

The Buzz



April 2023

Newsletter of the
Iowa Honey Producers
Association

<https://www.iowahoneyproducers.org/>

2023 IHPA Field Day

June 17, 2023

The Red Shed
Clarion, IA

Register for IHPA Field Day

Register TODAY to receive discounts for IHPA Field Day on Page 3

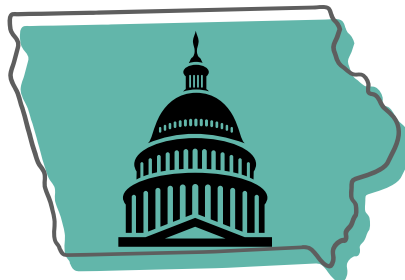


Lee Heine: Good People Award

Details about Lee Heine, and the award created on his behalf can be found on Pages 12-15

Honey Bee Day was a Success!

See a wrap up of Iowa Honey Bee Day and the impacts made on Pages 17-18



The Buzz

The Buzz is a monthly publication printed by the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA). This is one of the many perks of being a member of the IHPA!



You may opt to receive an electronic version of The Buzz, as a donation to the IHPA. Please contact the editor at:
ihpaeditor@gmail.com

2023 IHPA Field Day

June 17, 2023

The Red Shed
Clarion, IA



Topics Include:

Queen Rearing

Solar Wax Technique

Cooking with Honey

What Kind of Hive is That

Did You Say Cheese

Hives for Rent

Hands on Demonstrations:

Mite Checking

Mite Treatment

A Pollination Adventure

Registration Cost is

\$35 for IHPA members,

\$40 for non-members

\$50 for walk-ins

(members and non-members)

AND includes lunch!

Hotel: Hotel reservations are available at the Cobblestone Inn, 500 Central Ave West, Clarion, Iowa 515-602-6634.

Camping: Lake Cornelia is an excellent option for any camping enthusiasts wanting to make it a whole weekend adventure. Lake Cornelia is located at 1768 O'Brien Avenue, Clarion, Iowa. The camp ground is located: 1 mile east of Clarion on Highway 3 to CR-R45, then north 5 miles.

Sites available: 70 RV Sites, 32 Full Hookup, 38 electric only

Website: <http://www.wrightcounty.org/vi>

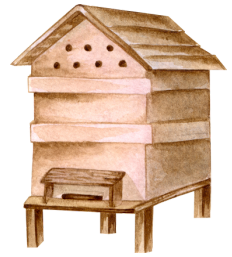
Email Address: wccb@co.wrightcounty.ia.us



THE RED SHED (908 2nd Street NW Clarion, IA 50525)

Registration: 8:00 a.m. Field Day: 8:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Return this completed form with your check by **June 12th** to Lisa Montgomery, 2543 170th Street Livernore, Iowa 50558 or sign up on our IHPA website bit.ly/summerfieldday



If you have any questions, please call **Cheri Van Sickle**, Event coordinator, at: 712-242-7807, or Email: vansicklemm@hotmail.com.

Lunch Choices: Taco Salad, Rice OR Chicken Salad on Croissant, Fresh Fruit

First and Last Name: _____

Meal Choice (circle one) Taco / Chicken / None

First and Last Name: _____

Meal Choice (circle one) Taco / Chicken / None

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone _____ E-mail: _____

		Number Attending:
IHPA Member Price:	\$35.00	x _____
IHPA Member Price (No Meal):	\$30.00	x _____
Non-IHPA Member Price:	\$40.00	x _____
Student Price:	\$25.00	x _____
Family Price: \$25 per person, \$75 max	\$25.00	x _____
	(up to three people, \$75.00 maximum)	
Walk-ins (members and non-members)	\$50.00	TOTAL \$ _____

Do you make or sell any bee-related items? [Honey bottles, jewelry, candles, bees, wooden items, etc.] Here is your chance to promote your products. The more items the merrier! Commercial beekeeping items are welcome. Fill out the form below and return by **June 14th** to: **Cheri VanSickle** (24148 Sumac Road Neola, IA 57559 vansicklemm@hotmail.com (712) 242-7807

First and Last Name: _____ Email: _____

Items I sell: _____

Amount of space requested: [] 10 ft x 10 ft [] 20 ft x 10 ft [] Other: _____

Number of tables [] Chairs []

IHPA Officer & Director News

Updates from your Event Coordinator

Event Coordinator, **Cheri Van Sickle**



2023 IHPA Field Day

June 17, 2023



The Red Shed
Clarion, IA

Hi everyone,

Contracts have been signed, lunch menus have been selected, and speakers have been scheduled for the 2023 Field Day, on June 17th. This year our Field Day will be filled with networking opportunities, interesting topics, new vendors, and hands-on experiences.

Our guest speaker will be Tom Montavon, owner of BL Plastic Containers and is also an Apiarist in Western Illinois. Tom will be presenting several different topics. Our breakout speakers will provide you with many opportunities to have hands-on experiences. Some of these experiences will include: application of mite control, how to make egg transfers to queen cups, handling different types of hives and many more experiences.

Do you remember at the end of each IHPA event, I would ask our members to fill out an evaluation form? One of the comments from a majority of our membership stated that they would like to see a lower registration price for our events. The Event Committee and I are excited to announce that there will be two different price options on the Field Day registration form. We have reduced the costs of the 2022 registration fees from \$40.00 to \$35, which includes lunch. The second option, is a registration fee of \$30 which does not include lunch. We value our members input and we want to increase the opportunity for more people, interested in beekeeping, to attend.

