

# The Buzz



October 2018

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



Gretchen Schrock tries out Eric Kenoyer's new uncapper at their extracting party. Great club activity!

#### **Eleven Months of Messages and Trust**

Alas, it's October. I have held the role of president of the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) for eleven months. That means eleven months' worth of messages from me. By way of a wonderful computer system known as Microsoft Word, I am able to tell you the number of words I have penned in these messages: 9,447, or roughly 42,500 characters. One of these days I may just write about arthritis in my fingers or the onset of carpel tunnel syndrome but let's hope not! No one would want to hear about such woes. Rather let me tell you about what I have covered over these last several months:

December – Thanks to those who attended or who were involved with the 2018 IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference January – A New Year and what to do while the bees are clustering in their hives

February – The IHPA Board is active

March - Newsletter articles needed; keep them coming

April – Why you should join the IHPA

May – Outreach

June - Summer Field Day

July – Spotlight on Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer

August – Support a club queen

September – A Visit to the Denver Botanical Garden

All of these messages were positive and focused on aspects of beekeeping that take place outside a beehive. Now I would like to take you in a different direction. When you elected me as your president, I'd like to believe you did so because you felt I was capable of filling the role. I held to the belief that you would trust me to do a good job. In the end, however, as the sole candidate running, odds were in my favor. Whether I have succeeded as president will depend upon your evaluation of me.

As we settle into the season of elections, I truly hope we have members who are willing to step up to the plate and serve. You do not have to be a master beekeeper or a controller or a vice president in your day job to hold any position on the Iowa Honey Producers Association board. All those interested to serve can find a place at the IHPA board table. Last month I mentioned in my article about board recruitment that competition for our board positions is healthy for the organization. It shows that you/we are engaged, believe in the mission and possess a passion to serve. If we do not have people interested to lead this growing organization, the organization--and you as a valuable member--will suffer in the end.

To serve, however, people must trust you. TRUST is the key word. I recently picked up Stephen M.R. Covey's book, *The Speed of Trust* and on page 5 he notes, "When you distrust people, you are suspicious of them – of their integrity, their agenda, their capabilities or their track record." Turn the page and he writes that COMMUNICATION is a hot topic when it comes to a relationship. Without communication there is suspicion and misinterpretation. Mahatma Gandhi said, "The moment there is suspicion about a person's motives, everything he does becomes tainted."

Next ,you must PROMOTE the mission of the organization for the benefit of all involved. This is the agenda at every board meeting and every IHPA sponsored event. It is the very reason we serve. There is no room for a self-serving agenda. Additionally important is BEHAVIOR. Yes, you can talk the talk but can you walk the walk and do you care about what you are doing? When we work together for the best interest of the organization, everyone wins. Lastly, have FUN. Sure, there will be conflict, but discussions of varying opinions and views help make the organization stronger.

Though I haven't read the book in its entirety, the principles are simple and straight forward; they are what you and I expect from our employer, our teachers and hospitals, law enforcement and the people we hire to do work for us. We all are looking for people we trust.

As I mentioned in September, we rely on volunteers to run this organization and all skill sets are needed. Consider this: If no one steps up to the plate, the organization risks setting itself back. Those left to serve are over extended and things begin to fall apart. Chaos ensues, members disappear and all the good the organization that took years to build, not to mention its reputation, is left tainted and strained. That's not how I envision our future. Ask me how you can serve and I will help you determine which role would be best for you. Please contact me at <a href="mailto:mrstheo@iowatelecom.net">mrstheo@iowatelecom.net</a>. Thank you.

#### The Iowa Honey Producers Annual Conference 2018: Bee Hive Strong

The IHPA Annual Conference and Meeting is our opportunity to gather together to advance our knowledge about the wonders of the honey bee along with socializing with other beekeepers. This meeting is open to all interested in honeybees and the beekeeping industry. This year's meeting will be held at the Iowa State Center - Scheman Building in Ames Iowa on November 9-10th 2018. We have made a few changes this year including a new contest. Please check out the new contest and prizes!

We are also making a few changes to the registration. We have removed the family registration and have gone to individual registration, but children 17 and under are FREE. We are also not able to offer any lunch or dinner tickets at the door as in past years. In past years the IHPA has either run long on lunch/dinner tickets having to cover the cost, or (like last year) run short leaving members empty handed. Knowing our numbers prior to the event allows us to prepare and plan this event to serve our members better.

Hotel Information: This weekend is a home game for the Iowa State Cyclones. We do have a limited block of rooms with 2 local hotels: AmericInn (515-203-3278) for \$119 and the Microtel (515-337-2748) for \$105.

#### **Calling all Speakers**

Have you always wanted to speak at the annual conference? We have a few openings that we have held open for our members. Unfortunately, I do not know all our members or everyone's vast knowledge on the beloved honey bee and industry, therefor I am asking for those who have always wanted to speak at the annual conference to send me an email. Please be willing to Speak on Saturday after noon and include in your email your topic matter and a brief introduction to yourself. beehivestrong@gmail.com Vice President Erin Miller.

#### **MEET THE ESTEEMED 2018 ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKERS!**

#### **Dr. Samuel Ramsey**



Dr. Samuel Ramsey's enduring interest in entomology started over 20 years ago and shows no signs of waning. Having completed his PhD in 2018 with Dr. Dennis VanEngelsdrop's lab at the University of Maryland, College Park; Ramsey tries to maintain a focus on how insect research can benefit the public through development of IPM strategies and STEM outreach initiative. Ramsey studied entomology at Cornell University as an undergraduate focusing on Predatory/Parasitic insect behavior. His current work focuses on the effects of honey bee parasites on individual and colony level survivorship specifically targeting Varroa destructor and Nosema Ceranae.

#### Dr. Meghan Milbrath

Dr. Meghan Milbrath began working bees with her father as a child over 20 years ago, and now owns and manages The Sand Hills Apiary, a small livestock and queen rearing operation in Munith, Michigan. She studied biology at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, and received degrees in public health from Tulane University and the University of Michigan, where she focused on environmental health sciences and disease transmission risk. Meghan worked as a postdoctoral research associate under Zachary Huang at Michigan State University, studying nosema disease and currently an academic specialist at MSU, where she does honey bee and pollinator initiative. Meghan is active in multiple beekeeping organizations, writes for multiple beekeeping journals, and speaks about bees all over the country. She currently runs the Northern Bee Network, a directory and resource site dedicated to supporting queen producers, and she is passionate about keeping and promoting healthy bees. Meghan will be speaking this year at the conference on American Foulbrood, Swarms, and Overwintering.



For more information on Dr. Meghan Milbrath please visit sandhillbees.com.

#### **Tom Repas**

Tom Repas has been a beekeeper for 35 years. His passion, even more than producing honey, has been breeding mite-resistant, gentle, northern-adapted bees. He has mastered the art of artificial insemination and is producing bees for local beekeepers. Tom also is a Master Beekeeper and has been published in the American Beekeeping Journal featuring his Queen Rearing Program.



#### 106th Iowa Honey Producers Association Conference and Annual Meeting November 9 -10, 2018 Scheman Building - Ames, Iowa

Friday and Saturday ~~ Registration: 8:30 AM ~~ Conference/Annual Meeting: 9:00 AM Please print legibly!

