



The Buzz

Newsletter of the Iowa Honey Producers Association



June 2014



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July 12th—IHPA Summer Field Day— Perry, IA
August 7th-17th—Iowa State Fair
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: Package Bees
The package will consist of bottom board, 9 5/8 - 10 frame hive body with bees and 9 frames, entrance reducer, insulated inner lid and metal outer lid. New Italian queen. This is new equipment. The total for this hive package will be \$195.00 This same package with used equipment will be \$160.00 It is painted used equipment in good condition. I will need a \$45.00 deposit when you order and the package will be ready for you to pick up mid May at Monticello Iowa barring weather conditions. We also have 4 frame nucs with new queen for \$98.00. Deposit of \$30.00 required. (No frame exchange) Our bee yards are inspected by Iowa Bee inspectors. I will only be selling 20 package hives this year. I have 40+ years experience in beekeeping.

Send deposit to Curtis Barnhart, P. O. Box 70, Monticello, IA 52310 with your name, address and phone number that you can be reached at. I am out of town until March 24. You can call and leave a message 319-480-4209 Or autum49@yahoo.com

Thank you., Curtis Barnhart

FOR SALE: AROMATIC RED CEDAR HIVE KITS
Foley's Russian Bees is taking pre-orders on a limited run of handmade cedar hive kits that will be completed on or before April 1st, and available for pick-up in Des Moines. Pricing and product details online at www.russianbee.com/store

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: 5 frame Nuc w/Italian queen - \$125.00.
Also a few singles w/Italian queen - \$150.00
Nucs and Singles will be ready for pick-up May 10th from Goodell, Iowa. For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 515-293-2601

FOR SALE: I will have Queens's available mid-April.
Pick-up is in Goodell.
For more information, call Pat Ennis @ 515-293-2601

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: 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:
3 lb. Packages with marked Italian Queens for Pick-up only in West Chester, IA (no deliveries)
Pick-up will be the week of May 12, 2014 (actual date will be determined based on weather in GA)
\$95/pkg. (\$90/pkg. for orders of 10+); extra marked queens = \$26/each Email number of packages and contact info. to:
kalonahoneycompany@gmail.com

or visit our website www.kalonahoney.com and click on the "package bees" tab or contact Tim Wilbanks cell: 319-321-2494

FOR SALE: Beekeeping Supplies @ Spring Valley Honey Farms in Perry IA, is offering a fairly complete line of new beekeeping supplies available February through June from their showroom. No set business hours, so call with your needs. 515-465-5939 or Connie @ 515-480-6076

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.

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 June 2014

It's almost June already!! I know we all get busy and I'd like to say I'm sorry about not getting my Presidents Message in for May issue. I know the May issue of "The Buzz" came out late and Alex had nothing to do with that, he was waiting for me to get him my May Presidents' Message and I finally told him to go ahead without one and not to wait for me any longer as it was getting very late. For this I apologize. Life gets crazy and being too busy is something that happens to all of us. May was a crazy month for me and I hope the membership can give me a bit of grace for this.

I hope you've been planning to attend the IHPA's Summer Field Day coming very soon on July 12. This year's Field Day will be held at Spring Valley Honey Farms in Perry, Iowa. The time is 9:00 am to 3:30 pm with registration starting at 8:00 am. There is also a pot luck lunch. The IHPA has some of the best cooks around and I am looking forward to tasting what they bring!! Eli is doing a great job putting together the IHPA Field Day and has put in a lot of work on setting up this year's agenda.

Also the Iowa State Fair is coming up fast on August 7-17. I'd like everyone to consider the following 2 points:

1- This year, if you haven't ever entered your items in the fair judging (and if you already do, hope to see your entries again) please consider entering your prize winning products in the Iowa State Fair judging and competition in the Apiary Division. There are 21 classes; from an observation hive, 1 pound glass jar of honey, comb honey, photo's, cream honey, and beeswax are just a few classes to try out. Try your hand at it and just see how good your honey is!!