Be sure to watch the IHPA website for more exciting 2023 Field Day information on speakers and speaker's topics. So mark your calendars and return your registration form for a fun filled and informative day on June 17th.

Event Coordinator
Cheri

Updates from your District 3 Director

Dick Ostercamp

The IHPA Memorial Scholarship Committee has received total of 31 applications between all six districts. Thank you for applying. We (the committee) are now processing the applications, many are outstanding. We will announce the candidate from each district in the May Edition of The Buzz.

-Dick Ostercamp
District 3 Director, Co-Chair. IHPA Memorial Scholarship

IHPA Officer & Director News

Ramblings from The Russian Bee Guy

President, Jason Foley

Hello and welcome to the April addition of The Buzz! It's technically March for me as I am writing this and Honey Bee Day is later this week! I'm really hoping for a heck of a turnout. Jamie Beyer has been telling me about the tons of tables and displays we will have, the food, the honey based snacks, the people who will be coming, the cities that have joined, etc.. It just is shaping up to be one of the best showings we have had at the capitol.

Since my last story I have had a mountain of work going on in my woodshop, projects with friends, visits to bee organizations, and many other things. For starters I am helping some friends convert and insulated pole building into a certified kitchen. I have some carpentry skills and have worked as a general contractor in the past so I've been able to generate up the blue prints on the build, and check with the ordinances and building requirements of the area, and get that all finalized. We hooked up my 20ft trailer and filled it up and the flatbed of the truck with all the building supplies for the carpentry side of the job and delivered it to the worksite. I'm just waiting for the plumbers to get their stuff stubbed in and I'll be off to the races with getting it all framed up.

I've finished up all the hive kits for our store but now I'm building 100's of deeps for spring and we've been painting migratory lids (I'm dreading painting all those deeps too). Just this last week I had a Mannlake order come in that barely would fit out the roll up door of the semi-truck. Someone was definitely trying to save on freight and had carefully stacked it all up like a game of Tetris to the ceiling. I think we had just an inch or two of clearance from the door lol. It's feeling like a freight company around here with all the deliveries. A day prior I had 112 cases of bee frames delivered. Then there was a delivery of my new feed system. Fortunately Summerset road out in front of our place has oversized shoulders for cars to park along since there is a bike trail by our land. This affords room for the semis to pull off and I start unloading with one of my forklifts.

(continued on next page)



Photos by Jason Foley

Jason Foley
russianbeeguy@gmail.com
515-664-6072

IHPA Officer & Director News

Another project on tap is that I'm helping Andy Joseph convert an old 610 bobcat into a bee machine. I have various welders and a plasma torch so we have hauled his parts over to my farm. Andy rebuilt the motor in her and I've ripped the arms off and have been fabricating the parts to mount up a forklift mast and 5th wheel (see photos). We're set to have her done before April rolls around. Right now we are redoing the electrical and hydraulic lines. Outside of the physical labor, I've been converting our store and products over to a UPC barcode system, coordinating with the IHPA board for our upcoming events, working with our legislative committee to foster new policies to protect or grant rights to beekeepers, I've been lined up to work with the Great Plains Master Beekeepers as an open apiary testing location, and have been initiated into the Russian Bee Breeder Association. Yes, that was a run-on-sentence. One of the busiest first quarters I have ever had lol. In a few weeks the hives come back from California and the various package and nuc pick up weekends ensue! Ah! The life of a sole proprietor commercial beekeeper lol. Crazy-not Crazy?



Jason Foley
russianbeeguy@gmail.com
515-664-6072

Youth Bee Camp May 6-7, Indianola



Bee Camp is coming up! Do you have a child (or know someone) between the ages of **13 and 17** who is interested in bees?

If so, then the 2nd Annual Youth Bee Camp may be for them!

When: Saturday, May 6 from noon until Sunday, May 7 around 2:00 p.m. (tentatively)

Where: Camp Wesley Woods, 10896 Nixon Street, Indianola, IA 50125

Cost: \$75 per youth for IHPA members and \$105 per youth for non-IHPA members

*****The non-member rate includes a 1-year membership to the IHPA.*****

(This cost breaks down to \$35 for accommodations, \$25 for food, and \$15 for a bedding pack)

While at camp, students will work with Andy Joseph, the State Apiarist, gaining hands-on training in bee hives. A class on queen rearing will be taught by Jason Foley, current IHPA President and owner of Foley's Russian Bees. The other planned class as of right now is one on value added products which will give students a foundation in selling and marketing honey and honey products, taught by Sara Todd, current IHPA Vice-President and owner of Holton Homestead.

To register, visit <https://bit.ly/youthbeecamp>

For more information, feel free to reach out to:

Stephanie Meyers, IHPA Youth Scholarship Coordinator at sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com

Place an ad in The Buzz!

Please submit all information for an advertisement by 11:59 p.m. on the 10th of the month PRIOR to The Buzz you want to see it in.