Name: Additional Attendees:: please include age of children Address: City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: E-mail Address: DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> \*\* NO EXCEPTIONS \*\* If you can only attend one day, no discounts are offered. No refunds given after November 1<sup>st</sup>. Banquet and Lunch tickets must be purchased prior to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. No meal tickets will be available at the door. **Conference and Annual Meeting Fees:** Members Registration <u>BEFORE</u> October 31<sup>st</sup> No. of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 \$ \_\_\_\_ AFTER October 31<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ x \$45.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Non-members Registration BEFORE October 31<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ x \$55.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ AFTER October 31<sup>st</sup> Youth 17 and younger FREE to attend with a parent or guardian \_\_\_ QUEEN LUNCHEON - Friday: Italian Buffet (pre-registration required) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets (per adult) \_ x \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets (per child 12 years and younger) **BANQUET - Friday Awards Banquet** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Vegetable Stuffed Pepper (No. of tickets) \_\_\_\_x \$ 30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Walnut Crusted Chicken w/honey Dijon sauce (No.) \_\_\_\_x \$ 30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_ Pork Chop w/ Peppercorn Cream Sauce (No. of tickets) \_\_x \$ 20.00 \$ \_\_ Number of tickets (per child 4-12 years) YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON – Saturday Deli Buffet (pre-registration required) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 14.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets (per person) Queen or Youth Scholarship Sponsor – Listed in Event program as a sponsor Queen Sponsor (Must be received prior to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to be listed) \$ 10.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Scholarship Sponsor (Must be received prior to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to be list) \$ 10.00 \$ **2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES** IHPA membership dues (includes subscription to "The Buzz" newsletter) \$ 20.00 \$ 2<sup>nd</sup> Family membership w/same address – Name - \_\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL DUE: \$ Return this completed form along with payment to: Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer 52735 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue Check payable to Iowa Honey Producers Association

\*\* REMEMBER TO BOOK YOUR HOTEL – ROOMS WILL GO QUICKLY-EVENT DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE \*\*

Chariton, IA 50049

Event questions can be directed to Erin Miller, VP IHPA beehivestrong@gmail.com

Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation

#### **IHPA Awards**

If you know of somebody the IHPA should recognize during the Annual Meeting in November, please contact Curt Bronnenberg at (515) 480-6075. Send nominations to <a href="mailto:cbronny823@aol.com">cbronny823@aol.com</a> or mail to Curt Bronnenberg, 14405 Hull Ave, Perry IA 50220. A brief written description of the nominee's involvement in beekeeping/IHPA would be appreciated. Please have all your nominations submitted by Oct. 15

#### Life Time Membership Award

**Pioneer Award**--for having been involved in beekeeping for 50 years or more and still active in beekeeping. **Distinguished Service Award**--for assisting other beekeepers, being willing to share information, and/or serving the state association.

Education Award--for teaching beekeeping classes,

speaking at service clubs, giving presentations to school children or speaking about beekeeping on radio or T.V. **Promotions Award**--for promoting honey and beekeeping, promotions for the state association or promoting their own product.

**Friendship Award**--for being a friend of the association. This could be someone who has displayed at the annual IHPA trade show or a state official who has assisted or encouraged beekeeping. They do not need to be a member of our beekeeping community.

**Youth Award**--for a young person who has shown commendable involvement in such things as helping at the state or county fair, successfully keeping bees for at least one season including wintering, writing, making a float for a parade, speaking, etc.

#### A Little Recognition Goes A Long Way

Let's stop for a moment and think about this past year in beekeeping. Whether it's your first year keeping bees or you know someone who can be considered a sage in the industry, we've all benefited from the kind help or advice of someone more experienced. It's these individuals who help nurture us along and provide support at each juncture.

The lowa Honey Producers Association would like for you to consider recognizing someone who has been an important influence on your beekeeping journey. Maybe you know someone who has volunteered countless hours to teaching beekeeping classes or can be called upon at the drop of hat to answer questions. How about that person who has worked tirelessly to promote beekeeping in all facets of the industry? Do you know a beekeeper that has gone above and beyond for the benefit of others? Or, how about one of our youth members who has worked hard at keeping their bees and entered a project or frame of honey at their local fair? Maybe you know a beekeeper that has been in trade for longer than you have been alive and they are still thriving. These are just some of the possibilities.

So you say you cannot write very well. No worries; we're not looking for a dissertation but a 140 character tweet is probably too short. How about a two or three paragraphs? That should be doable for everyone. Maybe you can solicit a family member to help get you started. Here are a couple of tips for preparing your recognition:

- --Include the name of the person you are recognizing and how you know them.
- --What award are you recommending they receive?
- --Site the reason you feel this person deserves the recommended recognition. This would be "the meat" of your write up.

Remember to include details, examples, and facts or figures to support the recognition. We have a great membership and many deserve to be recognized. In 2017 ten awards were handed out.

Lifetime Membership Award – Lee Heine
Pioneer Award – Leonard Kurtz
Distinguished Service Award – Arvin Foell, Shane Bixby & Erin Miller, Jerry & Sheila Weldon, Andy Joseph Education Award – Linn Wilber, Dean Johnson
Outstanding Youth Award – Emma Jakes
Sweepstakes Award – Pat and Peggy Ennis

Thank you to those who took the time to recognize these individuals. Now, it's your turn!

Submitted by Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President



#### Building strength for our futur 2018

#### **2018 Annual Conference Contests**

It's time to start planning your entries into this year's Annual Conference. We had great participation last year and hope to continue this year with a few changes and a new contest. We will again have some great prizes this year! We are also seeking clubs to host tasting parties to judge the new recipe contest. If your club or other social group is willing to host a tasting party, please send me an email to get your party package (beehivestrong@gmail.com).

#### 2018 Recipe Contest (New) Prize--Honey Bee Recipe Card Album and \$20 Hy-Vee Gift Card

Do you have that award-winning recipe and wanted to participate in the Annual Convention Cooking Contest, but time or distance has stopped you? If so, this is your year. We have changed the cooking contest to a recipe contest! We are calling all cooks to enter their best recipes and a picture to this year's contest.

#### Here are the rules:

- -Honey is to be the only sweetener.
- -You must submit a picture with your recipe (include your name and phone number).
- -Your entry must to postmarked by September 30, 2018

Mailing address: Erin Miller

5041 Valley Farm Rd Central City, IA 52214

-The following criteria will judge recipes: Taste-20 points, Apperance-20 points, Ability to make-20 points, Best use of Honey-20 points, Creativity-20 points, Total 100 points.

#### **Categories:**

- -Sauces: BBQ, and dressings
- -Sweets: Candies, cookies, brownies, bars, cakes, pies. and other desserts
- -Breads
- -Fruits and Vegetables
- -Main dishes

#### \*\*\* Tasting Party\*\*\*\*

- -Your group would be sent the requested party package containing recipes (names removed), pictures, and judging sheets by October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- -Please prepare the recipes and judge them by November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- -Email your results to beehivestrong@gmail.com .
- -If you would like to participate, please email beehivestrong@gmail.com.

