



The Buzz



October 2017



Annual Meeting Registration--p. 2
Agenda in Oskaloosa-----p. 4,5
Breakout Sessions-----p. 6
Food in Oskie-----p. 7
Contest Rules-----p. 9
Quilts-----p. 10

Recipes with Emma-----p. 12
Auctions-----p. 12
Vendors-----p. 13
Bee Emergency Info-----p. 14
Andy Joseph Article-----p. 15
Nominate Officers-----p.16



The President's Report

Beekeepers of the IHPA,

Can you believe it is fall, mid-September, as I take time to put my thoughts to words over a very busy past 30 days. I have commented before on how balancing my job and beekeeping just will not work. Well Jim Rohn says it best: "for things to change, you must change; then things will change for you." So I changed jobs, or I should say I changed whose trailer I'm pulling. I'm now pulling a refrigerated trailer, going out a bit farther, but I feel it will be better. This is my first day—9/11. What a start date! This was not easy, as I had been with good friends for the past 10 years.

Did everyone make it to the Iowa State Fair? The IHPA had a great booth and I'm lost with where to start making comments. Heidi, Connie and Doyle all did a fantastic job this year managing, directing, and keeping shelves stocked and our new volunteers trained and things running smoothly. Rhonda kept the money counted and registers running. I'm very thankful to you four people for A JOB VERY WELL DONE. I was not able to spend as much time at the fair as I would have liked. In fact, I was not there to work at the booth until the last three days. It just seemed to be flowing very smoothly (when I finally got there). I did receive several very nice compliments about several volunteers. These people will be honored by me at the Annual Meeting. This booth runs and thrives on great people who pour their heart out and make things happen. The IHPA is as strong as our membership. We have great members who do what it takes to promote Iowa beekeeping, and teach as well. I'm really smiling, and can't say thank you enough, to these people. I worked with them, and saw the great things they do. If I start naming people I will forget too many. However, I really want to say a big thank you to our queen. I was able to witness a couple of her talks about bees to children. She is a very good speaker to kids and they get something out of it to remember. Nice job Carley!!

I must comment about the show as well this year. We had 2 new people enter in the observation hive class this year. Those rookies kind of sent us "old folk" back to the wood shop for a major overhaul! My hat comes off to the both of you. One of these rookies took home the blue! These observation hives are a real attraction to the fair. I really respect these people since making one of these up is not an easy chore to do. It also is something our booth needs. We still could use more, so plan for one next year and make it happen. The IHPA does send out a \$10 check for participating in this class no matter how you place.

My bees made me a nice crop of honey, I was surprised. The almost total disastrous winter left me with just five good hives out of 45. I turned them into 25, and harvested over 65 gallon of honey, over 25 squares of comb and a few chunk honey jars. Now you may say, not a great average; well, a lot of my hives were put on foundation, starting with two to three frames of bees and a queen, in middle May. I sold off a lot of drawn comb for cash flow to purchase queens. I am pleased as this truck driver simply can't have 45 hives and run this truck five and six days a week. Not enough time.

I hope everyone has a mite plan in place, checking levels and treating if needed. Varroa is bad news! My levels are low this year. That's good news. I like good news. Managing them is a must. You just have to know your levels of this very destructive mite. I will say, you will not have hives long if you don't. Talk to big beekeepers and they try their best to control this mite. These people know their mite levels. My advice is to know your mite levels.

Just a quick reminder before I hit the hay and try to sleep with a running refrigerator. Annual Meeting is fast approaching. I have no doubt it will be one to remember, so have you made your reservation yet? You need to be there so you can tell others how it was and not have others telling you how great it was. Our vice president will have things in order. It will be a learning two days and the place to be for a beekeeper. Now I will sign off and hit the send button. Good nite!

Roy Kraft, IHPA President



105th Iowa Honey Producers Association Conference and Annual Meeting November 10 -11, 2017 Gateway Church of the Nazarene - Oskaloosa, Iowa



Keynote Speakers include Marion Ellis and Dennis vanEngelsdorp

(See more details in The Buzz newsletter or online at www.iowahoneyproducers.org)

Friday and Saturday ~~ Registration: 8:00 AM ~~ Conference/Annual Meeting: 8:30 AM

Friday ~~ Queen Luncheon – Noon ~~ Social Hour – 5:00 PM ~~ Banquet – 6:15 PM

Saturday ~~ Meet the Board & Directors Luncheon – Noon

Please print legibly!

Name: _____ No. of colonies: _____
Address: _____ Years in Beekeeping: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ County: _____
E-mail Address: _____

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST ** NO EXCEPTIONS **

If you can only attend one day, no discounts are offered. No refunds given after November 1st.

*** Pre-registration received by October 31st will be entered into a drawing for 2 free banquet meals! ***

Conference and Annual Meeting Fees:

INDIVIDUAL:

Registration **BEFORE** October 31st - \$35 / **AFTER** October 31st - \$40 \$ _____

COUPLE /FAMILY:

Registration **BEFORE** October 31st - \$45 / **AFTER** October 31st - \$50 \$ _____

QUEEN LUNCHEON – Friday Noon (pre-registration required) (Orange glazed pork roast)

Number of tickets (per adult) _____ x \$14.00 \$ _____

Number of tickets (per child 4-12 years) _____ x \$10.00 \$ _____

BANQUET – Friday at 6:15 PM Banquet Keynote Speaker – Dennis vanEngelsdorp

Number of tickets (per adult) _____ x \$ 24.00 \$ _____

Number of tickets (per child 4-12 years) _____ x \$ 17.00 \$ _____

MEET THE BOARD & DIRECTORS LUNCHEON – Saturday Noon (pre-registration required)

Number of tickets (per person) (Box lunch - drink extra) x \$ 8.00 \$ _____

Sandwich options offered will be smoked dried beef, smoked ham and roasted turkey

2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES

IHPA membership dues (includes subscription to "The Buzz" newsletter) \$20.00 \$ _____

2nd Family membership w/same address – Name - _____ \$ 5.00 \$ _____

3rd Family membership w/same address – Name - _____ \$ 5.00 \$ _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Return this completed form along with payment to: Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer

Check payable to Iowa Honey Producers Association

52735 187th Avenue

Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation

Chariton, IA 50049

**** REMEMBER TO BOOK YOUR HOTEL – ROOMS WILL GO QUICKLY – DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE ****

Event questions can be directed to Eve Vanden Broek, VP IHPA at: mrstheo@iowatelecom.net or 515-491-6760

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10

Notes:- Get your RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE BEE QUILT at Registration

- Cooking with Honey contest entries due in the church kitchen by 10 AM
- Photo contest entries due in side hall & hive boxes entries due in Community Room #2 by 10:00
- Silent and Banquet Auction donations due to Connie Bronnenberg in the Foyer
 - Door prize drawings will take place behind the scenes; look for your name on the white boards/collect Comm

