

# The Buzz

Newsletter of the  
*Iowa Honey Producers*  
Association



January 2023

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



## Annual Conference

The January edition of The Buzz will feature the place winners of our various competitions held at the Annual Conference and Meeting.



## The Buzz

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



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

## Scholarship Recipients

The 2022-2023 Scholarship Recipients will be showcased.





# Congratulations!

# 2023

IHPA Youth Scholarship Recipients

A special THANK YOU to our 2022 mentors! Your service and dedication to your student are much appreciated.

Thank you to the individuals who have agreed to be 2023 mentors. Your students are looking forward to working with you and learning from you.



Student – Owen Carlton  
Mentor – Jim Berkley



Student – Abraham Manly  
Mentor – Mike/Julie Sander



Student – Jason Mitchell  
Mentor – Dr. Cynthia Knight



Student – Ben Gravert  
Mentor – Kevin Brunning



Student – Meriden  
McDaniel  
Mentor – Mike Swett



Student – Anna Stafford  
Mentor – Arvin Foell



Student – Levi Stafford  
Mentor – Arvin Foell



Student – Harper Wilson  
Mentor – Neal/Dianne  
Rinehart

# Congratulations!

# 2022

## IHPA Youth Scholarship Program Completions

Scholarship students are between the ages of 13 and 16 years old. They are selected following an application process and interview. Students are awarded with a package of bees, including a queen, one complete hive which includes a standard bottom board with

entrance reducer, two hive bodies with frames and foundation, two medium supers with frames and foundation, telescoping cover with inner cover, division board feeder, hive tool, smoker with shield, bee brush, hooded jacket/veil, a pair of leather gloves, appropriate nails for construction of hive bodies, free beginner bee keeping classes, one year IHPA membership which includes "The Buzz" publication, and a mentor for a year! Upon successful completion of the year, as evaluated by the mentors and the Youth Scholarship Coordinator, students are awarded permanent ownership of their equipment. The past two years we have asked for scholarship equipment and bee donations. The support and encouragement of our donors helps to make this program successful.



Student – Noah DeSotel  
Mentor – Mike Swett



Student – Luka Smith  
Mentor – Wayne Scott



Student – Zane Wihlm  
Mentor – Angie Croll



Student – Leo Klemm  
Mentor – Mike/Julie Sander



Student – Trace Turner  
Mentor – Tim Kimrey



Student – Nicholas Wise  
Mentor – Mike Swett

If you are interested in donating equipment or bees for the 2023 Scholarship Program, please reach out to Stephanie Meyers, IHPA Youth Scholarship Coordinator, at 641-691-5036 or [sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com](mailto:sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com).

**Thank you to the following 2022 program donors:**

**E and H Honey (Eric Higdon)**

**Ellen Bell Farms**

**Foley's Russian Bees Hillco, Ltd.**

**MannLake**

**P and P Honey**

**Spring Valley Farms**





# *Congratulations!*

# **2023**

IHPA Annual Conference Award Winners

## **Cooking Contest**

Candies

**1st Place: Kristi Ostercamp**

Desserts

**1st Place: Britta McCollum**

Muffins, Cupcakes and Brownies

**1st Place (tie): Kristi Ostercamp  
and Keri Kenoyer**

Sauces, Jams, Jellies, and Butters

**1st Place: Kristi Ostercamp**

Snacks and Appetizers

**1st Place: Keri Kenoyer**

## **Mead Contest**

Traditional Mead

**1st Place: Dick Ostercamp**

**2nd Place: Kevin Brunning**

**3rd Place: Andy Hemken**

Molemel (Fruit Mead)

**1st Place: Dick Ostercamp**

**2nd Place: Andy Hemken**

Metheglyn (Spiced Mead)

**1st Place (tie): Dick Ostercamp**

## **Black Label Honey Contest**

**1st Place: Lisa Montgomery**

## **People's Choice Photo Contest**

**1st Place (tie): Jan Yegge, Keri Kenoyer, and  
Amy Synarong**

## **People's Choice Painted Hive Body (Youth)**

**1st Place: Zane Wihlm**





# IHPA Officer & Director News

## *Ramblings from The Russian Bee Guy*

**President, Jason Foley**

Hello and welcome to another addition of my ramblings! Today is December 4th and holy cow it is Christmas time already!!!! Well, since this is for the January edition you'll be thinking, "no, that was a week ago." For me it feels like the year has just flown by.

