HAIL TO THE QUEENS!!

A Two-Queen State!.................Page 2
President’s Message...............Page 3
Auction Information.................Page 4
State Fair Rules......................Page 5
Summer Field Day..............Pages 10, 11
BREAKING NEWS!! Two Queens found in One State!!

For the second time, Iowa produced a state Honey Queen that went on to become the National Queen. We are proud to announce that Maia Jaycox won nomination to the national level. And we are eager to continue our program with Carly Raye Vannoy serving us this year as Iowa Honey Queen. Both queens include personal notes below.

———-

Hi, y’all!! I don’t know about you, but I have been busy as a bee lately! For those of you who follow me on Facebook at My Honey Queen Adventure or the Iowa Honey Queen Program page, you’ve gotten to see what I’ve been up to! For the rest of you, here’s a little summary of what I’ve done: Since being crowned the 2017 Iowa Honey Queen, I have traveled over a thousand miles, given more than 40 different presentations, and reached several hundred people! I have been able to make some exciting new contacts and look forward to traveling even more and being able to participate in presenting high-impact programs! If you are able to help me with my goal of reaching all 99 counties and have contacts in some of those more remote areas of the state, please shoot me a message on either of my Facebook pages, or an email at myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com, or give me a call at 515-276-6347. There’s plenty of ways to get a hold of me! Thanks so much to everyone who supports the IHPA and the Queen Program and makes my travels possible, I love representing you and getting the word out about honeybees, honey, and beekeeping!! I look forward to a busy rest of February and into March, with over a dozen different visits on the calendar! Hope you all reading this are having a bee-autiful day!! - Queen Carly Raye

Press Release re Maia Jaycox:

The American Beekeeping Federation is proud to announce that Maia Jaycox was selected as the 2017 American Honey Queen at the North American Beekeeping Conference in Galveston, TX, on January 14. Maia is the 19-year-old daughter of Scott and Juli Jaycox of Webster City, IA, and the granddaughter of Lynn and Debbie Jaycox of Webster City, IA, and of Richard and JoAnn Kuebler of Tucson, AZ. She is a sophomore at Iowa State University in the open option program with an interest in biology. She is a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority at Iowa State. Maia began beekeeping with her family about four years ago and currently tends to seven hives of bees.

Prior to being selected as the American Honey Queen, Maia served as the 2016 Iowa Honey Queen. In this role, she promoted the honey industry at fairs, festivals, and farmers’ markets, via media interviews, and in schools.

Maia will spend the next year promoting honey and the beekeeping industry throughout the United States in a wide variety of venues. To schedule an appearance with American Honey Queen Maia Jaycox, please contact American Honey Queen Program Chairperson Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514.

Personal Note from Maia:

I would like to thank all the members of the Iowa Honey Producer Association for all the support over the last year as the 2016 Iowa Honey Queen. Now as the 2017 American Honey Queen, I am the national spokesperson for the beekeeping industry and will be traveling all over the United States to educate people about honeybees and what they do. I have finished up my training and will be starting on this wonderful journey. Don’t forget to like and follow the American Honey Queen Program on Facebook to follow my journeys all over, and thanks again for all the support.

Maia Jaycox, former Iowa Queen, current USA Queen

Excerpt from Jacob Carlson — 653-212-6356

“There were some questions about dribbling oxalic acid and I think the best resource is someone much smarter than me on the subject. Randy Oliver has it pretty well nailed down. To do it correctly you really need a small gram scale to weigh the oxalic crystals. You can approximate with teaspoon measurements, but do so at your own risk. It’s ok for vaporization as there is more ‘room for error’. Note that the suggestion is to not dose your bees with oxalic more often than once during their lifetime. So roughly six weeks. But the dribble method is really not effective at all as a single dose unless the colony is broodless (or very nearly broodless). Randy Oliver’s work:


As I mentioned I have the oxalic acid/glycerin shop towel article in PDF form if anyone wants it. But it’s 5 MB, so I won’t blast it out to everyone. If you want it contact me and I’ll send it to you directly” jwcarlson1984@gmail.com
Hello Iowa beeks,

Weather in Iowa! You just have to love it, don’t you! First a blizzard, with ice before, then a tease of what is around the corner--today, close to fifty degrees. No wonder sometimes our bees can’t figure out when spring is really here. Did I mention all this was happening in like 10 days? It must be the spring, summer and fall that keeps us all here, and not elsewhere. I’m sick of winter, can you tell!? Ok, I will settle down.

The rules for the Iowa State Fair did get approved by the board at the January meeting. I want to thank my committee in assisting me and getting to this point. Time is something we all seem to be very short of and I am very thankful for people’s time. I feel these new rules are a way we will get product to the fair booth and will solve some issues and I’m sure it will bring to the surface other issues. Nothing is perfect. This is something we will do for the 2017 Iowa State Fair. Please refer to the Rules for 2017 State Fair Products in this edition of the Buzz. I will be working up a sheet with prices and a bid sheet. I feel there is a lot to absorb with the rules for this month. My phone is always on, I will help answer any questions. My cell phone is 515 293-2458.

I’m a very frustrated, heart-broken beekeeper, since a lot, I mean a LOT, of my bees are dead. I really hate few things in this world, but varroa is becoming one of them. I was careless in September last year and I’m paying for it today. Not much to do now but realize something with my work has to change. A very serious look at things is taking place within me and it is hard to change. As one writer for the Buzz puts it, we old dogs are forced to learn new tricks or we will not be doing the things we want to do. I have a real job and don’t like that either!

