

The Buzz

February 2019

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



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iowahoneyproducers.org

President's Letter

Iowa Beekeepers;

Greetings! What an interesting first few days of January this month has become, weather-wise. I hope we are checking bees as some bees are well into winter stores and in need of winter



emergency feeding. They were heavy but not anymore. We need January to be January. Check them, as bees are getting more and more expensive to buy back. A few dollars spent now versus buying a package in the spring? Better check and spend a little now and not buy in the spring. Do the math!

February brings us to Honey Bee Day again in the state Capitol in Des Moines. I really hope we can have a really big turn-out for this as THIS IS THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN, BE COUNTED, AND BE A DIFFERENCE MAKER. FEBRUARY 27TH 7 TO 9 AM in the STATE CAPITOL. There should be more about it in this month's Buzz. Last year was the first. The IHPA did very well planning and pulling this off. We had great compliments from legislators.

I have one issue and hope we can resolve it. I did not see nor hear of a single full-time beekeeper at Honey Bee Day. Please correct me if I missed you last year. I believe this is the day to go to the golden dome and be a differencemaker. Yes, numbers matter. If I was to tell you we have some exciting stuff coming that involves our legislators that could change the way we respect a hive of bees, would you be interested? Ok, yes, then if you don't show up to this day in February, our legislators may say how organized are you people? I believe you had a room of ours here a month ago and you didn't have a very good turn-out. Why? And you want what? Let's not let that happen! This is very important. I'm parking my semi and I will be there for that day. I want to thank in advance our vice president Keri. She will be representing me and the IHPA for the signing of the proclamation. I can't make both. Thank you, Keri.

This is an exciting time to have bees in Iowa. Jamie Beyer is doing an outstanding job with legislative issues. We have things happening and maybe next month after the board hears and hopefully approves what Jamie brings, we will discuss more. I want to say again, *February 27th*, *state capitol in Des Moines*, *7:00 to 9:00 a.m.* Bee there! I bet you will learn something. Our legislators want to do the right thing and want to bee educated about this industry and bees. Just a couple sentences could be the difference.

I'm going to get this to the editor and sign off. When bees are flying, check the food level and bee prepared. Bees in the spring are high dollar to buy. Wouldn't it be fun to sell an extra hive for the high dollar! Something to think about. So, take a few minutes and check them. Sincerely,

Roy Kraft IHPA President

PS: Kitchen sink drain works great!!

North Iowa Beekeepers' Trivia Game:

Peter Bieber reports that the club played a trivia game at their club meeting--and I borrowed some items to entertain you, and challenge your club to create such an event:

One pound of honey represents 55,000 miles of flight.

Including visits to 500,000 flowers.

And that one pound of honey was distilled from 10 pounds of nectar.

So if a colony collects/produces 300 pounds of honey, that represents enough flying miles to travel around the Earth 400 times.

Amazing, these little creatures we work with.

HANDLE WITH CARE.

DATE CHANGE!!

The Siouxland Beekeepers invited you all to Sioux Center in the January Buzz, but we changed the date of that event. Please take that off your calendars and move it to **MARCH 9.** Please don't come on Feb. 23.

Our speakers include Randall Cass of ISU talking about his research; Jamie Beyer will not only talk about swarm capturing but will show us his videos; John Anderson and Dave Korver will update us on their queen program; and our IHPA President Roy Kraft will talk about how to handle comb honey production.

Register at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/ e/1FAIpQLSfJW6VMkLkyrYmZyRkLnry3PWJIWRknkC3MO8w-WGn47Nzajg/viewform

We hope to see beeks from all over the state!

Beekeeper of the Month -- Ellen Bell

Ellen Bell knew absolutely nothing about bees when she took Andy Joseph's beginning beekeeping class in January of 2014. She learned enough to pique her interest, though, and she got started in April of that year with two packages of Carniolans. She recalls that first year as being daunting. "I was uncomfortable in my suit, hot and sweaty, and afraid of being stung. I know I didn't check on them as much as I should have. The whole thing felt very intimidating to me." By year two, Ellen says she began to relax a bit (feeling a little less like an imposter in a bee suit!) and she grew to six colonies. By the third year, she was ready to go all in, and bought out another beekeeper's apiary, expanding to 30+ colonies in the summer of 2016.

Last summer, Ellen managed over 100 colonies near her farm in southeastern Polk County. In addition to honey production, Ellen has also significantly expanded her business by selling bees and locally raised queens. "When I got up to a dozen or so hives, my mentor strongly encouraged me to start raising my own queens. I tried my hand at grafting and was immediately hooked," Ellen says. She finds queen rearing to be the most fascinating, challenging, and rewarding part of beekeeping. At last

November's IHPA annual meeting, Ellen gave a breakout session on queen rearing that was very well attended (standing room only!).

After many combines to strengthen up her colonies, Ellen sent 40 of her hives to California almond pollination for the first time this year. She kept a dozen or so colonies here in lowa to overwinter, too, and those are doing well so far. Like the rest of us, she's anxious for warm weather and dandelions so she can get back out to the bee yards. In the meantime, she's passing the winter months by teaching a beginning beekeeping class at the Altoona Public Library.

What does the future hold? Ellen knows she wants to continue to raise queens and sell bees. Aside from this, she's searching for the "sweet spot" in the number of hives she manages. "I don't want to hire any help just yet," says Ellen. "So I just have to figure out the optimal number of hives for me to maintain by myself." At this time, she's thinking it's somewhere around 100-150. One thing's for sure though...beekeeping is always different from one year to the next, and Ellen is ready to embrace the new seasons of beekeeping ahead of her!