To submit an ad please fill out the advertising form at:
bit.ly/TheBuzzAdvertising2023

Type of Ad	Mo Price (\$)	Year Price (\$)	Size Horizontal	Size Vertical
<i>Classified</i>	5	50	1"Tx3"w	3"Tx1"w
<i>1/8 page</i>	25	250	1.3"Tx2.1"w	2.6"Tx2.1"w
<i>1/4 page</i>	50	500	2.6"Tx4.1"w	4.1"Tx5.3"w
<i>1/2 page</i>	70	775	5.3"Tx8.25"W	10.75"Tx4.1"w
<i>Full Page</i>	90	1000	n/a	10.75"Tx8.25w

Busy bee:

Bellevue resident to spend next year promoting insect pollination nationwide

By: Grace Nieland, Telegraph Herald

BELLEVUE, Iowa — An area resident will spend the next year drumming up buzz for honeybees and insect pollination after receiving a top title in the beekeeping world.

Allison Hager, 22, of Bellevue, was named the 2023 American Honey Princess at the recent American Beekeeping Federation Conference and Tradeshow. She will spend the next year promoting the honey industry in schools, farmers markets and festivals nationwide.

“I’m looking forward to reaching as many people as I can this year,” Hager said. “I love honeybees, and I love talking to people about honeybees, especially those who don’t know much about it but want to learn more.”

Hager has been beekeeping since she was 13 after learning of a state program that helps cover start-up costs. She said she was interested in the environmental benefits of beekeeping and learning the skills that go into maintaining a successful hive.

She is currently a senior at Iowa State University studying business management, but she still tends to several hives in the Bellevue area in collaboration with a local beekeeper. After she graduates in May, she hopes to grow her hives even more.

American Honey Bee Program Chairperson Anna Kettlewell said it was Hager’s breadth of experience and passion that made her well suited for the national title. Prior to being selected as the American Honey Princess, Hager served as the 2022 Iowa Honey Queen.

“Allison has a tremendous knowledge of the beekeeping industry,” Kettlewell said. “She seemed very excited about the work, which is something that we love to see, and she just expressed a lot of professionalism, which is also something that we were looking for.” “beekeeping industry,” Kettlewell said. “She seemed very excited about the work, which is something that we love to see, and she just expressed a lot of professionalism, which is also something that we were looking for.”

Local beekeeper Kevin Brunning said he believes Hager will be well suited for the position after seeing how she performed as the state Honey Queen, adding that she did particularly well with public speaking. He has been mentoring Hager for about a year.

“She always asks a lot of questions about the bees, and she always seems very interested,” Brunning said. “... It’s been kind of a fun road for me to see her continue to grow and learn more about (beekeeping).”

Hager said she thinks people tend to underestimate the importance of honeybees. She used U.S. Department of Agriculture data to highlight that honeybees pollinate about 80% of all flowering plants, including more than 130 types of fruits and vegetables. She noted that the insects are vital for the pollination of forage plants such as alfalfa and clover that feed livestock, too, meaning honeybees have an impact on human food consumption in more ways than one.

It’s those facts and more that she looks forward to sharing in the year ahead in her new role.

“Without bees, we’d pretty much be eating fish and corn,” Hager said.

“My goal this year is to explain the importance of beekeeping and just kind of give people more knowledge to embrace that as a job or hobby.”





Dordt University and the Siouxland Beekeepers of Northwest Iowa will be implementing a

beekeeping field day at the

Agriculture Stewardship Center of

Dordt University on Saturday, June 3, 2023.

The theme of the field day is “Marching Forward to Local Sustainable Beekeeping.”

The all-day event plans to provide an abundance of hands-on learning activities that will address the fundamentals of beekeeping. We will focus on activities that will help move a beekeeper in the direction of long-term sustainable and successful beekeeping.

The final program is still in development, and more information will be forthcoming. We plan to have more information available by the end of March.

The registration for each participant is **\$40 and will be due by May 20** to cover the costs of a noon meal, refreshments, and other ancillary expenses.

Registration after that date will be \$50.

Mark the date on your calendars, and more information will be provided as it becomes available to help you decide if you want to attend the event.

If you need additional information or want to be put on an email distribution list to receive future information, you can contact

Dr. Duane Bajema at duane.bajema@dordt.edu.

The Iowa Farmers Union and I were awarded a partnership grant that will offer 12 Zoom learning circles for beekeepers from April 2023 until March 2024 and I want your help.

The idea behind the grant was to offer our beekeeping community some time with local talent in the field and by zoom for topics that are difficult to cover in standard club meetings and beginning beekeeping classes. One example is business formation, insurance, and taxes – this is a topic that beginners ask about every year when harvest rolls around, but it doesn't apply to everyone attending. Another example is grafting – people want to try it, but leaving the state for a grafting workshop requires a big time and money investment. By keeping learning circles local, more people can benefit.

Here's where I'd like your input. What are your students asking for that your course/club can't supply? For me, I find that after beekeepers go through their second winter, they start to ask about queen rearing. I have experience with notching (OTS method) only, so I can't help them with grafting or other methods. But I know someone who does grafting, so I booked her to present at field day. I also have people ask about selling at farmers markets, but I only do wholesale, so it might be nice to have someone with farmers market experience to speak at a zoom meeting. I'd love to serve more people and have beekeepers be better at beekeeping.

We already have four field days ready to go – splits on April 29 with Randall Cass at the Hort Farm; wet grafting on June 17 with Tyler Lane at Cherry Glen Learning Farm; cutouts with Ben Hoksch date and location TBD by the swarm calls this year (we're aiming for Sept), and a culminating storytelling event during the IHPA convention (I couldn't figure out a way to pay for all the participants' admission). Learning Circle participation requires registration and has a free, 'come when you can' style.

