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JACK ROWLAND

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Salem, Oregon 97304
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327-3609

THE BEE LINE



Vol. 3 No. 3

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

March-April 1979

AFFILIATED WITH AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION

AN INVITATION TO ALL BEEKEEPERS

Organized in 1921, the Oregon State Beekeepers Association has been working for the beekeeper and the bees for over a half century. State-wide there are 2600 beekeepers; only 25 are commercial while the remaining 2575 are hobbyists. Our problems and our goals are held in common. We need to raise healthy bees, to keep them from being weakened or killed by pesticides, to move them into and out of our neighbor's orchards and fields; we would like to sell our honey and beeswax; and we would like to learn more about bees by talking to our fellow beekeepers.

The best way of achieving these goals is to band together within the OSBA. We just recently held a Spring Conference in Salem which emphasized beekeeping in Oregon. Anita and Lucien Alexander and Orville Basset spoke on "Queen Rearing in Oregon." Joseph Robertson, a lawyer in Salem who has successfully prosecuted court cases concerning bee kills, talked on "Laws and Regulations Affecting The Beekeeper in Oregon." What you don't know can hurt you. Do you, for instance, have pollination contracts, or know how to report a bee kill?

Mike Burgett, the Apiculturist at Oregon State University, spoke on "Pollination in Oregon From The Grower's Viewpoint." Mike also contributes articles on relevant aspects of beekeeping to the State Newsletter, THE BEE LINE, which you will receive once a month as a member.

Several other people contributed: Jim Allen suggested new standards for pollination fees that are being considered by a committee. Tom Hennessey talked on "Pear Pollination Using Gathered Pollen" and Vic Palmrose gave an accurate account of "The Cost of Producing A Pound Of Honey In Oregon." Do you know how to compute the costs of your honey business? Vic can tell you.

At the business meeting we discussed collecting pesticide loss information, establishing an apicultural library at Oregon State University, starting new locals, and studying current legislative proposals for their effects on beekeeping. In the evening we had dinner at the Keg and Platter Restaurant and listened to George Moose, Deputy Director of Agriculture, speak on "Biological Control Of Insects".

The Conference was informative and enjoyed by those who attended. We wish that all the beekeepers in the state could have been there, but we plan on transcribing the tapes we have made of the speakers and publishing their talks in the coming issues of THE BEE LINE. By this we hope to provide the more distant beekeepers with current information on what's happening in beekeeping in Oregon.

Coming events are a summer picnic, a Fall Conference, and a meeting of the Western Apicultural Society. Plus the meetings of the locals. The more you participate as a member, the more you will gain. And a single new idea can both earn you money and enhance your enjoyment in keeping bees. Your membership will also strengthen the Association's ability to work for you. An application blank is attached for your convenience. We know you are out there, so let's hear from you.

Summer Picnic

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR August 12, and the OSBA Summer Picnic. This year the picnic will be held at Champoeg Park south of Portland. A covered area with a softball field nearby has been reserved. Camping area may be available there or at Marge and Alan Ehry's. Maps and further details to follow in later issues.

Rowland's Report

By OSBA President
Jack Rowland

ROWLAND'S REPORT

March 31, 1979

Beekeepers have participated in several public events this year, promoting the products of, and goodwill towards, beekeeping. The most important such event this year is the Oregon State Fair. You should begin making plans to participate. This can include competing for exhibit prizes, supplying honey information for distribution and helping with the booth. Bill Ruhl won the championship trophy to keep last year and went on to win the Best of Show Award at the American Beekeeping Federation honey show in San Diego. This must make him the champion honey exhibitor in the entire United States. Watch for information on the Oregon State Fair from Marge Ehry and plan to participate.

All of the Oregon State Beekeeping Association standing committees are now appointed except for Honey Sales Promotion and Public Relations. If anyone wishes to work in these areas (or any other area for that matter) please let me know.

Attorney Joseph Robertson at our recent conference, stated that he believes accepting an indemnity payment from the A.S.C.S. for spray damage will not prevent recovering any additional legal damage from spray applicators or farmers. As you know, The A.S.C.S. beekeeping indemnity program has been eliminated from the proposed U.S. Department of Agriculture budget. The suggestion this month for improving beekeeping conditions is for as many as possible to write to the U.S. Legislators urging them to work to restore the A.S.C.S. beekeeping pesticide indemnity program in the U.S. Department of Agriculture budget.

