



The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



September 2014

ASSOCIATION



Honey Fest Sept. 21st pg4

Annual Meeting Information pg8-10

IHPA Donation Proposal Deadline Oct. 1 pg11



November 14th-15th—IHPA Annual Meeting—Marshalltown, IA



For Sale: Medium and Deep boxes with frames (no foundations) \$35.00 each. Also have Bottoms, Lids, and other misc. for sale. Also have Top Bars at 30 bars large, very nice, \$375.

Andrew Jenkins
Tipton, Iowa
Call 563-889-2632

For Sale: 4 drums of honey. Also several buckets @ \$2.10/lb. Contact Jeremy Van Donselaar Cedar, Iowa, 641-672-9598 or jkctbl7@hotmail.com

For Sale: 8 beehives reconditioned; some new parts, 90% complete, new paint, state inspected.
3 bee smokers
1 honey extractor

Call Dave at 319-331-6590

FOR SALE: Beekeeping Equipment and supplies - Goodell IA
Offering reasonably priced new and some used beekeeping supplies and equipment.
For more information, please call Pat @ 515-293-2601

FOR SALE: Husky 10 cu ft. 2 wheel wagon, used very little, \$80.00 (new \$140)

Great for moving bee equipment around, avoiding heavy lifting over variable distances.

Contact fieldstonefarms@netis.net or 641-512-4728 for more details.



Wanted: 55 gal drums in good condition for honey.

Call Curtis at 319 480-2915

For sale: Bees in 9 5/8 in 10 frame hive body with 9 frames.

\$130.00 each.

Call Curtis at 319 480-4209

I'm Continuing Draper's Wax Operation!

If you've ever used Draper's Super Bee wax, you know the quality of their filtered wax. I have purchased their wax operation and will continue to uphold their standards! Currently in need of cappings. Please call or e-mail me if you have any cappings to sell or would like to reserve an order of wax as soon as it becomes available.

Royce Blackledge
Black Cat Acres
66435 270th Lane
Nevada, IA 50201

(515) 979-6585

royce.blackledge50@gmail.com

2014 Annual Meeting

I know the IHPA Annual Conference on November 14th-15th seems a long way off right now, but it is never too early to make your hotel reservations at either the Best Western or Super 8 in Marshalltown. Not only will you have peace of mind that you secured your accommodation arrangements for this event, by booking early, you will also be able to take advantage of the lower rates we have secured with both hotels, *just let reservations know you are attending the conference so they know to give you the discount.*

More information about this year's Annual Meeting will be published in the next Buzz Newsletter. This year's keynote speakers will be Dr. Keith Delaplane MBA and Dr. Marla Spivak.

If you have any question, please let me know.

Eli
IHPA – VP
641-512-4728



The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex` Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com (also alex.ebert@eberthoney.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 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.

President's Message September 2014

The Iowa State Fair is up and running. I am sitting in the back room of the IHPA stand on this first day, the first group of volunteers is here and things are going well. Because it rained on and off all day, it's a little slow at the booth today. The sales will pick up when the sun comes out. Our treasure, Rhonda, and the board agreed to put in a new program in the cash registers at the booth to try to have easier ringing up of sales and to have a more accurate total of sales. Also from the State Fair, these changes were going to eventually come. We had positive feedback from the volunteers "saying it was very easy to use". Thanks to all in this transition.

THANK YOU to all who volunteered to work and help at the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) booth. I really like seeing the first time new volunteer workers, this year we had a good number of new volunteers along with the seasoned volunteers. **THANK YOU** to you seasoned volunteers for your time and many years of support of the IHPA, good to see and work with you again and **THANK YOU** to the new volunteers for your time and support of the IHPA, I enjoyed meeting you and working with you also.

The entries in the Apiary Division (honey, comb, beeswax, photos, etc.) Entries were down a little this year compared to past years, but maybe next year there will 'bee' more who want to show just how good their honey, beeswax, etc. is. We didn't enter this year as we were in the process of moving, right up to the start of the fair. The house was a pile of boxes and I had to leave to help at the booth. Peggy did most of the unpacking while I was here at the fair, so I understand busy and not a lot of extra time. Peggy says I am a bit competitive and not entering the fair was hard for me not to do, but next year we are planning on entering again and try to give everyone a run for their money! For all of you who did enter I hope you do so again next year. I think it's a lot of fun.

