



The Buzz



August 2018

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



Here comes another Vannoy queen. See details on page 2

Dank u wel!

That's Dutch for **thank you very much**. If you attended the June 30 Summer Field Day event at Dordt College in Sioux Center, a heartfelt *dank u wel* to **Dave Korver** and **Ron Rynders** for taking the lead to bring our summer educational event to the northwestern part of the state. Both these passionate beekeepers have travelled across the state time and time again to attend board meetings, Field Days and Annual Meetings and they were eager to bring the rest of us to their corner of paradise. They handled things flawlessly.

Dordt College was a gracious host to beekeepers from several Midwest states. The college facilities are state of the art and perfect for our event; the Alumni House, where our speakers were housed, was beautiful and inviting; and the bee yard, a haven for the bees, a bit controversial, I understand though it all worked out in the end. I couldn't have been more pleased with warm welcome we received from Dordt's Provost, Dr. Eric Forseth, who mentioned all-important facets of our world such as creation, structure and development. *Dank u wel!*

If you enjoyed a nice, hot cup of coffee along with a sweet treat, you have the Siouxsland Beekeepers to thank for their thoughtfulness. From past experience with the Summer Field Day, coffee and a donut is a big plus!

Dank u to Dean Johnson who brought in a double-sided observation hive to the delight of the *kinderen en volwassenen* (kids and adults). No matter your age, watching bees can be a mesmerizing experience. Beautiful job on the observation hive, by the way.

The Dordt College kitchen staff prepared our delicious meal. In my book, a great event is made even better with good eats! Your firing up the grill for us was much appreciated.

The science room was full when Bob Fassbinder took to grafting larvae. But did you know it was Dr. Duane Bajema, Professor of Agriculture and Master Beekeeper, who expertly aided Bob with the high-power microscope so you and I could see the grafting up close and personal. Wow! *Dank u wel*, Duane.

Of course, we couldn't have held such a successful event without our top-notch speakers: Curt Bronnenberg, Phil Ebert and Bob Fassbinder. You gentlemen take the cake when it comes to beekeeping. I cannot thank you enough for your benevolence and the legacy you are leaving for our state. Andy Joseph, as always, you are so filled with knowledge; we appreciate you taking the time to spend a Saturday with us. And Joy Westercamp, your reign has been great for the Iowa Honey Producers Association and we know you are a great advocate for honeybees.

No IHPA event would be successful without the people who take the time to attend. So, my hats off to everyone who came from near or far. --->



I sincerely hope you learned something and walked away with a better understanding of how product is secured and sold at the Iowa State Fair. I felt it was a good conversation to have because for too many it is a mystery.

Last but not least, dank u to **Erin Miller** for helping organize the event. No event is put together overnight. The details are infinite and life always seems to get in the way. A successful event under your belt. Now on to the Annual Meeting!

IHPA President Eve Vanden Broek

Field Day Stats:

Do you recall last month's President's Report which outlined some of the work of Rhonda Heston? She has done it again--this time some Statistics of the Field Day in Sioux Center.

She first mentioned the exceptional (local) speakers. Then she bragged on the Culinary Service food (especially the cookies and pastries!) She thanked the locals who did the legwork, and all who attended.

She says 123 of us attended. (10 could not be there)

There were people from 4 states there--IA, MN, NE, SD.

District Directors drove 4,587 miles to get here! This details just how much effort all of you put in to get to this distant corner of the state! A huge thank you to all who drove so far. We who have driven those miles for years know what it's like.

Rhonda sold \$1,705 worth of merchandise--T's, hats, aprons, cookbooks. We'll see that stuff appearing at beek meeting all over the state. Nice new design on T's!

She took in \$90 on membership dues, got a \$50 donation, and another \$50 was donated for the State Fair booth renovation.

We got a lot done that day, and it was all done with a good heart. From someone who looks at this Fiend Day from the inside, suffice it to say that we appreciated all the visits you made to our corner. We'll come visit you when you host the Field Day in your area. (Personal Opinion: We should revolve the Field Day around the state, each district taking it for one year. That means you'll all be back to NW Iowa in 2023...)--Editor

The Iowa Honey Producers Annual Conference 2018: Bee Hive Strong

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

We have also created opportunities within and outside of our organization to support the honey bee and this non-profit organization. On our website www.iowahoneyproducers.org you will find the Sponsor and Exhibit application. Each year, the IHPA supplements the cost of the annual meeting, and this year we are seeking support to direct additional funds to our Queen and Youth Scholarship programs. If you know of a company that would like to advertise with us, be a vendor, or offer their support, please give them an application or direct them to our website. Additional information regarding speakers and registration will be available soon on our website and in next month's Buzz. Hope to see you in November!