Don't forget to keep your bee locations current in the A.S.C.S. offices for the voluntary pesticide notification program.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

In the next couple of BEE LINES we will be summarizing the talks from the Spring Meeting. We are transcribing the talks from tapes and will try to make them as accurate as possible and hope the authors understand the necessary editing and condensing.

New Agriculture Bee Law

CHANGE OF POLICY NOTICE

1. Beekeepers anticipating movement of colonies/equipment out of this State, especially those planning to enter the State of California, must notify Oregon Department of Agriculture, Commodity Inspection Division, Salem, Oregon prior to July '1, each year.

2. Failure to notify may result in a delay or refusal in the issuance of a Transportation release. Special inspections requested for out of state movement will be charged at the rate of \$12.00 per hour plus expenses, when inspectors are available.

2. Releases for out of state movement will not be issued on bees or equipment not inspected and registered in this state. Releases will be limited to number of colonies registered and their natural increases.

MAGAZINES

Members of Oregon State Beekeepers Association can subscribe to the American Bee Journal and Gleanings in Bee Culture for reduced rates. Gleanings has only a one year subscription rate of \$6.00 per year. The American Bee Journal has two rates; one year \$6.00 and two years \$11.63. These are members only rates and your checks should be sent to OSBA, Rt. 1, Box 162, Jefferson, OR 97352.

BEE COURSE OFFERED

Chemeketa Community College is now offering a course - BEE MANAGEMENT FOR PROFIT - on Thursday evenings from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. It will be held in Building 22, Room 128. The course will cover such topics as equipment, hive location and colony management, disease of the honeybee, pollination, swarm control, biology of the honeybee, important honey plants and queen rearing. Hobbyists as well as experienced beekeepers are welcome. Any questions call M. Schrader at 368-8515.

Apiculture Foundation Wins Approval

At the Spring Conference on March 24th in Salem, OSBA members voted approval for starting a foundation for the purchase of bee books at the Oregon State University Library. A foundation is like a bank account that OSU has permission to draw funds from. The library can purchase books that are recommended by the OSBA. If you as a beekeeper in the state have a particular book that you would like to see purchased, let me know.

The OSBA funded the beginning of the foundation for \$100 per year for three consecutive years. The locals are asked to consider doing their share. A suggested amount for each local would be \$25 per year for 3 years. And even the individual beekeeper will be asked to contribute any amount from \$1 up. Remember it is tax deductible and that you will receive an IRS receipt from OSU.

This library foundation is necessary because bee books are very expensive for the individual to buy, but they can be checked out of libraries for free. Even the books that are now available cover only a percentage of those that might be in the library. Compare the International Bee Research Association's current publication list with the holdings of OSU; many are not there. The situation in the local libraries is even worse. The library in Stayton, my home town, has only one bee book. To remedy these problems we advocate an expanded OSU library holdings that will support both classroom and laboratory reference needs at OSU; the books and the journals must be there for the growth of basic apicultural research. And the books once they are there will be available through interlibrary loan to everyone in the state.

Our goal is not an instant library of thousands of books. Our goal is like pushing a snowball off the top of a hill. It will become self-sustaining. If the foundation buys only 10 books per year, in 50 years, 500 of the best bee books written will be added to the OSU Library and available to the public through interlibrary loan. This would greatly increase both the quantity and the quality of the bee books for present and future beekeepers.

Remember all donations are tax deductible. So make out a check to OSU FOUNDATION - APICULTURE LIBRARY - even a dollar will help greatly - and send it with the form below to

OSU Foundation, Administrative Services, Room 524, Corvallis, OR 97331. Any questions? Please drop me a line.

