

The Bee Line

The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association



Volume 20, Number 6

July 1995

Summer of Fun

Sermon from the editor

Thus starts the summer of 1995. I mean by this that once again, there is more to be done than there is time available. Most of you have noticed that each month your *Bee Line* has come a few days later than the previous month. Well, this was a plot by your editor to have the August issue come out the week before the OSBA Picnic and the last issue of the year in your hands 10 days before the Fall/Winter Convention. My thought was to be able to jar all of you and maybe even guilt a few of you into attending these events by jolting your memory (Isn't the old line? "The first thing to go is the memory, I don't remember what the second was."). This is still the grand plan, but like all well laid plans, July 4th got in the way, paying client's demands got in the way, and well, this issue is just plain a week late.

Actually, it's a bit of a blessing I'm late. This last week has been a time for myself, Marjorie Ehry, *El Presidente* Hansen, Bob and Betty Ramsey, Bob "I don't eat oysters" Allen, and Dr. Mike Burgett to get together with Troy Fore, Executive Secretary of the American Beekeeping Federation, and work hard to come up with events and a program for the January 1996 ABF Convention in Portland. This group, spurred on by Marjorie's unlimited enthusiasm and great ideas, has come up with a program that will knock your socks off.

I hate to keep harping at all of you about getting out and coming to some of the meetings (not just OSBA, but your local meetings), but we are entering an era of dynamic change in beekeeping. My first reason is I want all of you to have the joy of meeting each other and getting to know people as nice and as interesting as you are. The nature of my business (advertising and marketing) takes me into a wide variety of industries, and I have never met a better group of kind and interesting people than I have in beekeeping. But, the need for all of us not only to get together to trade social graces, news and ideas, but to hear and learn of the changes in beekeeping has never been more paramount.

We are the keepers and "shepherds" of a animal that would be all but extinct in a short period except for our

management and treatment. Mites, AHB, and viruses have quickly changed us for being *bee-havers* to being beekeepers. This animal is the keystone to a highly evolved system of agriculture on which each and every human being is dependent.

We are on the verge of having genetic "controlled" breed technology and for the first time "designer" bees are not out of the question. Will new work in direct foraging be of benefit to you? How will all of this happen, when will it be viable, how can we utilize these developments, what other changes are coming? . . . Stay tuned, or better yet tune in.

I'm just a hobbyist beekeeper, and if my bees all died, I'd feel a tremendous loss, but my bottom line wouldn't change. But a large number of you derive all or part of your income from beekeeping and need to be on top of all the changes that are affecting your bottom line. The honey market is in dynamic flux, there is real talk Washington, DC about killing the once immortal scared cow, sugar price controls. If meadowfoam really does take off in the state, where will the 16,000 hives they need come from? There is a future in beekeeping, and the future has much more than just "chump change" available as a return on investment. Beekeeping will be a viable industry - will you be part of it?

The greatest joy I derive from beekeeping is the sense of wonder of how these critters perceive the world we live in. The world they see, hear, feel, smell, and taste is completely different to the world we experience. Trying to understand the totally "alien" experience and how the bee interprets this world really excites me. The more I learn about bees, the more I discover is not yet known about them. Any beekeeper that thinks that they know all that they need to know is deluding themselves.

Well, that was a mighty high platform to climb and preach from . . . Sorry about that. This article IS titled Summer of Fun, so I'd better get on with what I started to write about.

There is so much to do and so little time. The OSBA Picnic (you' better come after reading my little diatribe) is preceded by the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Picnic and the Lane County Beekeepers

(Cont. on Page 2)

Oregon State Beekeepers Association 1995 Officers

President

George Hansen
30576 Oswalt Road
Colton, Oregon 97017
Tel: 503-824-2265

Vice-president

Ron Bennett
11260 Simpson Road
Monmouth, OR 97361-9630
Tel: 503-838-2328
Fax: 503-838-6040

Secretary/Treasurer

Phyllis Shoemake
1874 Winchester NW
Salem, OR 97304
Tel: 503-364-8401

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Phyllis Shoemake, 1874 Winchester NW, Salem, OR 97304