So our last semi headed out the evening of Saturday, Nov. 26th. I was amazed at how much warmer it was for that truck than our first one. The first semi was loaded in the snow and this one it was probably 50 degrees lol. Mother Nature has been pretty confusing this year. Last month you got to read about my issues with almost losing a wheel off my loader and Andy Joseph turning his jeans into chaps when he tried to jump off a stack. This last semi was not without incident. I mean for everyone else it was fantastic. No one ripped their pants, or got stung up, or had their vehicle catch on fire... But for me, I yet again had some issues. There's like this really strange curse that follows me around. Partly because I do some of the dumbest things that are not OSHA approved, and the rest is bad luck. But I never really get hurt physically. I've been hit by a car and thrown into a ditch with only a small bruise, road a crotch rocket at high speeds off a highway curve in a rainstorm without a scratch, fallen off roofs and out of trees, and a slew of other things but yet I stand here with not 1 single broken bone. My wife is still sure I'll be dead far sooner than her, but I've had my palm read and my life line says I'll live to 150 lol. So back to the last semi, Tyler Holton and I were working opposite sides of the truck with our perspective machines and we got probably 80% of it loaded without incident. Then my loader seemed to just be losing control power. She was still running fine, but the old 610 just didn't seem to want to turn or move correctly. I had a stack of 3 pallets up in the air and suddenly I just couldn't move in any direction more than a few inches. The voltage warning light would pop on every time I tried to push the controls and it reminded me of 2 years prior when the variable speed sheave was bleeding hydraulic fluid onto the drive belt. There I was, climbing over my chair and the engine with my cell phone light, trying to look down to where the belt was. Sure enough the belt was coated in hydraulic fluid and it was being flung all over the engine compartment. I'm probably losing some of you with technical stuff, but essentially this belt drives the machine through simple tension on the rollers. So when you coat it

with slippery oil (hydraulic fluid) the belt just slides every time you try to make the machine do a little bit of work. So I had to bail on Tyler and leave the rest of the truck for him. I limped the poor girl back to her trailer and she didn't even have the power to drive up the ramps. Tyler had to come over at the end of the night and push me up the ramps so I could haul the 610 bobcat home.

This last week I got the parts kit in and rebuilt the seals in the sheave. 4 small rubber washers that Bobcat charges \$50 for! Probably \$3 in rubber washers if I could find the perfect size at Menards lol. Thanks Bobcat company for charging me 1,600 percent the value of an item. Wish I earned that much on honey! There wasn't any noticeable damage to the old washers, just seemed like one of them had been flattened down and allowed a small amount of fluid to slip by. Anyway, she is back to running normal now.

My next story will probably be written in California as I will be headed out there the beginning of January to start "waking the hives up" with pollen and syrup. My Russian girls are super frugal bees. Just because the days are getting longer doesn't trigger them to brood up like other bees. They brood up when food is on them. i.e. they wait for food to be in the environment before they start expending their bodily resources and energy for brood.

Well if I want to improve my colony population prior to them going into almonds, I need to trick them into thinking spring is here a good 25 to 30 days prior. You know, because it takes 21 days for worker brood to be produced and hatching. It does me no good to be out there the week prior, like most beekeepers do; because they don't have the time then to improve the adult population count.

Thanks, and see ya next month

# IHPA Officer & Director News

## Updates from your Event Coordinator

**Event Coordinator, Cheri Van Sickle**

Happy New Year! I can't believe that 2023 is here already. For the event committee, 2023 means a very exciting year for our IHPA events. Check out the announcement for the 2023 IHPA Field Day in this issue.

Thank you for all the Fall Conference evaluations! You didn't disappoint me when I said I wanted your thoughts and comments on the evaluations. They were wonderful! I have addressed some of the comments below:

### **Food/Snacks**

\* Gateway controlled ALL the costs for food, drinks, and snacks for the entire conference. The only reason that we got to serve the small birthday cupcakes and the lemonade is because it was our 110th birthday and the lemonade was one of our products at the Iowa State Fair. All the meals were chosen from the Gateway menus. Each luncheon and dinner had a 7% state sales tax and a 24% service charge added to each meal, which made the costs of each high.

\* The cost for a gallon of coffee was \$45.00. A 7% and 24% charges would also be added to the cost of coffee. These costs would make a single cup of coffee very costly.

### **Zoom Presentations/Presenters**

\* Each zoom presenter was contacted 24 hours prior to the conference to confirm the date and time of their presentation. Each agreed to the day and time. The only problem that occurred with a zoom meeting was that one presenter double booked two presentations on the same day and at the same time. The presenter has apologized to IHPA for his mistake.

\* Members enjoyed the different age groups of the presenters and the different topics. The breakout sessions were "good to excellent".

### **Location**

\* The rating for the location of the conference was mostly "excellent". Members liked the idea of having the conference in the middle of the State. You also liked the idea of having lodging attached to the center.

### **New items**

\* Almost everyone mentioned something about the new items that the committee tried out. The Election Table allowed members to meet and greet those members running for a Board position. The Queen's table allowed enough room for all the IHPA Queens to meet and greet members as they were visiting the vendors. Having an area where members could check their membership status during the conference.

### **Vendors**

\* Wow, this was a hit with almost everyone. There was something for everyone. Many new vendors with new products and member involvement. Lots of feed back asking for even more vendors for 2023.

