long, cold vacation. We will probably have some nice days ahead, but it is time to get those treatments on and give them a rest.

Please remember: Washington State Beekeepers Association is hosting the Northwest Corner Beekeeping Conference on October 28, 29, and 30 at the Hood River Inn. They have lined up some wonderful speakers, and it should be very educational as well as a great time. I hope to see you all there.

*Jan*

## Oregon State Beekeepers Association EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

*Salem, Oregon*

The executive board of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association met in Salem September 1, 2010, during the 2010 Western Apiculture Society Conference. The meeting was called to order by President Jan Lohman at 4:55 PM.

**Minutes:** Herb Brasington moved to accept the minutes of the April board meeting, as mailed. Seconded by Judy Scher.

**Treasurer's Report:** Herb pointed out that there has been more money going out than usual with a \$600 deposit to hold the Seaside Convention Center for next year's conference and the printing of pamphlets. The net income is \$1,411.38. Chuck Sowers made a motion to approve the report. Seconded by Dennis Gallagher.

### REPORTS

#### Regional Reports

**Central Oregon Association:** Dennis Gallagher said that they are meeting monthly with 25–30 attending. They had a summer picnic in August. Upcoming programs include Hive Care: Post-Extracting in September, Preparing for Winter in October, and Cooking with Honey in November.

**Klamath Basin Association:** Tom Chester reported that the new Klamath Basin beekeepers group organized in February. They are meeting in the Klamath County Extension office at 9:00 AM, the fourth Saturday, from June through October. They look forward to having beekeepers stop in as they travel to California and back.

**Lane County Association:** Judy Scher reported a membership of 250 with 80–100 attending meetings. During the Lane County Fair, the group exhibited products of the hive along with the Grange exhibit. Judy also told of the "Honey Taste Off" they held at one of their meetings with different varieties of honey.

**Tillamook Association:** Bob Allen noted that the new core membership is making headway.

**Tualatin Valley Association:** Herb said that the group is having a good showing at meetings and told of the workshop on pest management held earlier this year.

**Portland Metro Region and Association:** Bev

Koch and Nancy McFarlane said that attendance at the group's meetings has been between 35 and 40. They participated in the Master Gardeners booth at the Clackamas County Fair. The group is stressing education of members. They held a first-year beekeepers panel, had a presentation on candle making, and are promoting upcoming beekeeping classes at Ruhl Bee Supply and Zenger Farm.

#### North Willamette Valley Region and Willamette Valley Association:

Harry Vanderpool reported that the group's meetings are strong with 80–100 attending. Harry told of attending a "ban honey bees" meeting at the Molalla City Council with Mike Rodia. Mike spoke at the meeting and won 100 percent unrestricted beekeeping within the city limits. [See the July 2010 issue of *The Bee Line*.]

**South Willamette Valley Region:** Jason Rowan talked about fall management. The bees are picking up late pollen and are looking very good in the area.

#### Past President

Chuck Sowers said that he and Jeanne hosted the American Honey Princess, Amy Roden. She appeared at the Clackamas County Fair, rode in the parade, did cooking demonstrations, and visited with the public about bees and honey 4–5 hours per day. Chuck provided an observation hive to use at both the fair and the local Thriftway store.

#### The Bee Line

Rosanna Mattingly was unable to attend. Jan asked that anyone with questions for the new Question and Answer section or reports, jokes, or anything interesting please send them for our newsletter.

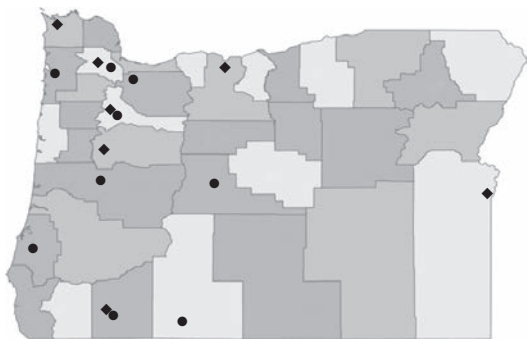
### OLD BUSINESS

#### Constitution and Bylaws

Herb mentioned that Marjie thought there needed to be some clarification on the Secretary-Treasurer changes, but he thought the descriptions were fine as they exist. Marjie commented that education to the public (kids, teachers, and agriculture) also needs to be stressed by the association. Herb also noted that we justify our status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based upon our educational activities. On our tax we reported approximately 94 percent of our expenditures were on education of various kinds. The minimum to retain nonprofit status is 33 percent. Jan then asked Marjie to research educational programs available that