In closing, pray for spring soon, bees that are alive, and this beekeeper.

Sincerely, Roy Kraft, IHPA President

Vice President—the latest about the Summer Field Day

IHPA President, Roy Kraft, mentioned to me not so long ago that he appreciated my work to get things organized for the Summer Field Day and Annual Meeting so early in the year. Yes, I’m a planner and do enjoy a project; however, what he might not know (until reading these words perhaps) is that I’m also a big gardener and a 5-mile a day walker. Once spring is in the air, I am going to want to get my hands dirty and break in my new hikers, and spend less time in front of a computer. Lest I forget--work with the bees!

You have marked your calendar for Saturday, July 15 for the Summer Field Day, right? If you haven’t, why not do so now? Look for the registration form in this edition, fill it out and send to Rhonda; she is anxious to see her mailbox fill up. Let’s keep her mail person employed!

Dale Hill, Ph.D., from Illinois, will be our featured speaker at the Summer Field Day. He comes highly recommended by IHPA member and Master Beekeeper, Erin Miller. Let me tell you a bit about him. He is a semi-retired animal nutrition consultant with 38 years of animal nutrition formulation experience with various species, combined with 14 years of analytical laboratory experience.

Since graduate school and a post-doc with the USDA, Dr. Hill has worked for livestock nutrition companies, vitamin-trace mineral premix companies, a milk replacer company and a major pet food company. The last 13 years of full-time employment was spent with ADM providing technical, formulation, and regulatory support to premix and ingredient customers.

Through his employment with ADM, he became associated with Dadant & Sons as a supplier of ingredients and manufactured products, and began his research projects with honey bees. He was the primary developer of Dadant’s AP23 pollen substitute, and updated the nutrition chapter in “The Hive and the Honey Bee” in the most recent edition. Dr. Hill teaches the Nutrition section of the Montana Master Beekeepers course, and has made numerous presentations on honey bee nutrition. He continues to provide nutrition consulting to Dadant & Sons.

Of course our state apiarist, Andy Joseph, will be on hand and you can also meet and talk with Iowa’s very own, Maia Jaycox, recently crowned the American Honey Queen, and you can talk shop with Iowa’s reigning Honey Queen, Carly Vannoy. These three alone could sell out the house!

As you pack your bee gear, the only other thing you’ll want to bring is a dessert to share. Need an idea for one? The new IHPA cookbook is an excellent place to start and you can order one online! Yes, a delicious lunch will be provided, we only need your input with a dessert. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the program will begin promptly at 9 a.m.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA Vice President
Editor Note: It is with sadness that I report that Emma Jakes’ grandpa passed away recently. This has put her family into mourning, not only, but has resulted in busy-ness that prevents Emma from submitting a recipe this month. Please pray for comfort for the family, and please look forward to another edition of her column next month.

**CIBA Annual Beekeeping Equipment Auction**

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

Accepting items starting 8:00AM
Auction starts at 10AM

**Mark Your Calendars!**

The Central Iowa Beekeepers Association Annual Auction will be Saturday, April 22 at Spring Valley Honey Farm’s Honey House in Perry, Iowa, right along Hwy 141. Follow the signs.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF CONSIGNERS AND BUYERS!!**

Accepting items for sale at the auction site from 8AM until auction start at 10AM. All comb will be inspected by the State Apiarist or designees on day of auction.

Consignment fee is 15% (except current CIBA members consigning by March 18: 10%)

A concession stand offering food and hot/cold drinks will be available.

If you have excess equipment, or if you are in need of equipment, come to the CIBA auction --or just come and visit with other Beekeepers and enjoy the food and company!

To consign equipment prior to the auction or for questions please contact:

Margaret Hala, 1988 Vine Ave., Marshalltown, IA 50158. phone: (651) 752-2981 email: mhala@mchsi.com.

Pat Ennis 2105 110th St Goodell, IA 50439 phone: 641-444-4767 email: flat-lander@lycos.com

For additional information and a consignment form required of all entries visit the CIBA web site at http://centraliowabeekeepers.org/

**NEWS FROM DISTRICTS**

**Bee-Musings from Mary in District 3**

As you read this, I’m hoping March has entered like a lamb and will leave the same! I’m sure you will now know whether your bee hives have made it through the winter or not since February is typically a tough month on bees. If they’re still alive, FEED the BEES! Get them some sweet sugar water and pollen. Your Queen Mama is ready to go but does need nutrients. If they have used their food stores over the past few months, restock their shelves! Give ‘em carbs (sugar water) and protein (pollen patties) to begin building up their new colony.

I know that we have now made our own count on what has survived the winter. At the writing of this, I’m not sure but know that we’ve had some loss. So, I asked my better half, Tim, “Why do you keep bees?” His immediate response, “Because I like it.” That is really it for both of us. Why do we beekeepers? Because we like it!

For me, I like it because it is a time that Tim and I spend together. We each have our jobs when we go out into the bee yard. They just naturally developed over the years and work for us. Although we work separately at times, we are working together and enjoying it.