Learning Circle zoom meetings will occur on the first of every month (beginning in April) except for July. If you have suggestions for topics that are presented and if you are an expert in a topic that you could present, reply to Julia McGuire at wdmjulia@gmail.com, or call if that would be easier -- (515) 988-1828. Thank you for your consideration.

E-Mail list: bit.ly/beekeeperlearningcircles



Recipes by Emma Ingram

Happy April! I am so glad to be seeing the flowers starting to peak out and the color starting to come back to the world. I am sure our bees are also looking forward to that pollen starting up again. In the meantime, why not try these two delicious and unique honey desserts, honey muffins and honey crepes. These are perfect for sharing at a family gathering, or, more likely, enjoying all by yourself!

Honey Muffins (Pg. 20)

2 cups all purpose flour
1/2 cup sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoons salt

1 egg
1 cup milk

1/4 cup butter, melted
1/4 cup honey

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. In a large bowl, combine egg, milk, butter, and honey. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.

Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups 3/4 full. Bake 15-18 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes before removing from pan to wire rack. Serve warm.

Emma's Notes: As far as mixing these up and making them, these muffins behaved like any others. The flavor was great and the texture was so soft and fluffy. The only down sides to this recipe were that the amount of baking powder was not specified, and they refused to come out of the container whether I used paper lining or heavily greased the muffin tins. The amount of baking powder is my best guess based on the results of the recipe. Since the recipe did not specify, I used the amount listed for another muffin recipe of similar size. When you try this recipe, if the first batch isn't exactly what you were expecting, try reducing the baking powder a little bit for next time. The best way that I found to get the muffins out of the wrapper is to warm them up in the microwave for about 30 seconds. This will allow the muffin to release the paper and not leave the papery residue behind.

Low-Fat Honey Crepes (Pg. 25)

2 cups non-fat milk
1 cup all-purpose flour

2 egg whites
1 whole egg

1 tablespoon honey
1 tablespoon canola oil

1/8 teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients in a blender or food processor; blend until smooth. Rub an 8-inch non-stick skillet with oiled paper towel or spray with nonstick cooking spray. Heat over medium to high heat, spoon 3-4 tablespoons crepe batter into skillet, tilting and rotating skillet to cover evenly with batter. Cook until edges begin to turn brown. Turn crepe over and cook until lightly browned. Remove crepe and fill with your favorite spread: whipped cream, butter, and sugar, honey, Nutella, jams, marmalade. Fold crepe in half, half again, and half again. Enjoy.

Emma's Notes: Yummy! I set the plate on the table and these sweet pastries were gone in a matter of minutes. As a person who has never made crepes before, this was a major learning experience! I had so much fun and my family had fun watching it. Two big things I learned are that it is important to use a non-stick pan with curved sides. The ones with square sides will make it difficult to flip the crepe while keeping the pretty shape. The other tricky part was figuring the exact temperature to fry them. Each stove and pan behaves a little differently and I ended up using medium-low heat rather than high-medium high heat and had much better results. Either works, it just depends on your cooking style! Don't worry though, all the ugly starter ones are great for samples while cooking! I topped half of them with a simple apple butter and honey spread and the other half with peanut butter and chocolate syrup (imagine a peanut butter cup!). We added a little mound of whipped cream to make it look fancy and it looked like a gourmet delicacy! These will certainly become a staple in my kitchen and are great for making with kids.

Tales from a Migratory Beekeeper



Written by Tyler Holton

A collection of information from those with direct, personal knowledge about beekeeping

It's March 7th

California almond pollination is at it's midway point and we wait for the bloom to finish.

Cherry pollination has slowly begun in the early varieties but with the rain and poor weather they aren't spraying the trees with the dormant sprays to make them bloom sooner.

It's been a rough time for the trees and the bees. Unseasonably cold and wet, snowy weather right during the bloom has only given the bees a few good days to fly. That's not looking promising for a nut crop, and it's not looking great for the bees.

The pollen and nectar surplus is what grows the bees to such large colonies. Some beekeepers are worried about bees starving to death in the orchards and are having to feed syrup.

If you are on the Iowa Beekeepers Facebook group you will see a video I posted about checking to see if the hive was gathering nectar. You can see a frame rain nectar out like water in the "shake test" indicating the hive has gathered it the last 24 hours.

With the slow bee build up and poor temperatures we are seeing queen production from Northern California be delayed already. It will be interesting to see if that has an affect on package production too.

It may even look to be that the almond bloom has been slowed down, the trees are possibly holding out for decent weather in hopes to be pollinated before they give up their petals and push the green leaves. That will also set beekeepers back on their schedules to split and possibly catch honeyflows in other parts of the country leaving California.

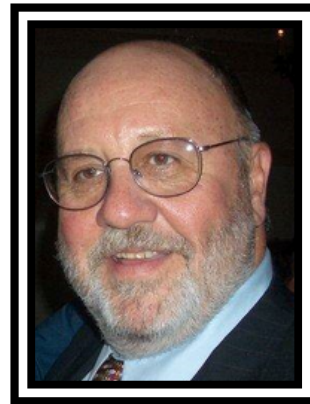
Not just the temperature, or rainfall, but the snow accumulated on the Sierra Nevada is at an all time high, with a warm rainstorm to hit, it can cause a massive amount of water to flow into the valley from the snowmelt, and could see more issues with soft ground, mud, and flooding. I'm not ready to face that nightmare again!