By the time you read this it will be September and the annual Meeting is just around the corner on November 14th and 15th in Marshalltown with an excellent line of speakers coming. Dr. Keith Delaplane of the University of Georgia (many of us use his book in our beekeeping classes: "First Lessons in Beekeeping") and Marla Spivak of the University of Minnesota, plus good local speakers who are willing to talk and sharing their knowledge of bees and don't forget the vendors and their goods. I have always wanted to hear Dr. Delaplane speak and I always enjoy the chance to hear Marla Spivak; the knowledge and insight to be gained from these speakers will be well worth the time for us to attend the meeting. The big vendors coming are Dadant, B & B Honey, Walter T. Kelly, plus B & L Plastic, Central Iowa Bee Supply and others. Call these bee supply companies with your orders to pick at the meeting and save yourself the Postage & Handling and shipping costs! Set the date on your colander, make your reservations and hope to see you in Marshalltown on November 14th & 15th!

The first part of September, we should 'bee' thinking of getting our honey off and extracted if we have not already started or finished. With your honey supers off you can think about getting the bees ready for winter. Early September is a perfect time for starting your winter preparation. Checking to see if you have Varroa Mites is a MUST. If you do have a mite problem, this is the time to take care of it. How you do this or what chemical you use is up to you. Your goal is to have 2 to 3 clean brood cycles (mites gone) before winter. Do some reading and find out what will be best for your operation. For you who take the 'do nothing approach' there will be packages for sale in the spring to replace your hives killed by Varroa.

In my area there looks to be a good start of a Goldenrod crop. The bees do well on this, but if you don't get a fall honey flow in your area or if the bees just don't have enough food store reserves going into late fall, help out by feeding them, honey is always the best but sometimes we have to substitute sugar water or

corn syrup. You need your hive to weigh around 120 to 130 pounds going into winter. Treat the girls right - treat for mites - plenty of food stores - protect them from the winter winds.

Learn all you can on being a better beekeeper. The beekeeping world of my Grandfathers is not the same one we face today. Do some reading and hope to see you at the annual Meeting.

Bee Joyful, Bee Happy and Bee Yourself....

Pat

Trivia: Many of us use Dr. Keith Delaplane's book, "First Lessons in Beekeeping". Who and when was the original written?

Answer on page 13.

Explore Honeybees!

I am writing a book for kids titled Explore Honeybees. The finished product will be 96 pages long and include 25 activities to help kids understand more about honeybees.

The book will be sold nationwide with a strong push in the educational market. Nomad Press, the publisher, is looking for the names and email addresses of people to preview the book and provide a short review or quote that could be used on the back cover. If you are an educator or work with kids, even better.

I estimate the edited manuscript with art will be available for review some time this winter. It would be sent electronically. I do not personally select the previewers, I only send a list to the publisher and they make the contacts. If are interested or want more information about this book or my previous books, please contact me.

Cindy Blobaum
cindybb@juno.com
(wife of beekeeper and IHPA member Philip).





Honey Fest!

2014

Honey Fest 2014 at Indian Creek Nature Center Sunday, September 21, Noon-4 PM

Indian Creek Nature Center harvests its own honey each fall. At this fun, family friendly event, you will experience how this sweet treat – that's good and good for you – goes from prairie blossom to breakfast table. This year's theme is "Bees in the Future," and you will have the opportunity to talk with beekeepers and learn about the important role bees play in our food supply.

You will also enjoy:

- Food
- Honey lemonade
- Kids' crafts
- Music
- Games
- Demonstrations
- Beeswax candle making
- ...and the famous Live Bee Beard!

Admission is \$4 in advance at www.indiancreeknaturecenter.org or in person at the Nature Center; \$5 at the door. Ages 3 and under are free.

Looking Back 100 Years!

The following is an article written by C.P. Dadant for our 3rd Annual Report to our governor in 1914. He explores the theories of the origination of foul brood and the evolution of hives and equipment. Hope you enjoy it, your historian, Butch Wetzel

Short History of Beekeeping

C.P. Dadant

This is a long subject, for bees and honey were mentioned in the remotest times. So I can give but a short glimpse of it.

Those familiar with the Old Testament are acquainted with the name of "Debora" a prophetess of Israel. But only a few know that this name is that of the honey bee in Hebrew. They know also that Samson found a swarm of bees established in the dried-up carcass of a lion which he had slain a few weeks before. That suggested to him that the riddle which he gave for his Philistine guests to solve and which they were at a loss to explain until they bribed his wife to secure the solution.