Beekeeping has also opened us up to meeting many more wonderful people. I have found that beekeepers are some of the nicest people around and I’m just glad we have the opportunity to spend time together with new friends who share our passion. Learning, sharing, laughing, planning, strategizing, creating, etc. are a few of the perks of this hobby.

As we have entered our retirement years, beekeeping has been a great gig for us. Tim loves the agricultural/farm part and loves doing chores. Going out and checking the bee hives on a regular basis and seeing what they need and then providing it, is something he loves doing. Me, I’m not so much into the chore part! Sure am glad he enjoys doing that!

Another reason why we do bees is because we both love HONEY! We love all the good, yummy things we make from honey and the healthy benefits we receive. We have discovered so many great recipes in the new Iowa Honey Producers Cookbook. If you don’t have your copy, get it and try some new ones!

We also know that working with bees is good for all of us --all of us in our world. Bees play a critical role in our ecosystem. We are truly helping all of mankind when we work with honeybees. So, as we begin a new season of beekeeping, we look forward to it. We look to the past to (cont. bottom Page 5—>
help us prepare for the future. But, ultimately, we know that we really, really just like beekeeping!

So, think about that yourself in this next month as you gear up for the new bee season. Why do you do it? What’s your goal? Whether it’s for the honey or for helping all of mankind, enjoy what you do and may the new 2017 bee season be blessed and the best year ever!

“Bee calm and waggle on!”

‘Bee’ grateful, ‘Bee’ blessed, and ‘Bee’ a blessing,
Mary Wiltgen, District 3 Director
tmwiltgen@gmail.com 563.920.9628

RULES FOR 2017 STATE FAIR PRODUCTS BEING SOLD AT THE IHPA BOOTH

1.) There will be a 3-person committee. Bids must be sent to all 3 on the committee (emailed or mailed). Yes, 3 stamps, 3 envelopes or 3 emails. 2.) There will be a firm cut-off date of June 15, with the committee meeting on June 24th. 3.) The 3-person committee will meet in a predetermined neutral place. The general IHPA membership will be allowed to witness. 4.) All liquid honey and comb honey is to be from 2017 harvest. 5.) All glass honey containers and creamed honey containers must have a protection seal. 6.) All plastic containers must have a pressure seal. This includes all large containers. 7.) All products must show proper labeling (i.e. name, city, phone number, and net weight). 8.) Any item not listed on the bid sheet or specialty items you wish to bid, is up to the discretion of the booth manager, based on counter space and the ability to supply. (i.e. bee related items, etc.).

9.) Honey for the Honey Lemonade (60 pound buckets) will be a sealed bid only. Low bid takes it all. 10.) There must have a “US pollen” label. 11.) Reviewed Yearly at January board meeting.

BID LOTS

1.) All beeswax products (candles, ornaments, blocks, etc.) must be packaged to maintain cleanliness and for presentation. 2.) Cut comb and Ross Rounds - must be in a sealed container - well drained without liquid honey - quality standards will be used (clean capping with all cells capped) - needs to weigh at least 14 oz. · MUST be frozen for a minimum of 48 hours prior to arriving at the Iowa State Fair, subject to rejection. 3.) Lip balms, lotions and soaps - please provide your bid price per item and the quantity you will be able to provide. As you may not be able to provide enough for the entire fair, the booth may use several suppliers based on the number of items supplied. Please remember, you are able to bid on lip balms, lotions and soaps, but you must show quantity of each item you are able to supply and your bid price. 4.) There will be one person that will have sole class of honey. For example: one person will have ALL 24-oz bears for the fair. If 2 or more want it, we decide by a draw--winner takes the whole class. Excluding, “case lots” which are 12 oz bears, 1 lb. plastic, 1 lb. glass (see below on these). Draw order will be most numbers sold last year first to least. · High volume classes, committee decides first. · You may enter all classes that a draw for sole winner is possible, (1 lb. plastic, 1 lb. glass, 12 oz. bear is separate because these are case quantities). · You may only win the draw every other class.

CREAMED HONEY RULES:

1.) Flavored honey and creamed honey must come from a certified kitchen. 2.) A copy of the license must be on file with the booth manager and the booth manager must have with them at the State Fair. 3.) More than one wanting to bring a flavor, a draw will decide who brings the flavor.

COMB HONEY RULES:

1.) Must be frozen for 48 hours before coming to the fair. 2.) Must be of good quality, booth manager has the discretion here. 3.) Anyone may bring comb honey, regardless of what other classes you might participate in.

CASE LOTS

1.) The purpose of the case lots is a way for the small beekeeper to provide honey to the fair. (By participating in the Case Lot classes, you forfeit your ability to participate in the bid lot classes.) 2.) Larger honey producers will not be allowed to participate in the case lot classes. (If you participate in the bid lot classes you forfeit your ability to participate in the case lot classes). 3.) Case Lot classes are 1-pound glass, the 12-ounce bear and the 1-pound plastic. 4.) Case lots will be in case quantities of 24 bottles. 5.) You may bring no more than 4 cases of each class. 6.) Minimum is one case of 24 for a class. 7.) Clean-up rule: In the event the required quantity cannot be fulfilled through the case lot system those participating in bid lots will be encouraged to help supply the additional quantity needed of each class through a draw. (One person per class decided by draw).

