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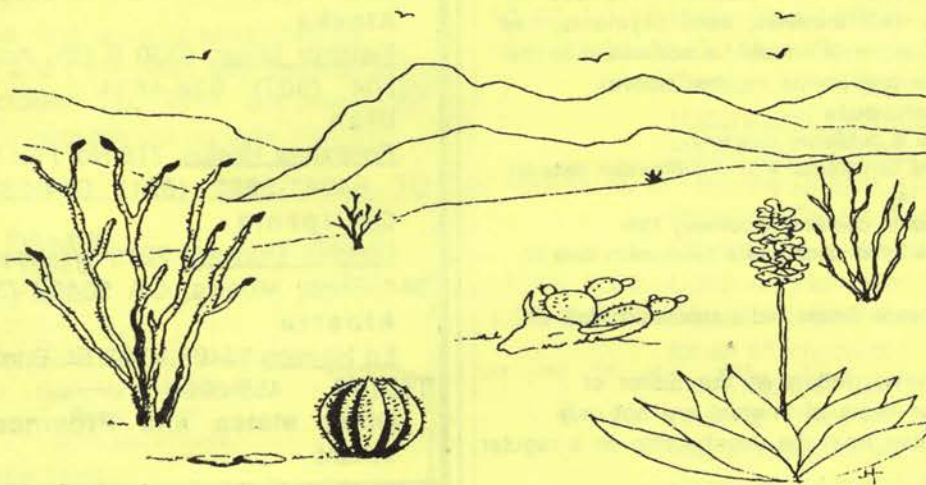
JOURNAL

THE WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY
OF NORTH AMERICA

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 3

JULY 1997

LET'S ALL GO TO TUCSON !!
FOR THE 1997 WAS CONFERENCE
AUGUST 18th THRU 21st
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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.

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.

**Western Apicultural
Society
of North America
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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W.A.S. is On-line !!

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 and items for publication can be submitted by E-mail. Fax is available by appointment only. Call (916) 273 0736.

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.

Contributions: The editor would appreciate receiving articles in scannable form--plain text font, upper-lower case, if typed--a good ribbon and a minimum of strikeouts or corrections. You may submit them by E mail. (burtsbs@nccn.net)

Advertising: 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, send your camera ready black and white copy and check to the editor.

Dues: Don't forget to send in your WAS dues and to notify us of any change in your mailing address--Send your dues to Ron Neese but please also send any change of address to me. Burt Spangler, (916) 273-0736, Fax (916) 273-0495, e-mail: burtsbs@nccn.net

Next Issue: The next issue is scheduled for **October, 1997** and I will need any material to be included by **October 1st, 1997**, but please get it to me as early as possible but no later than that.



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PROGRAM

Western Apiculture Society Conference
August 18 - 21, 1997

BEEKEEPING IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY:

A Glance Back and A Look Ahead

Monday, August 18

- 8:00-noon Exhibitor set-up: no visitors
1:00-5:00 On-site registration
Exhibit room open for visitors and silent auction
3:00-5:00 Delegates & Directors meeting, Board Room, Windmill Inn
7:00 - 9:00 Welcome reception at Breckenridge Brewery. Southwestern finger food, free pool and cocktails at happy hour prices. Enjoy a game of pool. Special brews will also be available.

Tuesday, August 19

Parasitic Mites now and in the Future

- 8:00-noon On-site registration
8:00-noon Exhibit room open for visitors and silent auction
- Moderator: Kim Flottum**
8:00-8:15 Door prizes
8:15-8:30 Greetings from the Mayor or...???
8:30-9:15 Dr. Diana Sammataro, Ohio State University, Wooster, OH: The Effect of Vegetable Oil on the Behavior of Tracheal Mites.
9:15-10:00 Dr. Bob Danka, Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics, and Physiology Laboratory, Baton Rouge, LA: Good News About Genetic Resistance to Tracheal Mites.
10:00-10:15 Refreshment break
10:15-11:00 Dr. G. Allen Wardell, S.A.F.E. Pest Control Co.: Essential Oils: Their History and Potential for Controlling Honey Bee Parasites and Diseases.
11:00-11:45 Dr. Martha Gilliam, Carl Hayden Bee Research Center, Tucson, AZ: Chalkbrood in the last 100 years.
11:45-3:00 Lunch on your own. Swim and Sun.
3:00-9:30 Depart Windmill Inn for Old Tucson for an afternoon of fun at the second most popular tourist attraction in Arizona. There will be a gun fight, western barbecue, private can-can show, unique shops and amusement park. Many western movies

and television series have been
filmed at Old Tucson.