In the Proverbs, it is said "Eat thou honey, my son, for it is good." The promised land was a country "flowing with milk and honey." Our bee keepers, to advertise their honey, can have no difficulty in securing good testimonials, when they can even quote the Bible in their favor.

In mythology, we find Jupiter, king of gods, born in the Island of Crete, fed upon honey from Golden bees by a nymph called Melissa. The Greek word "meli" dignifies. Hence came the names of various plants producing sweets or honey: Melica, melilotus, melissa.

The fabulous story of Aristaeus, king of Arcadia, which shows him as obtaining swarms of bees from the bodies of slain bulls and heifers, is the first where the teaching of bee culture is suggested. Aristaeus was a lover and teacher of agriculture. But his method of securing swarms from the bodies of slain ani-



mals is criticized in our day, by Jules De Soignies, a Belgian writer, who merrily suggests that it was probably from this most extraordinary source that foul brood originated. Decaying flesh is hardly the proper conveyer of swarms of bees.

When we seek outside of fabulous folklore, for the first writers on bees and their culture, we find Greek Aristotle, the teacher of Alexander the Great, 384 years before the Christian Era. Later Latin writers Varro, Virgil, Pliny, who died in Pompei by the eruption of Vesuvius, Columella, who wrote a treatise on agriculture entitled "De Re Rustica" (About Rustic Things). But none of these writers knew much about the natural history of bees. Their teachings were much mixed with the mystic and fabulous beliefs of the time. Most of them believed that bees gathered their eggs from the blossoms which they visited. They called honey "the dew of heaven." They asserted that from it was made the "Ambrosia," the food of the gods. Similarly "nectar," the drink of the gods, was thought to be brewed from honey. That is why, to this day, the liquid sweet taken by the bee from the blossom is still called by us "nectar."

The best honey was said to be produced on Mount Hymettus, in Greece, from aromatic plants, like thyme, and orange blossoms. The directions for bee keeping were confined to the methods of hiving swarms and taking the honey. But Virgil had already noticed that there were bees of a yellower color than others, in some districts, and wrote about it.

During the dark ages, many unimportant writers mentioned the honey bee and gave directions for its culture. Bees were of much more importance than at present, since sugar did not exist and honey was the only sweet produced, with the exception of the juice of some fruits and plants, which served mainly for fermented drinks. Beeswax was also greatly appreciated. It was used for candles for divine service. Then the ancients used tablets covered

with a light coat of it for writing, with a stylus. The stylus was an instrument shaped like a pencil, sharp at the end and blunt and flattened at the other. The sharp end served to write upon the wax, the flat end to erase what had been written, so that the tablet might be used indefinitely. Hence the Latin expression employed to advise pupils to often correct their work: "saepe stylus veritas" (often invert the stylus.)

It was not until 1609 that an English writer, Butler, affirmed the existence of a queen, or mother bee. Until then she was called "king." The purpose of the drones was unknown, although some asserted that they were intended to keep the brood warm and hatch it, juts like sittings hens. There are people yet who believe this to be their main function, and who also believe in the existence of a king bee.

The production of wax was also thought to be from the pollen which the bees bring home on their legs. Swammerdam, in 1737, first described the queen as a female, for he had dissected this bee. He found the ovaries. But the mating was ascertained by Huber, the first positive scientist to give us a correct natural history, at the end of the eighteenth century.

Huber used a leaf-hive, the first style of movable-frame hive in existence, now called "closed-end frame hive." His frames were hinged and opened like a book. He was one of the most persistent observers, though he had to rely on the eyes of others for his experiments, for he was blind.

During that wonderful century, the eighteenth, a number of writers recorded important discoveries; Wildman, Schirach, Della Rocca, Duchet, Reaumur and hosts of others studied the honey bee. The production of wax was ascertained, the function of the drones proven and observing hives built that permitted investigation. In 1845, in the Bienenzeitung, the first bee journal, the famous Dr Dzierzon published his discovery of parthenogenesis, or the ability of a queen bee to lay eggs that

would hatch into live drones without having ever mated. This was the first written hypothesis. It soon became an established theory and is now considered as a proved fact. Numerous scientists, especially in Germany studied this problems, and the present methods of rearing queens from worker eggs were fully inaugurated.

