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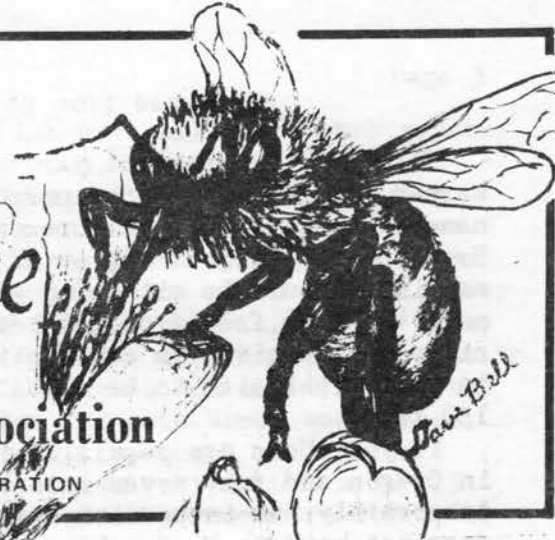
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Jefferson, Oregon 97352
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Vol. 3 No. 10
December, 1979

The Bee Line

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

AFFILIATED WITH AMERICAN BEEKEEPING FEDERATION



Annual Meeting Notes

One of the nicest things about the annual beekeepers meetings is that you can renew friendships from last year's meeting and as P.F. Thurber often said, "lie about your honey crop."

The meeting was a joint one with Washington State Beekeepers Association at Jantzen Beach in Portland on November 29, 30 and December 1.

The three days were full and there was much for the hobbyist as well as reports of recent research as the USDA Bee Research Lab in Tucson Arizona.

One of the most interesting speakers for many was at the annual banquet. Mike Ingalls, Silverbow Honey Company, in Snohomish Washington talked about his trip to the People's Republic of China. There were many slides on beekeeping but most were of the scenery, the people, the temples, and the way of life in China. He had many more slides than time allowed and most of the people commented that they would like to have another chance to see them all.

An interesting and change of pace from beekeeping was a talk by Richard Jackson, USDA, Animal-Plant Health Inspection Service in Seattle on the grasshopper spray programs.

Thomas Thayer, of Sandy talked on "Management of a Bee Hive for Better Pollination and Honey Production." This talk will be summarized in a future newsletter if possible.

There was plenty of time for renewing old friendships, talking bees and equipment, and having a relaxing time while learning a little bit more.

New 1980 Officers

Listed below are the new officers for 1980 for OSBA:

President: Gene Garner, Eugene
Secretary-Treasurer--John and Diana Van Driesche, Jefferson
Vice Presidents--Brad Williams, Echo Glen Sackett, Central Point
Morris Smith, Toledo
Bill Ruhl, Portland

Moving Bees North ?

by James C. Bach, Washington State Dept. of Agriculture, Plant Ind. Div.
2015 S. First St.
Yakima, WA 98903
509-575-2756

All honey bee colonies moved into Washington for any reason must be registered with the Department of Agriculture. The phone number and address is as follows:

Bee Registration
W.S.D.A., Plant Ind. Div.
406 General Admon, Bldg. AX-41
Olympia, WA 98504
206-753-5052

Be sure to give name, address, phone number, number of colonies and the location of the bee yards. If bees are being used for pollination only you may give the orchard name and town only. If you are leaving the bees here all summer for a honey crop please give an exact location of the bee yard.

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Colonies in honey out yards must be marked for identification purposes with name and address or your Oregon Apiary Brand Number such as C85 or R2 etc. These markings should be either on a sign not more than 150 feet from the bees or stenciled on the hives in contrasting colors in sufficient size to be readable from 150 feet.

If your bees are regularly inspected in Oregon and just moved into Washington temporarily, an inspection certificate does not have to be furnished each time your bees cross the border. However, if you operate your colonies in Washington all summer and then plan on taking them to California or any other state except Oregon for the winter, they must be inspected in this state and a certificate written. A fee is charged for this service: \$12.00 per hour inspection time with a one hour minimum.

Also if you are pollinating in Washington you must abide by the minimum colony strength established by our Apiary Advisory Board. In 1979 it was fixed at six framed two thirds covered by bees at

65 degrees F. I do not look for a change in this requirement for 1980. There are no requirements on amount of brood.

