ANNUAL MEETING IN CEDAR RAPIDS—P. 4, 5, 6, 7
HELP OUT AT THE STATE FAIR!—P. 10

New Website—iowahoneyproducers.org
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Iowa beekeepers,
Friends, I am in true amazement as to how these bees can go from almost nothing in early spring, to two boxes full of bees and a medium super of honey in a very short period of time! The honey flow around Goldfield this year has been nothing short of explosive! WOW. YOU JUST GOTTA LOVE IT!!

I will be in comb honey up to my elbows and my garage being patrolled by bees wanting it back, as you read this. It’s the season for harvest. I will be using my garage again this year, but it’s the last year of it, since I have purchased a garage to move. A lot of work to get done but nobody is in a hurry.

I had to pause a bit to take a call as a young beekeeper has a hive that has produced a lot of honey and queen cells too. The young man put the cells in two-nucs and called and said, "I think I got two queens. When can I put them in a hive?" A fun call for me. It makes me feel great when I can assist people with queen-rearing on a small scale. I feel we need to be doing this. That great queen like this young man has, needs to have her genetics passed on to daughter queens. I bet the daughter queens he has will be as good or even better than what the mother queen was. I can’t wait to chat again with this young beekeeper.

It is one of those days—cloudy and rain; not a good day to work bees and I will wait for a better day. I decided to get my observation hive ready for state fair competition. Jodi and I scrubbed and polished for a couple hours working like 4-H kids do on their projects. My show jars are buried up in the storeroom of the house, packed away neatly now, accounted for and ready for 2016 crop. I guess I have spent most of the day getting ready for the Iowa State Fair. I truly love the show and the IHPA stand. I think it’s a great place to show off some great Iowa honey and friendly show competition that is there. Hope to meet a lot of you there. Please introduce yourself if you see me. I want to meet as many members as I can.

I want to also say I traveled up to northwest Iowa the other day and had a meeting with Tim Olson on the Mike Palmer overwintering project. Mr Olson has a lot going on with this project and some long range plans that sound very exciting in the future. I am very excited of what I feel may come for Iowa and southwest Minnesota beekeepers. I’m glad to be in the loop on this.

Jodi and I had to take a time out as our county fair (Wright) is going on and Jodi has obligations at the fair quilt auction. I saw a good one, the Iowa state quilt brought a thousand dollars and the Iowa quilt only brought four hundred. WOW. Speaking of wow, I must tell you all, Jodi brought home "best in show" ribbon this year. Very nice table of quilts there too! Nice job! Folks, just wait till the banquet auction at the annual meeting in November in Cedar Rapids—you will want to "bee" there!

I hope everyone has a smooth harvest this year. Remember: harvest early and it may give you time for extra mite treatments if you need. Varroa I feel is our worst enemy. Do what it takes to eradicate them. Know if you have them and at what level, and eradicate them. Don’t hesitate, eradicate! The wintering ability of your bees is much stronger with as close to mite free as you can get. So get your mite treatment purchased early before the supply is out of what you want. (Something I myself need to be getting done.) I will be getting into some hives tomorrow as I have a few late nucs that have really taken off that need honey supers on. I didn’t get to it today but will in the a.m. tomorrow, so I need to quit for now. My bed is calling. Bee safe bee careful, bee yourself!

Roy Kraft, President IHPA

Maia The Honey Queen Says:

Hey everybody, sorry I haven’t gotten an article in The Buzz, there have been some technical difficulties with my articles.

So far I have spoken at the local Kiwanis group in my hometown, I have been to Ames far a pollinator fest, Mason city for a field day, Living History Farms for home school day, and a few more.

It has been an amazing adventure so far going to different places and talking to children and adults about how important honey bees are.

A little about myself: I just graduated from high school and I will be attending Iowa State University in the fall. It has been an awesome time with all these events and I can’t wait for what else I have to do! I can’t wait to see everyone at the State Fair!
TIPS FOR NEWBEES:

In the northwest corner of the state, there is an up-rise of interest in beekeeping. I’m confident that happens all over the state. It’s so gratifying to hear of programs to promote pollinator habitat, encouraging farmers to plant forbes in set-aside ground.

If you are new to beekeeping this year, you might have been surprised by how fast the supers fill up. If you didn’t notice that the two brood boxes were packed full, you likely had your first swarm. But if you did add that honey super on time, you were smart to watch it and add another one if it got full really quick.

