

W.A.S.

Western Apicultural Society Journal

Vol. 6 · No. 1

October 1983

Seattle Host Committee Justifiably Proud

The 6th Annual Conference of the Western Apicultural Society was the first to be organized and conducted by a multi-membered Host Committee. Other firsts included: 4 1/2 days of programming instead of 3 days, 22 formal speaking presentations instead of the usual 12 or so, printing of a formal proceedings which included the talks of most speakers, and assuming responsibilities normally assigned to campus conference coordinators in order to keep costs minimal. It all worked!

Conference attendance increased by 65% over that of the year before, due mainly to a very strong showing of participants from Washington (71) and good turnouts from California (50) and British Columbia (20). Names and addresses of attendees are available to current, dues paid members of W.A.S. from Zandy Neese, 711 College Street, Woodland, CA 95695.

The following summaries of some of the meeting events were distributed, with different photographs, to various industry trade journals. They appear here in chronological order.

President Dan Mayer opened the meeting with a keynote address reminding participants of the enormous value of bees and pollination. Dan quickly reviewed the products of the hive and referred to the growing interest in hive products other than honey, especially as food supplements or medicinal remedies. He concluded that the honey bee was "Man's Best Friend." He'll probably be hearing from dog and cat owners soon on that opinion!

Dr. Mike Burgett integrated results from his bee behavior studies into his presentation on requeening hives. His data show, with few exceptions, that worker honey bees can recognize and prefer to be with their own mother queen even after spending weeks in another hive working for another queen. Mike feels that this work indicates that queens are easily differentiated by worker bees, strong preferences for "true" mother queens exist, and colonies must be dequeenened before being requeened if a high rate of success of requeening is desired.

Roger Akre, world renowned expert on wasps, discussed the similarities between yellow jackets and honey bees (which many believe are wasps which have turned from predation to vegetarianism). During his discussion of wasps he noted that the German yellowjacket, *Paravespula germanica*, a recent introduction into the United States, has been found in Washington. This extremely aggressive wasp is much more apt to pester honey bees in their hives than any other wasps we have in this country. What their effects on beekeeping will be remains to be seen.

The demonstrations were particularly good. Bill Rahr showed how an experienced craftsman can cut all parts of hive bodies and frames on a table saw. Les Molnar, European Master Beekeeper, demonstrated how he makes sheets of foundation, 4 ounces in

weight, in a Hertzog Foundation mold. Joe Fiamengo dipped candles and showed how to avoid common mistakes in procedure. Roy Thurber discussed bear fences, and Roger Akre showed how most successful close-up photographers get good photographs using very expensive lenses or surprising inexpensive homemade substitutes.

Dick Hunger, an avid believer of intensive management and maximum yield from every colony of bees he operates, described his system of doubling his hive numbers during early summer and combining them in late July to make 6, 7, or 8 box, 2-queen (until they get together) colonies which work the main nectar flow. He uses newspaper between the colonies when combining.

Dick guesses that 70-90% of the "new" queens he purchases for the divides win the battle and go on to be the overwintering queens. There is no guessing about the honey yields. He produces almost 3X as much honey from a doubled up unit (7 deeps) as he does from a single unit (4 or 5 deeps). Although weather is a factor, Dick's bees produce between 85 and 175 pounds of fireweed or 150-250 pounds of thistle honey each year. It might also be mentioned that Dick commands \$50 per colony for vine seed crop pollination in his area of the State of Washington.

Cynthia Scott, a student at Simon Fraser University, has determined that the bumblebee wax moth, *Vitula edmandsae*, is a chief economic pest of stored beeswax combs in western Canada. The moth adult and larva look extremely similar to the Mediterranean flour moth, which often is found eating a bit of pollen from stored combs and producing some webbing, chiefly when sealing itself in a cell to pupate. Bumble bee wax moth larvae chew through comb cells and foundation midribs like greater wax moth. They can totally destroy combs and convert the wax to masses of webbing liberally dotted with fecal pellets. This moth is only slightly less damaging than the greater wax moth, because it does not chew into the wood to form a chamber before pupating.

The bumble bee wax moth, known in California by the Entomological Society of America accepted common name "dried fruit moth," is distributed all along the west coast. *Vitula e.* is much better adapted to cold weather than the greater wax moth. Thus, west coast beekeepers who desire to protect their stored combs by keeping them cool may find much more damage than expected if they set the thermostat at levels adequate for controlling only greater wax moth.

Doug McCutcheon, Apiary Specialist at Surrey, British Columbia, reviewed the successes and failures of their attempts to overwinter queen bees in Canada. The long term goal of these studies is to become self-sufficient in queen and packaged bee production. Since queens can be reared and mated best in mid summer, the question is how to maintain large quantities of these queens until the next spring.

