



The Buzz



June 2018

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



It's beginning to look a lot like swarm season...

Jerry Hunter-- Beek of the Month! (see page 5)

Field Day Cometh!! Registration and Program pages 15 & 16.

DEADLINE JUNE 1 TO REGISTER. FIRST 200 REGISTRANTS ACCEPTED!!

President's Message

I vividly remember driving to Wickiup Hill to attend the Summer Field Day last year. It was a gorgeous, sunny Saturday morning in July. The flowers along the country route were plentiful and in full bloom. I purposely slowed my car and rolled down the windows. I was certain this day would be perfect. Life was good! In a later article for The Buzz, I wrote that if I were a bee, I would want to live around Toddville, Iowa; it was bee heaven! Fast forward to 2018. Unless it pours down rain on Friday, June 29, I anticipate I'll have a similar experience via the back roads on the way to Sioux Center for this year's Summer Field Day at Dordt College. I am looking forward to welcoming you all to this event on Saturday, June 30.

At the start of our event at Wickiup Hill in 2017, I asked the group how many were attending a Summer Field Day event for the first time. Scores of hands raised and I know everyone on our board was surprised. Needless to say, it was satisfying to be able to attract such participation and see first-hand how the interest in honeybees is spreading far and wide across our state.

As president of the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) and former vice president, I can assure you, as a board, we do our very best to bring the "show" to everyone. A lot of work goes into putting a quality program together that beekeepers of all levels will enjoy. I know first-hand you don't put an event such as this together in a weekend. This year we have purposely decided to feature an all-Iowa line up of top-notch speakers: Curt Bronnenberg will speak on "Evaluating and Splitting Your Hives"; Phil Ebert on "Wintering Your Bees in Iowa"; and Bob Fassbinder on "Queen Rearing". If you don't know it now, you will by the end of the event, Curt, Phil and Bob are experts in the beekeeping industry and so deserve our respect for



ABOVE: The Campus Center, Dordt College, Sioux Center

their patience and willingness to share. Know that though these sages will make things look so easy, their graceful handling of bees, the way they move supers like they weigh as light as a feather, the ease with which they spot the queen and can diagnose a problem, beekeeping does take time and effort and you will experience many ups and downs throughout your beekeeping journey. It is through events such as the Summer Field Day that we can learn together and share experiences with our peers. If you have more technical questions, these are the brains you want to pick. Here's your opportunity!

Of course Andy Joseph, Iowa's State Apiarist, will be on hand to share his view of the state of Iowa's honeybees. I first heard Andy speak at a Master Gardener event in Cedar Rapids on February 7, 2009, a year before I would take a beekeeping course. I took copious notes. Since then I have heard Andy speak many times. He has a gentleness when talking to groups. He knows not everyone in the audience has a Ph.D. in entomology and ensures his talks don't overwhelm. He speaks from a practical stance to ensure his topic is addressed with clarity. But, he doesn't mask the truth when it comes to the reality of keeping bees. If you haven't met Andy or know how important he is to our state, you soon will.

But wait, that's not all! The Summer Field Day will feature the Iowa Honey Queen, Joy Westercamp. Joy herself is an up and coming industry professional and has her own honey business called Honey War Bee Company. At the ripe age of 16 (yes 16!), she was a featured speaker at the IHPA Annual Conference discussing how she successfully produces sections of Ross Round comb honey. Joy not only spends time managing her nearly 50 colonies, as Iowa Honey Queen, she also spends a good deal of time educating about bees and beekeeping. She is passionate about providing Iowa's youth with the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and fun with beekeeping. She is exceptionally bright and ever so engaged with her endeavors, which in addition to beekeeping include 4-H projects with a focus on food and nutrition, environment and sustainability, rabbits and swine. When you meet her, you will quickly understand how this young lady has a very bright future.

For many of you planning to attend the Summer Field Day event, it will take more than a couple of hours on the road, me included. Let's all put aside the long drive and say, "We GET TO take a nice drive to Sioux Center and spend quality time amongst the best beekeepers in Iowa." Later in this edition, take note of my recommended playlist of songs for the drive. But more important, let's all make a vow to support our speakers who are taking their personal time to share their years of knowledge; let's show our support to those who took the time to organize and put this event together; and, let's show our fellow beekeepers support through their beekeeping journey by sharing our experiences and

advice. We all have a stake in the success of this event and that includes YOU.

If you haven't yet decided on whether you want to spend \$30.00 on the event, let's look at what else you could buy for the same amount through Amazon to determine the real value of the Summer Field Day. You could get a set of 4 copper mugs for your Moscow Mules; a tassel keyring with charging cables; a Culligan filter shower head; or a Trtl travel pillow. Or, you could experience a great day of learning from Iowa's best beekeepers, enjoy a great lunch and socialize with others who hold the honeybee near and dear to their heart. I don't know about you, but I see the latter as the best value.

Before I conclude, I want to mention that one of the most important details to the organization of the Summer Field Day is the location. We rely on a beekeeper to open their apiary or access to an apiary. It's not too soon to start looking for a location for next year. If you say: "Not my bee yard", that's fine. But, we do need beekeepers to step up to the plate so the planning can begin. All locations will be considered. If you are interested, please let someone on our board know of your interest and if you have any date restrictions. Rest assured, you won't be the one doing the organization, the IHPA will handle that; however, you will be instrumental in some of the details which would be explained.

Honeybees, friendly beekeepers, sweet meal = priceless!

Eve VandenBroek, IHPA President.

I need your help.

It's time to start putting together a new **IHPA Membership Directory**. The goal is to have one published prior to the State Fair. I need your help. Please review your mailing label on the back of this issue of The Buzz. Is your name spelled correctly? Is your address correct? How about the zip code? Did you provide your email address and phone number when you renewed your membership? These are things that will be needed to produce a quality directory. I try really hard to get everyone's name and address spelled correctly, but sometimes I miss. There were many membership renewals received without phone numbers or email address. If you want this information included in the Membership Directory, please email me the information at IHPATreasurer@gmail.com. Please include "Membership Directory" in the Subject line. You can also call me with any changes at 515.724.2124. If I am unable to answer, please leave me a message.

I would like to have all information by April 30th, to allow time to compile the data for the new Membership Directory.

Our Iowa Honey Queen's Report:

Hello everyone!

Spring has finally arrived and I have been very busy in March, April, and May. I had the pleasure of being at the Capitol for Iowa Honey Bee Day on March 14th. This event capitalized on the importance of the honey bee to Iowa and allowed me and my fellow beekeepers to educate others about the beekeeping industry.