DELIVERY OF PRODUCTS:

· You must deliver products to the booth. · Plan to deliver your products between Sunday and Wednesday evening. · All products must be received prior to fair opening at 9:00 am Thursday morning. · Provide an invoice when product is delivered. · Please make plans to pick up unsold product on Sunday evening between 9:00 and 10:00 pm or Monday between 8:00 and 12 noon.

The above rules may seem heavy for someone who has never participated at the Iowa State Fair. But please be patient, since bringing honey and supplies to the fair is a very special experience! Start small, get advice from beeke who have done it, and soon you too will be having the great fun that the Fair is! Even if all you do is volunteer to make lemonade, please consider involving yourself in our Great Fair Booth!!
Despite having few taste genes, honey bees are fine-tuned to know what minerals the colony may lack and proactively seek out nutrients in conjunction with the season when their floral diet varies.

This key finding from a new study led by Tufts University scientists sheds light on limited research on the micronutrient requirements of honey bees, and provides potentially useful insight in support of increased health of the bee population, which has declined rapidly in recent years for a variety of complex reasons.

The research, published in Ecological Entomology, suggests that beekeepers should provide opportunities for their bees to access specific nutrients, possibly through a natural mineral lick, to support their balanced health because the bees will search for the minerals when they need them. It is also an opportunity for the general public to support the bee population by planting a diverse range of flowers that bloom throughout the year.

"Currently, there are micronutrient supplements for managed bee hives on the market but there is little research backing up which minerals the bees actually need," said Rachael Bonoan, the lead study author and a Ph.D. candidate in biology in the School of Arts and Sciences at Tufts. "The fact that honey bees switch their mineral preferences based on what is available in their floral diet is really exciting. This means that somehow, honey bees know which nutrients the colony needs. This insight helps us support honey bees and other pollinators by providing access to diverse nutrient sources all year long."

The findings show that honey bees forage for essential minerals that aid their physiological health, even though they have relatively few taste genes. In the fall, when floral resources dwindle, the study showed that bees seek out specific nutrients - calcium, magnesium, and potassium, all commonly found in pollen - by foraging in compound-rich or "dirty" water. When flowers and pollen are abundant in the summer, the bees prefer deionized water and sodium, ultimately suggesting that bees are foraging for minerals in water based on what is lacking in their floral diet.

NOTE: We ran this last month, and it reappears without the picture. After reading the above article, consider if you wish to water your bees accordingly.

We are the Riceville Lego League. For our Animal Allies project, we decided to create this bee waterer. Our bee waterer was built to give bees a fresh source of water, but could also be used to provide extra food for the bees. It was made with pvc pipe, a deep dish pizza pan, and pvc drain clean-out. Our hope is that our waterer/feeder helps bees have healthy water or additional food to help them continue to survive. If you would like to receive details to build your own bee waterer, please send a SASE and $3 to: Riceville Lego League, 912 Woodland Ave., Riceville, IA 50466.
IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference – Hotel Options

You’ve heard it said before: the early bird gets the worm. This cannot be truer for hotel space for the IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference this November 10 and 11 in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Keep in mind, there is no hotel attached to the Gateway Church of the Nazarene, where our meetings and banquet will be held; you will need to drive from your hotel to the church. Two local hotels have blocks of rooms on hold for our event; the blocks are for Thursday and Friday, November 10 and 11 with the option to stay Saturday evening for the same rate. Please reference Iowa Honey Producers when making your reservation.

A block of 55 rooms is on hold at EverSpring Inn & Suites located at 2401 A Avenue W., Oskaloosa, tel: 641-676-6000. This hotel is across the street (Highway 92) from the Gateway Church. Rooms available are: 4 - Business Suites ($102.60+ tax), 19 - Single King ($95+ tax), 26 - Double Queens ($90+ tax), 3 - Single Queen ($80+ tax), 1 - Handicap King with walk-in shower ($95+ tax), and 2 - Handicap Queen ($95+ tax). The hotel has 4 roll-away beds for $10 per night and must be requested in advance. There is no elevator at this hotel so if you need a ground floor room, please specify when making your reservation. Each room has an in-room safe and Wi-Fi is free. On-site laundry facilities are available. This is a non-smoking hotel. A continental breakfast is provided; cookies, coffee, tea and water are available throughout the day. This hotel has a pool, hot tub and a small fitness center. Check in is at 3 p.m. and check out is at 11 a.m.

Cancellation policy: No charge if cancel 24 hours in advance of arrival.

Note: The hotel is undergoing a renovation at this time, inside and outside.

The block of rooms will be held for our group until Tuesday, October 10. At this hotel only, I have a block of 10 – Single King and 5 – Double Queens held for Saturday, November 11; rates would be the same.

A block of 25 rooms is being held at the Super 8 located at 306 South 17th Street, Oskaloosa, tel: 641-673-8481. This hotel is conveniently located at the junction of highways 23 and 92 and a mere 2.7 miles from the Gateway Church. Rooms available include: 18 - Queens and 7 - Single Queen or King, each priced at $95+ tax. Children 12 and under stay free. The Super 8 has two roll-away beds which must be reserved in advance; $10 per night. There is no elevator at this hotel either so if you need a ground floor room, please specify when making your reservation. Smoking rooms are available. Wi-Fi is free and breakfast is included in the rate. Check in is at 2 p.m. and check out is at 11 a.m.

Cancellation policy: No charge if cancel 24 hours in advance of arrival.