Two methods of wintering queens have been studied: small nuclei and compartments in larger hives. Attempts to overwinter seven queens to a box, each in one frame nuclei (6 dividers in a standard deep box), were unsuccessful. The nucs were hard to feed and pollen stores ran out too early. By dividing a standard box with three dividers, four 2-frame nuclei could be housed together. Each nucleus was established with one pound of bees, one frame of honey, and one comb into which pollen was pressed. The success rate was about 40% and the intensive labor requirements too expensive for the results. Thus, the focus of the study was shifted to compartmentalization.

Fundamentally, compartmentalization means putting queens into confined areas on the comb and allowing the workers to care for them through queen excluder material. E. J. Harp published his results with this method in a 1969 issue of the American Bee Journal.

Using very populous colonies, surrounding the queens with brood from support hives, supplying pollen near the queens, and making sure the food stores are medicated with fumagillin led to 75% overwintering success with mated queens. The queens functioned normally when placed in a hive stocked with packaged bees. These encouraging results will lead to studies of various modifications of the technique.

Jack Arrand discussed fruit tree pollination in British Columbia. He strongly emphasized that pollination is only one step in a very complex process of fruit tree blooming, producing viable gametes, getting the pollen to receptive stigmas of compatible varieties (cross-pollination), growth of the germ tube to complete fertilization, and then development of the fruit. Improper environmental conditions at any step can

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President	Eric Mussen	Entomology Extension University of California Davis, CA 95616	(916) 752-0470
Vice-President	M. "Burt" Spangler	451 Mill Street Grass Valley, CA 95945	(916) 273-0736
Secretary-Treasurer	Zandy Neese	711 College Woodland, CA 95695	(916) 661-3659

EDITORIAL STAFF FOR W.A.S. JOURNAL

Editor	M. "Burt" Spangler	451 Mill Street Grass Valley, CA 95945	(916) 273-0736
Managing Editor	Eric Mussen	Dept. of Entomology Univ. of California Davis, CA 95616	(916) 752-0470

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lead to crop failure.

Jack also stated that while pollination and spray thinning for apples are sometimes interpreted as opposing operations, they are really complimentary. He quoted Dr. David Lane, "Consistent results from spray thinning of apples are easier to achieve if adequate pollination has been provided because some of the guesswork is taken out of the blossom thinning operation. If saturation pollination has occurred, setting the king bloom will provide sufficient fruit for a full crop and the goal of thinning can then be to remove all flowers except the king bloom. This makes the judging of the time and concentration of blossom thinning spray easier. Results are more consistent and over- or under-thinning are less likely."

Conference participants had two opportunities to be ferried to island sites of interest. One trip was to Vashon Island, "home" to Mrs. Miriam Eash who conducted the tour of the island and who also acted as campus conference coordinator. The big hit of that trip was the K-2 Ski Factory.

The second boat ride took participants to Blake Island, part of the Washington State Park System. The Park System helped plan and develop Tillicum Village on the island. When we first came ashore, we were greeted by Indians in native attire who served us all the steamed clams (small and tender) we wished to eat. (The shells are thrown

on the pathways and crushed into pavement.) Next, we were served a buffet-style meal of planked salmon cooked to perfection around fire pits with alder logs. Finally, Indians performed authentic Indian dances in full costume, including "bird" masks which are the largest known carved masks to be worn in ceremonial dancing anywhere in the world.

American Honey Queen, Melissa Hart from Watertown, Tennessee, was a guest of honor. Melissa explained how she was fulfilling the role of the queen; the large amounts of free publicity for bees, honey, beekeepers and beekeeping she had been able to generate; and she was extremely helpful during the auction displaying the items and keeping boisterous individuals under control.


At the Awards Banquet, John Corner, recently retired from the Apiculture Branch of the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food, was named recipient of the 1983 W.A.S. Outstanding Service to Beekeeping Award. John is a native of British Columbia. He worked in pollination and bee management studies as a researcher for the Canadian Federal Government, then transferred to the provincial position in 1951.

John has authored or co-authored 21 scientific papers, taught beekeeping courses to all levels of students, taken many advanced beekeeping courses, traveled the speakers' circuit in the U.S. as well as Canada, been on overseas assignments, and assembled an excellent bee research, management, and extension team in British Columbia. John is an excellent example of a person who has dedicated his life's work to beekeeping and beekeepers and who is eminently qualified to receive this award.

PRESIDENT'S "STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION" MESSAGE

It is obvious, from the good turnout at the Seattle Conference and the enthusiasm displayed by both the participants and the organizers of that conference, that W.A.S. is a viable organization. We have a core of supportive individuals who attend the conferences as regularly as possible, and we attract enough interested individuals at the locations of the conferences to make the meetings successful.

