

# Oregon / Idaho Beekeepers Fall Conference 2006

## Thursday, October 26

7:00 pm Kick-off Wine and Cheese Social, Agate Beach Ballroom

## Friday, October 27

7:30 am Registration

8:00 am Silent Auction Begins

8:15 am Welcome & Announcements

Mr. Kenny Williams, OSBA President

Mr. Greg Lemmons, IHIA President

### 8:30am Bee School Cove Room

Instructor: Mr. Thom Trusewicz

ccbee@intergate.com

Thom Trusewicz, an organic beekeeper from Astoria serves as the North Coast Regional Representative for the O.S.B.A. Thom has coordinated a highly successful Bee School annually in Clatsop County for the last five years, hosted a Honey Bee Workshops, and helped many new beekeepers through their first years. Thom is a regular contributor to Oregon's regional associations with presentations and articles.

Thom has single-handedly transformed the O.S.B.A. Website, [www.orsba.org](http://www.orsba.org), into a fun, busy and profitable tool for Oregon beekeepers. He added a user forum to the website that gives members and guest from all over the world the chance to exchange ideas on beekeeping. The OSBA website now receives 1500 visitors on the average monthly.



### 8:30am General Session Ball Room

#### 8:30 am Bee Breeding & Future Possibilities

Ms. Susan Cobey

Ohio State University, Dept. of Entomology

400 D Aronoff Lab. 318 West 12th

Columbus, OH 43210

(614)292-7928

Cobey.1@osu.edu

Susan Cobey is Staff Apiarist at Ohio State University, a position that she has held since 1990. She maintains the New World Carniolan breeding program, which she originated in 1981 at Vaca Valley Apiaries in California. The program also serves as a training model for specialized beekeeping short courses offered to beekeepers seeking tools for improving stocks.

In addition to establishing and maintaining the bee breeding program and teaching courses, Susan has published numerous articles in the beekeeping literature on related topics.



**9:15 am Successful Formic Acid Application in Honey Bee Hives**

**David VanderDussen**

NOD Apiaries

(866)-483-2929

www.miteaway.com



David VanderDussen has been involved in beekeeping since 1974. He is owner/operator of River Valley Apiaries, a commercial beekeeping business in Stirling, Ontario, Canada, since 1981.

As past president of the Ontario Beekeepers Association, years 1998, 1999, David still serves as Sergeant of Arms. He has served on the Board of Director for over 10 years. David serves on the Ontario Government Apiculture and Pollination Research and Services Sub-Committee, four years as Chair, 2001-2004.

David is a founding partner of NOD Apiary Products Ltd, since 1997. NOD was initially formed to manufacture the original Mite-Away™ pad, under the auspices of the Provincial Apiarist, who provided the pesticide label used at that time.

In 2001 through 2003, David coordinated research trials to look at expanding the seasonal use range of formic acid as an active ingredient to control the Varroa mite. This led to the development of Mite-AwayII™. Applications for full pesticide registrations were submitted to Health Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2003. Full registrations from both agencies were received in April 2005. April 26, 2005 saw the first fully registered shipment of Mite-AwayII™ enter the US. NY State had a SLN registration the fall before.

David developed the "Bee Cozy" winter wrap, a product now produced and sold by NOD Apiary Products.

David is currently CEO of NOD Apiary Products Ltd, and President of NOD Apiary Products USA Inc, their U.S. based company. The mission and motto of NOD Apiary Products is "We're in the Bee Protection Business!"

David VanderDussen is happily married for 23 years, with three daughters, 18, 19, and 21 years old.

**10:00 am Break**

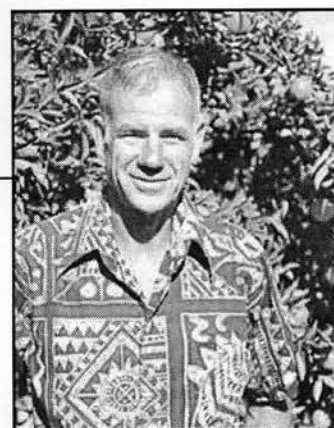
**10:15 am California Almond Pollination**

**Mr. Joe Traynor**

Scientific Ag. Co.