Submitted by Doyle Kincy, IHPA District 4 Director

Highlight Event of 2019!!

Mark your calendars—November 8 and 9, 2019.

Our IHPA Annual Conference will happen in Des Moines this year at the beautifully renovated Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport. More information to come.

Dust off your favorite honey recipes! We will be bringing back our traditional cooking contest! We may even have a guest judge! There will be of course the painted hive bodies contest, photography contest, mead contest and maybe a new contest that I'm trying to think out. The honey swap will be making an appearance again this year. This is the perfect opportunity to try other honey from around the state OR surrounding states and see how they vary in taste to yours.

Speakers will be announced in a later newsletter. I feel as though we have a few interesting speakers in the works.

Summer Field Day is still in the planning stages, I have a few ideas I am trying to hammer out before locking into a location. Announcement will be in the next Buzz.

Looking forward to a great year with all of you! I'm always open to hear ideas or suggestions, send an email to kenoyerfarms@gmail.com.

Until the next Buzz, stay warm!

Keri Kenoyer, IHPA Vice President



Iowa Honey Bee Day:

Iowa State Capitol Building



February 27, 2019--7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

On **February 27, 2019**, the beekeepers of Iowa will meet again with *Legislators* to discuss the importance of honey bees to Iowa and the role we play as beekeepers in their success. Now that's a mouthful!! **AND WE ALL CAN HELP!**

You're a beek because of your love for bees, your love of honey, your desire to help our environment, and your understanding that pollinators are vital to our food sources. Is there anything that you can do to help guard the future of these important little friends of ours?

Wednesday, February 27 is **IOWA HONEY BEE DAY.** You can join fellow beeks at our State Capitol in **Conference Room 116** from 7:00 to 9:00 A.M.

Enjoy visiting with your legislators about the importance of the honey bee and the difficulties they face in our state, and enjoy some honey treats with the legislators. If you were there last year, you know the impact this event had—not only a chance to meet and talk with other beekeepers but a chance to meet with Government Officials, Legislators, Industry Representatives, and Educators.

For directions and parking information for the Iowa State Capitol visit the Iowa Honey Producers Association website at https://www.iowahoneyproducers.org/. You can also contact your IHPA District Director.

Linn Wilbur's contact info is lwilbur51201@gmail.com and his cell is 515-382-4882.

Jamie Beyer's contact info is beyersbog@aol.com and his cell is 515-231-0215.

This event is sponsored by the Iowa Honey Producers Assn.

Jamie Beyer also adds another good idea: Let's try to get mayors in cities and towns *across the state* to sign the declaration (see page 6) making February 27 Honey Bee Day. Last year the North Iowa Beekeepers asked the mayor of Mason City to sign the proclamation. The media picked up on it and the *club got a lot of coverage* and exposure from just one city. If we can multiply that many times over, we can make quite an impact across the state. This effort will make for a great club effort, and since we have clubs all over the state, let's see what we can make happen

We'll see you all in the Capitol on February 27 at 7:00 a.m.!

Warm-blooded? Cold-blooded?

If you were presenting a session on beekeeping to 3rd graders and you asked them if honeybees were cold-blooded or warm-blooded, most of them would get it right. Honeybees are cold-blooded. They cannot regulate their own body temperature, and if the temperature drops while they are separated from the cluster, they will die.

But let you ask another question: "Is a bee hive cold-blooded or warm-blooded?" Your class will immediately see that you are setting them up. Because a beehive regulates its own heat, keeping itself warm (92 degrees) in the inside of the cluster in the coldest of winters, and keeping itself cool (via water evaporation and ventilation--92 degrees) in the hottest of summer days, the beehive is a warm-blooded organism.

Only by selfless cooperation and devotion to the larger group can these little insects organize themselves and accomplish this sort of thing. O that people would learn from the lowly honeybee how to get along better!

A Great Article for a Novice to Read, by Abigail Kellv

My name is Abigail Kelly and I live in Polk County. I was one of the 2018 IHPA Youth Scholarship Recipients. I received my official certificate of completion at the IHPA Annual Conference this past November in Ames. As a Youth Scholarship Recipient I kept a record of my first year at DasselAcres.com. I previously wrote an article in the April 2018 addition of the Buzz. This article is an update to my previous one.

My mentors are Mike and Julie Sander. They have been outstanding mentors. In April, I worked the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association's auction. I enjoyed talking to the beekeepers and seeing some interesting equipment including an uncapping machine. After the auction, we picked up two packages from Spring Valley Honey in Perry. One of the packages became my hive and the other package became my sister Bethany's hive. We installed our bees on April 21st. It was a lot easier to switch the cork out for a marshmallow than I expected it to be. The bees were really calm and went in easily. We started the year with two packages and one established hive. I enjoyed inspecting all our hives with two of my sisters and my mother this past spring, summer, and fall. This summer, my sisters and I split for beekeeping. Finally, give back, especially the Youth the established hive twice and Bethany's hive once. The Sanders helped us with the first split we did. We were then able to split the hive again by ourselves. We split the established hive because we wanted to keep the gueen and we wanted to take advantage of the queen cells they produced. We split the package because the bees honey bound themselves and we did not want to lose half the bees. It was neat to see the nucs build up over the summer. We harvested honey in July and extracted it in August with my mentors. I entered honey and beeswax candles in the youth category at the Iowa State Fair. I also entered a wet frame and a honey frame in the adult categories at the fair. I received second place for my honey, fifth place for my wet frame, and sixth place for my honey frame. I also worked the IHPA booth at the State Fair. I really enjoyed talking about bees with fair goers and meeting other beekeepers. We harvested honey again after the State Fair. We ended up with a total of 117 pounds of honey. With the help of the Sanders, we treated the bees with Apiguard this fall and fed them with sugar syrup. I put the winter boxes on them

in October. We had five hives going into winter. The Sanders helped us treat the hives with oxalic acid in January of 2019.