The Lee Heine

Good People Award



The Wisconsin Honey Producers Association is proud to announce a new national award entitled, the Lee Heine ‘Good People’ Award in honor of Lee Heine, a longtime friend and leader in the beekeeping industry who passed away in 2021 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. With Lee’s passing, we lost a significant figure; a friend who not only kept bees, but one who connected with many about bees, honey, and the advancement of the beekeeping industry.

Lee Heine contributed countless hours to the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association. He served in a variety of leadership capacities, including vice president, president, past president, district chairperson, and chair of multiple committees. He contributed greatly to the Association’s membership, marketing, promotion, and education efforts.

Lee Heine was also a key figure in the national industry as well. He was a partner in starting youth mentorship programs in Wisconsin and Iowa. He served as the chairperson of the National Honey Board. He was the membership committee co-chair for the American Beekeeping Federation and also served for many years as a state delegate.

What was most significant about Lee Heine was his friendship and influence. Lee had a way of forming connections and networks that spanned the nation. He was masterful at using these connections to advance the beekeeping industry. He was skilled in forging relationships that assisted him in working with many legislators from Washington, DC to Madison, WI. He saw the spark when young people showed interest in bees, and he supported them to serve as a national spokesperson or pursue studies in entomology or become a career beekeeper. Lee understood that relationships mattered and could be utilized to advance causes, promote beekeeping, and make friends.

Lee Heine had many friends and acquaintances throughout the nation. When Lee walked into a room of people he did not know, he walked out with new friends. Lee knew how to find “good people” – a phrase he often used to describe folks who would do the right thing or be an advocate for the industry – “good people” or good friends.

People Award. Lee had a magnanimous way of coalescing people around a cause, sparking interest and passion for bees, and making people care about the honey and beekeeping industry with action and impact. The Lee Heine Good People Award is designed to honor those who have forged positive relationships with industry members and who have taken on the beekeeping industry’s causes, but are not beekeepers or working in the beekeeping industry.

Since Lee’s influence was felt nationwide, nominations are open nationwide. Think of those who are advocating for honeybees beyond direct involvement in beekeeping – educators, legislators, nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, municipalities, volunteers, journalists, or anyone who has connected to the beekeeping industry in a unique way. This award is open to anyone in the United States.

Nominations open June 1 and with a deadline of September 30.

Visit the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association website www.wihoney.org, for additional details.

Implementation Framework

Number of Recipients	The Lee Heine Good People Award selection committee anticipates that at least one candidate will be selected annually but retains the right to withhold the award if no qualified nominations are received.
Nomination Process	<p>Any group or individual is eligible to submit a nomination for consideration. Nominations due September 30, 2023 and emailed to Matt LaForge at mjlaforge@gmail.com.</p> <p>Complete nominations include a:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nomination cover page2. Nomination signature page3. Criteria Page: one-page Microsoft Word document outlining the nominee's qualifications based on the award criteria4. Brief biography (no more than 250 words)5. Digital head and shoulder photograph or applicable photo or logo (<i>pending selection</i>)
Selection Process	<p>The selection process involves a committee from the Wisconsin Honey Producer Association members.</p> <p>Unsuccessful candidates must be re-nominated for future consideration.</p>
Recognition	The award announcement will be made at the annual Wisconsin Honey Producers Association Convention held in early November, and delivery may be coordinated with the recipient.

Questions concerning the *Lee Heine Good People Award* may be directed to Matt LaForge at mjlaforge@gmail.com.

COVER PAGE

2023 The Lee Heine Good People Award

In 2022, the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association and members of the Lee Heine family partnered to create the Lee Heine Good People Award. The Lee Heine Good People Award was established to recognize individuals, groups, or organizations who made a significant impact on the beekeeping industry. All nominations must be sent electronically in a Word document to Matt LaForge mjlaforge@gmail.com by **September 30, 2023**.

Nominee Information

Name _____

Title/Position _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Does the Nominee know about this Nomination? Yes No

Nominator Information

Name _____ Office Phone _____

Address _____

Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Complete nominations include a:

1. **Nomination cover page**
2. **Nomination signature page**
3. **Criteria Page:** one-page Microsoft Word document outlining the nominee's qualifications based on the award criteria
4. **Brief biography** (no more than 250 words)
5. **Digital head and shoulder photograph** or applicable photo or logo (*pending selection*)

CRITERIA PAGE

2023 The Lee Heine Good People Award

A candidate's nomination is **limited to a one-page Microsoft Word document** with margins of no less than .5 inch and fonts no smaller than 12 point. Electronic signatures are acceptable in a MS Word or PDF format, or the signature page may be scanned and emailed.

Please focus the information on the nominee's:

1. **CITIZENSHIP** as exemplified by participation in civic, community, state, regional and/or national public service related activities, evidencing concern and enthusiasm for the beekeeping industry.
2. **LEADERSHIP** as exemplified by qualities of leadership and acceptance of leadership responsibilities in civic, community, professional and business related activities that directly or indirectly benefit the beekeeping industry.
3. **IMPACT** to the beekeeping industry as exemplified by accomplishments and success in his/her chosen career and as a mentor or role model.
4. **CHARACTER** as exemplified by evidence of the influence of beekeeping life and/or the nominee's commitment to the beekeeping industry.
5. **Any other information** that would be beneficial for the selection committee to know.