Editorial Offices - send news, announcements, letters, comments, and advertising to:

Ron Bennett, editor
11260 Simpson Road
Monmouth, OR 97361-9630
Tel: 503-838-2328
Fax: 503-838-6040
e-mail: ooffy@aol.com

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Half Page	35.00
Full Page	100.00

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Classified ads, 30 words, per issue:

OSBA members	\$ 2.00
Non-members	3.00

Picnic, and probably a few others that didn't let me know dates. And, the State Fair starts the 24th of August. The Western Apiculture Society meeting in California is also wedged in there. (Looks like that honey I planned to extract on July 5th ought to spin out some time around Thanksgiving! - Oh well, maybe next year...)

State Fair Booth Duty

The State Fair is almost upon us, and once again the OSBA Booth will be a featured exhibit in the Jackman-Long Building. The OSBA Bee Exhibit has had the best record of booth personnel attendance of any booth in the Fair. The booth is staffed by volunteers from all of the local associations and members of the OSBA.

This year's sign up sheet for the 48 slots is again filling up fast. Normally the sheet is passed around the Willamette Valley Beekeepers group first, since they are the host association, being based in and around Salem. The sheet has then gone on to the OSBA Picnic for the scramble for people to get a chance to sign up.

The WVBA met earlier than normal this year, and the OSBA picnic is later than in past years, so this year, if you want to participate, you'll have to call Ron Bennett very soon to get your name on the list. The shifts are from 10AM until 4PM and 4PM until 10PM. Two people are needed for each shift. Each person gets a full fair admission ticket good for the day of their participation, and a parking pass.

The hours may sound long at first reading, but anyone who has done duty in the OSBA Bee Exhibit can attest that time really flies! At this writing, only the following time slots are still available:

Thursday	Aug 24 - 4-10PM	- 2 persons
Friday	Aug 25 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
Saturday	Aug 26 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
	- 4-10PM	- 1 person
Sunday	Aug 27 - 4-10PM	- 2 persons
Tuesday	Aug 29 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
Wednesday	Aug 30 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
Thursday	Aug 31 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
Friday	Sep 1 - 10A-4P	- 1 person
	- 4-10PM	- 2 persons
Saturday	Sep 2 - 10A-4P	- 2 persons
Sunday	Sep 3 - 4-10PM	- 2 persons

Call Ron Bennett ASAP @ 503-838-2328 for your preferred time slot.

OSBA Picnic and Bog Day!

Oh no, not another map! Well, I caught so much grief after the Spring Field Day from people who couldn't find the Bee Lab (I put very complete written instruction in the *Bee Line*, and if they didn't bring that with them, what good would a map have done?). So here is one more map. This one, was drawn by our Picnic/Tour planner *extraordinaire* Joann Olstrom. If her honey business ever fails on her, she has a future in the tourism industry.

Our visit to the cranberry bogs will be hosted by the Russell family, an Ocean Spray grower. Mr. Art Porter, County Extension Agent on Cranberries, will conduct the tour. Mr. Russell will talk about bogs, growing, selling cranberries and the need for pollination in cranberry crops. We will also tour the cranberry processing warehouse and see how cranberries are processed.

As if the unique chance to see how this special crop is produced and the picnic the next day are not enough incentive to spend your weekend on the Coast, there are several attractions to draw you in.

