

The Bee Line

The Newsletter of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association



Volume 21, Number 2

March 1996

Spring Beekeeping Field Day!!

RUHL BEE SUPPLY, in conjunction with the Portland Beekeepers Association, the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association, the O.S.B.A, and Foothills Honey is again presenting a unique learning experience in beekeeping. Last year's field day was a resounding success and all that attended had a great time! This field day is truly front page news and should be a part of your beekeeping plans this year.

One classic problem with bee schools is the lack of hands-on experience. This Beekeeping Field Day gives new and experienced beekeepers a chance to learn from more experienced beekeepers exactly how to keep and manage their bees.

Space is limited and by pre-registration ONLY. Be sure to register early and mark your calendars.

WHEN: Sat., April 27, from 9:30 am. to 3:00 P.M. - **RAIN OR SHINE!**

WHERE: Foothills Honey, 30576 Oswalt Road Colton, Oregon (directions, below)

LIMIT: 150 people (Registration by calling RUHL BEE SUPPLY at 503-256-4231)

COST: Free (donation asked for coffee)

WHAT TO BRING: 1. Your lunch. 2. A folding chair, if you want to sit. 3. Full protective gear (overalls, gloves, hat, veil). 4. Your honey and toothpicks, if you want to exhibit it on the "honey tasting" table (label the source, your name and region).

PROGRAM

9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Sign up for workshops on a 'first come, first serve' basis, enjoy coffee and doughnuts, and good conversation with friends from around the state.

10:30 - Noon Minimum of three 20-30 minute workshops (see below).

- or -

General group activities: tour of the honey house, equipment displays, hands-on practice finding the queen, smoker race and frame building contests.

Noon - 12:45 P.M. Lunch on your own, on site if you wish.

12:45 - 2:30 P.M. Repeat of morning workshops (see below)

- or -

General group activities (as above)

WORKSHOP 1: Good hive management "working quietly and keeping the bees gentle". (Torey Johnson - awarding winning beekeeper and Don Eadon)

WORKSHOP 2: Finding and painting the queen, dividing your colony, etc. (Legendary Bill Ruhl, Christian De Haze and Chet Hattan)

WORKSHOP 3: Swarm control and Super management. (Jim Walker, former State Bee Inspector)

WORKSHOP 4: Bee Diseases and Parasites, identifying and treatments (Richard Farrier)

Tour of extracting room: Ron Bennett

Equipment Display: Lu Alexander

Videotaping: Paul Petty

Registration: Dick Mixer and Charlie Snyder

Smoker and Frame Nailing Contest: Ron Bennett

Directions: Colton is on Highway 211 which runs from Interstate 5 through Molalla to Estacada. The Estacada end of 211 intersects Hwy 224 at the end of town. Stay on Hwy 211 until you reach Colton; Oswalt Road is west of town, on the left.

Coming from Salem, turn east on Hwy 211 at Woodburn, go through Molalla and continue east to Colton. Oswalt Road is west of town, on your right.

To reach Hwy 211 from Oregon City, take Hwy 213 (the Molalla Hwy next to Clackamas Community College) and go south, passing the town of Mulino, to Union Mills Road. Turn left (east) to Hwy 211. Turn left on Hwy 211 and go east to Colton. Oswalt Road is on your right, west of town.

For more information or questions, call Torey at 503-256-4231.

April 27th - DON'T MISS IT!

Oregon State Beekeepers Association 1996 Officers

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Colton, Oregon 97017
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The Bee Line is the official publication of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association and is published 10 times a year. Subscriptions are included with OSBA membership.

To join the OSBA, complete the membership application in this issue and send with payment to:
Phyllis Shoemake, 1874 Winchester NW, Salem, OR 97304

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Advertising Rates

Business ads, per issue:

Business Card size	\$ 7.50
Quarter Page	20.00
Half Page	35.00
Full Page	100.00

Copy, art, and payment must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contact the editor for any special requirements and mechanical information.

Classified ads, 30 words, per issue:

OSBA members	\$ 2.00
Non-members	3.00

OSBA Summer Picnic Plans Announced

Campers - make your
reservations NOW!