Wednesday, August 20

Africanized Honey Bees, Fact not Fiction

- 8:00-noon On-site registration
8:00-noon Exhibit room open for visitors and
silent auction
Moderator: Dr. Jim Tew
8:00-8:15 Door prizes
8:30-9:00 Dr. Steve Thoenes, Bee Masters Inc.,
Tucson AZ: The Status of Africanized
Honey Bees in the Arid Southwest.
9:00-9:30 Mr. Leonard Hines, Sunny Bee Honey
Products, Sierra Vista, AZ: An
Arizona Beekeeper's Experience with
Africanized Bees and Parasitic Mites.
9:30-9:45 Refreshment break
9:45-10:15 Dr. Gloria Degrandi-Hoffman, Carl
Hayden Bee Research Center, Tucson
AZ: Queen Development Time and It's
Influence on the Africanization of
European Honey Bees.
10:15-10:45 Dr. Justin Schmidt, Carl Hayden Bee
Research Center, Tucson AZ:
Africanized Bees, Bee Stings, and the
Public: Are We at Risk?
10:45-11:00 To be announced.
11:00-1:30 Lunch on your own, Swim and Sun
1:30-5:00 Field trip to Africanized Honey Bee
apiary departing from the Windmill
Inn. Participants must bring their
own bee suit with zip in veil, bee
gloves and boots.
5:00 Dinner on Your Own, Swim or Shop

Thursday, August 21

Whither Beekeeping Beyond 2001

- 8:00-noon On-site registration
8:15-8:45 Exhibit room open for visitors and
silent auction
Moderator: Dr. Diana Sammataro
8:00-8:15 Door prizes
8:15-8:45 Mr. Kim Flottum, A. I. Root Co.,
Medina, OH: The Future of
Beekeeping.
8:45-9:15 Dr. Jim Tew, Ohio State University,
Wooster OH: Beekeepers - Who Are
We and Why Are We?
9:15-9:45 Dr. Hayward Spangler, Carl Hayden
Bee Research Center, Tucson AZ:
Research Directions and Control
Opportunities for Wax Moths.
9:45-10:00 Refreshment break

- 10:00-10:30 Ms. Kathy Heasley, Integrated
Marketing Solutions, Fountain Hills,
AZ: Integrated Marketing: A
Formula for Success in Beekeeping.
10:30-11:00 Dr. Steve Buchmann, Carl Hayden
Bee Research Center, Tucson AZ: The
Forgotten Pollinators: Ecosystem
Services Provided by Bees.
11:00-1:00 Lunch on your own, Swim and Sun
1:00-5:00 Open house at the Carl Hayden Bee
Research Center.
3:00-4:00 Annual Business Meeting, Conference
Room, Carl Hayden Bee Research
Center
4:00-5:00 Delegates and Directors Meeting,
Carl Hayden Bee Research
Center, Conference Room,
6:00-7:00 Mixer with open bar and Mariachis.
7:00-10:00 Banquet/Awards/Auction.
Mexican Food

Friday, August 22

- 9:00-5:00 Travel to Nogales, AZ for a day of
shopping in Old Mexico, visit
the World Renowned Arizona-Sonora
Desert Museum and Saguaro National
Monument, maybe find treasure
hidden by bandits in Colossal Cave,
visit Boot Hill in Tombstone, "the
town too tough to die", or take a train
ride to Benson, AZ along the San
Pedro River past ghost towns to the
old mining town of Bisbee and tour
the Copper Queen mine. There is also
the International Wildlife Museum,
or DeGrazia Gallery. These are only
some of the many sites in Tucson and
surrounding towns.
(Your program committee will
provide assistance with
arrangements at registration.)



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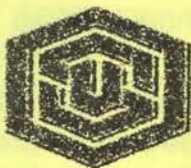
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Question:

What is in your eye when you have a bee in your hand?