One of my favorite parts of being the Iowa Honey Queen is the opportunities to teach children about honey bees. I taught about 200 students from the Mason City area about honey bees and beekeeping as a part of their Ag in the Classroom Program. Not only could I teach the kids, but they also shared their experiences and questions about honey bees. I also was able to work with second graders in Des Moines to supplement their unit on honey bees and show the opportunities for young women in the IHPA. I went back to Hillis Elementary in early May to talk with the entire school about honey bees at their end of school celebration.

Education has been important to me as a beekeeper and I have helped my mentor teach beginning beekeeping classes in two counties since 2013. While I was unable to schedule a class in Jefferson County, I organized and taught an eight-hour class in Van Buren County. Over thirty people attended my class and wanted to start beekeeping or reinforce lessons for the coming season. I enjoyed sharing my experience as a beekeeper, but I strive to remind my students that there is more than one way to skin a cat!

I would love to be able to expand my reach as Iowa Honey Queen, so please contact me via emails to joy@honeywarbee.com!

Joy Westercamp, Iowa Honey Queen

Board Meeting:

After the Field Day is over in Sioux Center on June 30, the IHPA Board will meet. These meetings are open to the public. It's a great way to get involved with how the board works; plus, some of you will be tapped to become Board members someday, and you might want to acquaint yourself with the proceedings. Thanks if you'll stay around a bit and join the Board.

Join the movement in Linn County

The Million Seed Giveaway--Milkweed & Pollinator Seeds
Saturday, May 12, 2018, from 10 AM-2 PM at the Clearwater Farm--4970 Lakeside Road, Marion, IA (Closest intersection: East Post Road and 30th Street Drive SE)

In the past 20 years, the population of monarch butterflies in the Midwest has decreased by more than 90%! In fact, the U.S. is currently studying whether to protect the monarch with the Endangered Species Act.

Do your part to help this iconic butterfly by growing the plants that monarchs need to survive!

The Monarch Research Project, based in Linn County, is giving away seeds this spring to encourage landowners across the country to grow the plants that monarchs, bees, and other pollinators need for survival.

Monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed. Without this **ALL IMPORTANT** plant, they cannot live. The milkweed seeds were harvested in Linn County last fall and grow well here. The seeds are ready for planting this spring.

The best pollinator and prairie plants are those that naturally grow in your area. The seeds being given away are a pollinator seed mix that attracts butterflies and has 40 plant varieties native to Linn County.

Help us save our pollinators and join us for the seed giveaway on May 12th!

For Drones Only

If you're a beekeeper of the drone persuasion, the next time you are in need of a haircut, you might want to make your way to Pella for a stop at Beek's Barber Shop. Note, if you're not an early riser, you'll need an appointment for this drone congregation area so planning ahead is necessary. Disclaimer: Virgin queens are not guaranteed to frequent this locale but may be seen buzzing by the front window on the way to the quilt shop on the corner. Get yourself handsome and good luck!



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.

Beek of the Month -- Jerry Hunter

District 3 is a long, skinny district with counties that go from the Minnesota border to Highway 30 to the south. We have many, many wonderful beekeepers in our area that have helped the bee industry in Iowa and beyond! I have chosen to write about a fellow beekeeper from the northern part of our district who resides near Decorah. This person has been instrumental in creating a new beekeeping club in his area. The, as of now, unnamed club has been meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the basement of the Calmer library with twenty plus in attendance and I know he would love you to come and talk bees with us!

So, let me introduce you to Jerry Hunter who renewed his beekeeping effort about eight years ago as a way for he and his wife, Ruth Ann, to have additional income through the years. He had been a beekeeper thirty years ago when he was farming in Wisconsin so it seemed like a natural choice for him to return. He says it has been a very interesting journey learning about what has changed since then!

Jerry and Ruth Ann run a small vegetable farm near Decorah with a roadside stand called Hunter Produce. Even before I knew Jerry, I knew about his stand and benefitted from his wide variety of fruits and vegetables which include asparagus, strawberries, raspberries, apples, sweet corn, pumpkins, squashes, and now honey. This year they will even add creamed honey.

Currently, Jerry is trying to keep about thirty hives around to go into the winter and he is happy to report that he did this year. Last year he lost 1/3 of his hives and the learning curve has been long and steep to figure out how to keep them alive. He is an avid reader who looks forward to his copy of the American Bee Journal each month and refers to it continuously. He has found that reading and studying about bees and all concerned is really enjoyable and very helpful.

Jerry would share with new beekeepers that they must have a mentor. As a beginner, some of your ideas may not be worth fooling with as he learned this from experience. He wishes he had had a mentor in the beginning and could have saved himself some grief. Find someone who knows what they are doing and just tag along with them. You'll never regret it!

Along with his produce farm, mentoring and offering advice to any who call, and leading a new beekeeping club, Jerry enjoys finding time in the summer to help out at the Iowa State Fair. He looks forward to it and believes it is a learning experience itself!

It is inspirational to know that we have beekeepers like Jerry in our area. He is willing to help others because he

knows that the future of beekeeping is always going to be challenging for the hobbyist, the sideliners and even the commercial beekeepers. He does believe that local clubs, state and national organizations, co-ops, universities, researchers, etc. all need to work together in order to keep everyone's bees healthy. We are all in this together.

So, I wish to thank Jerry for all he does for the bees and beekeeping in District 3 and beyond. I wish him well and hope that anyone driving on Highway 52 from Calmer to Decorah would stop and enjoy your produce and northeast Iowa honey! And, as he would let you know, anyone is welcome at the new bee club and we might even decide on a name sometime (but talking about bees is way more interesting than naming a club!!!!)

I found this quote from Sue Hubbell's book entitled A Book of Bees: And How to Keep Them which illustrates how most of us beekeepers probably feel...

"I like pulling on a baggy bee suit, forgetting myself and getting as close to the bees' lives as they will let me, remembering in the process that there is more to life than the merely human."

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



We checked, and Jerry's hair looks very good. Otherwise, we were going to send him to Beek's Barber Shop in Pella for a trim. :-)

**SUMMER FIELD DAY REGISTRATION
DUE JUNE 1. DON'T DELAY, MAIL
REGISTRATION TODAY!**

The Beek Reads: A Visit to Eve's Library

Not so long ago I dedicated a Saturday afternoon to assess the tightly-packed books on my bookshelf and the many piled in 3-foot high stacks about the room. My library (hah!). As I pulled each book off the shelf or top of the pile, I asked myself whether I still liked the book (not just its cover) and whether I still wanted to hang on to it (a bit of feng shui practice). It didn't take me long to realize my books radiated in to a few themes: gardening, herbs and cooking with herbs, biographies, travel, and would you believe, honeybees. As the afternoon progressed, new stacks took root, those destined for the thrift store and those in line for the Little Free Library in my front yard which resembles a beehive. As the sun set, the books about bees or bee-related topics remained untouched. Primarily because I still love them but also because I haven't yet read them all. Of those I have read, let me tell you about a few of my favorites.