Financially, the organization has adequate funds to operate well on an annual basis. However, we still have one, large, outstanding conference debt. In order to clear our books of that particular obligation, we have been offered an interest-free loan from our sister organization, the Eastern Apicultural Society. We can have two years, if necessary, before the payments on the loan to E.A.S. commence. Through judicious fiscal management by the Executive Committee and future conference planners, there is no reason why the loan cannot be repaid well in advance of the seven allowable years. Clearing our books of our former conference debt is essential, if we wish to be allowed the use of campus facilities for future conferences.

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Our greatest need, at this point in time, is more members. We shall be mailing a number of 1983 conference registration packets to our State and Provincial Directors. We hope that the Directors will be able to find time to visit some of the local beekeeping organizations in their regions and share with the beekeepers information on the educational and social aspects of being W.A.S. members.

Each member can help as well. Do you think being a member of the organization is worthwhile? If so, recruit a beekeeper friend. If the friend is reluctant, give him or her a membership as a Christmas or birthday gift. We need to build our number of core supporters and this can be done only by getting more individuals into the organization so that they can convince themselves to stay.

Norm Gary, Burt Spangler, Zandy Neese and I have great faith in the organization and we shall be working very hard this next year to maintain the excellence of performance of those who have preceded us. Please help us by introducing as many new people as you possibly can to our organization.

EDITOR'S CORNER

The Washington crew really outdid themselves. They promised us a great conference and gave us an outstanding one. It was a beautiful site and a program I won't soon forget. Some of

the things I learned have been put to use already. The exhibits were more numerous and of excellent quality. Ribbon winners have a right to be proud--they won out over stiff competition.

The commercial exhibits attracted a lot of attention and, it appeared, a lot of sale. Attendance was up and the social events were all sellouts. The Host Committee turned in a great effort. It will be another tough act to follow.

Preliminary reports indicate that we made some money on the conference. The auction brought in about \$1,500.00. There were numerous contributions to the Irvine deficit fund and, after conference expenses are all settled, it looks like about \$4,000.00 from that source. We are convalescing fast from our financial ills.

Speaking of finances, it is dues time again. If you didn't attend the conference or were too busy to stop by Zandy's table in the exhibit room, please get your dues to Zandy right away so you won't be dropped from the membership list and the Journal mailing list. Association delegates should insure that their organizations are dues-current and that club secretaries are sending local newsletters to the Journal editor.

Planning for next year's conference at Davis, California, has already started. Facilities have been reserved and preliminary arrangements with the campus people are underway. Things are beginning to happen. Those of you who were at our first conference are familiar with the campus and the facilities, but it will be an all new program. Norm can be counted on to arrange a show well worth attending.

One great conference has been concluded and another is on the drawing board.

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THE 1983 W.A.S CONFERENCE AS CAPTURED ON FILM

The next two pages contain photographs of some of the highlights of the 1983 conference held in Seattle, Washington. All photographs were taken by Gordon Kern unless otherwise noted.

A. Walking down hill to the meeting room each morning was invigorating, but climbing back up to the dorm at the end of the day seemed like work. Mike Agnew spread a tarp over the bed of his new bee truck and ran a free daily taxi service for those who preferred not to walk. (Photo by E. Mussen.)

B. There is no better way to utilize clean, fragrant beeswax than to hand dip tapers (candles). Joe Fiamengo has combined the art and science of candle dipping with a few years of experience to produce candles which are rivaled (perhaps) only by those of Mike Burgett. The demonstration was very good. (Photo by E. Mussen.)

C-F. Master Beekeeper Les Molnar shared his secrets to successful foundation making using the Herzog Foundation Mold. First the mold is filled with "release solution" (water, alcohol, honey). After a good soaking the excess release solution is poured off, an appropriate amount of wax is poured into the mold, and the mold is pressed shut. When the wax and mold have cooled adequately, a knife is run around the edge to loosen the foundation sheet. The mold is pried open and the wax usually stays on the top half of the mold. Excess wax is trimmed from the sides and you have a perfect size sheet of foundation which weighs about 4 ounces (commercial foundation usually runs 6 or 7 sheets per pound). (Photos by E. Mussen.)

G. John Corner (right), recently retired head of British Columbia's apiary branch, was awarded the "Outstanding Service to Beekeeping" award, in abstentia, following the award banquet. John is currently on assignment in Uganda and more information on his contributions to beekeeping are reported elsewhere in the Journal.

H. Melissa Hart, American Honey Queen for 1983, livened up the meeting. Melissa is vivacious and congenial, as well as very knowledgeable of the industry. It was enjoyable having Melissa as a guest and having her tell us to get off our duffs and start doing something positive to promote our industry and our product.