So now what? Don’t assume that you can have ALL the honey that sits in the two supers this fall. Sometimes the bees don’t store down in the broods, and sometimes the fall is really nice and warm and long, and they consume most of their lower honey, and then you have to feed in the fall. So don’t take all “your” honey off without checking how heavy those lower broods are—especially the bottom one.

And if they laid up enough honey for you to have some—immediately treat for varroa! Collect all the advice you can on how to eliminate those buggers before they winter over! Eggs are still being laid, and the ones that hatch will live over winter, and you want them to be healthy to survive.

Editor.

Greetings from the Vice President:

August already? Where has the summer gone? Or the year? By now, you should be signed up to help at the Iowa State Fair and preparing for honey extraction. It is a busy time of year as we like to get our extraction done before Labor Day. Then throw in a few family events, a little time away, and you just wonder where the time has gone! But, we wouldn’t have it any other way!

Hoping you all are planning on coming to the IHPA Conference and Annual meeting. It is your time to learn and share with other beekeepers from our fine state and beyond. Check out the information in this issue of The Buzz, send in that registration, and begin thinking about what you’d like to enter in the contests! Mark your calendars and make your reservations!

It is August so you are thinking honey extraction, I’m sure. Please don’t forget that IMMEDIATELY after extracting your honey you should be preparing those hives for winter. First and foremost, check for mites and treat accordingly. You need healthy bees to survive the winter and survival is only possible when you control your mite load. Treat your bees with kindness by treating you bees! Help them survive the winter by starting NOW with your winter preparations. Getting and keeping healthy hives after extraction is essential. I can’t stress it enough. If you aren’t sure what to do, check with your mentor, another beekeeper, the internet, You Tube, books, magazines, etc. It takes several months to get healthy and strong bees to survive the winter. Begin NOW!!!

Just remember the old proverb which says, “No bees, No honey; No work, No money!”

Until next time, ‘Bee’ grateful, ‘Bee’ blessed, and ‘Bee’ a blessing,

Mary Wiltgen, Vice President, IHPA

He who angers you, controls you!
104th Iowa Honey Producers Association
Conference and Annual Meeting
November 11-12, 2016
Clarion Hotel and Convention Center
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Keynote Speakers include James Tew and Jennifer Berry
(See more details in The Buzz Newsletter or online at www.iowahoneyproducers.org)

Friday and Saturday ~~ Registration: 8:00 am  ~~ Conference/Annual Meeting: 8:30 am
Friday ~~ Queen Luncheon – Noon ~~ Social Hour – 5:00 pm ~~ Banquet – 6:15 pm
Saturday ~~ Meet the Board & Directors Luncheon – Noon

Name: ______________________________________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _______________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ County: ________________________________
E-mail Address: ______________________________________________________________
No. of Colonies: __________________________ Years in Beekeeping: _________________

DEADLINE FOR 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.

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

Conference and Annual Meeting Fees:

Individual:
Registration before October 31st - $25 / After October 31st - $30
$ __________

Couple/Family Rate:
Registration before October 31st - $40 / After October 31st - $45
$ __________
Annual Meeting Info Continued...

Queen Luncheon – Friday noon (pre-registration required by October 31st)

Number of tickets (per adult) ________ x $15.00 $________
Number of tickets (per child 4-12 years) ________ x $12.00 $________

Banquet – Friday at 6:15 (Banquet Keynote Speaker – James Tew)

Number of tickets (per adult)_________ x $ 25.00 $ ___________
Number of tickets (per child 4-12 years)________ x $ 19.00 $ ___________

~NEW THIS YEAR! ~

Meet the Board & Directors Luncheon – Saturday at Noon (Pizza & Salad – Pop extra)

Number of tickets (per person) x $6.00 $ __________

2016 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 $ _______

***Note: Paid 2016 membership is required to vote at the business meeting.

Return this completed form along with the payment to:
Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer, 52735 187th Avenue, Chariton, IA 50049
Please make checks payable to: Iowa Honey Producers Association

Any question can be directed to Mary Wiltgen, IHPA VP at twtgen@gmail.com or 563-920-9628

I don't know why some people change churches;

What difference does it make which one you stay home from?
104th Iowa Honey Producers Association

Conference & Annual Meeting November 11 – 12, 2016

Clarion Hotel & Convention Center — 525 33rd Avenue SW

Cedar Rapids, IA  52404 (319)366-8671

(Friday and Saturday ~~ Registration: 8:00 am  ~~ Conference/Annual Meeting: 8:30 am)

Room rates for the IHPA members are $72 plus taxes with reservations made by Thursday, October 27th.