If an inspector looks at your colonies and finds American Foulbrood you will be required to either burn and bury the contaminated equipment within a five day maximum or deliver it to the state approved rendering plant in Walla Walla. American Foulbrood equipment will not be allowed to cross back into Oregon. If the inspector deems it necessary he will issue a Quarantine on the diseased yard which will not be removed until the Department is satisfied that no further infection exists.

If you at any time have any questions you may call either the Olympia office or me directly in Yakima.
James C. Bach

ADDRESS CHANGE ?

If you change your address, PLEASE notify the Beeline. Each newsletter that is returned costs the OSBA money that could be put to a better use. Each returned Beeline also delays your receiving it on time.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
INCLUDES SUBSCRIPTION
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PLEASE CLIP FORM AND MAIL
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327-3609

American Beekeeping Federation Dues:
0 - 199 \$10
200 or more 5cents per colony

Western Apicultural Society:
Individual Member:
Regular \$10
Junior \$3
Senior \$5
Couple: \$15

Oregon State

Regular Membership

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

Affiliate membership:

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

<u>Name</u> _____				Oregon State
<u>Address</u> _____				Beekeepers
Street _____				Association
<u>City</u> _____	<u>State</u> _____	<u>County</u> _____	<u>Zip</u> _____	Dues For Year _____
<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> _____

South Coast Ramblings

by Sue Lemery

A great attraction of beekeeping is the room for diversity and individualism. This summer while vacationing in Wisconsin, I had the opportunity to compare a one-man commercial beekeeping operation with a University bee research farm. They co-exist in central Wisconsin; they differ in several practices and recommendations and they both succeed.

Bernard Waters of Ripon is one of about a dozen commercial beekeepers in Wisconsin, producing honey. Mr. Waters uses the two queen system of hive management with about 235 hives, down some from winter losses. He uses all deep supers and prefers Italian queens. He requeens every two years in the spring. His hint on queen orders: "Order your queens from three different states. That way bad weather in one area won't delay your entire order."

To remove and extract his honey, Waters uses bee escapes and a blower, two 30-frame radial extractors, a clarifier, and 60 gal. drums. A Brand melter yields lovely, clear cakes of beeswax. Waters keeps a "catcher" hive by his honeyhouse to collect all the stray bees who ride in with the honey supers.

Mr. Emmet Harp of the University of Wisconsin Bee Lab in Madison is testing 3-line hybrid queens of Carnolian and Caucasian stock. He would prefer to leave the Italians to commercial beekeepers like Waters. His test queens are in 4-frame nuc boxes with queen excluder grid over the entrance holes to keep any virgin queens from entering. The queens are marked with three colored dots to indicate the breeding lines.

Mr. Harp selects for response to hand shadow, he slowly passes his hand over the top bars and the bees retreat into the hive with no smoke! (I've since tried it with our bees, with smoke. The very gentlest Italians, from commercially bred queens, sit calmly and ignore me; our native Oregon bees take off in fighter squadrons.) Other criteria for selection are brood pattern and placement of honey in the upper corners and along the top bars of the brood frames.

The Bee Lab uses all 6 5/8 inch supers, painted aluminum, and custom cut to be square, holding 12 framed. The square size makes a more stable stack for large hives. It also allows turning the super to break burr comb and allow bees to clear drips in advance of removing honey. They feel the 6 5/8 inch size makes manipulation easier and increases the efficiency with the same size for both brood and supers. Their 12 frame, two-queen scale hive weighed an impressive 575 lbs. with 125 lbs. of honey already removed!

Harp recommends requeening yearly in August, stating old queens are the greatest cause of swarming and supersedure. The young queen is introduced to a nuc and allowed to lay for two weeks. Then the nuc is added above the hive with a dusting of soybean flour. Often the old queen is kept alive for a few more weeks in the bottom super below a queen excluder.

The Bee Lab does not pack their hives for winter. They leave 80 lbs. of honey and an entrance hole in the second super. Mr. Harp emphasized that a wind break and good air flow are vital to wintering.

