The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions and IHPA Memberships

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex W. Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.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 15th 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. IHPA Membership is only $10 annually. To join IHPA and receive your complimentary member subscription to The Buzz Newsletter, please contact Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer, 207 S.E. Diehl, Des Moines, IA 50315, Phone: (515) 287-6542

---

**For Sale:** Bee equipment. Selling due to health reasons. 60 (9 5/8) hives with drawn comb. Some may have bees in them. 65 (6 5/8) supers with 9 combs, 40 bottom boards, 40 inner covers, 40 lids, 30 screened bottom boards.
Would like to sell as a unit but will consider dividing the lot.
Contact: Galen Eiben 30867 235th St.
Shell Rock, IA 50670
(319) 885-6264

**For Sale:** 2-3 lb package bees. Delivered to S.E. Iowa early April. Bloomfield, Drakesville area.
Contact: Charles Newton
(641) 682-8333
(641) 799-9266 (evenings)

**For Sale:** Bottoms; 1.00 ea
Telescoping Lids; 50 cents ea.
Inner Covers; 1.00 ea
Two-gallon Feeder buckets; 1.50 ea
Queen Excluders; 3.00 ea
Stack pallets; 50 cents ea.
Semi Trailer for storage; $2,000.00
1973 F-600 Ford Truck with new 12' metal bed with tailgate lift; $3,500.00
500 2 X 4s, Four feet long; 40 cents ea.
Contact: Richard E. Blake
712-246-3412
2133 E Ave.
Shenandoah, IA 51601
E-Mail: njb1@swiowa.net

**For Sale:** A limited number of 4-frm nucs. Call for price and availability.
Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or ehoney37@netins.net

**For Sale:** 4# pkg. with two queens. I can give a decent price on the 4# unit. You need some knowhow to handle the 4#. You will be splitting the bees into two units. We will also be having a drop in either Hamilton, IL or Donnelson, IA. Call me if you have questions.
Phil Ebert 641-527-2639

**For Sale:** Package bees. In addition to our normal 2# and 3# pkgs., we are also offering a 4# pkg. with two queens. I can give a decent price on the 4# unit. You need some knowhow to handle the 4#. You will be splitting the bees into two units. We will also be having a drop in either Hamilton, IL or Donnelson, IA. Call me if you have questions.
Phil Ebert 641-527-2639

**Wanted:** A used compact chain uncapper and associated equipment.
Contact: Louise Johnson
(563) 252-2340
louisej@alpinecom.net

**For Sale:** 2-3 lb package bees. Delivered to S.E. Iowa early April. Bloomfield, Drakesville area.
Contact: Charles Newton
(641) 682-8333
(641) 799-9266 (evenings)

**For Sale:** Bottoms; 1.00 ea
Telescoping Lids; 50 cents ea.
Inner Covers; 1.00 ea
Two-gallon Feeder buckets; 1.50 ea
Queen Excluders; 3.00 ea
Stack pallets; 50 cents ea.
Semi Trailer for storage; $2,000.00
1973 F-600 Ford Truck with new 12' metal bed with tailgate lift; $3,500.00
500 2 X 4s, Four feet long; 40 cents ea.
Contact: Richard E. Blake
712-246-3412
2133 E Ave.
Shenandoah, IA 51601
E-Mail: njb1@swiowa.net

**For Sale:** A limited number of 4-frm nucs. Call for price and availability.
Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or ehoney37@netins.net

**For Sale:** Bee equipment. Selling due to health reasons. 60 (9 5/8) hives with drawn comb. Some may have bees in them. 65 (6 5/8) supers with 9 combs, 40 bottom boards, 40 inner covers, 40 lids, 30 screened bottom boards.
Would like to sell as a unit but will consider dividing the lot.
Contact: Galen Eiben 30867 235th St.
Shell Rock, IA 50670
(319) 885-6264

**For Sale:** 4# pkg. with two queens. I can give a decent price on the 4# unit. You need some knowhow to handle the 4#. You will be splitting the bees into two units. We will also be having a drop in either Hamilton, IL or Donnelson, IA. Call me if you have questions.
Phil Ebert 641-527-2639

**Wanted:** A used compact chain uncapper and associated equipment.
Contact: Louise Johnson
(563) 252-2340
louisej@alpinecom.net

**For Sale:** Queens—We will have a limited number of queens for sale during April. Most of these will be Carniolans from Koehnens. We are getting one lot of hygenic queens from Mark Sundberg. Prices are still unknown. I’m guessing they will be in the $19 to $20 range. There is no shipping on these queens. It is pickup only in Lynnville. We will ship queens from our own production but those won’t be available until June.
Contact Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

