

# THE BEE LINE



The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 29, Number 8

September 2004

## Beekill: Pesticide or Virus??

by Lynn Royce, Ph.D., OSU  
and Mary C. Moss

Spring and summer 2004 Beekeepers in the Willamette Valley have been experiencing beekill that cannot be easily explained. It looks like pesticide kill, but no pesticide can be identified. If colonies survive, they seem to recover. In searching for some answers we came across reports from British Columbia regarding colony losses due to Kashmir Bee Virus (KBV). This virus has been diagnosed in bees in BC since the 1980s but has not until this spring been linked to colony decline or death. In Europe and the US in late 1980s, KBV was said to be virulent in the presence of varroa mites, but the surveys carried out in BC this year found virulence in colonies with low or undetectable incidence of varroa.

### Symptoms:

- Weakening of the colony with any apparent presence of brood diseases or mites
- Increase in numbers of dead or dying bees, dying bees may be trembling and display uncoordinated movement
- Affected bees can be partly or completely hairless
- Older adult bees may have a greasy appearance

### Notes:

KBV is highly contagious, and generally whole yards will display the symptoms. The bee's  
(continued on page 5)

## 2004 Fall Conference Bulletin

The Agate Beach Inn will hold 80 rooms for beekeepers until 30 days before the conference; September, 28 is the deadline!

**Please call and reserve your room today.**

This will retain *more* rooms for others, until the deadline. Room rates are discounted greatly for this conference. You will pay nearly double if you wait to find a room at the coast, at the last minute!

Call the Agate Beach Inn at **1-800-547-3310** and reserve your room now.

**You must say that you are a beekeeper attending the O.S.B.A. Beekeepers Fall Conference to receive the greatly discounted rate.**

Also, please register for the conference as soon as possible. A registration form is included in this issue of the newsletter. Early registration will really help organizers plan the details of this spectacular event.



## WHAT'S INSIDE:

- \*President's Message
- \*Monthly Beekeeping Tips
- \*Fall Conference Agenda and Registration Form
- \*Executive Board Meeting Minutes
- \*BEELINE Submission Tips

## 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.**

Editorial Offices: Send news, announcements, letters, comments and advertising to:

Mary Moss, Editor

4539 SW Anderson Road, Forest Grove, OR 97116

Tel: (503) 357-4782

E-mail: [OSBA@verizon.net](mailto:OSBA@verizon.net)

**OSBA Official Web Site: [orsba.org](http://orsba.org)**

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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

OSBA members	\$3.00
Non-members	\$5.00



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**Someone many of us  
know recently hit the  
big **Nine-O! (90)****

**Know who it is? See  
next month's newsletter  
to find out which one of  
our state's notable bee-  
keepers celebrated this  
milestone birthday.**

# President's Message

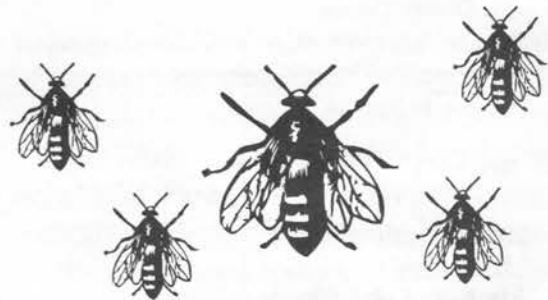
by Kenny Williams

It seems that every season has its unusual features to distinguish it from other beekeeping seasons. In the twenty-eight years since I acquired my first beehive, I recall one year in which there was almost no swarming, all hives made a larger than average crop, and my first attempt at raising queens was a success. You could do no wrong, even if you tried. One other year, the season was distinguished by unlimited swarming, regardless of all the swarm control measures we took which had always worked every other year. Probably over eighty percent of the hives swarmed, including hives which had been requeened, had brood removed, and had empty comb available. Another year, practically every time I moved beehives I found myself dealing with mud, either from excessive rain that year or from un-announced irrigation. So this year, too, seems to have its share of unique features. In fact, one might even ask, what would constitute a "usual" year?

This year we have had an early spring with unseasonably warm temperatures. The bees built up early and crops bloomed early, so beekeepers had to scramble. Then, just as the main honey flow was to start, we had most of two weeks of cool, rainy weather, followed by lots of swarming. Another feature of this year was what seemed like an increased demand for beehives for pollination. I received more calls at home for bees than I am used to, being more accustomed to passing out business cards and knocking on doors. I understand that seed crop production is a segment of Oregon's agriculture which is on the increase, and this may account for some of the demand. We have also seen a sizable jump in the cost of

diesel and gasoline, which no doubt will lead to a rise in pollination fees. And the two-year high in honey prices has begun to slide. Smaller lots of honey which a beekeeper can market locally may continue to fetch better prices, but larger lots offered to packers may bring less.