My advice to the 2019 Youth Scholarship Recipients and new beekeepers would be to join a bee club. I have learned a lot at club meetings and through fellow club members. I would also suggest reading beekeeping books before your bees arrive because the books will prepare you Scholarship Recipients. We have been given so much through the program. Good ways to give back are volunteering at the IHPA's State Fair booth, Field Day, or Conference or help your local bee club.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the youth scholarship program possible. I like to give a big thank you to Mr. Reeves, who coordinates the program. Thank you for making sure everything ran smoothly and for answering my questions. I also would like to thank the Sanders for being my mentors. They were incredible and always willing to answer questions and help. If you have never considered being a mentor, please consider it. There is always a need for mentors for the youth scholarship program and they are truly blessings to the scholarship recipients.

I am really looking forward to my second year of beekeeping and I am excited to watch our hives continue to grow. I am curious to see how my second year compares to my first year and would like to catch a swarm this year.

A Seminar You Don't Want to Miss!

Two-day seminar with Dr. Leo Sharashkin, author of *Keeping Bees With a Smile*. This seminar happens on February 22-23 in the Gays Mills Community Commerce Center, 16381 Hwy 131, Gays Mills WI 54631. The cost for two days, including some meals, is \$130, or \$110 @ if 2 or more register. Dr. Sharashkin promotes natural and sustainable beekeeping, teaching beeks how to build and maintain long topbar hives. Beginners will learn all the basics of gentle beekeeping. More information: Monique Hooker, E1171 Victory Ridge Rd, DeSoto WI 54624, monique@mwt.net, 608-648-3574. Please hurry, since this seminar is filling up fast and the deadline is Feb 12. Make checks to Monique, and she will help you find housing.

Happy New Year! Welcome 2019!

Since the holidays have come and gone, I hope you had a great season with family, friends and maybe a moment to yourself.

My moments with self are spent doing a lot of sewing for quilts. With that being said, the Iowa Honey Producers Association Quilt blocks are/were due on February 1st. As of this writing, I hope they have found their way to my mailbox in Goldfield so that I can start working on the two quilts so that they may be done by the 2019 Summer Field Day.

Please make your blocks using only the fabrics included in your packets. Make them 12 1/2" x 12 1/2" unfinished (this means that's what they should measure before I put them into a quilt). Send the blocks along with the scraps to Jodi Kraft, P.O. Box 1, Goldfield, IA 50542 If you have any questions, please call me at 515-293-2476.

Happy Sewing and thank you all for your work!

Jodi Kraft

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, honey bees and native insects are important as pollinators for a third of the food we eat and honey bees are vital in production of over 90 crops grown across the nation, many of which are in Iowa. Honey bees contribute to a healthy Iowa environment by assuring availability of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and flowers for wildlife and all Iowans.

WHEREAS, Iowa's 45,000 or more honey bee hives produce about 4 million pounds of honey valued at over \$8 million and honey bees provide an estimated \$92 million economic value to Iowa crops from their pollination.

WHEREAS, Iowa has over 4,500 beekeepers representing hobbyists, sideliners as part time businesses and full time commercial beekeepers. Hobby beekeepers have as few as one hive to commercial operations with thousands of hives.

WHEREAS, traditionally beekeeping occurred in rural areas of Iowa. Now beekeeping increasingly occurs in urban areas with the rising interest of hobby beekeepers for keeping beehives in Iowa cities and towns.

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa has an active apiary inspection program to protect honey bees and beekeepers from introduction and spread of apiary diseases and pests.

WHEREAS, honey bees face serious threats from invasive pests, decreasing bee friendly forage, variable climate and increasing pesticide and herbicide pressure.

THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim February 27, 2019 as

IOWA HONEY BEE DAY

and encourage all citizens, residents and visitors to join in observing this day and focusing on the importance of honey bees to our state economy, to enjoy the honey and other products of honey bees, to recognize the honey bees' role in maintaining our lowa environment, and to assist in reducing the threats to honey bee survival in our state.

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.



The Beeyard by Phil Ebert

The equinox has passed. The days are getting longer. Spring is just around the corner. Leading up to Christmas, it seems like there is plenty of time. Afterward, it seems like it disappears in a heartbeat. We used to have downtime in the winter. We would close off the back half of the building and keep the temperature just above freezing. I suspect those days are gone forever. Alex had surgery on his arm to reattach the

tendon that snapped. The doctor told him he is going to be out of action for 4 months. I hope I can last that long. At 76, age is wearing on me.

After such a crap fall it seems hard to believe we are having 50-degree days in January. I went to the Drake/Loyola basketball game on Jan 5. I didn't need a coat. The bees will be moving around in the boxes and coming out to drop their

waste. That will be a stress reliever for them. The longer they have to hold it the more stressful it is for them. After periods of long confinement, we often start seeing spotting within the hive. Once you see that, the bees are goners.