Dzierzon was keeping his bees in what he called a movable comb hive. It was simply composed of a box in which top bars were set upon which bees built their combs. But as there were no side bars to these, the bees fastened the edges of the combs to the walls of the hive and at each visit it was necessary to separate these combs from both ends in order to be able to lift them with the top bar to which they adhered. It was with such an unhandy contrivance that he made some of the most interesting experiments which have been handed down to us.

A little later Berlepsch invented a movable frame hive, which is still much used in Europe. It had most of the principles of the movable frame hive in present use, with the exception of the removable ceiling of the brood chamber or supers, and was made like a cupboard. In other words, the frames of this hive have to be removed from the rear one at a time, and when you wish to examine the front comb or that which is nearest the entrance, you must remove all the others first, one at a time, drawing them out of the hive horizontally. It will be understood, therefore, that the frames of the Berlepsch hive run parallel with the entrance, instead of at right angle with it.

A little later, Debeauvoys invented a top-opening moveable frame hive, but the frames were made to fit closely in the hive at both ends. This hive worked finally as long as there were no bees in it, but as soon as the bees occupied it they fastened the frames with propolis so it was impossible to move them without breaking them.

At length, Mr. L.L. Langstroth experimented upon this same subject and in 1852 obtained a patent on the moveable frame hive in use the world over at the present day, a hive in which the frames hang upon rabbets at the ends of the box, by two projecting shoulders, these frames separated from the walls, ceiling and bottom by a bee space. This invention caused a revolution in bee culture. Mr. Langstroth himself was a very careful observer and made many remarks which have been confirmed to this day. He was the first man to dare assert that the bee moth never destroyed a single colony of bees, that the colonies which had died supposedly by the invasion of the moth worms were invariably queenless, or contained a worthless queen, so that the colony was doomed. He billy stated that it was as senseless to imagine that the moths could destroy a colony of bees in normal condition as to believe "that carrion birds or worms, which are devouring a dead horse, were the primary cause of its untimely end."

Although the principles of Langstroth hive has been criticized by some students, who have called it "a rattle box" owing to the freedom of hanging of it's frames, this hive, in one shape or another, is at preset used all over the civilized world, in many places to the exclusion of any other hive.

After 1852, bee culture took long strides. In 1861 the American Bee Journal was established by Samuel Wagner. It was the third bee journal in point of age, the first being the *Bienenzeitung*, already mentioned by me, the second *L'Apiculteur* of Paris. The old *Bienenzeitung* has been discontinued, other German bee papers have taken it's place.

In 1865 Major Hruschko of Dolo, Italy, invented the honey extractor, by the use of which honey is removed from the combs without damaging them, so that they may be returned to the hive to be filled again and again. He hit upon this discovery by accident. Having given his little son to carry on a dish, the boy

tied this in his handkerchief as in a sling and swung the dish around his head. The honey was found to have emptied itself into the dish. That gave a clue to the making of the instrument which consists of wire cloth baskets revolving speedily within a metal receptacle. Little beginnings often make great endings.

They certainly had no idea of the great proportions which the use of the honey extractor would take. Millions of pounds of honey are now taken all over the world by this method, which produces a better and cleaner article, while permitting the expensive comb to be returned to the hive, to be filled again. It did away with the "strained honey" ob-

tion, the fact is that the bulk of the honey produced through such countries as ours and in the more enlightened parts of Europe is now harvested in the best shape and in the most economical manner. The straw or willow skip and the "gum" or the box hive have been replaced by the moveable-frame hive. With the exception of Switzerland, which is very far advanced in progress, the older countries are following somewhat in the rear of the newer states, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, etc.

A necessary compliment of the invention of the extractor was comb foundation. To handle frames readily, to be able honey in nice little sections, it was indispensable that the combs be built straight in them. Comb foundation not only secured that end, but saved the bees a great deal of labor and a great deal of honey expenditure, since beeswax worth commercially between 25 and 35 cents can be thus returned in such exceptable shape as to save the bees from 8 to 12 pounds of honey for each pound of wax. The diminishing of the amount of drone comb in undesirable colonies is also a great advantage of the use of foundation with worker cell

base. This wonderful improvement was thought out in the middle of the nineteenth century by Mehring a German. But it remained for an American, A.I. Root, to make it in a practical way. With the help of an able machinist, Mr. Washburn, he produced cylinders in 1876 that made foundation as thin as 8 square feet to the pound. This was later improved upon by Vandervort, in the 80's, and thin sheets are now made as light as 13 square feet, which have long ago removed the objection of a fishbone in the honey. Strange to say, on the European continent, beekeepers have only slightly improved upon the Mehring invention and make foundation by presses which our American beekeepers would reject, owing to it's imperfection and it's great weight.