Travel and Lodging

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The Windmill Inn is a five minute walk from the Bee Lab. The airport is on the south side of town, about a 25 minute drive from the Inn. August is the off season for visitors so car rental rates should be attractive. Also, there is a good transportation service from the airport via the Stagecoach shuttle (Phone 520-889-1000).

The meeting will be August 18 thru August 21. Room rates will be \$60 per night. The evening mixer on Monday evening will be the only activity that day. People can travel either Sunday or Monday. The hotel will hold the block of rooms for us until August 1. We encourage early hotel registration.

Answer:

"Beauty". Because beauty is in the eye of the bee-holder.

LET'S ALL GO TO TUCSON!!!

It is already July, and August is just around the corner. That means it is time again for the Annual W.A.S. meeting, being held this year at the beautiful Windmill Inn in Tucson, AZ. The all suite hotel is located in the foothills of the Catalina Mountains and is just a five minute walk from the USDA Carl Hayden Bee Research Center. If you haven't already registered for the meeting you should do so now as time is growing short!!

We have planned a fantastic program intended to address the three major problems facing beekeeping today, tracheal mites, Varroa mites, and Africanized honey bees. And, there is much more besides! Today, many believe that the tracheal mite problem is behind us, and Varroa mites may follow in its footsteps. Come find out why. The answers may surprise you! Africanized honey bees continue to migrate northward. Now would be your chance to see this issue properly defined, and to find out how Arizona beekeepers and the general public are coping with them. Of course everyone is interested in how beekeepers will fare in the next century, hear what the experts have to say. The technical program includes other topics like Wax Moth Control, Integrated Marketing for Beekeepers, The Forgotten Pollinators, and Chalkbrood in the last 100 Years.

The morning programs promise to be informative as well as entertaining. The afternoons provide terrific opportunities for relaxation and fun.

Tuesday we will step back in time

at Old Tucson Studios. It is the second largest tourist attraction in Arizona, a movie location, and an amusement park. You can browse through unique shops, witness Hollywood-style shows, a live gunfight, stagecoach rides, and other non-stop Wild West entertainment! We will be having a western barbecue with a private stage show. You are guaranteed to ride off into the sunset with a smile on your face! Wednesday will be your chance to see Africanized honey bees first hand, provided you bring the proper attire. Thursday you will spend the afternoon viewing the facilities and research activities at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center. The evening will be a catered Mexican food banquet with an open bar held at the Windmill Inn. We will be entertained by Tucson High School's well-known Mariachis. On Friday you can choose between a number of activities which you can enjoy on your own. Walk in the desert through the giant cactus forests and visit the World Famous Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, find treasure hidden by bandits in Colossal Cave, travel to Boot Hill in Tombstone, the town too tough to die, or shop in Nogales, Mexico (see more in the program). Our expert staff will be there to help you choose - don't be surprised if you find yourself wanting to stay longer!! Finally, don't forget the welcome reception at the Breckenridge Brewery. You can choose from many of their special brews at "Happy Hour" prices as well as enjoying some Southwestern finger food. You are also welcome to enjoy playing a game of pool.

This year's T-shirt was designed

by two art students from Flowing Wells High School. It will be the best one ever! We have endeavored to make every moment of this year's meeting unique. Don't miss out, come and enjoy it with us!! --**Eric H. Erickson**, Program Chairman.

P.S. Don't forget to include a trip to the Grand Canyon on your way here or home.

MORE FROM YOUR EDITOR

Eric has put together one of the finest programs I have ever seen for a WAS Conference and I have attended them all since the Society was formed.

Every member is urged to attend if at all possible. Not only is the program so attractive but the locale is tempting. The Tucson area and southwest Arizona is a great place to visit and vacation. While it is in the corner of our WAS area the transportation is very convenient and the site easy to reach. While August in Arizona is usually hot, Tucson is high and you won't have the heavy heat that most of the southwest has at this time of year. The air conditioned facilities will guarantee your comfort anyway.

Members are also reminded that the business of the Society is conducted at these conferences and the input of every member is important at the annual business meeting. While we are currently solvent financially, we are not flush. Our conferences are a primary source of funding and for us to continue in operation we do have to pay attention to the financial aspects. Your dues is only a small part of our operating budget. You help keep us going by attending the conferences, and participating in the activities available to you there. There is still plenty of time to make your plans, register and attend this outstanding conference.