John VanDriesche

Rt. 1, Box 162

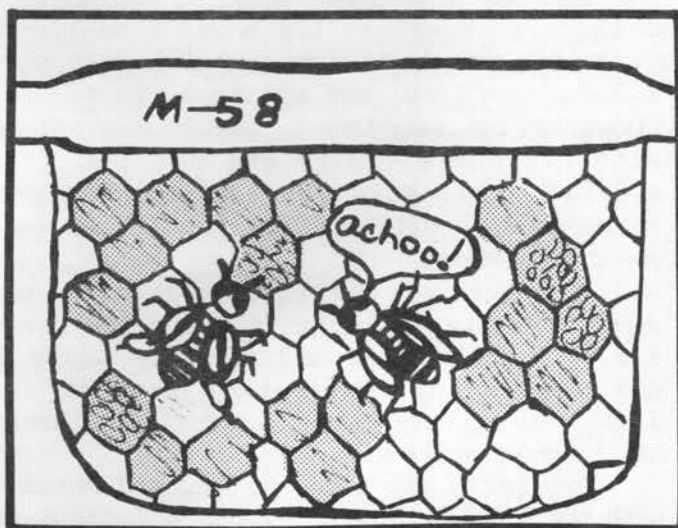
Jefferson, OR 97352

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
Town:	_____
Phone:	_____
Date:	_____
Amount Donated:	\$1 _____
	\$5 _____
	\$10 _____
	\$25 _____
Make checks payable to: OSU Foundation - Apiculture Library.	

News From The Locals

The Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association will hold its monthly meeting on April 30th in the basement of the Agriculture Building in Salem at 7:30 PM. The program will be on the identification of bee diseases. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. For further information call Stan White at 364-5456.

Hive Humor



" Now look here, you can't possibly be allergic to pollen!"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

We welcome letters to the editor and submissions and suggestions to The Bee Line.

WILL BEEKEEPING BECOME A DINOSAUR?

As most beekeepers know pesticides are a big problem to bees BUT does the general public know? Other states have taken legislative action but as far as most Oregonians know our area is not being affected. It will soon be a fact that Oregon beekeepers will join the Dinosaurs if something isn't done and SOON!

Farming in the state and especially the Willamette Valley is so diverse, that crops around your bee yards and pollination contracts are being sprayed continually. It's time for commercial and hobbyist beekeepers alike to do as all other viable industries have done, help ourselves, not expect someone else to do it for us.

The first thing to do is join your State Beekeeping Association, giving you the right to vote and to give input to the people on various committees. Out of 2,600 registered beekeepers in this state we now have less than 100 members. This is not impressive, especially not to our Legislators, Senators, or Congressmen. WE NEED TO BE AN ASSOCIATION THAT IS LISTENED TO!

The second thing you can do is to be at the next state meeting to vote and support proposed legislation. The legislation I propose is this.....is very simple, and will work if the beekeeper will make it work.

BILL #1. The county A.S.C.S. offices will keep a pre-numbered log book; a beekeeper moving his bees in to a county will call that A.S.C.S. office, and ask to be logged in, giving his bee locations in that county, along with his phone number and address. The A.S.C.S. will give you the log number corresponding with your registration as proof you did register.

A grower or pesticide applicator who wishes to apply pesticides will call his county A.S.C.S. office. He will ask to be logged in and given a log number then request all locations of beekeepers in a 2 mile radius of his intended application.

Any party who fails to call and register with the A.S.C.S. then may loose his right to defense in a court of law.

BILL #2. In diverse crop areas where 2 or more apiaries exist, or 2 or more spray applications occur within 7 days, within a 2 mile radius, as per information registered with the State's County A.S.C.S. office, pesticide applications will be made at night.

I have not had a grower of mine yet that was not willing to apply pesticides at night. This is quite practical, and in some other states a matter of normal practice. There will of course be the protesting outcry of those who wish to continue in the practices we are now being put out of business by.....we will have to stand fast and back this type of legislation or we will be just another Dinosaur.

Richard F. Port
4139 SE Jackson St.
Milwaukie, OR 97222
654-5936

Bee Books

By John Van Driesche

In H. Malcolm Fraser's BEEKEEPING IN ANTIQUITY you will find a mixture of beekeeping lore that will keep you amazed and amused. An ancient Roman, Pliny, is perhaps the most fanciful in his observations. He says that "the proper way to prevent bees from stinging you is to make a practice of carrying with you the beak of a woodpecker." Obviously he hadn't heard of the Meyer's Stingless Bee Glove nor had he to reckon with the Audubon Society.

In another instances he theorizes on the origin of honey and admits that "he is not certain whether it is the sweat of the sky, the saliva of the stars, or a juice from the air as it clears itself."

Pliny also has a couple of natural observations on bees: 1. "If they are overtaken by night when on a journey, they lie down on their backs to protect their wings from dew," and 2. "Working bees take advantage of favoring winds and, if a gale arises, they balance themselves with a stone of small weight. Some say they place it on their shoulders."