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

Bee of the Month--Queen Cameron.

The IHPA Beekeeper of the Month is Cameron Vannoy. Cameron Vannoy was crowned the 2018 Central Iowa Beekeepers Association Honey Queen this past April. She has been following her family's beekeeping adventures for the past four years, and this summer has set out to become a beekeeper herself. CIBA provided her with a hive of her own, and she has enjoyed watching their progress and learning more about the hands-on of beekeeping with her mentor, Doyle Kincy. Cameron has enjoyed meeting fellow beekeepers and volunteering at several events through CIBA and the IHPA.

As a Sophomore at Iowa State University, majoring in chemistry and genetics, Cameron has been able to study genetics as they relate to bees. She has been communicating with Amy Toth and has been invited to work in the Toth lab this coming lab season. Cameron loves learning and looks forward to sharing what she learns throughout her reign and beyond.

You can connect with Cameron and follow her honey queen adventure on her Facebook page, CIBA Honey Queen Program.

[CB]515-669-7178

Doyle Kincy

A Word from the Queen

Hello everyone!

June and July have been flying by very quickly and I try to keep busy as a bee! Through the last month, I have been happy to visit schools in Des Moines and Iowa City to supplement summer school programs. While in Ames, I was a part of Pollinator Fest at the Riemann Gardens and would like to thank Dr. Amy Toth for inviting me to this opportunity! I also had the wonderful opportunity to attend the 2018 Iowa Honey Producers Association Summer Field Day. It was a great time to connect with fellow beekeepers and enrich our beekeeping experiences with new viewpoints, data, and the methods other honey producers use successfully.

The Iowa State Fair is right around the corner and I cannot wait to work in the Ag Building, give back to the 4-H Program, and finish my final year as a youth. I hope to see many of you working in the IHPA Booth!



IHPA Honey Queen Joy Westercamp

President's Message on Club Royalty

There simply aren't enough hours in the day to do all of what I want and need to do. I'm quite sure most all of you are shaking your head yes and saying "I hear you, Sister." To get it all done is a matter of setting your priorities and likely a few boundaries. My day starts just as daylight is breaking and often ends when my contacts have dried my eyes out. A week back from our wonderful Summer Field Day event in Sioux Center and there is no rest for the weary. Procrastination cannot get the best of the clock--this message must be written!

On Thursday, June 28, I was invited to be a part of Ag in the City in Pella. Actually, I had been contacted in June with the inquiry and thought it would be a great event since the Ag in the Classroom events were such a big success in both Pella and Oskaloosa earlier this year. Plus, a few years ago I helped Craig Greene talk about bees at this same event and it was a good time. Knowing the Back to Basics Bee Club Honey Queen, Megan Eveland, is in my neck of the



woods, I didn't hesitate to invite her to help me with the event. The two of us and my husband, Theo, set up a couple of tables on the square in Pella and I brought along an empty hive (two hive boxes), one with nine frames of drawn out comb and the other with a frame of dark comb and a full frame of freshly capped honey. Megan set out books she had in her collection. I added the newly-created IHPA and youth brochures to the table along with a honey pot of honey sticks and various items from the National Honey Board. On the second table we set out numerous print-outs about honey, pesticides and bees, honeybee facts, and gardening for honeybees, each stack held down by a well-used beekeeping tool. A couple of smokers and a hand-made sign made by Megan's sister, and we were open for the business of education.

It didn't take long for crowds to gather and inspect the hive.

Young and old passersby were very curious to see first-hand what the inside of a bee hive looks like – without bees. They

were able to inspect and touch frames of drawn out comb and of course ask questions. Megan answered the gamut of inquiries: Why was some of the wax dark? Where do the bees enter the hive? How many bees live in a hive? How do you get the honey out? When do you use a smoker? Can I have a honey stick? I believe the biggest surprise for most people was when we coaxed them to hold a frame of capped honey. They were dumbfounded by the weight and very impressed that the seemingly flimsy wax cells could hold so much honey intact and be so perfect. Nature is wonderful.

Two hours later, the sun was setting and we were still answering questions. The tables were finally folded and the hive loaded back on the cart. Megan and I agreed the event was a big success. Without a doubt, Megan was the star of the show, interacting so easily with the younger visitors, showing them her book detailing her first year in beekeeping; she kept them engaged about what they should know about a beehive thus prompting intriguing questions. I am so thankful and glad she was able to be a part of this event.