To enter, please go to www.iowastatefair.org/ under heading **Competition** Categories / Premium Books, scroll down to under the heading **2014 Apiary - Bees & Honey**. These 3 pages will be the list of the rules and more details on entering for the state fair. Should you have any questions, please Contact the Competitive Events

Department at 515-262-3111 ext. 207. There are also categories for the youth to enter (see # 12 on **2014 Apiary - Bees & Honey**). It would be great if we could totally fill up the judging area with entries!! Did I mention there is a payout for placement?? Total cost to enter ALL 21 categories is only \$24.00!!

2 - Please consider helping out at the IHPA fair booth by working a shift or maybe 2, your presence is welcome and would be greatly appreciated. We need help selling and making the honey lemonade, selling honey, beeswax candles, lip balms, soaps, lotions, honey stix, giving out samples and talking to the public about beekeeping!! There are 3 shifts each day with about 9 people needed each for the first 2 shifts and about 5 for the evening shift to keep things running smoothly. We've had a few people asking to work, and sign up for the fair already! Eli has again agreed to help prepare the list of volunteer workers for the State Fair as she did last year. She is your contact person to volunteer to work. She did an outstanding job last year and I know she will again this year. Thank you Eli for your willingness to do this. 641-477-8521 or fieldstonefarms@netins.net

I also want to put out an early thanks to Eli, Rhonda, Steve, and Connie for their willingness to work with me as we look forward to this year's fair.

In the bee yard, I loved seeing the first signs of spring, eagerly watching the first pollens coming in on the bees. Now the days are finally warming, the hives are rapidly building and the anticipated honey flow is rapidly coming. Early June is the time you need to put your honey supers on and if you live in the southern part of the state, maybe even late May is best. Look and see where your bees are at, what's blooming around you. If you have a large strong bee population, you may need to start supering earlier to give them more room. Hopefully you made it through swarming season and didn't lose too many swarms. Hope you get out and enjoy your bees and beekeeping, without being stung!! There is something beautiful about watching your hive

grow, hearing that content buzz of a busy hive, and seeing a full frame of capped brood, wood to wood. Life is good.

There is more I would like to talk about, but the bees are buzz'n and I gotta run.

Bee Joyful, Bee Happy
and Bee Yourself
Pat

Trivia: What was the varroa mite first called when it was discovered and when and where they discovered?

Answer on page 10.

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.

More information about this year's Annual Meeting will be published in the Buzz Newsletter in the next few months. 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



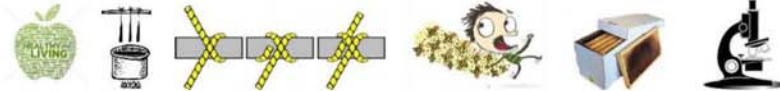
IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER FIELD DAY

Saturday, July 12th 2014

at Spring Valley Honey Farm, 14405 Hull Ave, Perry, IA

Registration at 8.00am. Activities begin 9.00am – 3.30pm.



Field Day Topics:

Simultaneous demonstrations, how-to and tips on promoting honey as a healthy sweetener, marketing your products, make beeswax candles, best knots for securing equipment in transit, catch a swarm, create a nuc, practice how to mark a bee using drones, mini lab to dissect bees and identify Nosema spores.

Field sessions with live bees, including IPM techniques, will be done in small groups (bring your bee suit). Latest apiary report from Andy Joseph - State Apiarist.

Please bring a potluck dish to share. IHPA will provide chicken, potato chips, tableware, bottled water and coffee.

----- ✂ -----

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ CELL: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Category	Early Registration (by 7/1/2014)	Walk-ins at field day (7/12/2014)	No. of people	\$ Amount
Single person (member)	\$25	\$35		
Single person (non-member)	\$35	\$45		
** (No refunds will be given after July 1 st) **			TOTAL:	

Return this completed form, together with your payment to:

Please make checks payable to IHPA.

Rhonda Heston
Iowa Honey Producers Association - Treasurer
52735 187th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049

Any questions about the IHPA Summer Field Day, please contact Eli Kalke at fieldstonefarms@netins.net or call 641-512-4728.

R.5/14



2014 Field Day Location

There will be a change to the venue for this year's IHPA Summer Field Day, due to the Clemons school recent announcement, that it will be closing its doors at the end of this school year.