(805) 327-2631

jotrainor@aol.com



After graduating from high school, Joe Traynor served two years in the U.S. Army. He went to University of California at Davis, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Pomology, and received his Master's Degree in Soil Science.

Joe went to work for Valley Pollination Service in Bakersfield California where he was introduced to beekeeping. Soon, Joe had purchased and run 600 colonies of bees. Joe had also worked for a fertilizer company, an Ag consulting company, and Superior Farms (Now Paramount Farms).

Since 1973, Joe has owned and operated Scientific Ag. Co., which is both a pollination service modeled after Valley Pollination Service and a consultation service in soil fertility and plant nutrition.

Joe has authored 2 books, "Ideas in Soil and Plant Nutrition" and "Almond Pollination Handbook for Almond Growers and Beekeepers". He has donated the profits for bee research, primarily for parasitic mite control.

Joe Traynor is the father of 3 children, Pen, Patrick, and Pamela, and has 3 grandchildren, Patrick, Christopher, and Cosette. He has been married to his wife Nema for 39 Years.

**11:00 am Idaho Beekeeping**

Mr. Jay Miller  
Miller's Honey Farms, Inc.  
(208) 684-3172  
<http://webpub.byu.net/mj326/index.htm>



Jay Miller is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation beekeeper from Blackfoot, ID. proof that man does not evolve, he contends. In 1996, Jay along with his older brother John, purchased Miller's Honey Farms, Inc. a 7,000 hive operation from their father Neil.

Prior to taking over ownership of MHF's, Jay ran the honey packing end of MHF's in Idaho and then spent five years buying and selling honey in Florida under the name of Power's Honey.

Currently they run 10,500 hives producing honey in Gackle, North Dakota and Blackfoot, ID. They pollinate Almonds in California, Apples, Apricots, and Cherries in Washington. In excess of 8,000 nucs a year are made just to keep hive count near 10,000 -11,000 hives. They have a crew of 8-10 beekeepers plus an extracting/inside crew of 6-8 people including 2 managers.

Jay has served on the NHB nominations committee as chairman, as a director on the ABF for two terms, and as Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Idaho Honey Industry Association. He received his Bachelors Degree in Marketing in 1991.

Jay married Jeanna Jones and raised a family of six girls, making two of them honey packers, two of them qualified beekeepers, and two as starters on the High School Girls basketball team.

Company Motto: Employee Happiness is job #1. As an employee if you're not happy please repeat the company motto until you are!

**Noon Luncheon : The WSU Bee Breeding Program: Increasing PNW Beekeeper Involvement**

**Dr. Steve Sheppard, WSU**  
Professor, Graduate Faculty  
Apiculturist, Thurber Memorial Chair  
Department of Entomology  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99164-6382 Office: FSHN 252  
Phone: (509) 335-5180  
E-Mail: [shepp@wsu.edu](mailto:shepp@wsu.edu)



Dr. Steve Sheppard holds the Thurber endowed chair in the Department of Entomology at Washington State University. He received his BSc degree from the University of Georgia and his MSc and PhD. from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His research interests include evolution of the Apinae, the origins and diversification of honey bee subspecies and the genetics of colonization.

Current research projects include the molecular systematics of *Apis*, biogeography of Old World honey bees and genetic analysis of introduced (New World) honey bee populations. Related collaborative projects involve the study of population structure and source populations in introduced or host-shifted pest insects.

Beekeeping extension interests include selection and breeding of honey bees for the Pacific Northwest, development of IPM protocols for PNW beekeeping and beekeeping education.

**1:15 pm Honey bee Dissection for Tracheal Mite Infestation.**

**Dr. Diana Sammataro**

Research Entomologist  
Carl Hayden Honey Bee Research Lab  
e-mail: dsammataro@tucson.ars.ag.gov  
Phone: (520) 670-6380 ex 121



Dr. Diana Sammataro received her Ph.D. in Entomology in 1995 at Ohio State University. Her dissertation: *Studies on the control, behavior, and molecular markers of the tracheal mite (Acarapis woodi (Rennie)) of honey bees* (Hymenoptera: Apidae).

Dr. Sammataro is Research Entomologist at the Carl Hayden Honey Bee Research Laboratory in Tucson, Arizona. Her work involves: Applied research on novel controls of bee mites. Conducting experiments, collect data, write results and give presentations. Continued work on developing a novel approach to managing bees and parasitic mites, including new mite controls (volatiles and new products). Additional work includes research on pollination problems, and mite behavior.

