

## **2025 Stahlman Beekeeping E-mail Notes Issue #38a**

Although it is cold and some of you see snow on the ground, winter will not arrive until December 21. I learned long ago early mankind observed the sun and would determine seasons based on the number of hours of sunlight. Those of us living today, observe the same sun and it truly determines what happens here on the planet Earth.

This is important to honeybees as well. It is important for beekeepers to understand the difference between winter bees and summer bees. I have tried to share some of the natural reactions to cold that bees face during the late fall and the beginning of winter. It is a time to reflect on the past and look to the future. It is also a time to be thankful. I am slowing down -- getting old is a natural process of thinking one is 20 years old, but the mirror clearly indicates the reality of the face I see in it. The newsletter will continue to be published on a bimonthly basis (two issues a month) next year.

I am still playing with my bees. I have a project set for this next year to raise some queen bees. A friend gave me some mini nuc's and rather than see them burned, I decided that I might just be able to raise a few queens -- not for sale. The fun of keeping bees is learning something about them. My commercial days are behind me. It is important to have an all-around positive attitude and face each new challenge as it comes.

Dana