*Continued on page 12*

## OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION RESOURCES



### ♦ OSBA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Columbia Basin:** Bill Edwards; 5040 Lost Lake Rd  
Hood River 97031; 541.354.2223

**Eastern Oregon:** Jordan Dimock  
2635 Mitchell Butte Rd, Nyssa 97913; 541.372.2726

**Portland Metro:** Bev Koch  
20495 S Geiger Rd, Oregon City 97045  
503.655.7447; johnbev@aracnet.com

**North Coast:** Terry Fullan  
39450 North Fork Rd, Nehalem 97131  
503.368.7160; tfullan@nehalem.tel.net

**South Coast:** Open

**Southern Oregon:** Floyd Pawlowski  
415 Pompadour Dr, Ashland; 541.482.4797  
fmpawlowski@ashlandwireless.net

**North Willamette Valley:** Harry Vanderpool  
7128 Skyline Rd S, Salem; 503.399.3675  
shallotman@yahoo.com

**South Willamette Valley:** Jason Rowan  
80881 Turkey Run Rd, Creswell 97426  
541.942.6479; beetanical@q.com

### ♦ OSBA REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

#### Central Oregon Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, third Tuesday, Bend  
63211 Service Rd, Suite 130

**President:** Dennis Gallagher; 541.389.4776  
For information, please contact: John Connelly  
johncobka@gmail.com

#### Coos County Beekeepers

Meets 6:30 PM, third Saturday (except December)  
Ohlsen Baxter Bldg, 631 Alder St, Myrtle Point

**President:** Shigeo Oku; 541.396.4016  
**Vice President:** John Gardner; 541.572.3847  
**Secretary:** Bobbi Gardner; 541.572.3847  
**Treasurer:** Jane Oku; 541.396.4016  
jane\_oku@hotmail.com

#### Klamath Basin Beekeepers

Meets 9:00 AM, fourth Saturday, Klamath Falls  
Klamath County Extension, 3328 Vandenberg Rd  
**Interim Moderators:** Tom Chester and Jim Smith  
415.418.4130; klamathbeekeepers@gmail.com

#### Lane County Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, third Tuesday, Eugene  
Trinity United Methodist Church, 440 Maxwell Rd

**President:** Judy Scher; 541.344.2114  
judy\_scher@catdreams.com  
**Vice President:** Barbara Bajec; 541.767.9086  
**Secretary:** Lane Hillendahl; 541.942.6838  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Ograin; 541.935.7065  
woodrt@pacinfo.com  
**Website:** www.lcbaor.org

#### Portland Metro Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, second Thursday, Oregon City  
Clackamas Comm College, Clairmont Hall, Room 118

**President:** Nancy McFarlane; 503.260.3930  
nancymariemcfarlane@yahoo.com  
**Vice President:** Paul Hardzinski; 503.631.3927  
breadstick@ccwebster.net  
**Secretary:** Alvalea Fong; 503.742.0910  
mamagoose@mac.com  
**Treasurer:** Barbara Derkacht; 503.631.3063  
bderkacht@yahoo.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  
john@oldsolenterprises.com  
**Vice President:** Floyd Pawlowski  
415 Pompadour Dr, Ashland; 541.482.4797  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Jonathon Boulton  
jonnyboulton@hotmail.com  
**Website:** www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org

#### Tillamook County Beekeepers

For meeting and other information, please contact:  
**President:** Bob Allen; 503.322.3819

#### Tualatin Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:30 PM, last Wednesday, Beaverton  
OSU Ext, #1400, 18640 SW Walker Rd

**President:** Herb Brasington; 503.701.4180  
herb@hwbsystems.com  
**Vice President:** Kevin Beckman; 503.539.5996  
kevin\_beckman2@msn.com  
**Secretary:** Jerry Maasdam; 503.648.7906  
jmaasdam@mac.com  
**Co-Treasurers:** Brigitte and Michael Hendrickson  
503.625.3828; mdhendri@gmail.com

#### Willamette Valley Beekeepers

Meets 7:00 PM, fourth Monday, Salem  
Chemeketa Comm College, Bldg 34, Rm A

**President:** Richard Farrier; 541.327.2673  
**Vice President:** Harry Vanderpool; 503.399.3675  
shallotman@yahoo.com  
**Secretary:** Mike Rodia; 503.364.3275  
drodia@yahoo.com  
**Treasurer:** Patricia Swenson



## REGIONAL NEWS

### Region

#### North Coast

North Coast organic farmers held a dinner in Wheeler on August 12 called *Information*. This month's topic was Beekeeping, and Thom Trusewicz and Terry Fullan shared information on bees and pollination during the dinner event. During the September Tillamook County monthly meeting, Bob Allen reported on the WAS conference in Salem. Members of the club were very optimistic. They reported good honey crops this season.