Minor inventions, such as the bee smoker, the honey knife, were improved upon

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tained by crushing the combs and pressing the honey out. Perhaps this assertion is a little too strong, for in many parts of Europe and a few districts in this country, there are still bee owners who are uninformed and persist in breaking up the combs and straining the honey. In whole districts, for instance in Southern France, visited by me, last year, and in Italy, England, etc., especially in the heather regions establishments are in existence which by brimstone colonies every fall and render up the combs by the straining process. The honey thus produced is dark, strong, and cloudy. I was told it was used primarily to give flavor to glucose compounds sold in some countries under the name of honey.

Although much remains to be done in enlightening the country people of Europe on practical and scientific produc-

from time to time since the middle of the nineteenth century.

Advance in the diffusion of apiary knowledge is noticeable every day in a more marked manner. The Germans have dozens of noted writers and scientists. In Switzerland, Bertrand, in England, Cowan, have written books on bees which have been translated in 7 or 8 different languages. Another Englishman, Cheshire, in his "Bees and Bee-keeping", gave a summary of modern advances in 1886. In this country, Langstroth, Quinby, Cook, Root, C.C. Miller have written the leading textbooks on the subject. But why name any, when so many have been left out. Queen rearing and the importation of bees from one country to another to try the best races have become com-

mon. The selection of the best honey producers as breeders has increased the yield of honey materially. A new method of rearing queens by making artificial cell cups, invented by Doolittle some 26 years ago, has permitted an unlimited production of queens from selected stock.

Bee journals are in many countries. Our own United States have four, France has a dozen, Italy two. Our Department of Agriculture is giving bees a special place in the Bureau of Entomology and the spread of diseases is being checked with their help.

The growth of the bee keepers' association is perhaps one of the most marked features of progressive beekeeping. A few years ago, a meeting calling togeth-

er as many apiarists as are now found in almost any state convention would have been an impossibility. But I make bold to say that we are only at the beginning of success in our industry. The United States have not yet produced in a single year enough honey to supply a pound to each inhabitant, and there is plenty of room for more bees.



**I was able to spread buzz about Iowa honey at Walt Disney World on Independence Day.
Jeralyn Westercamp 2014 Iowa Honey Princess**



**102nd Annual meeting of the
Iowa Honey Producers Association
November 14th & 15th, 2014
Best Western Regency Inn, Marshalltown, Iowa**

It's meeting time again!! The annual meeting of the Iowa Honey Producers Association will be held Friday, November 14th and Saturday, November 15th in Marshalltown, Iowa at the Best Western Regency Inn (641-752-6321), located at 3303 South center Street.

Room rates are: The Best Western Regency Inn for double occupancy is \$73.00 plus tax.
The Super 8 is \$60.00 plus tax.

To get the above convention special rate, these rooms need to be reserved by October 30th, also please mention the Iowa Honey Producers when reserving the rooms.

Telephone numbers are: Best Western (641) 752-6321 and Super 8 (641) 753-3333.
For best availability, advisable to book early.



Keynote speakers this year are: **Dr Keith Delaplane**, entomology professor at the University of Georgia, author, and well known columnist in the American Bee Journal. **Dr Marla Spivak** entomology professor at University of Minnesota, author, researcher, instrumental in forming Bee Informed Tech-Transfer Team. Additional speakers will be **Mary Harris**, assistant Professor, *Iowa State University, Department of Entomology; Natural Resource Ecology & Management*, **Amy Toth**, assistant Professor, *Iowa State University, Departments of Ecology, Evolution & Organismal Biology and Entomology*.

Please think about entering our photo contest, cooking with honey contest, mead contest, hive body paint design (**NEW category**) or bringing items for the queen and silent auction! Consider attending the banquet, enjoying fellowship with your fellow beekeepers.