Our new vice-president, Charlie Mock, has been hard at work. One of the main "job descriptions" for the OSBA VP is meeting planning, and Charlie has been earning his keep. In addition to working out the details of the Spring Field Day in Tillamook, he has made the arrangements for our annual Summer Picnic and Field Day. This year, we will meet on August 3rd and 4th at Tumalo State Park just west of Bend.

On Saturday, August 3rd, we will tour Central Oregon Seed plant and visit their carrot and hybrid vegetable fields in the Madras and Culver area north of Bend, and learn the unique requirements of pollinating these crops for seed production.

On Sunday, August 4th, we will gather at the reserved group campfire area at Tumalo State Park for our annual potluck picnic. This has always been a great get-together, and this year should be the same. We will have more tourist-type information in upcoming issues of the Bee Line, but some of my most truthful friends claim that the really big fish are to be found in this area (at least the one they didn't catch).

If you are planning to camp or RV-it, there are several campsites still available at this time and reservations can be made by calling the State Reservation System at 1-800452-5687. We will have motel and information on other camping opportunities in upcoming issues as well.

Bee Schools

Bee Schools are a tradition and our best way to help and introduce people to bees and beekeeping. The single most requested item at the OSBA Bee Booth at the State Fair is for more information on how to get started keeping bees. Some of the local organization offer bee schools as a way to introduce others to the joy of beekeeping.

Lane County Beekeepers Association have announced their schedules for 1996. The Lane County Bee School will be on Saturday, March 9th at the Lane County Fairgrounds, Lane Extension Bldg., 930 West 13th Avenue, Eugene. Registration begins at 8:00 A.M. with the first session starting at 8:30 A.M. Areas to be covered in this

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News from The American Beekeeping Federation

by Troy Fore Jr.

Merritt Elected ABF President: Hackenberg Vice President

Bill Merritt, a commercial honey producer from Sopchoppy, FL, was elected president of the American Beekeeping Federation at its annual convention in Portland, OR, Jan. 17-22. Mr. Merritt, who had been vice president for two years, succeeds David Sundberg of Fergus Falls, MN.

Elected vice president was Dave Hackenberg of Lewisburg, PA. Also a commercial producer and pollinator, Mr. Hackenberg operates bees in Florida, Maine and New York, as well as his home state.

Fred Rossman of Moultrie, GA, will complete the final year of Mr. Hackenberg's Executive Committee term; he was the alternate from the 1995 Executive Committee election. Mr. Rossman is a veteran package bee and queen breeder and has become involved in the manufacture and sale of bee supplies in recent years.

Danny Weaver of Navasota, TX, joins the Executive Committee, replacing Gene Brandi of Los Banos, CA, who had served his two-term maximum. Clint Walker of Rogers, TX, was reelected to a second two-year term. Both Mr. Walker and Mr. Weaver are involved in queens and package bees and honey production.

The 1996 Executive Committee is comprised of Messrs. Merritt, Hackenberg, Sundberg, Rossman, Weaver, and Walker and incumbents Judy Gulleson of Britton, SD, and Bruce Beekman of Hughson, CA. The Executive Committee retained Troy Fore of Jesup, GA, as secretary-treasurer.

Among initiatives approved in Portland as part of the ABF resolutions was a statement of support for the National Honey Board in the upcoming 1996 referendum, investigation of a group health insurance program for members, going "on-line" with a World Wide Web site, consideration of establishing apiaries owned by the Federation to raise funds, establishment of a charitable foundation to accept and channel funds into research and education projects, and a broad-based search for sources of beekeeping research funding.

Two resolutions were passed in support of the National Honey Board. A resolution that ABF presentations to members of Congress include information about the programs and successes of the National Honey Board and the continuing support of the National Honey Board was re-adopted from last year. Later, the ABF Board of Directors added a res-

olution urging ABF members and all other eligible voters to vote for the continuation of the National Honey Board in the referendum scheduled for August 1996. Seeking to provide more services for its members, the Federation is searching for a group health insurance program to offer to members, is starting an Internet "Home Page," and will soon announce a discount long distance telephone program. One expectation of the Internet site is that the text of presentations at the annual ABF convention will be made available to all.

The move to form apiaries owned by the Federation and operated by cooperating beekeepers is seen as one method of obtaining non-dues revenues to fund additional services for members. Following the practice of several state associations, the Federation would accept donated colonies and equipment and share the proceeds with the operator. The ABF Executive Committee is to present a recommendation on the proposal to the 1997 convention.