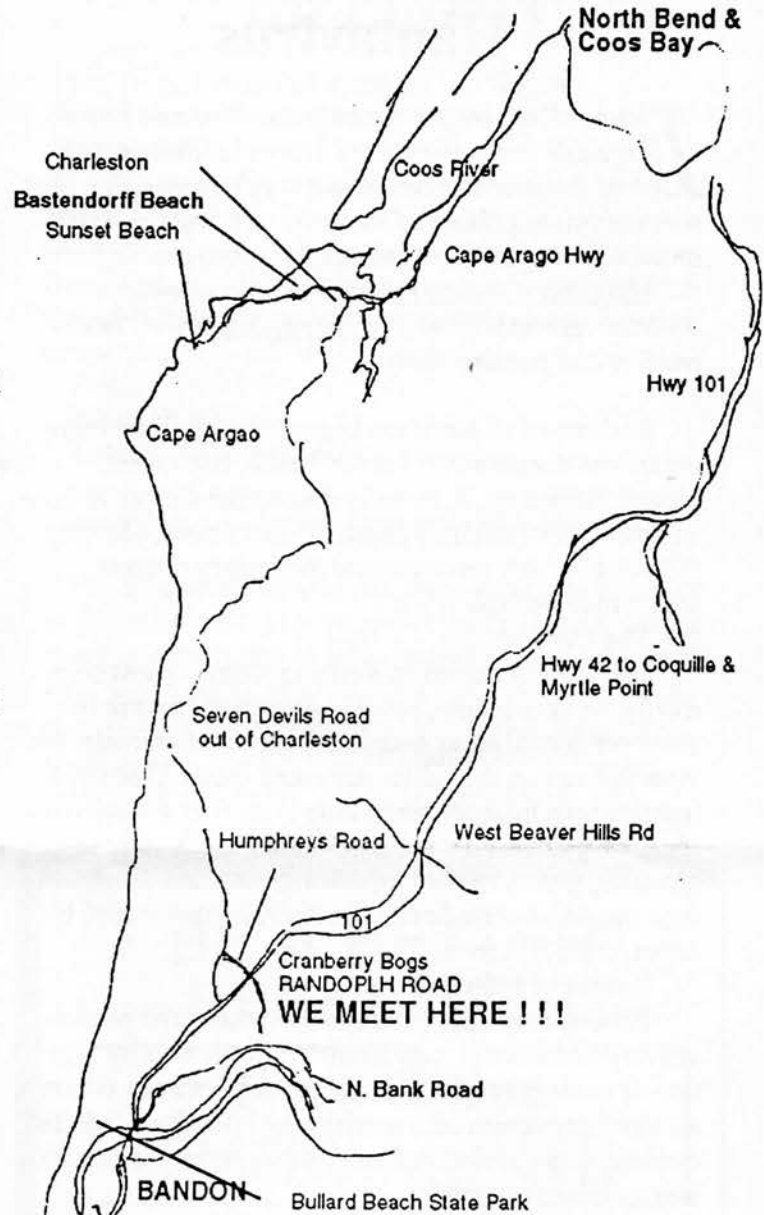
If you are anything like me (I'm a county fair junkie), the Coos County Fair will be in full swing from August 9-13 in Myrtle Point. If you are one of those RICH beekeepers we all hear about, you might want to lighten your load at The Mill Casino in North Bend. At the corners of 7th and Maple Streets in Myrtle Point there is the Logging Museum, and Coos Bay features The Marshfield Sun Printing Museum. And, there is always the Coos Historical group and Coos Art Museum to cruise.

Saturday evening, the Sawdust Theatre, now in its 29th season in Coquille, will present either *Say Uncle*, *Uncle Silas*, or *Trapped in a House of Fields* (\$10 - 8:00pm, call 396-4563 for program and reservations). If bogs are not your "thing", maybe you'll want to take a guided canoe tour of South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve near Charleston (\$5.00 - from 10:30am to 2:30 pm). And, if after all that, if you have any energy and money left, there is always lots of myrtle wood shops.

Joann Olstrom and all the group at Coos County Beekeepers have gone all out to make this weekend a special one for all of you. Show your thanks and support by attending and give them a big thank you for their efforts.

Remember - Bog tour at noon on Saturday, August 12, and the OSBA Summer Picnic, Sunday, August 13th at Bastendorff Beach State Park. Bring a jacket, a cap, a sweater (this is Oregon and this is the Oregon Coast). Bring a plate, cup, silverware, and a dish to share.

See you there!



Randolph Road crosses Hwy 101 about 5 miles North of Bandon, and is South of West Beaver Hills Road. You can also get to the Cranberry Bogs (Russell family) by taking Seven Devils Road from Charleston Basin District.