—Terry Fullan

### Regional Association

#### Portland Metro Beekeepers

President Nancy McFarlane pulled a switcheroo and had a panel with novice beekeepers at the front. They asked us, the audience, questions about beekeeping from a beginner's point of view, which stimulated some good discussion. This included the variety of ways to feed your hive in the fall if needed.

Paul Hardzinski led another summary of fall care for bees and mentioned that this is a good time to sit at your hive and watch the worker bees "throw the drones out." If you have uncapped honey, put the supers out to let the bees clean them up. Then close the cleaned supers in a garbage bag to keep wax moths at bay.

The club voted to give Dr. Ramesh Sagili \$500 for his research at Oregon State University. We also used a lottery for those attending to give two tickets to the state meeting in October plus the cost of the banquet.

Dr. Dewey Caron spoke on fall preparation. He listed three areas of concern: food, brood population, and hive health. To get through the winter, the hive needs enough "honey stores in the correct location." About now the queen will be starting the brood that will get through the winter. They are different than the summer bees, as they "live longer" and put on "more fat." He encouraged about three fall inspections. One should have been done about August, the latest time for queening. Now we should do a Labor Day check. We should "read the frames"—look for a good brood pattern and honey stores, and look for signs of disease. Don't weaken a good colony by taking frames from it. A final inspection would be around Columbus Day.

This would be a good time to close off the screened bottom boards to protect from winter winds.

Next month our featured speaker will be Dr. Ramesh Sagili on the State of Bee Research. In this regard, Dr. Caron provided numbered bottles for our group to take home and then mail in with samples of our bees. Dr. Sagili and others will be testing these samples for various diseases and conditions, with results to be posted online.

—Paul Jarrett

## KEEPING BEES IN OCTOBER

Todd Balsiger

October is usually the month when summer/fall-like weather ends and winter begins. Generally it is relatively benign for the first two or three weeks, but by Halloween winter arrives in earnest. These first two or three weeks are our last window to finalize winter preparation. (Update: colder and wetter weather is predicted to come early this year!)

- ❖ Continue to check for light hives. Heft the hives (lift one side up). They should be noticeably heavy. If not, you can either fortify these hives with frames of honey or feed a saturated sugar solution (60% sugar, balance water by weight). Feed them early enough to allow syrup to ripen.
- ❖ If you choose, feed two gallons of Fumidil-B medicated syrup to control Nosema disease. If feeding for weight, this medicated syrup should be fed last.
- ❖ Place a barrier between the bottom of the hive and the ground—for example, pallets, corrugated metal sheets, cinder blocks, and such.
- ❖ Keep hives exposed to the sun with entrances faced away from prevailing winds. Tilt the hives so water drains away from the entrance. Ensure proper upper ventilation, and make sure the lids do not leak.
- ❖ Add entrance reducers/mouse guards.
- ❖ Find and remove dead-outs, and place in storage or toss if the useful life has passed (I am talking about bee equipment here!). Protect frames from wax moths (okay, Dewey, from wax larvae). If you use moth crystals, make sure they are paradichlorobenzene.
- ❖ During cold weather, if the lids are removed and thus break the propolis seals, you may want to secure lids to prevent them from being blown off. A suggestion: if you make lids from plywood, use 3/4-inch.

QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH ? ? ?

**Question**

I would like to know how long I can leave my honey supers on before removing them to extract the honey? I do not plan any treatments.

**Response**

**Dewey Caron:** Honey supers are traditionally removed and extracted in July or August, but they can be removed later or even left on colonies over the winter. Fall means cooler temperatures, so, upon removal, the supers need to be placed in a heated room (90°F with a fan to circulate air) for a minimum of a day, and then uncapped and extracted in a room at a similar elevated temperature.

If supers are left on a colony over the winter, the queen excluder needs to be removed if one is in use. One possible negative to leaving supers on over winter is a spring colony that has an extended upward oval shape—a “chimney”—with brood upward within super frames. If you are unable to extract, supers can be removed and stored in a freezer, if space permits. Otherwise, do not remove and attempt to store supers of honey off the colony over winter.