The establishment of the charitable foundation is a part of the broader search for research funding. The foundation will provide a vehicle for persons to make bequests to the Federation and will be eligible for grants from other foundations, both public and private. These gifts and grants will enable the Federation to become involved in research and education funding.

In the broader resolution on funding beekeeping research, the ABF Executive Committee established a committee to investigate means of raising funds for beekeeping research from sources such as U.S. AID grants, donations from foundations and corporations, allocation of a portion of the National Honey Board assessment, and mandatory assessments from honey packers, queen

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and package bee producers, pollination service providers, bee supply manufacturers, and other segments of the beekeeping industry in order to help secure adequate funding for beekeeping research in the future. These funds would not necessarily flow through the Federation.

The ABF Executive Committee established a prospective committee to look into the various sources of research funding. In a move with more immediate action, the Executive Committee also approved pursuing the allocation for beekeeping research of at least eight percent of the National Honey Board's annual assessment—more than \$200,000 by current assessment levels.

Other major resolutions adopted in Portland include:

- **URGING** the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue to fund the USDA National Extension Apiculturist position.
- **URGING** lawmakers and municipal governments to adopt compromise measures, such as the Texas Africanized Honey Bee Management Plan, that provide for responsible beekeeping, even in residential zoning areas, rather than endorse blanket bans of beekeeping that are misdirected and counterproductive in view of the public threat from Africanized bees.
- **URGING** USDA and the states to further develop and disseminate information on Africanized Bees.
- **SUPPORTING** a nationwide ban on Penncap-M and working with other organizations to achieve this goal.
- **DETERMINING** that the top beekeeping research needs are in the areas of varroa mites, tracheal mites, honey adulteration, Africanized honey bees, viral bee diseases, requeening methods, and chalkbrood; and that others areas deserving of additional research at this time include wax moth, bacterial brood diseases, the effects of pesticides on honey bees, damage to bee colonies from ants, and current information on crop pollination

requirements; and requesting Congress and the USDA-ARS Administrator to provide funding for these research projects on a priority basis to be determined by consultation with industry leaders.

- **ASKING** USDA-ARS to expedite research projects on all Promising chemical and non-chemical controls and the Environmental Protection Agency to expedite licensing reviews for the chemical controls.

- **SUPPORTING** repeal of the Delaney Clause and substitution of a negligible risk standard which takes into consideration the benefits of a pesticide's use.

- **DIRECTING** the ABF officers to work with USDA-ARS, land grant universities, American Farm Bureau, and other organizations to plan and implement a national pollination symposium during the 1997 ABF convention in Norfolk, VA, to result in the publication of the papers presented at the symposium in a resource that supplements the McGregor handbook and helps fulfill the needs of both growers and beekeepers for current information on this vital activity.

- **WORKING** for the continuation of the Honey Loan Program in a form which will be in the best interest of the U.S. beekeepers.

- **URGING** FDA to codify the definitions of the National Honey Board as a standard of identity for honey.

- **JOINING** NHPDA to consider honey as adulterated if the honey's Stable Carbon Isotope Ratio Analysis and table Internal Standard Carbon Isotope Ratio Analysis values differ by more than 1.0; and recommending that the FDA promulgate regular define such honey as adulterated.

- **WORKING** with the National Honey Packers and Dealers Association to develop standards of identity for "honey"-named products which, as a minimum, state that honey must be included in the product itself, and to recommend that the FDA adopt the standards in the public's interest; and recommending that the FDA also establish standards

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of identity for the most commonly produced "honey"-identified products, such as breads and sauces, which set minimum amounts of honey which must be in the products in order to be called a "honey" product, e.g., Honey Bread or Honey Sauce.

- **SUPPORTING** and urging the NHPDA's Quality Assurance Task Force to adopt and enforce standards that will ensure the continuation of the pure, natural image of honey in the marketplace; and encouraging the National Honey Board to continue and expand its oversight and participation in programs directed toward controlling and reducing the adulteration of honey.

- **URGING** the NHB to refrain from allowing the use of the honey bear service mark on honey until standards are set as to quality and purity; and, in the absence of standards, recommending the NHB not allow the use of the honey bear service mark on honey.