#### Photo Contest: Prize--\$25 Walgreens Gift Card (for photo printing)

Contest will be held Friday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> and remain in place until noon Saturday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>-Entries need to be in place by 10 a.m. Friday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### Here are the rules:

- -Photo must be matted, but not framed.
- -Any size photo up to 8X10.
- -Your name needs to be on the back of the photo.
- -Limited to one entry.
- -Picture must include a honey bee or beekeeping equipment.
- -2 Contests--People's Choice and Judges' Choice
- -Categories—(Youth under 16, and Adults 16 and above)



(Continued on next page)

(Contest Information continued)

#### Painted Hive Body Contest: Prize--\$25 Walmart Gift Card

Contest will be held Friday Nov. 9th and remain in place until noon Saturday, Nov. 10th. Entries need to be in place by 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 9th.

#### Here are the rules:

- -Categories--(Youth under 16, and Adults 16 and above)
- -Your name needs to be placed on a folded piece of paper and taped to the inside of the Hive Body.
- -The use of stenciling is not allowed.
- -Hand painting must cover at least one side.

#### Basket Contest (New): Prize--\$25 Target Gift Card

Contest will be held Friday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. All baskets will be auctioned at the Annual Banquet for the Queen Program on Friday night (you will not get your basket back).

#### Here are the rules:

- -Contain one or more containers of honey.
- -Contain one or more wax products.
- -Contain one additional honey, wax, or value added product.
- -Basket value must total under \$75.
- -Basket must be named and include a list of contents (examples Bee Mine, Tea for Two...).
- -Your name must be attached to the bottom of your basket.
- -2 Prizes--People's Choice Award and Judges' Choice Award

#### Mead Contest: Prize--\$25

The Mead contest is back! Categories will include: Traditional Meads, Melemel (fruit Meads), and Metheglyn (spice Meads).

#### Here are the rules:

- -3 bottles 375ml/12 oz. or larger.
- -Entries need to be in place by 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 9th.
- -No limit on the number of entries.
- -Attach a paper label to each bottle using a rubber band including your name.
- -Mead must be produced by submitting individual.
- -Two bottles will be used for contest and the third will be auctioned at the Friday banquet reception.

#### **Auction Items Needed!**

It is time to be thinking and looking for auction items for the live and silent auctions at the Annual Conference. All proceeds for these auctions go to help fund our Queen Program. Please consider donating to this great cause. The IHPA is a non-profit organization and a receipt is available upon request for your donations. Thank you for your support!

#### **Audit Committee Volunteers Needed**

The lowa Honey Producers Association's fiscal year-end is September 30, 2018. After the close of our books, we seek the assistance of a few members to help with an internal audit. This is an important exercise for our organization. One of the legal duties of the IHPA board is '**Duty of Care**' which means we commit to take care of our non-profit organization's assets, including facility, people and good will. The date of the internal audit will take place on **Saturday, October 13** at Bankers Trust located downtown Des Moines from 1 to 5 p.m. Please note, if all goes well, the full four hours may not be needed. You do not need to hold a degree in accounting to help. I would very much like to have five people on hand for the audit with one or two people on standby should someone need to cancel. If you have an interest in helping out, please contact me directly via e-mail. Additional details will be provided once we connect.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President. <a href="mailto:mrstheo@iowatelecom.net">mrstheo@iowatelecom.net</a> (more contact info back cover)





#### 2018 IHPA Grant Proposal Form

The Iowa Honey Producers Association supports honeybee and beekeeping research through grants to research projects during the IHPA Annual Meeting.

The IHPA Grant Proposal Form will need to be submitted during the Submission Period prior to the Annual Meeting. The IHPA Board will review the stated use of the Grant to confirm the use is in line with the goal of promoting continued research in honeybees and beekeeping. This review will allow the board time to request additional information if needed, and ensure total proposed Grants do not exceed the association's budget for research Grants.

With acceptance by the IHPA Board, the Grant Proposal will be brought to the floor during the Business Meeting of the Annual Meeting for a vote by the members. Grant Proposals can be made by anyone with a current IHPA membership. Members are encouraged to help the Association to identify research projects that will continue to work for the benefit of honeybees, beekeepers and the honey industry.

Submission Deadline: October 15, 2018
Submission Period: July 1<sup>st</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup>

#### **IHPA Member submitting the Grant Proposal.**

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Address:	-
Phone Number:	_
E-Mail Address:	-
Grant Proposal	
Proposed dollar amount of the IHPA Grant: \$	
Contact Information for head researcher / project organization.	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
E-Mail Address:	
Please provide a description of how the proposed Grant would be used in regard to your research relating t	o honeybees, beekeeping or the
noney industry. (Please add additional page(s) as needed.)	
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Name:

#### **IHPA Grant Proposal (see previous page)**

"The Iowa Honey Producers Association supports honeybee and beekeeping research through grants to research projects during the IHPA Annual Meeting.

The IHPA Grant Proposal Form will need to be submitted before Monday Oct. 15, 2018. The IHPA Board will review the stated use of the Grant to confirm the use is in line with the goal of promoting continued research in honeybees and beekeeping. This review will allow the board time to request additional information if needed, and ensure total proposed Grants do not exceed the association's budget for research Grants.

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Do you know someone or an organization that needs help with a beekeeping project? If so, now is the time to put that information down on paper and submit to the IHPA for consideration on Thursday, November 8, 2018. The only catch – the proposal needs to be submitted no later than **Monday, October 15, 2018** to Rhonda Heston either by "snail" mail or email. Send to: 52735 187<sup>th</sup> Ave, Chariton IA 50049-8616 or IHPATreasurer@gmail.com.

#### WHAT'S TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Did you know your membership and magazine subscriptions maybe tax deductible? Iowa Honey Producers' Association is a 501©5 company. What does that mean to you? Asa a 501©5 company, any monies that you donate to the association are tax deductible. The Association will write you a letter of donation for your taxes. These donations can be your annual dues or any donations you make – whether monetary or product or items for auctions. Please request a letter of donation when you donate from Rhonda Heston.

As always, consult your tax professional for further information.

#### **BIG THANK YOU**

I want to take a minute to thank some gentlemen that helped out prior to the Fair opening. They thought they were just dropping off product and exhibits. Prior to the opening of the Fair our lemon juice is delivered to the Agricultural Building, as well as all the cups that we will use in the next 11 days. When they are delivered, they are delivered to the lower level of the Ag Building and we are on the second floor. So, muscles are needed. And I have none.

I really appreciate Travis Allen, Austin Allen and Andy Joseph for moving the 27 cases of cups from the lower level to the upper level and stacking them behind the booth. On a hot day, the cooler where the lemon juice is stored is a Great place to be as Zack Koopman and Steve Heston found out. The delivery driver delivers them to the cooler, but then they have to be restacked. Zack restacked all 88 cases of lemon juice and we didn't' have any complaints from anyone that had to get their product out of the cooler.

Also, the construction crew for the Booth Renovation was Dave Korver, Steve Heston, Doyle Kincy and Scott Vannoy. With Heidi Love in her trash bag painting attire and Austin Heston for his consulting expertise.

Thanks Guys!!

Submitted by Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer

#### **LEMON JUICE**

Do you like Honey Lemonade? Did you know we have the lemon juice available for purchase? Before the Fair we place our order for lemon juice. We don't want to run out during the Fair, so we order extra. The cost of the juice was \$5 per quart. One quart of juice makes two gallons of lemonade. The Association will be selling the juice for \$5 per quart or \$60 for a case of twelve cartons. The juice is stored in the freezer to keep it fresh for you.