So, I guess what you could say is usual for beekeeping this year is: it's still farming.



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# REVISED

## OSBA 2004 FALL CONFERENCE AGENDA

### Thursday, October 28

7:00 pm Kick-off Wine and Cheese Social  
Best Western Conference Center

### Friday, October 29

7:30 am Registration  
8:00 am Silent Auction Begins  
8:15 am Welcome & Announcements  
Kenny Williams, OSBA President

8:30 am Africanized Honey Bees  
Dr. Dewey Caron

9:15 am Selecting for Hygienic Behavior  
Dr. Marla Spivak

10:00 Break

10:15 am Oregon Agriculture In Transition  
Ms. Katy Coba, Director,  
Oregon Department of  
Agriculture

11:00 am 2003 Oregon Pollination Survey  
Dr. Mike Burgett

11:30 am Oregon Beekeeping News  
Dr. Lynn Royce

12:15 Lunch on your own

1:15 pm Subject not confirmed  
Dr. Steve Sheppard

2:00 pm Bees Across America  
Ms. Brenda Kellar

2:45 pm Break

3:00 pm Cliff Thomas Queens  
Mr. Tory Johnson

3:45 pm O.S.B.A in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Mr. Thom Trusewicz

4:00 Silent Auction Ends  
4:30-5:45 pm State Business Meeting

6:00 pm Social Hour

7:00 pm Banquet  
Keynote Speaker: Dr. James Tew

O.S.B.A. Benefit Auction

### Saturday, October 30

7:30 am Registration

8:15 am Welcome & Announcements  
Kenny Williams O.S.B.A. President

8:30 Attractants For Pollination  
Dr. James Tew

9:15 am Recollections from Hobbyist, Sideliner, & Commercial Beekeeping  
Mr. Chuck Sowers, Sowers Apiaries

10:00 Break

10:15 am New Approaches In Integrated Pest Management  
Dr. Dewey Caron

11:00 am Subject not confirmed  
Dr. Steve Sheppard

Noon: Luncheon  
Honey Bee Workshops  
Mr. George Hansen

1:15 pm Kona Queens  
Mr. Gus Rouse

2:00 pm Successful Queen Introduction  
Dr. Marla Spivak

2:45 pm To be announced

3:30 pm Question & Answer session  
Panel of Experts

4:30 pm Adjourn

### CROP POLLINATION HONEY



George and Susan Hansen  
30576 Oswalt Road  
Caitan, Oregon 97017  
503-824-2265



**BEEKILL--Pesticide or Virus**

(continued from Page One)

proboscis may be extended as happens in pesticide poisoning. There is currently no available control for KBV. Stress and bee stock may be involved. Reducing stress may help, good beekeeping may help or may not.

KBV is thought to be a natural disease of the eastern honeybee *Apis cerana*. It is very small and associated with the mitochondria of host cells.

**Sampling**

Collect live, sick or dying bees (10 bee minimum), freeze in glass, ship on dry ice.

We are in the process of getting samples to laboratories that can test for KBV. The bee losses this spring and summer have raised some serious questions that need to be addressed. We cannot say at this time if KBV has caused the loss. We do not know the relationship between varroa and KBV. If KBV is involved in the loss, why is it suddenly virulent? We do not know anything about KBV's epidemiology.

#####

Dr. Lynn Royce currently serves in the capacity of Insect Identification Specialist for the Extension Service at OSU. Her Ph.D. is in Entomology; her dissertation was on Tracheal Mites.

**TIPS FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE BEELINE**

For those individuals or businesses interested in submitting information or advertisements for inclusion in the BEELINE, please note the following guidelines:

Informational articles, anecdotes\*, cartoons, and business-card or larger advertisements need to be received by the Editor no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication. Whenever possible, please submit articles and anecdotes by e-mail. MS Word is the preferred program to use for the text and it should be sent as an attachment to your e-mail message.

If you produce your material on a computer but will be mailing your material by the US Postal Service, please include both a hard (paper) copy of the piece and an electronic copy saved on a 3-1/2" standard floppy disk. Again, MS Word is the software of choice, but most other word-processing programs can be accepted, also.

Business-card or larger advertisements may be submitted electronically via e-mail, and a hard copy sent via regular mail would also be appreciated in case there are problems. An electronic copy on floppy disk is always appreciated. Electronic copies of advertisements should be sent in a PDF or TIF file format.