Note: The hotel is installing new carpet this winter/early spring.

The block of rooms will be held for our group until Monday, October 9. If you’d like to stay Saturday evening, the hotel will honor the block room rate.

My fellow beekeepers, I cannot stress enough how important it is to book your room(s) early. The cancellation policy at both hotels is generous. If you are unsure today whether or not you can attend, it still would be in your best interest to make a reservation now and cancel later if necessary. I will keep tabs on the room blocks and secure additional rooms, if needed, and update via The Buzz and on the website. The choice of hotels in Oskaloosa is limited; if all else fails, rooms could be secured in Pella, 15 miles away.
NW Iowa Beekeepers Association
Overwintering Double Nuc Update

During the March 2015 meeting of the NW Iowa Beekeepers Association, a beekeeper expressed his frustration by saying, “I’m tired of buying bees every spring. Can’t we figure out how to overwinter our bees?” That statement launched the NW Iowa Beekeepers on a three year journey of testing the feasibility of overwintering double nucs in NW Iowa and SW Minnesota. The overwintering double nuc hive model was selected after viewing a YouTube video by northern Vermont beekeeper, Michael Palmer.

The double nuc box maintains two bee colonies in the same hive box with side-by-side 4-frame nuc configurations. The double nuc uses a 10-frame brood box with a center divider and four frames on each side of the divider. Four-frame nuc boxes are added to each side capped with individual 4-frame inner covers. Bee entrances are on opposite ends of each colony. The entire double frame hive uses one 10-frame telescoping cover. Regional supplier, Dadant, features a double nuc hive, which is being called a support hive, as a new item in its 2017 catalog.

The NW Iowa Beekeepers double nuc project is managed by a 7-member Research & Education Team of both NW Iowa and SW Minnesota beekeepers. The team overwintered 14 double nuc (28 colonies) as a pilot project running the summer of 2015 through spring 2016. The summer of 2016, supported with funds provided by the Iowa Honey Producers Association, the project was doubled to 14 collaborators with a total of 28 double nucs (56 colonies). Double nuc splits were made the third week of June, 2016, using queens from Four Season Apiaries, Mpls, Minnesota. Four Seasons is a member of the Northern Bee Network, www.northernbeenetwork.org. Collaborators submit monthly double nuc reports, talk monthly by conference call, and connect regularly by emails and text messaging.

Early February 2017 double nuc survival reports include five collaborators with 4 of 4 alive, three collaborators with 3 of 4 alive, two collaborators with 2 of 4 alive, one collaborator with 1 of 4 alive, and 3 collaborators with 0 of 4 alive. Thirteen collaborators will participate during 2017-2018, the final year of the two-year project.

“Best practices” for overwintering double nucs are being identified, and will be summarized as a “Fact Sheet” for Iowa beekeepers. The next step is a regional queen breeding project.

For more info email, nwiabeekeepersresearch@gmail.com, or call Tim Olsen, 507-227-5919.

Fellow Beekeepers,

This is an exciting message from the North Iowa Bee Club that we want to share with all other beekeepers in Iowa. The NIBC is a newly-formed group, however, we had great founding leadership, including Pat Ennis, Past President of IHPA. It was Pat Ennis at our first meeting last year that expressed great frustration with the low quality of queen bees imported from California. We all agreed. Pat discussed that we as a club could possibly start raising our own queens, which set off a “light bulb” in most of our heads. He also mentioned a few great resources for ordering more quality queens around the United States. The one resource we want to share with all of you is the West Virginia Queen Producers Cooperative. This group raises a breed of bee known as Ankle Biter. The reason they have been called this is because the bees actually bite varroa mites’ legs off which causes them to bleed out and die, because Varroa Mites cannot coagulate blood. This is fantastic news considering all of us as beekeepers regard varroa mites as our greatest adversary.

One NIBC member sent an inquiring email to the West Virginia Queen Producers Cooperative to see if we could go in together as a club and order "Ankle Biter" queens. He estimated that we might order twenty queens. Then one person wanted twenty himself, so the estimation became forty. After we had the sign up at our November meeting the order jumped to sixty-one! Now our total order is well over one hundred! This was exciting for many reasons; one, that we were taking a big step as a group to fight the varroa mite in a natural, genetic way; another, that we were ordering quality queens that might be buzzing with us for generations to come. It was mentioned at Iowa Honey Producers Association Conference and Annual Meeting that we as Iowa beekeepers need to move away from the low quality queens imported from California; here is a resource to do just that.

Hurry and see if you can still get in an order for these queens because they are in high demand and may sell out soon. You can find more information, great videos and contacts for the, "Ankle Biter" Queens at www.mountainstatequeens.com. The NIBC will keep you posted on the experience of ordering and raising the "Ankle Biter" Bee.

Point of Contact, Tim Stumo, timstumo@gmail.com
Healthy Bees
By Education Specialist

What are healthy bees?

Healthy bees are headed by great queens. Great queens, in my opinion, are bred from survivor stock that has not been chemically treated and yet survived through all the problems that bees face today. These queens lay a great solid brood pattern and build rapidly in the spring to catch the first nectar flows.

They are disease and parasite free. They live in solid equipment. Bees do not like filth and go to great lengths to keep their homes clean and sterile. We can aid them by scraping bottom boards if using solid ones and or dumping our Varroa screens periodically. We can provide them with solid, well-ventilated boxes. The boxes should be placed in full sunlight facing the east. The eastern exposure will get them moving earlier in the morning and full sunlight on the hives may help in the control of the Small Hive Beetle (SHB).

