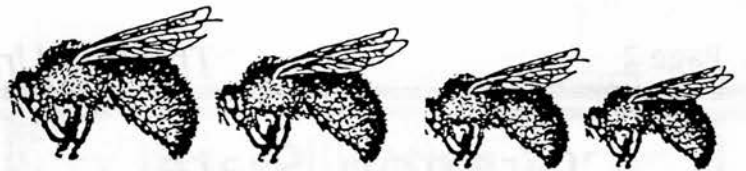


The Bee Line



The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association

Volume 20, Number 2

March 1995

Big Changes at the O.S.B.A.

A new president, a new vice-president, a new newsletter editor and a whole new effort from the Executive Board. At the December meeting of the OSBA, George Hansen was elected President, Ron Bennett was elected Vice-president, and Phyllis Shoemake was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer.

At the January board meeting, the board decided to set a new direction for The Bee Line and named Ron Bennett editor. See the associated articles in this issue for full details.

Message from the President

Maybe I'm getting old, or just soft. Lately I've been thinking about who I am and how I got to this point in time. Twenty five years ago, bees had absolutely no part of my life. I was going to an urban university, having grown up in southeast Portland fully expecting to live the rest of my life as a lawyer or some other professional. The succession of events and decisions that led me away from the city and into beekeeping as a livelihood isn't what I want to share with you here. I wanted to say something about how important the OSBA has been to me in my struggle to become a good beekeeper.

I wasn't born into a beekeeping family so I didn't have the heritage and resource of parents or uncles and aunts that had solved lots of day to day beekeeping problems. There are areas of the country and communities that have beekeeping businesses visible and jobs around bees available. I didn't grow up near any of that. But after college, when I got my first hive of bees, I was fortunate enough to be in an area that had a good local bee club and soon found out about the OSBA. When I started attending the meetings regularly and getting to know the members and the speakers, I really began moving forward. I have often told the story of standing for what must have been hours in the parking lot outside a meeting hall in Pullman Washington talking with Oliver Petty about bees.

I came away from that meeting with my head swimming with ideas and new knowledge I also remember that it was a good thing I had a tailwind going home because I didn't have enough money to buy gas for the old VW bus. Speaking of long drives, there were the trips with Mike Burgett to the Coos Bay Beekeepers Association meetings, and shad fishing afterward with Jack Piper and Bruce Yeager. My recollection was of a lot of fishing and not many shad. The fish we caught were left in somebody's freezer along the way home. I know I never went back for them, and I doubt if Mike did either.

The Association meetings and conference topics

always have been attempts to speak to the most immediate concerns of beekeepers. Along the way we have heard from some really great people. We've collectively struggled to keep ahead of the changes and meet the challenges. What role did the OSBA play in helping you to identify and control mites? Hasn't the Association helped to firm pollination prices by providing the forum where we get a sense of what others are doing? You might say that all that would have happened anyway. In my case, the beekeepers I know, I met through the OSBA, and the best, and most effective ideas for management have come from presentations at our meetings, or from beekeepers who have taken some of those ideas and developed them further.

Dr. Bill Wilson is a good example of my point. If I hadn't been attending OSBA conferences, I would not know of him or his work, and although he is accessible by phone from Texas, I doubt if I would ever even know to call him with a problem if I hadn't heard his presentations on mite control. But as it is, Dr. Wilson's work has directly and indirectly been responsible for saving my outfit. I am always struck by how uninformed, and unprepared we all are about our bees, but when I meet beekeepers that don't attend meetings and conferences, I generally see a huge distance between my knowledge and theirs. I also seem to notice that beekeepers and regions that are isolated or have cut themselves off, generally receive the lowest compensation for their pollination services. Besides these concrete returns for membership, the loyal attendees of the winter meeting at Lincoln City also have learned the answer to one of the burning questions of all time. We know what Pat Heitkam is hiding under that knee length leather trench coat.

As we pass into a time when there are fewer and fewer beekeepers, and the problems we face seemingly become more difficult to combat, an Association of beekeepers seems to me to be even more important than ever. One of my goals as an officer of the Association is to build the membership so the benefits will be spread further and everyone will benefit from the best ideas available.