While registrations are still coming in and reservations from commercial vendors still being received, preregistration was light this year and it is hoped that the later registrations will swell the number attending. Your registration now, even late, rather than waiting to register at the site, will aid with the logistical planning for the conference. However, if you can't preregister, don't let that

stop you from deciding to attend at the last moment. Remember, too, that your donations of items for the auction are welcome, in fact, highly solicited. The auction is always one of the highlights of the affair. Plan now ...and...

LET'S GO TO TUCSON

BEE-ING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

The Nevada County Beekeeper's Association has for many years maintained a "Honeybee Hotline" which fields calls from the public regarding bee related problems. The majority of the calls are swarm related and the Hotline operator maintains a list of members willing to retrieve swarms and to remove colonies from buildings, trees, or other places where they might cause problems. There are many calls and questions that pertain to wasps or other stinging insects and the caller is advised on how best to deal with this problem.

Some of the calls involve complaints and with the sanction of the Agricultural Commissioner, representatives of the Association attempt to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of both parties. The majority of complaints involve bees foraging for water. Bees are attracted to swimming pools, spas, wet clothes on the line, dripping faucets and pet's watering dishes. The beekeeper is instructed on the proper way to furnish water at the apiary and urged to start early enough that the bees train to the furnished water rather than to forage afar. It is recommended that water be furnished in pans or half barrels planted with water plants and with a couple of concrete blocks providing a wet surface to the water. If mosquitoes are a problem a couple of feeder goldfish from the pet store should solve it. Providing water at the apiary is a primary Good Neighbor practice.

President's Message

True to form, our members are not beating down the doors in a rush to submit their conference registrations. I won't tell you when Ron received my registration, but it wasn't early enough to get the reduced rate. The planning committee still had a lot of decisions to make: vehicle reservations, meal guarantees, T-shirt numbers, printing Proceedings, etc. If you think that you are going to attend the conference, please send your registration materials to Ron, NOW!

Visiting Africanized honey bees (AHBs) in Tucson may be an early glimpse at the eventual feral bee situation in southern California. Now that Varroa has slacked off, AHBs are filling in unoccupied areas of Imperial, Riverside, and San Diego Counties in a rather big way. Perhaps AHBs are taking advantage of previous nesting sites of feral European honey bees that now are vacated due to Varroa deprivation. In any case, AHBs are becoming part of the southern California landscape. This means that members of the general public are going to have to be aware of what AHBs do and watch out for them. For southern California beekeepers, routine colony examinations are going to have to be made more frequently. Relatively minor, but diagnostic, changes in colony behavior must be noticed in order to rectify a problem before it gets out of hand. Requeening with stocks mated outside the "colonized" area will be required. Past practices of requeening with cells will be out of the question, where Africanized drones are part of the mating population. Supersedure queens will be no better than cells under these conditions. This constant scrutiny is going to be costly to beekeepers operating in areas of Africanization.

What else is new in beekeeping? There is still a lot of interest in controlling parasitic mites of honey bees with "essential oils." Recently there have been quite a few reports of beekeepers having good results with mite control using a number of different remedies. Also, there have been quite a few discoveries of "resistant feral stocks" that survived the winter and, therefore, must not be injured by bee mites. Perhaps all these reports are correct. But, it is more likely that decreased mite pressure has contributed heavily to colony survival. Side by side controlled experiments between new remedies and new stocks and old remedies and old stocks must be conducted before any conclusions can be drawn.

Speaking of experiments, ancient humans experimented with hive products as potential treatments for various ailments long ago. After thousands of years many of the treatments persist in other parts of the world. Only modern, western medicine seems to have little or no room for such folk remedies. The reason for this is very similar to what I just wrote about mite control products. Medical doctors want to see scientific, controlled ("double blind") studies proving that the treatments work. Medical researchers have been reluctant to conduct tests of hive products on human patients. Why? I'm not sure.




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There are no pharmaceutical companies to back up the research, in case something bad happens to the patient while he or she is on hive products. So, the physician is liable. Also, there are few published studies that document the specific effects that hive products, or their extracts, have on cells, tissues, organs, and organisms. Fortunately, that seems to be changing. In May of 1996 an international conference on "Bee Products: Properties, Applications, and Apitherapy" was held in Tel-Aviv, Israel. There were 31 presentations on hive products, and quite a few of them were on current research results. Eva Crane and Justin Schmidt led off with the history and current applications of hive products. There was a series of excellent studies on non-osmotic, non-hydrogen peroxide antibiotic compounds in honey.