Also busy with events this summer is Joy Westercamp, the 2018 Iowa Honey Queen. Did you know she was the Southeast Iowa Honey Queen in 2013? I stumbled across her photo in the September 2013 edition of The Buzz. Back then she was just as ambitious, just as busy attending events to help educate the public on the importance of honeybees and the benefits of honey. But Joy isn't the only Iowa Honey Queen who has been a local club honey queen; there have been many others.

Does your club sponsor or support a club honey queen? If not, why not? To me this seems like the perfect opportunity for a thriving club to have an instant sales person for the honeybee industry. When I look at the photos of the youth scholarship recipients over the last couple of years, half are female--a growing trend. Last year Megan Eveland was an Iowa Honey Queen candidate along with Cameron Vannoy, now sponsored by the Central Iowa Beekeepers. These gals are dedicated beekeepers, well poised and seek to represent our clubs and honeybees. They are our future beekeepers, educators, legislators and change catalysts for better protection of our environment and the protection of our honeybees. So, what does it take to sponsor a club queen? To the best of my knowledge, not a lot. A crown and sash is a good place start and the monetary investment is nominal. A quick internet search and you could have the pair before your next meeting. The next step would be to assist the queen with securing engagements at local events where they can build self-confidence in front of a crowd (of varying ages) and sureness in the knowledge they are sharing. These are life skills that, once learned, will help open doors in the future. If your club has an annual membership fee, some of the funds from your coffers could help with gas for transportation (gift cards are great), or perhaps an investment in honey sticks or educational items for her speaking events would be best.

(cont. next page -->)

(President's Message cont.)

Do you know a young lady in your club who you think would be an excellent candidate? I encourage you to visit with her about the opportunity to represent your club. If more information is needed, I am quite certain either Joy Westercamp or Carly Vannoy, the 2017 Iowa Honey Queen, would be happy to help answer any questions or provide their best advice on how to be a great club honey queen,

and perhaps the next Iowa Honey Queen. We have twenty beekeeping clubs in Iowa yet only two club queens. Please make it a priority at one of your next meetings to discuss this important role. If I can be of assistance, my contact information is on the back of The Buzz.
IHPA President Eve Vanden Broek.



2018 IHPA Grant Proposal Form



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

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

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

Submission Deadline: October 15, 2018
Submission Period: July 1st – October 15th

IHPA Member submitting the Grant Proposal.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

Grant Proposal

Proposed dollar amount of the IHPA Grant: \$ _____

Contact Information for head researcher / project organization.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

Please provide a description of how the proposed grant would be used in regard to your research relating to honeybees, beekeeping or the honey industry. (Please add additional page(s) as needed.)



2018 Annual Conference Contest

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

2018 Recipe Contest (New)

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

Here are the rules:

Honey is to be the only sweetener.

You must submit a picture with your recipe (include your name and phone number).

Your entry must to postmarked by September 30, 2018

Mailing address: Erin Miller
5041 Valley Farm Rd
Central City, IA 52214

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

Categories:

Sauces: BBQ, and dressings

Sweets: Candies, cookies, brownies, bars, cakes, pies. and other desserts

Breads

Fruits and Vegetables

Main dishes

***** Tasting Party*****

Your group would be sent the requested party package containing recipes (names removed), pictures, and judging sheets by October 10th.

Please prepare the recipes and judge them by November 1st

Email your results

If you would like to participate, please email beehivestrong@gmail.com

Photo Contest

Contest will be held Friday November 9th and remain in place until noon Saturday November 10th. Entries need to be in place by 10am Friday November 9th.

Here are the rules:

Photo must be matted but not framed.

Any size photo up to 8x10 in size.

Your name needs to be on the back of the photo.

Limited to one entry

Picture must include a honey bee or beekeeping equipment

Two Contests – People's Choice and Judges' Choice

Categories- (Youth under 16, and Adults 16 and above)

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.

Painted Hive Body

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

Here are the rules:

Categories- (Youth under 16, and Adults 16 and above)

Your name needs to be placed on a folded piece of paper and taped to the inside of the Hive Body.

The use of stenciling is not allowed

Hand painting must cover at least one side

Basket (New)

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

Here are the rules:

Include at least one container of honey

Include at least one wax product

Include one additional honey, wax, or value-added product

Basket value total must be under \$75

Basket must be named and include a list of contents (example names: Bee Mine, Tea for Two...)