The Queen Must Die And Other Affairs of Bees and Men by William Longgood (1985). Before the book's preface, Longgood penned a paragraph about the nature of the book. This paragraph has a page of its own so you know what is to be said is important. The last sentence of that paragraph hooked me: "Bees are more than a hobby; they are a life study, in many respects a mirror of our own society." Now that I've read the book, I can comment, How so!

I started this book while on my way to Bali in 2011. I had been keeping bees for just one year. What I appreciated most about this book is that each chapter is short, almost like a daily journal of activities, notes and thoughts. It is not a book on how one should to keep bees; far from it. Longgood quickly draws you in with the magic of the bees in his easy reading descriptions of what actually happens throughout a beekeeping season, and that, in and of itself, is what keeps you turning the pages. A long flight and a good book. While the rest of the plane slept, I was comfortable in my aisle seat and the pages turned liberally. Longgood delicately invited in me in, beginning with December and the bees' need to complete their business outside the hive.

As you read on, you quickly understand three or four chapters cover general topics such as package installation, cell building, pollen collection, castes of bees, and so on. Longgood weaves stories in about what he has learned throughout his ten years of keeping bees; he shares his observations and personal thoughts; the

mystery of bees mixed with a bit of history and lore; and of course the great experience of learning by trial and error. I remember reading and re-reading Chapter 30 about how bees are programmed to cooperate and how their lives are divided into two phases: what they do inside the hive and then as a forager. It fascinated me then and still does today. Before I truly understood what mites and insecticides could do to a hive, my innocence had me believing the most danger to foragers included birds, rainstorms and the long distance to a food source.

It isn't until Chapter 38 that the book's namesake is brought to light. A discussion on supersedure, yet another topic of great intrigue. But wait, supersedure is what I experienced my first year of keeping bees. I learned a lot in beekeeping class that first year. This book served to help me understand year one more fully and allowed me to appreciate the true wonder of nature. I recommend this book for its easy read, insightfulness and practicality.

The Honey Trail In Pursuit of Liquid Gold and Vanishing Bees by Grace Pundyk (2010) is another favorite. Many of you may know I have a passion for learning about new cultures and thrive on planning my next adventure abroad. Grace Pundyk combines her love of travel with her passion for honey--a great combination, wouldn't you agree? How many of you spend more than \$50.00 on a jar of honey? Grace does regularly and has a wonderful story behind each jar she collects.

The book opens with a trip to Egypt and the quest to find the tomb of Rekhmire depicting beekeeping in 1450 B.C. Believe it or not, beekeeping was a fairly advanced and important industry at that time. She goes on to describe a brief history of honey, bees and civilization. If you love history, ancient history, you'll love this first chapter.

Pundyk travels to remote destinations such as Yemen and Borneo, likely not at the top of many people's bucket list, unless you're chasing bees. In Yemen she learns first-hand about strict tribal culture and the local ways of keeping bees. *Apis mellifera yemenitica* is a variety of honeybee, tends to be smaller in size and has a gentle-like sting. In this vast desert country, bees are kept in small, shoebox like hives in long rows covered with some sort of material to help shield them from the unending sun and heat. In Yemen, it's not uncommon to see a local beekeeper tending his hives, an AK-47 at his side.

In Borneo she encounters *Apis dorsata*, a larger honeybee also known as "the nomad of the bee world." This Asian honeybee variety travels far and wide in search of the sweetest blooms. Its characteristic is to build the hive very high in the tree branches of the tallest trees. While it's up there in the sky, the bees pollinate the forest and then move on to the next blooms producing the sweetest of nectar. The honey, as you can imagine, a bit more difficult to collect, and commands a high price.

Trips to Australia, New Zealand, Russia (in winter), Turkey, Italy and the United Kingdom in search of great honey and their stories make up this delightful adventure book. Part travelogue, part history; global markets, local politics and an obsession for a sweet elixir called honey make this book a wonderful read, in particular if you're an armchair traveler. Had she visited The Netherlands or Finland, she would have found wonderful *honing* or *hunaja* for her collection.

In 2015 I visited Egypt and like Grace wanted to visit those tombs depicting ancient honey collection. Though my tour didn't include trips to lesser known tombs (though I asked if



we could), the honeybee was prevalent everywhere in the hieroglyphics. In fact, the honeybee was the official symbol of Lower Egypt (the north part of the country) and the honeybee and the sedge plant together represented the Ruler of Upper and Lower Egypt, a traditional symbol used by Egyptian Kings from 3100 B.C. onwards.

Lest I forget, here's the book that got me into beekeeping in the first place, ***Robbing the Bees*** by Holley Bishop. I remember being captivated by her story as I listened to an interview with her. I experienced a true 'driveway moment' (if you're an NPR listener, you know what I mean). Immediately, I ordered the book. Upon reading just the first few pages, I was captivated once again and my gaze didn't look up for over an hour.

Bishop was introduced to beekeeping by a friend following her move from busy New York to a slower-paced life in the Connecticut countryside. It didn't take long for the beekeeping bug to sting hard. After a few years she decided to write about her experience, a tribute to the gentle insect. Rather than write from the perspective of a hobbyist, she sought out a sage in the industry. Of the 20 prospects she contacted, only one was receptive to having her shadow his life as a commercial beekeeper. That beekeeper was Donald Smiley of Wewahithka, Florida. Where? It's certainly popular with the bees!

For me her personal narrative and light heartedness was what drew me in. What kept me reading was the way she wove in bits of history and lore with her personal haphazard experiences with Donald Smiley and her own beekeeping venture up north. How best does one learn? Chapters such as *Robbing the Bees*, *Pollination*, *The Sting* and *Wax* not only include a brief lesson in history, supplemented by historic hive product advertisements and ancient drawings, but how each is applicable in today's 'modern' world of beekeeping. I really liked how each chapter was headed with a quote or two or three or four related to what the chapter would

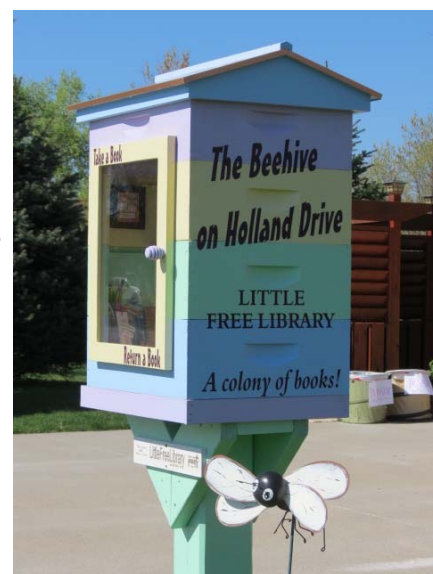
cover. "To make a prairie it takes a clover and one bee, one clover and a bee, and reverie." – Emily Dickinson. This book is truly a sweet read and best read with a cup of tea sweetened with honey and toast delicately covered in butter and honey.