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Beekeepers at Risk of Hantavirus

I know all of you are not only excellent and knowledgeable beekeepers, but I know that the storage areas for your equipment are totally mouse-free. But, some of you may know of someone else that has mice around their equipment and the following article from the Manitoba Beekeepers article from a Work Safe Bulletin, reprinted from The Speedy Bee is well worth reading and passing along.

Rodents of all kinds are known to carry infectious organisms dangerous to human health, e.g. rabies, plague, typhus etc. A recently discovered danger is from a hantavirus which may cause flu-like illness, abruptly followed by very serious acute respiratory distress which may be fatal.

The Carrier

The virus is carried by certain rodents - most commonly the deer mouse, but the western chipmunk has also been identified as a carrier. In infected animals, the virus is found in the saliva, urine and feces. This virus remains infectious for some time even after the saliva or urine have dried. Any materials inhabited by deer mice including grains/foodstuffs, nesting materials and gnawings should be considered potentially contaminated by saliva, urine and feces.

Routes of Infection

Persons may become exposed to this virus particularly by inhalation of contaminated dusts, also by ingestion of contaminated materials, contact between broken skin and contaminated materials and bites from infected carriers. There are no indications that person-to-person transmission is possible.

Persons at Risk

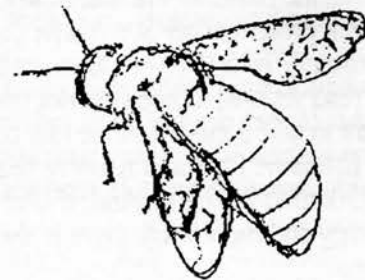
Those persons who work in environments where rodents live, a nest or feed are most at risk. Examples of such occupations include: Mammalogists, laboratory personnel, maintenance workers (telephone, plumbers,

electricians), farmers, grain handlers, exterminators, (beekeepers), and wildlife officers.

Reducing Exposure Potential

- Control the opportunity for the rodents to live or feed in the work place.
- Eliminate any rodents which may be infesting the work space.
- Control any dust which may be raised when working in an area believed to have been infested by these contaminated materials.
- Wear respiratory protection such as NIOSH approved particulate respirator when there is potential for dust agitation.
- Limit body contact with potentially contaminated mater using protective gloves and clothing to keep these contaminated materials from contacting your skin.
- Do not handle rodents with bare hands. This will reduce the bites or contact with saliva and excrement.
- Apply a disinfectant solution to areas previously infested by rodents and/or carcasses or dead rodents. The disinfectant solution can be made by mixing approximately 3 tablespoons of an hypochlorite solution (Clorox) to a gallon of water.
- Practice good personal hygiene. Do not eat or smoke in potentially contaminated areas. Wash hands and face thoroughly before eating or drinking. Have clothing which was exposed to contaminated materials laundered promptly and separately from other clothing.
- Post-exposure. If flu-like or respiratory symptoms are experienced shortly after suspected exposure, medical attention should be sought as soon as possible.

—Manitoba Beekeepers Spring 1995



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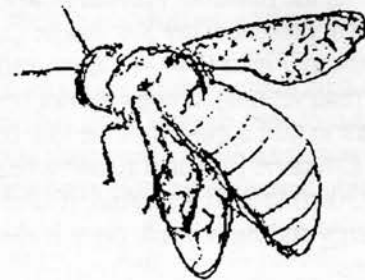
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A Letter to the Editor

Here follows a letter to the editor resulting from a conversation I had with Mr. Richard Turanski of Glorybee Foods, Inc. The conversation had started with my asking him his reaction to the reports that sugar pricing might be deregulated. We went on to talk about the sweetener market and I had remarked about the pointed discussions (and inability for Mr. Turanski to get his response heard from a honey packers point of view) that took place at the last Fall-Winter OSBA meeting after Mr. Troy Fore made his presentation on China Honey Dumping.

"I appreciated you coming by, and I would like to recommend that you reprint the article by Brent Barkman that is in the most current Speedy Bee (May 1995).

The reason that I wanted to have you reprint it is that it speaks closely to what I would like to say about the situation with the packers and the beekeepers. As a packer, I am attempting to work hard to gain the trust of the beekeepers that I purchase honey from and intend to pay fair market prices. At the same time, I have to maintain competitive prices to the markets to which I sell and have developed a company that sells many many other products so that my cost of distribution is minimal as compared to anyone else who is marketing only honey. I pledge to continue to work with the beekeepers in the Northwest to present their honey and gain as much of the market share as possible, but at the same time, pay fair equitable prices.