NOMINATION SIGNATURE PAGE

2023 The Lee Heine Good People Award

Nominee's Name _____

As the nominator, I verify the information submitted is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Nominator _____ Date _____

Send nominations (MS Word document OR PDF) as an e-mail attachment to Matt LaForge at mjlaforge@gmail.com by **SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**. Electronic signatures are acceptable or the signature page may be scanned and emailed.

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers Association to Focus on Integrated Pest Management

The NW Iowa Beekeepers Association, with members keeping bees in NW Iowa, SW Minnesota, and east central South Dakota, is beginning a three-year beekeeper education emphasis with the theme, “Raising Healthy Bees That Thrive.” The educational foundation is the best practices for honey bee Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and biosecurity. The five-year goal is for the Association membership to manage their colonies to achieve an organization annual average of a 75% winter survival rate. The Association is updating its education approach to embrace IPM and biosecurity best practices. For example

- New beekeepers attending the Beginner 1 class receive an alcohol wash Varroa mite test bottle. During the annual outdoor classroom event beginner beekeepers watch demonstrations with live bees how to use the test bottle to count mites.
- Mite threshold numbers reflect the Honey Bee Health Coalition’s recommendation for treatment at counts of >1-3%, depending on the time of the year. Page 9, Table 1 of the 2022 edition of the Tools for Varroa Management lists the updated recommendations - <https://tinyurl.com/47ejzvpa>
- The Association is providing scholarships to members to encourage enrollment in the Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) Sentinel Apiary program – <https://tinyurl.com/d3c7nuwx>
- Dr. Meghan Milbrath’s, MSU Extension, suggested biosecurity protocols will be followed for the Association’s “in the apiary” events. Milbrath’s biosecurity best practices will be taught in all beekeeping classes and reviewed at Association meetings - <https://tinyurl.com/4pbntvwc>
- Members are encouraged to requeen with VSH queens, including replacing commercial queens in bee packages and nucs.
- Using commercial queens early in the season to thwart swarming is discouraged. Members will be introduced to the Damaree and Snelgrove (double screen) methods to reduce swarming of high population spring colonies.

- Summer splits with an emphasis on installation of VSH queens is being promoted.
- IPM practices such as 2-year comb rotations, brood breaks, drone brood trapping, options to reduce robbing and drifting, and isolation of new bees and swarms will be discussed and spotlighted at Association meetings.
- It has been the dream of some members of the NWIABKA Board to launch a regional honey bee breeding cooperative. The first step toward such a cooperative is training beekeepers the best practices for queen rearing on Saturday, May 20th, 9:30 a.m. at Rock Rapids, IA. Coupled with queen rearing is a Saturday, April 1, 9 a.m. workshop title: Next Steps for Rethinking Beekeeping – New Ideas-New Techniques-New Equipment, also in Rock Rapids. For information about attending the workshops contact – dmvanbroek@gmail.com.

By updating the NWIABKA’s beekeeping education to emphasize IPM and biosecurity, the hope is that the Association will reach the goal of a winter survival rate of 75%. The members of the NWIABKA are learning together the best practices for “Raising Healthy Bees that Thrive.”

Submitted by

Tim Olsen
NWIABA

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Iowa Honey Bee Day 2023



*Written by: Jamie Beyer,
IHPA Legislative Representative*

What a day for Beekeepers of Iowa!! On March 16th a huge bunch of us arrived at the Capitol as the doors were opening to set up honey bee displays. By 7:00 a.m. we were pretty much set up and ready for showcasing honey bees to our Legislators. We did this in many ways. You can always get a Legislator's attention with food, so we served many breakfast/brunch items made with honey. By 10:30 or 11:00 a.m. we were out of food.

I am estimating that over the five hours we were there here is who we saw:

- 30-40 Representative (out of 150)
- 10-15 Senators (out of 50)
 - Clerks and some pages
- 40 General Public
- 30 Beekeepers (including IHPA volunteers)
- 6 Queens
 - American Honey Princess, Allison Hager
 - IHPA Honey Queen, Rachel Vakulich
- Governor, Kim Reynolds
- First Gentleman, Kevin Reynolds
- 2 Governor's Grandkids
- 2 media representatives

Refer to picture with Kevin Reynolds here

So, I would say maybe 200 people saw our displays. Of those, about 50 were lawmakers. In addition, we had a huge influence on the subcommittee that was discussing the honey bee tax exemption bill since all the Queens and IHPA lobbyists were in attendance at that meeting.

This is a pure guesstimate. I am pretty sure that I am conservative on the total number that saw our displays since there were many that only visited for 10 to 15 minutes and then left due to a meeting they needed to attend.



Left to right: **Jason Foley**, IHPA President; **Mark Moberly**, raffle basket winner and great volunteer

The items on display in the Rotunda of the Capitol were as follows:

- Observation Hive
- Queen Tables where the Queens were present
- Flow Hive
- Hive Pictures
- A hive itself
- IHPA Tables with Banners
- Youth Scholarship Display
- Pollinator/Monarch Display tables
- City/County Proclamation Displays/Posters
- Food Tables – four of them
- Raffle Table that displayed all the donated raffle items for the honey basket
- Name Tag/Sign up sheet
- Free Bag clips table

We raffled off the honey basket where honey products from across the state were donated. The winner was **Mark Moberly**, a Webster City beekeeper, and also was volunteering at one of the display tables.