Curt and Connie Bronnenberg of Spring Valley Honey Farm in Perry have kindly agreed to host the Summer Field Day at their place.

I thought I would try something different this year and have a number of workshops repeated throughout the morning, which will give attendees the flexibility to choose which ones they want to participate in. The afternoon session will be spent in the bee yard, going through some Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques and other hive management aspects.

Any questions let me know.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Eli Kalke (IHPA-VP)

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

Tips for Extracting Honey

By *Tamara Rahm*

Successful honey extraction starts long before the honey house and the extractor.

Just as a house should not be built on a weak foundation, neither should your honey supers.

1. Long term success starts with your foundation being properly installed, and by this I mean that it is straight in the frame. This is important so that the bee can draw the comb as evenly as possible. The first time supers are installed they should be pushed tightly together in the center of the box.

2. Know when to install your supers. Foundation will take longer to work (draw out) and fill than drawn comb. I install my foundation sooner than drawn comb, but nectar flow should be somewhat heavy so the bees do not try to eat the foundation.

3. If you intend to grade your honey by flavor you should know the nectar source. One tip is to mark the date on the super when it was installed on the hive.

4. Know when to remove your supers. The golden rule for proper moisture content is about 80% capped. When possible I try for no less than 90%.

5. Be ready to extract before you pull the supers off. Everyone has at least some small hive beetles and they will quickly destroy the honey and your comb.

6. Room temperature is also important. Warm honey will flow more easily, but too warm and the wax can become difficult to work with. I like it in the mid-80s.

7. Uncapping knives and tools are generally based on personal choice and price. There are hot knives, cold knives, uncapping plane, and the uncapping needle roller. Remember, when uncapping

you are only trying to remove the cap, and not to destroy the cell.

8. Understanding moisture content is also important. Grade-A honey is between 14-18% moisture. Too much moisture and your honey can ferment. This is about the only thing that will make honey go bad. A cheap refractometer can be a good investment.

9. Wet supers are what you are left with after extraction. Proper storage and re-use will save you lots of money, time, and "bee energy" over time.

10. If you are not going to immediately reinstall your supers after you have extracted the honey, you need to create a robbing yard. Place your supers a distance away from your bees. Place the supers on something like a spare bottom board, and then place a top on them. Bees and other insects will rob the honey from the frames over the next few days. This will create dry supers that are ready for storage.

11. If a fumigant was used you will need to air the supers for 24 hours before putting them back on the hives. If no fumigant was used they can go right back in the hive.

12. More honey to the frame? When reinstalling the super after extracting, you can reduce the frame number by one frame. Space the frames evenly across the box. The bees will draw the comb from the frames farther out and more honey will be stored in each frame, and it will be easier to uncapping.

Source: Re-printed permission:
June 28, 2013 by Walter T Kelley Co.





Iowa Honey Queen

Hello Everyone!

Today was my last day of school, and I am extremely excited to start spending my days with the bees! Even though I was busy wrapping up high school, I still managed to do a lot as Honey Queen this month.

On April 11, I traveled to Mahaska County to teach all the 3rd graders about honeybees. The kids loved learning how bees make honey and feeling the wax covering honey on the frame.



On April 19th, I visited the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden for the first time to take part in their Earth Day Event. I enjoyed talking to a lot of families about the role pollination plays in growing crops. The kids enjoyed playing with bee-keeping equipment and viewing photos of honeybees on flowers.

On April 26th, I had a great time in Mason City helping with their Earth Day event. I also enjoyed being a guest of the radio station KISS 98.7. I used my time on the radio to talk about the importance of honeybee pollination to agriculture.

On May 4th, I attended a 4H meeting in Hawkeye to show off beekeeping equipment. I brought the kids honey sticks and tattoos. For some of them, it was the first time they had tasted the sweet treat.

On May 12th, I helped graft queens for the first time! It is an amazing process, and I encourage all beekeepers to try their hand at raising their own queens. Grafting queens helps beekeepers create queens hearty to their specific location. My boss was adamant about taking pictures to document the event so I could show you all what I did.



Here I am using a plant to brush worker bees off a frame of brood. Earlier, the queen was trapped on the frame for 2 days so we would have a lot of larvae to choose from.