Your name must be attached to the bottom of your basket

Two Contests – People's Choice Award and Judges' Choice Award

Mead

The Mead contest is back! Categories will include: Traditional Meads, Melel (fruit Meads), and Metheglyn (Spices Meads). More on this contest next month.

Auction Items Needed!

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

Membership Directory is done!

The new directory has been sent to the printer. Rhonda did her best to get all the info correct. When it comes back, all Buzz addresses will get one in the mail. Additional copies will be available at the State Fair in Des Moines.



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Emma's Recipes

As August rolls in, it feels like the summer has just flown by! The state fair is in just a couple weeks and with it August heat; why not try some cool refreshing drinks for those hot days!

Gold Strike (Pg. 160):

1 egg
1 cup orange juice
1 tablespoon honey

Combine all ingredients. Beat or shake well, until blended. Pour into glass and serve immediately. Makes 1 serving.

Emma's Notes: Of the recipes I have tried, this is probably one of the more unusual ones. I am not going to lie; eating the raw egg freaked me out just a little bit. This was not one of the best recipes I have tried. The egg came out strongly in the drink; however, you should try this drink if you do not mind the taste of eggs. It was a good protein drink!

Honey Ice Cubes (Pg. 162):

½ cup honey
1 cup very hot water
2 tablespoons lemon juice

Blend all ingredients. Freeze. Good in ice tea and punch.

Emma's Notes: This recipe was easy to make and tasted good. I tried it in a cup of instant unsweetened tea; it was very good. The only problem was, the cubes never hardened all the way because of the high sugar content and melted very quickly. Otherwise, excellent!

Rosemary Honey Lemonade (Pg. 167):

4 inch rosemary sprig
2 cups boiling water
¼ cup lemon juice
¼ cup honey

Place rosemary sprig in a quart jar. Pour 2 cups boiling water over rosemary. Let sit for 2 hours then remove the rosemary. Add lemon juice and honey. Fill jar with additional water. Chill and serve. Yield: 1 quart.

Emma's Notes: This lemonade was more savory than I am use to. The rosemary flavor really comes out in the drink. This may not be the drink to try straight, but it would be good with a meal. Be sure to try this recipe and see for yourself how you like it!!

Iowa State Fair Honey Lemonade (Pg. 159):

1 (30 oz.) can Sunkist frozen lemon juice (or equivalent amount of juice from lemons)
25 ounces honey

Combine lemonade and honey. Add enough water to make 2 gallons. Mix together thoroughly.

Emma's Notes: I normally don't do more than two recipes, but this month I felt like I would be doing the bees, Iowa State Fair, and our fair booth a great disservice if I did not include the State Fair Lemonade. Personally, I love the lemonade and what better place to have some than while working at the beekeepers booth at the fair where you can get free honey lemonade just for working!

Thanks to Emma for so faithfully challenging us to make good use of the IHPA Honey Cookbook!!

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



Iowa Honey Producers Association Supports The Blue Ribbon Foundation

You know the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) is a staple at the Iowa State Fair. It's our largest and most important fundraising event. We love being on the second floor of the Ag Building (above the Butter Cow) and we love sharing our passion for the honeybee with the thousands of fairgoers who pass by the IHPA booth daily for ten straight days. It's a labor of love for our State Fair booth managers and a rewarding experience for our many, many volunteers.

This year, the IHPA and the IHPA board members and district directors shared in the donation of a "basket" of sweet goods for the 2018 Annual Corndog Cookoff, the benefit



auction of the Iowa State Fair sponsored by the Blue Ribbon Foundation. The event kicked off on Saturday, July 7, 2018 and was huge, complete with a 23-page book featuring 241 silent auction items and 34 live auction items. The IHPA "Sweet As Honey" package was listed as item #17 and

17. Sweet as Honey

This package is pretty sweet as it is all about honey.

- The Iowa Honey Producers Association has collected a basketful of honey related products.
- Come to the Iowa State Fair and check out the live hive in the Agriculture with two gate admission tickets.

Donated by Iowa Honey Producers Association & the Blue Ribbon Foundation

featured a whole swarm of sweet items. With attendance at roughly 2,000, the IHPA and the honeybees no doubt made a nice splash! Honeybees are popular!