By George Hansen

From the Editor's Desk

Well, here is my first issue as your new newsletter editor, and vice-president. First off, a little introduction is in order since not many of us have been formally introduced.

I am a hobbyist beekeeper (for four years now), and I operate a small advertising and marketing agency outside of Monmouth. My background includes marketing, product design, systems development, advertising, and well, just about anything - for money or a pat on the back. I've run companies as large as a division of Litton Industries, and have served clients as big as Yamaha and Siemens, but derive more pleasure from small agricultural and industrial clients and projects like the OSBA and Habitat for Humanity here in Polk county.

I am the secretary and editor for the Willamette Valley
(Cont. on Page 2)

Oregon State Beekeepers Association

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OSBA members	\$ 2.00
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(Cont. from Page 1)

Beekeepers Association and "produced & managed" the OSBA exhibit at the last State Fair for the WVBA. I'm also committed to educating the public about bees and beekeeping by participating in local opportunities like Ag Expo and Ag Fest. This is an area I feel strongly about and will be preaching from this pulpit on the value to all of us in participating in these types of opportunities, when and wherever they crop up. My greatest joy in beekeeping is introducing new people to the wonders of bees.

This will be YOUR newsletter. I want all of you to feel free to submit any material or information you may have to share with your fellow Association members. I will work with you in any way to get your ideas and comments into print. My purpose in this is two fold; first off, if I can get all of you to write all the articles, I get off easy! Secondly, and most importantly, this is your newsletter and your interests and needs should be the driving force behind it.

The Bee Line will now be produced all electronically, although I still have all the technology to do cut & paste. I can accept materials in any form, ranging from hand-written scrawl on a napkin (least desirably form) to anything a cyber-punk can shoot my way. I have a hi-res color scanner, a full graphic darkroom, and more production technology than I want to think about. My office is at my home, so I'm available almost any time to chat by phone, fax, or e-mail. (One of today's home office pleasures is dealing with a family of skunks who have moved under the house and are laying claim - too bad I can't get hazard pay for working under undue stress and odor.)

I hope to have in each issue articles or columns of interest to beginning hobbyists, advanced beekeepers, and commercial producers. I find that, like most things in life, the more I find out about a subject, the less I know, and that I want to know more.

Also, please don't be shy about any thoughts or comments you may have about the newsletter. If you find the arrangement of articles confusing, tell me. If you hate this typeface, or want to see something different - let me know - this is YOUR newsletter. I'll also set aside a Letters column for any comments you may want to make to the membership. It is an open forum and I will run anything that is in good basic taste.

George Hansen and I agreed to run for office with the understanding that we intended to increase the value of the OSBA to the membership. The changes in the newsletter are only a small part of what we hope to accomplish. The OSBA is the official voice of beekeeping to both the State and Federal government. The OSBA is also the first line for contact for beekeepers with the media. We intend to take full advantage of both of these relationships for the benefit of the members. Your input is essential in this process and we need your help.

Beekeepers, from hobbyist to commercial producer, face major challenges in the near future. Import honey continues to erode the income from our efforts. The northward advance of the AHB and the public's reaction to "Killer Bees" has the potential of having beekeeping regulated out of existence. And, if mites weren't a bad enough a problem, now there is a new virus we need to be prepared for.

Beekeepers have faced even greater problems in the past including Foulbrood, price controls, constant price

(Cont. on Page 5)

1994 Pacific Northwest Honey Bee Pollination Survey

by Michael Burgett, Department of Entomology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

For the eighth year, the Honey Bee Laboratory at Oregon State University has conducted a survey of honey bee pollination. Traditionally this survey has been limited to commercial and sideliner beekeepers registered with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. As the Oregon and Washington beekeeping communities share nearly identical environmental and economic conditions, this year's survey was expanded to include those same groups in the state of Washington. Also there is more than a small amount of colony movement between states, a situation that provides for both literal and figurative cross-pollination.