The IHPA Conference and Annual Meeting is our yearly opportunity to get together and discuss the wonders as well as mysteries of beekeeping. This meeting is open to anyone interested in beekeeping or honeybees. We have a variety of guest speakers from across the United States come to speak on their expertise in the beekeeping world. For current beekeepers this is a great time to hear what is new in beekeeping or ask questions of those with a greater number of years’ experience. Those who are thinking about getting started in beekeeping will have numerous chances to ask, ‘What’s it like to keep bees?’ There will be no shortage of answers! Beekeepers love to share the stories, fun, and enjoyment they have found in beekeeping.

2016 Conference and Annual Meeting Speakers include the following:

James Tew, Jennifer Berry, Charlotte Hubbarb, Andy Joseph, Andy Hemken, the Iowa Honey Queen and more!

Additional information in The Buzz Newsletter and website (www.iowahoneyproducers.org) will include cooking, photo, hive body, and mead contest rules, plus luncheons and banquet information.
IHPA Contests and Rules

Rules for the “Peoples’ Choice”** Photo Contest:
- Photo must be matted but not framed.
- Any size photo will be accepted for this competition.
- Your name needs to be on the backside of the photo.
- Must be a Honey Bee, not a Bumblebee or native Iowa bee
**NEW this year ~ Photo Contest ONLY will be judged by YOU!

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 (includes pies) 5. Breads
2. Bars or Cookies 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 the category)
- Flavor of entry
- Overall appearance of entry

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

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” social hour 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.
- Theme of your choice.

Auction Items!!
It is that time to Bee thinking about the upcoming meeting in November! Donations of items for the queen auctions would be greatly appreciated! These items donated will be on auction, (live or silent). The money raised will help the Honey Queen get to your events!

Thanks, Connie Bronnenberg
IHPA Awards

If you know of somebody the IHPA should recognize during the Annual Meeting in November, please contact Curt Bronnenberg at (515) 480-6075. Send nominations to cbronny823@aol.com or Curt Bronnenberg, 14405 Hull Ave, Perry IA 50220. A brief written description of the nominee’s involvement in beekeeping/IHPA would be appreciated.

Here are the categories. See if someone you know should have an award.

Lifetime Membership Award

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

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

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

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

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

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

Phil Ebert sends in a note from Ted Maybee. It seems Ted was retrieving bees from a lady’s front porch; here’s what he says:

“Kinda good story, Lady had bees in her porch step. I set down a nuc with frames of comb and little honey. I let it set there for couple days.

Then I drilled a hole in top of the wall by the steps and squirted a little Honey Robber in. I was leaning on my hands and looking over the edge watching bees pour out of their entrance. Next thing I know the queen comes out of the hole I drilled right into my hand! I know that wouldn’t

DISTRICT 4 NEWS

By the time you are reading this the Iowa State Fair will be upon us. I hope that many of you have volunteered to help out at the Iowa Honey Producers booth this year. This is a big undertaking and it takes many bodies to make it successful. It’s not too late to check and see if there are bodies still needed.

I will be pulling honey supers starting the first week of August. It appears to be a better than average year for honey production. Once those honey supers come off, I will be doing mite checks and treating if needed. Taking care of those mites will then give the Queen time to get 2-3 brood cycles of young, healthy bees to take into the winter cluster. It will also be a time to judge each hive and decide if any need to be combined. Depending on our fall nectar flow if any, we will need to monitor the food stores and see how each hive measures up to the needed hive winter weight. I hope everyone’s supers are heavy and full of that liquid gold.

See you at the Fair

Doyle Kincy
DISTRICT 6 NEWS

It’s been a good July. We have had lots of new beekeepers in this area, and a grant that Dr. Duane Bajema got allows a couple of us to go around coaching newbees and assessing the condition of many hives. This gives us a chance to try to solve problems, and Boy! do we learn a lot in the process! I’d encourage any newbee in the state to attach to a good mentor, ask a lot of questions, and make all your mistakes early. Always something to learn, so don’t ever give up.

The Sioux County fair happened July 11-13. The Siouxland Beekeepers set up a booth in the commercial building, and set an observation hive on the table. That’s the way to draw in curious people, for sure! We had lots of good questions, some signed up for a class, many took information sheets, and we got some good comments about the IHPA t-shirt that we had hanging on the back wall.

I’m going to enter some honey and some other things into the state fair. I hope to see you there. Gotta go extract some frames to get some liquid gold...

Dave Korver, District 6 Rep.

INPUT?

This space is blank.

It would be a perfect place for some questions from new beekeepers in the September issue of the Buzz.

Would YOU consider sending email to rrihpa@gmail.com and asking your questions?