### **Others**

\*A suggestion that was mentioned several times was to have longer breaks. The longer breaks would allow members to visit with the vendors longer and with other members. I promise that this suggestion will be completed in 2023.

If you still want to submit your conference evaluation, please send or email your comments to me. The only way we can make our events big and better is learn from each other and try new ideas.

In the upcoming Buzz issues there will be more Field Day information. Please circle the date on your calendar for the 2023 Field Day.

Thank You,  
Cheri Van Sickle



# Iowa Honey Royalty



**Rachel Vakulich - 2023 Iowa Honey Queen**

Hi Everyone,

Happy 2023! What is your honeybee related New Year's Resolution? It can be to expand the number of hives that you have or to produce a new product with honey or beeswax. I will tell you what mine is: I am going to do at least 50 presentations and/or events as the 2023 Iowa Honey Queen.

The months of November and December have really flown for me. In November, I spent a few days trying to figure out how to acquire access to the Iowa Honey Queen Facebook page. After contacting a few people, I finally was able to access it. In the middle of all this, Jason Foley, the IHPA President, has been ensuring that I fulfill my duties by sending me reminders that I should try to be on top of things! Good point, Mr. President! I guess that I have been slacking in that department.

But now that I can post, I have already introduced myself on Facebook and am working on setting the page up with the Iowa Honey Royalty pictures. If you followed my East Central Iowa Facebook page, I did a series on Fridays called Fun Fact Friday. Each Friday, I would post a unique and interesting fact about honeybees, beekeeping, or honey. I plan to do the same as the Iowa Honey Queen. Each Friday, I plan to post a Fun Fact Friday and I hope that you can follow and learn more about the world of honeybees.

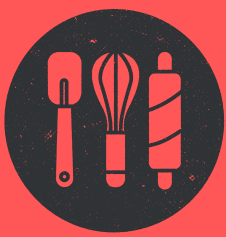
On December 12th, I attended the East Central Iowa Beekeepers Association quarterly meeting. I caught a bit of the presentation and question and answer with Dr. David Peck. After the speaker was finished, I was given a small opportunity to speak. I got to tell them about my year as the East Central Iowa Honey Queen and reintroduce myself as the 2023 Iowa Honey

Queen. The club was pretty excited about their local honey queen earning such honors.

I have been busy scheduling events for the 2023 year. I have a few presentations that I will be doing in January and February. Britta and I would love to come to any event such as an open house, a school presentation, or even a beekeeping meeting. I would love to come to your beekeeping club meeting to talk about starting a local honey queen program and also talk about the Iowa Honey Queen program. Local honey queens are wonderful because they can go to many events and do presentations. Consider having a local honey queen from your club.

Rachel Vakulich, 2023 Iowa Honey Queen





# Recipes by Emma Ingram

My name is Emma Ingram, and I own Highness's Honey in Indianola, Iowa. Every month I write the cooking column based on recipes from the IHPA cookbook. I love writing these articles and trying out new recipes, but what I love even more is hearing from you all what recipes you have tried or what recipes you want me to try next! Have you ever seen a recipe in the cookbook that sounds good, but you aren't sure if you want to put the work into something not so yummy? Let me know and I will try it out! Email: [emmasocial02@gmail.com](mailto:emmasocial02@gmail.com).



Happy January! What a crazy season it has been! Christmas was full of fun family time, great food, a few new honey recipes to try, holiday markets, and the start of a quieter time for the bees. Every year, the first week of January feels like a good time to make plans for the new year, enjoy a little rest, and refresh old equipment. This year I decided to try out a few honey vegetable recipes to start the year and remind me of summer. I tried sweet potato cobbler and fried honey corn. The first recipe was a little more time consuming than some with the pastry and skinning the potatoes, but it was well worth the work. The second reminded me so much of summer and fresh sweet corn I will have to make it again in a few months.

## Honey Sweet Potato Cobbler: (Pg. 144)

2-3 pound sweet potatoes, peeled and slices 1/4-inch thick  
3 1/2 cups water (Enough to cover sweet potatoes)  
1/2 cup honey  
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1 1/3 cup sugar  
1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
3/4 cup butter, cubed

## **Pastry:**

2 cups flour  
2/3 cup shortening  
2 tablespoons melted butter  
Whipped cream (optional)

1/2 teaspoon salt  
5-6 tablespoons cold water  
4 teaspoons sugar

Boil sweet potatoes in water until crisp-tender about 10 minutes. Drain but reserve 1 1/2 cups cooking liquid. Layer potatoes in a greased 9"x13"x2" baking dish. Drizzle with honey. Add reserved liquid. Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt; sprinkle over potatoes. Dot with butter cubes.

For pastry: Combine flour and salt; cut in shortening until coarse crumb texture. Add cold water until mixture forms a ball. On a floured surface, roll pastry into 9"x13" rectangle. Place over filling; cut slits in top. Brush on top melted butter and sprinkle with sugar.

