

The Buzz



Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association

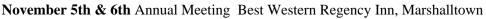
August 2010



H P A

Dates To Bee Remembered

September 19, 2010 Board Meeting 2 pm Heartland Inn, Des Moines **November 4, 2010** Board Meeting 7 pm Best Western Regency Inn, Marshalltown, IA





For Sale: Pine Hive Components. 9 5/8" Boxes \$16, 6 5/8" Boxes \$14, reversible screened bottom boards \$14 (solid bottom boards \$13), telescoping cover \$16. Painted, handholds, and bee space compatible with commercial woodenware. Glued with Titebond II and screwed, simple butt joints.

Contact: Josh Sommers (641) 658-2213

For Sale: Stainless steel Kelley Grocer's tank (15 gal.) with out honey gate. \$80.

Contact: Galen Eiben (319) 885-6264

For Sale: Honeybees in one-story hives with ten frames of good comb, reversible screened bottom board and a cover. \$125.

Contact Josh Sommers 641-658-2213

FOR SALE: 4 Frame Nucs for summer expansion--available late June to early July.

Call for pricing, Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

For Sale: new crop honey \$1.75 lb. in five gal. bucket plus new bucket exchange. Don't let your customers run out of honey, or they will get it from someone else.

Curt Bronnenberg (515) 465-5939 www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com

FOR SALE: Queen excluders--\$2; feeder buckets--\$1

Contact Dick Blake at 712-246-3412

FOR SALE: Good Used Bee Equipment

#8 Hive Bodies with 10 frames

#5 Illinois Supers with 10 frames

#6 Galvanized Top Covers

#6 Inner Covers (wood)

#2 Shallow comb supers

#5 Bee Excluders (maze)

#5 Queen Excluders (screen)

#1 Kelly Stainless Steel 2 frame extractor with motor

& stand (like new)

#1 Colony of bees in 2 story hive with 2 Illinois Supers

Miscellaneous supplies and equipment for beginner \$600 for everything

Robert Nolan 563-355-2163 Davenport **For Sale:** Better Way Wax Melter that was made in Altoona IA. It is 27" wide, 46" long 24" high and has a 9" stand. \$200.00

Curtis Barnhart Phone 319 480-4209 Monticello IA

BANANA-HONEY MUFFINS Printed from COOKS.COM

1 1/2 c. bran cereal

3/4 c. milk

1 c. mashed banana

1/3 c. honey

1/2 c. butter, melted

1 egg, slightly beaten

1 1/4 c. all purpose flour

1 tbsp. baking powder

1 tsp. salt

Heat oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl stir together bran cereal and milk. Let stand 5 minutes. Stir in banana, honey, butter and egg. Stir in flour, baking powder and salt just until dry ingredients are moistened, 10 to 12 strokes. Spoon into greased or paper lined 12 cup muffin pans 2/3 full. Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until lightly browned.

The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions and IHPA Memberships

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex W. Ebert by email to **TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com** or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. **The deadline for submissions is the 15th 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. IHPA Membership is only \$10 annually. To join IHPA and receive your complimentary member subscription to The Buzz Newsletter, please contact Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer, 207 S.E. Diehl, Des Moines, IA 50315, Phone: (515) 287-6542

Greetings from the President of the IHPA

Dear Honey Producers,

August.....Iowa State Fair, schools start, vacations, beekeeping, garden, orchard and yard work..... the list can just finally warmed up and the snow melted. What happened, did I miss most of the spring and summer seasons?

White sweet clover is blooming in our area and the white Dutch clover is still blooming. Too bad it keeps raining all of the nectar off the plants with all of the rain. Our bees are doing really well with the bad start that they had. August is typically the time some honey is pulled also. Please make sure that you check your bees when you pull the honey for mites and if the counts call for it, treat for mites. Let's see if we can have extremely healthy bees going into winter this year. Please check to make sure that your bees are registered so there are few problems with all of the spraying that typically takes place in August.

and I attended the July 19th meeting of the ACF-Iowa Chapter in Polk City to promote the use of honey by chefs and other food service professionals. More details about it next month because of deadlines.