A new book to include in your bee club's lending library is ***The Benevolent Bee*** by Stephanie Bruneau (2017). I found this gem last September in a bookshop in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. I fell in love with it from the minute I opened it in the aisle no wider than me. If I were to write a book about bees, honey and beekeeping, it would be very similar to this one. Stephanie is a beekeeper, environmental educator, amateur herbalist, artist, and homemaker. This book encapsulates all of those adjectives and showcases her talents from start to finish. The photographs are big and yummy, the lettering and layout artistic and elegant, and the explanations clear and concise for young readers and adults alike. The main focus of this book is products of the hive: propolis, bee pollen, honey, royal jelly, bee's wax and bee venom. What makes me want to open this book time and time again is you can read it without glasses and you can learn something without needing a Ph.D. in entomology. What you learn is good information you can retain and easily share. It's an easy read and it's a pretty book.

Lastly, I so enjoy ***The Healing Powers of Honey: A Complete Guide to Nature's Remarkable Nectar!*** by Cal Orey (2011). Want to know more about honey versus honeybees or how to keep them? If so, this is a great book with a lot packed into it. The first chapter entitled *The Power of Honey* is a great way to open your eyes to the wonderful benefits honey. We all know you should have honey in your pantry but did you know it should also be in your medicine cabinet? Chapter 11 deals with just that topic. If you have one of the 50 common ailments listed, you're likely to find a remedy to include honey. From acne to wounds, honey is a great natural medicine. Yet honey not only has the power to heal, it has the power to enhance one's beauty. Cleopatra didn't have a plastic surgeon on her speed dial; she relied on milk and honey to help keep her skin soft and from showing signs of aging. Remember, she lived in the desert of Egypt. Forget pampering at a spa, spending hundreds of dollars; you can replicate the experience at home. Honey as a superfood and recipes are also featured and are sure to provide you with great ideas to enhance your use of honey in more ways than one!

Happy Reading!!

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President



We need your help at the 2018 Iowa State Fair booth!

Dear Beekeepers,

I know it may be hard to start thinking about the State Fair, however, Spring is here and the Iowa State Fair is fast approaching; August 9-19. For those members new to the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA), we have a booth at the State Fair annually in the Ag building 2nd floor; selling honey products, honey lemonade, lotions, soaps, beeswax items, promotional merchandise, etc. This is our main fund-raising event, which is needed to help support our various educational programs. We ask our members to help make this event a success by volunteering their time assisting with cash register sales, bagging product, pricing, mixing and serving honey lemonade, offering honey samples, etc. Each volunteer will be provided with free honey lemonade if you get thirsty while working at the booth, also a FREE pass to get into the fair, plus you get to enjoy the great entertainment at the fair before/after your shift at the booth.

We had a successful 2017 thanks to all those who participated! Over the years we have had some wonderful people volunteer their time and would love to see you again. We encourage new members, friends, families and bee clubs to participate in this event too, because we need everyone's support to make this event a success.

We have three shifts daily: 9am-1:30pm, 1:30pm-6pm and 6pm-9pm (11-14 people needed per shift). If you are able to volunteer for one or more shifts during August 9-19, we would like to hear from you. All you need to do is mail the completed tear off slip below, or email the same details to bhlove5@aol.com, or call my number below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Heidi Love (IHPA Secretary) 18488 E Ave, Dawson, IA 50066. Cell: 515-729-1761

1st person: _____

2nd person: _____

3rd person: _____

Child's name & ages: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone no.: _____ Email address: _____

Please write below the date(s) you would like to work and circle shift that works best for you. (Fair dates August 9-19.)

We appreciate any help you can provide!

Date: _____ 9:00-1:30pm 1:30pm-6:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm

Date: _____ 9:00-1:30pm 1:30pm-6:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm

Date: _____ 9:00-1:30pm 1:30pm-6:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm

Date: _____ 9:00-1:30pm 1:30pm-6:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm

Date: _____ 9:00-1:30pm 1:30pm-6:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm

Welcome to Cedar Valley Beekeepers!!

A new club is starting up in Mary Wiltgen's district. (1) Ryan Dermody is heading up this effort, and is calling the first meeting on June 8 from 5 to 7 pm. They will meet at the Cedar Valley Arboretum Education Center. The address is 1927 E. Orange Rd, Waterloo, IA 50701.

If you are new to beekeeping, or a seasoned veteran who loves to mentor others, or even if you are just interested in one fine hobby, please come join the kickoff meeting. The room can hold 40 or 50—let's fill that place!

Topics include Introductions; Questions/Answers; Topics you'd like to hear about; Schedule for the year, frequency of meetings; Guest speaker suggestions; Goals of a club—what would you want to see?

If you're a leader of a club elsewhere in Iowa, you might want to contact Ryan and offer help and ideas. His email is dermody.ryan@gmail.com.

STATE FAIR ENTRIES – DUE DATE IS JULY 14

I used to facilitate the Back to Basics Bee Club meetings in Oskaloosa and every September when our meetings would resume, we would poll our members about what topics they would like to learn more about. It never failed, nearly every year someone would mention they wanted to learn more about entering items at the Iowa State Fair. One year we invited Pat Ennis to speak on this very topic and needless to say, we all were enlightened and a bit overwhelmed.

When doing something for the first time, we are often a bit overwhelmed. It's new. We may be a novice. Or maybe we're stepping outside of our comfort zone. That's ok because we all have to get our feet wet. Entering items in the Iowa State Fair may sound daunting but I think you'll find it's not as complicated as you may think. The best advice I can give (and this is coming from someone herself who hasn't yet entered) is to start with one or two entries, then build upon those two classes and try something new.

Where to start? As I mentioned last month, Erin Miller, IHPA's Vice President, has put together a step-by-step instruction booklet on how to submit entries in the Apiary-Bees and Honey Division. The booklet has been put together to take the mystique and confusion out of the process; it's 35 pages and covers everything you need to know. The booklet begins with the all-important rules and then takes you through the submission process. Careful reading here. Next you learn about entry eligibility, when your entries need to be at the

fairgrounds, and then a brief explanation about judging. All of these details are important to ensure the process is fair for everyone.