Bake at 400 degrees for 30-35 minutes until top is golden brown. Spoon into dishes and top with whipped cream, if desired.

**Emma's Notes:** I really enjoyed making this recipe, but it did take a little while. The pastry crust was very forgiving, which is nice since I have never been good at making flaky pastries. I did not have to get the consistency perfect for it to still be tasty and soft. I rolled out the crust to 1/4 inch thickness and had extra pastry to cut off so that it fit in the pan (I made a honey butter glaze then coated and toasted the extra pastry). For the sweet potato part, it took much longer than 10 minutes for the sweet potatoes to become crisp - tender (for anyone confused by this phrase, the potatoes should still hold their shape well, but you should also be able to easily insert a fork). My potatoes took almost 30 minutes to reach the desired softness, so plan accordingly when you make it! The sweet potatoes combined with the honey and sugar was very sweet so I plan to reduce the sugar in the future, but overall, the cobbler was delicious! It would make a great side to meatloaf or a "healthy" dessert for all those January diets!





# Recipes by Emma Ingram

## Fried Corn: (Pg. 132)

4 Tablespoons butter or oleo    1/4 cup honey  
Fresh Corn (Cut from the cob)

Melt oleo or butter in skillet. Place corn in skillet and stir. Pour honey over corn and continue frying until honey and butter combine to make syrup. Season with salt and pepper before serving.

**Emma's Notes:** This recipe is so simple to make! Although fresh corn is ideal, frozen cut corn works too for the winter months. You will just need to make sure you thaw and drain the corn before frying. The combination of sweet and savory was amazing. In the future I will add a little bit of chili powder and paprika for just a little more savory kick. Overall, we will certainly be making this recipe come summer sweet corn season, but it is a great "taste of summer" for a long January day!

# **2023 IHPA** **FIELD DAY**

## **THE RED SHED** **CLARION, IA**

# **JUNE 17, 2023**





**Registration  
is open!**

**Central Iowa  
Beekeepers Association**



# **2023 Winter Seminar**

**Saturday, March 18, 2023**

**Iowa Arboretum & Gardens, Madrid, IA**

**Dr. Judy Wu-Smart**

**Univ. of NE-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE**

- *Spring management basics--for places with real winters*
- *Beekeeping tips for minimizing injury and disruption*



**Dr. Mike Simone-Finstrom (via Zoom)**

**USDA, ARS, Baton Rouge, LA**

- *Breeding Bees at the Baton Rouge Bee Lab:*
- Integrative approach to control Varroa and improve colony health*

**Andy Joseph**

**IA State Apiarist, Ankeny, IA**

- *Iowa Apiary update*

**Kurt Rueber**

**IA Dept. of Insp. & Appeals, DSM, IA**

- *Iowa Labeling, Licensing and Facility Standards: recent changes*



**Pat & Peggy Ennis**

**P&P Honey, Goodell, IA**

- *Introducing colonies: Packages vs Nucs*
- *What to do with your beeswax*

**Shelby Kittle**

**Univ. of NE-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE**

- *The Basics Of Comb Honey Production*

- Visit the CIBA website ([www.centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org](http://www.centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org)) for more information and registration options

- \$30 registration fee for CIBA members

\$35 for non-members

Seminar occurring rain or shine

- Registration includes luncheon and snacks at break  
Luncheon catered by Smokin' Big Dawg with pulled pork & smoked turkey sandwiches and traditional IA comfort food sides

- For more information contact Dr. Don Sievers:  
(515) 460-6004 or [dwsievers4@gmail.com](mailto:dwsievers4@gmail.com)







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<https://www.iowahoneyproducers.org/>  
for up-to-date information about leaders, Annual  
Meeting, Field Day, and more!



There are several working committees in addition to these positions.  
If you would like more information on how you can be involved please contact us!  
We would love your help!! Many hands make light work.

WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

## Jason Foley-President, Webmaster and Bee Camp Coordinator

Hello, My wife Shannon and I live between Des Moines and Indianola near the sunset winery. Our farm and honey business is called Honey Hollow Apiary & Gardens LLC, and I run a Russian queen breeding business known as Foley's Russian Bees that ships queens all over the United States.

You can best help me by writing in and telling me your thoughts, the good, the bad, and even just random thoughts.



## Sara Todd-Vice President

Hey Everyone! I'm Sara Todd, half of the Holton Homestead in Elkhart, Iowa. I'm brand new on the board serving as Vice President, so I'm not officially on any committees yet. However, I hope to be a part of one soon!



## Heidi Love-Secretary and State Fair Head Manager

Secretary of the IHPA since 2015, State Fair Booth Manager, State Fair Committee, State Fair Bid Committee  
Members can help by volunteering to help at the booth at the Iowa State Fair.





WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

## **Lisa Montgomery-Treasurer**

Owner of Lisa Bz Honey in Livermore, IA. I am the IHPA Treasurer and part of the State Fair Committee.



## **Zack Koopman-Historian**

Chunky Chicken Farms owner. I serve as the IHPA Historian.



## **Roy Kraft-Past President ('21), IHPA Memorial Scholarship Co-Chair**



## **Andrew Joseph-State Apiarist**



WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

## H.R. Cook- District 2 Director

I am a Bee Hobbyist who owns Country View Honey. A six hive operation where, when all my honey is sold. I serve on the Government Affairs committee but hope to expand my role in 2023 with more publicity and education outreach to the beginning beekeeper to local governments looking to change zoning and codes to include urban beekeeping in their communities.

Members can help us by asking questions and reaching out. If the directors do not know the answers to questions, we will find the answers or the right person to direct the members too. That is our job, we love doing it! Get involved with IHPA. Volunteering does not have to be a task you dread. You can have fun and still make a difference. Work the State Fair booth, volunteer at the annual conference, Speak to your council about Honey Bee Day coming up in March, write articles or take pictures of your apiary for The Buzz. Better yet, since beekeepers LOVE to talk about bees to ANYBODY who will listen, talk to your council person or county supervisor about how they can help us expand beekeeping in Iowa through county extension education, spray restrictions and public park and recreation area wild flower transformations. Mowing grass costs more money than watching flowers grow. Governments want to save taxpayer dollars, here is their chance.

## Jim Marshall- District 1 Director

Our honey is marked under the business name Marsh Hill. Members can keep me up to date on their desire to pick up swarms, or do cutouts, as well as let me know when they will have local meetings.



## Ed St. John-District 3 Director

You can assist the IHPA by advising of local area beekeepers meetings across the district



WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

**Jamie Beyer-District 4 Director,  
Legislative Representative**



— — — — —  
**Eric Kenoyer-District 5 Director**

Owner of Kenoyer Farms, Van Meter, IA 50261. I like to help the fellow beekeepers in my area with their hives as well as getting them to the right resources they need as a beekeeper for that extra help if I'm not able to. The best and quickest way for me to respond is by text message or by phone (515-490-2477), as I don't respond to emails as fast.



— — — — —  
**Dick Ostercamp-District 6 Director,  
IHPA Memorial Scholarship Co-Chair**

Owner of Blossom St. Honey/Meadery in Eagle Grove, IA. I enjoy providing delicious honey products for the State Fair. You can help out the IHPA by being transparent and voicing any concerns. We are open to suggestions and ideas!





WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

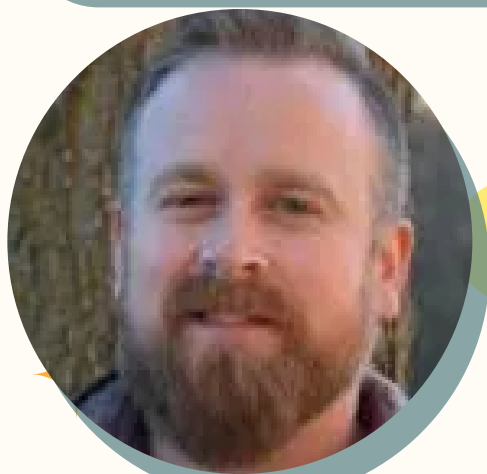


## Stephanie Meyers–Youth Scholarship Coordinator

My name is Stephanie Meyers, and I am the current Coordinator for the Youth Scholarship Program. I own Sonshine Farms located near Hubbard, Iowa where we grow and sell plants, vegetables, poultry products, and bee products. Much of what I do with the IHPA involves communicating with students and mentors. If you are interested in assisting me, the biggest way would be considering being a mentor and becoming a part of a master list. I am also always looking for equipment donations. If you have something you would like to donate or would like to be put on a list to connect with each year, please let me know that as well. The best way to reach me is by e-mail at [sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com](mailto:sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com) or by phone at 641-691-5036 (call or text). It is such an honor and blessing to be able to serve the youth of Iowa who are interested in beekeeping.

## Cheri Van Sickle–Event Coordinator

Members of the event committee come from different locations (East, Middle, South, West) across Iowa. These locations are very important. Especially, when it comes to locating different venues, and the knowledge about the different bee clubs in these areas. I encourage IHPA members who have never been on any other IHPA committees to participate and learn about our processes. Hopefully, these members will continue to grow and take on new or different leadership roles.



## Randall Cass–ISU Representative

WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

## Connie Bronnenberg-IHPA Queen Program Chair

Owner of Spring Valley Honey Farms (14405 Hull Avenue Perry, Iowa). I am the Honey Queen Chair, State Fair, and help with the Annual meeting. Best way to contact me is by text or call (515) 480-6076.