Classified ads need to be received no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to desired publication. Fees for these ads should be sent directly to Phyllis Shoemake (see the "Who's Who" Resource Guide within this newsletter for her address). Please make sure any handwritten information is clearly legible and that your name and telephone number are included in case contact is needed.

\*We are always interested in your stories about beekeeping and related activities (pollination, medicating, general bee husbandry, processing honey, building honey houses, funny experiences involving bees, etc.). Also, we welcome articles from regional associations as well as individuals that are of general interest to our membership.



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Website: [www.dadant.com](http://www.dadant.com)

## NORTHWEST BEEKEEPING TIPS - September

by Harry Vanderpool, WVBA

Crops in bloom producing nectar and/or pollen: various herbs, white clover, peppermint, pumpkin, squash, gourds.

Others: aster, borage, hollyhock, sagebrush, thistle.

\*Provide water continuously; summer isn't over yet!

\*Don't tempt robber bees by exposing, honey, cappings, or wet comb

\*Feeding honey between colonies is akin to a freeway in the spread of disease.

\*Install mouse guards on all hives. Use galvanized hardware cloth with 1/2-inch holes.

\*As humidity increases, make sure hives have ventilation or some route of air flow. This will reduce the onset of fungal problems later on when the rains start.

\*Yellow jackets are living the high life this month. Be a party pooper! Set out traps baited with ham or turkey slices. Three traps properly managed will protect one acre of ground in an average year.

\*Check your stored comb for possible wax moth infestation.

\*Stored supers with frames of comb should be protected by placing paradichlorobenzene (PDB) crystals on a small piece of paper on every fifth super in the stack, which should then be covered. PDB kills adults and immature wax moths, but not eggs. The continuous presence of crystals within the stack not only repels moths and prohibits egg laying, but also kills any young larvae that hatch after the combs are placed in storage. Untreated combs should be inspected regularly for signs of infestation, especially if temperatures rise above 60 degrees F. and permit wax moth activity. Naphthalene, or old-fashioned moth balls should not be used!

\*Check colonies for stores and feed light ones heavy syrup if needed. Each gallon of heavy syrup will increase hive weight by seven pounds. Hives should have at least 50 lbs. of feed at Thanksgiving time, as a general rule.

\*Check your calendar, and don't forget to remove the mite prevention strips that you put into the hives in August--you did remember, didn't you?

\*Consider medicating your bees with Fumidil -B to control nosema disease especially if your bees were stressed in late summer. Add 100 mg. to 2:1 heavy syrup. Two gallons of this medicated syrup is recommended per hive. (Note to cheapskates: Yes, it is expensive, but hives with nosema will go nowhere next year. Do the math.)

\*As the temperature drops slightly, order menthol for fall tracheal-mite fumigation. Your favorite supply house will advise you in temperatures for shipping.

\*Hive parts treated with copper naphthenate should be treated in September at the latest and set out to cure as long as possible. Follow the instructions on the container label for application. Make sure to have good air circulation, and always wear glove when applying this stuff.

\*Think for a minute: what part of beekeeping do you enjoy the most? What ideas of methods have you developed that you are confident in? Contact your regional association's officers and schedule a segment in an upcoming meeting to present your thoughts.

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Queens, Bees, Honey & Pollination

**REGISTRATION FOR O.S.B.A Fall Conference 2004**  
**Agate Beach Inn Best Western, Newport, Oregon**  
**October 28-30, 2004**

Attendee's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing or Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Event</u>	<u>Pre-Registration for Individual Days</u>	<u>Full Conference Pre-Registration</u>
Thursday Night Hospitality Room	complimentary	complimentary
Friday Conference Only @ \$40 (see item 1 , below)	Family registration fee @ \$55	\$
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Sat. Conference Only @ \$40 (see item 1)	Family registration fee @ \$55	\$
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Full Conference @ \$75 (see item 1)	Family registration fee @100	\$
xx		
Friday Evening Banquet @ \$25	\$	\$
Saturday Noon Lunch @ \$15	\$	\$
OSBA Membership (includes Bee Line) \$20	\$	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
If exhibiting, num. of tables @\$25 _____		
Total plus exhibitor's table fee		
\$ _____		

- Attendees qualify for pre-registration rate if application form (with registration fee) is postmarked on or before October 1, 2003.  
Late or on-site registration rates are: One day \$45, full conference \$85.
- Make checks payable to OSBA.
- Mail completed registration form and payment to:  
 Phyllis Shoemake, 1702 Toucan. St NW, Salem, OR 97304-2027
- Hotel reservations are not included in these rates. Make your reservations at the Agate Beach Inn, (800) 547-3310 and ask for the O.S.B.A. Fall Conference special room rate. You must make sure that they know you are with the O.S.B.A when you make reservations in order to get the bargain rate.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
April 28, 2004  
Salem, Oregon

The Executive Board Meeting of the OSBA began at 2:10 PM by Kenny Williams. The minutes were read by Jan Lohman from the previous General Business Meeting in Hood River, Oregon. Thom Trusewicz made a motion to approve the minutes and Jordon Dimock seconded that motion.