**Question**

With all the toxic chemicals found in the environment these days, what are the most common chemicals found in the comb of a beehive? In addition, how often should we be replacing comb (percentage) with foundation to facilitate the bees’ ability to produce a more chemical-free place to raise brood?

**Response**

**Ramesh Sagili:** The most common chemicals found in the comb were Fluvalinate (Apistan), Coumaphos (Checkmite), Chlorpyrifos, Amitraz, and Chlorothalonil (Fungicide). (For a complete list of chemicals found in the comb, please read Mullin et al. 2010, PLoS one.) For replacing comb, there is no fixed regimen, but in general it is suggested to provide a few frames of new comb each year such that, over a period of from three to four years, all the existing comb is replaced in a hive. Currently, we do not know how these different chemicals are interacting (synergistic/additive effects) and affecting honey bee health. Reducing the chemical load by culling old comb will help in reducing at least one more stress factor on bees and hence enhance the longevity of the colony. Also, this practice helps reduce the prevalence of diseases.

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## WAS APPRECIATION

*Dewey M. Caron*

The Western Apiculture Society Conference 2010 is now history. We planned for 125 registrants and ended up with 186. Thankfully, the Red Lion in Salem was able to handle our large crowd.

The hard work of Ramesh Sagili (program chair), Vice President Harry Vanderpool, and Herb Brasington (publicity and then registrar/treasurer) helped make it all happen. Several Salem-area beekeepers (from the Willamette Valley association) stepped in and volunteered for a number of chores. In addition, Carolyn Breece and Alexis DeLong, technician and summer worker with Ramesh at Oregon State University, did yeoman duties during the conference as they helped with registration and the projection equipment during the presentations.

The program featured ten Oregon speakers, and we got many compliments on the information and quality of talks at this WAS meeting. The November WAS Journal, which will be posted at: [groups.ucanr.org/WAS/](http://groups.ucanr.org/WAS/), will include talk summaries. At the banquet, Harry Vanderpool was recognized for Outstanding Service to Beekeeping for his many OSBA, WVBA, and WAS activities, and Kenny and Heike Williams took home an Oregon-shaped plaque as recipients of the Thurber Award for Beekeeping Inventiveness. It was a pleasure to recognize the Glenn Peters Family at the banquet for their service to beekeeping and for the honey stix donations for our WAS meeting. At 96 years young, Oliver Petty was most deserving of a jar of the Williams' Wild Harvest Honey.

Dirk Olsen hosted beekeepers at his north Albany honey house, and explained fall and mite management within his 6,000-colony, 8-frame operation. The 60 beekeepers also visited OSU to see the honey bee research and hive health monitoring programs of Ramesh, visited the pear germplasm collection, and enjoyed the details of growing Ranier cherries in plastic tunnels (using Ramesh's bees) by Anita Azarenko, head of the Department of Horticulture.

Lynn and Ken from Leapin' Lizards, Corvallis beekeepers, printed the T-shirts and tote bags

that featured the special design of beekeeper Kelle DeForrest (Lane County). If you would like a shirt showing bees foraging on blackberry with Oregon grape in the background, a few are still left (\$15); contact Leapin' Lizards at [leapinlizardspro@netscape.net](mailto:leapinlizardspro@netscape.net) directly.

Thanks to the ten vendors and other individuals who donated door prizes and auction items. We were able to raise over \$1,550 to help meet our program needs. Thanks, too, to all who attended. If you missed it, WAS 2010 was a great meeting!

## CONFERENCE HONEY SWAP

*Marjie Ehry*

*It's bragging time, folks!*

This year we are featuring a new and fun activity during the Northwest Corner conference, October 28–30 in Hood River. We know that all of you have some special honey you would like to share with other beekeepers. This is an opportunity for your honey to be the *★star★* of the show! This is how you do it:

- ❖ Pack the honey you want to swap in one-pound jars.
- ❖ Add a label that states the variety, such as blackberry.
- ❖ Bring from one to six jars of the same variety or up to six different varieties—a total of six—to swap.

You may swap one jar with another beekeeper for each jar you bring. Please bring a honey bear with the variety (or varieties) you bring for sampling! We will have a tasting, also.

And—if you would like to donate one of those special jars for the auction, it will be accepted with gratitude.

*Questions?* Call Marjie at 503.864.2138.