If you weren't aware, proceeds from the two auctions are used for State Fair renovation projects, which with hosting a million visitors a year, there's always something needing to be repaired, updated, renovated or improved. If you haven't driven by the fairgrounds in a while, you've missed out on the extensive ground work being done on the west side,

which started about a week after the close of the 2017 fair. The costs of buildings and grounds upkeep and running a state fair such as ours is incomprehensible to most; suffice it to say, keeping the coffers full is necessary.

Thank you to those who donated items: 3 Sons Honey, Beyers Bees, Cody's Gold, Elizabella Flower Farm, Acres of Promise Honey, Jodi and Roy Kraft, Doyle Kincy, Eve Vanden Broek and Linn and Ann Wilbur.

Here Comes the FBI

The **Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa** is a beekeeping club in the central part of the State. We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 2708 N Jefferson Way, Indianola, IA. The club was started in 2009 from newbee's taking a beginner beekeeping class given by Mike Wyatt. Trying to think of a name for the club, Judy Spence suggested to name it the FBI, because our teacher and his wife were retired FBI agents.

"No rules, no dues, no problem" was our founding declaration statement. Our club slogan is **"You know your Doctor, you know your Dentist, do you know your Beekeeper?"** The club has grown and have been teaching beginning beekeeping classes for several years now. We have a "membership list" of over 150. We have a Facebook page with over 750 members.

We have been honored to have one of our young members as our Club Queen become the IHPA 2016-2017 Iowa Honey Queen--Carly Vannoy.

We have set up booths for the past two years at the "Sustainability Fair" and this year at the Warren Co Fair, to help inform the public about beekeeping. Everyone is welcome! Stop by and say hello.

Submitted by Doyle Kincy, IHPA District Director



L to R Greg Jones, Keri Kenoyer, Linda Kromer.

Merchandise

The IHPA has new merchandise. We have crew-neck T-Shirts, V-Neck Women's T-Shirts, Long Sleeve T-Shirts, Sweatshirts and Hoodies. They are available in adult sizes Small through 3XL. These items are available in sizes Small through 3XL: short sleeved T-Shirts, crew neck shirts and v-neck shirts, as well as long-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies. The colors available are Yellow, Black, Red, Blue and Gray. The colors for long sleeve T-Shirts are yellow and black. The sweatshirts are available in black and sand colors. Colors for the hoodies are yellow and black. Hats are a dark khaki color (light brown). The apron is available in a sand color.



We have a new item this year – a cooling towel. These would be great to keep you cool while checking on the girls this summer or at the State Fair. The towel is black with yellow lettering. There are only 250 available and should go fast.

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

The prices on the website will be greater as we have to pay a percentage to PayPal for the convenience of using a credit card. The prices at the Fair will be the same as on the website, without the shipping charges.

If you are interested in ordering items before the Fair, please contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasuer@gmail.com or call 515-724-2124. Please be sure to allow time for mailing if you are wanting them before the Fair. All items will be available at the State Fair.

Who Knew?

1. One pound of honey is made from the nectar of how many flowers? .
 - A. 2,000
 - B. 2 million
 - C. 20 million
2. An apitherapist is:
 - A. Someone who represents the beekeepers of their state
 2. A trained professional who administers bee stings to a patient
 3. A practitioner who will help diagnose diseases of the hive
3. Bee bread is:
 - A. A mixture of pollen and honey used to feed developing bees
 - B. A type of bread made with pollen and fed to honeybees during a nectar dearth
 - C. An artisanal bread made with finely crushed honeybees served best with tea
4. Before answering a call to collect a swarm, you should first:
 - A. Call another beekeeper to help you because you cannot do it alone
 - B. Light your smoker because it's often difficult on the spot
 - C. Ensure the 'swarm' is actually honeybees and not wasps

Answers: Ask your mentor and argue about it with your family...

Honoring a Leader:

After reading Eve's article in the Buzz about writing an article for the Buzz, I felt obligated to tell this story. It is about how we got into beekeeping and our mentor, John Johnson.

John Johnson is my wife's half-brother. They have the same father. John was born over 80 years ago and my wife was born over 60 years ago. Up to about 15 years ago, they had never met each other. My wife and her sister had heard their father had two children by an earlier marriage. Well, with the computer age, they were able to locate their brother John and sister JoAnn and were able to set up a meeting with them. All went well and that's how we got to know John and his love for bees. Through our meeting and talk with John, Becky was getting more and more interested in bees. John was in charge of the booth at the Iowa State Fair and had a big part in getting the honey lemonade started at the IHPA booth and is past president of the IHPA. Well, finally Becky had bugged me about getting bees enough, so when we visited John and his wife, Elaine, at the Iowa State Fair one year, we saw and heard more about bees. I caved in and decided to give it a go.