Dr. Sammataro has received many awards for her work and published numerous papers, reports and articles related to honeybees and beekeeping. She is the new president of the Western Apicultural Society.

**2:00 pm Cove Room**  
**Honeybee Dissection Lab**

**Dr. Lynn Royce, Dr. Diana Sammataro**

**\*\*\* Program Note: A limit of 8 participants at a time to rotate from general session.\*\*\***

**Dr. Lynn Royce** Applied Entomologist, Oregon  
MiteBee Farm (541)929-5337  
e-mail: mitebee@peak.org

Dr. Lynn Royce received her PhD in Entomology at Oregon State University in 1989.

Dr. Royce later served as an Insect Identification Specialist at Oregon State University. Her research interests include entomology and honeybees. Dr. Royce is well known for her extension and educational outreach work with students and beekeepers across Oregon.

Dr. Royce recently left O.S.U. to pursue her applied skills in the northwest. She is currently involved with rearing some very promising lines of Minnesota Hygienic and Russian queens. Among other traits that she is selecting for, resistance to bacterial diseases and mites is a primary focus.



**2:00 pm Out of Africa; A Story of the Bees of Ethiopia**

**Dr. Marina Meixner**

Research Associate, W.S.U

(509)335-4142

mmeixner@mail.wsu.edu

Dr. Marina Meixner conducted her Ph.D. research on the intraspecific taxonomy of honey bees at the Institut fuer Bienenkunde in Oberursel, Germany. She did a postdoc (1996-97) at WSU in Dr. Sheppard's lab on population genetics of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly in the US. After returning to Germany, She worked at the Universities of Frankfurt and Halle.

In June of 2002 she returned to WSU to participate in the Washington State/Cornell University Honey Bee Breeding Program.



**2:45 pm Break**

**3:00 pm How We Do What We Do, Late Season Logistics**

**Mr. John Jacob**

Old Sol Apiaries

(541)582-2337

www.oldsolenterprises.com

John Jacob became a beekeeper in 1996 shortly after completing a bachelor's degree in biology with minors in economics and chemistry.

John founded Old Sol Enterprises to support and develop sustainable agriculture practices with ongoing projects such as breeding bees for mite resistance. Other projects include queen production, commercial pollination and honey production. As a family run business, John is infinitely assisted by his spouse Mysti Jacob and children Makai and Maya.

John has also serving his third term as President of the Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association.



**3:45 pm Evaluating WSU Honey Bee Stocks in Commercial Operations**

**Mr. Ben Horwath,**

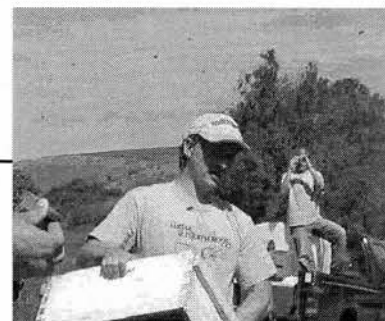
WSU Grad Student

benwah74@hotmail.com

Ben Horwath is a Spokane native and currently resides in Pullman WA attending WSU. Ben's academic career began by earning an AA degree from Spokane Falls Community College in 2003. He then moved on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Biology at WSU in 2005.

Ben is currently working under Dr. Steve Sheppard in the Apis Molecular Systematics lab at WSU. He is at the end of his first year as a graduate student working towards a Masters of Science in Entomology.

Ben is currently working on an applied project dealing with comparing queens selected for apiculturally advantageous traits that are being bred at WSU to commercially obtained package queens used in commercial migratory operations in the PNW. Ben's other interests include insect taxonomy, fishing, hunting, camping, and various other outdoor activities. Ben spends most of his free time gardening, collecting and preparing his insect collection and fishing on the Snake River.



4:00 pm Silent Auction Ends

4:30-5:45 pm State Business Meetings

**\*\* Locations\*\***

Idaho Honey Industry Association: upper lobby meeting area.