The field day was declared a success. The only complaint that I heard was the hot weather. There was great beekeeping information and interaction between attendees, great food and lots of cold drinks to keep everyone hydrated. Thanks to Phil Ebert and his boys for a wonderful field day at their home and for allowing us to see their beekeeping operation. Thanks also to all of the speakers. One of the down sides to the day was not enough board members for Donna Brahms, IHPA President a quorum so that there could be a board meeting.

Jumping ahead to September remember to include some promotions at farmers

markets, town celebrations, put articles in newspapers and on the radios that September is National Honey Month. The designation of National Honey Month is another way to bring attention go on and on. It seems to me that it to be keeping and to give information to the public about honey bees and honey. Even if you just hand out a couple honey recipes, maybe someone will try them and will make sure that they have honey to use all the time. If you need help getting recipes, let me know. It is also a great time to schedule some school visits. The teachers and the kids love it when I come to talk to them. The questions that they ask from our website, are really great and it shows that they are listening to what is being told to or by contacting the Youth Scholarship

Thanks to everyone for volunteering to help at the state fair. It takes everyone The requirements are: to volunteer to get this project done and • to earn the operating money for the year. As of this deadline there are open dates, but it is filling up nicely. An- • other disappointment is not any entries for the art design contest to help us • celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the July was busy also. Melanie, Amber IHPA. I guess the deadline isn't for a couple of weeks.

> Don't miss the article about the youth beekeeping scholarship program. The We had several of our current and past applications are due by Sept. 15th. If youth beekeepers and their families you know of someone that is interested, work the sales booth at the Iowa State please direct them to the IHPA website Fair. All of the current youth scholarto get an application. The same goes ship winners are doing great and the for deserving people to get the IHPA mentors are reporting that they are bebeekeeping awards. Send the nomina- coming quite proficient in beekeeping. tions in to Louise or Matt.

Bee friendly with all of the new people that you meet in August. Bee careful on vacation. Enjoy your families and don't work too hard. Sincerely.





Youth Scholarship

Youth Scholarship Applications are available now. If you know of a youth who would like to become a beekeeper, please have them get an application

ABuzzAboutBees.com Chairman, Mike Brahms at (712) 778-4255.

- Be a youth between the ages of 13
- Be from a non beekeeping family.
- Send in the completed application by **September 15th** to:

Mike Brahms 14922 535th Street Griswold, IA 51535





IHPA Award Nominations

It is time to think of deserving beekeepers and friends of the association that should receive one of the Awards that the IHPA presents at the Annual Meeting banquet. Please review the categories and submit your suggestions along with a short letter explaining why you feel that this candidate should receive an award. The categories that we usually present are as follows:

- 1. **Pioneer Award** for having been involved for 50 years or more and still active in beekeeping.
- 2. **Distinguished Service Award** for assisting other beekeepers, willing to share information, and /or serving the association.
- 3. **Education Award** teaching beekeeping classes, speaking at service clubs, giving presentations to school children or speaking about beekeeping on radio or T.V.
- 4. **Promotions Award** for promoting honey and beekeeping, promotions for the state association or promoting their own product.
- 5. **Friendship Award** for being a friend of the association. This could be someone who has displayed at the annual IHPA trade show, a state official who has assisted or encouraged beekeeping, someone outside our industry of producing honey.
- 6. **Youth Award** for a young person who has shown commendable involvement in such things as helping the the state fair, successfully keeping bees for at least one season including wintering, writing, making a float for a parade, speaking, etc.