## Kelsey Wigans-Editor of The Buzz

Hello! We live in Renwick, but I teach in Gilmore City (north of Fort Dodge about 30 miles). We have started a family business called 30 Miles from Nowhere.

I would love to see members help with writing to The Buzz! I want to know what you would like to read, YOU to share your stories, through words and photos, especially our youth!



## Kris Silvers-State Fair Bid Committee Chair

My goal is to always allow any member to help us know their strengths by joining us wherever their interest lies.

Our business is called Busted Bee and we are located in Woodburn Iowa. My phone is 5154180996 or email: kristin.silvers@gmail.com



WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# IHPA Committees

## Event Committee

Chair-Cheri Van Sickle

Members: Kristi Ostercamp and Tom Hart

Volunteers: Keri Kenoyer and Kelsey Wigans



## Fair Committee

Chair-Heidi Love

Members: Connie Bronnenberg, Doyle Kincy, Carol Vannoy, Lisa Montgomery, Kris Silvers, Jason Foley

We are always looking for volunteers to work shifts at the state fair booth and honey producers with cool and interesting products to sell. It's commissions off the sales of your products that fund most of IHPA's budget!



## Fair Bid Committee

Chair-Kris Silvers

Members: Heidi Love, Doyle Kincy, Ed St John



## State Fair Float Committee

Chair-Julie Swett, [funcity@aol.com](mailto:funcity@aol.com)

Members: Katie Flynn





WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# IHPA Committees

## Queen Program

Chair-Connie Bronnenberg  
Members: Carol Vannoy  
2023 Iowa Honey Queen: Rachel Vakulich  
2023 Iowa Honey Princess: Britta McCollum



## Advertising/Promotions Committee

Chair-Kelsey Wigans  
Members: Jason Foley

If you have a talent with technology and/or with contacting potential businesses in the industry to place advertisements in The Buzz and sponsor meetings and conferences, contact us to help out!

## Fundraising Committee

Chair-Katie Flinn  
Members: Michelle Wearmouth, Jamie Beyer  
kjflinn319@gmail.com, wearmouth4@aol.com,  
beyersbog@aol.com



## Bee Camp

Chair-Jason Foley  
Members: Stephanie Meyers, Andy Joseph

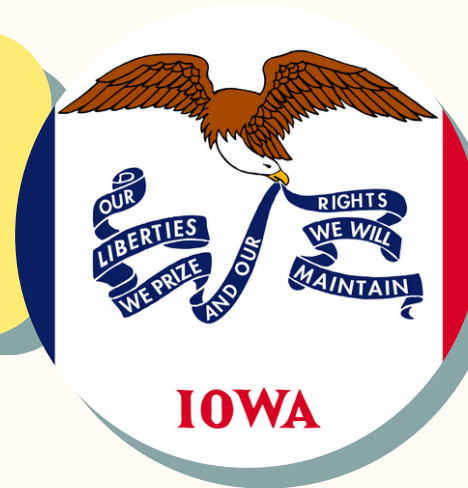
WELCOME TO 2023 WITH THE IHPA!

# Meet the IHPA Leaders

## Legislation

Chair-Jamie Beyer

Members: Zack Koopman, H.R. Cook, Doyle Kincy  
(dwkincy@msn.com)



## Scholarship Committee

Co-Chairs: Roy Kraft and Dick Ostercamp

## The Buzz

Chair-Kelsey Wigans

Members: Jason Foley

You can help by joining the committee! We are eagerly accepting others that want to help with gleaning articles, ads, and more! Please contact Kelsey for details!!



THE HOLTON HOMESTEAD



Elkhart, Iowa

5 frame nucs

2023 Queen

At least 3 Frames  
of brood & 2 frames  
of food

Grown & monitored  
for 3 to 4 weeks to  
prove queen quality.

Pick up is in May -  
dates to be  
determined.

**\$180**

HoltonHoneyBees@  
gmail.com

(712) 898-5736



**Foley's  
Russian Bees**

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

To place an order, check us out on the web  
**[www.RussianBee.com](http://www.RussianBee.com)**

#### HELP WANTED

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, (NASDA) working with USDA is hiring FIELD STAFF.

Work is part time collecting data for the USDA/NASS. A farm background is preferred. Qualifications- a good work ethic, a self starter, and good communication skills.

Starting wage is \$15/hr. Mileage allowance is 62.5 cents. Find more info at Nasda.org.

For more information call Cindy at 515-450-8573



AUCTION

AUCTION



**Since 1947**

It's time again to prepare for our annual CIBA auction.

Location Is: 18930 210 th St., Minburn, IA 50167

Date: April 15, 2023, starts at 10:00 A.M.

Consignments begin unloading at 8 A.M.

All drawn comb must be here and inspected by 9:30 A.M.

Please begin looking through your equipment now to see what you will need this spring as well as what you wish to find a new home for.

We have begun to receive items from some already. I know we will have at least one extractor at the auction as well as bottles for packaging your honey. I have seen a display rack too.