Rm #3

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 AM | Registration |
| 8:30 AM | Welcome –Announcements and Introduction of IHPA Board Members |
| 8:35 AM | Introduction of our Queen Candidate(s) |
| 8:40 AM | Reading of Prose: <i>When Bees are Packed for Winter</i> , by Bill Mellvir – IHPA Honey Queen |
| 8:45 AM | Keynote Speaker: Marion Ellis – Managing Bees for Honey Production |
| 9:30 – 9:45 | Question & Answer |
| 9:45 AM | Break / Visit the Vendors |
| 10:00 AM | Keynote Speaker: Dennis vanEngelsdorp – Practices That Work & Those That Don't |
| 10:45 – 10:55 | Question & Answer |
| 11:00 AM | Keynote Speaker: Tim Olsen – Overwintering Double Nucs Report - Investing in |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Question & Answer Regional Beekeeping Projects |
| 11:45 AM | Break / Visit the Vendors |
| 12:00 PM | Queen Luncheon – <i>Youth Center</i> |
| 1:00 PM | Keynote Speaker: Rhonda Fleming Hayes – Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies, and other Pollinators |
| 1:45 -2:00 | Question & Answer |
| 2:00 PM | Contest Winners Announced |
| | Break / Visit the Vendors |
| 2:15 – 3:15 | Breakout Sessions A, B, C, D (Choose one or float in-between) |
| | Session A – Beekeeper Roundtable--Phil Ebert, Ron Wehr, Dale Fields |
| | – Roy Kraft Moderator Main Aud. East |
| | Session B – The Ladies of Beekeeping--Eli Kalke, Erin Miller & Tracy Pielemeier, Main Aud. West |
| | Session C – Queen Rearing--Adam Ebert, Youth Center |
| | Session D – Bee Breeds & Characteristics--Andy Joseph, Comm Rooms 1 & 2 |
| 3:15 PM | Break / Visit the Vendors (Try the cooking contest samples in the Youth Center!) |
| 3:30 PM | Business Meeting – <i>Main Auditorium</i> |
| 4:15 PM | Honey Swap – <i>Fireside Room</i> |
| | Collect contest items |
| 5:00 PM | Social Hour – <i>Youth Center</i> |
| 6:00 PM | Find Your Seat – Main Auditorium |
| 6:15 PM | Banquet – <i>Main Auditorium</i> |

AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11



Notes: - Get your RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE BEE QUILT at Registration

- Silent Auction donations due to Connie Bronnenberg in the Foyer

- Door prize drawings will take place behind the scenes; look for your name on the white boards/collect Comm Rm #3

- 7:30 AM Meeting of Bee Clubs – Ron Rynders – Youth Center
- 8:00 AM Registration
- 8:30 AM Welcome / Announcements and – Introduction of new Board Members and the new Iowa Honey Queen
- 8:40 AM State Apiarist Report – Andy Joseph – The State of Iowa’s Honeybees
9:10 – 9:25 Question & Answer
- 9:30 AM Keynote Speaker: Marion Ellis – Effective Use of Oxalic Acid
10:15 – 10:30 Question & Answer
- 10:30 AM Break / Visit the Vendors
- 10:45 AM Keynote Speaker: Dennis vanEngelsdorp – Spit, Blood and Crap
11:30 – 11:40 Question & Answer
- 11:45 AM Break / Visit the Vendors – One last time before they pack up
- 12:00 PM Lunch with the Board – *Youth Center*
- 1:00 PM Keynote Speaker – Matt O’Neal – Can Honeybees Thrive in Iowa?
1:30 – 1:45 Question & Answer
- 2:00 PM Break
- 2:15 – 3:30 Sessions A, B, C, D (Choose one or float in-between)
Session A – Beginning Beekeeping--Doyle Kincy, Children’s Auditorium
Session B – Advanced Beekeeping--Pat Ennis & Alex Ebert, Main Auditorium
Session C – Commercial Beekeeping--Tim Wilbanks & Ryan Stern, Youth Center
Session D – Hive Inspections--Erin Miller, Comm Rooms 1 & 2
- 3:30 PM Honey Swap – *Fireside Room*
- Fill out the Evaluation Form ... Your feedback is important!**
- 3:45 PM Raffle drawing for the Bee Quilt
Grand Prize Drawing of a complete hive (no bees) –Must Be Present to Win

Thank you for coming!

See you next year – November 9 & 10, 2018 – Location TBD

Breakout Sessions - Friday, November 10

Session A – Beekeeper Roundtable – Meet and learn from a trio of beekeeping sages, Phil Ebert, Ron Wehr and Dale Fields. Each will do their best to dispel myths, tackle your complex questions or simply share their experiences. This session is designed for a meaningful group dialogue with our current president, Roy Kraft, to facilitate the discussion no doubt with a hearty laugh or two.

Session B – The Ladies of Beekeeping – It should be no surprise that women beekeepers mirror their male counterparts. Sit down with queen bees Eli Kalke and Erin Miller and Tracy Pielemeier from The Hive Butler (one of our vendors) as they talk about their relationship with the honeybee and how they have become a leader in and out of the bee yard. Drones are not only welcome to attend but encouraged to join the exchange.

Session C – Queen Rearing – Adam Ebert will share tips on how to raise queens on a small scale. He will review the basics of a low-investment grafting system, discuss swarming impulse for natural queen cells (no grafting), and point out important things to know when you extract natural cells to place in other hives or nucs. Most of us only need a few queens, and this is the place to learn more about producing your own!

Session D – Bee Breeds and Characteristics – Did you know honeybees differ subtly when it comes to their specific characteristics? Some are more docile; some are better wax builders; and some are better honey producers. Iowa's state apiarist, Andy Joseph, will explain the various common honeybee races and discuss their varying characteristics. Who knows, you may decide experiment with a new breed next year.

Breakout Sessions – Saturday, November 11

Session A – Beginning Beekeeping – Are you new to beekeeping or only have a year or two under your belt. There's so much to learn! Yes, a new hobby can be overwhelming but with patience and persistence, you will succeed. Join Doyle Kinsey as he explains some beekeeping best practices. He'll provide simple, easy to understand explanations to seemingly complex tasks. Bring your notebook as school isn't over just yet. Rest assured, next year will be easier!

Session B – Advanced Beekeeping – You've made it beyond five years of keeping bees and your apiary is growing ... things may have gotten a bit more complicated and now you're seeking advice on many fronts. You want to know the signs to recognize when you have a problem and you want to learn about various ways troubleshoot diseases. What works? What doesn't? Where do you go from here? Pat Ennis and Alex Ebert are your experts on deck and look forward to your challenging questions.

Session C – Commercial Beekeeping - For those with beekeeping in their blood and 'follow the bloom', this session is for you. How has this season treated you? What changes have you made in your management practices to stay ahead? How are you diversifying your operation to protect your investment? What are your plans for 2018, or where do you go from here? Tim Wilbanks and Ryan Stern will share valuable insight and generate discussion to benefit you.

Session D – Hive Inspections – When you open up your hive, you know you should see lots of worker bees but what else should you be looking for? Proper hive inspection is key to the colony's well-being. Erin Miller earned her Master Beekeeping Certificate through the University of Montana and knows a thing or two about hive inspections. Join her presentation for a round of Hive Inspection 101 and beyond.