Phyllis Shoemake gave the Treasurer's Report for 2003. Phyllis has no information about workshop money and needs that information from George before she has a complete report. We need an extension to file with the IRS at this point. Jan Lohman made a motion that Phyllis Shoemake use whatever means necessary to file with the IRS. Fritz Skirvin seconded that motion. Phyllis also mentioned that at this time everything is complete with George Steffensen.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

Fritz Skirvin reported that their group needs more participation from the OSBA members to help with the State Fair. They would also like some donations from the OSBA (\$200-\$250) would help to buy videos and upgrade their library. Susan Rauchfuss, President of the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association would like to request from the OSBA a few incentive gifts for people that sign up to help with the fair. Free memberships for a year for three participants, and one Fall Conference registration fee would be the incentives. The participating Booth Sitters could place their name in a "hat" and draw several names for prizes for their efforts.

Thom Trusewicz reported that there were two successful Bee Schools held in Astoria and Tilamook. Clatsop has meetings every other month.

Bob Allen reports that membership is not showing up for meetings and things are slowing down in his region.

Jordon Dimock and Debbie Morgan were both in attendance to participate in the meeting, but do not have clubs to report from.

OLD BUSINESS

Workshops have been reimbursed by 70% at this time and upon completion the additional 30% will be paid reported Harry Vanderpool. After the Grant situation is completed the OSBA can do whatever we want with the program as funds are available and needs arise. There will be another workshop in Lane County in May and one was held in Salem recently with 47 attending.



### OSU POSITION

We need to make sure that Fred VanNatta is on the list for the advisory committee for the OSU Position. Kenny Williams talked with Charles Boyer, Associate Dean, and he suggested we contact grower groups to help with our concerns. Discussion was held concerning how we can best influence these people. It is possible to get Grant dollars, however Grants expire.

### MEMBERSHIP LIST

Kenny asked Mary Moss to put information in the next Beeline concerning the Membership list. If we do not receive a response to change information, we go with the information that we have.

### WEBSITE

Thom Trusewicz reported that we are receiving about 1000 hits a month on the website. The message board is a hit and Web Ads are very successful. The Website has paid for itself with advertising which was our goal. Thom has some improvements for the future. He is looking forward to redoing the button bar, having a spot for photographs, adding articles and looking for another server.

### GUIDELINES FOR GOOD BEEKEEPING

Harry Vanderpool presented Guidelines handouts to be voted on at the Fall Conference. If there are any changes, it should be brought up at the next meeting so we are ready for the conference. It will be presented in the Beeline prior to the meeting for membership consideration.

### SECTION 18

Kenny Williams suggested Harry write a letter to the Oregon Department of Agriculture thanking them for their participation with Section 18 signed by both Harry and Kenny.

### INCORPORATION

We are now Non-Profit. Jordon Dimock moved that we discontinue the idea of incorporating the OSBA. Discussion was held concerning the pros and cons and Thom Trusewicz seconded the motion. We will remain Non-Profit at this time.

### FDA REGISTRATION

The BioTerrorism act requires that we register our honey facility. It takes several hours to fill out the forms online or with printed forms requested by phone in a few minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

2004 Conference will be held on October 28, 29, and 30th at Agate Beach Inn in Newport, Oregon. Harry has been lining up speakers and the basic topic for this year is Honey and Hive products.

2005 Conference will be a Northwest Conference again. Harry Vanderpool and Debbie Morgan will work together on this one to find the best location.

BUSINESS CARDS

Phyllis made a motion that the OSBA pay for Business Cards for Kenny and Harry. Jan will try to make the cards for them and try to incorporate an OSBA logo in the future. Thom will do research and try to come up with art work for OSBA stickers.

BEELINE ADVERTISING AND WEB ADVERTISING

Fritz Skirvin suggested that we add the Beeline advertisements to the Web Page advertisements. Fritz moved that we charge non-member advertisers \$10 yearly for a link effective immediately. Jordon Dimock seconded this motion.