Iowa Honey Bee Day 2023



Strawberry Honey Wine
Dick and Kristi Ostercamp
Blossom Street Honey
Eagle Grove, IA

Ross Round Comb Honey,
Honey Cookbooks
Jamie Beyer
Beyers Bees
Boone, IA

Jar Honey
**Allison Hager, 2022 Iowa
Honey Producers Queen,
2023 American Honey
Producers Princess**
Grassy Hills Apiaries,
Miles, IA

Hot Honey, Beeswax
Candle, Creamed Honey,
Lip Balm, Lotion
Holton Homestead
Elkhart, IA

Hand & Body Lotion, Hot
Pads, Beeswax Candles, Lip
Balm, Dish Towels
Curt and Connie
Bronnenberg
Spring Valley Honey Farms
Perry, IA

Creamed Honey
Bethany Kelly
*Central Iowa Honey Bee
(CIBA) Queen*
Dassel Acres
Des Moines, IA

Whiskey Barrel Aged Honey,
Creamed Honey, Beeswax
Candle
Jason Foley
*Honey Hollow Apiary &
Gardens, LLC*
Indianola, IA

Buckwheat Honey
Richard Vonderohe
Vonderohe Bees
Mason City, IA

Comb Honey
Paulette Lynn
Dubuque IA

Jar Honey
Stephanie Meyers
Sonshine Farms
Hubbard, IA

Jar Honey
H.R. Cook
Country View Honey
Dubuque IA

Jar Honey
Kelsey Wigans
*Gilmore City-Bradgate
Elementary School*
Gilmore City, IA

A list of donators
for the raffled
honey basket, as
the honey basket
given to the
Governor is as
follows:



Left to Right: **Bethany Kelly**, Central Iowa Beekeepers Assoc. Queen; **Britta McCollum**, Boone River Beekeepers Queen; **Rachel Vakulich**, IHPA Queen; **Kevin Reynolds**, First Gentleman; **Allison Hager**, American Honey Princess, **Vannessa Vonderohe**, North Iowa Beekeepers Queen, and **Leah Casey**, Central Iowa Beekeepers Princess

From the Editor

Kelsey Wigans, IHPA Editor

Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary Seed to Table Manager

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition Teacher of the Year 2022

Humboldt County Conservation Teacher of the Year 2022



Hello Fellow Beekeepers!

Please keep submitting information for The Buzz. I love having many articles and pictures to work with!

Plus, people REALLY enjoy what you have to say believe it, or not! Be on the lookout in the next edition of The Buzz for Iowa State Fair Information.

I have been working on a new adventure of my own, where I started my own blog called the Iowa Family Gardening Homestead where I share about simple, family living, gardening, beekeeping and every day life tips! You can follow along at <https://lowafamilygardeninghomestead.com>

I am in the process of planning a large vendor show called the Limestone Capital Market in Gilmore City on June 17, 2023. If you're interested in attending, it's just a short trip from Clarion where Field Day will be. I would appreciate you spreading the word about this event, as the funds raised from it will help us recoup our costs from what was lost in the greenhouse. Additionally, if you have contacts for vendors you love to visit, I'd LOVE to have their business name and contact information for another special surprise in the works. Please email me at kwigans@gcb.k12.ia.us

Limestone Capital Market

<https://bit.ly/limestonecapitalvendor>

<https://bit.ly/LimestoneCapitalMarketRules>



Iowa Honey Business
Spotlight



Who's Next!?

Do you have, or know of someone with an Iowa Honey Business that could be featured in The Buzz?

Email tips to: ihpaeitor@gmail.com



Foley's Russian Bees is an Indianola, Iowa based producer of Primorsky Russian bees & beekeeping equipment. We specialize in Russian mated queens and Russian nucleus hives. We also are a provider of Carniolan packages. When you are in need of bees, we can help!

To place an order, check us out on the web
www.RussianBee.com

HELP WANTED: The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, (NASDA) working with USDA is hiring FIELD STAFF. Work is part time collection data for the USDA/NASS. A farm background is preferred. Qualifications - a good work ethic, a self-starter, and good communications skills. Starting wage is \$16.31/hr. Mileage allowance is 65.5 cents. Find more info at NASDA.org. For more information call Tony at 515-802-8367

This year the wife & I are sad to say but we are selling out of the bees. Our jobs are taking away from the bees. We have 8 frame hives. We have some that are built & some that are bought from Dadant & Mann Lake. There is too much to list-if you're interested please call or text me at (319) 572-2012. Wanting to sell all together not piece it out. Have supers, hives, hive stands. Thank you. [Eric Higdon, Mediapolis, IA]

FOR SALE: Approx. 40 new 4-way clip pallets with "U" clips. We ran out of pallets in California and had to buy these. \$40 each. We also have some used pallets for \$15. Contact Phil at 641-521-6361 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

THE HOLTON HOMESTEAD



Elkhart, Iowa

5 frame nucs
2023 Queen
At least 3 Frames
of brood & 2 frames
of food
Grown & monitored
for 3 to 4 weeks to
prove queen quality.
Pick up is in May -
dates to be
determined.

