

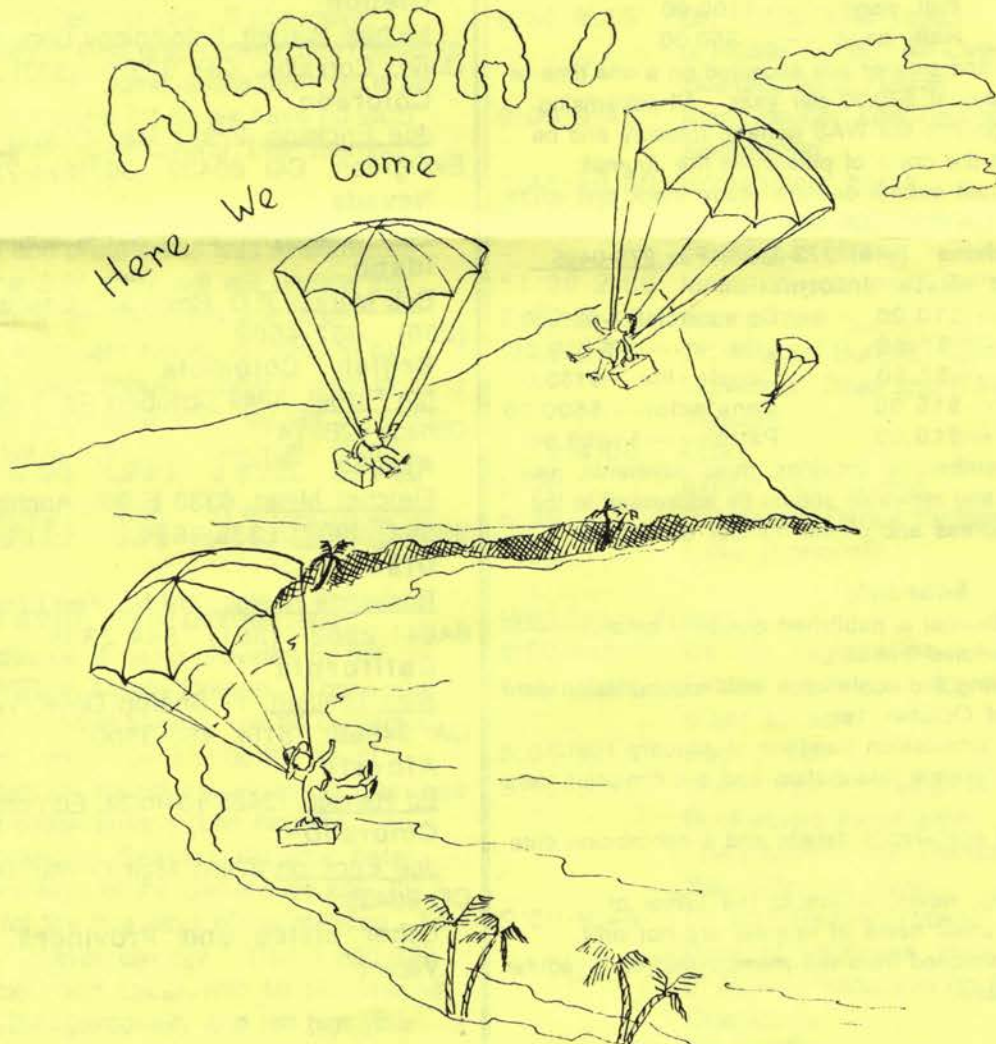


W.A.S. JOURNAL

THE WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY
OF NORTH AMERICA

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 2

APRIL 1996



Western Apicultural Society of North America

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Membership Rate Information

Individual-----\$10.00	Commercial---\$50.00
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Associate-----\$10.00	Patron-----\$1000.00

All membership inquiries, dues payments, new memberships and renewals should be addressed to the treasurer. (Address and phone number above)

Publication Schedule

The Journal is published quarterly on a regularly scheduled basis:
October following the conference with a submission date for material of October 1st.

January with submission deadline of January 10th.

April with conference information and a submission date of April 1st.

July with final conference details and a submission date of June 15th.

Articles, news, letters to the Editor or President, or other items of interest are not only welcome but solicited from the membership on a regular or one time basis.