Thank you for your interest and help in this matter."

Sincerely, Richard Turanski, President, Glorybee Foods, Inc.

It's Time for More Cooperation in Honey Industry:

By BRENT BARKMAN

The following are some thoughts that should be read by all beekeepers and honey packers alike.

There has been an ongoing distrust between beekeepers and packers in our country for as long as I can remember. However, in the past year, I have been working hand in hand with beekeepers, as a packer, and have had no problem getting along with and maintaining a great relationship with many of the best beekeepers in the country.

I have found that a lot of honesty goes a long way in repairing the hard feelings created in the past. If we were all honest with each other instead of trying to

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outdo the other, I believe we would have a much stronger industry. Our industry in this country is a very small industry. We are going to have to learn to work together much better, or both the packers as well as the beekeepers are going to suffer greatly.

We have seen some much needed increase in the value of raw honey in the past few months. It is unfortunate these increases had to come at the expense of legal action and an inability to get along within our own industry. Somehow, we have to repair the whole honey industry in our country and work together to become as good and wholesome as the great product we raise and sell. This will, I believe, take a lot of honesty and hard work and a serious effort by both sides.

I know honesty works; that is how I have come to gain the friendship and trust of a great many honey producers in this country. I hope to make a difference in our industry as a paver of the path to a united industry instead of the fragmented one we are experiencing now.

Every packer in the country should have been aware that beekeepers could not sustain their businesses with raw honey prices at the levels of a few months ago. These honey producers are our lifeline as packers, and we should make every effort to get them a fair return on the honey they labor to produce. If we don't have a supply of honey, we won't have anything to pack.

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Beekeepers are enjoying a very fast moving escalation of prices being paid for raw honey. As beekeepers, we have to understand what kind of strain this puts on the packing industry. We could find that honey prices are moving too much too soon. We face the real prospect of pricing ourselves out of some markets and some products.

Price increases in the packing industry take more time to achieve and are very hard to secure without substantial evidence that they are warranted. This evidence is gathered by a buyer going to your competition to compare his price is with yours. Such comparisons open the door for some less than honest packers to gain market share at your expense and the expense of the entire market. They do this by quoting an unrealistic price in hopes of recouping the losses later. It is the responsibility of the packers to secure the increases needed at their level to keep the raw honey prices from losing the much needed increases they have shown.

These are my personal views and should be taken as such. I only hope to stimulate the thinking of honey producers as well as packers to work toward a fair and equitable solution to save our great honey industry in the United States.

(Mr. Barkman is executive vice president of Barkman Honey Co., a Hillsboro, Kansas, packing company, and owner of Artesian Honey Producers, a beekeeping operation in Artesian, S.D.)

It's BEE Picnic Time Around the State!

In addition to the not-to-be-missed OSBA Summer Picnic, several local clubs are having their annual picnics. These meetings are a great way for beekeepers to exchange information and ideas on a one-to-one basis. Take the time and go to not only the OSBA Picnic, but plan to attend your local or a nearby clubs picnic - great times will be had by all!

Dateline - Lane County - "AUGUST 5 will be our annual PICNIC, beginning at 10 a.m", reports Robin Gage, Newsletter Editor for the Lane County Beekeeper. She goes on, "Grant Staley has again reserved the picnic grounds near his house for us. Bring family and/or a friend, and a salad, dessert or main dish. The club will supply fried chicken, drinks, and place settings.

To get to the PICNIC, take Hwy. 58 East from Eugene; turn left at Rattlesnake Road (at the HONEY sign); turn right on Wheeler Road; pass Herb-Bee's Honey (Grant's house); go another 1/4 mile; you'll see the covered picnic area on your left. We'll eat at noon.

From the Willamette Valley Beekeepers - "Our annual summer picnic will be July 30 at Rossmore Farms, hosted by Doug and Maryann Davis. Rossmore Farms is located at 12524 River Road North, Gervais."