The bees should still have plenty of feed if they were fed adequately in the fall. This often requires five or six gallons of syrup. Once the bees start to brood up, food consumption will increase. A few years ago we had a January that had sustained temperatures of 50 degrees. The bees were really brooded up by the end of the month. We took the opportunity to give

them syrup. Normally, I don't like to do it at that time of year. A candy board or raw sugar piled on a piece of newspaper is a better idea. The bees can remain clustered and feed on the sugar. Once we get into late February or March, we can put syrup in the division board feeders for the big clusters. The bees will take it with daytime highs in the 30's if the clusters are next to the feeders. The really good colonies will have bees hanging in the feeders. If they are still down low where you can't see them, that is a good sign. Just tap on the box

and see if they buzz. You can also smell them. I did have a bee jump into my nostril one time when I was doing that. Ouch!!

Big clusters that are raising a lot of brood can generate a lot of heat. You can feel the heat rising when you open the lid. This is when the black cartons can do a lot of good. They provide insulation plus they absorb heat from the sun (if there is any). This will allow the cluster to loosen up. It is okay to open the lids at 20 degrees. You

don't want to be pulling frames, but it is okay to look. We do it all the time. We may have a lot of cartons for sale if we stay with almond pollination. That story is yet to be told.

We had our annual business meeting. The bees are seldom running on the same plan we are. The meeting was mainly to iron out cash flow. With bees in California and the startup with the container business there are a lot more financial chess pieces to move around. I didn't want to checkmate myself. Spring is not far away. Bee ready!!

We have been running articles on the history of the Dadant organization. This is the final issue.

THE FIFTH GENERATION This generation consisting of Tom Ross, Tim Dadant, Nick Dadant, and Marta Menn continues to succeed in meeting the challenges of growing the company in the beekeeping industry. Tom Ross oversees the religious line of candles, Tim Dadant guides the decorative candles, Nick Dadant monitors the beekeeping supplies and Marta manages the Advertising. Each actively participates in the general running of the business. They have overseen another revision of The Hive and Honey Bee in 1992 and continue to publish the monthly magazine The American Bee Journal. Dadant & Sons houses one of the largest private libraries of beekeeping literature.

With the addition of Gabe Dadant and Matt Ross to the company, the family tradition will continue well into the future.

These young men are learning the different aspects of running the business. The company continues to remain the largest manufacturer of beekeeping supplies and is still a believer that "it pays to furnish good goods."

Thanks to the folks at Dadants for reviewing their history with us all.

Info from our Treasurer

Membership Dues are Due!

IHPA membership year is the calendar year. Check the back of the Buzz. If your Buzz shows an expiration date of 12/31/2018, it's time to renew.

Membership dues are \$20 for the first beekeeper in the household. Each additional beekeeper in the household is \$5. One Buzz will be sent to a "Family Membership" address. Your dues can be paid for multiple years if you prefer not to have to remember each year.

Please indicate if you wish to receive your Buzz in the US Mail or if you would prefer to read your Buzz online at the website: www.lowaHoneyProducers.org.

At this time, we cannot accept credit cards for your dues. Please complete the membership form in the Buzz or the one from the website, www.lowaHoneyProducers.otg. Please send your check, money order or even cash payable to: lowa Honey Producers Assn. or IHPA, to Rhonda Heston, 52735 187th Ave, Chariton IA 50049. If you have any questions, please call 515-724 -2124 or send an email to: IPHATreasurer@gmail.com.

PS – If you paid with your Annual Meeting registration, your expiration date should be updated by January 31, 2019.

Rhonda

Merchandise

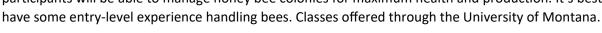
In October we ordered another round of shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, hats and aprons. With the recent order, the prices increased slightly. With this said, we need to increase the price you pay to cover our costs. We want to be able to continue to bring you high quality merchandise.

Short Sleeve T-Shirts (Crew neck and V-neck)	\$10
Long Sleeve T-Shirts	\$15
Hat	\$10
Sweat Shirts	\$20
Hoodie	\$25
Apron	\$15
Cooling Towel	\$5
Cookbook	\$4
Cookbook (Case)	\$90

Website prices slightly higher. Shipping for one item will be \$7.50. All orders for more than one item will be billed for shipping costs. An email or text will be sent with this amount. Please send order requests to: IHPA, Rhonda Heston, 52735 187th Ave, Chariton, IA 50049. Questions please call 515-724-2124 or send an email to: IPHATreasurer@gmail.com.

Online Apprentice-level Course in beekeeping available at http://www.umt.edu/sell/programs/bee/.

Instructors for the course are Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk, Scott Debnam and Phillip Welch, widely regarded as a premier honey bee research team. Register early, since these classes fill fast. Dates are March 25-May 3, 2019. Registration opened on Jan. 23 already. Topics include basic beekeeping skills, year-long chores, treatment of ailments and pests, the history of bees, state and federal bee laws, etc. By the end of the course, participants will be able to manage honey bee colonies for maximum health and production. It's best to





Ticks (not varroa) in Your Bee Hives?

It's January 7th, 2019 and it's over 50 degrees with sunshine. Perhaps, spring isn't too far away, and I sure hope that we don't have the cold wet spring like we had last year. Last year, we had a few people comment that they had problems with ticks in and around their hives. We have never seen ticks in our hives and I must give my husband credit for the lack of this problem; however, this might be changing for us. Jerry has always mowed around the hives and the acreage; however, we are trying to reduce the amount of mowing and planting more pollinator habitat. In fact, my philosophy has become "Grow, Don't Mow".

A couple of times last summer, we worked bee hives at Honey Creek State Park with another couple. There's lots of habitat in that area and tall grasses around the hives. After we were done, we discovered ticks on our clothing. What's a beekeeper to do? - Check your clothing before and after working hives.