If you would like to nominate someone, please send the information to us by the deadline of **September 30th**. :

Louise Johnson 34147 310th Street Guttenberg, IA 52052 (563) 252-2340 louisej@alpinecom.net

Matthew Stewart 2956 170th Street South Amana, IA 52234 (319) 662-4145



Iowa Honey Queen-August

Where has the time gone? My summer is more than half way over by now, my birthday has come and gone, fair is coming and school is getting ready to start back up again. I suppose when you are the honey queen, have a part time job, and show at county/state fair; time will fly.

Speaking of fair, I sure hope many of you find time to help the IHPA out and volunteer at the state fair booth. It's not only a good time, but you learn a lot about beekeeping, people, and so many other things. My favorite thing about working the booth is meeting new people; whether they are beekeepers or just a honey/honey bee enthusiast. I sure love to hear the little kids squeal out when they find the queen on the observation hives and hear what they have to say about bees. Also look for me in the state fair parade! I have a float entered and I am hoping it helps boost sells and honeybee awareness!

In June I added a 2^{nd} hive body to my hive which the bees filled up fast, so I added a super about 2 weeks later and that was full so I added another super the first week of July. I also went 50/50 with a friend and bought a nuc from Phil Ebert the last week of June. They are doing well and have a super on already. I cannot wait to see if I get some honey this year. I want to say thank you to the association and Lee Heine for helping me get started in beekeeping again! The IHPA and its members have really impacted my life in ways I could never have imagined and I am truly touched to know that so many people want to see me and other youth succeed. Thank you!

I will keep this article short and sweet, I know we are all busy with bee chores and back to school prep. Keep me in mind when planning a honey event or farmer's market.

Amber Connett aconnett@iastate.edu 515-460-9199

Propolis Removal

Good news! I successfully removed all traces of the propolis from my jeans. First, I tried Goo Gone but that did absolutely nothing.

Then I remembered I have a product called Charlie's Soap http:// www.charliesoap.com. I first made a paste of the laundry powder and rubbed that into the propolis and let it sit awhile. I scraped that off and then sprayed the All-Purpose Cleaner on it and put it in the washing machine with a couple tablespoons of the laundry powder and put it on pre-soak for a half hour or so. Then I put it through the regular cycle. The jeans were completely clean.

I also used Charlie' All-Purpose Cleaner right on the end-gate of the pickup to get the propolis off so there was no longer any risk of getting more on our clothes. It was amazing to see it dissolve the propolis.

The bottle of the All-Purpose Cleaner says: "Cleans Everything From False Teeth to Diesel Engines. Removes grease, grass, blood, red clay, mildew stains, mustard, tar, catsup, pine sap, and poop." I figured if it could remove pine sap it might be able to remove the propolis.

Anyway, I thought I would let you know about this great product. Maybe other beekeepers would be interested in it too.

Thanks!

DeAnn Cline

Honeybees smarter in the morning, study finds

CTV.ca News Staff

The early bee catches the best flower and is smarter for it, new research says. The study, led by Professor Giovanni Galizia from the University of Kon- odours at different times of day. stanz in Germany, found that bees are best at learning new odours in the morning.

That has allowed them to adapt to which flower is the best source of nectar, Galizia told CTV News Channel Sunday morning.

"One thing that we know about bees is that they are very good learners. They collect nectar from flowers and in order (Ivanhoe Newswire) -- They're less to be efficient they learn which flower than an inch long, but bees may change has the best nectar. And what we know the way mobile robots and small flying about bees is that they also learn not vehicles are built. In a new study, scionly which flower is the best flower, entists recreated a lightweight imaging but also at what time of day would system that mimics a honeybee's field which flower have what nectar." he of view. said.

Flowers accumulate most of their nectar in the morning, so it is advantageous to bees to learn new odours during that period.

"What we think is that the bees have adapted to the flowers, and probably the flowers have adapted to the bees in the sense that the flower that would give nectar earlier in the morning would capture the first bees and the bees that would learn better in the morning would capture the best nectar," Galizia said. "And so the two together have evolved to go early into the morning time."