They have room to expand and grow.

They have ample stores of nectar and pollen.

They have access to nearby water.

They show traits of hygienic behavior.

The ground around our hives should be maintained for the control of SHB and the grass and weeds should not be allowed to grow tall, as this can provide a highway into the hive for other pests.

Frames should be maintained in the hive by scraping off excess wax, burr comb and propolis, as this will aid the beekeeper in doing thorough inspections and making sound management decisions.

A system of record keeping should be in place to aid the beekeeper in tracking what is working and what is not.

Healthy good food should be provided in times of dearth and protein supplements should be used when there is a lack of pollen.

Entrance reducers should be used when the colonies are weak or when there is a danger of robbing. Mouse guards should be put on hives in the fall.

Queens should be replaced at their first signs of failing. Continuing education should be sought to aid in the care of your bees.

Happy beekeeping—Education Specialist
Source & re-print permission: Kelly Beekeeping
January 1, 2012

---

Editor Note: If members of IHPA want to put a note in Classifieds, the ads should be very short. They are free, and we should leave room for everyone to post. Just email me your information, and be sure to include contact information and prices.

If members or businesses want to design ads and pay for them, the artwork should be the size that you wish to have imported into the paper (rather than having me re-size them on this end).

1/8 page ad is 4.25" W by 2.75" H—costs $10/month $72/yr
1/4 page ad is 4.25" W by 5.5" H—costs $25/m, $180/year
1/2 page ad is 8.5" W by 5.5" H—costs $50/m, $360/year
Full page is 8.5" W by 11" H—costs $75/month, $720/year

---

Treasurer Note: DUES!! Check the label on your Buzz and if the date is not 12/31/17 or later, you need to renew your subscription. Rhonda contact info on the back page. ($20 for subscription for one beek, $5 added for other family beeks, same address.)
2017 Iowa Honey Producers Association Summer Field Day
Saturday, July 15, 2017
Wickiuphill Learning Center
10260 Morris Hill Road, Toddville, Iowa (north of Cedar Rapids)

Relying on GPS may lead you to an incorrect location. More details to follow in a future edition of The Buzz and website.

Registration: 8:30
Field Day: 9:00 – 4:15

Field Day Guest Speakers include: Dale Hill, Ph.D. from Illinois who will speak on “Nutrition for Honeybees” and “Midwest Plants for Honeybees” and Andy Joseph, Iowa’s State Apiarist, will provide an update on the state of Iowa’s honeybees. Afternoon session topics will feature how to make flavored creamed honey and what it means to have a certified kitchen; how to assemble equipment; and how to test for mites and use of various treatment methods. Meet the American Honey Queen, Maria Jaycox and Iowa Honey Queen, Carly Vannoy. Following the sessions, stay for an on-site extraction demonstration. This will be a full day of knowledge exchange for beekeepers of all levels. Please mark your calendar and remember to bring your bee gear.

A delicious lunch will be provided except for the dessert. YOU are asked to bring one to share! Bottled water, honey lemonade, and coffee will be available throughout the day.

NAME: _________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: _______________________________________________________
CITY: __________________________ ZIP: __________________ PHONE: (____) __________________
CELL: (____) __________________ EMAIL: _________________________________

Registration: ________________________________ Amount
Single (member): $35 before June 30, 2017
Number attending: ________________ x $35 = _______

Single (non-member): $40 before June 30, 2017
Number attending: ________________ x $40 = _______

Walk-in on July 15, 2017 (member)
Number attending: ________________ x $40 = _______

Walk-in on July 15, 2017 (non-member)
Number attending: ________________ x $45 = _______

Return this completed form together with your check payable to IHPA, by Friday, June 30, 2017 to:
Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer 52735 187th Avenue Chariton, IA 50049

Got questions? E-mail Eve Vanden Broek at: mrstheo@iouwatelecom.net and put “Summer Field Day Question” in the subject line, or call 515-491-6760. No calls after 9:15 p.m., please.
Above is a picture of Dr. Dale Hill working a hive. Dr. Hill will be our presenter at the Summer Field Hill. Be sure to be present on July 15 in the Wickiuphill Learning Center in Toddville (north of Cedar Rapids).

Dr. Dale Hill is a semi-retired animal nutrition consultant with 38 years of animal nutrition formulation experience with various species, combined with 14 years of analytical laboratory experience.

Since graduate school and a post-doc with the USDA, Dr. Hill has worked for livestock nutrition companies, vitamin-trace mineral premix companies, a milk replacer company and a major pet food company. The last 13 years of full-time employment was spent with ADM providing technical, formulation, and regulatory support to premix and ingredient customers.

Through his employment with ADM, he became associated with Dadant & Sons as a supplier of ingredients and manufactured products, and began his research projects with honey bees. He was the primary developer of Dadant’s AP23 pollen substitute, and updated the nutrition chapter in “The Hive and the Honey Bee” in the most recent edition. Dr. Hill teaches the Nutrition section of the Montana Master Beekeepers course, and has made numerous presentations on honey bee nutrition. He continues to provide nutrition consulting to Dadant & Sons.