**Beekeeping Classes Update**
Our beekeeping classes have been well attended this winter. There was a picture of Vern Ramsey’s Fairfield class in the newsletter last month. Pat Randol has 20 in her Winterset class. Margaret and I have 11 at Iowa Valley in Marshalltown. John Johnson has 20 at DMACC. Ron Wehr has 7 at Kirkwood in Washington. That’s a total of 70 students so far with the Spencer class yet to come. It will be the highest number of students we have ever had.
Submitted by Phil Ebert
Greetings from the President of the IHPC

Dear Honey Producers,

We are supposed to be closer to Spring in March and experience Spring-like weather to get a good taste of the change in seasons, but are we ever going to get some warmer weather? Usually we are feeding colonies by this time to ensure they are building up and getting ready for the coming honey season at this time. The jury is still out on what we should be feeding the colonies. Some experts insist on using honey yet others think we should be using a sugar-water mixture and still others insist on high fructose corn syrup. Each has a very valid point, so until we get concrete evidence that one is indeed superior to the other, I guess it is up to each beekeeper to decide. All do agree, however, that making sure the colonies have feed this time of year is very important. Most also suggest that we use some sort of pollen substitute also. Do some research yourselves and decide which is the best option for your operation, but please check your hives when the weather warms up and have a plan in mind to supplement. Most colonies are lost due to starvation this time of year.

I hope you have ordered your packages or queens for spring delivery. Check the BUZZ advertisements for some places to get your packages and queens or check with the American Bee Journal and Bee Culture for additional ideas for ordering.

I certainly want to take this opportunity to welcome our new state apiarist, Andrew (Andy) Joseph. At this deadline, I don’t have the contact number or e-mail address for Andy, but we will get that on our website as soon as we can. I am excited to have a state apiarist again and I am positive it will be a step in the right direction as far as our industry is concerned.

I have received several calls from people interested in becoming beekeepers. One comment that I have consistently heard is that these new people are unaware of any other beekeepers in their area or that the public isn’t aware of the impact that honey bees do in a community and the need for pollination. I would like to issue a challenge to our membership. Please do all you can to help the public become aware of the necessity of honey bees and to talk to as many as you can about the pollination that honey bees do. We can now direct questions and information seekers to our state apiarist, but also remember to encourage people to continue to join our organization, the IHPC and to join the local beekeeping organizations. We need to get information out to the public like never before. They are interested and are asking lots of questions.

Remember to register your hives with the state. This allows you to make sure that pesticide applicators are aware that you are in the vicinity. Just because you know where all of your hives are located, the next door neighbor doesn’t know. If you registered last year, please use the same number you were given last year to identify you. If you are new to beekeeping, please continue to contact Maury Wills-(515) 281-5783 to receive your number so that you can place your colonies on the registry. As Andy becomes established, Maury will instruct him in the operation of the registry. There is another article specifically for the Apiary Registration located in this issue of the BUZZ. I was invited to another aerial applicator’s meeting, but it was postponed because of the weather.

If you are looking for equipment, please remember the Central Iowa Beekeepers will have an auction in April. For more information, contact Margaret Hala at (641) 752-2981 or mhala@marshallnet.com.

Contact the Iowa Honey Queen, Diane Jurchen, if you are having an event and would like to have her attend. Her telephone number is (712) 779-0540. She is attending college, but check with her to see if she is available to help you with your promotion.

I am certainly ready for warmer Spring weather. I have been looking at seed catalogs, planning our garden, deciding what new flowers I want to plant and dreaming of a fantastic honey season. I want to wish you all the best for a wonderful spring and for you to anticipate the best honey flow ever. We are ready for warm weather!

Sincerely,

Donna Brahms, IHPC President

Youth Update and Information

The new scholarship youth have been attending beginning beekeeping classes. They received their equipment from the IHPC in January. They will receive the three pound packages of honey bees that were donated by Lee Heine of Wisconsin in May. We hope by that time the weather will have straightened out to allow them to install the packages and give the honey bees a better start to the year. We know it seems like a long time for the youth to wait to get started in the program. It gives them a chance to learn from their mentor about the beekeeping year, put their equipment together, attend classes and then to actually install the packages in nicer weather. This gives the youth and the honey bees a better experience. Remember to invite our young beekeepers to one of your local beekeeping meetings.

Design Contest Update

Mike received several designs for the contest to decorate the canvas area above the sales area at the Iowa State Fair IHPC sales booth. The board will decide on the winning design at the March board meeting and award the $75.00 prize.