We even have the recipe for the Honey Lemonade:

1 (30 oz.) can of Sunkist frozen lemon juice (or buy some lemon juice from IHPA)(or equivalent juice from lemons) 25 oz. honey.

Add water to make two gallons total. Mix thoroughly. Serve happily. Enjoy gratefully (with others...)



#### News From the Beeyard, by Phil Ebert

I miss having livestock but I don't miss the work that goes with it. A lack of horses has allowed the common ragweed in the horse corral to grow up over 6" feet tall. This is not to be confused with the giant ragweed that is also known as horseweed and also grows to 6 feet. The flowers on the horseweed are so tiny they are not obviously in bloom. I have seen bees taking pollen from them on very rare occasions. This is the common ragweed with the little lavender flowers and dainty looking serrated leaves. Normally, honeybees don't get on it too much. This year has been an exception. They have been on it from morning to night. What I usually see working it are small bumble bees. The interesting thing about them is that they often stay on the plant overnight. This year, I have not seen them at all.

There is a lot of goldenrod this year. Our supers are pulled so whatever the bees get will go to winter stores. We used to try for fall honey but it let the mite load build up too high. We typically lost those colonies. The honey goldenrod produces is not very good, to my mind. You can tell when the bees are working it. The caps change color to a rather sickly yellow and you can smell it in the hive. It has been showing color for a couple of weeks (as of Sept 1) but has been slow to open. Compass plant has been in bloom for some time. That is a tallgrowing plant commonly seen in the road ditches. It has a yellow flower about the size of the coneflower. We see some Jerusalem Artichoke, also. It looks similar to compass plant to my eye, but the leaves are bigger. It has an edible tuber. I learned that years ago watching Crockett's Victory Garden on PBS. Do any of you remember him? He had a very folksy manner. I loved that show. Today (Sept 8)I saw some of the fall asters in bloom. They have a little white flower that looks quite similar to the yarrow that blooms in the spring. We never used to see asters blooming until October. Aster honey

has a lot of indigestibles in it. If bees winter on aster honey, it is hard on them. If they get flying days during the winter so they can drop their waste, they survive. I have seen the snow around the hives totally covered with bee droppings in early spring

Extracting is nearly finished. We have seen more hive beetles this year. We can't leave supers in the extracting room for more than a week. Even with that, the beetles sometimes get a start. We had a few frames we had to put in the freezer. A female beetle can lay up to 500 eggs. If you just have two beetles in your supers you can still get into trouble. When extracting is finished we will start feeding. Sometimes we have to feed the single-story colonies as soon as we pull but they had enough food in them to survive this year. Colonies will get up to five gallons of syrup.

Don't assume your mites are under control just because you treated. I know I sound like a broken record on this topic, but you really need to sample to know what you have. Sometimes the treatments don't work or there are just too many mites to start with. In the spring we are hard pressed to find any mites. In the fall, they seem to appear like magic. We only sample two or three colonies in each yard. The small sample is not totally accurate, but it gives us an indication of where we are at. Colonies that showed a 3% load in early August will be showing, at least, a 6% load now, if left untreated. The mite load has the potential to double every 18 days. With exception of oxalic acid, all of the treatments work better with temps of 80 plus. For sure, Apiguard does not work as well in the latter part of September when temps are lower. It just dries down on the card. In our experience, colonies treated before August 15 fare a lot better than ones that are treated later. Your experience may vary. The main thing is to keep after it.

QUILTS – Two beautiful quilts have been created by the gifted and talented women of the IHPA. Pictures can be seen in the July issue of The Buzz Newsletter. They are in color on the website, <a href="www.iowahoneyproducers.org">www.iowahoneyproducers.org</a>. One quilt will be sold at auction Friday night banquet at the Annual Meeting in Ames on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The other quilt will be up for raffle. Tickets can be purchased for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The winning ticket will be drawn Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

You don't need to be present to win, but you don't want to miss the Annual Meeting, do you?!

Contact Rhonda Heston, 515-724-2124 or <a href="mailto:IHPATreasurer@gmail.com">IHPATreasurer@gmail.com</a> for tickets. Hurry and get your tickets to sell to friends and family. Every dollar collected will be used to support the IHPA Queen Program.



#### **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Our membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. The first person in the family membership is \$20 with each additional person's membership cost is \$5. One Buzz Newsletter will be sent to each address. By sending one Buzz Newsletter to one address, we reduce the cost of the Buzz. Which in turn provides more funds for more scholarships, more programs, etc. If you would rather read the Buzz online, please indicate that when you renew your membership.

I apologize if there were errors in the new 2018 Membership Directory. I tried my best to read everyone's handwriting, but I didn't always read it correctly or the needed information was provided. Therefore, there was missing information in the Directory.

Rhonda Heston

#### Bee-musings from Mary,

District 3 seems to be a-buzz with activity as I write this. Extracting season has begun, is in progress, or may be done! By now, we are done at our house, although it has been a very different year for us. Our bees chose not to cap off much of their honey and since we knew we needed to get it off the hive so we could treat for varroa and allow bees enough time to start their winter stores, we removed it. That meant creating a 'hot' room to dehydrate our honey to get it to the correct moisture for storage. So thankful for my "MacGuyver" husband, beekeeper, and creative genius. He is so capable to create anything we need. It might not be pretty but it works and does the job!!! J So, dehydrating we've done. Now, just enjoying the benefit of farm fresh honey...local...raw...pure...ours!!! Hoping you all have had a hearty amount of honey in your harvest as well.

Annual meeting is coming. Register and get that hotel SOON if you haven't. Please note some of the changes in this great event in this Buzz and past newsletters. I look forward to all the learning and networking that occurs at this gathering. Seems like there is never a dull moment! Hope to see you there.

In addition to the learning opportunities, networking time, various contests, and auctions, we will be voting on our new board members. District 1, 2, and 3 Directors are up for reelection or election as well as the others. I am currently your District 3 Director and will NOT be running again. Please consider checking into this position on the IHPA Board if you are at all interested. There are perks as well as more networking opportunities. Feel free to contact me if you wish to hear more about the duties and responsibilities of District 3 Director. I'd be happy to talk with anyone about it.

Don't forget to register for the annual meeting, get your hotel reservation, treat for varroa mites, and enjoy your honey. Happy fall, ya'all!!!!

'Bee' grateful, 'Bee' blessed, and 'Bee' a blessing, Mary Wiltgen, District 3 Director tmwiltgen@gmail.com 563.920.9628

#### **Help Support the Queen Auction**

Yes, it's time once again to start thinking about donating to the auctions at the Annual Meeting. Anything you have that would be of interest to the membership is welcome. If you have attended in the past, you know we have seen the gamut of bee-related items from socks to jewelry, from books to prints, from candles to cookery and beekeeping equipment. The excellent variety of items helps fuel the bidders into a frenzy. Proceeds from the auction help support the lowa Honey Queen program. Your support of this program is very much appreciated.