This "co-evolving" is described in the study, which was published in the journal Behavioural Ecology and Sociobiology.

"It might be evolutionarily advantageous to be the 'early bee' and to 'catch' the flower in order to out-compete possible competitors such as butterflies, flies and (bees from) other hives," the researchers wrote.

In the study, 1,000 bees were tested by training them to identify different

The study found bees were much better at identifying what each odour meant in the morning.

Learning is very energy-intensive for bees' brains, so researchers suggest being "less clever" later in the day helps them conserve energy.

Artificial Bee Eye

According to the article, bees have remarkable navigation capabilities based on their vision. Investigators from Germany built the artificial bee eye, which consists of a lightweight mirror-lens combination attached to a USB video camera. The "eye" has allowed researchers to take unique images showing the world from an insect's point of view.

In the future, scientists hope to include UV to fully reflect a bee's color vision and to incorporate models of the neural processing stages.

"Despite the discussed limitations of our model of the spatial resolution of the honeybee's compound eyes, we are confident that it is useful for many purposes [such as] for the simulation of bee-like agents in virtual environments and, in combination with presented imaging system, for testing bee-inspired visual navigation strategies on mobile robots."

SOURCE: Bioinspiration & Biomimetics, August 6, 2010



Beekeeper's Record & Journal

The following was reprinted with the permission of the estate of Richard Taylor. The material is from the book, "Beekeeper's Record & Journal", text by Richard Taylor, and designed and illustrated by Cynthia Diamond. This book (among other items) was graciously donated to the youth scholarships' during the 2009 IHPA annual meeting in October at the Best Western Regency Inn in Marshalltown. After the meeting. this book was not taken and is now the property of the Iowa Honey Producers Association, Historian. I have enjoyed reading it, and thought the membership would also. As stated by Kim Flottum, Editor of the Bee Culture; "We have a Gem".

Peggy Ennis, IHPA Historian

AUGUST

is, for the beekeeper, an entirely new season--the season of the fall flow. Still, everything from now on will be anticlimactic. Maybe there will be a flow from buckwheat, maybe not; you have ceased. But it is not a good time cannot tell just by looking for buckwheat fields. The goldenrod is more promising. There are over a hundred different kinds of goldenrod on this continent, but most of them are in the tar in the fields, and can make known northeast, and many of them are of little with their stings their determination to use to the bees. Still, where the goldenrods are honey plants at all, they are usually among the most reliable sources Richard Taylor of nectar, provided they are not killed off by early frost. You begin to see Richard Taylor was born 1919 and them in August, and they are the annual reminder that summer is nearly gone. There are other reminders. All convey the same feelings, which only poets Brown University, Columbia, and Unicould do justice to. The cicadas, so quiet until now, rip the silence of the American Philosopher, renowned for Âugust afternoon with their prolonged his dry wit and his contributions to buzzing, rizing from nothing then subsiding to stillness again, only to be re- he was a philosopher - he was far better peated in a few minutes. The katydids of the evening now disturb the night air, "I have never met a beekeeper who has talking back and forth in such unison not heard of Richard Taylor". that you cease to hear the sometimes owned 300 hives and from 1970 pro-

the bees can get a lot of honey from for bee journals. that neglected alfalfa.

have little to do in August, and unless tions to honesty posted on its walls. they find a field of buckwheat or alfalfa, they are likely to while away the To "bee" continued next month hours with only desultory flight. Apparently with nothing better to do, they sit out in front of their hives and perform together the mysterious "washerwoman" motion, each bee appearing to be scrubbing an invisible garment against an invisible washboard. Not one has yet discovered the significance of this strange behavior. But the beekeeper can get one clear meaning from it--the bees are not getting much honey. Now is a good time to harvest honey, provided you This month marks the transition to what can do it with the minimum of notice from the bees, in other words, with bee escapes. The honey in the hives is well ripened, even if there are combs that are not capped over, for the honey flows The Field Day was successful but we to harvest with a bee blower, for those malingering bees can spring to life very quickly in the presence of exposed honey during an August dearth of necget it.