The auction will be held at the Minburn school again. This is the same place as last year. If you wish to sit during the auction, you will need to bring your own chair for outside. Be ready for a full day of fun and fellowship.

Sellers need to register online as soon as they get a chance. Lots will be assigned based on registration date/time. First one gets lot 1 designation and so on. 8 A.M., we start unloading lots.

Buyers should register online early so we can have an idea on how many attendees we will have. This helps with preparation for parking as well as food.

Food and drink will be at the Queen Café inside again with inside seating. While eating inside, there will be tables and chairs for you.

Sign in will be inside where you will receive your seller/bidder number. This will be where you pay for your purchases also.

Registration will be on the CIBA website. <https://www.centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org/>



## **IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This scholarship has been developed to honor several association members who are no longer with us but live on in the work we do to support and promote the importance of honey bees. Their dedication and hard work has made it possible for us to be a successful organization for over 100 years!!!

### **TO THE APPLICANT:**

There is a recipient selected from each of the six districts in our state. That deserving student will receive \$500 after the successful completion of their first semester. If you do not know which district you belong to, or the directors to contact if you are interested in more information about the IHPA, a map of the districts and their directors are available on the IHPA Website at: <https://www.iowahoneyproducers.org>

Before completing this application, read the informational page which specifies the criteria for both eligibility and selection. Since the members of the Scholarship Committee haven't met you, carefully consider the content and completeness of your responses to the information being sought.

Additional pages of narrative or supporting documentation can be added to any section. This may include copies of newspaper clippings, photos, letters of recommendation from people within your school and/or community, and other materials which will give the committee a better insight about you, your school, and your community activities. PLEASE MAKE COPIES. These materials will not be returned.

**SECTION III MUST BE IN YOUR OWN HANDWRITING. Be certain your handwriting is LEGIBLE.**

**Also, you must SIGN and DATE your application in order for it to be considered complete and valid.**

**This application must be postmarked no later than: February 1, 2023**

All applications and correspondence should be sent to the:

**Iowa Honey Producers Association  
Scholarship Selection Committee  
% Dick Ostercamp or Roy Kraft  
15920 Hickman Road  
Ste 400 PM446  
Clive, Iowa 50325**



Identification Data (use pen)

Name\_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City

\_\_\_\_\_

State

\_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code

Telephone # with Area Code (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Email address\_\_\_\_\_

High School Name\_\_\_\_\_

High School Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City

\_\_\_\_\_

State

\_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code

Telephone # with Area Code (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date\_\_\_\_\_

Month Year

Academic Record

Grade Point Average\_\_\_\_\_ Rank in Class\_\_\_\_\_

ACT Score (if taken)\_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken\_\_\_\_\_

SAT Score (if taken)\_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken\_\_\_\_\_

Date when above information was compiled\_\_\_\_\_

Attach (or forward under separate cover) a current certified transcript of your credits signed by a school official and embossed with official seal by February 1, 2023. If your school does not provide certified transcripts until after graduation, the transcript must be sent directly by the school with a letter stating the school policy.

Students who are homeschooled are encouraged to apply as well!!! (Documentation will be required)

**Personal Resume:** You must complete this section in your own handwriting. Write about yourself, your home, family, interests and your future education or vocational plans. How does beekeeping, or your knowledge of the importance of pollination, fit into your future plans? This will give the committee the best picture of you as an individual (2 page minimum). Brag about yourself !!!

**School Activities:** List those high school activities in which you have participated in and what leadership position you may have held. Indicate the grade (9,10,11,12) you participated in those activities as well. Describe any interesting things you were able to do while taking part in these activities.

**Community Service:** Describe the ways in which you, a volunteer, have been of service to your community in general and/or to certain people in your community in particular. This service may have been performed as a member of an organization and/or on your own as an individual. Indicate any leadership roles you may have had in this area.



# From the Beeyard



*Written by Phil Ebert*

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

Tis the season for truck trouble. We loaded bees at the Pella holding yard. The truck got there late so it was after dark before the boys were done loading. The yard has a gravel lane going into it that is not much wider than the truck. When the driver tried to drive out in the dark, his wheels got off the gravel. He was instantly stuck. We needed to get gravel under the wheels but the loader bucket was in Lynnville. Alex came up to get it. It was around 9:00 PM when he pulled in. He loaded the bucket and went back to Pella. They got the truck out the next morning (Saturday). Things happen in the dark. Most of them are bad. While Alex was getting the truck on the road, I was "The Grinch" at the local library program.

It is now the following Monday. Alex pulls in with our "new" flatbed. It is a 2001. It had a very large oil leak at the rear of the engine. I worked on trucks for over 30 years but I am at the point in life where I don't want to do it anymore. What's more, I don't have time for it. I took the truck directly to Lynnville Repair. I think there is an oil sending unit at the back of the engine. I am hoping that's all it is.