A knowledge of pollination economics is important to every beekeeper who enters into the world of commercial pollination rental. Honey bee pollination is critically important to the agricultural industry of the Pacific Northwest. The annual farm gate value of PNW crops that require honey bee pollination is well in excess of one billion dollars. Washington alone accounts for over fifty percent of U.S. apple production. Nearly one quarter of a million acres of tree fruit are grown in our region. Commercial beekeepers in the PNW rely on pollination rental for their base income. In most years income from colony rental accounts for more than two-thirds of annual gross revenues.

This year's survey was sent to all Washington and Oregon beekeepers who registered more than 25 colonies with their respective state agriculture departments. A total of 36 beekeepers returned completed surveys. The twenty-two commercial beekeepers collectively owned 26,910 colonies. The 14 sideliners possessed 1,678 hives. A total of 78,421 colony rentals were reported for all respondents, which produced \$2,205,307 in rental income. The average pollination rental fee, computed from all rentals on all crops reported, was \$28.10. This is a 25% increase from the average pollination fee charged in 1993 (\$22.50) (see Table 2 and Figure 1). Commercial beekeepers were responsible for 95% of all pollination rentals and a corresponding 95% of all pollination income. This is very similar to 1993 and shows how dominant commercial beekeepers are in the world of commercial agricultural pollination.

Table 1 reviews the colony rentals, high and low fees, average fee and total income for the commercial

crops that utilize honey bee pollination. Almonds remain the most important monoculture on which PNW beekeepers rely. Nearly all commercial beekeepers transport the majority of their colonies to California for almond pollination. For the survey's beekeepers, the collective \$803,525 almond rental fee represents 36% of their reported rental income for 1994. The average almond pollination rental fee (\$32.70) has been consistently higher than fees charged for most other crops and was up \$ 110 from the 1993 average fee of \$31.60.

Pollination Survey Review - 1994

A total of 36 beekeepers returned survey forms: -
22 Commercial: (>300 hives) owning 26,910 colonies
14 Sideliner: (<300 hives) owning 1,678-colonies

The average per colony pollination rental fee (for all beekeepers, for all crops including California almonds) was: **\$28.10**

The average commercial colony was placed in **2.8** pollination sets in 1994 for an average per hive rental income of **\$ 78.70**

The average sideliner colony was placed in **2.1** pollination sets in 1994 for an average per hive rental income of **\$59.40**

For the 1994 survey **95%** of all pollination rentals were done by commercial beekeepers, who also accounted for **95%** of all reported pollination income.

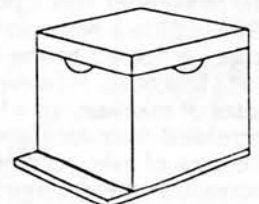
The average commercial bee operation maintained **1,225** colonies and grossed **\$96,240** in pollination rental income for 1994.

The average sideliner bee operation maintained **120** colonies and grossed **\$7,072** in pollination rental income for 1994.

For regional crops, tree fruits have traditionally dominated and 1994 is no exception. The collective pollination rental income for apples, pears and sweet cherries was somewhat over a million dollars and accounted for 46% of all pollination income for the responding beekeepers. The inclusion of Washington beekeepers dramatically increased the importance of apples in this year's survey. A total of 20,900 apple rentals were reported, second only to the 24,566 almond rentals. Tree fruit pollination, like almonds, is engaged in by nearly all commercial beekeepers. The 1994 average tree fruit pollination fee (apples and pears and sweet cherries) was \$28.60, which is an increase of 7% (\$1.95) above the 1993 fee.

The highest pollination fee for 1994 was reported for cucumbers at \$60 per colony, although the average cucumber fee was \$45.10, also the highest average fee. However, only four beekeepers reported renting bees for cucumber pollination. Vegetable seed pollination, primarily onions and carrots, continues to produce a