Submitted by President Eve Vanden Broek

#### Our 2018 Experiment with Buckwheat

Earlier this year we planted buckwheat in three different areas as a cover crop and a nectar source for beneficial insects. In two areas, we planted sunflowers with the buckwheat and it really worked out well. The buckwheat did fine early in the year and reached heights of almost 5 feet, but the heat and drought eventually took a toll on the buckwheat. The sunflowers that had been planted with the buckwheat thrived in the heat and drought. Apparently, sunflowers also put down deep roots like corn.

The one buckwheat area that did not have sunflowers was mowed in early August. The rains finally came and the buckwheat self-seeded. Buckwheat seeds germinate in 3 to 5 days and mature in 70 to 90 days. Flowering may start within three weeks of planting and continue for up to 10 weeks. The plants decompose quickly which also enabled it to readily self-seed this year after mowing coupled with the rains that finally came to our area.

It is now blooming and will continue to bloom until frost; however, if the rains don't stop, the plants may drown and this planting is on high ground. It's amazing how quickly our weather has changed again and the buckwheat is thriving in our current cool and moist conditions.

Honey bees are normally only able to get what they need from buckwheat in the morning hours or until the sun dries it up for the day. The down side of this experiment is that I would like some buckwheat honey, but it's time to get our fall mite treatments on the bees and honey harvesting is over for us this year. We are hoping that the honey bees will be able to get their reserves built up with the fall buckwheat. (I would really like to stop feeding bees and prefer that they get what they need from plants rather than refined sugars.) The bees got very little from the early planted buckwheat probably due to other plants blooming that they liked better. These fall rains have probably washed out all the nectar from many of our fall blooming plants, but this fall we're giving the bees another option.

Respectfully submitted .... Sheila Weldon

#### **MERCHANDISE--GET YOUR NEW MERCHANDISE!**

New merchandise is up on the website. I was amazed at the interest in our new merchandise during the Iowa State Fair. In the midst of 95° plus heat, we sold out of small size hoodies and sweatshirts! A new order will be placed and our stock will be replenished in time for the annual meeting and holiday gifting.

If you are ordering for holding gifts, please allow enough time for us to get the merchandise shipped to you. Remember – we have jobs also, so it might take us a few days to get your order filled.

We have kept the prices as low as we can for members. T-Shirts are \$8 for all sizes. Hats are \$5. Aprons are \$12. Long Sleeve T-Shirts are \$13. Sweatshirts are \$18. Hoodies are \$20. The cooling towel cost is only \$5 each. Cookbooks are \$4 each or a case of 30 is \$90. Shipping will be \$5 for one item, \$7.50 for two items and \$10 for three items. On orders of more than three items, you will be billed for shipping when items are shipped. The shipping on a case of cookbooks runs about \$22. Website prices slightly higher.

THANK YOU to all those who submitted entries at the 2018 Iowa State Fair. It was such a pleasure to see so many entries. But did you notice, there was room for much more. If you weren't able to attend the fair, below are the final results. If you know any of these individuals, please congratulate them on a job well done. And if you'd like to see your name on the list next year, ask them 1) Ellen Bell, Runnells for tips on how to make a great entry.

#### **Observation Hive**

- 1) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 2) Austin Miller, Goodell
- 3) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale
- 4) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 5) Zack Koopman, Ames

#### **Six Cut Comb in Hard Plastic Box**

- 1) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 2) Philip Ebert, Lynnville
- 3) Ellen Bell, Runnells

#### White Extracted Honey

1) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale

- 2) Wildflower Acres, Waterloo
- 3) Randy Elsbernd, Mason City
- 4) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 5) Steve Woodward, Iowa City
- 6) Douglas Brown, Corning

#### **Light Amber Extracted Honey**

- 2) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 3) Everett Birch, Marengo
- 4) Travis Allen, West Des Moines
- 5) Ted Maybee, Corydon

#### **Combination Chunk & Strained Honey**

- 1) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 2) Philip Ebert, Lynnville

#### **Plastic Bears**

- 1) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 2) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale
- 3) Douglas Brown, Corning
- 4) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 5) Randy Elsbernd, Mason City
- 6) Nathan Elsbernd, Mason City

#### **Creamed Honey**

- 1) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 2) Philip Ebert, Lynnville

Flavored Creamed Honey

- 1) Philip Ebert, Lynnville
- 2) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell

#### One Frame of Honey, Ready for Extracting

- 1) Markus Elsbernd, Mason City
- 2) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 3) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale
- 4) Austin Miller, Goodell
- 5) Wendy Peffers, Pella
- 6) Abigail Kelly, Des Moines

#### One Frame of Empty Extracting Comb

- 1) Zack Koopman, Ames
- 2) Olivia Kelly, Des Moines
- 3) Bethany Kelly, Des Moines
- 4) Philip Ebert, Lynnville
- 5) Abigail Kelly, Des Moines
- 6) Susan Kelly, Des Moines

(continued bottom page 14)

#### **Club News:**

#### **Extraction Time**

Does your club hold a group extraction party? If not, has your group ever thought about having one?

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, The Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa held their annual extraction party here at our farm. We had an amazing turnout and mixture of first year beekeepers and experienced beekeepers. First year beekeepers were very appreciative of the group effort involved in sharing equipment, tips, tricks and best practices for getting that liquid gold out of those frames.

The new beeks were able to see first hand the entire extraction process. They were able to see how to set up an uncapping station, how to remove the cappings using various tools of the trade and figure out which works best for them. After uncapping they were shown the proper placement of the frames in the extractor. Then they witnessed the honey being pulled out of the frames and onto the walls of the extractor by centrifugal force. When the frames were finally lightened of their load, it was time to strain their honey that comes out of the extractor into their buckets. Watching that sweet liquid gold drip into their buckets put a big smile on many of their faces!

We do a potluck when we have the extraction party. I smoke out a pork loin to make pulled pork sandwiches and they bring a dessert of some sort (I love desserts) and my wife makes up some honey lemonade just like at the fair.

Both the first year beeks and experienced beeks shared many great stories and laughs. Everyone who attended had a great time. At one point in the day I think we may have had more honey on the floor

than in the buckets!! LOL! So, if your club doesn't hold an extraction party or haven't thought about holding one, I would strongly suggest doing so. The extraction process can seem daunting to an already overwhelmed new beekeeper. Having the help and assistance from experienced beekeepers makes it all the more worthwhile.

Let's see if every club in Iowa can have a representative at the Round Table sectional on Sat. Nov. 10 in Ames when we are all at the Annual Meeting. There will be many more ideas to share about how to have great beek clubs in Iowa!



Mmmm Good! That's Sheryl Parham tasting that first great honey. Eric Kenoyer, District 5 Director

#### **Emma Jakes--Honey Recipes:**

October is here and with it comes holiday parties, fresh fall fruit, busy fall days, and fall baking season. Why not try these great fall recipes for yourself on those days where you need a quick home-cooked meal! Slow cooked apple sauce and rice pudding sound like great fall treats!

#### Chunk style Applesauce in Slow Cooker (pg. 124)

8-10 large cooking Apples, peeled, cored, and sliced or cut in chunks

2 teaspoons cinnamon ½ cup honey

½ cup water.

Put all ingredients into slow-cooker cover and cook on low over night or 8-10 hours. Serve warm with, cream. Absolutely delicious.