Board of Directors



Each state/province in Western North America is entitled to elect one Director on the governing board of the Society. Directors meet before and after each general meeting and set policy and guidelines for the operation of the business of the Society. Throughout the year they serve as the liaison between the Society officers and the members in their respective states. They are responsible for recruiting new members, keeping track of state concerns and advising the membership of their activities through this Journal. The board currently consists of the following members:

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Vacant

W.A.S. Has gone On-line ! !

W.A.S. has gone on-line at the request of the board of directors. The board felt it would facilitate communications between Ron Neese, Treasurer, Mike Burgett, Program Chairman, Russ Messing, President and the Journal editor. This is especially true since there is a 3 hour time difference between the west coast and Hawaii. It will also keep the phone bills down. You can reach W.A.S. (Ron Neese, Treasurer) on the internet at: was@mother.com. If you have any suggestions or ideas about how to use our internet connection to better benefit, send an e-mail note to the above address. The Journal Editor can be reached at burtsbs@nccn.net

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

The mailing list

Please keep us informed of your *current* mailing address. We would like to insure that you receive your Journals and must have a correct mailing address to get it to you. If you move, change addresses or post office boxes, don't forget to send us a change card. Some names have had to be deleted from the mailing list as we have no valid addresses. This includes several "Life" members.

This issue

This issue contains such information on the conference site and program as was available at issue time. The July issue will update this information with a firm program and final arrangements. Members having material to be included in that issue should submit it prior to June 15th, by mail in scannable form, by fax or e-mail.

**SEE YA ON THE BIG
ISLAND IN AUGUST**

Travel Information

Travel assistance is being provided by the **ALBANY TRAVEL** in Albany Oregon. Those who have preregistered have been or will be contacted directly by them. As it now stands the travel package includes (1) round trip air travel from one of several west coast airports (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland or Seattle), (2) your hotel room for the five days of the conference and, (3) a free rental car for the five days of the meeting. To contact Albany Travel directly: Call 1-800-327-2699, (a free call) and speak with Mr Paul Heins. Please ask for him personally and tell him your travel is for the WAS 96 Hawaiian Adventure. Deposits and fares can be arranged with Paul.

Preliminary Program Western Apiculture Society Conference August 5-9, 1996

Monday, August 5

- 8:00-noon: Exhibitor set-up: no visitors
- 1:00-5:00 On-site registration
Exhibit room open for visitors/
silent auction
- 3:30- 5:00 Delegates & Directors meeting
- 7:00 Welcome reception with heavy pupus
and drinks.

Tuesday, August 6

- 8:00-noon On-site registration
- 8:00 Exhibit room open for visitors/
silent auction
- 8:05-8:15 door prizes
- 8:15-8:30 Greeting from the Mayor, or Farm
Bureau, or ??
- 8:30-9:15 Dr. Loma Arita-Tsutumi, University
of Hawaii at Hilo *An Overview of
Beekeeping in Hawaii*
- 9:00-9:45 Alan Spencer: *Low Technology
Beekeeping*
- 9:45-10:00 refreshment break
- 10:00-10:45 Gus Rouse, Kona Queens: *Queen
Rearing in Hawaii*
- 11:00-2:00 lunch on your own/ swimming
- 2:20-2:30 door prizes
- 2:30-3:15 Dr. Michael Burgett - Oregon State
University *Bees and Religious
Thought*
- 3:15-4:00 Open
- 5:00 exhibit room closes
- 5:30 Polynesian Dance Performance
- 7:00 Luau (optional)

Wednesday, August 7

- 8:00-noon On-site registration
- 8:00-noon Exhibit room open for visitors/
silent auction
- 8:05-8:15 Door prizes
- 8:15-9:00 Walter Patton, Hawaii Island
Beekeepers Association
*The Problem with Transshipment of
Bees Through Hawaii*
- 9:00-9:45 Dr. Neil Reimer, Hawaii
Dept. of Agriculture, Honolulu, *State
Of Hawaii Prspective on Bee
Quarantine*
- 9:45-10:00 Refreshment break

- 10:00-10:45 Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki
(USDA, Beltsville, MD *"Importation
of Honey Bee Genetic Material into
the U.S.*
- 11:00-4:30 box lunch / visit to Kona Queens and
Capt. Cook Honey (carpool)
- 5:00-7:00 dinner on your own
- 7:00 honey swap (poolside)