We live on almost 7 acres and every spring we have some of those sweet baby fawns born on our property. A few years ago, one mama had triplets, another had twins and a third had one. They really are cute, but I wish they had more habitats on larger farms. I have come to think of deer as giant tick bombs. If we create more pollinator habitat, we will encourage more deer and ultimately more ticks. What's a beekeeper to do? - Mow around your hives and keep the grasses down. We also put diatomaceous earth on the ground around our hives to reduce ants, hive beetles, woodland roaches, spiders, and ticks. If you use diatomaceous earth, do not shake bees onto the ground or they will die.

Last fall, I found the first tick ever on our little 9-year-old rescue terrier, Charlie. He has always been treated with Frontline or other tick preventatives; however, the tick that I found was on his sweet face. Charlie was tested twice for lyme disease, but each test was negative. Unfortunately, he developed all the symptoms of lyme disease and might have had a false negative test. Animals must have the antibodies in order to have a positive test. I took Charlie to two different vets and the 2nd vet agreed to treat him for lyme disease. This 2nd vet also took our dog's temperature and sure enough Charlie had a high temperature. We agreed that his symptoms sure looked like lyme disease as he was in lots of pain and extremely lame. He was also quickly losing weight and getting dehydrated. We had a very rough couple of

weeks with him and I am grateful that he survived. Was this a price that we paid for improving pollinator habitat? *What's a beekeeper to do?* Ensure your pets are vaccinated against lyme disease. Many vets are now recommending vaccinating against lyme disease; however, it's still not on the radar of all vets. Tick preventatives may not always work.

Lyme disease has been increasing nationwide and is a serious disease for people and their pets. There is a correlation between increases in the deer population and the incidents of lyme disease throughout our country. My husband grew up in rural lowa and very rarely saw deer. It's now a rare day that we don't see deer or as I now think of them — tick bombs. Lyme disease is now carried by both small deer ticks and the larger dog ticks.

Bee Careful Out There!

Respectfully Submitted

Sheila Weldon

Some More Trivia (Not so Trivial!)

I'm sitting here in winter, not too active, noticing that I'm using belt holes I didn't use last summer. I read that a honeybee can load up with pollen and nectar and fly back to the hive carrying 80% of her body weight. Let that sink in—if someone weighs 250 pounds, s/he would be flying back home carrying 200 pounds!! For a bee, it's all in a day's work. For me...come visit me in the hospital!

But she has wings that beat 11,400 times per minute. That's a mere 190 times per second. Rather deepens one's respect for our little friends.

The Queen's a Hunter! (Does she also leap tall buildings with one jump?)

Welcome to the new year! I hope everyone had a wonderful

holiday season. Bee highlight of break: my boyfriend and I made cinnamon butter from my honey harvested in the fall. So delicious!

Since there is not much talk on bees at the moment, I figured I'd share something I did over the free time I had. Although November and December call for Thanksgiving and Christmas, to my family it's more about deer season. I've been an active hunter since the age of five when I shot my first buck. I was instantly hooked. It is one of my favorite hobbies and it's always been tradition to go out with my dad either shotgun or muzzeloader season.

This year, however, I went bow hunting by myself for the first time. It's a bit different on your own, but I've always been very independent. I went for days and days with no luck.

Finally, I tried a brand new spot. Within sitting there, I had a small buck out in watched him for a while, but to my

guy stepped out to the left of me. All I could think was, "Is that a reindeer?" When he came 30 yards from me I was shaking

20 minutes of

front of me. I

surprise an old

like a leaf.

Trying to get my bow up was hard, considering this, and the fact that he was looking right at me. I lined up my shot and let it fly. The arrow went right through, but we found no blood. We let him rest over night. The next morning we searched far and wide. Finally, a couple friends of my dad found blood about a quarter mile away. An hour later, we found him along the river. He's definitely my most unique buck yet, and we found him in a race against time with an hour until a blizzard came.

I'm truly blessed to have been able to take this guy and thank God for the

opportunity and for giving us these animals to put on the table! I've shot others too, but this guy (Ruldolph) is my most unique trophy to date.

Brooklyn Pardall, IHPA 2019 Honey Queen.



Of Honeybees and Peacocks...

If Dennis Fett (AKA Mr. Peacock) of rural Minden Iowa has his way, farm pesticides will be a major topic of discussion regarding rule changes and law changes in the 2019 Iowa state legislature agenda.

Mr. Peacock's 4 acres in western Iowa has been the victim of three over sprayings of fungicide and insecticides during July 2018. Fungicides were found on his apple trees as well as his beehive being destroyed by insecticides sprayed during the bee

hours of 8 AM to 6 PM. Fett may have the dubious honor of having the largest pesticide file perhaps in the state history since 1992. And having three pesticide cases of over spraying in July of 2018. This too may be a record as well.

His 4-acre peacock/peafowl farm, beehive, fruit orchard, and chemical-free garden has been a victim of overspraying of farm pesticides since 1992. Fett had enough of losing peacocks, bees, fruit and garden

produce. So now it's time for some change regarding over spraying to non-targeted areas of alternative farmers such as Fett.

He's hoping to spend a lot of time with the legislature this year in Des Moines convincing them to look into his problem and the problem of 50% more over-spraying cases on file at the department of agriculture pesticide bureau in 2018. He's very much concerned with spring 2019 that the potential spraying around his acreage of dicamba may kill anything left on his farm. Being listed for many years on fieldwatch.com and bee check has proven to be a massive failure in protecting his alternative crops.