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## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Kenny Williams

At a previous board meeting, I committed to connect six or eight beekeepers with six or eight commodity groups with the idea of having each beekeeper attend a meeting of a commodity group along with Dr. Ramesh Sagili. This would introduce Ramesh to farmer members who raise that particular commodity. The purpose is to raise the profile of Dr. Sagili as the current honey bee entomologist at Oregon State University. The beekeeper would speak about his or her own operation and its relevance to that crop for ten or fifteen minutes, followed by Ramesh, who could then speak for the remainder of the time slot about his program at the University, pollination issues, nutrition issues, and so on. To date, I have five such arrangements in progress:

- ❖ Harry Vanderpool with the Raspberry and Blackberry Commission.
- ❖ Dirk Olsen with a group to be assigned.
- ❖ George Hansen with either the Clover Commission or a fruit growers association in the Columbia Gorge.
- ❖ Myself with the Blueberry Commission.
- ❖ Mark Johnson with the Meadowfoam Growers.

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### Bees Are Telling Us—Continued from page 1

would grab the heart. *Queen of the Sun* is so much more than that.

**Siegel:** It's really about the part bees play in the bigger world and how we're all interconnected. We have to learn to connect with nature, to reconnect our relationship with the natural world if we are going to survive the future.

**Betz:** The people who work with bees tell the story. We did hours of research filming traditional beekeepers and biodynamic beekeepers. We filmed people who keep hives on their rooftops in New York and London, and commercial beekeepers who pack up hives and truck them cross country to pollinate farmers' crops for profit. We filmed Slow Food founder Carlo Petrini in Italy, and food writer Michael Pollan, biologists and entomologists and performance artists around the world; literally, from Oregon to Europe to New Zealand and Australia. They offer their unique perspectives on beekeeping, why bees are dying off, and what can be done about it.

**Siegel:** The film also uses animation to illustrate some of what is being said. There is one animated part by Michelle Hwang that shows the queen bee flying up toward the sun and all the drones flying after her. She rises up and some of the drones can't keep up with her, and others manage to mate and then die and fall back to earth. And the queen keeps flying skyward toward the light. She's the queen of the sun.

**Question:** What about that woman covered with bees? It's the image on the poster for the movie.

**Siegel:** That's Sara Mapelli. She's a beekeeper and a performance artist in Oregon. She is a very gentle spirit and she does this kind of dance with the queen bee attached to her so that all the bees swarm to her. It's mesmerizing. It's a beautiful. We weave it and other performances, like a beautiful flower costume show in New Zealand, where people are dancing, wearing elaborate and colorful flower outfits and a bee goes around pollinating them, to show the different ways bees inspire people, and the reverence, appreciation and wonder people have for them.

**Question:** Most people probably feel they already have a basic understanding of the honeybee. What surprised you in making the film?

**Betz:** That they are so deeply important to our survival



and yet we rarely think about them. About 40 percent of our food depends on pollination. If bees die out, we die out. The bee crisis is a microcosm of what is happening in agriculture at-large. It's part of what makes this film so important for me. It's much more than a film about insects. The hive as metaphor is really powerful to me. I hope the audience will connect the idea of community; that people can create hives of sorts, working together to create and maintain a hospitable place for bees and people.

**Siegel:** I never knew insects could be so sweet. There's a French man, a bee historian, who totally surprised us. He is talking about his bees and he pulls out a honeycomb from a hive, leans over and starts gently brushing the backs of the bees with his moustache, he's tickling the bees. It's very affectionate. We didn't plan that. We didn't know he was going to do anything like that and I think it captures the relationship and love he has for his bees.

I'm just starting to be a beekeeper myself and I don't think I'll tickle them with my moustache but already I do feel oddly close to them. They're already becoming part of the family.

**Question:** The weirdest moment, I thought, was seeing how some bee breeders artificially inseminate queen bees. Have these people not heard of "the birds and the bees?" I'm pretty sure the bees know how to do it themselves.

**Siegel:** It shows how completely out of sync we are with nature. That's a big part of the problem, the issue of why bees are dying. Have you ever read any of Rudolph Steiner's writings on bees? He was an Austrian scientist, a philosopher; the Waldorf schools are based on his philosophies. Back in 1923 he predicted that honeybees would die off in 80 to 100 years because of artificial queen breeding and the mechanization of farming. And now there's colony collapse disorder, the phenomenon when entire hives of bees suddenly, and mysteriously, die or leave.

**Betz:** We know that monoculture, planting hundreds of acres with one crop, effectively starves the bees. Those farmers pay to have bees brought in to pollinate their crops when they're in bloom but the bees can't stay because once those flowers are gone, there are no other crops around for miles. Small farmers used to grow a variety of crops and they used to keep beehives to pollinate but we've moved so far away from that in

our demand for mass production.