**Entry information for the photo contest, cooking with honey contest, mead contest,
and hive body paint design contest are printed on page 10.**



**IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
102ND ANNUAL MEETING
BEST WESTERN REGENCY INN,
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA on NOVEMBER 14TH & 15TH, 2014**

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: (_____) _____ COUNTY: _____
NO. OF COLONIES: _____ YEARS BEEKEEPING: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 31ST (NO EXCEPTIONS).

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

Annual Meeting Fee:

Individual:

Registration after October 31st will be \$30.00 / Before Oct 31st \$25.00 \$ _____

Couple/Family Rate:

Registration after October 31st will be \$45.00 / Before Oct 31st \$40.00 \$ _____

Queen Luncheon - Friday noon (pre-registration required by October 31st, per new hotel management)

Number of tickets (per person) _____ x \$15.00 \$ _____

Number of tickets (per child 4-12 yrs) _____ x \$12.00 \$ _____

Banquet - Friday night 6:30 PM

Number of tickets (per adult) _____ x \$25.00 \$ _____

Number of tickets (per child 4-12 yrs) _____ x \$19.00 \$ _____

** Pre-registrations received by October 31st, will enter drawing for 2 free banquet meals! **

2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

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

2nd Family membership with same address Name: _____ \$ 5.00 \$ _____

3rd Family membership with same address Name: _____ \$ 5.00 \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

**** NOTE: Paid 2014 membership is required to vote at the business meeting. ****

Return this completed form, together with your payment to:

Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasury, 52735 187th Avenue, Chariton, Iowa 50049

Please make checks payable to: Iowa Honey Producers Association

Any questions about the annual meeting, please contact Eli Kalke (IHPA VP) at
fieldstonefarms@netins.net or call 641-477-8521.



Rules for the 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

Categories to be submitted will include:

1. Bee on Flower
2. General beekeeping
3. Marketing or Promotion
4. Extracting Honey or Specific Photos pertaining to Honey

Rules for the Cooking Contest:

- Honey is to be the only sweetener
- Please submit your recipe with your entry
- Judges will keep recipes to be included in the "Buzz"
- Your name needs to be on the back of the recipe card

Categories to be submitted will include:

1. Desserts
2. Bars or Cookies
3. Drinks
4. Cakes
5. Breads
6. Appetizers or Snacks

Entries could be judged on:

- Presentation of entry
- Best use of honey
- Amount of honey used (compared to other entries in category)
- Flavor of entry
- Overall appearance of entry

(Judges reserve the right to determine how to best judge the entries)

TIME TO TAKE INVENTORY!

Throughout the Midwest.

Glen L. Stanley,
State Apiarist (emeritus)
Huxley, Iowa, 50124.

Last month [August Buzz Newsletter] there was a report published on one of the better ways to Winter colonies of bees which would reduce the losses from fifty percent and higher to close to five percent. This is not repeated here now but there may be references made to the system.

Now is the ideal time to take inventory of the colonies you plan to winter. Oh, the question will arise "Why not plan to winter one hundred percent of all colonies?"

The answer to that is "With the best of management practices there are ten percent, or more,

that will not qualify for one reason or another."

Reasons: Some may be exceptionally light on stores and any effort to correct that is not worth the cost. There may be a failing queen and you will find more Drone brood than worker brood.

Check the previous article about how to determine the weight. After a couple of years you will know what amount you need to last the bees until April. Using the scale as mentioned is the sure, fast and easy way.

Just follow all the details in final preparation for winter and your problems will be solved. No more big orders of packaged bees and soon early queens would again become available.

It may all seem almost impossible but it works. Give it a try.

Rules for Mead Judging Contest:

- Supply at least two bottles of Mead
- Mead will be judged on the rules of the State Fair
- Mead will be judged on alcohol strength, sweetness, carbonation, temperature, taste, and presentation
- Your name needs to be written on paper provided in the contest room

Categories to be submitted will include:

1. Traditional Meads
2. Molemel (Fruit Meads)
3. Metheglyn (Spiced Meads)

Bring extra bottles of Mead to share at the "Wine and Cheese" party by the pool Friday night.