At this time Fett is the only one he knows of that is pushing

for this change and is hoping to get support from anyone around the state interested in helping. He's contacted lowa's secretary of agriculture, Michael Naig and his state representative and senator in hopes that they will support his endeavors in changing things so that he and hundreds of other lowans will not be damaged ever again by unwanted farm sticides drifting on their land. Contact: Dennis

pesticides drifting on their land. Contact: Dennis Fett (AKA Mr. Peacock) 712-483-2473. 24783 330 Street, Minden, Iowa.

51553 mrpeacock@peafowl.com web

site: peafowl.com



Central Iowa Beekeepers Association Annual Auction

What: CIBA Annual Auction

When: Saturday, April 20, 2019 Auction starts at 10:00 a.m.

Where: 18930 210th St. Minburn, IA 50167

Auction Consignment

It's time to consign! Committing to consign does not require a list of the items you are consigning, but the sooner we know the items you have to sell, the better we can advertise, and the better your opportunity to sell your beekeeping equipment. As you are putting items away or cleaning your supplies, start a list of what you want to bring to the auction.

Consignment Fee

CIBA members that commit to consign by March 1, 2019, will be awarded a 10% consignment fee. After March 1st, CIBA member consignors will be charged a 15% consignment fee.

Non-members in the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association will be charged a 15% consignment fee.

Concession Stand

Calling for all cooks and bakers! As in the past, there will be a concession stand at the auction – the stand funds our Honey Queen / Honey Ambassador program. Please let us know if you would like to help with food items, and what you are interested in assisting with!

Consignment and Concession Stand: Please contact Julie Sander at majlsander@msn.com

North Iowa Beekeepers' Club Auction

The North Iowa Beekeepers' Club is having an auction of beekeeping equipment and poultry equipment!

Location:

P & P Honey and Bee Supply Inc Pat & Peggy Ennis

2105 110th St, Goodell, IA 50439

Date: Saturday, April 27th, 2019 / Starting @ 10:00 am / Auctioneer: Roy Kraft

We're looking for new or gently used beekeeping and poultry items!

We all have some stuff in the shed or barn we don't use that would be of great benefit or value to someone else. So now is a great time to dust it off, repair, paint and bring it to the auction!

All combs to be sold will be inspected before the auction.

To consign your items, and for a list of items being consigned, please call or email Pat @ 515-293-2601 or email to pphoneyandbeesupply@gmail.com.

Consignment rate: Before April 1st, - 10% / After April 1st, - 15%

All auction proceeds will benefit the North Iowa Beekeepers' Club and the youth with the purpose of educating and promoting the craft of beekeeping thru speakers and events to all the beekeepers throughout North Iowa.

Restrooms will be available (port-a-potties)

Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Bottled Water and Rolls, Baked Goods will be available for a donation/purchase.





Iowa Honey Producers Association Annual Membership Form



First Membership: \$20			
Name:			\$20
Addross:			
City:	State	Zip Code	
County:			
Phone:			
I wish to receive my monthly new	vsletter by:		
	Website (pdf)		
	USPS (mail)		
May we publish your information	n in the Association members bo	ooklet?	
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Second Family Member (Same ac	ddress, \$5)		
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Third Family Member (Same add	ress. \$5)		
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Includes a one	-year subscription to The Buzz N	lewsletter	
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Make Checks Payable to	Jours Honor Droduces	Association	
Make Checks Payable to: Send form and check to:	Iowa Honey Producers Rhonda Heston, Treasu		
send form and check to:	52735 187th Ave	i e i	
	Chariton IA 50049		

Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. See the back of The Buzz Newsletter to find your expiration date. Above your name will be the expiration date.



BUZZ Expires: 12/31/2018

Example: John Smith

1234 Honeybee Lane

Beeutiful City, IA 50000





EBERT HONEY CAN HELP!







ABOUT OUR CONTAINER BUSINESS

Ebert Honey is carrying on the container business established by our friends at Draper's Super Bee after many years as their customer.

Beginning January 1, 2019, Ebert Honey will offer competitive pricing on 20+ container styles. Our friends at Draper's will still offer honey and pollen.

ABOUT YOUR CONTAINER ORDER

Ebert Honey welcomes container orders of any size, and our **new website** makes ordering and shipping fast and easy!

Container orders will be processed at our Mount Vernon, Iowa, location. Pick up will be arranged ahead of time and is available at both our Mount Vernon and Lynnville locations.

CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY

319.259.9377

andria@eberthoney.com

www.eberthoney.com

f @eberthoney

1090 Highway 1 North Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314 14808 South 102nd Ave. East Lynnville, Iowa 50153

Emma's Recipes

Where has January gone? Here it is already February and Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Whether you love making special food for your family, need a quick meal, or just want to try a new recipe, the meatloaf was quick and delicious. The sesame candies were a bit unusual for me, but if you are up for an adventure, you should try them as well!

Meatloaf with Honey Mustard Sauce (Pg. 52):

1 pound lean ground beef½ cup oatmeal, uncooked¼ cup chopped onion2 cloves garlic, minced

¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper 1 egg, beaten

½ cup milk 2 tablespoons honey

2 tablespoons wheat germ

Combine all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Pack firmly in loaf pan.

Honey Mustard Sauce:

1/3 cup ketchup 2 tablespoons honey

1 tablespoons mustard

Stir the ketchup, honey, and mustard together in a small mixing bowl, pour over the meat loaf. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 1 hour. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing. Makes 4 servings.