All of this started when the clutch went out of our 1999 flatbed. I thought the problem was hydraulic since the clutch worked at startup but then faded after a few miles. We tried the hydraulic kit and things worked fine for a little while. Then the hydraulic line blew off of the slave cylinder. At this point we put in a new clutch. That worked until we got the truck home. Then the hydraulic line blew off the slave cylinder again. After another hydraulic kit, we are back on the road—at least temporarily. When the truck was backing into the driveway I heard the clunk of a loose u-joint. I crawled under the truck. Sure enough, there

were two loose u-joints. They were really loose and ready to eat into the yoke. I thought to myself, "I can do this." Then I noticed some fool had welded the u-joint caps to the yoke. I cannot imagine any reason for doing that. We had to get the driveline rebuilt. It was \$1000. Ouch!!

We have a new California spot. We used to be up in northern California near Corning. Now, we are in the Turlock area. Adam got hooked up with these people when he went to the AHPA Meeting in Tucson. It remains to be seen how well it is going to work out. We have shipped two loads (as of Dec 12). We have tentative plans to ship a third load later this week. I don't know if we will have enough bees for a 4th. We are still getting a count.

Winter tasks are underway. We have 100 cut comb supers to get cleaned and put wax put in. There are a number of wax orders that we need to process wax for. There are several boxes of frame parts that have been setting around for years. We are trying to find the parts that are compatible. I am sure you have noticed that frames are getting expensive. We are trying to salvage what we can. It is all part of figuring out how much equipment we are going to need come spring. We also have yard rent to get out. I like to have that done before Christmas. Some of the landowners like to give honey to their friends. As they say—"No rest for the wicked."

The holidays will be past when you read this but so will the equinox. To my mind, that means it is downhill to spring.



Pre order your queens, packages, and nucs for the 2023 season! We begin taking orders on all our Russian products starting January 1st at 10am via our website [www.russianbee.com](http://www.russianbee.com). Carniolan packages are available to order just as soon as pricing for the year has been set (typically January 15th).

Russian Nucs **\$180.00**

Russian Queens **\$35.00**

Russian package bees with Russian mated queen  
**3lb \$135.00**

Carniolan package bees with Carniolan mated queen  
**3lb-Pricing Mid Jan.**  
**2lb-Pricing Mid Jan.**

Full hive kits **\$250.00**

Includes 2 deeps, 2 mediums, all the wax coated frames to fill out the hive, 1 gallon frame feeder, bottom board, entrance reducer, inner cover, and telescoping top cover

Mini hive kits **\$170.00**

Includes 2 deeps, all the wax coated frames to fill out the hive, 1 gallon frame feeder, bottom board, entrance reducer, inner cover, and telescoping top cover.

We carry many other bee related items in our farm store - come out for a visit some time!



To place an order, check us out on the web

**[www.RussianBee.com](http://www.RussianBee.com)**

13778 Summerset Rd, Indianola, IA 50125  
515-991-4666

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



**P & P**  
Honey and  
Bee Supply, Inc.

Pat & Peggy Ennis  
2105 110<sup>th</sup> St / Goodell, IA 50439  
641-444-4767

**Packages, nucs, singles and equipment for 2022:**

**Packages** - 3 lbs w/ Italian queen.

1-10 = \$150.00 / 11+ \$145.00 / over 100, call for pricing (plus tax)

**Nucs** - 5-frame w/laying Italian queen.

1-49 = \$180.00 50-up = \$170.00 plus \$30 nuc box deposit & tax

**Singles** - w/laying Italian queen. \$225.00 (plus tax)

Includes: 8 frames w/feeder, cover, inner cover & solid bb.

**Also offering:** syrup, pollen patties, mite treatments, beekeeping equipment, honey and beeswax.

[pphoneyandbeesupply@gmail.com](mailto:pphoneyandbeesupply@gmail.com)

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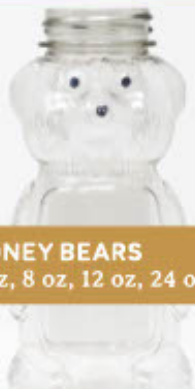
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...AND MORE!



## ABOUT OUR CONTAINER LINE

Ebert Honey offers competitive pricing on a full lineup of professional honey packaging supplies, featuring over 20 container and bottle styles. We welcome orders of any size!

We proudly offer high quality products paired with friendly, local customer service.



## ABOUT YOUR CONTAINER ORDER

Choose local pick up or convenient shipping. Our streamlined website makes ordering and shipping fast and easy!

Pick up is arranged ahead of time and is available at both of our locations. We ship via USPS, FedEx, or Speedee Delivery.

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Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314

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



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which is an affiliate of the Iowa State  
Horticultural Society*



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

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

Deadline to submit information for the February Edition of The Buzz

**Tuesday, January 10th at 11:59 p.m.**

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