If my count is correct, we have at least 13 people who have volunteered their time to help make these breakout sessions interesting, educational and fun. By all means, engage them and pick their brains. Then, when the session is over, be sure to thank them for their time.

Annual Meeting Payments

Thank you for all of you that have sent in your payment for the annual meeting. I had 10 envelopes waiting in my mail after the State Fair. I continue to get checks in the mail daily. Keep them coming.

I will not be depositing these checks until after September 30, 2017. The Annual Meeting is our first event of our new accounting year. These funds are recorded as income for the new accounting year (2018). If you are only paying your 2018 membership dues, the expiration date will be reflected on the November 2017 Buzz Newsletter.

IF you are planning on paying with a credit card, please go ahead and pre-register for the event, meals and membership dues. I will collect your credit card information at the door on Friday, November 10th. This will save you time at registration and I will have a good count for the caterers before the day of the event. Please just indicate that you will be paying with a credit card at the door.

All checks and registrations received prior to October 31st will be entered into the drawing for two (2) Friday night banquet tickets. You must be registered for the banquet to be entered in the drawing.

If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com, or 515-724-2124.

LET'S EAT AND BEE HAPPY

Food. Grub. Eats. Chow. However you call what you're about to eat for lunch or dinner, wouldn't you like to know what will be served at the upcoming Annual Meeting and Conference? Once again, I've looked at past event evaluations and tried to incorporate your ideas and suggestions into what is offered for our lunches and banquet dinner. These days to offer something for everyone's dietary restrictions is next to impossible and the odds to personally please 300+ is ... well, I might do better if I purchase a lottery ticket. My goal is to provide quality meals at an affordable price. I know in advance some of you will not be happy with the selections and you will tell me about it on your evaluation; that's fine. My response in advance is, next year, please volunteer to help with the menu selection and work with our food provider/caterer(s) on cost.

The **Queen Luncheon** will be on Friday, November 10 at noon, catered by *Country Catering*, a family business located near Peoria, Iowa. The meal will consist of Orange-glazed pork roast, or a veggie burger, with red mashed potatoes and green bean almandine with a dinner role and butter; home-made chocolate cake for dessert. The lunch cost is \$14.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children (4-12 years). Lunch will be buffet and will include ice water and coffee; other drink options will be available for purchase at the church.

Friday night **Annual Meeting Banquet** will be catered by *Cater 2 U, LLC* and comes highly recommended by everyone I talk to. They are located in Chariton, Iowa. I have worked with Thelma Saxton, the owner of Catering 2 U, to incorporate honey in as many items as possible. I provided her with many recipes from the National Honey Board and a few of my own personal favorites. She has diligently tried the recipes and provided her feedback. We have decided upon the following: Greens salad with creamed honey mustard dressing; for the entrée, pineapple honey glazed ham and broasted chicken with honey dipping sauce to be served with cheesy party potatoes, grilled corn and red peppers, and honey cornbread; for dessert, carrot cake made with honey. The vegetarian option will be penne pasta sautéed in olive oil and garlic with baby spinach and roasted red peppers. The banquet meal cost is \$24.00 for adults and \$17 for children (4-12 years).

On Saturday we will feature a **Meet the Board & Directors Luncheon** at noon. To save time and so you are able to meet and ask questions to the newly elected board and directors, I have opted for a boxed lunch from *Ulrich Meat Market* out of Pella, Iowa. When you enter the lunch location, we will have boxed lunches set up on tables, separated by sandwich variety which will be clearly marked. You choose what you want; options will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis. When your preference is gone, there will be no more. Options will be: Beefeater – Ulrich's own thin-sliced, hickory smoked dried beef with Swiss-American on white bread; Smokey – Ulrich's own double smoked ham with Wisconsin baby Swiss cheese on

wheat bread; Bird on the Run – Oven roasted turkey breast with imported Danish Havarti cheese on wheat bread. Each lunch will include a bag of chips and mixed fruit cup. A vegetarian option will be available. A large tray of my favorite frosted cookies, in the form of a skep, from *VanderPloeg Bakery*, will be on hand for dessert ... if I don't get to them first!

Cost of the lunch is \$8.00. Drinks will be on your own. (There is no need to provide your choice in advance.)

If these choices are not what you are interested in, you are welcome to have lunch or dinner in Oskaloosa. Get in your car and head east into town and you will find the gamut of fast food restaurants and other dining establishments. A listing of restaurants in town will be available at our event.

My fellow beekeepers, advance planning is of utmost importance! **For our lunch options**, there is only so much room (around 144) and our meal providers need advance numbers so they may plan. How would you like to plan Thanksgiving dinner at your home--you invite 25 but only 5 people confirm, you make enough for 7 but 20 show up? WHAT TO DO? The same for our event. I've told you in advance what will be served and the cost. If you're interested, sign up and know you're covered. If you don't know yet, the clock is ticking.

Note: At this point there is **no limit on the seating for the banquet**.



2018 Membership Dues

Iowa Honey Producers' Association membership year is January 1st through December 31st. You will notice the Annual Meeting Registration form includes a 2018 Membership Dues section. This form can (and should) be used for renewing your membership.

In an effort to create a new Membership Directory prior to the 2018 Iowa State Fair, I need everyone to complete the top section of the form. For the Directory to be useful, a current phone number and e-mail address (if available) is essential for each member.

Did you know your annual membership dues could be tax deductible? Iowa Honey Producers Association is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your subscriptions to hobby magazines could also be tax deductible. Consult your tax professional for more information.

Thank you for your help in getting and keeping all beekeepers connected. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2124.

As we look forward to attending the **Annual Meeting** in Oskaloosa, it's clear that we are going to be presented with significant and interesting **speakers**. Here's a review of their names, and more information is listed in the August and September Buzz issues on our website. Surely there will be something for everyone in this impressive list of speakers:

Dennis Van Engelsdorp—Assistant Professor of Entomology in the University of Maryland, and international bee epidemiologist, president of the Apiary Inspectors of America, founder of the Colony Collapse Group.

Marion Ellis—Professor emeritus of entomology in the University of Nebraska. He taught bee biology, advanced beekeeping and presentation methods. He is studying the synergistic interaction between drugs used in beekeeping, and the sub-lethal effects of pesticides on the reproduction in a hive.

Rhonda Fleming Hayes—Member of Garden Writers' Association, the Herb Society, the Xerces Society, and the Minnesota State Horticulture Society. Author of "Pollinator Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies and Other Pollinators". This immensely popular book will be available at the Meeting, and she will be happy to autograph it for you. Get one for yourself, and for your club's lending library.

Tim Olsen—Beekeeper in SW Minnesota, Master Gardener, judges at fairs, is president of the Northwest Iowa Beekeepers Club.

Matt O'Neal—Associate Professor of Entomology in Iowa State University. He focuses on soybeans, looking at biological aphid control as well as developing aphid-resistant soybeans.

No matter if you are a first-year beekeeper or a seasoned lifer, you'll find inspiration and news listening to the various speakers at this year's Annual Meeting.

Donation Proposal Form

Do you have a beekeeping program, a research project or a similar endeavor that you would like to see IHPA become involved with? If so, now is the time to request a donation from IHPA.