(Submitted by Vice President Eve Vanden Broek, contact info on the back cover)
For Sale: Nucs--4-frame $130.00; 5-frame $150.
Frames are 9 5/8 nuc in disposable box. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross).
Bees are bred for honey production and Iowa winter hardiness. Queens are VSH (Varroa-Sensitive Hygienic). I also offer how to get started support.

For Sale - 1 9 5/8 ten-frame new wooden box with lids and bottom board. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross) and bees : $235.00

For Sale- 2 9 5/8 10 frame new wooden boxes, with lids and bottom board, 20 9-1/8 frames. 1 marked queen (Carniolan/Russian cross) and bees: $315

Bees will be available mid May(depending on weather and dandelion bloom)
Deposit of $75.00 when you place order.

Curtis Barnhart  PO Box 70,  Monticello IA 52310
email:bee.cbarnhart@gmail.com

FOR SALE
Package Bees, Nucs, And Queens
*2# package 1-9 $91.00  10-99 $87.00  100+ $75.00
*3# package 1-9 $116.00  10-99 $112.00 100+ $100.00
*+Tax And $7.00 Cage Deposit
Queens (Carniolan or Italian) $35.00 +tax
Five Frame Nuc $135.00 +tax / 100+ $110.00 +tax

We are offering a Gallon of syrup and pollen patty with the purchase of package bees and Nucs for extra $7.00
Corn Syrup .40 per pound  500#s syrup .35 #
Protein Patties $2.00ea. case/40 $70.00

Spring Valley Honey Farms
Perry, Iowa
Connie 515-480-6076
www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com
We also carry a full line of beekeeping supplies!
See our boxed Ad
For Sale: **Package Bees:**
3lb Package—$117  2lb Package $97
Once again we are shipping in 3lb & 2lb package bees with
mated Carniolan Queen the weekend of April 15th &
16th. Discounts pricing for larger orders!
**Carniolan Mated Queens:** $32
These are for pick-up only and available the same weekend
that packages will be here (April 15th & 16th).
**Russian Mated Queens:** $40
Queens are marked by default and can be shipped to you, or
picked-up in Des Moines. Queens are produced from mid May
through August. Discounts for larger orders!

---

**Hive Kits:** $240
These are hand crafted in our own wood-
shop here in Des Moines. For a fun option
you can have custom engravings done to
the hive boxes (more info online). Kits
include 2 deeps, 2 mediums, 20 deep wax
coated frames, 20 medium wax coated frames, division board
feeder with plastic ladders, telescoping cover, inner cover,
solid bottom board, and entrance reducer.
To order, go to [www.RussianBee.com](http://www.RussianBee.com)

---

**For Sale:** A 36”X36”X14” Flash Heater with four 240 volt
4500 watt heaters. Stand is included. $1800.
Marion Striegel 641-660-6869, Oskaloosa

**For Sale:** 2- or 3-lb. packages of bees with queen. Delivered to
Indian Creek Nature Center or Aurora.
Douglas Child. Call 319-634-3682 or Childbees@gmail.com

---

**Spring Valley Honey Farms**

**Perry, Iowa**

**Connie 515-480-6076**

[www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com](http://www.springvalleyhoneyfarms.com)

We offer a full line of beekeeping supplies to meet your needs in starting and managing your hives.

**Basic Hive Kit $150.00** (Includes: 2 Deep Hive Bodies, 18 - 1 piece plastic frames, 2gallon feeder, screened bottom board, telescoping cover & inner cover) Fully assembled and painted. (To substitute wood frames, Add $3.00)

**Complete Hive Kit $240.00** Basic Kit + Two Honey Supers with frames. (To substitute wood frames, add $5.00)

**Honey Styx**

We have our good flavored light Iowa honey in Styx!

**Case of 2000 $180.00/ 500 to 1999 .12 ea./ 1 to 499 .15 ea.**

**50 # bucket of honey $127.00**

---

**For Sale: 2lb. and 3lb. packages with unmarked Italian or Carniolan queens. Pick-up in West Chester, IA or Sullivan, WI. Loads arriving early-April through mid-May. Price: TBD Call Tim Wilbanks 319-321-2494 or order through web-site:www.kalonahoney.com. Kalona Honey Co., LLC, 2104 Hemlock Ave, West Chester, IA 52359. Heritage Honeybee, LLC, PO Box 117, Sullivan, WI 53178**

---

The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to rrihpa@gmail.com or rrihpa@gmail.com

Or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250

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.
Russian Bees & Beekeeping Equipment
Des Moines, Iowa based breeder of quality Russian queens, & craftsmen of Aromatic Cedar hive ware. Check us out on the web at:
www.RussianBee.com

WEAVER’S famous QUEENS and Package Bees
★ Buckfast ★ All-American
Order On-Line Now
Visit us on the Web at www.rweaver.com
THE R WEAVER APIARIES, INC.
16495 CR 319, Navasota, TX 77868
Ph: 936/825-2333 rweaver@rweaver.com

For All Your Packaging Containers
For Packing Honey
( No Order To Large or Small )
BL Plastic Containers, LLC
“We Built Our Business on Service, Quality, and Dependability.”
BL Plastic Containers, LLC
1425 Metro E. Drive Unit 109
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327
Phone: 515-266-6112
Fax: 515-266-1112
sales@blplasticiowa.com
www.blplasticiowa.com