Next, I prepped cells for the larvae to be placed in. I used a syringe to squirt a small amount of a royal jelly and distilled water mixture into each cell.

Once everything was ready, I used a tiny tool to remove one-day-old larvae from their original cells and transfer them into the cells I had prepped. It was very hard to see inside the cells and choose the correct larvae, so I used a flashlight and magnifying glasses.





Clair is in the eight grade at Southeast Webster-Grand. To keep busy she participates in mock trial, volleyball, track, vocal, band where she plays bass guitar and is a percussionist, T.A.G., and student council. She also enjoys reading, the computer, tumbling, hunting, fishing, beekeeping, being around animals, and eating.

Claire is very active in her 4-H club, the Bluff Creek Wrangler. She has held offices of vice president, treasurer and recreation leader. She has given 2 presentations on beekeeping to members of her club and her photography projects focus on bees. She is also in the Horse Interest Club where she and the family helped raise thousands of dollars



Of the 90 larvae I choose to make queens, 75 were successes. I can't wait to see how they perform once they hatch in their new hives.

I'm looking forward to a summer filled with bees. I hope everyone's hives are healthy and ready to work!

Enjoy the summer!
Gabrielle Hemesath

Featured Beekeeper of the Month

Featured Beekeeper of the Month

Our featured beekeeper of the month is Claire Whalen. She lives with her sister and parents Sean and Bonnie at Pilot Mound, Iowa. Claire's parents both work at Iowa State University. She has rabbits, cats, horses, chickens this spring, one bee hive and a pet cat named Yoshi, who her parents call Jr. psh.

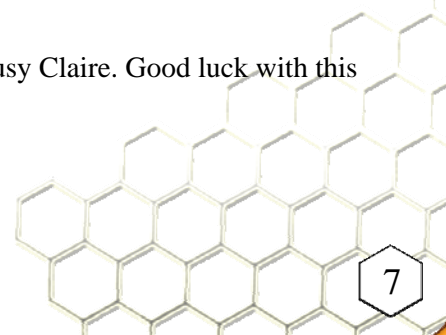


for the Boone County Box Stalls. She is also planning to join county council and then state council. A friend of her grandfather's helped her build her hive for a 4-H project and got her interested in beekeeping. After graduation Claire is planning college at Iowa State University with a major in animal sciences and a minor in psychology. She is planning to keep her hive and start 2 new ones in the spring. A neighbor down the road needs one for her produce garden and another neighbor needs one near their green house.

Claire says last year when she put her bees in the hive it was May 1st. Everything was fine just a little cold. Then it started snowing, so she put a horse blanket on the hive for warmth. May 2nd there was 7 inches of snow on top. She says, "It was killing me that we had to wait forever until we could open up the hive to see how they were doing." Jim Jordan is Claire's mentor and she attended beekeeping classes through DMACC. She says she liked working at the State Fair stand at the observation hives where the most asked question was, "Where's the queen?"

It seems you are really busy Claire. Good luck with this year's hives.

Submitted by Ron Wehr





Audit Committee

On Saturday April 5th, the Audit Committee met to perform an internal review of the IHPA's 2013 Treasurer's Report, books, checkbooks, and receipts. The Treasurer's Report made available at the 2013 Annual Meeting had been corrected and taxes filed. The internal review was conducted by the committee of Eli Kalke, Shiela Weldon, Mike Divis, and Connie Bronnenberg. Rhonda and Steve Heston were also in attendance. The 2013 Treasurer's Report will be brought to the membership at the 2014 Annual Meeting for a formal acceptance. Future plans are being discussed by the board for conducting periodic internal reviews. Currently inquiries into having a professional outside audit completed have found the cost to be prohibitive. Thanks goes out to the Audit Committee for their service in performing this review.

REGIONAL REPORTS - WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS

"WAS COUNTRY" ...