Oregon State Beekeepers Association: Cove room

6:00 pm Social Hour Agate Beach Ball Room

7:00 pm Banquet

Keynote Address:

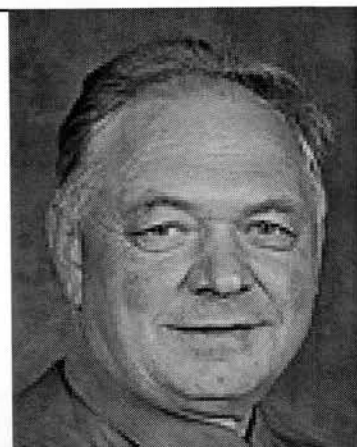
**"Grumpy Old Beekeepers"**

George Hansen

George Hansen became a beekeeper after a first career as a teacher in a bilingual education project. Since starting the Foothills Honey Company from scratch 30 years ago, George and his wife Susan now run 3,500 colonies in Oregon, Washington and California. Hansen is also a partner in a second beekeeping venture in Montana.

George has served as president on several occasions in the Oregon State Beekeepers Association. George holds the OSBA Annual Field Day and has directed an annual bee school for many years in the Willamette Valley.

He is currently is on the Board of Directors of the American Beekeeping Federation, and the Foundation for the Preservation of the Honeybee. Hansen is serving his third term as a director on the Colton School District, having been chairman and vice chairman.



## **Saturday, October 28**

7:30 am Registration

8:15 am **Welcome & Announcements**  
Mr. Kenny Williams O.S.B.A. President  
Mr. Greg Lemmons, IHIA President

8:30 am **General Session** Ball Room  
**Bee School** Cove Room

8:30 am **Carl Hayden Research Lab**  
Dr. Diana Sammataro

9:15 am **Instrumental Insemination Techniques**  
**and Queen Performance**  
Ms. Susan Cobey

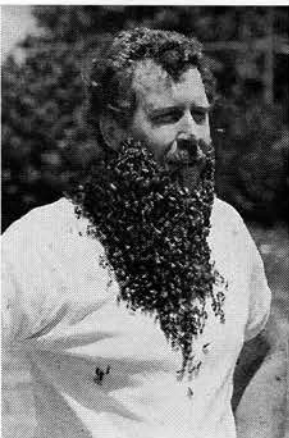
10:00 am Break

10:15 am **Boots on the Ground Decision Making**  
**to Address Emerging and Current Issues**  
Mr. David VanderDussen

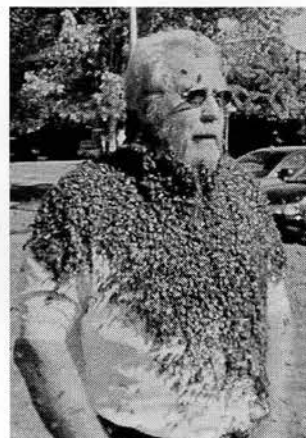
11:00 am **Doolittle's Scientific Queen Rearing and the**  
**Current Genetic Diversity of U.S. Bee Populations**  
Dr. Steve Sheppard, WSU

Noon: **Luncheon**  
**Pollination Pricing; Are we Just Stashing Bees?**  
**Panel Discussion**  
Mr. Jay Miller, Moderator

1:15 pm **Candle Making**  
Mr. Chuck Sowers,  
Sowers Apiaries,  
Canby Oregon  
503-266-1740



Chuck Sowers earned his masters degree at the University of Idaho in math and statistics. After an additional two years of college, Chuck went on to teach math and physics for a total of 38 years. Like many beekeepers, Chuck and his wife Jeanne started into beekeeping with just a couple of hives. Soon they decided that beekeeping fit well with a teachers schedule as a summer job. Since that decision was made, Chuck and Jeanne, along with their 5 children have developed a very successful beekeeping operation in Canby Oregon; Sowers Apiaries. Now with over 1500 hives and 31 years of beekeeping experience, Chuck and his son Chad continue, with a great beekeeping success story!



### **General Session Ball Room**

2:00 pm **National Honey Board Report**  
Mr. George Hansen

2:45 pm Break

3:00 pm **Panel Discussion Q & A**  
Dr. Lynn Royce, Moderator

3:45 pm **Final Comments**  
Mr. Kenny Williams

4:00pm Adjourn

### **Cove Room**

2:00pm Candle Making Lab