Rules for Hive Body Paint Design Contest:

- 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 not allowed
- Hand painted design to cover a minimum of one side of the hive body

Categories to be submitted will include:

1. Theme of your choice

Featured Beekeeper of the Month

Our featured beekeeper this month is Trygve Lien. Trygve, his parents, Kelly and Sandra, and younger sister live near Castalia, Iowa. Trygve's father is a truck driver and farmer and his mother is the librarian at South Winneshiek School in Calmar where Trygve is a junior. He is vice-president of the local FFA chapter and handles the lights and sound for school plays. His hobbies are beekeeping, farming and working on pickups. Another interest is collecting Allis-Chalmers tractors and equipment. Trygve is a member of the Madison 4-Her's and the South Winn FFA. He is working on a test plot experimenting with high and low management corn. Last May he received second place in Agriculture Processing for his honey operation, and was the youngest person to receive a proficiency award at the

state level. He competes in speech contests and exhibits projects like leather tooling and glass etching. He has also given a bee demonstration at the South Winn Middle School and Elementary School. After graduation, plans are to attend Iowa State studying agronomy.

Trygve and his family watched the honey queen talk about how she got started in beekeeping and learned about the mentor program. Realizing we need bees for survival in many ways, Trygve decided to give it a try. He acquired many of his supplies from a retired beekeeper, who passed away. Mitch Phillips is his mentor. Trygve says, "I learned a lot, but I am still learning and have a lot to learn."

One interesting story he has is about his Norwegian Elkhound. It seems the dog was sniffing around the largest beehive and started to nip at the bees. Of course hundreds of bees swarmed around him. His fur was thick so the bees couldn't sting his body, but they did manage to get in his mouth. Lesson learned, to this day he will not go near the hives.

After college Trygve plans to increase his hive numbers to justify having a honey house.

Thanks for your story Trygve.

Submitted by Ron Wehr

IHPA Donation Proposal Submission Form

In May the IHPA board voted to utilize a Donation Proposal Form and submission process for donations made to beekeeping research and projects going forward.

Starting July of 2014 the IHPA will begin using the IHPA Donation Proposal Form to receive proposed donations to research and other honeybee/beekeeping/honey related projects.

The submission time frame for proposals

2. Ensure total donations do not exceed the association's budget for research donations.
3. Expand the availability of members to make donation proposals even if they may not be able to attend the Annual Meeting.

The Donation Proposal Form is not intended to change the goals of the IHPA's support of research and projects through donations but to provide enough information for the membership to make an informed vote on the proposals.

At the Annual Meeting there is rightly a question about whether the IHPA can make donations of X total dollars in donations. Submitting proposals ahead of the Annual Meeting will allow a comparison between what is available for donations and the total of the donations submitted.

IHPA donations are being made on behalf of the entire membership. With the Donation Proposal Form the entire membership will be able to submit a proposal even if they may not be able to attend the Annual Meeting.

Finally one important point is that the IHPA membership will still be voting on the proposals at the Business portion of the Annual Meeting. Each year the IHPA gives out donations in the thousands of dollars to various researchers and projects usually in the course of the 5 to 10 minutes it takes for a proposal and vote with little other information. This process is only intended to provide better information about where/how the IHPA donations are utilized.

This is still a membership driven part of the association. Members are encouraged to help the association to identify research projects that will continue to work for the benefit of honeybees, beekeepers, and the honey industry.

Alex Ebert
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IHPA Donation Proposal Deadline Approaches—October 1st

The deadline for submitting proposed IHPA donations to beekeeping research programs/projects is quickly approaching. The proposal form was in the July 2014 issue of the Buzz on page 13 and will be available for download from www.abuzzaboutbees.com in September. Below is the article explaining the new process this year.

will be from July 1st to **October 1st** of each year.

In the past monetary donations have been requested and voted on during the Business Meeting part of the Annual Meeting.

There are a few goals that the Donation Proposal Form aims to meet.

1. Allow for a review of the proposal to see that the donation would be used in promoting continued research in honeybees and beekeeping.