A big THANK YOU to all the regional reps for your reports. Every single one of you responded to the request (a first!), with excellent reporting and some very interesting news. Your efforts are much appreciated. Please excuse necessary editing to fit space. Editor
http://ucanr.edu/sites/was2/WAS_Journal/

Part II (The first part of this article was printed in the May issue of The Buzz)

Hawaii - Jenny Bach

Beekeepers in Hawaii are making a strong comeback after great losses due to the arrival of

the varroa mite in 2008 and small hive beetle in 2010. There are many stories of success and jars of honey to prove it. We attribute this success to a number of factors. One is that beekeepers are determined and innovative. Old practices were replaced by new ways to increase genetic diversity, we experimented with different hive designs, such as top-bar hives. Organic treatments are much more popular than synthetic chemical treatments here in Hawai'i. Organic treatments are most commonly used among small business and hobby beekeepers, while there are some successful

these treatment-free beekeepers is how hard they work to keep their bees healthy. There is an old, out-dated idea that these beekeepers are breeding diseases and pests. Although there may have been a few occasions where this could be true, the majority of the treatment-free beekeepers are not only responsible but very proactive in keeping their bees healthy so they are not spreading disease. It is a shame there is conflict amongst beekeepers over this issue. In Hawaii, beekeepers respect each other and accept that there is no "one size fits all" when it comes to beekeeping.

Treat or not, what matters is that practices are clean and strength is found in collaboration.

Our rich diversity in honey and pollen contributed to this quick recovery. We are fortunate to be surrounded by the abundant forest, jungle, and natural habitats that provide consistent nectar flows that keep bees nourished. There is also a strong movement in the farming and gardening communities to plant bee gardens and pollinator borders. One of my mentors explained during the dramatic losses in 2010, "where there is challenge there is opportunity". It was difficult to understand while local beekeepers were losing hives at alarming rates. Now, I see the opportunity that this crisis brought -- a greater appreciation for our pollinators which led to people asking, "how can I help the bees?"

Beekeepers improved their management to encourage the natural life cycle of honeybees by using less invasive practices. Pollinator gardens started popping up like wild flowers, bringing many new beekeepers with them. So beekeepers, remember there is always opportunity in the challenges we face. We just have to be ready for it. The annual declines in US colony numbers is showing us something. Are we ready to make the appropriate changes to turn the challenges

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beekeepers who are completely "treatment-free". This is a hotly debated topic, but here in Hawaii the proof is in the honey. There are beekeepers who run 80-100 hives and have never used a single chemical. These treatment-free beekeepers mimic what bees do in the wild, such as allow colonies to raise their own queens, allow swarming, break up the brood cycle, build their own wax, etc. What I see most among

into opportunities?

Idaho - Sherry Olsen-Frank

In 2013, the Treasure Valley Beekeepers Club experienced another round of growth in Southwest Idaho. Local interest in honeybees helped boost the club to more than 200 members in 2013.

Membership has grown each year since the original organization in 2008. Early in the year, several well-attended "Build It & They Will Come" educational days were given by the club to teach new members how to properly construct hives and equipment. Members also participated in half a dozen community education classes that introduced beekeeping to nearly 100 interested people.

These sessions were capped off by the Noyes' Honey Store's annual nuc and package sale in mid-April, where 135 beekeepers purchased bees and enjoyed the club-sponsored picnic. The 2013 swarm season started with an unusually early swarm on April 1st. Resuming in earnest in mid-April, it continued at an optimistic pace for only four weeks. By mid-May the spigot turned off, resulting in one of the shortest swarm seasons in recent memory. The Club's major summer event was centered on National Honey Bee Day. The Mayor of Boise (The City of Trees) proclaimed a "City of Bees" Day. At the same time John Miller (the main character in The Beekeepers Lament and California State Beekeepers Association President) hosted a showing of the Marcus Imhoff film "More Than Honey" to a sold-out local theater. The festivities were covered in the e-version of American Bee Journal. A dry summer brought honey crops slightly lighter than average. In July and August little surplus honey was harvested. We had some unique fall weather that allowed wasps to be more of a problem than usual. The temperature through much of October hovered just below the honey bees' working temperature, yet was still warm enough that wasps were found robbing and killing hives all around the valley.