John invited us up to his house in Ames and gave us a beekeeping lesson in his basement. At the time, the beekeeping classes he and Andy Joseph were teaching had started and he knew how important it was to share some knowledge about how to care for bees. John invited us to visit the class, so we attended a field day at Andy Joseph's bee yard where the class learned how to inspect the hive and do an ether roll. Then we went back to the classroom and extracted the honey collected at Andy's bee yard.

The next year in April, Becky and I met John at Phil Ebert's to pick up our first two packages of bees. We had a bad first year. One hive went queenless and had laying workers. John explained to me how to get rid of the laying workers and how to merge the two hives. We lost that colony over the winter. We live over 100 miles from John and he came and helped me get started and even brought me a swarm the next year. He is always ready to help me out over the phone whenever I have a question and he has made me a better beekeeper. I have been mentoring a few new beekeepers every year. We now have a small business and take care of 25-30 colonies of bees.

John has been a beekeeper for almost 50 years and still had a couple colonies going into winter. He tells me at church he is known as the bee guy and I wonder in his years as a beekeeper how many hundreds of beekeepers he has mentored.

By Everett Birch (Note: I have included a recent photo of John and his wife, Elaine, taken at their favorite restaurant, Hickory Park, in Ames.)



Editor Note here: Our IHPA President has been urging Buzz reader s to send in articles, as you can see from Everett's first line, and when someone does what Everett did, it contributes to the well-bee-ing of the whole membership. I have long had a curiosity about who functioned as leaders in the IHPA prior to the last couple leaders. I had not followed the Buzz prior to that. So now I know more about our organization.

This same thing happens when someone writes a note about another, related, topic--trees that bloom, flowers that support our habit, the relationship of living creatures, the makeup of our soils and the need for pollinators. The list goes on and on. So here's the pitch--submit articles!! All topics welcome. And thank you!

Quilt Reveal:

We are always impressed with what the volunteers can come up with on that wonderful IHPA quilt. At the Annual Meeting in the fall, squares are handed out; these are assembled at some point, and the quilts emerge from their



cocoons. One is auctioned off. The second is raffled-- people buy tickets from Rhonda (address back page) or at the Annual Meeting. Cost is \$5 per ticket or 5 for \$20. Set your heart on one or both of these!

Wanted: Beekeepers!

Mead making class on Saturday, August 4th, 10 AM- 12. Justin Garretson of East Eagle Farm, a well-known mead maker, will teach a mead class and have samples available. We invite beekeepers to bring honey and contact information for the future mead makers!

Cost: \$15.00, register at: www.CherryGlenLearningFarm.org
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Susan Meylor

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FOR SALE: Approx 200-6 5/8 supers with 8 drawn combs per box-- \$20 each. Approx 40 empty 6 5/8 boxes--\$6 each. Contact Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

Notes From the BeeYard

I have been having a hard time getting into the flow of writing something every month. The number of problems have not decreased but I am having a hard time committing them to paper. I am trying to work less but that hasn't panned out very well. It seems like there is always some late night or weekend project going on. I often think about the fact that I gave up a good paying job with great benefits for the opportunity to work nights, weekends and holidays. I have no regrets.

I have been reveling in the long sunny days. As I write this on July 9, we are getting a flow. It has been going for some time but the overwintered bees were slow to build up and struggled early. The lease bees we got from California were strong and have been bringing it home for a while. Those are all in the Mt Vernon area. I didn't realize how well they were doing until Adam told me. We used to always make an 85-90# average but the weather patterns are changing. We have had a number of cool wet summers. We had big years in 2005 and 2006. 2012 was decent and last year was good in Lynnvile but poor around Mt Vernon, Adam got rain over there every other day. Hot dry weather is what we need. We made 50# to 60# crops in the off years. That doesn't cut it. It is the residual revenue streams that are keeping us alive.

Colony count in the Lynnvile area is greatly reduced. Most of our colonies are over boxed but we needed to do something with the supers to keep the moths out of them. We still have 10 pallets sitting inside that we have moth crystals on. We don't have queen excluders for all of the colonies so I am afraid the excess space is going to lead to a lot of brood in the supers. We have sent a lot of equipment to Mt Vernon but we still had lots of brood boxes that we used as supers. Those seem to attract the queens like a magnet.

It is time to get our extracting line put together.