Emma's Notes: The recipe was not hard to make. It took me about 15 minutes and would be a great beginner recipe. For any beginner I have this caution, the honey and oils will bubble during baking and cause a layer of liquid to form over top the meat; DO NOT pour it off. This liquid will add flavor to the loaf and keep it moist. The loaf was delicious!

Honey Sesame Candy (Pg. 64):

1 cup sesame seeds 3 tablespoons brown sugar

3 tablespoons honey

Generously* coat 2 large sheets of wax paper with cooking spray, In a medium skillet, toast sesame seeds over medium-low heat, stirring often, until they are fragrant and golden (5-7 minutes). In a small sauce pan, combine brown sugar and honey. Cook over low heat, stirring often, until sugar is melted and the mixture is thick (about 5 minutes). Add the sesame seeds to the mixture and stir well with a wooden spoon. Place one sheet of waxed paper on the work surface, greased side up. Scrape the mixture onto the waxed paper and top with the remaining waxed paper, greased side down. Using a rolling pin, roll the mixture into a square about ¼ inch thick. Remove top sheet of paper and cut into 1 inch squares with a sharp knife. Let cool completely. Beak apart pieces and store in an air tight container at room temperature.

Emma's notes: ~*GENEROUSLY~ this is not a sweet suggestion. It is very important that you coat the waxed paper. The candy will stick and not turn out as well if you do not do it! I found that it tasted a bit like caramel popcorn with a different texture. It was also very easy to make. Be sure that you watch the sesame seeds closely to prevent them getting a burnt flavor. Yum. 2

Save the Date: The Northwest Iowa Beekeepers Ass'n will host a Beekeeping Intensive Weekend on Saturday, Feb. 9 from 9:00 a..m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday Feb. 10 from 1;30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a snow date of Feb. 16/17. This will happen at the Dickinson County Nature Center, 22785 Nature Road, Okoboji, IA.

They also will sponsor Next Steps in Beekeeping for 2nd and 3rd year beeks on Saturday March 9, from 9:00 to 4:30 with a snow date of March 16. Same location.

2019 Beginning and Advanced Beekeeping Courses to be offered Across the State of Iowa.

For more information, please to the web site: @www.iowahoneyproducers.org of the lowa Honey Producers Association.

* "To Be Determined" (TBD), the class information at print date wasn't finalized. Please feel free to contact them to register for a class or for more information.

Adel, Tuesday evening	City and Time	Start Date	To Register
Ankerny, Thursday evenings	-	TBD	
S15-325-5765 (call / text) or Andrew.loseph@lowaApriculture.gov		Jan 24-Feb 28	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Altoona, Mon. evening Jan 14-Feb 18 Altoona Public Library https://Altoona libcal.com/event/4224921 Coralville Feb 5, 12, 19 Register: Ed St John 319-491-4343. esj178@gmail.com Feb 5-Mar. 12 NICC Continuing Education: 563-557-8271, ext 380 Cedar Rapids, Indian Creek Nature Center, Ture evenings Feb 5-Mar. 12 In thru year To register: 319-362-0664 or indiancreeknaturecenter.org/ Tor orgister: 319-362-0664 or indiancreeknaturecenter.org/ Ian. thru year To register: 319-362-0664 or indiancreeknaturecenter.org/ Tor orgister: 319-362-0664 or indiancreeknaturecenter.org/ Ian. thru year Tor orgister: 319-362-0664 or indiancreeknaturecenter.org/ Ian. Lan. Thru St. Orgister: 319-385-3255 Davenport, Thurs. evenings Peb 21-Mar 28 Eastern lowa Community College Indianola, Thurs. evenings Peb 21-Mar 28 Eastern lowa Community College Indianola, Thurs. evenings IBD Jefferson Co Extension / Coleen @ 641-472-4166 Indianola, Thurs. evenings Ian. 32-Feb 27 Rachael Koehler: 3800-284-4823/ 641-752-4645 Keosauqua, I day class March 16 Keosauqua Senior Center/ 319-29-3-3039 Ian. Thru evening Ian. St. Thru evening Indiancree Ian. Ian. St. Thru evening Ian. St. Feb 5-Feb 26 NIACC Continuing Education: 641-422-4358 Marchael Koehler: 800-284-4823/641-752-4645 (Room 612 Nason City, Sat. morning Feb 5-Feb 26 NIACC Continuing Education: 641-422-4358 Marchael Koehler: 800-284-4823/641-752-4645 (Room 612 Nason City, Sat. morning Ian. Ian. Ian. Ian. Ian. Ian. Ian. Ian.			515-326-5765 (call / text) or Andrew.Joseph@ IowaAgriculture.gov
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	Washington, Thurs. evening	March 5 – 26	Kirkwood Comm. College, 319-653-4655
Webster City, Sat. afternoon Jan 19 – Feb 9 515-835-9326 or e-mail: Yvonne@iastate.edu	Waterloo, Wed. evenings	Jan 16-April 13	Hawkeye Comm. College, 319-296-4290
	Webster City, Sat. afternoon	Jan 19 – Feb 9	515-835-9326 or e-mail: Yvonne@iastate.edu

Please note that not all of these courses are sponsored by the Iowa Honey Producers Association, and the information presented by the instructors is not necessarily endorsed by the IHPA. Additionally, none of the courses are sponsored by the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship and the information presented by the instructors is not necessarily endorsed by IDALS.