- **WORKING** to have U.S. Customs Service determine that marking the country of origin on a container of honey in any place other than on the front label of the jar does not fulfill the requirements of the law and to require that the countries of origin of blends of honey be listed in declining order of predominance.

- **URGING** all beekeepers to help in this monitoring effort by bringing any suspected violations to the attention of the Department of Commerce

via the ABF and its attorneys and to contribute toward the expense of monitoring the suspension agreement; and directing the ABF Secretary to write to various beekeepers associations asking them to contribute to the cost of the monitoring commensurate with the benefit their members are enjoying.

- **ASKING** the U.S. Department of Agriculture to reverse the 1995 policy change on the imports of bees from New Zealand and not to entertain any proposals to import bees from Australia.

- **STRONGLY URGING** the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture not to allow the importation of honey bees and honey bee semen into the

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United States from Mexico or Canada where the possibility exists of introducing diseases, parasites, or undesirable strains of bees.

- **URGING** Congress to revise the Honeybee Act and/or USDA to revise the regulations promulgated under the Act to permit qualified queen breeders to import semen of known origin subject to appropriate standards and qualifications with such standards and qualifications to be set by the USDA after consultation with the Honey Bee Stock Release Panel.

- **DIRECTING** the ABF Executive Committee to investigate, in conjunction with the National Honey Board and the National Honey Packers and Dealers Association, the feasibility and practicality of hosting an International Honey Symposium in the United States at some time in the future.

- **URGING** the American Farm Bureau Federation to maintain two beekeepers on one of the remaining AFBF advisory committees for input to the leadership of AFBF and to host a meeting during the annual conventions of the American Beekeeping Federation to receive input from Farm Bureau members attending the ABF convention.

- **CONSIDERING** joining orchardist and horticultural associations and sending representatives to their meetings to address problems with pollination techniques and agricultural chemicals and other beekeeper concerns.

- **URGING** the Postal Service to change the wording of DMM Section C022.3.7 to state in part, "Only queen honeybees with their attendant honey bees in wood, envelope, plastic or cardboard shipping cages/boxes be shipped by aircraft."

- **URGING** the Postal Service to increase the coverage on shipments sent by Priority Mail, Express Mail, and Parcel Post to an amount commensurate with the actual value of the shipment.



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IBRA to Hold Conference in COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is a wonderful venue for anyone interested in tropical bees and we are expecting IBRA's 6th Conference on Tropical Bees will be a great success. Registrations are starting to come in - if you haven't had a copy of the second announcement, you can find it on IBRA's World Wide Web pages at:

<http://www.cf.ac.uk/ibra/index.html>

Or you can write/phone/fax the IRBA for a hard copy.

To get you in the mood, I've included a sneak preview of Rinus Sommeijer's guest editorial from the next Bee World in this issue of B.mail: *A regional program for training and research on tropical beekeeping and tropical bees in Costa Rica.*

Costa Rica, the 'Rich Coast' of Central America, will be the venue for IBRA's Sixth Conference on Tropical Bees: Management and Diversity. This beautiful and friendly country with its diverse tropical forests and scenic volcanoes is an excellent place for anyone interested in tropical bees and apiculture. Bee diversity is fascinating in Costa Rica and the beekeeping systems are, because of pre-Columbian history and dynamic recent developments, of particular interest.

Beekeeping as a development tool in Costa Rica

The introduction of beekeeping and the promotion of more advanced beekeeping techniques can be helpful to peasant farmers in developing countries. Beekeeping programs in Central America are, as in most developing countries, traditionally related to agriculture and are designed to develop individuals and to

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improve the position of the beekeeper in the local socio-economic system. Nowadays, considerable emphasis is placed on those perspectives of beekeeping which are important for the development of rural women in developing countries (e.g. the keeping of stingless bees in Latin America). It is interesting to note that apicultural extension projects in rural areas directed towards rural women are in general very successful.

It is now also commonly understood that the ecological impact of native bees is very important for the pollination of natural tropical flora and, in an applied manner, for the pollination of agricultural crops in the tropics. These tropical bees are even promising to be useful for the pollination of tropical crops cultivated in glass houses in temperate regions. The great diversity of honey-producing tropical bees offers very important economic

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prospects. In various Central American countries the importance of bees for pollination equals or surpasses the economic importance of honey production.