I. Bill Jones (right) awaits the final touches to his meal of planked salmon, cooked Indian style, at Tillicum Village.

J. Vice-President and Mrs. John Edwards exemplified the relaxed social atmosphere of the awards banquet and succeeding auction. John made a Herculean effort and succeeded at keeping costs minimal while providing everything necessary to make the program totally enjoyable.

K. W.A.S. women win four photo finals. Queen Melissa joins beaming group of women who took the honors in each category of the photo contest. Left to right, Helynn Carrier (Macro--American Bee Journal Trophy), Maycelle Muncey (Portrait--Speedy Bee Trophy), and Yvonne Donner (Scenic--A.I. Root Trophy) and Slides--(W.A.S. Technical Trophy). Unlimber your shutter fingers, men!

L. The men came roaring back strong to take lots of other awards (see list on page 231). Bill Cervenka garnered another Sweepstakes Award, which are becoming too numerous to count. Honey winners, left to right, John Truesdell (California), Virgil Philippi (California), Joe Strunk (California), Bill Cervenka (California), Tom Muncey (Nevada), Henry Barten (Washington).

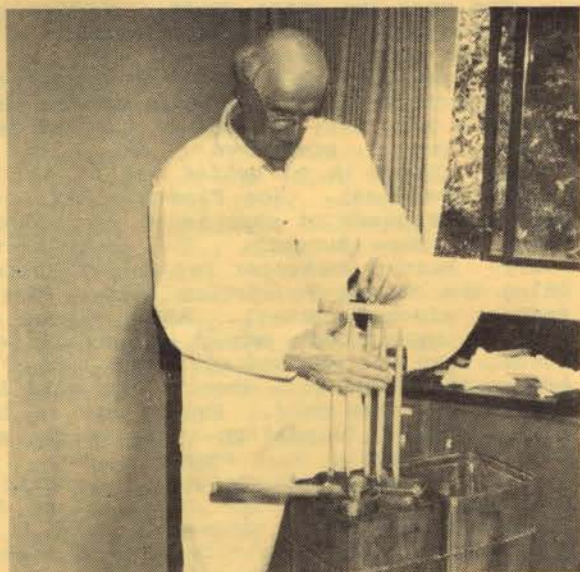
1983 COMPETITION WINNERS

Gadgets -- large:	1st Ray Hicks	Shallow Frame --	1st Virgil Philippi
-- :	2nd Dick Hunger		2nd Bill Cervenka
-- small:	1st Burt Spangler		3rd C. W. Lotze
		Full Frame --	1st Bill Cervenka
Mead -- dry:	1st Jonas Yutzy	Craft --	1st Oakly Gack
:	2nd Dick Hunger		2nd Helyn Carrier
-- sweet:	1st Marshall McDonald		
:	2nd Dick Hunger	Photography	
:	3rd Jonas Yutzy	-- macro:	1st Helyn Carrier
-- fruit:	1st Dick Hunger		2nd Ray Hicks
			3rd M. Yvonne Donner
Wax -- block	: 1st Ray Hicks	-- scenic:	1st M. Yvonne Donner
	: 2nd C. W. Lotze		2nd T. J. Muncey
	: 3rd Bill Cervenka	-- portrait:	3rd Helyn Carrier
-- candles (dipped):	1st Ray Hick		1st Maycelle Muncey
--candles (molded		-- slides:	2nd T. J. Muncey
plain):	1st Bill Cervenka		3rd Ray Hicks
	2nd Ray Hicks		
--candles (molded, fancy):	1st Ray	Baking -- bread:	1st Carla Robinson
	: 2nd C. W. Lot	-- muffins:	1st Carla Robinson
--candles (novelty):	1st Bill Cervenka		
--novelty:	1st Cynthia Stanhope		
	2nd Ray Hicks		
	3rd C. W. Lotze		
Liquid honey	Novice	Open	
white:	1st Henry Barten	1st J. T. Muncey	
	2nd C. W. Lotze	2nd Bill Cervenka	
	3rd Nick Doll	3rd Mike Agnew	
	4th Willa Bowman	4th Ian Farber	