Enough of Pliny and on to one venerable fellow by the name of Servius. Like most of his fellow beekeepers, he believed that "Bees are said to be derived from oxen, drones from horses, hornet from mules, and wasps from asses." What he is talking about is called the spontaneous theory of origin. No one understood the brood cycle and thought that

Continued on Page 5

STATE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 1979

President

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9663 NW Saint Helens Rd.
Portland, OR 97231
286-4723

MORRIS X. SMITH

Rt. 1, Box 504
Toledo, OR, 97391
875-2189

Continued from Page 5

bees somehow miraculously appeared or came from other objects. The theory went on to say that if one wanted to "create" a swarm of bees that you killed an ox, put it in a building, did a certain amount of ritual and waiting, and a colony of bees would appear inside the carcass. Sounds far fetched doesn't it. Those sill ancients, you might say, but as recently as 1842, in a book called MY BEE BOOK by W.C. Cotton, you can find a "documented" case of bees spontaneously appearing from the carcass of an animal.

This theory also has a degree of notice in the Bible. If my memory serves me, it is in the Book of Judges where Samson observes bees going in and out of the dried carcass of a lion and thereby sets up his riddle: "Out of the eater comes forth meat, and out of the strong comes forth sweetness." Samson bet 30 sheets and 30 garments that no one could solve his riddle, but he was wrong. His wife gave the answer away and he had to pay up.

The ancients weren't always wrong. Varro advocated requeening, the Pseudo-Aristotle knew of foul brood, Virgil advocated cleanliness and the use of smoke, and one Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella, a Spaniard who lived in Rome, offered this sound advice: "If you have a good working strain of bees which consistently produces a large surplus and thrives in your district, let no one persuade you to change it, and as you cannot alter the countryside, it is useless to keep bees in a bad district."

If you would like to look at this book, you could order it interlibrary loan through your local library. A Copy is at Oregon State University in Corvallis. The call number is SF525/F7/1951.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS 1979

COOS COUNTY

Charlotte Maine 396-2657
Box 3075, Fairview Rt.
Coquille, OR 97423

TILLAMOOK

Kenneth Ray 842-6945
9550 Kilchis River Rd.
Tillamook, OR 97141

LANE COUNTY

Don Leslie 688-3934
925 Bobolink St.
Eugene, OR 97404

TUALATIN VALLEY

Bob Arnold 643-5097
15445 SW Hart Rd.
Beaverton, OR 97005

MID-COLUMBIA

Orman Gilgow 296-4572
2301 Garrison St.
The Dalles, OR 97058

UMPQUA VALLEY

Donald Fenn 673-6708
1103 Melqum Rd.
Roseburg, OR 97470

PORTLAND

Shirley Lamon 668-6772
31833 SE Kelso Rd.
Boring, OR 97009

WILLAMETTE VALLEY

George Hansen 982-9826
293 Bradley St.
Woodburn, OR 97071

SOUTHERN OREGON

John Campbell 664-4867
7843 Gold Ray Rd.
Central Point, OR 97502

LINN-BENTON

Carol & Dennis Belisle 754-0902
4490 NW Harrison
Corvallis, OR 97330

LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES

COOS COUNTY 3rd Friday
 Church near Court House
 Jack Piper 267-6586
 2794 Cascade Ave.
 Coos Bay, OR 97420

LANE COUNTY 1st Tuesday
 Harris Hall, Lane Co. Bldg.
 Bill Boslaugh 942-7473
 78556 Halderman Rd.
 Cottage Grove, OR 97424

MID-COLUMBIA 1st Monday
 Wahtonka School
 Hugh Holte 298-1929
 707 E. 18th St.
 The Dalles, OR 97058

PORTLAND 3rd Friday
 Far West Sav. & Loan
 Milwaukie
 (Not yet elected)

SOUTHERN OREGON 1st Monday
 Grant Bailey 664-4278
 5413 Old Stage Road
 Central Point, OR 97502

TILLAMOOK 3rd Monday
 P.U.D. Bldg. 7:30
 Paul F. Miller 842-6477
 505 Tomlinson Rd. W.
 Tillamook, OR 97141

TUALATIN VALLEY
 William H. Rufener 324-2571
 Rt. 1, Box 161E
 Banks, OR 97106

UMPQUA VALLEY
 Wilma Gore
 P.O. Box 683
 Myrtle Creek, OR 97457

WILLAMETTE VALLEY
 Last Monday
 Bsmt, State Ag. Bldg.
 Stanley White 363-5456
 1164 63rd St. N.E.
 Salem, OR 97301

LINN-BENTON 3rd Monday
 Carole & Dennis Belisle
 754-0902
 4490 NW Harrison
 Corvallis, OR 97330