All of the activity resides in various plant-derived substances. From a practical approach, more studies on injured humans have demonstrated that wounds and burns heal faster, with less scarring and lower rates of infection, when the injuries are treated with honey than with conventional antibiotics, antiseptics, and hydrocolloidal wound dressings. If fear of clostridial infections (tetanus, gangrene, botulism) is a concern, it has been shown that irradiated honey retained all of its antibiotic and wound healing properties.

Propolis is being studied, extensively, because of its anti-bacterial, viral, and fungal properties. Again, these are plant-derived compounds (mostly flavonoids) with great potential use in medicine. There has been a problem with patients developing allergies to some types of propolis, but doctors in Uruguay tested a "hypoallergic" formula of propolis in wound dressings and found it to be as effective as regular propolis.

Anyone really interested in apiculture should obtain and read a copy of the 1997 text that originated with the conference. The book title is the same as the conference, with Avshalom Mizrahi and Yaacov Lensky as editors. The publisher is Plenum Press, New York, and the text was assigned ISBN 0-306-45502-1. The book costs nearly \$90, so getting it on inter-library loan would be good, if you can find a library that purchased it.

There is no better way to keep up to date on honey bee information than attending bee meetings and buzzing with the others in attendance. At the WAS Conference in Tucson, you will have an opportunity to meet researchers and industry related people from across the country. In addition, you'll have an opportunity to visit the labs, meet additional researchers and be shown the equipment used in studies the you will be reading about later in bee journals, newsletters, and sometimes in "The Press." Don't miss this great educational and social opportunity. See you in Tucson in about a month!

PS - Remember to bring your door prize and auction items.

PPS - Don't forget to bring your FULL bee suit, if you are going to visit the AHBs. I guess the trip to the AHBs would provide a good photo or video opportunity. I asked Virgil Phillipi, but he said, "No! I won't be doing an AHB beard."

Eric Mussen, President

MOVING HIVES?

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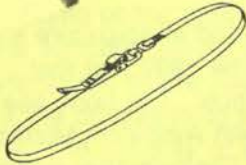
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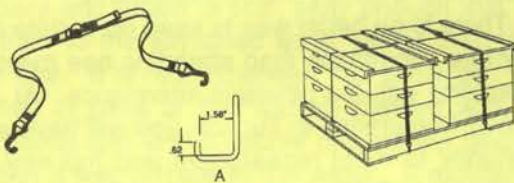
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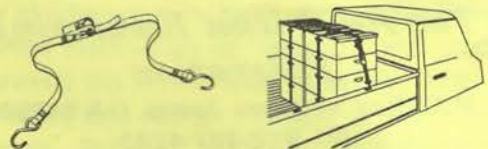
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Cowboys, Indians, and Old Mexico in the beautiful Southwest!
Count me in for Tucson!! Enclosed is my registration fee of \$_____.
I am making my own lodging reservations.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

REGISTRATION WILL BE \$35.00 PER PERSON. The following Costs are figured per person and are in addition to the registration fee. Total cost for registration and all activities is \$90.00 per person.

Monday, August 18:

Breckenridge Brewery

Mixer 7:00 - 9:00 p. m.

\$5.00

Tuesday, August 19:

Tour of Old Tucson, Studios (shops, old west gun fight etc.), Western BBQ dinner, Private Can Can Show, and Cash Bar:

\$37.00

Thursday, August 21:

Mexican Food Banquet, Mariachi band, Open Bar

\$13.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WAS

MAIL TO: WESTERN APICULTURAL SOCIETY
RON NEESE, TREASURER
268 PEARL WAY
WOODLAND, CA 95695

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
DUES PAYMENT FORM**



PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____
FIRST LAST

ADDRESS _____
STREET CITY STATE/PROV ZIP

ENCLOSED IS CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF _____ IN PAYMENT OF DUES FOR YEAR/S _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

Make checks payable to Western Apicultural Society and mail to:

Western Apicultural Society
Ron Neese, Treasurer
268 Pearl Way
Woodland, CA 95695

Western Apicultural Society Journal
Burt Spangler, Editor
451 Mill Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945



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