Problems with AHB

The spectacular spread of Africanized bees over South and Central America has had a great impact on the status of beekeeping. These bees crossed the Panama Canal in 1982 and have now spread over Central America and Mexico; the first swarms were observed in Texas, USA, in 1991. In 1995 Africanized honey bees invaded Puerto Rico. Hybridizing easily and very competitive with domesticated honey bees, Africanized honey bees are more difficult to manage for beekeeping. Also the newly obtained characteristic of absconding makes present *Apis mellifera* in Central America more complicated to manage. In many countries it is no longer allowed to keep bees near to houses.

Africanized bees can, however, be good honey producers, as several Costa Rican beekeepers demonstrate, who have even improved their production after the introduction of these bees. Honey production in Yucatan is reported not to have declined after the introduction of Africanized honey bees. However, in Costa Rica this certainly has not been the case, because many beekeepers abandoned their hives.

Co-operative beekeeping development projects

In 1987, the Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica, and other Central American institutions co-operated with Utrecht University, Netherlands, which resulted in the establishment of the co-operative regional project for bee research and beekeeping. This project is funded by the Netherlands' Directorate General for International Co-operation (DGIS) in collaboration with the Netherlands organization for international co-operation in higher education (NUFFIC).

Utrecht University's program for the development of bee research and rural beekeeping in Central America also extends to co-operative research in Trinidad and Tobago in the West Indies, and in Surinam. Because of the important cultural and socio-economic aspects of traditional and modern Central American beekeeping, this work not only involves applied biological activities but also the participation of cultural anthropologists. The former 'Proyecto Regional de Meliponicultura' started as a research project in February 1990. It has now been extended to include an Africanized honey bee component, and its field of activities has further been enlarged to extension and educa- *Cont. on Page 8*

tion, in the ongoing 'Proyecto Regional de Apicultura y Meliponicultura'. The co-operative research project will provide results that can be applied to the practice of beekeeping in Central America. It will expand knowledge about bees and beekeeping and will therefore contribute to rural development.

We hope that you will have the opportunity to go to Costa Rica this summer and participate in the IBRA 'Sixth Conference on Tropical Bees: Management and Diversity'. You will be most welcome to visit the PRAM project at the Universidad Nacional in Heredia during your visit.

Marinus J Sommeijer
Director, Programa Regional de Apicultura y
Meliponicultura UU/UNA
Bee Research Department
Utrecht University
PO Box 80.086
3508 TB Utrecht, The Netherlands.

PROPOLIS: PROSPECTS IN MEDICINE

The next Bee World (due out in March) will carry an important review on propolis by Paul Cheng and Geary Wong of UC Davis, USA. It covers the major chemical components of propolis and looks at possible medical applications.

Currently, propolis is available commercially as an ingredient in capsule form, lip balm, skin creams, tinctures, toothpaste and throat lozenges. The authors point out that the components of propolis can vary greatly depending on the season it was gathered by the bees and the source of the resin. Therefore, the biological activity of the propolis will also vary, and so it is vital to know exactly what the individual components in a particular sample are.

The article gives a useful table listing bacteria and fungi that cause disease, which appear to be inhibited by propolis. It is important to point out that propolis may cause allergic reactions in susceptible people, and it is wise to seek medical advice before using propolis preparations.

This latest review compliments an earlier report published in Bee World 71(3) 1990 by Greenaway, Scaysbrook and Whatley, which reviewed work being done at Oxford University, UK, on the composition and plant origins of propolis.

Recipe of the Month

from *Sweetened with Honey The Natural Way*
by the National Honey Board

Honey Pepper Pork Roast

- 1 boneless pork loin roast
(about 2½ pounds)
 - ¼ cup honey
 - 2 Tbs. Dijon-style mustard
 - 2 Tbs. crushed mixed peppercorns
 - ½ tsp. dried thyme, crushed *or* 1½ tsp.
fresh thyme minced
 - ½ tsp. salt
- Honey Cranberry Relish
(recipe follows)

Carefully score roast ½ inch deep completely around roast, taking care not to cut string holding roast together. Combine honey, mustard, peppercorns, thyme and salt in small bowl; mix well. Place roast on rack in roasting pan. Spoon or brush 2/3 of honey mixture over pork to coat.