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
 INCULDES SUBSCRIPTION
 TO THE BEELINE
 (FOR OSBA MEMBERS ONLY)
 PLEASE CLIP FORM AND MAIL
 WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Secretary Treasurer
JOHN & DIANA VAN DRIESCHE
 Rt. 1 Box 162
 Jefferson, Oregon 97352
 327-3609

Western Apicultural Society:

<u>Individual</u>	
<u>Member:</u>	
Regular	\$10
Junior	\$3
Senior	\$5
<u>Couple:</u>	\$15

American Beekeeping Federation Dues:

0 - 199	\$10
200 or more	5cents per colony

Oregon State

Regular Membership

Dues: 0 - 5 colonies,	\$5
6 - 24,	\$10
25 - 99,	\$15
100 - 299,	\$20
300-499,	\$25
500 or more	\$30

Affiliate membership:

Commercial	\$25
Individual	\$5
Youth	\$3

<u>Name</u> _____				Oregon State Beekeepers Association	
<u>Address</u> _____					
<u>Street</u>					
<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Dues For Year</u> _____	
<u>Telephone</u>		<u>Number of colonies</u>	<u>Occupation</u>		
<u>Amount I Have Paid</u> _____		<u>Date I Paid On</u> _____			
The Local Beekeeping Chapter I belong to _____					
I do not Belong to a Local, but would like information on the nearest one in my area: _____					
I am a member of the American Beekeeping Federation _____					
I am a member of the Western Apiculture Society _____					
<u>Card sent</u> _____		<u>Information Sent</u> _____		<u>Sec Initials</u> _____	

Burgett on Bees

Editor's note:

Dr. Michael Burgett, a Ph.D. graduate of Cornell University, is Oregon State University's Apiculturist.

POLLINATION IN OREGON FROM THE GROWER'S VIEWPOINT

Oregon's Pollination Requirement. Why Does Oregon Biologically Need The Honeybee?

We need the honeybee because of our commercial agriculture. Agriculture in Oregon in terms of farm sales is about a billion dollar a year industry. In terms of dollar sales in crops that benefit by bee pollination, pears are number one. The second crop is strawberries. Strawberries in Oregon are tremendously underpollinated. The pollination value is not in terms of more berries per plant, but better berries per plant, more weight, better shape. Many growers do not use bees on strawberries because many varieties are self fruitful but not to the extent that were they adequately pollinated by bees they would have much better yields. Sweet cherries is number three, then apples, blackberries, vegetable seed, alfalfa seed, clover seed, red raspberries, prunes, and plums. They all require pollination. What is pollination? Pollination is simply the transfer of pollen from the male part of the flower to the female part. It has nothing to do with fertilization.

Self pollination means that in a single flower the pollen which contains the male element is accepted by the female part of that flower, and there are not a lot of plants that do this. Examples are bush beans, which are self compatible. They accept their own pollen. They pollinate themselves as they open and the vegetable is formed. Blueberries also accept their own pollen but the shape of the flower is such that they do not pollinate themselves so bees do need to get into that flower to transfer the pollen. Apples and sweet cherries are good examples of cross pollination. The pollen from one variety of apple is used to pollinate another variety. This is where bees are most useful, especially when hybrids are grown. The flowers from some hybrids, for example carrots, are imperfect, they don't produce pollen so you have to get pollen from somewhere else.

Rows of these hybrids carrots are grown beside rows of a close variety of carrot that will produce pollen. Bees are used to transfer the pollen from the male plant to the female plant.

Pollinating agents. Wind pollinates crops like sugar beets and forest trees. Bees are another pollinator. Oregon has 1400 wild bee species and they all have a pollinating value. The honeybee is so important for four major reasons: 1. It is polylectic or will accept pollen and nectar from many plant sources. 2. Flower fidelity, the bee will not switch kinds of plants while foraging. 3. Honeybees are mobile, and 4. Bees separate brood from food so the beekeeper can sell the honey.

There are two other kinds of bees used to pollinate in Oregon. The alfalfa leafcutter bee and the alkali bee.

Facts and figures. In 1976 the value of crops that had an absolute honey bee dependency to set fruit or seed was \$90 million. The beekeeping industry in Oregon is very small in terms of beekeepers and in colonies, but very important in terms of producing Oregon crops.