The next several pages are devoted to the classes. Did you know there are 24 classes in total, with classes 22-24 for youth only? Everything you want to know about how to enter each class is expertly explained, in plain speak. A description of the class is featured along with how that class is scored. A photo, tips or how-to's for each specific class is also provided. For example, Class 10 is: Six 12 oz. Hex Jars Creamed Honey. Plain lids only-no decorations are the rules. Adding a 'Local Honey' sticker would disqualify you. And, a tip for transporting your One Frame of Empty Extracting Comb, Class 13: it's best to use two sheets of Saran Wrap (much more detail in the booklet). You get the drift, all the details have been covered.

So how do you get one of these booklets? Simple, either contact a board members or district director and they will ensure you receive one and tell you where to send your check, or go to the IHPA website and place your order. The cost is \$5.00 or a free will donation of your choosing. They will also be available at the Summer Field Day on June 30. All funds collected from the sale will be put towards the cost of renovations at the Iowa Honey Producers Association booth at the Iowa State Fair.

NOTE: Entry deadline for the Iowa State Fair is July 14. Entries must be submitted online or postmarked on or before July 14. No late entries will be accepted.

The **Great River Bend Beekeepers** will host a seminar on June 21, 2018, from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Hurstville Interpretive Center, a Jackson County Conservation site, on US Hwy 61 north of Maquoketa, Iowa.

Randall Cass, the ISU Honey Bee and Native Bee Extension Entomologist, will present information relevant to honey bee and native bee health in soybean systems and prairie landscapes. He is doing research at ISU exploring how these landscapes affect bees in terms of three main health stressors: pests/diseases, poor forage, and pesticide exposure. He also conducts surveys to measure Iowan's attitudes about bees, pollinator conservation, and best practices.

Looking forward to November--The IHPA Annual Meeting will happen November 9 and 10, 2018. We'll all gather in the wonderful facilities in Iowa State in Ames for an inspiring and informative conference. No one goes home without lots to think about. Mark Your Calendars, and join us in the fall!

**SUMMER FIELD DAY
REGISTRATION DUE JUNE
1. DON'T DELAY, MAIL
REGISTRATION TODAY!**



From Roy Kraft, to the IHPA MEMBERSHIP concerning State Fair Entries:

It's time, believe it or not, to get your state fair product figured out for the 2018 Iowa State Fair booth. I have gone through this and increased prices of what the IHPA will be paying for product this year (see page 12). We want your product at the fair! Take a look and review the rules as well (page 11). If you have any questions call me at 515 293 2458. Don't wonder, call me. I'm heading up the committee. LOOK AT THE DEADLINE--**June 15th**!! This year we are mailing them to 2 of the 3 people on the committee. YES, MAILING THEM. NO E MAILS. The committee will be meeting on June 23rd at 1 pm. This will be open to membership to witness. The fair committee will meet to finalize and do draws at the

Ames Public Library, 515 Douglas Ave, Ames, IA in the Dale H Ross board room, between 1 pm and 5 pm.

The State Fair committee is:

Roy Kraft
Box 1
Goldfield IA 50542

Heidi Love
18488 E Ave
Dawson, IA 50066

Doyle Kincy
7304 Monroe Ct
Urbandale, IA 50322

Emma's Recipes

Summer with classes and busy days is here and starting off with its normal excitement. Why not try these great honey recipes to curb your cravings and have sweet treats for hot or busy days. For all those events, why not try sweet caramel popcorn to bring along? And try a delicious barbeque sauce for all your nice evening grilling!

Crunchy Popcorn (Pg. 147):

½ cup butter melted	3 quarts popped corn
½ cup honey	1 cup nuts

Blend butter and honey and heat until well blended. Add nuts. Pour over the popcorn. Mix well. Spread over cookie sheet in thin layer and bake in 350 degree oven for 12 minutes until crisp. Stir often, burns easily.

Emma's notes: Be sure to remove the popcorn quickly from the cookie sheet or it will be stuck. Very tasty. Be sure to use a kind of nut that you enjoy because the popcorn will gain the nut's flavor. It's great for filling a bag and munching on during and after all those summer classes and sports events.

Honey BBQ Sauce (Pg. 174):

½ cup chopped onion	¼ teaspoon powdered garlic
1 1/3 cup ketchup	2 tablespoon vinegar
1 teaspoon prepared mustard	½ teaspoon pepper
1 cup honey	½ teaspoon salt

Little Smokies or your favorite meat

Mix all ingredients and cook over low heat for 5-7 minutes. Add to your favorite meat or process in jar, if desired.

Emma's notes: YUMMMY! This sauce is very good on ribs or when grilling. It is easy to whip up and takes only a few minutes. It took me a total of 20 minutes.



RULES FOR 2018 STATE FAIR PRODUCTS BEING SOLD AT THE IHPA BOOTH



- 1.) There will be a 2-person committee, plus booth manager. Bids must be sent to 2 of the 3 on the committee, mailed only. Yes, 2 stamps, 2 envelopes. (No e-mail.)
- 2.) There will be a firm cut-off date of June 15, with the committee meeting on June 23.
- 3.) The committee will meet in a predetermined neutral place. The general IHPA membership will be allowed to witness.
- 4.) All liquid honey and comb honey is to be from 2018 harvest.
- 5.) All glass honey containers and creamed honey containers must have a protection seal.
- 6.) All plastic containers must have a pressure seal. This includes all large containers.
- 7.) All products must show proper labeling (i.e. name, city, phone number, and net weight).
- 8.) Any item not listed on the sheet or specialty items you wish to market at fair booth, is up to the discretion of the booth manager, based on counter space and the ability to supply. (ie. bee related items).
- 9.) Honey for the Honey Lemonade (50-pound buckets) will be a sealed bid only. Low bid takes it all. (This is the only true bid item.)
- 10.) Pollen must have a "US pollen" label.
- 11.) These rules will be reviewed yearly at the January board meeting.

SOLE CLASSES

- 1.) There will be one person that will have a sole class of honey or item based on price list. For example: one person will have ALL 24 oz bears for the fair based on price list. If 2 or more want it, we decide by a draw, winner takes the whole class. Excluding "case lots"; see below on these. Draw order will be most numbers sold last year first to least. You will only be allowed to win every other draw, however, if you are the only one that entered you will get the class. You may enter consecutive classes.
- 2.) All beeswax products (candles, ornaments, blocks, etc.) must be packaged to maintain cleanliness and for presentation.
- 3.) Lip balms, lotions and soaps- this will be at committee and booth manager discretion. Please submit to us by June 15 a list of what you would like to market at the fair for 2018. Please include phone number as the committee may call you on meeting day.