FFA

A letter was received asking for a donation to the FFA. Discussion was held concerning how much we would want to donate and also where we would want the money to go. Fritz suggested that we get additional information before making this decision.

The next Executive board meeting for the OSBA was suggested for late August at the Salem Humane Society.

Jordon made a motion that the meeting adjourns seconded by Debbie Morgan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Lohman

# Who's Who in the OSBA Resource Guide

## OFFICERS

### **President**

Kenny Williams  
20367 Long Road  
Blodgett, OR 97326  
541-456-2631

### **Vice President**

Harry Vanderpool  
7128 Skyline Rd. S.  
Salem, OR 97306  
503-399-3675  
shallotman@yahoo.com

### **Co-Sec/Treas.**

Jan Lohman  
77225 Colonel Jordan Road  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
541-567-3209  
541-571-4209  
vazzafrm@uci.net

### **Co-Sec/Treas.**

Phyllis Shoemake  
1702 Toucan St. NW  
Salem, OR 97304  
503-364-8401  
shoe2@open.org

### **BEELINE Editor**

Mary Moss  
(See Page 2 for contact information)

## REGIONAL REPS

### **Columbia Basin**

Debbie Morgan 541-298-5719  
3800 Benson Road  
The Dalles, OR 97058

### **Eastern Oregon**

Jordan Dimock  
2635 Mitchell Butte Road  
Nyssa, OR 97913  
(541) 372-2726

### **Metropolitan Area**

Chuck Sowers  
26730 S. Hwy. 170  
Canby, OR 97013-9373  
503-266-1740  
Sowers@canby.com

### **North Coast/Webmaster**

Thom Trusewicz  
90041 Logan Rd.  
Astoria, OR 97103  
503-325-7966  
ccbee@intergate.com

### **South Coast**

Joann Olstrom  
3164 Maple Court  
Reedsport, OR 97467  
541-271-4726

### **Southern Oregon**

Not yet established  
**Willamette Valley**  
Fritz Skirvin  
6694 Rippling Brook Dr. SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-581-9372  
(P.O. Box 13245, Salem 97301)

## RESOURCES

Dr. Michael Burgett  
Dept. of Horticulture,  
4017 Ag & Life Sciences  
OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331  
(541) 737-4896 --Call Early  
burgettm@bcc.orst.edu  
Jim Cramer Dept. of Agriculture  
635 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97310-0110  
503-986-4620  
www.oda.state.or.us/oda.html

**Webmaster: Thom Trusewicz**  
(See North Coast Information)

## REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

### **Clatsop County**

Meets 7 pm Wed., even # months  
Extension Office, 2001 Marine Dr.  
Astoria  
Pres: Steve Lindros  
slindros@hotmail.com

VP: Pending

Sec: Pending

### **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 541-267-3063

### **Lane County**

Meets 7:30 pm third Tuesday  
Santa Clara Community Center  
2615 River Road, Eugene  
Pres: Mike Harrington 541-689-8705 -- beekeeper@comcast.net  
VP: Susan Dolvin

E-Mail: a51301@access4less.net

Treas: Nancy Ograin 541-935-7065 - woodrt@pacinfo.com

Sec/Ed: Katharine Hunt

541-607-0106

cwhunt@oregon.uoregon.edu

### **Portland Area**

Meets 7 pm second Thursday  
Housing Authority of Clackamas  
City, 13930 S. Gain, Oregon City  
Pres: Sam Hutchinson  
503-829-7744

samh@molalla.net

VP: John Keeley 503-632-3682

keeley@bctonline.com

Sec: Paul Hardzinski

503-631-3927

Treas: Jeanette Wyman

503-630-7790

### **Southern Orego**

Not yet establishedd

### **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  
Walker Rd. #1400, Beaverton  
Pres: Todd Balsiger 503-648-2211  
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  
Chemeketa Community College,  
Salem  
Pres: Susan Rauchfuss(503) 391-5600, smokfoot@cyberis.net  
VP: Mike Rodia 503-364-3275  
drodia@yahoo.com  
Treas: Ken Kite 503-769-2941  
kiteman49@hotmail.com  
Sec: Evan Burroughs 503-585-5924  
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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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\*If you are a member of an OSBA Branch Association, make your check payable to that Branch and attach this form. The Branch Association Treasurer should submit this form and a check to OSBA, retaining \$1 for the Branch Association. If you are not a member of a Branch Association, make checks payable to OSBA and send this form with payment to:

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