Thursday, August 8

- 8:00-noon On site registration
- 8:00-noon Exhibit room open for visitors and
silent auction
- 8:05-8:15 Door prizes
- 8:15-9:00 Dr W. S. Sheppard, Washington
State University, *The Africanization
of American Bee Stock*
- 9:00-9:45 Dr Eric Mussen, University of
California at Davis, *TBA*
- 9:45-10:00 Refreshment break
- 10:00-11:00 Open--TBA
- 11:00-2:00 Lunch/swimming
- 2:30-3:30 Annual Business Meeting
- 4:00-5:00 Delegates and Directors-Meeting
- 5:00 Exhibit Room closes
- 6:45 Banquet/Awards/Auction

Friday, August 9

- 9:00-5:00 Visit to City of Refuge (1/2 day) or
to the Volcano (full day) (carpool).

Note: Bus tours are expensive. Since almost everyone will have a rental car anyway, it makes more sense to carpool both to the beekeeping operations (about a 15 minute drive) and to the City of Refuge (a restored Hawaiian village..about 20 minutes away and the Volcano (about 2 hours). A lead car can guide a caravan to all sites.

Among the many optional side affairs available for your pleasure and amusement will be: A group luau, dive with manta rays (\$50.00), hula lessons, lei making (\$3.00), coconut painting (\$3.00), golf (\$50-60), charter fishing (\$50), light plane tour (\$100-150), zodiac raft cruise (\$65) and a submarine cruise (\$75-85)

Costs

Your \$200.00 preregistration fee should cover both the conference registration fee of \$125.00 which includes: talks and refreshments, reception, box lunches, awards banquet, Polynesian review, and miscellaneous WAS conference expense; and the luau, which will either be put on by the resort or



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by an establishment in town depending on the number signing up.

Your travel costs, of course will vary, depending on your point of departure and the type of air accommodations requested. Work that out with the Travel people.

About the Conference Site

The conference will be hosted by the Kona Surf Resort and Country Club, 78-128 Ehukai Street, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740. Phone: 808-322-3411 Fax 808-322-3245. For reservations, calls from US or Canada will be taken on 1-800-367-8011.

The Kona Surf is a self contained resort situated on a 21 acre private peninsula, 6 miles south of Kailua-Kona, on the Big Island of Hawaii. The architecture and the layout of the hotel have been designed to take full advantage of both the natural beauty and the historical value of the area. It is located on the point of Keauhou Bay, part of the majestic coast line of the Big Island.

Built on varied levels, the Resort has three wings extending on dramatic cliffs to the ocean front and a six-story tower set back in an exotic garden setting--all providing excellent views. Well appointed, spacious, air conditioned rooms with color TV, phone, refrigerator, coffee maker, separate dressing areas and balcony. Rooms are available for non-smokers and the physically challenged.

We are receiving a special rate at the hotel for three nights prior to and three nights after the meetings. We can also arrange for visits to the other islands. Call Albany Travel for airfare as soon as possible. Rates are currently very reasonable. Again, reserve travel early. Call Albany Travel at 1-800-327-2699 and ask for Paul (P O Box 517--941 Geary SE, Albany, OR 97321.

Winter Losses


Dr Michael Burgett at Oregon state University has been making a study of winter losses in Oregon over the last several years. Of special interest are the losses since the arrival of tracheal mites in 1985 and Varroa mites in 1989.

For the past eight years, losses of commercial colonies have been in excess of 20% annually. The 1993-94 winter was worse, with a 25% loss and 1994-95 was only 1% better. Semi commercial or sideline beekeepers had even greater losses, reaching a high of 38% last winter.

Mike also reports hearing of colonies collapsing right after honeyflow. (Ed note: This is also happening in other areas, noticeably where I am in California. We must treat with strips immediately upon harvesting). In his survey not much loss was noticed before September and about half the losses had occurred by December. The rest occurred in early spring--January to March. It was also noted that colonies that received no treatment suffered a 66% loss.

	Commercial (>300)	Non Commercial (<300)	# in survey
1995	24%	38%	50,058
1994	25	37	39,405
1993	17	33	21,791
1992	22	13	17,418
1991	19	17	20,624
1990	21	22	25,352
1989	22	13	10,812
Average:	21.4%	24.7%	

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Selected Short Subjects (from various sources)

About the Big Island

The Big Island is the biggest, the highest, widest and the youngest of the islands. It is twice as large as all the other Hawaiian islands combined and is still growing.