CREAMED HONEY RULES

- 1.) Flavored honey and creamed honey must come from a certified kitchen.
- 2.) A copy of the license must be on file with the booth manager and the booth manager must have with them at the State Fair.
- 3.) More than one wanting to bring a flavor, a draw will decide who brings the flavor.

CASE LOTS

- 1.) The purpose of the case lots is a way for the small beekeeper to provide honey to the fair. (By participating in the Case Lot classes, you forfeit your ability to participate in the "Sole Classes".)
- 2.) If you participate in the "Sole Classes" you forfeit your ability to participate in the Case Lot classes.
- 3.) Case Lot classes are 1-pound glass, the 12-ounce bear and the 1-pound plastic.
- 4.) Case lots will be in case quantities of 24 bottles.
- 5.) You may bring no more than 4 cases of each class.
- 6.) Minimum is one case of 24 for a class.
- 7.) Clean-up rule: In the event the required quantity cannot be fulfilled through the case lot system those participating in "sole classes" will be encouraged to help supply the additional quantity needed of each class through a draw. (One person per class decided by draw if needed).

CUT COMB AND ROSS ROUNDS

- must be in a sealed container
- well-drained without liquid honey
- quality standards will be used (clean capping with all cells capped)
- needs to weigh at least 14 oz.
- MUST be frozen for a minimum of 48 hours prior to arriving at the Iowa State Fair, subject to rejection, booth manager discretion.
- Cut comb and Ross rounds are not a "Sole Class" nor a "Case Class"; open to all IHPA members.

DELIVERY OF PRODUCTS:

- You must deliver products to the booth.
- Plan to deliver your products between Sunday and Wednesday evening.
- All products must be received prior to fair opening at 9:00 am Thursday morning.
- Provide an invoice when product is delivered.
- Please make plans to pick up unsold product on Sunday evening between 9:00 and 10:00 pm or Monday between 8:00 and 12 noon.

	SOLE CLASSES	QUANTITY SOLD FROM 2016 STATE FAIR	QUANTITY SOLD FROM 2017 STATE FAIR	PRICE	I want this class
1	24 ounce bear	417	282	\$5.75	
2	3 pound jug	41	83	\$10.50	
3	2 pound glass	80	104	\$8.50	
4	5 pound jug	38	23	\$16.00	
5	2 ounce bear	448	482	\$1.25	
6	16 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	49	46	\$6.50	
7	8 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	29	31	\$4.25	
8	4 ounce Antique (Muth) jar	28	16	\$3.00	
9	Buckwheat Honey 1 pound	0	0	\$0.00	
10	12 pound gallon jugs	39	23	\$35.00	
11	Honey Stix	35,694	40,897	\$0.10	
	CERTIFIED KITCHEN, SOLE CLASS				
12	Creamed Honey - Regular & Flavored (1 pound)	1815	2281	\$5.50	
15	Flavored Honey	960	962	\$3.50	
	BEESWAX PRODUCTS, SOLE CLASS				
16	Beeswax bars - 1 ounce	91	77	\$2.00	
17	Beeswax bars - 1/2 pound	26	28	\$4.00	
18	Beeswax bars - 1 pound	26	26	\$7.00	
51	Honey (Wooden) Dippers	85	109	\$1.50	
52	11 piece Nativity Set	8	3	\$27.50	
53	Corn Cob Candle	24	27	\$5.50	
54	12" pair Dinner Candles	17	9	\$6.00	
55	8" pair Dinner Candles	21	24	\$5.00	
56	Small Skep with Bear Candle	40	44	\$3.00	
57	Tea lights (12 pack) candles	12	25	\$6.00	
58	Round Pillar Bee	12	15	\$5.50	
59	Pillar 6" Rolled Look Candle	12	15	\$5.50	
60	Square Bee Candle	13	4	\$4.00	
61	Votive (4 pack) Candle	12	23	\$5.00	
62	Turkey Candle	9	11	\$4.50	
63	Lighthouse Candle	11	4	\$4.00	
64	Medium Skep Candle	10	14	\$4.00	
65	Large Skep Candle	5	8	\$6.00	
66	Pillar 10" Rolled Look Candle	3	11	\$7.00	
67	Hand Dipped Pair Candles	0	N/A	\$7.00	
68	Fire Starter (5 pack)	22	23	\$1.50	
69	Bee Pollen (1/2 pound)	61		\$6.00	
70	Bee Pollen (1 pound)	50	100 lbs.	\$10.00	
	CASE LOTS 24 per case				Limit 4 cases per class
71	1 pound glass liquid honey	148	172	\$5.25	
72	1 pound plastic (light honey)	299	348	\$5.00	
73	12 oz. Honey Bear (light honey)	441	368	\$4.00	
					How many can you provide?
74	Comb Honey (Clamshells & Boxes)	585	540	\$6.00	
75	Ross Rounds	18		\$4.50	
Price per pound - you bid, low bid take all					
76	Honey for Lemonade (50 pound pails)	2,890 pounds	2,428 pounds		
	CLEAN-UP				
77	1 pound glass				
78	1 pound plastic				
79	12 ounce Honey Bear				

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE FIELD DAY IN
SIOUX CENTER YET? DEADLINE JUNE 1!!!!**

NOTHING COMPARES — TO IOWA STATE FAIR — MOMENTS

It's Fair Time.....Almost.

The Iowa State Fair being held August 9-19th is the biggest public event for the IHPA and Iowa beekeepers. If you have never participated I would invite you to do so this year. There are several ways you can participate: sell honey, volunteer to work at the IHPA booth (super fun) or submit a fair entry.

Each year the IHPA publishes information regarding submitting a bid to sell honey and value add products at the fair. Last year the IHPA improved the bidding process so that smaller producers can participate. If you can produce a single case of one-pound jars you can sell your honey at the fair. Don't let questions stop you from participating! Call Roy Kraft for help with your honey bid.

WE NEED YOU! It takes many volunteers to work the IHPA booth located directly above the famous Butter Cow in the Ag building. The sale of honey lemonade is our largest fund raiser and helps support the Youth Scholarship and Queen Programs. Last year we volunteered as a family and had one of the best fair experiences to date. Our boys are already planning to work again this year. There are many jobs available to fit everyone's needs and preferences. Plus, as a bonus you will receive free admission to the fair for working a shift and all the honey lemonade you can drink. Sign up sheets will be available at the Summer Field Day in Sioux Center June 30th. If you have any questions or would like to sign up now contact Heidi Love for more details.

