

**W.V.B.A.
Newsletter
July 2005**

Willamette Valley  Beekeepers Association,

Willamette Valley
Beekeeper

Meeting Notes

Evan Burroughs

Minutes of WVBA Meeting 27 June 2005

The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by President Ken Kite.

Vice-President Mike reported on swarms, there have been a lot near Corvallis and Albany and the South end of Lancaster Drive. Not so many North of Salem.

Treasurers Report - \$2323.12 in the bank.

A variety of guests and visitors were present, some interested in bees, others had just acquired bees.

Suzy spoke about the upcoming picnic and reminded us to donate to the silent auction in support of the research position at OSU. She mentioned that Kenny Williams will be at the picnic to speak about "Beekeeping gadgets thru the years".

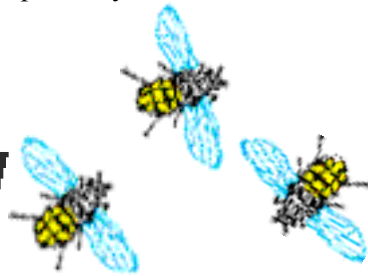
President Ken mentioned the State Fair Booth and passed around the sign-up sheet.



Fritz spoke about the Small Hive Beetle.

Our program was on preparing bee products for display at the State Fair.

Respectfully submitted,



- August-** Crops in bloom producing nectar and/or pollen: alfalfa, various herbs, carrot, clover, corn, fireweed, mint, mustard, pumpkin, spearmint. Others: hollyhock, snowberry, thistle.
- Provide water continuously.
 - Remove supers containing well ripened honey to extract before starting medication program.
 - Any extracting should be done as early in the month as possible.
 - Between Aug. 1 and Aug. 15 mite meds should go in along with Terramycin powder/powdered sugar mix on end bars.
 - Don't tempt robber bees by exposing hives.
 - Don't work the brood nest unless necessary; stop if robbing starts.
 - Reduce entrances to a bee space on weak colonies after hot days are over, to reduce robbing out.
 - Check stored comb for wax moth infestation and place any extracted honey frames to be stored in a dry, cool area, with moth crystals.
 - Depending on your apiary location and on the weather, a critical nectar dearth exists between July 10 and Sept. 1. Leave 40-50 lbs. of honey in each colony for fall buildup or feed equivalent amount of sugar syrup (2:1). Feed supplementary pollen if stored pollen is inadequate.

View From the Entrance

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Most of this column includes plagiarisms of last year's report since this year's picnic/potluck format is near identical to the previous one. But before that let's consider our bees. Finally, the rain (showers?) have slowed enough for the bees to make lots of honey. I've removed five supers so far from my three plus two hives and expect at least two or three more filled supers before early to mid-August. But there's really not a lot of time left to get in the last bit of honey. If we wait too long to begin our fall medications it may be too cool, for at least those treatments that need to volatilize, or the mites too numerous in the bees that will over-winter for the hive to survive. Remember the club has at least one honey extractor, hot knife and other equipment you can borrow to remove your honey.

Remember the fair is coming up and the sign-up sheet to help staff the OSBA bee information booth will be at the picnic. Just because you're a newbie doesn't mean you can't inform others. You know a lot about bees and much more than the average person who thinks that yellow jackets, wasps and hornets are just other types of bees. It's a great experience and you get in to the fair free, free parking and before and after your shift you get to tour the exhibits, have a snow cone and/or elephant ear and learn about the latest "magic" does everything, cures all your ailments, and makes your teeth whiter device and elixir."

The details for the picnic have been filled in and it's a go. Same format as last years' picnic. It's a potluck, so bring a dish (whatever you want to bring from a casserole to a dessert) to share is a good idea. We will have fried and baked chicken plus sodas, so you don't have to be elaborate in deciding if or what to bring. The line-up looks like this:

1) Food and Drinks - in addition to the chicken, dogs and sodas we will have a BBQ available for those who might want to bring veggie burgers or steaks (you don't have to share these.) We will also have last year's favorites - marion berry lemonade and homemade honey ice cream. There will be plenty for all and enough choices that the little ones and Fritz will find much to their liking.

2) Serving Supplies - the club will supply everything from plates, tableware, napkins, serving utensils (within limits), to tables, chairs, tablecloths, salt & pepper and whatever. Members should consider bringing additional seating and their preferred tableware. Our paper plates and plastic tableware may not survive the onslaught of a juicy steak or being piled six inches high with goodies.

3) Presentations - Kenny Williams will talk about gadgets and gizmos that aid and simplify beekeeping.

4) Show-n-Tell- for sure we will have some really old beekeeping equipment (courtesy of Susan's dad), a wax melter, homemade extractor and frame-making jig. Jim Walker will be on hand to demonstrate smoker lighting and how the frame-making jig is used and how it can make assembly almost fun.

5) Door Prizes, Contests and Games-There might be a contest tossing honey comb back and forth until everyone is a mess. Just kidding-well maybe not. It will probably be water-filled balloons.

We will have a smoker lighting contest divided into two categories. One for newbees (one year or less) and oldbees (more than one year.) Smokers, fuel and matches will be provided. The object is to see how fast you can get the smoker lit and stay lit.

We should also have badminton, crochet and a bean bag toss game for those who would rather be active then sitting and trading tall tales with Fritz, Ron myself and other really "old-time" beekeepers.