The 2017 IHPA Donation Proposal Form needs to be completed with the project name and a description of the project and the requested donation amount. The completed form needs to be submitted to Rhonda Heston prior to October 15, 2017. The donation proposal forms will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and recommendations will be made at the Annual Meeting during the business meeting.

No donations will be considered or made without the donation proposal form. Please submit to Rhonda Heston, 52735 187th Ave, Chariton IA 50049 or IHPATreasurer@gmail.com or r.heston@yahoo.com.

A Little Recognition Goes A Long Way

Let's stop for a moment and think about this past year in beekeeping. Whether it's your first year keeping bees or you know someone who can be considered a sage in the industry, we've all benefited from the kind help or advice of someone more experienced. It's these individuals who help nurture us along and provide support at each juncture.

The Iowa Honey Producers Association would like for you to consider recognizing someone who has been an important influence on your beekeeping journey. Maybe you know someone who has volunteered countless hours teaching beekeeping classes or can be called upon at the drop of hat to answer questions. How about that person who has worked tirelessly to promote beekeeping in all facets of the industry? Do you know a beekeeper that has gone above and beyond for the benefit of others? Or, how about one of our youth members who has worked hard at keeping their bees and entered a project or frame of honey at the local fair? Maybe you know a beekeeper that has been in trade for longer than you have been alive and they are still thriving. These are just some of the possibilities.

So you say you cannot write very well. No worries; we're not looking for a dissertation but a 140 character tweet is probably too short. How about a two or three paragraphs? That should be doable for everyone. Maybe you can solicit a family member to help get you started. Here are a couple of tips for preparing your recognition: Include the name of the person you are recognizing and how you know them. What award are you recommending they receive? Cite the reason you feel this person deserves the recommended recognition. This would be "the meat" of your write up. Remember to include details, examples, and facts or figures to support the recognition.

We have a great membership and many deserve to be recognized. In 2016 ten awards were handed out. Distinguished Service Awards went to: Teresa Brandenburg, Jodi Kraft, Bill and Louise Johnson and Eric Kenoyer; Lee Heine took home a Lifetime Membership Award; and Carly Rae Vannoy accepted an Education Award. Two budding beekeepers took home the Outstanding Youth Award--Jacqueline Ehrlich and Brandon Raasch; The Vannoy Family gracious accepted the Friendship Award; and our Queen Bee Connie Bronnenberg was surprised with the Sweepstakes Award. Thank you to those who took the time to recognize these individuals. Now, it's your turn!

For more information about awards offered and where to send your recognition, look further in this edition of The Buzz. Your consideration is appreciated!

2017 IHPA Annual Meeting Contest Rules

Contest will be Friday, November 10th, 2017. Entries need to be in place by 10:00 a.m.

This year there will NOT be a Mead Contest. Due to the facility we are using, no alcoholic beverages will be on premises.

Rules for the Cooking contest: ~Honey is to be the only sweetener. ~Please submit your recipe with your entry. ~Contest coordinator will keep recipes to be included in the "Buzz" newsletter. ~Your name needs to be on the back of the recipe card. ~Bring enough samples for judging as well as tasting at the afternoon break on Friday.

This year the 1st place in each of the below 6 Categories will receive their choice of a Single Admission Ticket for either the 2018 Annual Meeting OR 2018 Summer Field Day. This needs to be determined when picking up their containers from the contest area.

*Must win the category, so that means 2 or more people need to enter a category.

*Can only enter 1 category item (for example: you cannot enter a soup plus a main dish because they are in the same category).

*The above rules will be waived if you enter 3 or more categories.

*Example #1: Jodi enters Category 2 (Breakfast; Main Dishes; Soups) but is the only category she entered and is the only one who entered that category, she is then only eligible to win a Blue ribbon and no other prizes.

*Example #2: Jodi enters Category 1, 3, 6 because she has entered 3 categories but was the only one entered into category 6, she is then eligible to receive the 1st place prize being the 2018 Summer Field day pass OR 2018 Annual Meeting pass.

*Only one 1st place prize (2018 Summer Field day pass OR 2018 Annual meeting pass will be given even if you place 1st in other categories.) **Categories** to be submitted will include: 1. Breads/Jams and Jellies 2. Breakfast/Main Dishes/Soups 3. Candies/Cookies/Brownies/Bars/Desserts/Cakes/Pies 4. Fruits/Salads/Vegetables 5. Snacks/Appetizers/Beverages (Non-Alcoholic) 6. This 'n That Edibles BBQ and other sauces, dressings, marinades Honey Butters Fruit Dips Ice Cream/sorbets/fudge pops

*Note: Frostings and icings need to be included on a cake so will not be part of this category.

Entries will be judged on: ~Presentation of entry. ~Best use of honey. ~Amount of honey used (compared to other entries in the category). ~Flavor of entry. ~Overall appearance of entry. (Judges reserve the right to determine how to best judge the entries).

First (Blue), Second (Red) and Third (White) place ribbons will be given in each category. The 1st place prize for the Cooking Contest per category is going to be a 2018 Summer Field Day pass OR 2018 Annual Meeting pass. **Remember only non-alcoholic entries this year!!!**

Rules for the Judged Photo Contest:

~Photo must be matted but not framed.

~Any size photo will be accepted for this competition. ~Your name needs to be on the backside of the photo. ~Must be a Honey Bee, not a Bumblebee or native Iowa Bee. ~Photo contest will be judged by the Annual Meeting participants as a whole.

Categories to be submitted will include 1. Bee on a flower. 2. General beekeeping. 3. Marketing or promotion. 4. Extracting Honey or Specific Photos pertaining to Honey.

First (Blue), Second (Red) and Third (White) place ribbons will be given in each category. The 1st place prize per category for Photo Contest is going to be a Digital Picture Frame with Flash Drive.

Rules for Hive Body Paint Design Contest:

~There are two categories: *Adult (16 years of age or older) *Youth (15 years of age or younger) ~Your name needs to be written on paper provided in the contest room. ~The use of stenciling is not allowed. ~Hand painted design to cover a minimum of one side of the hive body. ~Theme of your choice.

First (Blue), Second (Red) and Third (White) place ribbons will be given in each category. The 1st place prize per category for Hive Body Paint Design Contest is going to be a \$30.00



Merchandise Sale

During the Iowa State Fair, many of the Keep Calm, Keep Bees t-shirts were sold. After the Fair an inventory of shirts, hats, and aprons was conducted. In counting the shirts, Doyle Kincy and Carly Raye Vannoy, discovered that we have lots and lots of the "old style", yellow t-shirts, as well as a few 100th Anniversary shirts. There are limited numbers in certain sizes. The new price is \$6 per shirt, plus \$5 shipping.

When ordering, please state the size you would like as well as an alternate size. We have sizes youth small through adult 3XL. We will make every attempt to fill your order with the size requested, but we may have to substitute a different size. Please include your phone number and/or an e-mail address that we can contact you if need be.

Also, we now have Iowa Honey Producer bumper stickers. The cost is \$4 each. We still have IHPA Hats and Aprons. We also have two different style magnets for \$5 each.

Contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2124. Checks can be mailed to Rhonda at 52735 187th Ave, Chariton IA 50049.

Clubbing 201

Ron Rynders and I communicate often via e-mail about articles for the monthly newsletter. There's so much we can and do put into print that I can only hope we catch your attention half the time. By chance did you read my piece last month about Ron leading a group on Saturday, November 11? It was about starting a beekeeping club in your area. If you didn't, dig out the September edition and look for it. If you still cannot find it, head to the IHPA website and click on 'Newsletter' and then on September.

As Ron noted to me in July, we have so many Iowa beekeepers who are experienced and knowledgeable that it would be beneficial to have a list of those who would be willing to speak and then make that list available to all our clubs. I have heard some clubs struggle with topics and whom to invite to speak at their next monthly meeting. This is where this list would be the cat's meow. He also envisions our clubs collecting data on such items as overwintering successes or varroa counts and providing statistics to Andy in order to help him understand more about the state of Iowa's honeybees. Of course all of this takes dedication, time and effort. One person cannot do it alone. Collectively, we can do well for one another and ourselves.

Which leads me to something I believe was done last year at the Annual Meeting and Conference: club advertisement. Are you the leader of your club? Maybe you're the secretary, or perhaps you want to create something for your club. If you have a brochure or half sheet promoting your beekeeping club, bring copies to the Annual Meeting and we'll make them available. Remember, we will have many new beekeepers in attendance and they may be looking for a club to join to enhance their knowledge or seek advice. Key items to include would be your club name, when, where and how often you meet, membership fees (if any), any activities your club organizes, and if you have contact individuals.

Lastly, please don't let the topic of starting a club stop you from attending. If you already belong to a club, you are still welcome to attend. Ron's session will be an exchange of ideas and all are welcome. Each club is organized differently and with so many ways to organize, all participants are sure to benefit.

Eve Vander Broek, IHPA Vice President

(Editor PS: No need for a whole block of club members to attend, but if someone from your club would be there, or a couple, that would be good. Bring information, and report back to your club. Thanks. Eager to meet all clubs, and anyone interested in starting a new club. Ron)

2017 Iowa Honey Producer's Quilts

Hello Everyone! This year's Two Iowa Honey Producers' quilts are very similar; they both have a center panel with flowers, birdhouse and bees flying around. The blocks around the panels were all created by IHPA members. I would like to take this time and thank everyone for helping make the blocks for the TWO Iowa Honey Producers' quilts this year. Roz Hemberger from Forest City quilted both of the quilts again this year and did a fabulous job. Thank you Roz for offering your quilting services to this association. The first quilt will be available for Raffle. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00, and the tickets will be available for purchase at the Registration Table at the Annual meeting or you may contact Rhonda Heston (indicate that you want to purchase Raffle Tickets for the 2017 Quilt). The second quilt will be sold at the Iowa Honey Producer's Annual Meeting, November 10th during the Banquet. Remember all proceeds go back to the Iowa Honey Producers' Queen Program for both quilts. Are you ready to sew again? Fabric has been purchased and packets for the 2018 quilt will be available at the Registration Table at the Annual meeting. I am looking forward to receiving your blocks back and putting the quilt together for 2018. Thank you again to everyone who participated this past year with quilt blocks, quilting, etc. Looking forward to bee-ing creative in 2018.

Jodi Kraft

Queen Auction

It's time to be thinking about donating to the actions at the Annual Meeting. Anything you have that would be of interest to the membership is welcome. Some will be auctioned off live, some will go on the silent auction. Proceeds from the auction go to help fund the Iowa Honey Queen as she travels our state attending various events. Thanks in advance for bringing auction items to Oskaloosa in November.

Annual Meeting Motel Room Information:

There are blocks of room in the EverSpring Inn & Suites (Ph: 641-676-6000) and the Super 8 (Ph:641-673-8481). You can cancel up to 24 hours prior to arrival. Other motels are located in Pella, 15 miles away.

Mentors Needed – Let's Get You On The List!

Back in January I spelled out my five beekeeping resolutions for 2017. My 5th resolution was to “Pay it Forward” – to take on the role as a mentor. That role began in December 2016. While the year is not yet over, my role as a mentor to Rebekkah Weers continues. We successfully installed Rebekkah's package in April and today is thriving at seven boxes tall, following two location moves. She and her dad, Lee, installed a swarm on their own a few weeks later which also has topped at seven stories. Rebekkah recognized the poor brood pattern in a third hive and decided the queen must die. The hive re-queened itself and is thriving. She has started a couple of nucs and most recently we tested for mites – we didn't find any but we each sustained a sting. “We're beekeeping!” I told her. How is your mentoring relationship progressing? What have you learned?

In June, I penned an article about what it means to be a mentor and briefly described what is involved for both the mentor and student. I bring up the topic of mentoring up once again because the need for dedicated and patient mentors is needed for our 2018 youth scholarship recipients. Yes, that's months down the road but if it isn't at the forefront of our minds today, we'll end up scrambling to find mentors at the annual meeting and that's no way to operate a successful program. Besides, planning ahead is in my DNA.

Eric Kenoyer, the IHPA's youth scholarship coordinator, has spent considerable time to put together a well-thought out timeline and duties for our mentors. If you were mentored this year, you know how valuable the time with a mentor can be. For your consideration and the benefit of the membership, take a look at the timeline.

Annual Meeting: Meet the scholar, if possible.

November – December: Receive scholar information, make contact and student find the beekeeping class appropriate for them.

January – March: Receive hive, either by mail to student or delivered to you and put together; student attends beekeeping classes.

April – May: Receive bees; delivered by designated IHPA member; .

May – October: Work with your student throughout the spring and summer. You should have lots of contact with your student. Help them take what they learned in class and apply it with their bees. Help them harvest their honey, check for mites and then get their hive wintered. Encourage them to attend the IHPA Summer Field Day.

October – November: Attend the annual meeting to receive your recognition and congratulate your student. Always encourage your student to attend club meetings, read beekeeping magazines and ask questions.



As Eric has mentioned to me during our conversations, the future of beekeeping is in our hands; it is our duty to nurture those who will help sustain the honeybees of our future. In 2017 the IHPA awarded 19 scholarships. If we are to maintain that level or increase it, we will need just as many mentors. With a growing membership, we can no longer expect one person in any of our districts to mentor more than a couple of students, and it is absurd to believe that “someone else will do it”. That someone else is YOU. We all know helping one another is in the best interest for our organization. Whether you have logged years of experience or only have a couple under your belt, you can be a mentor. Our goal is to have a full list of willing mentors to pull from and match them with students in their area. As you have heard so many times before, the more the merrier. So what's stopping you? Eric is ready and willing to discuss the program or answer your questions. He's waiting to hear from YOU. Please contact him at ekenoyer@aol.com. Tell him you're interested and want to be first on the list. Thank you for your consideration.

MENTOR...