Roast at 325°F 30 minutes; brush with remaining honey mixture. Roast 20 to 30 minutes longer or until meat thermometer registers 155° to 160°F. Let stand, tented with foil, 10 minutes before slicing. Serve with Honey Cranberry Relish.

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school will be: Races of bees and their differences; Bee Behavior and brood rearing; Swarming and swarm control; Package bees and their care; Management techniques; Queen introduction and manipulation; Beehive inspection for disease; Nectar and pollen plants; Discussion of bee pollen, propolis; Wintering feeding and crop pollination; Honey production, supering, removing the honey, processing and marketing honey; tracheal mites and varroa mites; Queen cell grafting; and Equipment, building and assembly.

The fee for the Lane County Bee School is \$15 (\$20 maximum for two people from one family) and includes a beginning book on how to keep bees, materials and slides.

Portland Beekeepers, the WVBA and RUHL BEE SUPPLY will again hold their Bee Field Day this Spring. This was a very well attended event and helped a large number of people to start out the right way. At this time, the date will be either April 27 that Foothills Honey in Colton. See the article on Page 1.

The Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association's Bee School will start on March 12th and runs three consecutive Monday nights (March 19 and 26th) and will held at Room 112, Bldg 50, Chemeketa Community College, Winema Place, Salem.

This popular Beekeeping School, taught by George Hansen of Foothills Honey. Mr. Hansen is not only one of the Northwest's leading commercial beekeepers and president of the Oregon State Beekeepers, he is an exciting and dynamic educator. The cost is only \$20.00 for all three classes and includes the course book, all class materials, and a year's membership in the Willamette Valley Beekeepers Association with its informative monthly newsletter.

Call the WVBA for information and reservations:

Walt Nichol 503-585-5705
 Fritz Skirvin 503-581-9372
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And, RUHL Bee Supply has added a second of their excellent three-night Bee School from 7-9PM on March 19th, 21st, and 26th. The cost is only \$20 and more information can be had by contacting Ruhl Bee Supply at 503-256-4231, or dropping by at 12713-B NE Whitaker Way, Portland, OR 97230

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Honey Cranberry Relish

- 1 medium orange
- 1 pkg. (12 oz) fresh or frozen whole cranberries
- 3/4 cup honey

Quarter and slice unpeeled orange, removing seeds. Coarsely chop orange and cranberries. Place in medium saucepan and stir in honey. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat and cook 3 to 4 minutes. Cool.

Makes 2 1/4 cups.



NOSEMA

Colonies fed FUMIDIL®-B can produce 20% MORE BROOD and 58% MORE HONEY

You can treat package bees with FUMIDIL®-B for as little as 60 cents!

We also carry: TERRA-BROOD® Mix, Terramycin Products, Apistan, Candle Supplies, Gift Boxes!

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Who's Who in the OSBA Resource Guide

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Joann Olstrom

Nectar & pollen plants:
Bertie Stringer

Pollination:

Don Kelley

Laws & regulations:

Fritz Skirvin

Oregon State Fair:

Walf Nichol

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REGIONAL BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS

Coos County

Meets 7:30 p.m. third Friday (except
December)

Coquille Annex, Coquille

President: Steve McGuire,

541-396-3318

Vice president: Doug

Soules, 541-269-7832

Secretary-treasurer:

Beverly Berklund, 541-
759-3301

Klamath County

Meeting dates and sites vary.

Call officers:

President: Ken Crow, 541-
882-1893

Vice president: Chet

Hamaker, 541-882-2404

Lane County

Meets 7:30 p.m. second Tues;
Public Employees Credit
Union,

1155 Chambers St., Eugene

President: Lee Zigler,

541-688-5675

Vice president:

Edgar Elder, 541-998-3199

Treasurer: Jim Sheridan,

541-344-1354

Newsletter Ed.: Open

Portland Area

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

Info: Rosemary Marshall, 503-631-7313

Southern Oregon

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

President: Stan Kee, 541-664-3238

Vice pres.: John Campbell, 541-664-4867

Secretary: George Steffensen,

541-474-4305

Tillamook County

Meets 7 p.m. first Thursday;

Fish & Wildlife Bldg.,

4909 Third St., Tillamook

President: Bob Allen, 541-322-3819

Vice pres.: Fritz Hoffman, 541-842-6856

Sec.-treas.: Gregg Cline, 541-842-6323

Tualatin Valley

Meets 7:30 p.m. second Wed.