There will be prizes for the various contests and drawings for lot of good stuff including frame spacers, medications and tools.

6) Silent Auction- there will be a number of beekeeping and collector items to bid on, including woodware, cookie jar, glassware and candles. There will be new and used stuff and at least one thing you can't live without. Remember donate (bring an item) and all proceeds go to funding beekeeping research.

7) Attendance- for the picnic to be successful we need as many members, including all officers to attend. Invitations have been sent to Oregon State Beekeeper's Association (OSBA), prior guest speakers and others. At least some of them will be there. So there will be an opportunity to meet and discuss beekeeping with others who may well have ideas and opinions new to you. To encourage attendance we (the officers) will be making phone calls in the next few days. Be prepared to say yes when we ask if you are attending.

8) Timing- the doors will open at 12:00 PM and Jenny Bee will be here to help direct parking traffic. The space in front of Susan's garage is reserved for Evan so anticipate parking in the "field" to the immediate north of Susan's house or along the west side of Park Avenue.

We will try to have everything ready by 12:30 but no later than 1:00 the serving will start. After about an hour to eat, relax and trade tales, there will be games, contests, and demonstrations. If all goes as planned, most activities will be done by 4:00 PM. We can all relax for another hour or so and trade more stories including those about the "wily, treacherous and elusive swarms" encountered this year.

The assignments and responsibilities are as follows:

Task/Supply	Person
Parking	Jenny
Door Prizes/Silent Auction	Susan and Mike
Presentations/Contests	
Gadgets and Gizmos	Kenny Williams
Smoker Contest	Jim Walker
Frame Making	Jim Walker
Bean Bag Toss	Mike Rodia

VP continued on pg. 3

Classifieds

FOR SALE :

- 1) New deep wood frames / 1000
 - 2) Plastic foundation (white & black) / 500
 - 3) New full deep boxes, bottoms & tops
- 503-559-9899**

W.V.B.A. Officers

President	Ken Kite	503-871-0875
Vice-President	Mike Rodia	503-364-3275
Treasurer	Susan Rauchfuss	503-391-5600
Secretary	Evan Burroughs	503-585-5924
Bee School	Harry Vanderpool	503-399-3675
Hospitality	Jenny Bee	
Librarian	Evan Burroughs	503-585-5924
Newletter	Gordon Kroemer	503-538-2307
Equipment	Jim Walker	503-581-2371



VP continued from pg. 2

Crochet	Susan
Badminton	Mike Rodia
Balloons	Susan/Mike
Show-n-tell	
Wax Melter	Mike Rodia
Old-Time Equipment	Susan's Dad
Frame Maker	Jim Walker
Food-Fixings	
Chicken	Mike
Condiments	Susan
Pop/Ice	Susan
Potluck Dishes	Members
Serving Things	
Tables	Susan/Mike
Chairs	Susan/Mike/Members
Plates/Tableware/Cups	Susan
Tablecloths/Napkins	Susan
BBQ	Mike

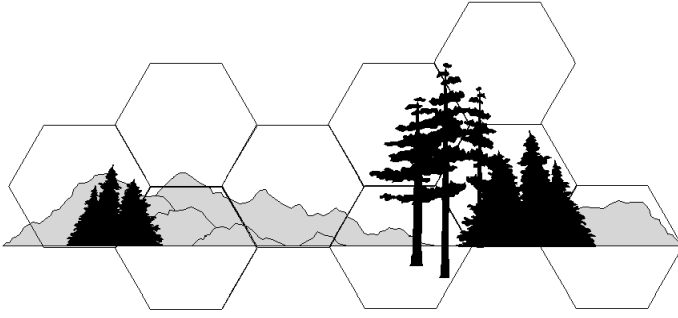
Hoping and expecting to see you all at the picnic that famous beekeeper Harry calls "the best beekeeper picnic he or you will ever go to!"

State Fair

It's time once again to sign up for our shifts at the OSBA booth at the Oregon State Fair. We will need lots of folks to work in the booth and prime time slots will go fast. As usual it will be first come, first served, so now is the time to reserve your favorite shift. Do it at the picnic.

Keep in mind that this is your free ticket into the fair (and free parking) on the days that you work. This is a valuable opportunity to share your beekeeping knowledge with the general public and to maybe interest others in our activities. We all need to spread the word on how important our little girls are to our survival and to recruit new beekeepers.

As an additional incentive this year the OSBA will again offer a chance at a free tuition to their annual Fall Conference to each person who donates their time in the bee booth. Everyone will receive one free raffle ticket for each shift worked in the booth.



Willamette Valley  Beekeepers Association

P.O. Box 13245
Salem, Oregon 97301



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Gordon Kroemer, Editor, solicits all members
and interested parties for news, tidbits, recipes,
artwork, ads, etc.
He may be reached at: kroemer@teleport.com
or
Gordon Kroemer
29950 NE Wilsonville Rd.
Newberg OR 97132

August 22 - Apitherapy
August 25-September 5 -
State Fair
September 26 - Candle
Making
October 24 - Hobbyist to
Sidliner to
Commercial
November 28 - Splits,
Nucs, and Requeening

July 24 - WVBA Picnic

July Meeting Schedule

This month's meeting will be held on July
24th at Noon at Suzy's.

(Map inside.)

The topic is "Beekeeping gadgets thru the
years".

Presenter: Keyyn Williams

SEE YOU THERE!