Inspire,

COACH

Influence

INSTRUCT

Cookbook Sale

In 2016 IHPA collected your recipes and created a new cookbook. This is a great cookbook. There are more than 400 delicious recipes. In anticipation of a strong demand for the new cookbook, IHPA ordered two runs of the cookbook. The original price of the cookbook was \$10. We are lowering the price to \$5 each. If you wish to order a case of 30, the individual book price is \$3 or \$90 a case. These cookbooks can be resold at Farmers' Markets, Craft Fairs, etc. These cookbooks make a great, inexpensive gift for out of state family and friends.

The cookbooks can be mailed to you at a cost of \$5 per individual book. Other arrangements can be made for case lot sales. Cases of cookbooks will be available at the Annual Meeting in Oskaloosa in November. If you are interested, please let me know so we can have enough for everyone.

Please contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2124, for further information.

AND THE WINNING BID GOES TO ... YOU!

I've told you some folks come to the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) Annual Meeting and Conference not to hear the great speakers or pick up the latest in beekeeping supplies, they come for the hot tub experience at the hotel. I still laugh when I think about it. But how about those who come for the great auction items? Over the handful of times I have attended our annual event, I have always appreciated the great variety of silent auction items up for bid such as adult coloring books, jewelry, candles, honeypots, soap, tea towels, kitchen items, etc. All these unique items are graciously donated by members or participants with the money collected going to help fund the IHPA Honey Queen program.

Connie Bronnenberg expertly manages the Silent Auction as well as the Queen Auction, the latter part of the Friday night banquet program. Items for the Queen Auction are typically sought after items and of a higher value than those items offered on the silent auction tables. These items also are typically donated by our members and will be on display for all to see in advance of the evening banquet. Our very successful Queen Program is the benefit of your winning bids. As a quick reminder, Iowa is home to the current American Honey Queen AND the Iowa Honey Queen. This only goes to show what a great program our state offers and both Maia Jaycox and Carly Vannoy represent Iowa supremely.

Then we'll have a Live Auction of valuable services some of our members will offer such as personal assistance in your bee yard for making splits or queen rearing, or speaking at a club meeting or demonstration to a group. When you figure in time and travel costs, these live auction offers are very affordable and oh so valuable. Your kind bids for these services will help offset the cost of our event, costs which never seem to go down. Who has signed up so far? Curt Bronnenberg, Pat Ennis (, Jason Foley and Roy Kraft.

Our friend Bill Van Roekel has once again offered to help with both the Queen Auction and the Live Auction, if he's still alive, he tells me. Bill has got a warm smile and a wonderful personality to engage a large crowd such as we'll have at our banquet. Make him work up a sweat by bidding often and a maybe incite a bidding war or two. Let's get the crowd involved to support our queen!

Your participation by way of a donation or winning bid is a benefit to the IHPA anyway you look at it. Thank you in advance to all who support our programs and annual event which as we all know is priceless.

Honey Recipes with Emma Jakes

Bite-size Honey Popcorn Balls (page 145)

20 cups air-popped popcorn (2/3 to 1 cup kernels)

¾ teaspoon salt

2

teaspoons vanilla extract

1 ¼ cup butter, cut into chunks, plus more for your hands

(1 ¼ cup honey) – I had to guess about the amount, if you are the original author, please Email me the correct amount so that I can share it in the next issue of the Buzz J - thrownrosepottery@gmail.com. Pre-heat oven to 325 degrees. Put popcorn in a large roaster pan. Line a large baking sheet with waxed paper. In a medium sauce pan over medium heat, use a heatproof spatula or wooden spoon to stir together 1 ¼ cups butter, the honey, and salt until butter is melted. Increase heat and boil honey mixture gently 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir in vanilla. Carefully pour honey mixture over popcorn in roasting pan and stir gently to coat. Bake popcorn, stirring every 5 minutes until deep golden all over, about 25 minutes. Let popcorn stand 5 minutes, or just until cool enough to handle. Working quickly with lightly buttered hands, press small handfuls of the mixture into 1 ½ inch balls, occasionally loosening popcorn from bottom of the pan with spatula. If mixture cools too much to be malleable, return to oven for about 45 seconds to soften. Put popcorn on prepared baking sheet and let cool completely. Store in air-tight container, at room temperature for up to 2 weeks. Makes 60-65 popcorn balls. For an extract flare, add a bite of colored Halloween candy after baking.

Note: If you don't have an air popper, you can pop the popcorn in the micro wave: Working in 2 batches, put kernels in a brown paper bag (any size). Do not add oil. Fold the bag's opening several times to seal, then microwave at full power in one-minute increments, checking popcorn and removing popped kernels as you go (they burn easily). Be careful when opening the bag; it will release steam.

GLOP (page 44)

1 pound ground beef

1 teaspoon minced onions

1 16-ounce can pork and beans ¾ cup Kraft® BBQ sauce

1 tablespoon brown sugar

1 tablespoon honey

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Brown the hamburger. Add all ingredients except cheese. Mix. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 375 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Makes 4-6 servings.

This recipe was super simple to make, and only took about 10 minutes. It makes a great quick meal, whether for a rough sloppy Joe or a fun side dish! When I brought the bowl to potluck with the beans in it, it was gone in a matter of minutes.

Vendors Featured at the Annual Meeting

You've saved your birthday money, money from honey sales, and maybe you found a \$20 bill in jacket pocket from last year's annual meeting. I can understand if that money is burning a hole in your wallet or pocketbook. Look no further than the 2017 Annual Meeting and Conference to put that money to good use! We have an excellent selection of vendors who will be on hand to help lighten the load in your back pocket or purse. So here is the list of vendors, and in each case, you can call ahead and they will deliver your product to the Annual Meeting at no charge...

1. **Dadant & Sons, Inc.** of Sioux City, Iowa will have an assortment of beekeeping supplies on hand. Call them at 877-732-3268 – Hours are M-F 8 to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. CST.
2. **B & B Honey Farm** of Houston, Minnesota notes their booth will feature beekeeping supplies and anything and everything from candle making to candies, from books to soaps and lotions. Order one week in advance for delivery to our meeting. www.bbhoneyfarms.com
3. **Mann Lake Ltd.** from Hackensack, Minnesota has protective clothing, gift items and of course a large variety of beekeeping supplies. Order by November 7 and you can pick it up on the weekend. www.mannlakeltd.com
4. **Randol Honey Farm** of Winterset, Iowa has options such as creamed and flavored honey, goat milk soaps and lotions, lip balms and Bugs Bee Gone. Their website is www.randolhoney.com. Orders placed one week in advance will be brought to the Annual Meeting free of charge.
5. **The Hive Butler** out of Westfield, Indiana is a new company and they are all about superior frame storage and safe bee transportation and queen protection. Their product is a storage box constructed of food-grade HDPE designed to hold newly constructed wax frames or frames full of sweet liquid gold. Move your frames without damage or major leaks in your vehicle. If you'd like to order in advance, contact them at thehivebutler@gmail.com and they will bring your order and save you shipping costs.

6. **Strong Microbials** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin will feature their product called SuperDFM-HoneyBee. This product is a Direct Fed Microbial (DFM) supplement of naturally occurring beneficial and viable bacteria. DFM are safe bacteria designed to help restore essential digestive balance. Rich Russell will be on hand to talk with you about how this product can improve your overwinter survival rate. Want to order in advance of the meeting, call 414-322-3945 to place your order.