The WVBA Picnic is also a potluck, and several beekeepers in that group are homebrewers! They have had a mini-swap meet at past picnics and some members may bring goods to trade/sell. Rossmore Farms is one of the founders of the Ostrich Producers' Co-op and if you have any interest in finding out more about these "livestock of the future", this is a good opportunity to learn more about these birds. The WVBA also has had hives available and used the picnic as a mini-Field Day to help new beekeepers learn how to work hive, locate queens, etc.

As a member (and homebrewer), your editor will be attending this picnic as well as the OSBA Picnic.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend. We'll have lots to do and everyone will have fun!



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News from the National Honey Board

HONEY BOARD SPONSORS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN MINNESOTA

The National Honey Board, the Minnesota Honey Producers Association and Dr. Marla Spivak, assistant professor and extension entomologist from the University of Minnesota, have teamed up to offer a business management program for honey producers, producer/packers and packers this December. Program attendees will participate in a series of seminars covering developing specialty honey products for the upscale market, doing business in the 1990's and beyond, conducting successful honey promotions, comparing successful commercial beekeeping management systems and more!

Edward D. Barlow, president of Creating the Future, Inc. is the keynote speaker for the program. Barlow is a sought-after lecturer who has worked with business and industry, government, associations, education and agriculture leadership. He is recognized for his ability to relate influences of a changing world to a variety of industries. Some of the organizations Ed Barlow has spoken to include National Association of Farmer Cooperatives, Produce Marketing Association, John Deere Company, American Farm Bureau Federation,

National Association of Retail Dealers of America and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The program will be held at the Crown Sterling Suites adjacent to the Minneapolis airport the first weekend in December 1995. It's not necessary to be a member of the Minnesota Honey Producers to attend. For information, call Conrad Legatt, Vice President, Minnesota Honey Producers Association at 612-252-9963 (evenings) or call Sherry Jennings at the National Honey Board 1-800-553-7162.

SAMPLE HONEY RECIPE FAVORITES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR KITCHEN

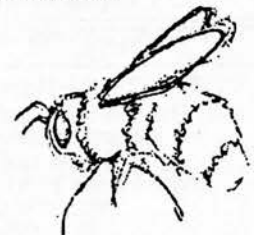
A new brochure published by the National Honey Board showcases honey recipe favorites from around the country.

"Honey is a featured ingredient in regional cooking from Southern Honeyed Sweet Potato Biscuits to New England Baked Beans," said Sherry Jennings, industry relations director for the National Honey Board. "The new brochure can show your customers how to sample the wonderful diversity of American cooking with honey."

"Honey Recipe Favorites: Recipes from Around the Country is more than a delightful collection of recipes - it also includes information on U.S. honey varieties and substituting honey for sugar. The leaflet is designed for use as a handout for local promotions or as an insert for honey gift packages. Beekeeping associations and assessment-paying supporters of the National Honey Board can order up to 500 recipe brochures per year free of charge. Additional brochures are available at five cents each.

To order brochures, write the National Honey Board, 390 Lashley St., Longmont, CO 80501. Or, call (800) 553-7162.

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Bee Sting Lore

For most individuals a bee sting will be of little consequence, indeed it has been known for some beekeepers to suffer hundreds of stings without any serious after effects. Nevertheless the unpleasantness of the bee's sting is in sharp contrast to the desirable product of the hive, namely the honey. This contrast has attracted fascination since time immemorial. Thus we have the proverbs: "Honey in mouth, sting in tail" and "Honey is not far from the sting", and so on.

Throughout the ages the greatest writers have written on this curious paradox of nature. Thus Ovid declared: "Deadly poisons are concealed under sweet honey." And Shakespeare wrote: "He is not worthy of the honeycomb that shuns the hive because the bees have stings."

Moralists, in particular have frequently employed this aspect of bee biology to enliven their writings. John Bunyan, for example, in his *Book for Boys and Girls* (1686) wrote one verse entitled "Upon the Bee," it began:

The bee goes out and honey doth bring; And some who seek that honey find a sting.