**Question:** The film is lovely and has a few of those rare "aha" moments that offer a little glimpse of the divine in the seemingly mundane.

**Siegel:** I like when Gunther Hauk, who started a bee sanctuary in the Midwest—imagine, a bee sanctuary!—talks about how he's actually grateful for the crisis. He says if we keep our hearts and minds open there is the possibility to learn something about renewing a culture in balance with nature from this crisis.

**Betz:** There is the moment when Dr. Wirz, a biochemist in Switzerland, is describing pollination. He's a scientist, someone you'd think is strictly left brain, but he describes pollen as "materialized light". He explains that bees have the ability to "transform the light" into wax, and how when people burn candles made from beeswax they "free the light again from the wax and the bee." That shows the incredible imagination bees can spark. For me, that is the golden thread that weaves through the film.

## QUICK STRIP™ REQUEST WITHDRAWN

*Jan Lohman*

I just received notice from the Oregon Department of Agriculture that they were asked by NOD Apiaries to withdraw their Special Local Needs registration under Section 24(c) for Mite Away Quick Strips™. This withdrawal is necessary because EPA has requested a Petition for Tolerance Exemption for the "biodegradable paper wrap" that is part of the product. Once the petition process is completed, assuming a timely and favorable outcome, we can again submit a request for registration under Section 24(c).

In my view, this is an inane ruling. Yet, it is a requirement of the process, and we must live with it for the time being. We are working with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and NOD Apiaries to work out the problems and move forward. There are so many Oregon beekeepers who have gone to bat for us in this endeavor. We are all frustrated by these findings. Hopefully, the process will go smoothly within the time frame allowed so that we do not have to start over again. I am working with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and hope to have more information by the Northwest Corner Beekeeping Conference in October.

## Northwest Corner Beekeeping Conference

Washington (host) and Oregon State Beekeepers Associations

↻ October 28, 29, and 30, 2010 ↻

Best Western Hood River Inn  
1108 East Marina Way, Hood River OR 97031

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Complete mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Event	Conference		Lunch	Cost
<b>Thursday Night Hospitality Room</b>				<b>Complimentary</b>
<b>Friday Conference Only</b> Individual: \$80 (includes lunch) Family: \$80 plus \$15 per person for lunch <sup>1</sup>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$
<b>Saturday Conference Only</b> Individual: \$80 (includes lunch) Family: \$80 plus \$15 per person for lunch <sup>1</sup>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$
<b>Full Conference</b> Individual: \$130 (includes 2 lunches) Family: \$125 plus \$30 per person for 2 lunches <sup>1</sup>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$
<b>Friday Evening Banquet: \$35 per person</b>	Number attending: _____			\$
<b>Annual Dues</b> WSBA: see dues schedule at: <a href="http://wasba.org">http://wasba.org</a> OSBA: \$20 per person				\$ \$
<b>TOTAL Cost</b>				<b>\$</b>

**Exhibitor Fee:** \$25 per table Number of tables: \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL Cost plus table fee:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed registration form with payment to be received **no later than October 21<sup>2</sup>** to:

Paul Hosticka, 517 S Touchet Rd, Dayton WA 99328 (make check payable to **WSBA**)

**or**

Herb Brasington, 1881 NE Ashberry Dr, Hillsboro OR 97124 (make check payable to **OSBA**)

**Note:** Hotel reservations are not included in these rates. Special rates are available at the Best Western Hood River Inn at 541.386.2200 (local) or 800.828.7873 (toll free). Ask for the *Beekeepers Fall Conference* special room rate. A plated breakfast, served in the restaurant for two occupants per room, is part of this rate.

<sup>1</sup> Lunches are included to meet minimum meal requirements.

<sup>2</sup> Please register on site, at the conference, if form and payment are to be received after October 21, 2010.

## 2010 Northwest Corner Beekeeping Conference

### Honey Bee Losses: How to Keep Our Bees Alive

#### Tentative Agenda

#### Thursday, October 28

5:00–6:30 PM STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS  
7:00–9:00 PM REGISTRATION/WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL

#### Friday, October 29

8:00–8:15 AM WELCOME AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW  
*Jerry Tate*, WSBA President  
*Jan Lohman*, OSBA President

8:15–9:00 AM BEEKEEPING IN THAILAND AND CHINA:  
THOUGHTS ABOUT TROPILAEALAPS  
*Dr Jeffery S Pettis*, USDA-ARS Henry A  
Wallace Beltsville ARC, Beltsville MD