passed away October 30, 2003 in New York. He earned his PhD at Brown University and taught principally at versity of Rochester. He was an Metaphysics. Although it is well known known as a beekeeper. It is often said -

considerable racket, unless you listen duced mostly comb honey. His signififor it. Here and there an alfalfa field cant contributions to beekeeping are blooms. The farmer should have cut it, authoring many books on beekeeping but other things demanded attention, to among these are the two; "The comb the joy of the beekeeper. If the days are **Honey Book**" and "The Joys of Beehot enough, and moisture is in the soil, keeping", and regularly writing articles His near legendary honey stand at the roadside in front of his country home operated on the honor For the most part, however, the bees system, secured only by gentle solicita-



THE BEEYARD REPORT

didn't get quite the turnout I had hoped for. We had about 50. It was a lot of work to get ready for the event. It did force me to do some things I needed to do. One of those was to clean up the branches and twigs that had fallen off the trees. I had only mowed my yard a couple of times buts it was real inconvenient mowing around the fallen branches. I thought the food was great. There was chicken and biscuits from the local restaurant. The attendees brought some good looking (and good tasting) fruit salads, potato salads and nice desserts. Donna sent honey lemonade. I made some baked beans. I left them in the oven to keep warm. They got a little dried out but were still eatable. I passed on dessert thinking I would go back later but I spent too much time visiting. We had to start the program back up before I got dessert. There were about 20 that went back to the queen yard at the end of the afternoon. I was surprised how long they

stayed there. I think the last people left after almost an hour in the yard.

We started extracting after the Field let us put bees on her place. Then we found that if we did this in a peak of the bloom is past. 60# year, we weren't going to get much comb honey. After that we started put- Submitted by Phil Ebert ting the cut comb boxes right on top of the brood boxes of two story

colonies with no queen excluders. That's how we manage to get comb honey in a poor year.

We had 3" of rain sandwiched around the Field Day. We had a dry week after that. The bees were able to store. Then we got another 4". That stopped the nectar flow. It started picking up again around July 12. In the interlude between flows, Alex

made more clip pallets and assembled Yellow-jacket swarm attacks frames. We have put together 1100 deep frames this year. We still have 100 migratory lids to assemble.

My life became a lot less congested after I put Adam's phone number on my answering machine. The calls for queens were unending. I didn't always know what he had. The best thing was to let him handle it. He said the thing he likes least is having to tell people he can't help them. He is thinking of expanded his mating yard next year to 200 or 300 nucs. He has a life outside of beekeeping. We have to see how it all fits together in the end.

We have a couple of baby skunks hanging around the place. There tends to be a slight essence of skunk on the air. I have never seen them but other people have. Alex has some pictures of them.

We have 22 barrels done as of this writ- told me North Dakota was good in area, Knowles said. ing. All of our comb honey boxes are spots. South Dakota west of the river going to get filled up this year. Many of has had trouble with weevils and grass- "Apparently there were a number of them went on as third and fourth boxes. hoppers. Southern Missouri has a very (yellow jackets) also in attendance for We used to always put them out on top short crop. Somewhere, I heard Wis- the fireworks display last night," of a honey box. That keeps the bees consin was good. I can't remember who Knowles said Saturday. from moving wax off the brood combs told me that. It wasn't anybody from

The local paper did an article on us. I The wasp attacks began shortly after thought it was quite good. The lady the fireworks show started at 9:15 p.m. who did the interview even offered to About 5,000 people were in the grandstands, and 15 minutes later sting vic-Day. We have been pecking away at it. Crop reports are spotty. Roger Bailey tims started showing up in the first aid

and darkening the comb in the supers. Wisconsin. There is still time but the She said emergency personnel at the fair set up a triage area to care for those who were stung. Everyone was treated on site and there were no hospitalizations. Knowles said.