In earlier writings it was widely believed that bees could punish the promiscuous. Thus Pindararos in the fifth century B.C. wrote:

*Thou painful Bee, thou pretty creature,
...false Phoecus and impure,
With sting has prickt his lewd villany.*

From *Curiosities of Beekeeping*, by L.R. Croft

Calender of Events

July	11	Lane County Beekeepers meeting
	12	Tualatin Valley Beekeepers meeting
	13	Portland Beekeepers meeting
	21	Coos County Beekeepers meeting
	30	Willamette Valley Beekeepers Summer picnic and Field Day
August	3	Tillamook Beekeepers meeting
	5	Lane County Beekeepers Picnic
	7	So. Oregon Beekeepers meeting
	9	Tualatin Valley Beekeepers meeting
	10	Portland Beekeepers meeting
	12-13	OSBA Summer Picnic & cranberry tour
	15-18	34th APIMONDIA - Lucerne, Switzerland
	15-18	Western Apiculture Society, Sacramento, CA
	18	Coos County Beekeepers meeting
	21	Willamette Valley Beekeepers meeting
	24-Sept 4	Oregon State Fair
Sept.	4	So. Oregon Beekeepers meeting
	7	Tillamook Beekeepers meeting
	12	Lane County Beekeepers meeting
	13	Tualatin Valley Beekeepers meeting
	14	Portland Beekeepers meeting
	15	Coos County Beekeepers meeting
	25	Willamette Valley Beekeepers meeting
October	7-8	Tri-State Conference - Spokane, WA
Dec.	2-3	OSBA Fall/Winter Convention
January	16-21	American Beekeeping Federation Convention, Portland OR

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Who's Who in the OSBA Resource Guide

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30576 Oswalt Road
Colton, OR 97017
824-2265

Vice president:
Ronald Bennett
11260 Simpson Road
Monmouth, OR 97361
838-2328

Secretary - treasurer:
Phyllis Shoemaker
1874 Winchester NW
Salem, OR 97304
364-8401

Past president:
John Mespelt
1830 Queen Ave. SW
Albany, Oregon 97321
926-1850

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Central Oregon:
Bob Morgan
3800 Benson Road
The Dalles, OR 97058
298-5719

Eastern Oregon:
Dave Lefore
Rt. 3 Box 207E
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
938-3286

Metropolitan Area:
Chuck Sowers
4390 Lords Lane
Lake Oswego, OR 97304
636-3127

North Coast:
Bob Allen
P.O. Box 434
Garibaldi, OR 97118
322-3819

South Coast:
Joann Olstrom
6134 Maple Court
Reedsport, OR 97467
271-4726

Southern Oregon:
George Steffensen
1634 Fish Hatchery Road
Grants Pass, OR 97527
474-4305

Willamette Valley:
Gene Garner
1375 South 2nd
Springfield, OR 97477
746-5972

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Honey promotion:
Joann Olstrom

Nectar & pollen plants:
Bertie Stringer

Pollination:
Don Kelley

Laws & regulations:
Fritz Skirvin

Oregon State Fair:
Walt Nichol

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Al Freeburne, 855-7243
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John Mespelt, 926-1850
Bob Morgan, 298-5719
Fred Van Natta, 585-8254

RESOURCES:

Dr. Michael Burgett
Department of Entomology
Cordley Hall 2046
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-2907
Telephone: 737-4896

Dr. Lynn Royce
Assistant/associate
Department of Entomology
Cordley Hall 2046
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-2907
Telephone: 737-4733

Jim Cramer
Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
635 Capitol St. N.E.
Salem, OR 97310-0110
Telephone: 986-4620

REGIONAL BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS

Coos County
Meets 7:30 p.m. third Friday (except
December)
Coquille Annex, Coquille

President: Gordon M. Starr, 396-4537
Vice president: Steve McGuire,
396-3318
Secretary-treasurer: Pete DeMain,
396-3454

Klamath County
Meeting dates and sites vary.
Call officers:

President: Ken Crow, 882-1893
Vice president: Chet
Hamaker, 882-2404

Lane County
Meets 7:30 p.m. sec-
ond Tues;
Public Employees
Credit Union,
1155 Chambers St.,
Eugene