With a lineup of vendors such as we will have at our event, and the ease at which you can order any of their products in advance and have it brought to you, how can you not take advantage of any of these companies? I've only listed a handful of the items these companies offer. Check out their websites for a full listing.

If you do place an order to be delivered at the time of our Annual Meeting, please be sure to tell the company to bring it to the event in Oskaloosa and remind them of the date: November 10 and 11. Again, be sure they know your order is not to be shipped directly to you but brought to the IHPA Annual Meeting in November. You may want to call them a few days in advance of the meeting to remind them of your order; a follow-up call never hurts.

FOR SALE: Approximately 100 empty 6 5/8 supers. Rough condition, but they hold frames. Selling choice for \$3 each or take them as they come off the stack for \$1 each. We also have new unassembled supers for \$10 each. Contact Phil Ebert at ehoney37@netins.net or call [641-527-2639](tel:641-527-2639) (office) or [641-521-6361](tel:641-521-6361) (cell)

For Sale: 16 colonies of bees in two deeps each, plus 4 honey supers with each colony. Ready for CA or ready to be winterized for Iowa. Hives will be inspected by the time Oct. Buzz is mailed. Call for information:

Scott Martin, Humbolt IA -- [515-460-4302](tel:515-460-4302)

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.

What you need to know about the Bee Emergency Program:

I got a note from Eve asking me if I would write a note for the Buzz for October about the bee emergency program.

There have been no emergencies involving bees or stinging incidents for several years, which is good... I get a lot of calls from around the state from people with swarms or bees in their houses, and I always find out what county they're from and I give them the name and phone number of a beekeeper in their area to try and take care of the problem.

All the work I have done is through fire departments because when there is a problem the fire department is the first place they call. But first I have to get into the department and that is where beekeepers should come in. They need to be going to their local fire departments and telling them about our emergency program. But in all the years I have done this, only one beekeeper has done this and that was a beekeeper in Washington.

I have done presentations in a good part of Southeast Iowa, Fort Dodge and Mason City and I guess one small town up by Fort Dodge. I also did a presentation for the Iowa State Fire School in Ames where I showed the presentation to about 150 fire chiefs from around the state. I have spent a lot of time talking to the training officers of different departments because the only way you are going to get in is to try and convince them that they need what we have to offer.

I have not updated much from what I started with: I show a mowing incident, and a truck wreck. Not all problems happen in daylight, especially truck wrecks, and in the presentation, we show the proper protection and the use of A triple F (aqueous film forming foam) if there are circumstances calling for it.

For me, getting beekeepers to do their part (talking to their departments) is the hardest part; if they don't do their part, I can't do mine.

I don't know how many beekeepers have seen the presentation or would care to, but I think for this to work, they all have to be involved. At least they must go to their fire departments and tell them that if they have a problem with bees to give them their phone number to call if a problem arises.

Thank you, Vern Ramsey

STATE FAIR PICS--



Hello!

Quite a season. Haven't seen any major bee health issues for a little while. Bees seem to do so well in years of a more wet spring followed by a hotter, dry summer. Lots of pollen still coming in this late August. Must be at least a little nectar still coming as well. I've been pulling honey and extracting in my "free time" this past week, and the bees have really been pretty well behaved. No crazy robbing or fighting me yet. The crop is good – this is true for most people I've talked to around the state. Boxes are full and heavy. Moisture content is fine to fairly low. Frames of foundation were drawn into nice combs well through July. Nearly every year, that last round of supers comes back in light or even empty, especially boxes without drawn combs. Beekeepers' optimism... this year most of that final round of supers got drawn and filled. Very happy about this, though the greedy side of me wonders if I could've gotten lucky with adding even another box to some.

The fair was great. Tons of fun. Glad it's over. See you all back there in 11.5 months. Thank you to everyone that worked there in the booth and to everyone who brought such quality entries. I met a lot of "new" people there this year. Had the opportunity to meet and work with several of the IHPA scholarship youth – impressive bunch all around. Thank you to Connie and Heidi and Rhonda and Doyle and all the incredible Vannoys – Carly, Carole, Scott - and the newly Mr.-and-Mrs. (congrats!) Foley and Maia and to the unstoppable Brandon Raasch. These are people who seemingly never stopped working from before it started until after it was over.

It's getting late and I must get up and out early tomorrow to head over to Sioux City to meet with a great group of beekeepers. Can't quit yet though – I haven't harped about mites. This time last year, mite counts were awful for way too many beekeepers, including myself. Numbers that seemed acceptable mid-season turned ugly by the time honey supers were pulled. Colonies were crashing due to mite pressure and all the associated viruses. I'm happy to report that, at least for the beekeepers I've recently visited, the mite counts haven't been quite so foul this year. They're still too high – nearly all requiring treatment, but generally not as bad as the numbers last year. Don't get comfortable. Check your hives and kill the mites. Make sure you have good, laying queens. Make sure they're healthy by every knowable measure. I encourage you to feed them pollen sub and syrup into the fall to help boost their nutrition, extend healthy brood rearing, and ensure adequate food stores for wintering.

Take care everyone. See you!

If you know of somebody the IHPA should recognize during the Annual Meeting in November, please contact Curt Bronnenberg at [\(515\) 480-6075](tel:5154806075). Send nominations to cbronny823@aol.com or Curt Bronnenberg, 14405 Hull Ave, Perry IA 50220. A brief written description of the nominee's involvement in beekeeping/IHPA would be appreciated. Here are the categories. See if someone you know should have an award.

Lifetime Membership Award

Pioneer Award--for having been involved in beekeeping for 50 years or more and still active in beekeeping.

Distinguished Service Award--for assisting other beekeepers, being willing to share information, and/or serving the state association.

Education Award--for teaching beekeeping classes, speaking at service clubs, giving presentation to school children or speaking about beekeeping on radio or T.V.

Promotions Award--for promoting honey and beekeeping, promotions for the state association or promoting their own product.

Friendship Award--for being a friend of the association. This could be someone who has displayed at the annual IHPA trade show or a state official who has assisted or encouraged beekeeping. They do not need to be a member of our beekeeping community.

Youth Award--for a young person who has shown commendable involvement in such things as helping at the state or county fair, successfully keeping bees for at least one season including wintering, writing, making a float for a parade, speaking, etc.

HERE'S A CHANCE TO BRING AND BRAG:

Don't forget the **Honey Swap** at the Annual Meeting in Oskaloosa. You bring a one-pound jar of your Iowa Honey—labeled and in the container of your choice—and drop it off at the registration table when you arrive. You will be asked to fill out a 3X5 card with your name and county where you collected the honey. If you attend from another state, include that info on the card too. You can swap more than one jar. (No store-bought honey, please). You will receive a ticket for each jar you bring. On both afternoons you will turn in your ticket for an equal number of jars at the swap. Honey jars will be displayed.

WANTED ... YOU!