Annual Meeting Report

Oregon State Beekeepers Association conducted its annual meeting November 29 and 30 at the Thunderbird Motor in Jantzen Beach, Oregon. The following are excerpts of the business meeting that was held. There were 38 persons in attendance.

President Jack Rowland called the meeting to order. The minutes and treasurer's report were passed out to the group to read.

During the committee report from the Fairs and Exhibits committee Paul Heinz asked that we consider adopting the rules for judging that the American Beekeeping Federation will issue in January. This would give the state fair a consistent set of judging rules to go by and help make the state fair exhibits easier to judge. Beekeepers who wanted to exhibit at national meeting would go by the same rules. The motion passed.

The motion to change the dues from the current structure to \$10 per person and \$15 per family was defeated.

It was decided to donate \$250 from the association to the pesticide research work being done by Mike Burgett at Oregon State University.

The new officers were elected by a unanimous ballot.

Myths & Legends About Honeybees

MYTHS & LEGENDS PERTAINING TO THE BEE

by: Diana Thompson - Oregon State Univ.

Origin:

There seems to be a great variance as to the origin of the bee. Virgil, along with many others, believed the bee was of divine origin and did not reproduce by "bodily union." Grimm refers to an ancient law of Wales in which it is stated that bees had their origins in paradise and were obliged to leave there because of man's transgression. God gave them His blessings as they left, and because of that many believe that is why you need beeswax during mass. A legend of Morbihan in Brittany tells us that "bees were created from the tears which Jesus shed on the cross. Not one fell to the ground but they all became these winged creatures which flew away with the Savior's blessing to take sweetness to men." One Russian explanation for the origin of bees contends that they were created from the guts of the apostle Peter by Jesus. While Peter was sleeping Jesus took his guts out and hung them on a pear tree, so that when Peter awoke he was no longer hungry. Later that day Jesus and Peter passed the pear tree which now had a swarm of bees on it and Peter said, "Lord what is that?" Jesus replied, "Peter dost thou not recognize thy guts? Thou art better without them, and the bees will be of use to men and will honour God." Another popular belief concerning where bees originate, is from carcasses of dead animals. The science of ancient Greece believed that the dead body of a bull produced bees when it decayed and that a horse produced wasps. Latin writers and the author of the "Speculum Mundi," wrote "an ass bred bumble bees, a mule hornets, and a calf, honey bees." Most all ancient writers, with the exception of Aristotle, mention this practice in some form or another. I found an old Egyptian legend, which gives directions the beekeeper on how to stock his apiary:

Self-generated Bees;

"First, there is found a place small and narrowed for the very use, shut in by a leetle tiled roof and closed walles, through which the light comes in askant through four windows, facing the four pointes of the compass. Next is found a two-year-old bull-calf, whose crooked horns bee just beginning to bud; the beast, his nose-holes and breathing are stopped, in spite of much kicking; and after he hath been thumped to death, his entrails, bruised as they'bee, melt inside his entire skinne. This done, he is left in place, afore prepared, and under his sides are pur bitts of boughs, and thyme, and fresh plucked rosemarie. And all this doeth take place at the season when the Zephyrs are first curlings the waters, before the meades bee ruddy with their spring tide colours, and before the swallow, that leetle chatterer, doeth hang her nest again the beam. In time the warm humour beginneth to ferment inside the soft bones of the carcase; and wonderful to tell, there appear creatures, footless a first, but which soon getting into themselves wings, mingle together and buzz about; joying more and more in their airy life."

One of the simplest beliefs concerning the origin of the honey bee is from Hungary. Bees were created by God and wasps were created by the devil who was attempting to copy God and make bees. Bees may be produced in yet another way. An ancient writer claimed that if you were to save all of your dead bees, burn them, sprinkle the ashes with wine, and leave them exposed to the sun, in a little while the bees will come to life again. During the seventeenth century, when England was in an uproar over witch craft, many believed that devils frequently took the form of bees. A women confessed that she murdered a child with the assistance of the child's grandmother, and declared that they both took the shape of bees, and "carried poison in their clutches, wings, and mouths."