Everything is in place. We just have to hook up the piping. The big 50 frame extractors are in Mt Vernon. Adam has those ready to go. We only have two 20 framers in Lynnvile but they are adequate. We put 150 barrels thru them in 2012. Both facilities have sumps in a pit. We have the old Cowen uncappers with the aluminum castings in both places. The cappings in both facilities fall directly into a wax melter. Honey from the extractors and wax melter flow into the sumps. When the sump is full, a float switch turns a pump on. The honey is pumped thru a baffle tank and then put into barrels.

By Phil Ebert

(Find your Director name on the back page)

[illegible]

Mentoring – A Sweet Partnership

What does it mean to be a mentor? The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines a mentor as: *someone who teaches or gives help and advice to a less experienced and often younger person*. I would further define a mentor as someone who communicates effectively and willingly.

Are you a mentor to an IHPA Youth Scholarship recipient? Maybe you mentor new beekeepers in your bee club? Ted Reeves has done an excellent job as our Youth Scholarship coordinator filling the shoes of Eric Kenoyer who filled the shoes of Mike and Julie Swett who filled the shoes of Donna and Mike Brahms. The youth program has been a huge success for the IHPA and we look to continue it well into the future. As the title of the article notes, mentoring is a partnership.

Though the beekeeping season is well under way--beekeepers busy in their bee yards and no doubt chasing a swarm or two--let us not forget those we are mentoring. They need our help, advice and support from early spring to late fall. There are still four months where your time, guidance and encouragement are needed.

You have helped the youth beekeeper hive their bees, you have visited their apiary several times and you may be looking to extract in the near future. Summer is still upon us so please remember that as a mentor you are teaching the craft and not necessarily doing the beekeeping for them. Yes, mentoring may take more time than you initially anticipated but put yourself in their shoes. What would you want from someone mentoring you? Patience, kindness and a little bit of direction would be my top three requests. Keep in mind they may not want to kill so many bees when putting a hive box back on; they may not see eggs quite as readily as you; they may not know how to light a smoker as quickly as you. Accept the fact you may need to do a little hand holding at first. Guide them to become more confident. How about showing them some tricks of the trade or show them the tools you have found to be most useful. All of this comes with experience and requires practice. Your role is to assist in any way possible so they can be successful.

To those who have a mentor, it is important to ask

questions. You have gone through a beekeeping class, read books, listened to presentations, and hopefully attended the Summer Field Day on June 30, now it's time to put what you have learned into practice. Yes, like all new ventures, beekeeping can be overwhelming at first, but consider yourself lucky for you have a mentor to help you along the way. Questions often lead to more questions so don't be afraid to ask your mentor why he/she is moving a frame or how do you know when to remove the entrance reducer? When do you add a super? When would you use a queen excluder? How do you know if a hive is queenless? The more you ask, the more you will learn or reinforce what you have learned.

Mentors: Hopefully you encouraged your mentees to enter their county fair and the Iowa State Fair. And if you haven't talked with them about volunteering at the IHPA booth at the Iowa State Fair, it's not too late. From my personal experience, volunteering is fun and very rewarding; it's a great way to share what you have learned. Additionally, you'll want to encourage participation in a local beekeeping club. Such opportunities will only enhance their knowledge and beekeeping experience. The more you learn the more you know.

The mentoring process is a partnership and should be rewarding for both. If you have a mentor, ask yourself these three questions:

Has my mentor been available when I needed him/her?

Has my mentor answered my questions to my satisfaction?

Does my mentor explain what is going on inside my hive?

If you answered 'yes' to the questions above, take a moment to thank them for their valuable time. The benefit of a willing mentor is invaluable.

And mentors, don't let yourselves get burned out. You are needed. Those who you are mentoring today may become future mentors. By sharing your time and support, you are sharing more than wealth can buy. Submitted by IHPA President Eve Vanden Broek

Below is the newer version of the Iowa beekeeping clubs. Please note that there are now 21 clubs across the state! Welcome to the new clubs, and we're all glad you've organized. In November, in Ames, we'll gather at some point to share ideas, ask questions and make plans for the future. The dream is to become more connected, developing a way of providing help and becoming more and more pollinator friendly. Advocacy in our neighborhoods is a huge, untapped potential at this point.