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fairgoers

ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

July 04, 2010|By Erin Allday and Will Kane, Chronicle Staff Writers

About 100 people were stung by yellow jackets at the Alameda County Fair on Friday night when the popular fireworks display apparently disturbed a nest and sent a swarm into the grandstands, according to the county Fire Department.

No one suffered a serious allergic reaction to the stings, said Alameda County Fire Department spokeswoman Aisha Knowles. Several people were stung multiple times, and victims ranged in age from a 6-month-old baby to an adult older than 60.

By midnight Friday, an exterminator located and removed a ground nest, Mitchell said. The yellow jackets were probably disturbed by the vibrations as the fireworks were launched, not the explosions overhead, she said.

The fair attracted attention Thursday after a chain on the Wacky Worm, a kiddie roller coaster ride, broke, injuring five children and two adults. One child and one adult were taken to Valley Care

Hospital in Pleasanton for further observation. The others were treated at the fairgrounds.

The ride was repaired and reopened Friday afternoon.

E-mail the writers at eallday@sfchronicle.com and wkane@sfchronicle.com. (C) San Francisco Chronicle 2010





Featured Beekeeper of the Month

Garion Consier is our featured beekeeper of the month and is another of the Iowa Honey Producers' Youth Scholarship participants. Richard and Rebecca are his parents. Garion says he has three sisters, two dogs, and one cat. His family lives at Churdan, Iowa.

Garion attends Paton-Churdan school where he is in the 7th grade. Activities he enjoys are band, vocal, track, crosscountry, piano, and basketball. He is also in the Cedar-Highland 4-H club. He enjoys going to the county fair and is taking ducks as his project. For hobbies he likes taking pictures, working with electronics and playing with his electric train.

After graduating high-school Garion plans to go to Iowa State University and study computers.

Garion's grandmother suggested he try beekeeping and Craig Bradke is mentoring him. He says he has become more comfortable being around the bees and feels the smoke is very important because the bees managed to sting him a couple of times while he was putting sugar water on the hive. Garion took his beekeeping class at Spenser, Iowa.

When asked about interesting beekeeping experiences, he said Easter Sunday he was searching for eggs and heard a buzzing sound. Then his dad told him to look up and he discovered the bees moving from one bud to another. Something you don't always thing about until you become a beekeeper. This year Garion is hoping to start a nuc from his hive and thus increase his numbers to two.

Good luck with your project and we hope your bees produce lots of honey.

> the Post Office for all returned issues of "temporarily away", please notify me the Buzz because of an address change when you leave and again when you or because a member is "temporarily return. I will hold your issues until away". If an issue is returned because your return and send them in one packof an address change, an effort is made age. to re-send it to the new address which means additional postage has to be paid to re-send it. This also means your issue will be delayed in getting to you.

If an issue is returned because the member is "temporarily away", that Melanie Bower issue will not be re-mailed as it may be Treasurer/Membership returned again resulting in more postage being paid. If you are going to be

Thank you for your renewal and for providing updated information so that your Buzz can be delivered in a timely manner.



Garion Consier with his hive of honeybees. He hopes to add another hive to his count.

Submitted by Ron Wher

Renewals, Address Changes, **Mail Returns**

There are still a number of members who have not sent in their renewals for 2010. Your renewal date is above your name on the Buzz. We would appreciate your attention to renewing your membership as your dues pay only 66% of the cost for the editing, printing and mailing of your Buzz each year.

A couple of other items that need to be mentioned are address changes and mail returns. We are charged by

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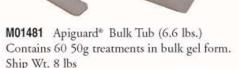
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- · Best results occur when bees are active and maximum daily temperatures are between 60°F and 105°F.