Overwintering bee colonies "by the numbers" in Montana - Scott Debnam

Beekeeping in winter time is uneventful, that is for the beekeeper anyway. For the bees it is another story. Though there is no evidence of activity on the outside of the hive, inside it the bees have the responsibility of staying warm during our frigid northwestern winters. Here is a look into an overwintering bee colony "by the numbers" in western Montana. 28.9 Average ambient temperature (Fahrenheit) over the winter months (Nov-March). 44.8 Average temperature of the unoccupied area within the hive during winter months. 67.7 Average cluster temperature during the winter

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months.

5.5 Average lbs of honey consumed each month during winter.

9.7 Average lbs of honey consumed in March with the renewal of brood rearing.

66.8 Average weight of the hives going into the winter.

49.1 Average weight of the hives coming out of winter.

15.2 Average number of frames covered by bees in November.

6.6 Average number of frames covered by bees in March.

50% Loss of population size over the winter.

These data were derived from a set of 24 colonies studied during the winter of 2010 in Missoula, Montana.



Nevada - Debbie Gilmore

Thank you for this opportunity to be a voice for Nevada beekeepers. I am aware of two beekeeping organizations in Nevada. The Northern Nevada Beekeepers Association (NNBA) in Reno, which has been active for many years, and the Mason Valley Beekeepers (MVB) in Yerington, going into their sixth year with 60 members in seven rural Nevada communities. In February 2014, the MVB are hosting their two-day 4th Annual Mason Valley Beekeepers Conference in Yerington. Over 100 participants are expected with speakers from Nevada, California and Oregon. Two tracks run concurrently, one track for beginners and the other for more advanced beekeepers. A silent auction and raffle are held to raise money for educational projects and for equipment for the membership.

A Young Beekeepers Scholarship will be created this year and will begin with a fundraiser at the conference. Registration and additional information can be found at

www.masonvalleybeekeepers.org.

Recently, the Mason Valley Beekeepers have been contacted by the Nevada Department of Agriculture who want to be a participant in the Beekeepers Conference and to discuss a joint effort in developing a Nevada Pollinator Protection Plan.

The Buzz in New Mexico - Jessie Brown

New Mexico was pleased to have the Western Apicultural Society choose Santa Fe as conference location in 2013. The conference theme of "Working Together" keeps recurring at the North American



Beekeeping Federation Conference in Baton Rouge, LA that I am attending as I write this report. As we are presented with a myriad of

talks about the pressures that honeybees are experiencing—pesticide exposure, proper nutrition, genetics, etc. -- Pete Berthelsen from Pheasants Forever reminded us that there are many groups that we can work with have the same goals as beekeepers in maintaining/creating high quality habitat for pollinators, butterflies and birds. 2013 was an interesting year for beekeeping in New Mexico. Albuquerque Beeks, co-chaired by Jessie Brown and Megan Mahoney, cooperated with the City of Albuquerque Open Space to start a hands-on mentoring program with both top bar and Langstroth hives, attended by about 150 people in sessions that ran from May to October. Find out more at www.abqbeeks.org. The Sangre de Cristo Beekeepers, organized by Kate Whealen, reports that 2013 started out very dry, with few swarms reported. Most people couldn't make divides since there was no spring nectar and no resources in the colonies. After the late monsoon rains, most colonies were able to put together enough honey for themselves for the winter, and beekeepers were able to harvest small amounts. There were many problems with bears in areas where they hadn't been a problem before. Rob Shepler reports from the newly formed Southern New Mexico Beekeepers, a group of about 40 folks within elevations of 3500 to 9000 feet. Most of the low elevation/southern NM beekeepers encounter Africanized bees on a regular basis. One of their points of pride is the legalization of beekeeping in the city of Alamogordo, accomplished as of Nov 1st, 2013 after 8 months try-

ing to convince the Mayor and Commissioners to change the law that has been in effect since the 1970s. You are invited to visit their online community, under the "Groups" section at www.nmbeekeepers.org.