IOWA BEE CLUBS:

Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club

Contact: Jim & Tina Marshall
2923 Jones Ave
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
Ph: (641)-660-0983
marshalljt@wildblue.net

Boone River Beekeeping Club

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

Cedar Valley Beekeepers

Contact: Ryan Dermody
1498 200th St
Waverly Iowa, 50677
Ph: (319) 461-4391
Dermody.ryan@gmail.com

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

Contact Mike Sander, Pres.
1104 Scenic View
Altoona, IA 50009
Ph: (515) 205-9204
masander3@gmail.com

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Ellen Bell
10458 SE Vandalia Drive
Runnells, IA 50237
Ph: (515) 707-9951
ellenbell.ia@gmail.com

East Central Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Dave Irvin
2254 S. Riverside Dr
Iowa City, IA 52246
Ph: (319) 351-6205

Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa

Contact: Judy Spence
12839 Carpenter Trail
Carlisle, IA 50047
Ph: (515) 988-8397
jespencejr44@gmail.com

Great River Bend Beekeepers

Contact: David Hayes
1749 110th St.
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060
Ph: 563-678-2862
prairiecreekfrm@netins.net

Iowa B Club

Contact: Shane Bixby
Wickiup Hill Learning Center
10260 Morris Hill Rd
Toddville, IA 52341
Ph: (319) 721-3493
admin@IowaBClub.org

Loess Hills Beekeeping Association

Chris Ruhaak
22524 Hunt Avenue
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-7978
LHBA@LoessHillsBA.com

North Iowa Bee Club

Contact: Randy Elsbernd
19050 Thrush Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
Ph: (641) 420-7297
randlejd2210@gmail.com

Northeast Iowa Beekeepers Club

Contact: Gerald Hunter
2325 U.S. Hwy 52
Decorah, IA 52101
Ph: (563) 419-0877
gmhunter@netel.net

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Larry and Marlene Boernsen
6724 200th St.
Ocheyedan, IA 51254
Ph: (712) 320-1907
Lm5kbees@gmail.com

Omaha Bee Club

Contact: Linn Danzer
235 E. Orchard Ave
Council Bluffs, IA

Quad City Beekeeping Club

Contact: Ron Fischer or Doug Dahlin
Ph: 563-340-7498
qcbecclub@yahoo.com

Red Rock Beekeepers

Contact: Jerry/Sheila Weldon
210 N. Iowa St (Extension Off)
Knoxville, IA 50138
Ph: (641) 891-4071 or 891-2268
weldonjs@windstream.net

Siouxland Beekeepers

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

Southeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Vernie Ramsey
22781 Route J16
Birmingham, IA 52535
Ph: (319) 498-4355
Vdramsey@netins.net

Southwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms
14922 535th Street
Griswold, IA 51535
Ph: (712) 778-4256
mbrahms@netins.net

Southern Iowa Hive Handlers

Ph: (402) 321-3754
Contact: Scott Kent
100 South Main
Osceola, IA 50213
Ph: 641-414-1600
clarkeccb@gmail.com

Tama County Bee Keepers

Jim & Penny Dolezal
1460-370th Street Tama, Iowa 52339
Ph: (641) 751-2985 or 751-2566
busybeeacres@yahoo.com

Kelly Simmons Schloss is not only a beek, but also an advocate for the monarch butterfly. She tells me that monarchs only lay eggs on milkweed, which also is a great nectar source for honeybees! The eggs are most often found on the underside of the leaf or on the most tender upper leaves of the plant, and are about the size of a mustard seed. Caterpillars are the larval form of Monarchs. Similar to honeybees, Monarchs undergo several generations each summer, and have one long-living generation each winter. The winter generation migrates to Mexico each fall and does not reproduce until the following spring when it migrates back to northern Mexico, the United States and Canada.

I use my boxes from package bees to raise the caterpillars as soon as they are large enough that they can't escape through the mesh. They pupate on the top, forming a green chrysalis with beautiful gold spots! They emerge about 10 days later. The package boxes work great to raise about 6 caterpillars each without crowding. The propolis coats the wood and allows me to move the chrysalis fairly easily. Also, the boxes are easy to sanitize between groups. Similar to combating varroa in honeybees, raising monarchs in close quarters like this can spread a parasite called OE. A quick rinse with bleach-water is all that is needed to keep it under control though!



Kelly's beehives. Her bees can certainly find their way home!



Can you find the egg? Have you ever looked on the underside of a milkweed leaf to locate monarch eggs? Have you found the banded caterpillars on the milkweed leaves?

Can you locate the green chrysalis with the gold dots? If you find them in the garden somewhere, leave them to mature and develop. Send them on their way in the fall!



Thanks, Shiela Weldon, for inviting Kelly to share her interesting twist on repurposing beekeeping equipment.



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