Specific crops: Gooseberries. In an experiment pollination cages were made for plants. In one treatment they had a cage over four plants and did not let bees into pollinate and then they picked the fruit. In terms of computing this to yields per acre they had less than a ton to an acre with no pollination.

In another treatment were four plants under cages with nucs. In this experiment they had an 8 ton per acre yield. In the third treatment, open pollination with one colony per acre the yield was just under 7 tons per acre.

In an experiment with blueberries they discovered that with good bee pollination over half of the crop was available on the first picking and was of uniform ripeness. In poorly pollinated areas only one quarter of the fruit was ready at the first picking and 40% at the last picking.

In raspberries 150 poorly pollinated berries were weighed against 150 well pollinated berries. The well pollinated berries were heavier and had more drupelets than the poorly pollinated berries.

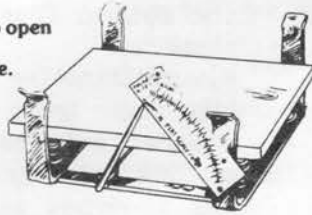
Pollination Considerations: the 30-60 principle.

A colony with 30,000 adult bees in it has about 12,000 flying bees to pollinate. If you double the colony to 60,000 bees, 40,000 bees are flying. It is the large colonies that produce the honey and do the pollinating.

The WEIGHT of your hive is IMPORTANT!!

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WANT ADS: Terramycin Extender Patties, \$1.00 each. P.O. Box 112, Dundee, OR 97115. Ph: 864-2138.

USED FRAMES. Sterilized. No. Disease. \$.06 a piece in lots of 100 (3,000 available) or make offer.

USED BOTTOMS. \$.50 a piece (approximately 100 available) Make offer on all. D. Kerr, 535 W. 10th, McMinnville, OR 97128. Ph: 472-5497.

CUSTOM EXTRACTING: \$.08 lb. Weigh in and weigh out. D. Kerr, 535 W. 10th St., McMinnville, OR 97128. Ph: 472-5497.

ESTATE SALE: Must sell: 200 new shallow supers, 35 new deep supers, 60 Kelly inner covers, 30 tops, 17 bottoms, capping tank, propane iron, would like to make package deal. Call Patrick before 7:30 AM weekdays. 503-354-1819.

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Milwaukie, OR 97222
(503) 654-5936

Address Corrections:

If we have spelled your name wrong, please let us know. If any part of your address is wrong, it will cause delay in reaching you,---tell us if anything is wrong. And if you don't want to receive The Bee Line at all, let us know that too. We will send it on to someone else who has asked to be on our mailing list.

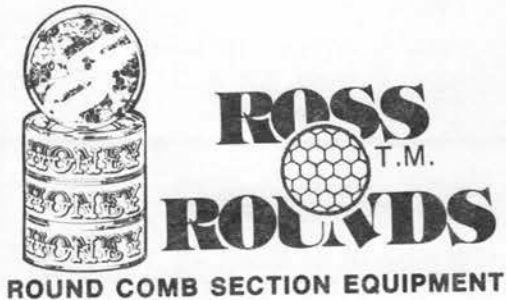
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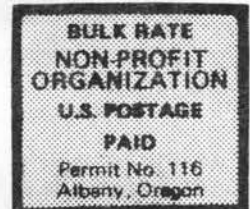
CLASSIFIEDS:

Do you have beekeeping equipment or supplies that you wish to sell, swap, or give away? If you do, send an ad to The Bee Line, Rt. 1, Box

162, Jefferson, OR 97352. The price is \$1 for members; \$1.50 for nonmembers. Please be concise.

OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSN.

Secretary Treasurer
JOHN & DIANA VAN DRIESCHE
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OREGON STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSN.

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Oregon State Beekeepers Association

CLASSIFIEDS SPRING MEETING

WHEN → March 24, 1979

A one day meeting of the Association is planned for March 24, a Saturday. The Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association is hosting the conference.

Where → Chemeketa

The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.

What → Speakers

OSBA Business Meeting

Plans are still being formed, but topics planned for discussion are: "Queen Rearing in Oregon, Towards Developing an Oregon Queen," "Laws, Liabilities and Damages as They Affect Beekeepers," and "Pollination: An Economic View: Costs to Beekeepers and Benefits to Orchardists." Michael Burgett, Oregon State University apiculturist, will speak on swarming. There will be an OSBA business meeting in the afternoon followed by dinner at a local buffet style restaurant. A dinner speaker is planned. Registration fee information and future details will be published in The Bee Line at the end of February.