It's rare when people beat down the door of non-profit organization to serve on their board, especially when it's an unpaid position. In fact, it's probably easier to get money from some folks than it is to get them to donate their time. Yes, everyone is busy and there are always excuses. I know many of us are over committed and looking to scale down; there's only so many hours in a day. Come talk to me! Then there are those who are committed to a cause and passionate about making a difference - they step up to the plate for board service. Society and the Iowa Honey Producers Association needs more of these people! Can we count on you?

Our current **President**, Roy Kraft, has served on the IHPA board for three terms, two years as president and one year as vice president. He knows the ins and outs of this organization well. He has decided to pass the torch on in order to spend more time in his bee yard and some other diversion having do with a watercraft. Before he departs, he deserves a big round of applause and a standing ovation. Not one to simply disappear, Roy has a lot of experience to share and believes the next president will inherit an organization well positioned for a growing membership.

I am stepping down as **Vice President** to explore other opportunities. Serving in this role has been a very big learning experience. My organizational skills have been my biggest asset and hopefully you have benefited from my many hours sitting at a computer. My eyes need rest.

We will also have a couple of **District Director** positions which will open up requiring as much time and energy into the directorship as you can muster. Additionally, Eric Kenoyer will leave his role as **Youth Coordinator** to focus his efforts more towards expanding and maintaining the IHPA website. Eric has built upon and enhanced the youth coordinator role and is committed to a smooth transition for the incoming coordinator.

We are asking you to consider serving in one of these open positions. Here's the qualities we are looking for (not just someone with a pulse):

Passion for beekeeping

Willingness to commit time for board meetings,
committee meetings, planning sessions and/or special events

Team player – works well in group

Someone who listens well and contributes effectively

Of course if you have an interest to serve in another

board position, we welcome all candidates. All talents are needed and will be considered.

As humans, we tend to complain about things when we're not 100% satisfied, me included. What may be a great idea to me may sound like an awful one to you. My point is that no one person can be satisfied 100% of the time. Life just doesn't work that way. But if you want to make a difference in this organization, this is your time to shine. As a member of the IHPA you have the right to run for a position and you are able to vote for those you feel most qualified to serve. Your involvement counts and is valued.

If you would like to learn more about these open positions or are interested in running for a board position, please contact Roy Kraft or me. We would love to explore ideas on how best you can serve. Contact information for us both can be found on the back of The Buzz.

Below is useful information from the IHPA By-laws. For a full listing of the By-laws, please visit the IHPA website.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall be a president, a vice-president, secretary, treasurer and historian. There will also be seven directors, one of which will be the immediate past president. All officers will hold office for one year and be elected at large from the State of Iowa. Each officer or director shall be 21 years of age or older. Six directors shall be elected, three each year for two year terms. The immediate past president shall remain as a director until the election of another president. The six directors, excluding the past president, shall be elected, one from each district of Iowa, with these districts corresponding to the six 1990 U.S. Congressional Districts*. All officers and directors shall be elected by the general membership present at the annual meeting.

*refers to a map of the 1990 U. S. Congressional Districts

Eve Vander Broek, IHPA Vice President



Are mites the whole story?

I am a veterinarian that started raising bees to fulfill one of the things on my bucket list. It has been both a rewarding and frustrating experience. Last season I had 11-12 hives/nucs to go into winter. By the first snowfall, all were dead except one. The experts told me it was mites. I checked for mites until I took honey supers off. They tell me we had an exponential growth of mites after that. What caused this exponential growth? There has to be a reason. Sometimes when confronted with a problem, you need to think outside the box! My question is, "What came first, the chicken or the egg?"

Being a veterinarian, I understand the host/parasite relationship and have seen it first hand in multiple species. When organisms do not get the proper nutrition, it makes them more susceptible to infections and/or parasite infestation.

I am thoroughly convinced that insecticides and herbicides have more to do with our bee problems than the "experts" lead us to believe. I don't know if they truly don't understand how these chemicals are negatively affecting our environment and our health or they don't chose to make waves because of all the research dollars coming into the Universities.

I don't profess to have all the answers to these problems but would like to bring to light some facts about one of the most common herbicides used today in agriculture. That herbicide is glyphosate, brand name, Roundup.

This was originally patented as a chelating agent in 1964. As such, it was used as a descaling agent to clean calcium and other mineral deposits in pipes and boilers of residential and commercial hot water systems. It chelates (ties up) iron, calcium, magnesium, manganese, and boron. In 1969 it was patented as a herbicide by tying up the minerals involved in energy production, thereby starving the plant of energy and killing it. Every one of these minerals are involved in the metabolic pathway for energy production.

In 2004 it was patented as an anti-microbial. Not only does it kill beneficial soil micro-organisms such as mycorrhizae which helps decompose crop residue, but only 0.1 ppm inhibits normal gut flora in living organisms such as bees and livestock. 70-80% of an organism's immune system depends on a healthy and robust intestinal microflora. Do your bees act like they not getting enough to eat?

When the bees are inhibited from making energy and their intestinal microflora is reduced from the effects of glyphosate, is it any wonder mites and viruses move in and find a new home to live?

The good news is that I have figured out how to replace tied up minerals and intestinal microflora for about 5.5 cents/ gallon of sugar solution. I also put a gallon of treated water on top of a hive in the apiary. The jury is still out, but two mite

checks resulted in zero mites found. It appears to take a while for the nutrition to make a clinical difference. This is the same thing we find in livestock.

Prevention is 1000 times better than treatment. If we have to treat, that means that something has already broken down and let our bees be susceptible to mites and viruses.

Bruce Rafoth DVM, Earlville, Iowa .563-608-1675

(Note: In further conversation with Dr. Rafoth, I learned that he has a website, and makes supplies available to us. Go to Practical-Ag-Solutions.com--Editor)



NEW
For the 2017 Iowa Honey
Producers Association Annual
Meeting & Conference in
November

It's a Honey

Here's how it works...

YOU bring a 1 lb. jar of your IOWA HONEY – labeled and in the container of your choice - drop off at the registration table at the event. You will be asked to fill out a 3 x 5 card with your name and the county from where the honey was collected. If you attend from another state, the same rules will apply but include your state. Yes, you can swap more than one jar. No store bought honey, please.

You will receive a ticket for each jar you provide. On both days (afternoon) you will turn in your ticket(s) for an equal number of jars at the swap.

Honey will be displayed for all to see.

Join in the fun ... Show off your honey ...
Taste new honey from around our great state!



Participation is easy and as near to free as you can get!



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IHPA provided the pollen during the Iowa State Fair. Currently there is 15 pounds of loose, unpackaged pollen in my freezer. There are 35 8oz jars of pollen and 7 empty 2 pound jars (that hold 1 pound of pollen). The association is looking to sell these items. The loose pollen cost \$6.50 a pound and that is what the pollen will sell for (\$97.50). The 8 oz bottle of pollen is \$4.50 per jar (this is half of what the association sold it for at the Fair) and the empty 2 pound jars are \$1.35 each.

If you are interested in the pollen, please contact Rhonda Heston at IHPATreasurer@gmail.com or r.heston@yahoo.com or call 515-724-2124



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The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association
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American Honey Producers Association: www.ahpanet.com

American Beekeeping Federation: www.ABFnet.org

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