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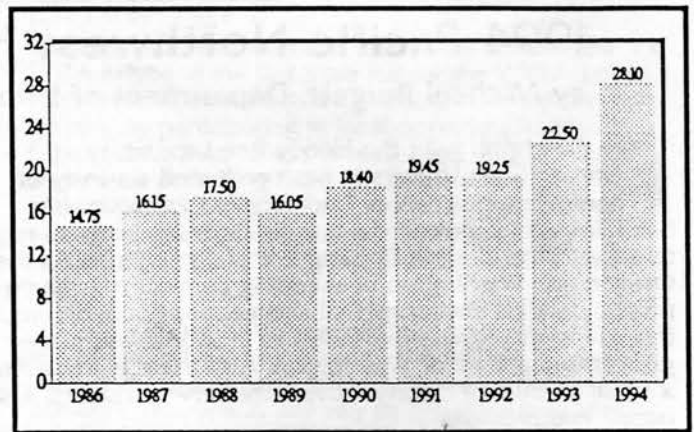
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high rental fee average of \$34.15. The conventional "free pollination" for crimson clover and vetch seems to be changing with more beekeepers receiving rental fees for the pollination of these traditional honey plants.

the chemical and labor cost increases that have been caused by mite infestations.

This year's survey respondents represent approximately 25% of the registered commercial beekeepers for Washington and Oregon and a corresponding 25% of the commercial colonies. A conservative estimate of the total

The "average" commercial honey bee colony was rented 2.8 times in 1994, a slight decline from the 2.9 average in 1993. This hypothetical colony generated an annual rental income of \$76.70. The "average" sideline colony was rented for 2.1 pollination sets, an increase from the 1.9 average of 1993, and produced a rental income of \$59.40. The average commercial beekeeping operation was 1,225 colonies which is a rather dramatic increase (24%) from the 990 colony average of 1993. The average sideline also increased in size from 90 to 120 colonies during the same time period.

Table 1 1994 PNW POLLINATION SURVEY SUMMARY

Crop	Number of Rentals	High-Low Fee	Average \$\$ Fee	Total \$\$ Income	Number of Beekeepers
Pear	8,939	36- 13	29.55	264,056	28
Sw. Cherry	5,454	36 - 20	28.90	157,459	26
Apple	20,990	36- 18	28.15	591,038	23
Berry ¹	2,303	35- 12	6.15	37,198	14
Veg. Seed	3,649	35 - 23	34.15	124,591	11
Clover Seed ²	2,803	32- 10	20.60	57,750	7
Crimson Seed	2,613	12 - zero	2.40	6,300	5
Vetch Seed	1,461	28 - zero	6.25	9,100	3
Radish Seed	752	35 -20	25.55	19,210	5
Blueberry	1,271	34 -23	29.00	36,852	8
Cucumber	540	60 - 23	45.10	24,360	4
Squash	1,210	50 - 20	26.45	31,980	8
Misc. ³	1,870	35 - zero	22.40	41,888	16
California Almonds	24,566	35 - 30	32.70	803,525	24
TOTAL	78,421 Rentals	Average Rental Fee	\$28.10	2,205,307 Total Income	

¹ Includes blackberries, raspberries, boysenberries, marionberries, loganberries.
² Includes red and white clover.
³ Includes cranberries, prunes, trefoil, meadowfoam, buckwheat, watermelons.

With an increase in colony numbers combined with the increase in the average rental fee, our theoretical commercial beekeeper had a pollination rental income of \$96,240 in 1994. This is a sensational 49% increase in pollination revenue compared to the hypothetical 1993 beekeeping operation (\$64,600). However, it needs to be realized that the costs of maintaining a healthy, productive colony have also increased dramatically especially in the area of mite control. The 25% increase in the average single colony pollination rental fee represents \$5.60 per pollination set, times the average number of set (2.8), for a per colony increase of \$15.70 per colony. This amount would just about cover

pollination rental income for the region's commercial bee industry would be approximately nine million dollars, which is at least three times the value of the honey produced. The survey's commercial beekeeper population reported that pollination revenues account for 64% of their annual gross revenues.

Table 2 Average Pollination Fee 1986-1994

1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
\$14.75	16.15	17.50	16.05	18.40	19.45	19.25	22.50	28.10

(Cont. from Page 2) - From the Editor's Desk

erosion, and more. We beekeepers have always worked through these problems and will continue to do so. The OSBA is a structure for all beekeepers, big and small, to exchange ideas, dreams, problems, and complaints in a free, non-judgmental forum, and to address our mutual problems.