While all these islands were formed by volcanoes, The Big Island is the only place where this awesome act of creation can still be witnessed. An eruption which has been going on more or less continuously since 1985 sends fiery lava pouring down a moonscape mountain slope and cascading off an ever-enlarging cliff into a furiously boiling sea.

Back up at the source in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, immense Kilauea caldera steams constantly, and visitors to the park are sometimes able to see towering orange and red geysers of molten lava shooting 300 to 400 feet into the air.

But Kilauea is just one of the Big Island volcanoes. Awesome Mauna Kea, now extinct, towers 13,796 feet above sea level and is often snow-capped in winter. You can ski on Mauna Kea in the day and return to your hotel for a sunset swim in the warm surf.

Contrasts such as these abound. On the Big Island, you can drive by lush tropical valleys with jungle waterfalls, and in an hour find yourself in "Big Sky" country that looks for all the world like Wyoming or Montana.

Hilo, Waimea and Kailua-Kona are the three major towns on the island. One is known for orchids, another for rodeos and the third for deep-sea marlin fishing.

The Big Island is where the ancient Polynesian discoverers first made landfall in Hawaii, and this is where the European discoverer, Captain Cook, met his end at the hands of their descendants. This is the island where Kamehameha I was born, the King who united all the Hawaiian islands. Here is where the first Christian Church was built in the year after Kamehameha died.

The history is real and accessible and the legends are fascinating. The present is marvelous too. From one end to the other, it can be a journey of discovery and adventure.

You are invited to take advantage of all the marvels of Hawaii in conjunction with your trip to attend the Hawaiian Adventure Conference of your Western Apicultural Society, August 5th thru 9th, 1996.

New IBRA Director Hired

The IBRA has announced the appointment of Richard Jones as the new Association Director. He is a qualified teacher with a Master's degree from Birmingham University. (UK). He will head a staff of eight continuing the work of dispensing and disseminating information on all aspects of bees and related subjects. The International Bee Research Association can be reached at 18 North Road, Cardiff CF1 3DY, UK Tel: (+44) 222 372409.

Instrumental Insemination Short Course set at Ohio State

An intensive three day course on the technique of instrumental insemination and bee breeding will be offered Wednesday thru Friday, June 19, 20, and 21. Classes are being taught by Susan Cobey who has had extensive experience in the field and who is the author of many articles on related topics. Susan is well known and highly regarded by many WAS members. Registration information can be obtained from: Susan Cobey, Dept. of Entomology, 1735 Neil Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43210. Phone (614) 292-7928. Fax (614) 292-2180. E-mail: scobey@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu

Honeyscotch Sundae

(from ABJ's The Family by Shirley Moeller)

Yield 1-1/2 cups

6	tablespoons butter
2	teaspoons cornstarch
1-1/3	cups honey
1/2	cup chopped pecans

In a saucepan, melt butter over low heat; stir in cornstarch. Add honey and cook, stirring constantly, until mixture boils. Add pecans. Serve warm over ice cream.



Hantavirus--a Possible Hazard for Beekeepers

Several recent TV news items and warnings from health officials have reminded us that beekeepers too could be exposed to the hantavirus, not only by cleaning out our unused honey houses or warehouses but by handling rodent infested supers, during our spring management chores.

The disease is Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) The culprit in spreading this disease is our old enemy, the mouse. Many species of mice are suspected of being carriers. As far as is known, no beekeepers have yet become infected through handling of infested hives but deaths have occurred as a result of exposure to this virus. The first deaths reported in this country were in the four corners area of New Mexico in May 1993. Several different strains of the virus have been isolated in various areas of the United States (including just this past week a warning from Central California). Each strain may have different levels of toxicity on individuals who may also exhibit different types of symptoms and levels of discomfort or sickness.

A milder version of the virus was incurred by many US soldiers in Korea. There were many fatalities and the virus was named after the Hantaan River in South Korea. There is a 45 day incubation period which makes the diagnosis difficult but it appears that the most common source is the inhalation of dust from rodent feces, urine or saliva. It does not appear to be transmittable from person to person, but it is also thought that it can be transmitted if contaminated materials are directly introduced into the body through broken skin, the eyes, or as a result of a rodent bite.

The illness begins with flu-like symptoms and nausea, then there may be a rapid onset of respiratory problems from the lungs filling with plasma. Some strains cause kidney malfunction and almost half of the cases are fatal. It is treatable if caught soon after infection.