Anatomy:

In the beginning we are told that God, the devil, and all of the beasts and creatures that God had made were in

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paradise. The bee was the most pleasing to God. According to legends in Wales the bee was white and did not have a narrow waist until she had an encounter with the devil in the beginning. As the story goes on God sent the bee to ask the devil what to do the huge earth that He had created. The devil would not say. "If He is God, He ought to know better to ask the poor devil for advice. Let him find out for himself." The bee in her infinite wisdom pretended to leave the devils den, hoping that she might hear the devil muttering to himself. Soon she heard what she wanted. "A clever man that God is. He asks me what to do, why doesn't He not think of mountains and valleys?" (the earth was believed to be flat). The bee hearing this was so excited to get back to tell God she forgot to be quiet and her buzzing betrayed her. The devil rushed at her with his whip and struck her, turning her black, and making her look as if she was cut in two. When the bee reached God and told him what she heard God was pleased. He blessed the bee and decreed, "Out of thy body henceforth shall come honey to sweeten the life of men, and thou shalt bring forth was for candles at the altar."

Most legends concerning the bee's sting are similar to each other. From Romania to France they believe that the bee needed a defense, and in her stinginess she wanted a fatal sting. The legend from France claims that the bee wanted to be housed in a silver hive and in order to be respected, she wanted a fatal sting. "The Lord was wroth at their malice and presumption, and said to them you shall inhibit hives of straw or of osier covered with cowdung and every bee that stings shall die." A tale from Lithuania attributes the origin of the sting to the devil, while one of the oldest versions is attributed to Aesop, who said that the bees asked Zeus for the privilege of killing men with their sting. Zeus declared that they should die if they used it. Some legends, such as ones found in Sicily and Malta, claim that the bee wanted a fatal sting so that men could not take their honey.

Drones were a mystery to most, and by many they are condemned as being lazy. A general attitude was that drones were honey bees that had lost their sting and grown fat.

Swarms:

There are various reasons as to why bees swarm. I encountered an old writer who claimed that bees swarmed because of the queen's tyranny, and if she followed them they put her to death. Some believed that if you did not notify your bees of a death, birth, or marriage you bees would either swarm or die. Some of the manners in which you notified your bees were things like ringing a bell, hanging a piece or crepe on the hive, or in case of death, find the dirtiest piece of clothing that had belonged to that person and hang that on the hive. A belief in the British Isles and in many other areas is that bees will swarm if they belong to a quarrelsome family or if they are not treated politely. A Northumbrian once remarked "It wouldn't do to swear before the bees. They'd pretty soon leave the place." A quote from Charles Butler on the prevention of swarming goes like this: "There must not be unchase and uncleanness; for impuritie and sluttishness they utterly abhor. Thou must not come among them smelling of sweat, or having a stinking breath." A custom in France for calling back a swarm which has just left a hive consists of making the sign of the cross and throwing who handfuls of earth in the direction of the deserters. Pliny tells us that a swarm of bees would die if looked upon by a menstrous woman--a popular belief during his time. In Russia, every mill on a stream is supposed to be attended by a water-sprite called the Vodyony, who is a patron of beekeepers. They picture him as an old man with a great paunch, bloated face, and naked. The first swarm of the year belongs to him. "It is weighted in a box with a stone and thrown into the nearest river, as an offering."

Beeswax:

Bees wax was believed to have mystical powers in the middle ages. It was known for curative powers concerning ulcers and stiff joints. An oil of wax was made in which the wax was mixed with wine and distilled. It was called a "divine medicine" and its curative powers were endless. It was a remedy for baldness, toothache, open wounds, and back pain. Greater properties include: killing worms, curing palsy, distempered spleens,

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and bringing forth a child dead or living.

Beeswax had another purpose. It was used by sorcerers for making figures of men and animals. The wax figure is known as the Atzmann in Europe and was used in a similar manner as a voodoo doll. Wax from the young bees (new combs) was supposed to be the most efficacious for these figures and it was very important to imitate the features of the person to be witched in detail. This custom was practiced by magicians of Egypt, Babylonia, India, Greece, and Rome. They often came in conflict with many churches and governments. The eleventh century the use of magical figures led to a persecution of Jews at Trier. Pope Gregory IX in 1233 declared that every magician who made these figures would have eternal damnation. A story from ancient Egypt says that a man once made a wax image of a crocodile and put it in the pool of his wife's lover. The wax crocodile, when thrown into the pool, became alive and drowned the man.