PGE Building,

Old Scholls Ferry Road & Murray,

Beaverton

President: Chuck Sowers, 503-636-3127

Vice pres.: Jim Marshall, 502-642-3319

Secretary: Michael Lau, 503-591-8864

Treas.: PattiJo Campbell, 503-690-9341

Willamette Valley

Meets 7:30 p.m. fourth Mon.;

Room 112, Building 50,

Chemeketa Community College, Salem

President: Walt Nichol, 503-585-5705

Vice pres.: Richard Farrier, 541-327-2673

Secretary: Ron Bennett, 503-838-2328

Treasurer: Fritz Skirvin, 503-581-9372

Calendar of Events

March	9	Lane County Bee School, Lane Fairgrounds, Eugene
	12	WVBA BEE SCHOOL, Part 1
	12	Lane County Beekeepers
	13	Tualatin Valley Beekeepers
	14	Portland Beekeepers
	15	Coos County Beekeepers
	19	RUHL Bee School, Part 1, Portland
	19	WVBA BEE SCHOOL, Part 2
	21	RUHL Bee School, Part 2
	26	RUHL Bee School, Part 3
	26	WVBA Meeting & BEE SCHOOL, Part 3
April	1	So. Oregon Beekeepers
	4	Tillamook Beekeepers
	27	Portland Field Day Bee School
May	11	OSBA Spring Field Day, Tillamook
August	3-4	OSBA Summer Picnic and Meeting, Tumalo State Park, Bend
August	5-9	Western Apicultural Society, Hawaii
Nov.	29-30	OSBA Fall Conference, Cannon Beach

Basics in Northwest Beekeeping

by Ron Bennett

In March, we need to look at our colonies and make sure they are ready to start building their population. Watch their stores and don't let colony stores get below 15 lbs. (3 full frames of honey). If they are low, feed the light colonies sugar syrup (1:1).

Now is the time for the colonies to start building population and bees need two things to make new bees, honey and pollen. Some of the pollen sources are already in bloom (Scotch Broom, Pussywillows), but poor weather can keep the bees from these sources, so you may need to feed a pollen substitute if a colony has no access to pollen.

To keep Foulbrood under control, dust all colonies 3 times in ten day intervals with a 3/4 oz. portion of tetracycline in powered sugar, concentration TM-3.

It is a little early to get good queens, so you should

unite queenless colonies to those needing bees.

To balance out colonies with low stores, rob combs of honey from colonies with excessive stores and give them empty comb next to broodnest to expand egg laying.

If we have a warm day, now is a good time to clean the bottom boards.

Remember to remove the Apistan strips after five weeks of treatment.

Look for colonies with nosema, usually hives are streaked with brown feces on the front, and treat with Fumidil-B per instructions supplied with the Fumidil-B. You should also fumigate the comb from nosema infested colonies with 80% acetic acid.

Check your stored comb for possible wax moth infestation and treat with mothballs or expose the combs to sunlight for a few days.

Remember, now is when your colonies will be raising the bees that will start your honey crop and building up and maintaining their population will ensure you receive a good honey crop this year.

LOOK AT YOUR ADDRESS LABEL

Technology has finally caught up with our mailing list. You will note that there is a code or more likely a date after your last name. This is the date of expiration of your membership. We will be tightening up on past due membership dues starting next month. You will stop receiving the *BeeLine* and your membership will be inactive 60 past the due date.

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.

Name _____

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Start your savings now! Get a 25% discount on the following subscriptions through the OSBA.

<i>American Bee Journal</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 yr. \$12.70	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 yrs. \$23.55
<i>Gleanings in Bee Culture</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 yr. \$12.25	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 yrs. \$22.50
<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 yr. \$13.25	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 yrs. \$25.25

Make checks payable to OSBA and send check and this form to: Phyllis Shoemaker, 1874 Winchester NW, Salem, OR 97304

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For Sale - 5 hives with bees in double deep boxes with 1995 queens, \$55 each. Western supers and several boxes of full deep wired foundation as well as other miscellaneous beekeeping items available.

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