The 2018 Premium Books and Entry forms are now available for the Iowa State Fair and entries will be accepted on May 1st. The final due date for entries is July 14th. Submitting an entry into the State Fair can be intimidating for the first timer, but I would encourage everyone to participate. Entering the fair allows you to get judges' feedback on your products and the possibility of adding a few extra dollars in your pocket. If you are unsure of how to enter the fair, the IHPA has created a booklet containing general information and details on each exhibit to help guide you through the entire process. Booklets are available for a donation (donations will be used to renovate the fair booth) and will be available at the Summer Field Day. For more information regarding how to enter the Iowa State Fair or how to obtain a booklet please contact your District Director.

Nothing Compares to the Iowa State Fair's Moments! Join us this year at the fair.

Shane Bixby and Erin Miller, IHPA Vice President

FROM HEARTLAND APICULTURAL SOCIETY (HAS)
%Charlotte Ekker Wiggins
HAS 2018 Communications Chair
msbachcharlotte@gmail.com (573) 466-3750 cell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (April 20, 2018)

PLAN TO ENTER THE 2018 HEARTLAND APICULTURAL SOCIETY HONEY SHOW

ST. LOUIS, Mo. – Plan to enter the 2018 Heartland Apicultural Society Honey Show, part of Heartland Apicultural Society's annual conference being held July 11-13, 2018 at Washington University in St. Louis. Established in 2001 by several professional entomologists, the conference rotates through the Midwest offering beekeeping classes to make it easier for local beekeepers to attend sessions focused on the latest beekeeping methods and research.

"This is a prime opportunity to showcase your bees' abilities to produce the purest honey and the best wax, in addition to a chance to showcase your artistic and creative sides by entering our cooking and/or art/craft classes," said Tim Fredricks, chairman of the 2018 Heartland Apicultural Society honey show.

The Honey Show will showcase the best examples of honey, beeswax, cooking, and creativity. It includes eleven (11) classes: seven (7) for honey, one (1) for beeswax, two (2) art/craft classes, and one (1) for cooking.

Cost is \$5 per entry, one entry per class. Entries must be hand delivered along with submission payments. Deadline to enter is 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, 2018.

Special awards will be presented for 1st Place entries. If the judges determine that none of the class entries warrants a 1st Place award, none will be presented. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place entries will receive ribbons.

The entrant with the most accumulated points across all classes will be selected as the "Grand Champion." To qualify, the entrant must have entered at least five (5) classes).

All entries will be displayed at the conference starting around noon on Thursday July 12, 2018. Presentation of awards will be made during the Brews & Bees Event at Anheuser-Busch Brewery on Thursday night July 12, 2018.

All entries will be judged according to the official score sheet. After the show, completed score sheets will be available at the front desk.

After the entries are judged, they will be added to the raffle to benefit Heartland Apicultural Society and the promotion of the beekeeping industry.

For further information, contact Tim Fredricks via e-mail at t.jacks.mo@gmail.com.

To register for the 2018 Heartland Apicultural Society's July 11-13, 2018 conference at Washington University in St. Louis, visit www.heartlandbees.org. Early registration rates are effective until June 20, 2018.

--HAS--

2018 Iowa Honey Producers Association

Summer Field Day

Saturday, June 30, 2018

Dordt College

498 4th Ave NE, Sioux Center, Iowa

Registration: 8:30

Field Day: 9:00 – 4:00

Field Day Guest Speakers include an ALL IOWA line-up featuring: Curt Bronnenberg, "Evaluating and Splitting Your Hives"; Phil Ebert, "Wintering your Bees in Iowa"; Bob Fassbinder, "Queen Rearing"; and Andy Joseph, Iowa's State Apiarist, providing an update on the state of Iowa's honeybees. Also meet Joy Westerkamp the Iowa Honey Queen and hear her speak. This will be a full day of knowledge exchange for beekeepers of all levels. IHPA District 6 Director Dave Korver will be placing hives at the college in early spring.

Please mark your calendar and remember to bring your bee gear.

A delicious lunch will be provided. Bottled water, honey lemonade, and coffee will be available throughout the day.

Cut here ----- Cut here ----- Cut here

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ CELL: (____) _____

EMAIL: _____

Registration:

Amount

Single (member): **\$30 before June 1, 2018**

Number attending: _____ x \$30 = _____

Walk-ins (members and non-members) \$45

Walk-ins on June 30, 2018 welcome however lunch may be unavailable.

Space for this event is limited to the first 200 registrants.

Return this completed form together with your check payable to IHPA, by Friday, June 1, 2018 to:

Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer
52735 187th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049

Got questions? E-mail Erin Miller at: erinmiller722@msn.com and put "Summer Field Day Question" in the subject line or call 319-360-4913.

No calls after 9:00 p.m., please.



2018 Iowa Honey Producers Association

Summer Field Day

Saturday, June 30, 2018

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa



Registration: 8:30 AM

Field Day: 9:00 AM – 4:15 PM

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

- 8:30 AM Registration
- 9:00 AM Welcome and Announcements
- 9:10 AM Andy Joseph – State of Iowa Honeybees
- 10:10 AM Iowa Honey Queen Joy Westerkamp
- 10:50 PM [Expert Round Table](#)
- 11:30 AM [Lunch/Social Hour/Purchase your IHPA items](#)
- 12:45 PM Afternoon sessions and rotation times
Start where you like
Queen Rearing – Bob Fassbinder
Evaluating your colonies and knowing when to make splits – Curt Bronnenberg
Wintering your hives in Iowa - Phil Ebert
- 12:45 PM Session 1 1:45 Rotate
- 2:00 PM Session 2 3:00 Rotate
- 3:15 PM Session 3 4:15 Rotate
- 4:15 PM Another successful field day comes to an end
- (Note: The Annual Field Day is always followed by a Board Meeting. See your District Director with comments)



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For Sale: Iowa Overwintered Five Frame Nucs (Limited Quantity)
Five-frame nucs with young laying queen, brood, honey and pollen--\$160. \$60 deposit required. \$100 balance due at pick up in May at our farm located in Waterloo Ia. Pre-order 2018 Queens for \$35. Information and questions please contact us at <https://www.facebook.com/silverlakefarmwaterlooia/> Please include your name, address, telephone number, # of nucs and/or queens, type of Queens and whether marked or not. You can pay with the cad on our website Silverlakehoney.weebly.com or with the check by mail: Silver Lake Farm and Honey 11 Silver Lake Dr. ,Waterloo, Ia 50702

What's in Your Wallet?