To Use Apiguard
Place the dosing tray or pad centrally on the top of the brood
frames gel side up. Be sure to allow at least 1/4" of spacing
between the top of the tray and the cover using spacer boards
or empty supers as needed. Apply the second dose 14 days after the first. Screened bottom boards should be closed while Apiguard is being applied.



Bulk tub comes complete with dosing scoop, spatula, and delivery pads.



1-19					*			.\$87.50
20-99			100					.\$85.40
100-299								
200 .								



Foil tray shown on brood frames.

1318 11th., Sioux City, IA 51102 712-255-3232 ph. 712-255-3233 fax Toll-free 877-732-3268

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The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association 207 S.E. Diehl Des Moines, IA 50315

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Officers

President: Donna Brahms 14922 535th Street Griswold, IA 51535 (712) 778-4255 home (712) 778-4256 orchard line mbrahms@netins.net

Vice President: Pat Randol 2505 Carriage Trail Winterset, IA 50273 (515) 210-7445 Pat.Randol@RandolHoney.com

Secretary: Mary Ebert 705 Hwy. #1 West Iowa City, IA 52246 (319) 354-6696 Mebert@netins.net

Treasurer: Melanie Bower 207 S.E. Deihl Des Moines, IA 50315 (515) 287-6542 melrb@msn.com

Historian: Peggy Ennis 1040 Union Ave. Goodell, IA 50439 (641) 444-4767

Past President: Curt Bronnenberg 1433 Hull Ave. Perry, IA 50220 (515) 465-5939 CBronny823@aol.com

District Directors State Apiarist

District #1 Kristoffer Valleroy, Sr. 1638 W 35th St. Davenport, IA 52806 (563) 320-1488 kvalleroysr@yahoo.com

District #2 Louise Johnson 34147 310th St. Guttenberg, IA 52052 (563) 252-2340 LouiseJ@alpinecom.net

District #3 Matt Stewart 2956 170th St. South Amana, IA 52234 (319) 662-4145

District #4 John Johnson 3422 Clinton Court Ames, IA 50010-4371 (515) 450-5606 wjohnq@aol.com

District #5 Jack Trowbridge 20041 235th Street Decatur, IA 50067 (641) 446-3123

District #6 Larry Boernsen 6724 200th Street Ocheyedan, IA 51354 (712) 735-4205 lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Andrew Joseph (515) 725-1481 andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club

Contact: Eves Cadwallader 2420 285th St. Oskaloosa, IA 52577 (641) 673-3993 weic@kdsi.net

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

Contact Arvin Foell 30930 530th Ave. Kelley, IA 50134 Home phone 515/597-3060 Cell phone 515/450-9494 ajfoell@huxcomm.net

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Julia McGuire jcammcguire@yahoo.com

IDALS website

www.agriculture.state.ia.us

National Honey Board www.honey.com

Queen Co-Chairs

Regina Jager (641) 660-0772 Louise Johnson (563) 252-2340

Iowa Beekeeper Clubs

East Central Iowa Beekeepers

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

North Iowa Bee Club

Contact: Pat Ennis 1040 Union Ave. Goodell, IA 50439 (641) 444-4767 Flat_Lander@lycos.com

Northeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Louise Johnson 34147 310th St. Guttenberg, IA 52052 (563) 252-2340 LouiseJ@alpinecom.net

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Larry J. Boernsen 6724 200th St. Ocheyedan, Iowa 51354 (712) 735-4205 Lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Southeast Iowa Beekeepers

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

Southwest Iowa Honey Producers

Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms 14922 535th Street Griswold, IA 51535 (712) 778-4255

Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa

Contact: Judy Spence 12839 Carpenter Trail Carlisle, IA 50047 (515) 988-8397

Additional Links and Emails jespencejr44@gmail.com

American Beekeeping Federation website www.ABFnet.org

Robert Haxton Food Processing Plants Iowa Dept. of Inspections and Appeals

rhaxton@dia.state.ia.us