9:00–9:15 AM BREAK

9:15–10:00 AM EFFECTS OF FUNGICIDES ON HONEY BEE  
PHYSIOLOGY AND COLONY HEALTH  
*Dr Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman*, USDA-ARS  
CarlHaydenBeeResearchCenter, Tucson AZ

10:00–10:15 AM BREAK

10:15–11:00 AM MICROBIAL ECOLOGY OF SOCIAL INSECTS/BEEES  
*Dr Kirk Anderson*, USDA-ARS Carl Hayden  
Bee Research Center, Tucson AZ

11:00–11:15 AM BREAK

11:15 AM–NOON CCD IN THE US: ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?  
*Dr Jeffery S Pettis*, USDA-ARS Henry A  
Wallace Beltsville ARC, Beltsville MD

NOON–1:00 PM LUNCH PROVIDED REGISTRANTS  
RESEARCH DISCUSSION (not confirmed)

1:00–1:45 PM TO BE ANNOUNCED

1:45–2:00 PM BREAK

2:00–2:45 PM HOPGUARD: AN INNOVATIVE TREATMENT FOR  
VARROA  
*Dr Fabiana Ahumada-Segura*, USDA-ARS  
CarlHaydenBeeResearchCenter, Tucson AZ

2:45–3:00 PM BREAK

3:00–3:45 PM ATTRACTION OF VARROA MITE TO ODORS FROM  
HONEY BEE BROOD  
*Dr Mark Carroll*, USDA-ARS Carl Hayden  
Bee Research Center, Tucson AZ

3:45–4:00 PM BREAK

4:00–4:45 PM WSU HONEY BEE BREEDING AND GERMLASM  
IMPORTATION 2010  
*Dr Steve Sheppard*, Entomology Department,  
Washington State University, Pullman WA  
*Susan W. Cobey*, Harry H Laidlaw Jr  
Research Facility, UC, Davis CA

4:45–6:00 PM STATE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

7:00–9:30 PM BANQUET AND AUCTION

#### Saturday, October 30

8:00–8:15 AM PROGRAM OVERVIEW  
*Jerry Tate*, WSBA President

8:15–9:00 AM NATIONAL BEE LOSS SURVEY AND EVALUATION  
*Dr Dewey Caron*, Department of Horticulture,  
Oregon State University, Corvallis OR

9:00–9:15 AM BREAK

9:15–10:00 AM SUBSPECIES FROM OLD WORLD (not confirmed)  
*Dr Irfan Kandemir*

10:00–10:15 AM BREAK

10:15–11:00 AM AN APIARY-WIDE STUDY OF SUBLETHAL  
PESTICIDE EFFECTS ON COLONY HEALTH  
*Natalie Boyle*, Department of Entomology,  
Washington State University, Pullman WA

CRYOGENIC PRESERVATION OF HONEY BEE  
GERMLASM  
*Brandon Hopkins*, Department of Entomology,  
Washington State University, Pullman WA

11:00–11:15 AM BREAK

11:15 AM–NOON EFFECTS OF NUTRIENT PROCESSING ON HONEY  
BEE NUTRITION AND HEALTH  
*Dr Mark Carroll*, USDA-ARS Carl Hayden  
Bee Research Center, Tucson AZ

NOON–1:00 PM LUNCH PROVIDED REGISTRANTS

1:00–1:45 PM STOCK IMPROVEMENT  
*Susan W. Cobey*, Harry H Laidlaw Jr  
Research Facility, UC, Davis CA

1:45–2:00 PM BREAK

2:00–2:45 PM OSU RESEARCH  
*Dr Ramesh Sagili*, Department of Horticulture,  
Oregon State University, Corvallis OR

2:45–3:00 PM BREAK

3:00–3:45 PM 2009 PNW POLLINATION ECONOMICS SURVEY  
*Dr Mike Burgett*, Department of Horticulture,  
Oregon State University, Corvallis OR

3:45–4:00 PM BREAK

4:00–4:45 PM TO BE ANNOUNCED  
*Dr John Borden*, Pherotech International

4:45–5:00 PM CONCLUDING REMARKS  
*Jerry Tate*, WSBA President  
*Jan Lohman*, OSBA President