Honey:

I came across three beverages of honey that were used in Anglo-Saxon times. The mead proper was made by steeping in water the crushed refuse of the combs after the honey had been pressed from them. It was then strained and set aside to ferment. Another drink called Moret was made from honey, water, and the juice of mulberries. It was said to be consumed by the upper class. A third, known as pigment, was brewed from the purest honey, flavored with spices and wine. This was probably served at the royal table.

Honey was known to cure anything from worms to baldness, and it increased strength and virility. They used it during marriages in which often the bride is anointed with it to ward off evil spirits. Today in districts of India, honey is offered at the marriage ceremony, and when the newly married man kisses his bride he says, "Honey, this is honey, the speech of thy tongue is honey; in my mouth lives the honey of the bee, in my teeth lives peace." Sometimes the mouth and the brow of the bride are smeared with honey.

Finally, I'd like to include a recipe found in an Old Persian manuscript for making an artificial Egyptian mummy;

Find a ruddy, red-haired man and feed him till he is thirty years old on fruit; then drown him in a stone vessel which is filled up with honey and drugs, and seal up the vessel. When it is opened after the lapse of one hundred and fifty years, the honey will have turned the body into a mummy.

History does not relate if the recipe was ever carried out.

HONEY RECIPES

from Mrs. Wilma Ruhl

The Pies Have It . . . Wilma Ruhl Recipes made with HONEY

HONEY CRUMB PIE SHELL

Makes one 9" no-bake shell

1/3	cup	Butter or margarine
3	Tbsp.	light HONEY
1	cup	fine Corn Flakes (takes 4 cups)

Melt butter, combining with HONEY and crumbs, mixing thoroughly. Press mixture evenly and firmly over bottom and sides of 9" pie pan. Chill before adding filling.

FAVORITE PUMPKIN PIE

Makes one 9" or 10" pie
Bake: 400 degrees for
10 minutes.
350 degrees for 30 minutes.

3	large	Eggs
3/4	cup	Dark HONEY
1/2	tsp.	Ginger
1/2	tsp.	Nutmeg
1/2	tsp.	Cinnamon
1/2	tsp.	Salt
1 3/4	cups	cooked Pumpkin
1	cup	Evaporated Milk

All ingredients can be put into blender and combined or use mixer. Pour into an unbaked pie crust. Bake 400 degrees for 10 minutes then reduce to 350 degrees for 30 minutes or till center is set. Serve with dabs of HONEY sweetened whipped cream on cooled pie.

Local Election

The 1980 officers for the Tualatin Valley Beekeepers Association are as follows:

President: Tony Unger
 Vice-President: Gerd Tunder
 Secretary: Darrell Hedin
 Treasurer: Tom Hennessey




CLASSIFIEDS:

CLASSIFIED: BEESWAX WANTED: Write or call, 10808 SE Oak, Milwaukie, OR 97222 654-5936

NEW MAGAZINE RATES

Effective September 1 there are new rates for the American Bee Journal. Association rates will be for one year \$6.38 and for two years, \$12.38. These rates reflect an association discount of 25% for paid members. Please send your renewals to the Secretary - Treasurer.



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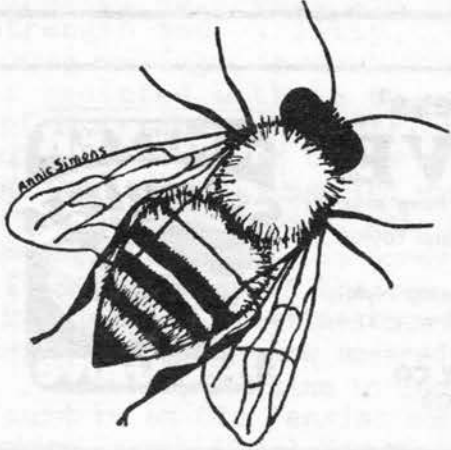
162, Jefferson, OR 97352. The price is \$1 for members; \$1.50 for nonmembers. Please be concise.

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