Precautions against incurring this disease include:

(1) Disinfect any supers which exhibit any rodent damage with a general purpose disinfectant such as Lysol or regular household bleach.

(2) Wear rubber gloves when handling supers or other mouse contaminated equipment and disinfect the gloves before removing them.

(3) Put rodent contaminated waste and cleaning materials in a sealed plastic container and dispose of them in a sealed garbage bag or other container.

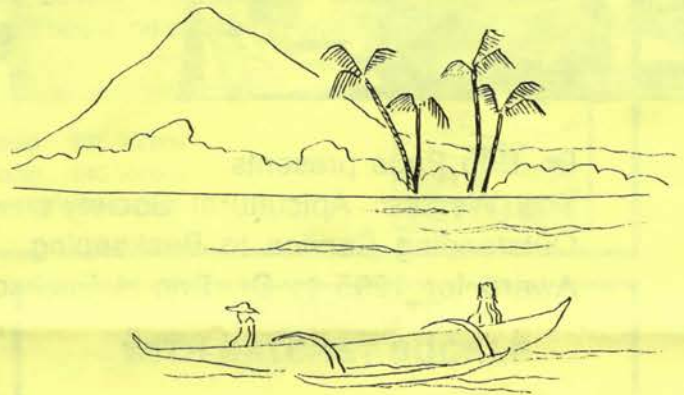
(4) If cleaning warehouses or other floors where there may be rodent contamination, wet down and mop rather than raise a dust by sweeping.

(5) If respiratory distress occurs within 45 days after possible exposure seek medical attention and tell the doctor of the possibility of Hanta.

(6) Every effort should be made to keep honey houses and storage areas free of rodents by the use of rodenticide and traps.

More information is available from the Center for Disease Control, Phone (404) 639-1510 and on the net from Website:

<http://www.edc.gov/diseases/hanta>



More from the Editor

Your editor is looking for contributions to your Journal. I am receptive to articles by members, articles found by members that they would like to share, art work, cartoons or humor, photos that will halftone nicely, honey cookery recipes, and most anything else of interest that you would like to see in the Journal. I see very little use in reproducing material that appears in the Bee Journals or Eric's News letter, though I will do that sometimes when the subject is of general interest or very important. I want to hear from you with suggestions and would do a "Letters" page if I ever get any letters. We are looking for more advertisers too, so those of you who would like to run an ad or just your card as a booster item, check out the advertising agreement on the inside back cover. Don't forget to send in your WAS dues and to notify us of any change in your mailing address--Burt, (916) 273-0736, Fax (916) 273-0495

E-mail: burtsbs@nccn.net



Dr. Bob Page presents
The Western Apicultural Society's
Outstanding Service to Beekeeping
Award for 1995 to Dr. Eric H Erickson

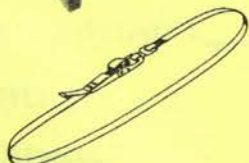


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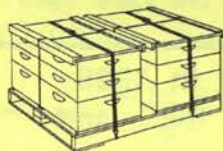
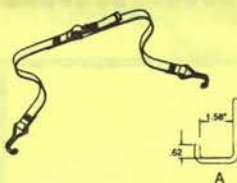
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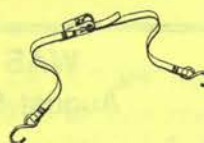
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Western Apicultural Society
P.O. Box 681
Woodland, CA 95776

If you have any questions concerning our meeting please contact the Program Chairman for WAS-96; Michael Burgett, Department of Entomology, Oregon State University, 2046 Cordley Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-2907 {tele: (503) 737-4896 - email: burgettm@bcc.orst.edu}

=====

WAS IN HAWAII in 1996
August 5 - 9 on the Big Island

YES!!!! I do plan on attending!!!!

And **YES**, I have enclosed my pre-registration deposit of \$200.00.

Name: _____

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Make checks payable to WAS and mail to:

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THE JOURNAL OF THE WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA



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Mail to: Burt Spangler, Editor
451 Mill Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Enclose: "camera ready" copy and signed copy of this agreement with full payment.

Signed _____ Date _____

The WAS Journal is published quarterly at Grass Valley, CA and distributed to the membership of the society, free of further charge. The mailing list numbers between 200 and 300 copies, and goes primarily to the western United states and Canada.

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