Thanks!

IHI, Bill Drone here, greetings from the complex.

There seems to be a lot going on here at the complex these days. The girls are working hard and there is a sense of being crowded around here. There is all kinds of activity, wax building, storing pollen, some new nectar coming in and then there is the human causing total chaos, they added two more stories to the complex. By the way, Mike is no longer with me.

Mike dropped off one day. The human put something in the complex and about three days later he left. Glad he is gone, he was a real pain in the neck if you know what I mean. I am not sure where he went, he just slipped off my back and left without saying anything. Not nice. We were close for about three weeks.

The other day, Pat, a friend of mine, stopped by and told me to come and fly to a place they call DCA. I had no idea where it was or what was going on there but I decided to trust Pat as he claimed that there might be some girls there. Off we went. It was a long flight across a field to a row of trees along a fence. When we got there it was real warm, very little breeze and evidently we were not the first ones there. Drones were flying all around.

Then all of a sudden a “Queen” showed up. Boy did everyone go berserk! There were some that flew with her for a few seconds and then did a free fall. All of a sudden, Pat flew with her for a few seconds and then he took a dive, I followed him to the ground. Must have been a bad landing or something, he was busted up pretty bad--parts missing, it was ugly. I’m going to miss Pat, he was a true friend.

On my way back to the home I stopped in at a new complex. I was not real welcome, they tried to shove me around a little but being I am bigger, I still got in to check this place out. Much the same as our complex, I went through the whole place, the girls were friendly. They even fed me a little. I maybe should have not stopped there as, much to my surprise, a friend of “Mighty Mike” dropped on me. Now I am back to having a pain in the neck again. Hope this one drops off like Mike did. I will call it Martha.

Till next time, remember “Buzz” is the word, Bill.
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 11 -21. For those members new to the Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA), we have a booth at the State Fair annually in the Ag building 2nd floor; 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 2015 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 11-21, 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 bhlove5@aol.com, or call my number below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Heidi Love (IHPA Secretary) 18488 E Ave, Dawson, IA 50066. Cell: 515-729-1761

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 11-21.)

We appreciate any help you can provide!

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
Some minds are like concrete:

Thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.
FOR SALE:

30-frame Woodman Extractor in great shape—$600—located in Mt Vernon. Contact Adam Ebert at 319-430-3514 or fiddler171@gmail.com.

NEW heavy-duty 5-gallon buckets with lids: 1-9 $6 each 10+ $5 each.

100-gallon stainless steel tank with strainer cone and lid-$100. Honey and beeswax are available. Call for pricing. For these items contact Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639 or ehoney37@netins.net

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: 20-gallon water-jacketed stainless Kelly sump. Can use as is without water. Would need some minor leaks repaired (resoldered) and a new capillary tube to use water jacket. Contact Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639

When to Add Another Box

By Gary S. Reuter, Apiculture Technician
Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota

This procedure applies to both existing and package colonies.

When the bees are using more than 80% of the first box add a second box. We find it best if you take a frame with some nectar on it and move it up to the middle of the new box. This will draw the bees up there. Be sure not to move brood up there because it will make it difficult for the bees to keep it warm.

When the bees are using more than 80% of the second box add a third box. Again, we find it best if you take a frame with some nectar on it and move it up to the middle of the new box. This will draw the bees up there. Do you get the idea I think this is important? This will draw the bees up there.

This next step is a very important in preparation for winter. When the bees are using more than 80% of the third box do a full reversal. When bees bring in pollen they tend to put it in the box closest to the entrance, in this case the bottom box. We want them to have some pollen available at the end of the coming winter. By doing the full reversal the bottom box (they were putting a lot of the pollen into) will now go on the top. They will use some of it but they will put honey on top of a lot of it. At the end of next winter they will have eaten the honey and exposed the pollen and then can use it to raise brood. Natural pollen is way better than pollen patties for nutrition.

Once the bees have about 2” of sealed honey in the third box we add honey supers. This usually assures that they fill that third box with honey for themselves for winter. So by doing this manipulation throughout spring and summer we have assured the bees have sufficient stores for winter.

Entomology website: www.entomology.umn.edu
Gary’s website: www.tc.umn.edu/~reute001
Lab website: www.BeeLab.umn.edu
Source & reprint permission: Kelly Beekeeping
May 30, 2013

You can tell how big a person is
By what it takes to discourage him/her.
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The good Lord didn’t create anything without a purpose,

But mosquitoes come close.

The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions
Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to rrihpa@gmail.com
Or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250
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.
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