I've only been to two OSBA events, but I feel that I gained a tremendous amount of information from both of them. We look forward to presenting new and exciting events this year that will draw beekeepers together. The greatest value in the meetings is the ability to meet face-to-face with other beekeepers and share ideas and stories. In addition to all I've learned from the presentations, I've met a lot of people who I hope to know much better and for the rest of my life. One of the great gifts of beekeeping has been meeting new people and making new friends.

George and I both intend to make a concerted effort to re-establish relationships with the local associations throughout the state. We both feel that the local organizations are of great value to beekeepers and their communities and look to finding ways that we can all work together for the betterment of beekeeping in Oregon.

PS - Please find your January 1995 The Bee Line and fill out and return the Beekeeping Survey. The information will be kept confidential and is very important to future OSBA planning. Send your completed Survey to Connie Petty.
Yours truly, Ron Bennett

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS . . .

I'm saddened to start out my first news column with the reports from Sandra Ashby that her husband and OSBA member, George has past away. George Jr. will be working their hives now.

There was an article in the last issue of the Ruralite, the magazine of co-operative power companies on member Morris X Smith. Morris talked about his apples and bees.

It is this type of press coverage that we beekeepers need to make an effort to get from the media. We all too often are seen with overturned trucks and bees attacking people. It is very refreshing to read an article like the one on Morris where the bees and the beekeeper are shown in a good light.



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Comments from a past editor:

When I was planning to retire three years ago ... before I became editor of The Bee Line ... my friend, and a retiree, Katherine Buike gave me this advice: Now don't try to do too much.

I share this now as the past editor of The Bee Line: Last month the OSBA executive committee appointed Ron Bennett to handle the newsletter. The main reason for the changeover, I was told, was because I did not publish 10 issues a year, as required, and on a regular schedule.

My friend Katherine had retired from teaching at age 65. Her retirement story was among the hundreds I wrote as a staff writer of the Albany Democrat-Herald newspaper between 1965 and 1991.

In her 80s, Katherine had learned to limit her retirement activities.

Retirement came as a shock. For those yet to experience it, let me say it can be a loss accompanied by periods of grief and mourning. It is difficult to get up in the morning and not report to a workplace.

Retirees, on the other hand should be happy. They have more free time - for family and friends, to travel, to volunteer for causes and serve organizations they deem worthy. But I am a writer, and writers must write.

When I started working in 1965, my husband Oliver told people "she got her foot outside the kitchen door." (I did not, of course, both feet remained there and in the lives of our five children.)

Although I would retire, the Democrat-Herald editor asked me to contribute as a free-lance writer. (Also, I could use the money, the shortage of which is another fact retirees must suddenly accept.)

The Bee Line was a second "priority". Oliver was OSBA secretary when we started the Bee Line. I was the editor. I am not sure of the dates, but later, with my job and recognizing - then - that I had too do much to do, I gave it up. (I believe no newsletter was published for several years; it was revived in 1976.)

In April 1992, I bought a computer and opened Arts & Letters, a community art gallery (I closed it 16 months later) and an office for writing and publishing the Bee Line.

Two friends helped, another writer and an advertising executive, and a student who kept an eye on the gallery and typed press releases, recipes, the mailing list, etc.

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Another friend volunteered and helped prepare and mail the newsletter.

Last summer, a college computer instructor took over the pagemaking. With his expertise available, I recently gave up a couple volunteer projects thinking I would have more time in 1995 to devote to the newsletter. (I took a page-making course which proved to be a slow and painstaking task for me: Jim does it in 2-3 hours.)

(An explanation: I paid Bee Line helpers \$5 per hour available from the \$150 stipend per issue I received as editor.)

I suppose I should offer excuses for not putting out those 10 issues each year. Perhaps I attempted too much; perhaps the Bee Line was not a priority. I certainly did not anticipate emergencies: we should always expect these, in my case, Oliver's heart attack; knee surgery ... I fell on the ice ... the death of a son.

My friend Katherine died in 1993. I often think of her warning.