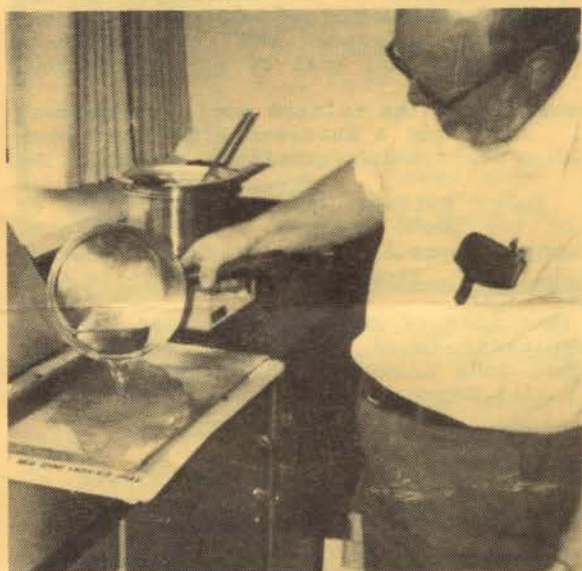
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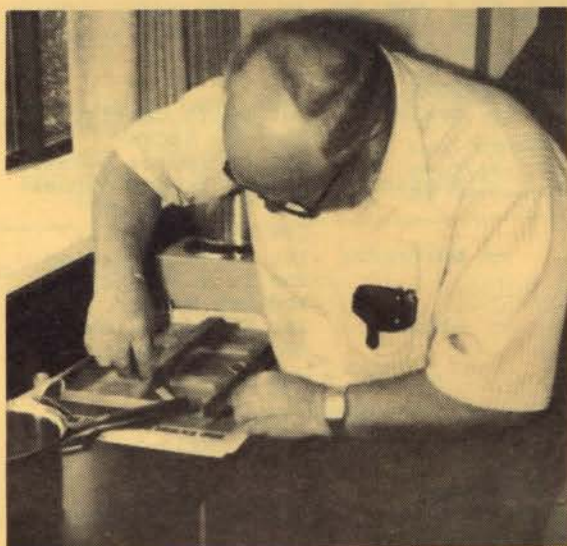
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H



I



J



K



L

Liquid honey amber:	<u>Novice</u> 1st John Truesdell	<u>Open</u> 1st Bill Cervenka 2nd T. J. Muncey 3rd Mike Agnew
Liquid honey dark:		1st Bill Cervenka
Cut comb:	<u>Novice</u> 1st C. W. Lotze	<u>Open</u>
Round comb:	<u>Novice</u> 1st Willa Bowman	<u>Open</u> 1st Peter Meursinge 2nd T. J. Muncey
Cream honey:	<u>Novice</u>	<u>Open</u> 3rd T. J. Muncey
Chunk honey:	<u>Novice</u> 1st Willa Bowman (BEST OF SHOW)	<u>Open</u>
Novel containers:	<u>Novice</u>	<u>Open</u> 1st Bill Cervenka

LITTLE OLD LADY (FROM PASADENA?) SCOOPS HONEY SHOW

The coveted "Best of Show" award, for the finest sample of honey in the 1983 Competitive Exhibits, went to septuagenarian Willa Bowman of Fountain Valley, California. Willa is a retired school teacher who keeps her bees in all medium depth boxes. She does all her own beekeeping and has been affiliated with the Orange County Beekeepers for some time. Willa competed in the Novice category this year, where she also entered the first place round comb sections. Look out next year, men! Bill Cervenka of Redwood City, California, continued his winning ways by taking the Sweepstakes, again. In fact, the men ran away with the vast majority of the prizes for honey, gadgets, mead, and most of the wax items (see list of winners at end of article).

However, all the photography trophies went to women! More details are listed in the photo captions on page 228. In all, 23 individuals were awarded a total of 71 ribbons.

EFFECTIVE USE OF DRUGS IN BEE DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMS

Few beekeepers would argue with the statement that, "Most commercial beekeepers depend upon routine use of antibiotics (drugs) to keep bee diseases under control." However, many beekeepers fail to use antibiotics in a manner which reflects a good understanding of the properties of the chemicals. A brief discussion of each of the three most commonly used antibiotics follows.

Terramycin®. Research has shown that 200 mg (or 1/5 of a gram) is the appropriate amount of oxytetracycline active ingredient to apply in powdered sugar at 7-10 day intervals to protect a colony of honey bees against American foulbrood. The same dose provides some protection against European foulbrood as well.

It is recommended that the Terramycin be diluted in powdered (or bakers Drivert) sugar and sprinkled over the top bars of combs containing eggs and youngest larvae. The idea is to entice nurse bees, which are feeding the larvae, to eat the antibiotic and transfer the protection to the larvae. Medication dumped on the bottom board of the hive or heaped at the back of the hive between two boxes, will have very little chance of being transferred even to the nurse bees, much less the larvae.

Many extra ingredients (salt, flours, saturated and unsaturated fats) have been added to the basic sugar/Terramycin mix in an attempt to extend the useful life of the drug in the hive. As a general rule, once the Terramycin has been moistened it loses 1/2 of its antibiotic strength each day at brood nest temperatures. Thus, a heap of Terramycin mix which has hardened (absorbed moisture) and sat around for a few weeks, either in the hive or in a coffee can, no longer can provide the bees with adequate protection. Grease or oil based extender patties prevent the Terramycin from being denatured by moisture, but the patties should be removed during the "honey flow." Unused Terramycin powder will exceed its labeled shelf life if kept frozen.