Emma's notes: It will not be a problem if you over cook it just a little bit. That will just add to the flavor. The applesauce was not hard to make and turned out very yummy. So if you ever need quick applesauce ready for supper, this is the recipe for you! I used about 3 cups of apples for the sauce.

#### Slow-Cooker Rice Pudding (pg. 111):

2 ½ cups brown rice, cooked

1 cup cream

½ cup water

1/3 cup honey

3 tablespoons butter, softened

2 teaspoons vanilla

1 teaspoon nutmeg

½ teaspoon cloves

3 eggs, beaten

1 cup raisins

Thoroughly combine all ingredients. Pour into lightly greased slow-cooker. Cover and cook on high for 2 hours. Or cook on low for 4-6 hours. Stir during first 30 minutes.

Emma's notes: DO NOT OVER COOK. If it is over cooked, the rice will have a strange texture and won't look like rice pudding any more. Other than that, this recipe worked great and was very tasty. Eat the pudding warm for best flavor. I would also double the recipe for more people. This recipe didn't make a lot of pudding.

#### **Mobile Honey Extracting Unit**

Get your honey from the supers to the bucket. Honey extraction at your site featuring hand hot knife uncapping and 20 frame radial extractor to process your honey quick and easy. Save time and eliminate the sticky mess, let us do your honey extraction for you!







- Honey supers must be pulled, clean and bee free
- 20 amp electric plug in required-110
- Deep super \$20
- Shallow super \$15
- Clean up fee \$30
- Travel charge \$.75 mile-1 way
- Wait time assessed @ \$25/hr
- Wax cappings are part of payment
   Buckets available for purchase
- Refractometer available
- Call today to schedule your time



**Complete honey extracting setup** for rent by the week. Pick up in Ames contact Zack for pricing.



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#### A Learning Exchange

When you look at the photo on the left, are you sure you know what you are seeing? Loren Zaruba wondered, so on 9/9 she wrote: "I had the opportunity to speak briefly with a beekeeper in West Des Moines on Saturday. She showed me a frame from a super that was infested with small hive beetle lava. I had never seen that before and do not care to see again. I have attached a photo and looking back I should have taken a short video as they were crawling all over one another. Pretty ugly! She commented that she had already disposed of several frames from this hive and this one was next. All other frames would be frozen to kill any eggs, larva or other.

Please be on the look out and share if any found.

So the next day Dr. Bruce Rafoth wrote: "Are you sure these aren't wax moth larva?"

Walt Wickham weighed in: "That's what I was wondering. The ones in the picture look a lot like wax worm larva to me too but I'm not an expert on hive beetle. "

Loren replied: "I'm going by what I was told. Size wise they were about the size of Indian meal moth. Any wax worm I have seen are bigger. I do not claim to have the answers. Just sharing what I was told."

Then came something official: "From Extension--Small hive beetle larvae often congregate in corners, possibly to retain heat. This clustering distinguishes beetle larvae from wax moth larvae that are found scattered throughout weak colonies. Other distinguishing characteristics include size. Beetle larvae never reach the size of mature wax moth larvae. Also, beetle larvae have three pairs of jointed, "true" legs located behind the head. Wax moth larvae have many small, fleshy, uniform legs along the length of the body. And the bodies of beetle larvae have tough exteriors while those of wax moth larvae are soft and easily penetrated." - John Skinner, University of Tennessee

So now this is informative and interesting. It's what happens when people wonder about things, go to the rest of the group for answers, and someone helps us out. Thanks to Loren for starting us on a process that ends with all of us learning something helpful. Editor

# (follows list top of page 12) State Fair Ribbon Winners Cont.

#### **Block of Beeswax**

- 1) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 2) Philip Ebert, Lynnville
- 3) Kenoyer Farms, Van Meter
- 4) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale
- 5) Becky Birch, Marengo
- 6) Douglas Brown, Corning

#### **Beeswax Art**

- 1) Susan Kelly, Des Moines
- 2) Markus Elsbernd, Mason City
- 3) Ellen Bell, Runnells

#### **Photograph - General Beekeeping**

- 1) Samantha Jacobs, Robins
- 2) Hollie Allen, West Des Moines
- 3) Diana Bucklin, Pella
- 4) Wendy Peffers, Pella
- 5) Douglas Brown, Corning
- 6) Becky Birch, Marengo

#### Photograph - Specific Subject

- 1) Angie Schaffer, Elkhart
- 2) Becky Birch, Marengo
- 3) Susan Kelly, Des Moines
- 4) Alex Ebert, Pella
- 5) Wendy Peffers, Pella
- 6) Daniel Landsness, Le Mars

#### Two Beeswax Candles (dipped)

- 1) Diana Bucklin, Pella
- 2) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 3) Philip Ebert, Lynnville

#### Two Beeswax Candles (all others)

- 1) Doyle W Kincy, Urbandale
- 2) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 3) Diana Bucklin, Pella
- 4) Kenoyer Farms, Van Meter
- 5) Ellen Bell, Runnells
- 6) Philip Ebert, Lynnville

#### **Gift Basket**

- 1) Kenoyer Farms, Van Meter
- 2) P & P Honey And Bee Supply, Goodell
- 3) Randy Elsbernd, Mason City

#### **Window Display**

- 1) Kenoyer Farms, Van Meter
- 2) Emma Jakes, Indianola
- 3) Ellen Bell, Runnells

#### **Extracted Honey - Youth**

- 1) Cody Leydens, Urbandale
- 2) Abigail Kelly, Des Moines
- 3) Bethany Kelly, Des Moines

#### **Beekeeping Photo - Youth**

- 1) John Woodward, Iowa City
- 2) Emma Jakes, Indianola
- 3) Austin Allen, West Des Moines

#### **Two Beeswax Candles - Youth**

- 1) Cody Leydens, Urbandale
- 2) Markus Elsbernd, Mason City
- 3) Austin Allen, West Des Moines

Big old thanks to everyone who participated in the fair competition. Great Fun!!

#### 2018 IHPA Quilts--Jodi Kraft Talks Quilts

Hello Buzz readers,

I have been asked to talk quilts. Why quilts in the Iowa Honey Producer's newsletter you ask? Well here's why--at the Annual Conference in November, the IHPA has two quilts available. One is for the Auction during the Banquet evening, the other is raffled off before the end of the event on Saturday.

The quilts and other projects for 2018 were completed by many volunteers. I cannot list everyone who helped because those who took fabric packets had family members, etc. help make the blocks and I am sure I would miss mentioning someone, so therefore I will just say a HUGE "THANK YOU!" to everyone who put blocks together and sent them to me. You all are my committee and I appreciate your help tremendously!

Eve has asked me to talk about the process, challenges, etc. The process is fairly simple, I shop for the quality fabric online and/or in the stores when I am out and about. I purchase enough of the main fabrics to make at least 30 packets. These packets are available for picking up at the Annual Conference in November, usually around Rhonda Heston's area of the venue. Packets are free to pick up; I just ask that you fill out the card attached and place it back in the basket, so that I know whom to contact later if the packets haven't been returned by the date indicated in the packet.

Once the packets have been returned, I press the blocks, check sizes as the packets indicate the blocks need to measure 12  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and start figuring out a lay-out for the quilts. For those blocks that did not make it into the two quilts, I have made extra projects available for the silent auction or the Banquet evening auction. There is a small bag, a larger tote bag and several table toppers or runners.