PRECIOUSBEES FARM
3# PACKAGE BEES
WITH ITALIAN QUEEN
18 April & 10 May Delivery
Weather Dependent
Will Also Have Replacement Queens In May
Taking Orders for Complete Bee Hives
Manufactured in Iowa - $250.00
We Also Manufacture Oxalic Acid Vaporizers
for Varroa Treatment - $100.00
Phone: 319-400-4228
1828 Y Ave.
Homestead, Iowa 52236
preciousbeesfarm@aol.com
2015-2016 Officers & Directors of IHPA

**Officers:**
- **President:** Roy Kraft
  - Email: kroyster.rk@gmail.com
  - Phone: 515.293.2458
  - Goldfield, IA 50542
  - PO Box 1
- **Vice President:** Eve Vanden Broek
  - Email: flat_lander@lycos.com
  - Phone: 641.444.4767
  - Goodell, IA 50439
  - 2105 110th St
- **Secretary:** Heidi Love
  - Email: thewetzelclan@aol.com
  - Phone: 515.979.6322
  - Chariton, IA 50049
  - 8227 NE 38th Ave
- **Historian:** Butch Wetzel
  - Email: kroyster.rk@gmail.com
  - Phone: 515.490.2477
  - Van Meter, IA 50261
  - 1270 Upland Lane
- **Past President:** Pat Ennis
  - Email: jim.marshall@musco.com
  - Phone: 641.660.9930
  - Oskaloosa, IA 52577
  - 2923 Jones Ave

**Directors:**
- **District 1:** Jim Marshall
  - Email: jim.marshall@musco.com
  - Phone: 641.660.9930
  - Goldfield, IA 50542
  - PO Box 1
- **District 2:** Shane Bixby
  - Email: shanebixby@aol.com
  - Phone: 515.293.2458
  - Des Moines, IA 50302
  - 5470 Kacena Ave
- **District 3:** Mary Wiltgen
  - Email: dwkincy@msn.com
  - Phone: 515.710.4752
  - Urbandale, IA 50322
  - 7304 Monroe Ct
- **District 4:** Doyle Kincy
  - Email: dwkincy@msn.com
  - Phone: 515.710.4752
  - Urbandale, IA 50322
  - 7304 Monroe Ct
- **District 5:** Eric Kenoyer
  - Email: cbronny823@aol.com
  - Phone: 515.480.6076
  - Perry, IA 50220-6343
  - 14405 Hull Ave
- **District 6:** Dave Korver
  - Email: dpkorver@frontier.com
  - Phone: 712.562.6528
  - Goodfield, IA 50542
  - PO Box 1

**Iowa Beekeeping Clubs**

- **Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club**
  - Contact: Jim & Tina Marshall
  - 2923 Jones Ave
  - Oskaloosa, IA 52577
  - Phone: 641.660.9930
  - Email: jim.marshall@musco.com

- **Boone River Beekeeping Club**
  - Contact: Roy Kraft
  - PO Box 1
  - Goodfield, IA 50542
  - Phone: 515.293.2458
  - Email: kroyster.rk@gmail.com

- **Central Iowa Beekeepers Association**
  - Contact: Arvin Foell
  - 3094 530th Ave.
  - Kellogg, IA 50314
  - Home phone: 515/597-3060
  - Cell phone: 515/450-9494
  - Email: afoell@huxcomm.net

- **Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Julia McGuire
  - 30930 530th Ave.
  - Home phone: 515/597-3060
  - Cell phone: 515/450-9494
  - Email: dmbbeekeepers@gmail.com

- **East Central Iowa Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Dan Kinsky
  - 7304 Monroe Ct
  - Home phone: 515/597-3060
  - Cell phone: 515/450-9494
  - Email: dwkincy@msn.com

- **Loess Hills Beekeeping Association**
  - Contact: Vern Ramsey
  - 11405 Hull Ave
  - Perry, IA 50220-6343
  - Phone: 515.480.6076
  - Email: cbronny823@aol.com

- **North Iowa Bee Club**
  - Contact: Pat Ennis
  - 1040 Union Ave
  - Goodell, IA 50542
  - Phone: 641.444.4767
  - Email: flat_lander@lycos.com

- **Northwest Iowa Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Tim Olsen
  - 616 W. Main
  - Luverne, MN 56156
  - Phone: 507-227-5919
  - Email: nwibeekeepersersresearch@gmail.com

- **Red Rock Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Gerald Murphy
  - 1180 92nd Ave
  - Knoxville, IA 50138
  - Phone: 641.218-4814
  - Email: wldonn@windstream.net

- **Southeast Iowa Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Vern Ramsey
  - 22781 Route J16
  - Griswold, IA 51535
  - Phone: 712-778-4256
  - Email: lhrsmay@netins.net

- **Southwest Iowa Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms
  - 14022 535th Street
  - Griswold, IA 51535
  - Phone: 712-778-4256
  - Email: mbrahms@netins.net

- **Siouxland Beekeepers**
  - Contact: Ron Ryders
  - 890 13th Ave SE
  - Sioux Center, IA 51250
  - Phone: 712.649.5010
  - Email: rrhpa@gmail.com

**American Beekeeping Federation:**
- Website: www.abfn.org

**American Honey Producers Association:**
- Website: www.ahpanet.com

**National Honey Board:**
- Website: www.honey.com