\$180

HoltonHoneyBees@
gmail.com

(712) 898-5736



2023 Package Bees & Queens

2 loads arriving in Washington, IA: 1) late March/early April & 2) late April/early May

3-lb. Package with unmarked queen (Italian, Russian/Italian Hybrid, Carniolan, & Buckfast available)

Qty 1-9= \$142/each*
Qty 10-99= \$133/each*
Qty 100-499= \$128/each*
Qty 500+= Call for pricing

Additional mated, unmarked queens (Italian, Russian/Italian Hybrid, Carniolan, & Buckfast available)

Qty 1-9= \$38/each*
Qty 10-99= \$36/each*
Qty 100+= \$35/each*

*plus 7% IA Sales Tax

5-Frame Nucs with unmarked queen (Italian & Carniolan available)

Pick up at our Sullivan, WI location only—mid-April through mid-May

Qty 1-9= \$185/each*
Qty 10-99= \$170/each*
Qty 100+= \$158/each*
*plus 5.5% WI sales tax

Order online at: www.heritagehoneybee.com

Or

Call Tim Wilbanks at: 319-321-2494

Heritage Honeybee, LLC, PO Box 117; N6007 Hillside Drive, Sullivan, WI 53178

Tim Wilbanks ph: 319-321-2494 email: timwilbanksbees@gmail.com website: www.heritagehoneybee.com



Spring Valley Honey Farms

14405 Hull Ave.
Perry, Iowa 50220
Curt and Connie Bronnenberg
515-480-6076

www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com

This year was a good year here at Spring Valley Honey Farms, the bees came out of the almond orchards in great shape, built up well and produced an excellent crop of low moisture honey. Mite counts were generally low, treatments were still applied, ample protein and syrup was fed. We have a good supply of bees coming out of the almond orchards in California, so we will be shaking all of our packages out of our own bees.

2-pound package bees \$109.00 + tax + \$7.00 cage deposit

3-pound package bee \$132.00 + tax + \$7.00 cage deposit

5 Frame Nucs with Carniolan, Italian or Saskatraz Queens \$180.00 + tax

(Saskatraz package bees and Nucs are \$5.00 extra)

Because we feel supplementing carbohydrates and protein is important, we offer a gallon of syrup and protein patty for \$7.00 with the purchase of package bees or nucs.

During package season we are very flexible and usually available but always best to call or text Connie at 515-480-6076 as we do not keep regular store hours. If you call or text me an order, we can get order ready and you can pick up at your convenience.

We offer a full line of beekeeping equipment which you can find list and prices of our equipment on our website.

Queens (Carniolan or Italian) \$37.00 Saskatraz \$42.00

Corn Syrup .40 a pound (your container)

Gallon syrup - \$8.00

500#s or more .35 a pound

Protein Patties \$2.50 each Case of 40 Protein Patties \$100.00

We also sell bulk honey in 5 gallon buckets to 55 gallon drums.

Complete Hive Kit – (no honey supers) \$210.00 (Wood Frames)

\$197.00(Plastic Frames) (Includes: 2 Deep Hive Bodies, 18 - frames, 2gallon feeder, standard bottom board, telescoping cover & inner cover) **Fully assembled and painted.**

Complete Hive Kit + Honey Supers - \$330.00 (Wood Frames) \$305.00 (Plastic Frames) (Includes 2 Deep Hive Bodies, 18 frames, 2 gallon feeder, standard bottom board, telescoping cover & inner cover, 2 - 6 5/8 boxes + 20 - 6 5/8 frames) **Fully assembled and painted.**



got bees?

USE THIS QUICK ORDER FORM OR ORDER ONLINE AT

WWW.EBERTHONEY.COM

LINE ITEM	1-24	25+	QUANTITY	SUBTOTAL
	Nucleus Hive	\$190		
	1-49	50+		
Package Bees (2 lb)	\$130	\$128		
Package Bees (3 lb)	\$150	\$148		

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

Subtotal ► _____

Live in Iowa?
Add 7% sales tax _____

Total ► _____

Select a pick up site:

- Mount Vernon • IA
- Lynnville • IA



**OUR 2023
HONEYBEE
INVENTORY**

» Nucleus Hives (Nucs)

» Package Bees

Our package bees include an Italian queen.



**INVENTORY
AVAILABILITY**

April 2023

Package bees available for customer pick up.

May 2023

Nucs available for customer pick up.



**FOR YOUR
CONVENIENCE**

Pick Up Locations

We offer two bee pick up locations in Iowa:

1090 Highway 1 North
Mount Vernon • Iowa 52314

14808 South 102nd Ave East
Lynnville • Iowa 50153

Honey Containers

Pick up your bees & honey containers in one convenient stop. Order both online & we will have them ready to pick up at the same time!



**CONTACT OUR
TEAM TODAY**

319.259.9377

info@eberthoney.com

www.eberthoney.com

@eberthoney

Please make checks payable to Ebert Honey, LLC and mail to either address listed on the right of this page. Ensure your name, mailing address, phone & email are written on your check or this form so we can contact you when your bees are ready. For orders of 25+ units, we will accept a 50% deposit at this time. Please note that our online prices are 3% higher to account for credit card transaction fees.

The Buzz Newsletter
Iowa Honey Producers Association
c/o Editor, Kelsey Wigans
402 SE E Avenue
Gilmore City, IA 50541



*The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by
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which is an affiliate of the Iowa State
Horticultural Society*



Deadline for submissions to The Buzz is always the 10th of the month at 11:59 p.m. the month prior to when you would like to see information published.

If writing an article for The Buzz, submissions must be 800 words or less. Pictures are encouraged!

Deadline to submit information for the March Edition of The Buzz

Monday, April 10th at 11:59 p.m.

*If you need assistance designing your advertisement,
information is due to Kelsey Wigans one week prior, on
Monday, April 3rd at 11:59 p.m.*