Oregon Happenings - Dewey Caron

Oregon beekeepers held their annual meeting Halloween (Oct 31st) and Nov 1&2 at Seaside on the North Oregon coast. Attendance was over 200 with the coastal rains/mountain snows not appearing until later. A stellar group of speakers covered the program. The Oregon Master Beekeepers Journey program had their first Bee Institute Thursday followed by a Halloween costume party (with bee snacks for trick-or-treaters from Ruhl and Glory Bee). OSU is surveying beekeepers on pollination rental economics again this fall to compliment a nearly 30-year continuous record. Virtually all beekeepers with 300+ colonies are heading to CA almond groves in February. Several sell brood frames to CA bee breeders following colony removal from the groves or make nucs for sale to 'newbees' back home. Spring starts early in OR commercial yards. Our beekeepers are working with the state Legislature and Dept of Ag to develop a Pollinator Protection Plan. The Master Beekeeper committee is completing the Masters level plan – enrollment in the MB Apprentice level (each individual paired with a mentor) and Journey levels has been strong. Bee Short Courses are scheduled and will soon be underway in Southern Oregon, Klamath area, Eugene, Salem and Portland, offered by local bee associations. Bees entered the winter in decent shape. Let's hope the winter losses (42% for backyarders last spring, 20% for larger scale operations) are reduced this winter.

Washington - Jim Smith

Hello from WA state. As a new representative, I am looking forward to serving the Washington area and visiting local associations this upcoming year. Overall, honey production in the western part of the state this summer was low to medium. In central Washington, there was a medium flow in the spring and low to nothing in the summer due to spraying that was done in the area. Research continues at Washington State University and in the Bee Diagnostic Lab. Most recently they have been testing wax and pollen samples for the pervasiveness of neonicotinoids. Looking forward to the upcoming year and reporting a positive honey flow and low hive losses in September when we meet at the 2014 WAS Conference in Missouri. See you all there.

STRAWBERRY BREAKFAST DRINK

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- 1 1/2 c. sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 1/4 c. cold milk
- 1 (8 oz.) carton strawberry flavor yogurt
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 c. honey**
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 sm. banana (opt.)

Place berries and 1/4 cup milk in blender, cover, puree until smooth. Add yogurt, eggs, honey, lemon juice, vanilla and remaining milk; blend until smooth. Serve immediately in chilled glasses. Makes 4 cups.

Trivia Answer: The Varroa Mites were first called Varroa Jacobsoni, being first described, and named in 1904, in Java, Indonesia. They were found in the U. S. for the first time in September 1987 in Wisconsin. The colonies in which they were found belonged to a migratory beekeeper. Given the experience regulatory agencies had with tracheal mites this should have been a clear warning that the mites were already widespread at the time they were first found. It is now commonly accepted that the varroa mites had been in the U. S. for several years before they were found. In 2000 they were correctly identified as Varroa Destructor. They were discovered in New Zealand in 2000 and in the United Kingdom in 1992

We need your help at the Iowa State Fair booth!



Dear Beekeepers

I know it may be hard to start thinking about the State Fair, however Spring is here and the Iowa State Fair is fast approaching; **August 7-17**. For those members new to the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA), we have a booth at the State Fair annually in the Ag building; selling honey products, honey lemonade, lotions, soaps, beeswax items, promotional merchandise etc. This is our main fund raising event, which is needed to help support our various educational programs. We ask our members to help make this event a success, by volunteering their time assisting with cash register sales, bagging product, pricing, mixing and serving honey lemonade, offering honey samples etc. Each volunteer will be provided with free honey lemonade if you get thirsty while working at the booth, also a **FREE pass to get into the fair**, plus you get to enjoy the great entertainment at the fair before/after your shift at the booth.

We had a successful 2013 thanks to all those who participated! Over the years we have had some wonderful people volunteer their time and would love to see you again. We encourage new members, friends, families and bee clubs to participate in this event too, because we need everyone's support to make this event a success.

We have three shifts daily, 9am-1.30pm, 1.30pm-6pm and 6pm-9pm (11-14 people needed per shift). If you are able to volunteer for one or more shifts during August 7-17 we would like to hear from you. All you need to do is mail the completed tear off slip below, or email the same details to fieldstonefarms@netins.net or call my number below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Eli Kalke (IHPA Vice President)
1445 165th Street, Clemons, IA 50051.
Cell: 641-512-4728

1st person: _____

2nd person: _____

3rd person: _____

Childs name & age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone no.: _____ Email address: _____

**Please write below the date(s) you would like to work and circle shift that works best for you.
(Fair dates August 7-17.)**

Date:	9.00-1.30pm	1.30pm-6.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
Date:	9.00-1.30pm	1.30pm-6.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
Date:	9.00-1.30pm	1.30pm-6.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
Date:	9.00-1.30pm	1.30pm-6.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
Date:	9.00-1.30pm	1.30pm-6.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm

We appreciate any help you can provide!