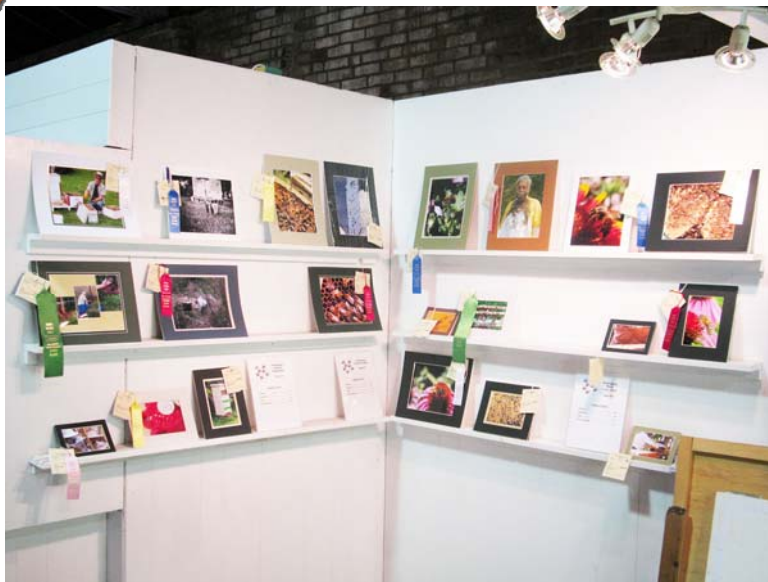
2014 Iowa State Fair

I would like to express my gratitude and give everyone a HUGE thank you to those who volunteered their time to work at the 2014 Iowa State Fair IHPA honey booth in August; also to our producers, state fair staff and those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this all possible.

This is our main fund raising event every year, which is needed to help support our various educational programs. None of this would be possible without your generous support.....thank you very much!

Eli Kalke
Vice President IHPA





Trivia Answer: First Lessons in Beekeeping was originally written by C.P. Dadant in 1917
Source: "First Lessons in Beekeeping"



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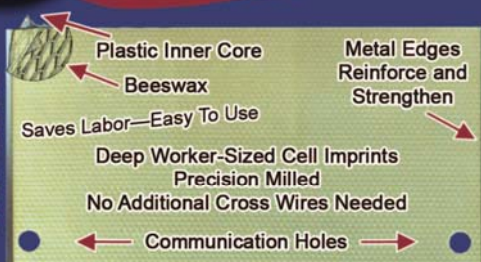
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The Buzz Newsletter

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



Officers

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

Vice President: Eli Kalke
1445 165th St.
Clemons, IA 50051
(641) 512-4728
fieldstonefarmsbiz@gmail.com

Secretary: Renae M. Beard
116 15th Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
(515) 650-0655

Treasurer: Rhonda Heston
52735 187th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049
(515) 724-2124
R.Heston@yahoo.com

Historian: Butch Wetzel
8227 NE 38th Ave
Altoona, IA 50009
(515) 979-6322
thewetzelclan@aol.com

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

District Directors

District #1 Jackie Beard
19682 415th St.
Chariton, IA 50049
(641) 774-8047
BeardRJ@wildblue.net

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

District #3 Dennis Nielson
6948 25th Ave.
Newhall, IA 52315-9620
(319) 350-8361
dlnielson35@gmail.com

District #4 Mike Swett
2005 North Dakota Ave
Ames, IA 50014
(515) 450-2033
funcity@aol.com

District #5 Craig Greene
1554 135th PL
Knoxville, IA 50138
(641) 842-2112
cgreene@iowatelecom.net

District #6 Mike Divis
3312 210th St.
Anthon, IA 51004
(712) 373-9743
(712) 899-8117
mikyvyd@aol.com



Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club
Contact: Jim and Tina Marshall
2923 Jones Ave.
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
641-660-0983

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
515-988-1828
jcammcguire@yahoo.com

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

State Apiarist
Andrew Joseph
(515) 725-1481
andrew_joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals
Mark Speltz
(515) 669-3266
mark.speltz@dia.iowa.gov

Iowa Honey Queen Program
Connie Bronnenberg 515-480-6076
cbronny823@aol.com

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

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

Loess Hills Beekeeping Association
22524 Hunt Avenue
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-7978
LHBA@LoessHillsBA.com

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

Bee Emergency Information
Contact: Vern Ramsey
22781 Route J16
Birmingham, IA 52535-8162
(319) 498-4355

Contact: Mike Divis
3312 210th St.
Anthon, IA 51004
(712) 373-9743
(712) 899-8117

American Honey Producers Association
www.ahpanet.net

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

Red Rock Beekeepers
Contact: Gerald Murphy
1180 92nd Ave
Knoxville, IA 50138
(641) 218-4814

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

American Beekeeping Federation
www.ABFnet.org

National Honey Board
www.honey.com

Amy Toth, Assistant Professor
Iowa State University
Ecology, Evolution,
and Organismal Biology
amytoth@iastate.edu
www.public.iastate.edu/~amytoth/Toth_lab/Home.html