**Note:** The American Honey Princess will join the event.





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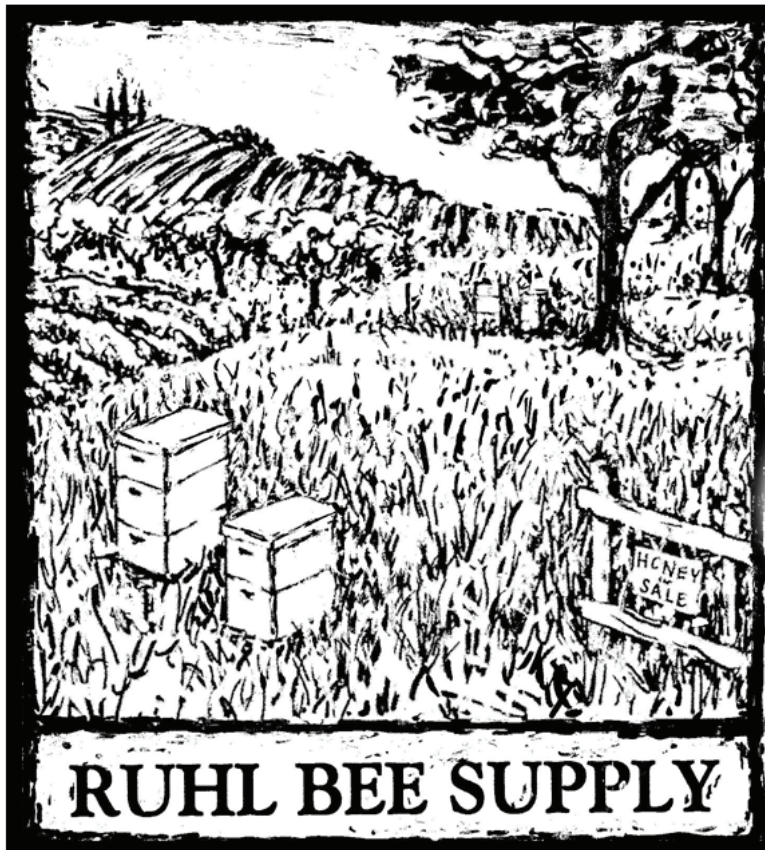


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## Oregon State Beekeepers Association Membership Form

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. Membership includes the ongoing work of the organization on behalf of the honey bee and beekeeping, a vote in OSBA elections, discounts on publications, and an annual subscription to *The Bee Line*. For new memberships and renewals, send check made payable to OSBA with this completed form to:

Herb Brasington, OSBA Co-Secretary/Treasurer, 1881 NE Ashberry Dr, Hillsboro OR 97124

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional name(s), if more than one membership with this form:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Local group, if member:** \_\_\_\_\_


The OSBA respects the privacy of members and will not sell any information provided. May we include your name and address in a membership list that will be given to OSBA members for communication only? **YES/NO** (Please circle one and, if YES, indicate what information is OK to print—for example, name only, name and phone number, all information provided.)

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

**Voluntary contribution:** General Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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*The Bee Line*

Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association  
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517  
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*Queen of the Sun*, now showing in Portland, will be part of the Tacoma Film Festival this month also. Additional information and showings are at: [www.queenofthesun.com/](http://www.queenofthesun.com/). A trailer of the documentary *Vanishing of the Bees* and information about screenings and hosting one are at: [www.vanishingbees.com/](http://www.vanishingbees.com/).

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

**President:** Jan Lohman  
77225 Colonel Jordan Rd  
Hermiston OR 97838  
541.567.3209; 541.980.0304 (cell)  
[vazzafarms@yahoo.com](mailto:vazzafarms@yahoo.com)

**Co-Secretary/Treasurer:** Herb Brasington  
1881 NE Ashberry Dr  
Hillsboro OR 97124  
503.648.9118  
[treasurer@orsba.org](mailto:treasurer@orsba.org)

**Vice President:** Paul Andersen  
19255 SW Prospect St  
Aloha OR 97007  
503.649.5089; 503.332.5410 (cell)  
[paulande@easystreet.net](mailto:paulande@easystreet.net)

**Webkeeper:** Herb Brasington  
1881 NE Ashberry Dr  
Hillsboro OR 97124  
503.648.9118  
[webmaster@orsba.org](mailto:webmaster@orsba.org)

**Co-Secretary/Treasurer:** Marjorie Ehry  
19500 N Hwy 99W  
Dundee OR 97115  
503.864.2138; 503.434.1894 (cell)  
[marjehry@hotmail.com](mailto:marjehry@hotmail.com)

**Editor, *The Bee Line*:** Rosanna Mattingly  
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd Ste 517  
Portland OR 97206  
503.772.3486  
[osba.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:osba.newsletter@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org)

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