President: Lee Zigler,
688-5675

Vice president: Edgar
Elder, 998-3199
Treasurer: Jim
Sheridan, 344-1354

Newsletter Ed.: Robin Gage,
746-0808

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
Meets 7:30 p.m. first Mon.;
S.O. Research & Extension Center
569 Hanley Road, Central Point

President: Stan Kee, 664-3238
Vice pres.: John Campbell, 664-4867
Secretary: George Steffensen, 474-4305

Tillamook County
Meets 7 p.m. first Thursday;
Fish & Wildlife Bldg.,
4909 Third St., Tillamook

President: Bob Allen, 322-3819
Vice pres.: Fritz Hoffman, 842-6856
Sec.-treas.: Gregg Cline, 842-6323

Tualatin Valley
Meets 7:30 p.m. second Wed.
PGE Building,
Old Scholls Ferry Road & Murray,
Beaverton

President: Chuck Sowers, 636-3127
Vice pres.: Jim Marshall, 642-3319
Secretary: Michael Lau, 591-8864
Treas.: PattiJo Campbell, 690-9341

Willamette Valley
Meets 7:30 p.m. fourth Mon.;
Room 112, Building 50,
Chemeketa Community College, Salem

President: Walt Nichol, 585-5705
Vice pres.: Laurence Bower, 743-2398
Secretary: Ron Bennett, 838-2328
Treasurer: Fritz Skirvin, 581-9372



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WAS is Back !

After a year off, the Western Apicultural Society is holding its 17th Annual Conference in Sacramento, California, between August 15th and 18th, 1995.

Participants interested in apicultural research will be especially interested in the presentations by Drs. Shimanuki and Erickson describing the research activities of the USDA laboratories in Beltsville, MD and Tucson, AZ, respectively. There will be a panel discussion of apitherapy for treatment of multiple sclerosis, a report on efforts to dissuade honey bees from nesting in wood duck boxes, and an opportunity to meet the researchers and discuss bee science at the Bee Biology Facility on the Davis Campus.

If the nuts and bolts of beekeeping are more to your liking, much is being offered. A brief beekeeping short course will precede the meeting, free of additional charge. On the main program, commercial beekeepers Bill and Cameron Koehnen and Ardith Eggman will be explaining, in detail, the specialties of their operations. Russell Messing will wrap up the meeting by describing beekeeping in Hawaii, the selected location for next year's WAS Conference.

Other enticing aspects of the meeting include: 1) an exhibit room where various vendors display and sell bee-related merchandise, 2) a social reception with snacks and beverages the first evening, 3) an opportunity to be included in the annual group photo, 4) lunch on the Sacramento River paddlewheeler Matthew McKinley, 5) two auctions (a

"silent" one and a lively one), and 6) the Awards Banquet where we honor an individual for Outstanding Service to Beekeeping.

Breaking with historical tradition, this year's Conference is being held in an urban hotel, the Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn, 300 "J" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. The Conference facilities suit our needs very well. The living quarters are recently refurbished, will be climate-controlled and have their own bathrooms (unlike most campus dorms). Within a minute walk from the hotel is a four block, two story shopping plaza that contains a microbrewery. On Thursday evenings the shops and a farmers' market spill into the mall, providing extra eating and shopping opportunities. In the other direction, about three minutes away on foot, is Old Sacramento. Old Town has been restored to reflect its glory in the Gold Rush days. Museums (don't miss the train museum), eating establishments, theaters, and myriads of shops provide endless opportunities to enjoy the nine blocks (total) that make up the area. Evenings are left unscheduled for enjoyment of the surroundings.

Conference pre-registration (which is due before July 15th) is being handled by Eric Munsen, Entomology, University of California, Davis, CA 95616 [(916) 752-0472]. Hotel reservations can be made until July 28th. Call (916) 446-0100 and be sure to mention the "WAS Conference" to get the substantial group price break.

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 is \$15 per person and 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. Foreign membership is \$23.

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Local Group _____

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<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 yr. \$13.25	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 yrs. \$25.25

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