Except for a "quick fix" attempt at trying to curtail an obvious infection of American foulbrood in a hive, there is much to lose and little to gain by feeding Terramycin in sugar solutions. Terramycin in solution will maintain its activity fairly well only at temperatures around 40° F or less. However, at room or brood chamber temperatures, Terramycin denatures very rapidly in solution and in a few days there is not enough active antibiotic left to protect the bees. Terramycin also is extremely susceptible to sunlight. Nearly all the activity of a Terramycin solution will be destroyed by one day's exposure to sunlight in a clear container at the entrance or on top of a hive.

Fumagillin. Research has shown that at doses of 75 to 100 mg fumagillin active ingredient per gallon (labeled rate) honey bees in the hive will be protected from infection by Nosema apis. The same dose will terminate infections in previously

infected bees, but tissue damage already inflicted by the parasite usually is irreparable.

It is recommended that fumagillin be fed in sugar syrup to obtain maximum distribution among adult bees in the colony. Attempts to feed fumagillin in pollen patties and substitutes have produced only partial reductions in infection levels and attempts to feed the powder dry have been infective to date.

Fumagillin is effective only if there is an adequate amount constantly available in the hive during the period of time that bees are likely to be cleaning soiled combs of contaminated fecal material. For overwintered hives the protection is needed from October to May, depending upon the weather. Packaged bees need protection from installation until the weather is warm and nice (May or June).

Studies have shown that two gallons of medicated syrup supply adequate protection for overwintering colonies. In cold climates, the medicated syrup (heavy) must be fed early enough in the fall to allow the bees adequate time to dehydrate and store the syrup. In warmer climates, the feeding may consist of two one-gallon doses. The first gallon is applied as heavy syrup in the fall. The second is applied in January, as light syrup, to provide protection for the bees as well as a stimulant for brood production.

Fumagillin is temperature sensitive. However, if kept in syrup below temperatures of 110°F, it has a long life expectancy in storage or in the hive. Fumagillin is light sensitive. Sunlight denatures fumagillin very rapidly, so medicated syrup should not be fed in clear glass containers at the hive entrance or on top of the hive. Unused fumagillin powder will exceed its labeled shelf life if kept frozen.

Sulfathiazole. Research has shown that 1 gram of sodium sulfathiazole active ingredient in a gallon of sugar syrup is adequate to control American foulbrood, as long as the syrup is available in the hive. Sodium sulfathiazole has no effect on European foulbrood.

It was recommended that two gallons of medicated syrup be fed to colonies which were to be overwintered. Protection from American foulbrood persisted until spring, since sulfathiazole is a very persistent drug. The persistence of the antibiotic precluded its use in spring feedings and eventually led to its use being prohibited in the United States.

Sodium sulfathiazole is very stable. It can be stored in the dark at room temperature for years without losing much of its antibiotic activity.

A number of beekeepers have encountered cases of "break-through disease" which developed despite the use of antibiotics. Samples of bacteria associated with these cases have been analyzed for antibiotic resistance, but such resistance has not been found to date. Unusually susceptible strains of bees can be a factor, as can an environment (combs in boxes) which contains an overwhelming amount of inoculum (foulbrood or *Nosema* spores). But, the overriding factor in the failure of antibiotics to control bee diseases is the failure of the beekeeper to understand adequately the nature of the drugs with which he is dealing and the proper methods of use of the drugs to obtain the desired results. Hopefully, this article will provide some insights into the most efficacious uses of the drugs and the reasons why the recommended uses are best.

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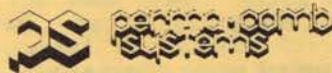
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WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA Minutes of Delegate's Meeting August 22, 1983

Vice President John Edwards called the meeting to order with the introduction of the Delegates present and guests. Delegates in attendance were: Mariam Eash (Vashon Island and Puget Sound Beekeepers), Charles Duncan (Los Angeles Beekeepers), John and Virginia Truesdell (Orange County Beekeepers), Virgil Phillippi (Alameda County Beekeepers), Burt Spangler (Nevada County Beekeepers and W.A.S. Editor). Others in attendance were: Eric Mussen (Managing Editor), Zandy Neese (Secretary/Treasurer), Ron Neese (Parliamentarian), Bill Nye (Past President), Mike Agnew, Olive Jones, Bill Jones, Joe Muncey, Maycelle Muncey, Gordon Kern, Henry Barten, Doug McCutcheon, and Mike Burgett.