This eight-session series is designed for individuals serious about starting a beekeeping hobby. The series takes participants through the annual cycle of beekeeping, from establishing a hive to harvesting and marketing the honey produced. Class members will be actively involved in learning activities by working in our Educational Apiary at Indian Creek Nature Center.

Cost: \$90 Members, \$100 Non-members. Registration is from 12/3/18 to 2/1/19

Fee includes lectures and field days, informational handouts, and use of the Nature Center's Sugar House for extraction in the fall. All class participants are encouraged to attend Cedar Valley Apiaries meetings. Folks can register here: https://indiancreeknaturecenter.org/public-programs/beekeeping/ Folks can order 3-pound packages of Italian bees at a cost of \$120 using the same url.

Recommended Text: The Beekeeper's Handbook, 4th edition by Diane Sammataro and Alphonse Avitabile. Limited quantities are available in the Indian Creek Nature Center's Creekside Shop.

About The Class: All beekeepers will attend lectures as a large group, held in the Amazing Space Auditorium. In addition to lectures, all beekeeping participants will be guided in hands-on field days in our Educational Apiary. Two groups will be formed to offer more one-on-one time with instructors.

Session 1 (LECTURE) - Friday, February 8 6-8:30 PM

Topic: The equipment and materials needed for beekeeping.

Session 2 (LECTURE) - Friday, March 15 6-8:30 PM

Topic: Bee behavior, installing a package of bees, registration and inspection of bees.

Session 3 (FIELD DAY) - Saturday, April 20

Class A - 9:00-11:00am or Class B - 11:30am-1:30pm

Topic: Early spring management techniques, bee characteristics, bee health.

Session 4 (PICK UP BEES) - Date and time in April TBD

Topic: How to install a package of bees and discuss early care of bees.

Session 5 (FIELD DAY) - Saturday, May 11

Class A - 9:00-11:00am or Class B - 11:30am-1:30pm

Topic: Important hive management techniques prior to honey flow.

Session 6 (LECTURE) - Friday, July 19 6-8:30 PM

Topic: Mid-summer hive management and processing and marketing of bee products.

Session 7 (FIELD DAY) - Saturday, August 10

Class A - 9:00-11:00am <u>or</u> Class B - 11:30am-1:30pm Topic: Process honey and prepare the bees for winter.

Session 8 (LECTURE) - Friday, October 11 6-8:30 PM

Topic: Develop plans for overwintered hives & to review management practices for early spring.



'Hive Alive' ***** (5 + stars)

'Hive Alive' is a 2014 British documentary definitely worth watching for beginning or seasoned beekeepers. Chris Packham and Martha Kearney consult experts and use modern technology to examine the lives and times of honeybees. Over the years, I've watched a number of bee related documentaries; however, this one was by far the best. It's done in two episodes with each approximately 48 minutes.

'Hive Alive' is currently available for streaming on Netflix though I don't know for how much longer. Netflix contracts frequently change and a number of previous documentaries and videos that I've watched are no longer available on Netflix. (Do not mix up the documentary 'Hive Alive' with a new feed being advertised to beekeepers.)

Our local beekeeping club watched 'Hive Alive' in November & December and I believe most individuals enjoyed the documentary. The quality of most documentaries today is absolutely fantastic and 'Hive Alive' is no exception. It was the first time that I saw some of their techniques and what they're learning (i.e. showing how honey bees use their wings to maneuver, tagging and numbering bees for tracking and observation, gps tracking of honey bee orientation flights, using drones to track honey bees, and translating waggle dances, using scales to monitor weight changes, using a close-up camera on an observation hive and showing it on a large screen, how bees know which plants still have nectar, thermal imaging of bees, hives, plants etc.) Honey bees are truly fascinating creatures and this documentary does an excellent job presenting the information. In fact, many might find much of 'Hive Alive' to be appropriate for beekeeping classes.

CLASSIFIEDS

2019 Five-Frame Nucs (Limited Quantity) PLEASE READ ENTIRE POST.....PICK UP ONLY NO SHIPPING

Pickup only at our farm located in Waterloo Ia. 2019 Preorder northern Carniolan Queens are \$35. Characteristics include gentle, good honey production, overwinter ability, fast spring buildup and comb building. Can be marked.

5-frame nucs with young laying queen, brood, honey and pollen. \$170. \$70 deposit, remaining \$100 balance + Iowa Sales Tax due at pick up in the second week of May, depending on weather. No extra charge required on equipment, everything is included in the price. Deposit is NOT refundable. For more information and questions please contact silverlakehoney@yahoo.com or call Eddie Miskich at 319-504-3482.

For Sale:

Complete hive kit includes everything but the bees:

Telescoping cover, Inner cover, 2 deep brood boxes w/ frames, 2 Illinois boxes w/frames, Queen excluder and solid bottom board. Includes bee jacket, gloves –in your size, bee brush, hive tool and smoker. Assembled and painted - \$379.00. Unassembled - \$319.00

Hive Kits include:

Telescoping cover, inner cover, 2 deep brood boxes w/ frames, 2 Illinois boxes w/frames, Queen excluder and solid bottom board. Painted and assembled \$258.00. Unassembled \$ 198.00.

P & P Honey and Bee Supply, Inc, Goodell, IA 50439. Call, text at 641-444-4767 or 515-293-2601

or email us @: pphoneyandbeesupply@gmail.com

Help wanted: Full-Time Beekeeper

This is a year-round position. Experience helpful but will train. **P & P Honey and Bee Supply,** Inc. Pat and Peggy Ennis, 2105 110th ST. Goodell, IA. 50439. Call, text or email us at 641-444-4767 or 515-293-2601.



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