Connie Petty

Connie Petty, a past editor

Post Scripts ... I have been told:

- Some readers didn't like the contents of The Bee Line: The few comments I received praised the newsletter. (Am sure the new editor will accept and appreciate all comments and suggestions.)
- Others liked the content and format. The Bee Line was well received at a newsletter-writing workshop held during the recent ABF meeting in Austin, Texas. Since then, the California beekeepers association's editor has asked to exchange newsletters.

To those who returned the Bee Line survey: Thanks. I am still looking for ideas for stories to write about beekeepers and beekeeping. I'd still like to hear from those who work with beeswax. I'd liked to submit articles about Northwest beekeeping to national publications.

Write: Connie Petty, 1033 Gibson Hill Road N.W., Albany, OR 97321. Phone: 503-926-8718 or 503-928-7924; FAX (attention Connie Petty) 503-926-1500.



News from the Honey Board

Honey Board Exhibits U.S. Honey in Middle East

United States honey and honey products will be displayed by the National Honey Board in the Fifth Annual Gulf Food & Equipment Exhibition (known as GULFOOD'95) to be held Jan. 15-18, 1995 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. GULFOOD'95 is acknowledged as the premier Middle East international food trade exhibition. Over 300 exhibitors from all sectors of the food industry are expected to participate and the show is expected to draw over 5,000 trade visitors from around the world.

The Middle East region is one of the fastest growing markets in the world and is almost totally dependent on food imports. GULFOOD'95 is timed to coincide with the peak purchasing period for the Middle East food market.

For the past several years, the Honey Board has participated in one or more international food shows. Honey exporters (those who chose to be included in the Honey Board's 1992 Exporters Directory as well as exporters who have had contact with the Board in the interim) are notified of upcoming shows and invited to display their U.S. honey products. As of the December 9th deadline, seven exporters had agreed to participate in GULFOOD'95.

If you are interested in displaying your U.S. honey and honey products in future international trade shows, contact Linda Hampel at the National Honey Board office, (303) 776-2337, ext. 20.

Honey Exporters Can Apply for Promotion Funds

Applications for participation in the National Honey Board's 1995 Branded Promotions Program are now being accepted. The program, entering its sixth year, makes funds available to U.S. honey exporters for the purposes of marketing their honey abroad. As part of its international marketing efforts, the Honey Board administers the Branded Promotions Program, with funds provided by USDA (not assessment dollars).

Participant companies who conduct overseas promotions of U.S. honey products will receive "matching funds" at the conclusion of their promotions. ("Matching funds" meaning, for example, if a participant company spends \$10,000 on its promotion, the Honey Board reimburses the company \$5,000; if a company spends \$40,000, the Honey Board reimburses \$20,000, etc.)

Promotions may be conducted in many countries throughout the world. 1995 Branded Promotion Program activities must be conducted between June 1995 and March 1996. Funding will be contingent upon the participant company's adherence to the USDA's regulations and National Honey Board guidelines. Participating firms are charged a five percent submis-

sion fee (to offset Honey Board administrative costs) which is based upon the total amount of award.

The deadline for submission of applications was January 31, 1994, but for further information on the branded program, contact Linda Hampel, export coordinator for the National Honey Board at (303) 776-2337, ext. 20.

Announcing the Honey Board's Recipe Database: 700 Answers to "Honey, What's to Eat?"

The Honey Board is pleased to announce that its new honey recipe database is on-line!

The Honey Board is committed to the precept that consumer demand drives honey demand in all market segments. To help stimulate consumer demand, the Board continually develops and distributes honey recipes (several hundred in the past few years!).

Having our collection of honey recipes on a computer database offers several advantages; recipes may be located by many means - by name, by ingredient, by meal (breakfast, lunch, dinner) or by category (dessert, appetizer, entree, etc.). In addition, the computer program automatically calculates nutritional values for each recipe - information that is of growing importance to us all. The recipes print in a standard format, which is professional in appearance and easy to read.

The database will be updated regularly as the Board creates new and exciting ways for both consumers and food service providers to use honey. Industry members are welcome to call or write with their specific recipe requests - answers are only a few key strokes away! Contact Gretchen Frederick at ext. 13.

Sweeten Your Sales

The National Honey Board has created two honey sales kits to help honey sellers market their product to either food service or industrial users.

