

Professor Lindsey from Pg 1

rollers sweeping the beach have a cathartic effect, scouring rubbish and human detritus deposited during the summer from our sands.

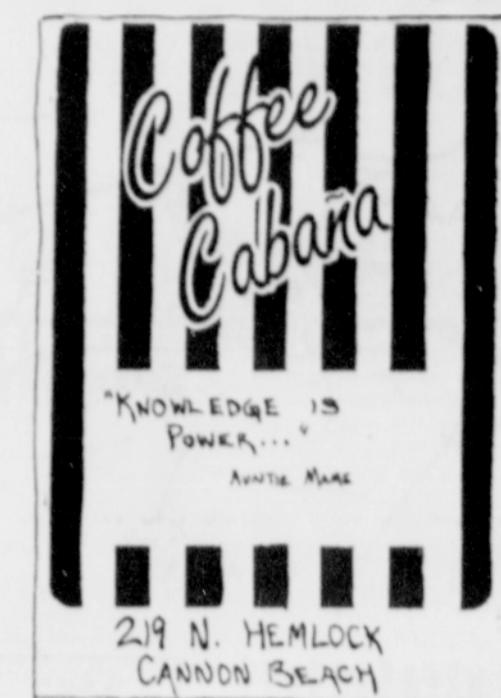
4. Kelp Fly propagation and demise. Those troublesome, elongate relatives of the common house fly swarming the beachside are kelp flies. Pestiferous and logy, these coastal natives besiege late summer tanners. Their ancestral manor, Tillamook Lighthouse, teems with these beasts. Easily swatted, their arrival signals summer's end without question.

5. Garden Spider Picnic. Just as the fall season salmon gillnetters once set their nets across the Columbia River, so the striped garden spiders cast their webs and web across the fall air, harvesting the rich bounty of the September insect hatch. Gorged on gnats, mosquitoes, and flies, their gossamer nets glisten in blackberry thickets and hedgerows.

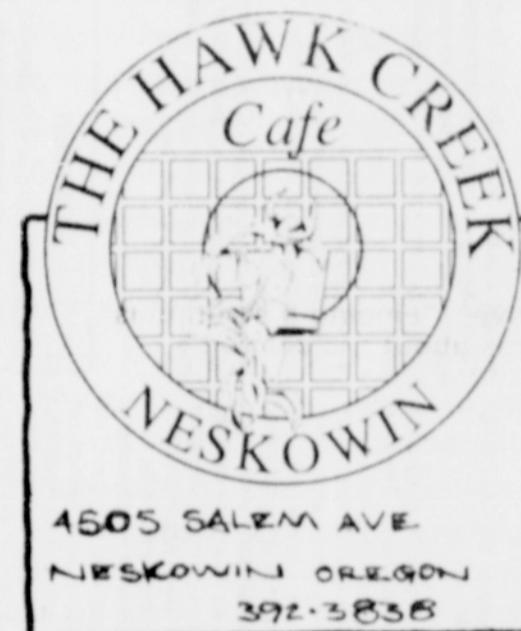
6. First rains, warm and tentative, nudge and waken Chanterelles, Boletes, and sundry fungi. Please avoid my private understory haunts, thank you. These sites are sacred.

7. East Wind /Carpenter Ant Hatch. An uncontrollable seasonal signal I would term the East Wind/Carpenter Ant/Gull Feeding Syndrome. Typically, east winds stream across the summits of the Coast Range in early Autumn. Dried by the Willamette Valley heat, these fall winds breathe hot against green waves of the September swell. Spindrift arcs seaward 30 to 50 feet from wave crests in startling plumes of symmetry. Borne on these winds, carpenter ants and dragonflies swim through the hot air, driven to The Edge from field and forest. Look aloft. High above you gulls wheel and spiral, their white bodies like minuscule ashes whirling skyward from a paper fire. Barely discernible with the naked eye, these gulls will stutter momentarily, snapping a winged ant -- a sure sign of fall.

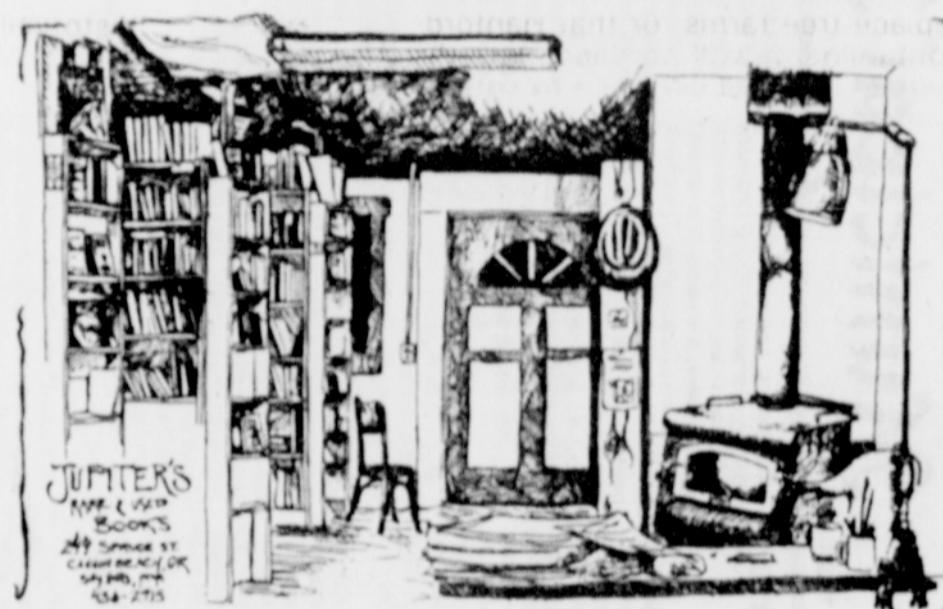
8. A return to sanity, peace, and proportion. Those of you who live here know what I mean. The Professor will see you in the fall.



Wes Lawson
Organic Gardening & Maintenance
486-0568
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Tolovana Park, OR 97145
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