Challenges include the following but are overcome each year as there have been two quilts available for several years. First of all, there is a date included in the packet that the blocks need to be returned by. There are several reasons this date is important. The date of February 1<sup>st</sup> allows me to start putting the quilt together by the end of March (I am a quilter part-time). Because I ask other people to quilt the quilts, I need to get on their schedule for quilting and there are times that quilters are two months out for getting quilts done. This year I was taking a quilt to the quilter the first part of June. Thankfully she got it done quickly so the quilt could then be viewed at the Summer Field Day. There are other challenges, but I choose to not talk about them but please know that there is a reason I love to quilt and that includes the challenges above as well as others.

Fabrics for 2019 – these will be pastel fabrics with flowers, bees, words and some panel areas that will be worked into the quilt. I look forward to cutting the fabrics up for the packets that will be available in November at the Annual Conference and then receiving the blocks back by February 1, 2019.

Once again, I want to THANK everyone who takes a fabric packet, sews a block or two together and then returns them to me. The end results are beautiful, and all the proceeds go to the lowa Honey Producer's Queen Program. I am grateful that there are several fabric designers putting bees in their fabric lines and I don't have to get sticky to make a quilt!

Thank you! -Jodi Kraft

#### **NOTIFICATION \*\*IMPORTANT!!\*\***

#### ANNUAL MEETING PAYMENT

All checks for the Annual Meeting received prior to September 30, 2018, will be held until October 1, 2018. Our year ends on September 30. The funds collected for the annual meeting are funds used for Annual Meeting expenses in our new year, 2019 in this case. Your check should clear your bank account in October.

If you plan on paying for your registration, meals, dues, etc. with a credit / debit card, please complete your registration and return the form to me as soon as possible. Please indicate that you will be paying by credit card on November 9<sup>th</sup> at registration. This will help me prepare name tags, lunch tickets, banquet tickets, and donations lists prior to the Event. *Remember all meals HAVE to be ordered by November 1, 2018*. There will not be lunch or banquet tickets available at the Door, as we have to have meal numbers to the caterer by November 5<sup>th</sup> and it will take me a day or so to get this information to Erin Miller and on to the caterer.

#### The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to rrihpa@gmail.com
Or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250 Cell 712-449-5010

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter. The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association which is an affiliate of the Iowa State Horticultural Society.

#### B. Weaver Mite Resistant Queen Rearing Project

By Cecelia Patterson, District 6

I got bees from B. Weaver in 2001 and have not used chemicals to control mites since. I usually have 25 hives but was down to 23 because two swarmed late last summer and failed to raise a new queen.

On Easter, April 1<sup>st</sup>, I picked up 11 drone cell foundation frames and the queen Rearing Calendar from John Anderson, who was part of a queen-rearing project. Drawn drone comb was to be put in the hives on April 15th. I put the drone foundation in seven hives on April 12<sup>th</sup> and fed several hives sugar water and pollen substitute because bees will not draw new comb with no flowers blooming. Spring arrived on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The queen grafting date was May 10th but we had to postpone two weeks because there was no brood or drones in any of the hives. We postponed to May 24<sup>th</sup>. May 17<sup>th</sup> Marita and Jackie brought Marita's walk-behind sickle-bar mower and we mowed the brome on the dyke and put out the pallets with bricks and blocks. Also, we set up two hives, each with a cloke board, making sure the queen was in the bottom box.

May 20<sup>th</sup>, I checked and found capped drone cells on two of the drone combs and two more damaged frames full of drone brood. I put an empty drawn comb into a hive for the queen to lay eggs to be used to graft from on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

On the morning of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, I smoked the bees in those two hives to drive the young nurse bees up through the queen excluder and put the metal slide in to keep them in the top box. The worker bees would exit through the top entrance and Pat Ennis called and said he was coming on the 23<sup>rd</sup> instead of the 24<sup>th</sup>. He arrived that afternoon with his helper to graft. There were no larvae in the frames put in for grafting because it was early. We had to look through all the hives to find day-old larvae to use. We found two hives which had no queen or brood. The helper who was doing the grafting said that he had no problem with the deep combs with plastic based foundation but he was getting some wax and honey mixed with the larvae from all the beeswax foundation that I use for supers. Having foreign matter in the queen cell is a guarantee of failure of that cell. He grafted 130 queen cells.

May 26<sup>th</sup>, I checked the queen cells and found four that were capped in less than three days. These would emerge early and destroy all the other queens. We put two of those cells in each of the queenless hives. There were at least 30 more developing cells. This was not the 90 we had hoped for.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Jackie and Marita came and we got 30 nuc boxes made up with all the drawn comb and foundation frames we had between us. On Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, we split my 23 hives and put a frame of mostly capped brood and a frame of honey and pollen in each nuc with a drawn comb and a foundation frame and moved the nucs to the new queen yard on the dyke. We only had enough brood for 17 nucs because there were two more queenless hives and eight did not have enough brood to split. One of the queenless hives had two frames with queen cells and we made the 18<sup>th</sup> nuc with one of those cells. In the afternoon, John Anderson came back to help place the queen cells in the nucs and the queenless hives. He also brought 17 queen cages to hold the extra cells. He brought a friend, John Mobley, who wanted to buy two nucs, to help him. I really appreciated the help and the cages which saved the queens that were left over.

June 7<sup>th</sup>, we checked the nucs and all the queens had emerged except one which was in one of the queenless hives that had too few bees. It was taken to the pile of frames to be melted down and woodenware to be repaired and painted or replaced. We also made four more nucs with queens from the cages, for a total of 22 nucs. I called beekeeper, Mike O'Hern, who had been a bee inspector who said he would be happy to come and get the remaining 12 virgin queens. He has six good hives from them.

June 19<sup>th</sup> and I have found brood in the two hives that got the early queen cells and brood in one nuc. June 22<sup>nd</sup>, there is brood in ten of the 18 nucs. July 1<sup>st</sup>, brood in 18 of 22 nucs. July 2<sup>nd</sup>, sold five nucs. July 7, I got six nucs including one with no queen and Jackie and Marita got nine. July 14, found capped brood in the 19<sup>th</sup> nuc. July 15, Jackie called and said she has a nuc with a queen but few bees. She and Marita came and got the 20<sup>th</sup> nuc with no queen and combined it with the small nuc.

<u>Summary</u>: From 38 grafted queen cells and one supersedure queen cell, we made 19 nucs, requeened four hives and there are six hives in southern lowa. Marita, Jackie and I declared the queen rearing project a solid success. We also voted to graft no queens next year. It was too much work and way too much stress. We decided that if we wanted more hives, we would split the hives making sure there were eggs in both halves and let the bees raise their own queens, the way I had been doing. If you do not have a location about two miles away, where you can move the split to keep the worker bees from going back to the old hive, you use the other method. Move the queen, most of the capped brood, and frames of honey and pollen into the split. You can place the split beside the original hive. The queen will continue laying with new bees emerging to care for the brood. The old hive with the workers will raise a new queen and really boom with a lot of honey.

The advantage to the way it worked out here was that we used larvae from 10 hives instead of all from one queen. There are two good articles in the August edition of *The American Bee Journal* about raising locally adapted mite resistant bees.