The food service kit includes honey product information (nutritive composition, storage and handling tips, substitution suggestions, etc.) on the folder and includes six sales sheets with honey use and merchandising tips. The sales sheets focus on honey's use in

(Cont. on Page 8)

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(cont. from Page 7)

various applications: breakfast, beverage, sauces and dips, side dishes and desserts. The kit is appropriate for food service distributor representatives, honey brokers, packers or producer/packers who want to sell to the food service industry.

The industrial honey sales kit is a package of information to help sell honey to the \$400 billion food manufacturing industry. The kit includes basic information about honey (flavor, colors, etc.) and the food industry's use of honey.

If you are a seller of honey, or want to sell honey to the food service or industrial segments, call the Honey Board for a complimentary copy of one or both of these sales tools Contact: Tracy Balder

Coming Soon...Hang Tags to Help Hook Customers

The National Honey Board will soon be developing "hang tags" for honey containers.

The full-color, eight-panel hang tags will include honey use and storage information as well as easy, delicious honey recipes. Each tag will fold to 2" x 2" and have an elastic cord for easy attachment to queen-line jars and squeeze bears.

The tags will be sold in packs of 500 at a cost to cover the Honey Board's actual printing and shipping costs only - estimated at 3.25 cents per tag.

Plan on "hooking" new customers by adding these attractive and informative tags to your containers in 1995. Contact: Sherry Jennings at ext. 14.

Honey Board Announces New Reduced Reporting Level

At its meeting Jan. 21, the National Honey Board approved a new reduced reporting level that will affect those who pack less than 100,000 pounds of their own honey.

"Formerly, reduced reporting only applied to those who packed less than 20,000 pounds in a year. Under the new higher pound limit, many more producer/packers may now qualify for reduced reporting," said Julia

Pirnack, compliance coordinator for the National Honey Board.

Those producer/packers who pack less than 100,000 pounds of their own honey for sale at local retail stores, for use in bakeries or for food manufacturers, may qualify. "Purchases of honey from other producers will still be reported monthly," said Pirnack, "however, a producer/packer's own honey that is prepared for sale can be reported only twice a year instead."

If any producer/packer feels that their business qualifies for the reduced reporting schedule, contact Julia Pirnack at ext. 14, or Marlys Lloyd at the National Honey Board for further information.

POTBELLED PIGS & COWPIES

YES, the American Beekeeping Federation Convention held January 16-22, 1995, in Austin, Texas definitely did get your attention. The little potbellies pig dressed like a . . . HONEY BEE?? What a sight! The biggie for me was the "COWPIE" throwing contest, during the Texas style Rodeo and Bar-B-Q. All this was great fun and "FUN" is an important ingredient in a successful convention.

The 52nd annual convention was attended by approximately 400 beekeepers . . . all planning on coming to Oregon, in '96. I had not attended for some time and spent much of my time inviting people to Oregon next January. I could not help



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being impressed by the great program, workshops and entertainment. Topics, ranged from parasitic mites and virus, honey adulteration, DC politics, africanized bees, allergies to NAFTA/GATT DISCUSSIONS. Other activities included National Honey Board meetings, National Packers & Dealers Assn., Trade Show, Auction, Educational Workshops, Honey Show, Coronation of 1995 American Honey Queen and interdenominational worship service.

The variety of workshops offered gave you a real choice! I enjoyed several but time did not allow to get in on all of them. One, that I know many of you have expressed interest in, was Apitherapy, Do's & Don'ts. Even, a workshop on, Editing and Designing a Better Newsletter, where our own BEE LINE was a topic of discussion.

Now, I realize I have not given you a detailed run down of any one part of the federation convention. My main purpose in writing this article is to impress upon you the great opportunity we have in hosting the 1996 ABF Convention. Besides beekeeping issues and topics covered by renown speakers the trade show with new and different technology it provides the opportunity to fellowship with beekeepers from around the United States and other countries. This interaction is the most worthwhile experiences to come from getting together with fellow beekeepers.

I hope every one of you will give us a hand and share in the excitement of planning and making this happen. Remember . . . we have a real challenge, POTBELLIED PIGS & COWPIES are hard to top but we can do it together!