It's year two of your beekeeping journey and you're confident you will have excess honey this year. Yes, an exciting thought! You'll get to experience the extraction process for the first time and you'll get to taste the sweet rewards of the bees you have hosted in your apiary. For some of you, honey production is the very reason you got into beekeeping. For others, it may be pollination or perhaps a combination. Regardless, honey is likely the benefit or the reward for hours you have spent managing your bees.

Either way, bottling your first jar of honey is like graduating from high school or getting your first pay check. A sense of accomplishment. A feeling of pride. A smile upon your face. And then the liquid gold keeps flowing. Some of you will decide to give honey away to family and friends but at some point you'll remember it takes money to maintain a new hobby and beekeeping is no different. You'll eventually need to purchase new or additional frames and hive bodies, jars, and other equipment so you may want to think about selling your extra honey to help offset the costs. Your next question then becomes what should I charge? Good question and how do you decide?

This is where the seasoned beekeepers come into play. Please send me what you charge for the following items and the district you are in (see Iowa map in this edition). I'll tabulate and post the results in the July edition of The Buzz so our new beekeepers have an idea on where to gauge their selling price. It will be a benefit to us all. No names needed, only the data collected. Please send your information to me at mrstheo@iowatelecom.net with "HONEY PRICES" in the subject line. **I will need your information by Sunday, June 10 in order to be included in the July edition of The Buzz.**

ITEM	PRICE	DISTRICT
8 oz. plastic bear		
12 oz. plastic bear		
8 oz. muth jar		
16 oz. muth jar		
1 lb. plastic jar		
1 lb. glass jar		
2 lb. plastic jar		
2.5 plastic jar		
3 lb. plastic jar		
5 lb. plastic jar		
Pint		
Quart		

"Say Honey, did you mail in the registration to the Field Day in Sioux Center? "

"No, did you?"

"Let's go. We could make a trip of it. I always wanted to shop in the bakery there. I hear they have lots of Dutch imports and interesting stuff. I could visit my uncle in Sioux City. Deadline is June 1"

Of course what you eventually charge is entirely up to you. A couple of things to consider: Your time involved, the current honey season, goals you may have, the region you are in, costs you may need to cover, and future equipment or expansion of your apiary. Logic dictates to ask a fair price. Ask yourself if you would purchase honey at that price and if you say yes, start there and see how sales go. If you have repeat customers, you'll know you're right on target. Personally, I started a little low to gauge interest. Since then (2012), I increased my 1 lb. jar and have not increased prices since. I offer a dollar off if the customer returns the jar for a refill. This works for me and my customers so I am happy.

As a reminder, you do not need to include your name in your e-mail, just your prices and your district. If you do not know your district, check the map on the IHPA website (click "Contacts" then 'Officers' & Directors) or simply note your town and I will figure it out for you. You will not receive a reply from me, however I will thank you in advance for your participation.



Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President

Road Trippin' to the Summer Field Day

The Summer Field Day is just a month away and I truly hope many of you will make the trek to Dordt College in Sioux Center. We promised an event in this part of the state and we're keeping that promise! So, for those of you who may be travelling for a couple of hours or more and want to maximize your time on the road, with honeybees on your mind, why not consider the following honeybee-themed playlist? This playlist features music of several genres with selections from the 60's to 2011. I personally listened to these tunes, and many more, and found them to be some of the best; my favorite is from Taj Mahal--an artist I had never heard of until just recently and learned he is legendary (Have I been living under a rock?). And, Johnny Cash's short tune is pretty darn sweet making it second in my lineup. Give them a listen on YouTube and you'll see why these would make great listening while making your way to the Summer



Field Day on June 30.

"Queen Bee" – Taj Mahal (blues – 1977)
"You'll Be Alright" – Johnny Cash (country - 1967)
"Honey Bee" – Blake Shelton (country - 2011)
"Honey Bee" – Zee Avi (indie rock – 2009)
"Honeysuckle Rose" – Ella Fitzgerald (jazz – 1964)
"Honey Bee" – Muddy Waters (Chicago jazz)
"Honey Bee" – Diana Ross & The Supremes (R&B – 1968)
"Honey Bee" – Gloria Gaynor (disco – 1975)
"Honey Bee" – Tom Petty (rock – 1994)
"Tupelo Honey" – Van Morrison (R&B – 1971)
"Wild Honey" – U2 (rock- 2000)
"Honey to the Bee" – Play (pop – 2003)
"Counting Honey Bees" – Rolan (lullaby – 2008)

Did you ever imagine honeybees could be such a popular theme for musical lyrics? How many other insects get similar attention? Ants don't. Praying mantis don't. And cock roaches don't even come close. Mosquitos actually come the closest based on my research. So, roll down the windows and crank the tunes! Singing along is optional.
Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President

Just a quick note to let everyone know that we held our first beekeeping and poultry equipment auction this past Saturday and, by all accounts, it was a resounding success! Tim Walrod, Randy Elsbernd, Tim Stumo, Lisa Pleggenkuhle-Grummer and I would like to thank everyone who attended and bought items, those who consigned and sold items, as well as all those who volunteered their time and talents to help make our first auction such a tremendous success!

We would like to extend a special thank you to our gracious hosts, Pat and Peggy Ennis, for welcoming us all to the home of P&P Honey to host our first-ever event!
Peter Bieber



DISTRICT 4 NEWS

It was a struggle, to say the least, to just get package bees back from California. Winter just didn't want to give up and those hauling packages fought blizzards and bad weather to get home. Then those that bought packages had to fight snow and cold trying to get them hived. As May came the weather started to get back to "normal" for the season.

I have heard of a mixed bag when it comes to winter survival. Some lost all, others only a small percentage. I feel that it is a difference between IF and WHEN Varroa was dealt with.

As June arrives it's time to be supered up and ready for the girls to fill them up. Stay ahead of the build up or they may decide to change their address.

Hope to see a lot of you at the Summer Field Day at the end of this month. It will be a great chance to meet some of our beekeeping friends in the northwest part of the state. With great speakers and food, it will be a great day.

Here's to hoping you will catch someone else's swarm and this will be a great summer for the Bees.

Doyle Kincy IHPA District 4 Director

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Honey Styx: 1-499 cost .15 each

500-1,999 cost .12 each

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Connie [515-480-6076](tel:515-480-6076). Curt [515-480-6075](tel:515-480-6075)

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The Buzz Newsletter

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



2017/18 IHPA Leaders

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mrstheo@iowatelecom.net

Vice. President: Erin Miller
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