It was asked that a list of current association members be read. Current association members are: British Columbia Honey Producers, Cowichan Beekeepers, Los Angeles County Beekeepers, Orange County Beekeepers, Puget Sound Beekeepers, Sacramento Beekeepers, Sebastopol Beekeepers, Eastern Montana Beekeepers, Nevada County Beekeepers, and Beekeepers Guild of San San Mateo County. A discussion ensued that reaffirmed the policy of billing the members for dues to continue encouraging membership.

Suggestions continued about increasing membership. Possibly a beekeeping short course could be offered in conjunction with the W.A.S. Conference. Another suggestion was to emphasize the social aspects more to get people to attend. Also, maybe changing the time of year the conference could be held.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Zandy Neese, Sec./Treasurer.

WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting August 22, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Vice President John Edwards. Officers and Directors present were: Bill Nye (Past President), Charles Duncan (Past President), Zandy Neese (Secretary/Treasurer), Burt Spangler (Editor), Eric Mussen (Managing Editor), Ron Neese (Parliamentarian), Mike Burgett (Oregon), Miriam Eash (Washington), Al Congdon (Colorado), and Bill Jones (Utah). Guests included, John and Virginia Truesdell, Joe and Maycelle Muncey, Mike Agnew, Doug McCutcheon, and Dick Hunger.

Doug McCutcheon was appointed British Columbia's Director until the end of this conference to fill the vacancy of resigning Director, Alan Miller.

The minutes from the past meeting were approved as printed in the W.A.S. Journal.

The Secretary-Treasurer distributed the financial statement to members and reported that the Irvine bill was not reflected in the figures. The report was approved.

A report on the status of the Irvine bill was given by Eric Mussen. It was moved and approved that the money be borrowed from E.A.S. to pay off the Irvine bill. The assignment to choose someone to approach E.A.S. was moved and passed that it be handled by Eric Mussen as the 1984 President.

After much discussion a motion was approved to have the President appoint a committee to establish guidelines for the auditing committee and have a report from that committee at the next directors meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the costs of publishing the Journal and computer services. A motion was passed that W.A.S. would reimburse the Secretary-Treasurer 15 cents per issue for computer and mailing services commencing with the first 1983-84 issue. It was reported that with the changes made by Eric Mussen, Burt Spangler, and Zandy Neese, the printing costs of the Journal had dropped significantly.

Bill Nye was appointed chairman of the resolutions committee for this conference. Status reports for the conference committees were given by Miriam Bishop Eash. Eric Mussen gave a sites report. At the present time the sites are: 1984, Davis, California; 1985, New Mexico; 1986, B.C. Canada.

The awards committee announced that John Corner would receive the Outstanding Service to Beekeeping Award.

The nominations committee requested time for state meetings to nominate candidates for open Directorships.

Burt Spangler, W.A.S. Journal Editor, called for more support from the Directors and Delegates. He requested more newsletters from clubs. He also requested more articles and pictures be sent from members.

The dues structure was discussed. Lengthy discussion on the commercial membership ensued with the final motion referring the issue to a conference committee to report back at the next Directors meeting. This committee would be appointed by President Dan Mayer. A recommendation was made that the conference be held fewer days in the future. Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Submitted by Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer.

WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
Minutes of the Sixth Annual Business Meeting
August 26, 1983

President Dan Mayer called the sixth annual business meeting to order. President Mayer announced that Ron Neese would be parliamentarian for the meeting. The 1982 minutes were approved as published in the W.A.S. Journal. The financial report was given and approved. Burt Spangler, W.A.S. Editor, reported that there were 5 issues of the Journal in 1982-1983 and requested information and articles from members. Eric Mussen, Sites Chairman, reported that New Mexico was no longer available for 1985. The membership voted for Davis, 1984; Corvallis, 1985; and Vancouver, B.C., 1986. Bill Nye, Resolutions Chairman, announced that a bylaws change was recommended which would allow the conference to be held "sometime in August." This will be acted upon in 1984. The auditing report from John Wagner was read and approved. The following names were put into nomination for Directors: Mike Agnew, California; James Ellis, Idaho; Steve Lundeen, Montana; Diana Van Driesche, Oregon; Wayne Robinson, Washington; Fletcher Miller, Alaska; Margriet Wyborn, British Columbia; John Murley, Hawaii; Eric Mussen, President; Burt Spangler, Vice President; Mike Burgett, 2nd Vice President; and Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer. The nominations were closed and the slate was approved as listed. It was requested that "Proceedings" of the conference be made available at all future meetings. Considerable discussion ensued and finally approximately 75% of the people present indicated that they would be willing to pay up to \$10 more in conference expenses to receive the booklet. The Irvine bill was discussed at length. Several suggestions were made to raise the money from within W.A.S. The final decision was made to approach E.A.S. for a loan to pay off Irvine. Meeting adjourned until August, 1984. Submitted by Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer.

WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
Minutes of Delegate's Meeting
August 26, 1983

President Dan Mayer called the meeting to order. In attendance were: Ray Hicks, Santa Clara Valley; Mike Agnew, Los Angeles Beekeepers; Wayne Robinson, guest; Bill Nye, Past President; Ron Neese, guest; James Ellis, guest; Fletcher Miller, guest; Eric Mussen, President Elect; Olive Jones, guest; Bill Jones, guest; Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer; Virgil Phillippi, Alameda County Beekeepers; John and Virginia Truesdell, Orange County Beekeepers; Charles Duncan, Los Angeles County Beekeepers; Don Campbell, guest; Burt Spangler, Nevada County Beekeepers; and Margriet Wyborn, guest. A comment was made that the timing of the conference in the last week of August probably caused lower attendance than if the conference were held early in the month. Charles Duncan spoke to thank the organizers of the conference for doing an "outstanding job." There was a brief discussion about the judging and rules of the honey show not being followed. It was mentioned that the conference talk describing the judging was very helpful for future shows. The meeting was adjourned. Submitted by Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer.

WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
August 26, 1983

President Dan Mayer called the meeting to order and turned it over to our new President, Eric Mussen. Directors and officers in attendance were: President Eric Mussen; Past President Dan Mayer; Past President Bill Nye; Zandy Neese Secretary-Treasurer; Burt Spangler Vice President; Wayne Robinson, Washington; James Ellis, Idaho; Fletcher Miller, Alaska; Bill Jones, Utah; Mike Agnew, California; and Margriet Wyborn, British Columbia. Guests included: Ray Hicks, Ron Neese, Olive Jones, Virgil Phillippi, John and Virginia Truesdell, Charles Duncan, and Don Campbell. The question was presented as to whether or not to approach E.A.S. for the money to pay off Irvine. After a brief discussion it was reaffirmed to contact E.A.S. The report was delivered regarding changing the commercial membership category. After considerable discussion it was decided to change the fees to \$50 per year. This fee would include free display space at the conference, a 1/4 page ad in the Journals, and voting privileges. Non-commercial members would be charged for display space. The supporter ad will remain the same but commercial members are encouraged to become commercial members. It was suggested that two new classes of membership be created: Benefactor \$500 and patron \$1000 which would include lifetime membership. It was approved to put these before the membership at the next general meeting as a bylaws change. A resolution was put forth to allow 2 Directors in California. After considerable discussion the resolution was defeated. A resolution was put forth to change the bylaws to allow the conference to meet in "the month of

August". The motion was passed and the change will be decided at the next Business Meeting. President Eric Mussen appointed for his committees: Norm Gary, Program Chairman; Olive Jones, Nominations; Tom and Maycelle Muncey, Sites; Burt Spangler, Editor; Burt Spangler, Auditing. The meeting was adjourned. Submitted by Zandy Neese, Secretary-Treasurer.

DISTINCTIVE BEEKEEPER'S GIFTS YOU CAN MAKE

Beeswax candles are particularly nice gifts to receive, since they burn relatively slow, do not smoke, and they have a pleasant, natural aroma. But, molding or dipping beeswax candles takes quite a bit of time and preparation.

There is a shortcut. Very nice candles can be created simply by rolling some candle wicking into a sheet of foundation. Height and width of tapers are determined by how long and wide a sheet is rolled. "Fat" candles seem to be in vogue at this time. They can be formed by pinching the edges of two sheets together and rolling up the whole thing. Conical (evergreen trees) and skep shapes can be made by cutting foundation diagonally and rolling toward the point of the triangle.

While regular foundation is quite functional, foundation is also available to you in every color (29) of the rainbow and two others, black and white, from Knorr Beeswax Products Inc., Route 1, Box 109, Del Mar, CA 92014. Knorrs will send you a full color brochure and price list for foundation sheets and wicking if requested by mail or by calling (619) 755-2015. Only large orders are accepted, so you may wish to include some neighbors or your bee club when you decide to buy.

It takes only a couple minutes to roll each candle, and the wax is pliable enough and sticky enough to hold appliques and other decorative additions well. Give it a try!


WHAT SWARMS MORE OFTEN THAN AFRICAN BEES? A COLONY OF NEESES.

They've done it again! This time, I understand, it is the "last" time (for now). W.A.S. Secretary/Treasurer, Zandy Neese, now is located at the following address: 711 College Street, Woodland, CA 95695. She may be reached by telephone at: (916) 661-3659.

ERIC MUSSEN
Extension Apiculturist

Department of Entomology
University of California
Davis, CA 95616

Telephone
(916) 752-0470



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