NEXT ISSUE: WORKSHOP REPORT

Submitted by: Marjorie Ehry

For more information on how you can participate and help the OSBA prepare for the 1996 ABF Convention in Portland, contact Marjorie Ehry.

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Recipe of the Month

Honey Scones

A honey filled quick bread.

Those of you who have met me know that I am a "big man in the industry" as the saying goes. I got to this size testing recipes for the WVBA Newsletter which I also edit. Here is a recipe that my wife, Judy, developed that uses only honey as a sweetener. I can attest to the tummy pleasing results.

Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease a cookie sheet.

Make filling:

- 1/4 cup honey
- 3 Tbs butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts or pecans (optional)

Combine dry ingredients and cut in butter with a pastry blender.

- 2 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 cup cold butter or margarine

Combine and stir into flour mixture.

- 1 large egg
- 1 8oz low-fat (1%) cottage cheese
- 1/2+ cup honey
- 1 tsp vanilla

On a floured board, knead dough just until it holds together. With a floured rolling pin (or pat into shape), roll dough to 12-inch square. Spread filling evenly on dough and roll up into jelly-roll style. Cut into 12 1-inch slices and arrange cut side down on prepared cookie sheet. Bake 20-25 minutes or until golden. Makes 1 dozen. Approximately 300 calories per scone.

Who's Who in the OSBA Resource Guide

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Portland Area

Meets 7 p.m. second Thurs
Clear Creek Mutual Telephone Co.
18238 S. Fischer Mill Road,
Oregon City

Info: Rosemary Marshall, 631-7313

Southern Oregon

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Secretary: Lynne Behrend, 666-3426

Tillamook County

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Vice pres.: Jim Marshall, 642-3319

Secretary: Michael Lau, 591-8864

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Chemeketa Community College,
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Here follows some interesting tidbits submitted by Joann Olstrom: from the UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA EXTENSION SERVICE SCIENCE BRIEF -

And from ENVIRONMENTAL NUTRITION, Jan. 1995 we get -

ANTIBIOTICS IN HONEY

Most people familiar with honey know that among its characteristics is the property of being antibiotic. In fact, in a number of countries, honey is used as a wound dressing because of its antimicrobial and healing properties. We usually attribute these effects to high osmotic pressure that "sucks" the water out of bacteria or to the presence of hydrogen peroxide, a known antiseptic. However, P.C. Molan and K.M. Russell at the University of Waikato in New Zealand report that something else is involved (Journal of Apicultural Research, 27(1):62-67, 1988).

Honeys from various floral sources in New Zealand showed different degrees of antibacterial activity when diluted. These diluted honey solutions were treated with catalase to remove the hydrogen peroxide. A pH and acid tolerant bacterium, Staphylococcus aureus, was grown on agar plates and differences in antibacterial activity were still visible around wells containing the honeys. Some honey, diluted as much as 1:40 with water and catalase, still inhibited bacterial growth on the plates.

Royal Jelly Can Be Life Threatening

If you suffer from asthma or allergies stay away from royal jelly, a supplement being marketed as an alternative treatment for a variety of ailments from insomnia to liver disease.

According to a report from Australia, ingestion of royal jelly triggered asthmatic reactions in six people with a history of asthma. Symptoms, including diarrhea and respiratory problems, began within 20 minutes of ingestion. An 11 year old girl died; three subjects had to be treated with Edith adrenaline; one required hospitalization in an intensive-care unit.

Royal jelly is a secretion from the salivary glands of honey bees. It consists mainly of proteins and water. Australian scientists believe the protein component is responsible for triggering the severe reactions.



Membership and Publications

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 the OSBA. OSBA Membership includes a vote in all OSBA elections, discounts on other bee-related publications, 10 issues of *The Bee Line*, and more. And, if you are already a member of a local group, your group will receive \$1.00 from your OSBA dues.

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Insides feeders (plastic - new) 9-1/8 = 25, 5

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w/honey gate & lids, smoker, hive tools,
other misc. equipment and supplies. Will
not sell separately. \$1,200.

Randy Stewart,
The Dalles, 296-9614

The Bee Line

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