Things to consider: Place the drone foundation in the hives the summer before you graft so you have drawn drone comb in the spring. Pick a year when spring comes in the middle of March instead of May 1<sup>st</sup> (make sure your crystal ball is working properly or consult the Farmer's Almanac). Line up volunteers in advance. Happy queen rearing.

#### Board Positions Open - We NEED You!

As I mentioned in my President's Message, should you care to express an interest in running for a position, we have the following board positions available. Each position is a one-year term, effective day the day following the election. Note, I have briefly listed only some of the responsibilities.

President – Sets the agenda and leads board meetings, follows up on projects and works with the established committees as needed, answers questions from members and the public, communicates with clubs, attends club meetings, writes a monthly President's Message for the newsletter; works with other board members and committees on projects.

**Vice President** – Organizes the Summer Field Day and Annual Meeting and Conference. In the absence of the President, fills in for the role.

**Secretary** – Attends all board meetings; takes and prepares board minutes.

Treasurer – Keeps the records of the organization and handles the funds. For further details on this role, see my President's Message in the July edition of The Buzz.

Historian – Assembles historical lowa beekeeping information and makes it available to anyone who requests it. New material is added year to ascertain a usable history of beekeeping in lowa.

District Directors – Districts #1, #2, and #3 are up for election this year. These roles serve a term of two years. In 2019, Districts #4, #5, and #6 will be up for election. This role is important to those in the counties they serve; they attend club meetings in their district and may serve as a speaker. They work with members and nonmembers in their district to help with local matters such as getting the word out about a swarm, organizing beekeeping classes, answering general beekeeping questions via phone or via e-mail; and assist in other areas.

One other position to consider is that of **Newsletter Editor**. Currently Ron Rynders serves in this role and though he thoroughly enjoys the responsibility, he has confided in me that he's getting older. The position does require a monthly time commitment and someone with a bit of computer savviness would find the job less taxing. Ron is not looking to give up the role just yet; he knows it will take someone a couple of months to learn the formatting details and get accustomed to the deadlines. He's looking to recruit someone for this role and then provide training until that individual feels comfortable enough to make the transition.

Can we count on you to serve? Thank you for your

Can we count on you to serve? Thank you for your consideration. I will look for my e-mail to explode with interested individuals.

President Eve Vanden Broek

#### Hi everyone!

As always, the Iowa State Fair did not disappoint! I had so much fun rolling candles with kids, talking about the workings of observation hives, and giving presentations in the Animal Learning Center. The IHPA Booth is always filled with amazing volunteers who donate their time to educate fairgoers about beekeeping. Thank you so much for your hard work and dedication to making the IHPA Booth an awesome place to visit!

The 4-H Exhibits Building was full of exhibits that 4-Hers from across the state made to showcase their interest in honey bees and beekeeping. I was able to see many of these projects in the Agriculture & Natural Resources department. Some of my favorite projects were a swarm trap, posters on hive parts, and fire starters made from beeswax and there were so many more! If you did not see the 4-H Building this year, I would highly recommend it for next year!

Thanks to everyone for their support through the State Fair and my first weeks at Iowa State University!

Queen Joy Westercamp



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Connie <u>515-480-6076</u>. Curt <u>515-480-6075</u>

#### **BOARD LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

You will notice that there is a plea (on page 17) for volunteers to step up and serve, either in a leadership role or as a District Director. Please contact your District Director now if you'd like to join the board. Serving on a non-profit board is an important role. Of the many duties you would perform, the following important legal duties are those to keep in mind:

- 1. **Duty of Care** Take care of the non-profit by ensuring prudent use of all assets, including facility, people, and good will.
- 2. Duty of Loyalty Ensure the non-profit's activities and transactions are, first and foremost, advancing the mission; to recognize and disclose any conflicts of interest; make decisions that are in the best interest of the organization, not in the best interest of the individual board member (or any other individual or forprofit entity).
- **3. Duty of Obedience** Ensure the non-profit obeys applicable laws and regulations; follow its own bylaws; and that the non-profit adheres to its stated corporate purposes/mission.



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# The Buzz Newsletter

# Iowa Honey Producers Association 52735 187th Avenue Chariton, IA 50049





2017/18 IHPA Leaders

Pres: Eve Vanden Broek 134 Holland Dr. Pella, IA 50219 Ph: (515) 491-6760 mrstheo@iowatelecom.net

Vice. President: Erin Miller 5041 Valley Farm Rd Central City, IA 52214 Ph: (319) 360-4913 erinmiller722@msn.com

Secretary: Heidi Love 18488 E Ave Dawson, IA 50066 Ph: (515) 729-1761 bhlove5@aol.com

Treasurer: Rhonda Heston 52735 187<sup>th</sup> Ave Chariton, IA 50049 Ph: (515) 724-2124 IHPATreasuer@gmail.com Historian: Carole Vannoy 3205 Hillsdale Dr. Urbandale IA 50322 Ph: (641)780-8947 <u>lowabeekeepinghistory@gmail.com</u>

Past Pres: Roy Kraft PO Box 1 Goldfield, IA 50542 Ph: (515) 293-2458 kroyster.rk@gmail.com

**Directors: District 1:** Jim Marshall

2923 Jones Ave Oskaloosa, IA 52577 Ph: (641) 660-9930 jim.marshall@musco.com

District 2: Shane Bixby 5041 Valley Farm Rd Central City, IA 52214 Ph: (319) 721-3493 shanebixby@aol.com

District 3: Mary Wiltgen 3025 270th St Fredricksburg, IA 50630 Ph: (563) 920-9628 tmwilitgen@gmail.com

District 4: Doyle Kincy 7304 Monroe Ct Urbandale, IA 50322 Ph: (515) 710-4752 dwkincy@msn.com

District 5: Eric Kenoyer 1270 Upland Lane Van Meter, IA 50261 Ph: (515) 490-2477 ekenoyer@aol.com

District 6: Dave Korver 3314 510 St Maurice, IA 51036 Ph: (712) 541-4803 korverdavid@gmail.com **State Apiarist**: Andrew Joseph Phone: (515) 725-1481

andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

IDALS website: www.agriculture.state.ia.us

Amy Toth, Assistant Professor Iowa State University Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology

amytoth@iastate.edu

www.public.iastate.edu/~amytoth/Toth\_lab/Home.html

Mary Harris maharris@iastate.edu

National Honey Board: www.honey.com

American Honey Producers Association: www.ahpanet.com American Beekeeping Federation: www.ABFnet.org

**IHPA Queen Program:** 

Connie Bronnenberg 14405 Hull Ave Perry, IA 50220-6343 Ph: (515) 480-6076 cbronny823@aol.com

Youth Scholarship: Ted Reeves 17400 Illinois St.

Ackworth, IA 50001 Ph: (515)720-7617 Beekeep-

<u>Beekeep-</u> er@reevestkd.com The Buzz Newsletter:

Ron Rynders 890 13th Ave SE Sioux Center, IA 51250 Ph: (712) 449-5010 rrihpa@gmail.com

Bee Emergency Program Information:

Vern Ramsey
916 Country Lane Drive,
Apt. 21
Keosauqua, Iowa 52565
Ph: (319) 319-293-3555
vdramsey@netins.net