2014 IHPA State Fair Bid Sheet

1. Bids must be received by June 30, 2014.
2. All liquid honey must be from 2014 harvest.
3. Honey must be no more than 18.5% moisture.
4. All glass honey containers and creamed honey must have a protection seal and plastic must have a pressure seal, this includes all large containers also.
5. All beeswax products (candles, ornaments) need to be packaged to maintain cleanliness, presentation.
6. Cut comb must be in a sealed plastic box well drained with no liquid honey. The following quality standards will be used (clean capping with all cells capped). We will pay \$5.25 per unit of cut comb at least 14 oz and \$4.00 for Ross Rounds meeting quality standards. Booth manager has right to refuse any containers not meeting this standard.
7. All bottled liquid honey must be free of foreign material, with no foam, sticky jars, and even filling.
8. All products must show proper labeling i.e. name, address and net weight.
9. You must deliver products to the booth as scheduled, Sunday 12pm-7pm, Tuesday or Wednesday before the Fair or by appointment.
10. Remember you are able to bid on any items, but you must show the quantity of each item you are able to supply and your bid price.
11. Include a sample label with your bid sheet.
12. We are paying a flat rate on 1lb glass jars, to encourage smaller bidders. It is offered at \$3.50. A minimum quantity to supply is 24 jars / case. You may bid to supply as many cases as you wish.
13. Lip balms, lotions and soaps was added as a new category in 2013. To offer these products you give us a bid price for each item and the quantity you can supply. Since you, as a bidder, may not have enough product to supply the entire fair, the booth may use several suppliers based on the number of items supplied.
14. *Any items not listed below or specialty items you wish to bid on - is up to the discretion of the booth manager, based on counter space and ability to supply. (i.e. buckwheat honey, bee related items, etc.)*



BID ITEMS	Quantity estimates from 2013 State Fair	\$ Bid	Quantity
4 oz antique (muth) jars			
8 oz antique (muth) jars	66		
Hard honey candy (assorted)			
12 oz bear (light honey)	429		
24 oz bear (light honey)	312		
1 lb plastic (light honey)	244		
1 lb skep (light honey)	79		
2 lb glass (light honey)	175		
5 lb jug (light honey)	88		
Gallon jug (12lbs) (light honey)	55		
50 lb or 60 lb pail for lemonade	1,740 pounds		
Honey Stix	36,253		
Creamed honey - regular	400		
Creamed honey - cinnamon	250		
Creamed honey - flavored	1,358		
Other Beeswax products: Beeswax candles	362		
Beeswax bars (1oz, ½lb, 1lb)	111		
Lip Balm	759		
Lotion	276		
Lotion Bars	271		
Soap	225		

SPECIALITY ITEMS BID AT THE FAIR		\$ Bid	Quantity
Bug Repellent	91		
½ lb Bee Pollen	122		
1 lb Bee Pollen	82		
Wooden Honey Dipper	35		
1 lb Buckwheat	186		
Other:			
Other:			

NON-BID ITEMS	Quantity estimates from 2013 State Fair	PRICE	Quantity
1 lb glass	264	\$3.50	
Comb Honey	591	\$5.25	
Ross Rounds	302	\$4.00	

Signature: _____

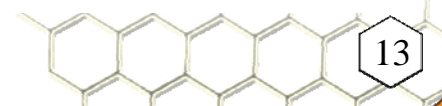
Business Name: _____ Phone/cell: _____

Address, City, Zip: _____

Return to: Dale Fields, 1445 165th Street, Clemons, IA 50051 641) 477-8521 E-mail fieldstonefarms@netins.net

NOTE: Arrangements need to be made to pick up any un-sold product on Sunday August 17th between 9:00 pm to 10:00 pm OR Monday August 18th 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

Thank you for providing product for the IHPA State Fair Booth!!





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George Jones**

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The Buzz Newsletter

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