Submitted by Donna Brahms
Apiary Department Updates

Funding
Hi everyone. I talked to Maury Wills last week in regards to funding for the Apiary Department especially with the New State Apiarist. Maury felt that if we could all contact the legislators and ask that they increase the funds for the Apiarist Department to $120,000 or more it would give enough to keep the other field inspectors and provide funds for rebuilding the Apiary Department as you know when Patty Judge dismissed Bob Cox all of the resources that Bob had were thrown away or just plain disappeared. Please write you representatives and ask for this funding and also ask other beekeepers to do likewise even if they are not members of the IHPA.

Submitted by Gordon Powell

New State Apiarist
Andrew (he wants to be called Andy) Joseph is now at the Iowa Dept. of Ag. Ankeny Laboratory Facility. I met him this morning and seems like he will be a good person for the job of State Apiarist. He mentioned he would like to attend the Beekeeper Club meetings in the State so he can meet with fellow beekeepers. Ron Wehr has already asked about Andy coming to the Southeast Iowa Beekeepers and I will give him Andy's phone number to set it up.

Andy's address and phone number at the laboratory are:

Andrew Joseph
State Apiarist
IDALS, Ankeny Laboratory Facility
2230 S. Ankeny Blvd.
Ankeny, IA 50023
515-725-1481

Submitted by Melanie Bower

Featured Beekeeper of the Month
This month our featured beekeeper is another participant in the Youth Beekeeping Partnership Program sponsored by the Iowa Honey Producers Association. He is Isaac Sedlmayr, the son of Mark and Brenda Sedlmayr and lives at 1665 Quail Ave, Afton, Iowa. Isaac has an older brother in college, his mother is a nurse and his father works for the DNR. He is in the 9th grade at Creston High School, plays soccer and just got involved in the FFA program where he is involved in selling foods and planting trees.

In the future he plans to go into the military and then a job with the DNR. He says he plans to keep working with bees, but doesn’t think he will ever make that his full time job. Pat Randol is Isaac’s mentor and Isaac helped at the State Fair Honey Producers booth. Here is the story he sent me.

We have five hives now. One from a swarm that we captured at our neighbors, one from the Iowa Honey Producers, one hive from the bees that my dad and I got out of the floor of a house in Creston, one hive that my mom and dad and I cut out of a tree that some farmers cut out of a fence line and one hive off our land that was in a wood duck box. We have about 80 pounds of honey in our first year that we plan to sell. My dad and I have spent a lot of time on building our hives ourselves, only buying the foundation and the wood to make the hive bodies.

We have been around in our community doing various jobs so a lot of people here know that we are beekeepers. I have learned a lot of things since I first started beekeeping with the Iowa Honey Producers. My mom, dad, and I have made a hobby out of bees. What inspired me to become a beekeeper was when I first went to the State Fair and my parents showed me the bees. Ever since then I always have to go up and see the bees. I would always stand and look until we had to leave. My dad was very allergic to bees though so I thought that I would never get to become a beekeeper and I would always have to go to the State Fair and look at the bees instead of in my own yard. When I started I went up to Winterset, Iowa to a class with some others to learn how to keep bees and it has been fun ever since I first got my bees. I hope to continue beekeeping in the future. I really want to thank the Iowa Honey Producers for giving me the chance to get into beekeeping.

Good luck with your bees Isaac.

Submitted by Ron Wehr

The Beeyard Report
It’s February 19th--another day of snow and wind. Tomorrow is my route day but it looks like it will be mid-morning before I can get out of the driveway. Some of the drifts are over my head. I can’t recall a winter like this in recent memory. There were some years in the 80’s that had a lot of snow. I have a picture of Adam standing on a snow drift that is above the fence in the horse pen. The snow was piled up so high that driving down the country roads was like going down a trench but I can’t remember a winter with this much sustained cold weather since the 70’s.
This is the time of year that I start to worry about the bees. I like to check them in February and give them a little feed and a pollen patty. We have a few yards close to the road that can be checked when we get a little warm up. Most of them require a trip over hill and dale. We won’t be able to get to those until some time March. Our colonies were heavy going into winter but the clusters were huge. There haven’t been any days warm enough for the bees to move over to feed. I am afraid we are going to have a lot of dead ones that will still have honey in the outside frames. Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do but wait.

I attended the INCA (Iowa Network for Community Agriculture) meeting in Cedar Rapids on Feb 2nd. It was set up similar to the Saturday program at our annual meeting--general session in the morning and workshops in the afternoon. They are working with the Williamsburg RC&D to develop a regional food system. I was impressed with the number and quality of people that they had working on this. There were people there from Iowa State, Marshalltown Community College, Maharishi U, many people from Grinnell College and, I think, some people from Drake. We could stand to take a few pointers on how to incorporate people into our organization. I enjoyed the meeting.

Package prices took a leap. I knew it was coming but it still shocked me. High fuel cost drives everything. When we started selling package bees, a 2# package was $25. That price has more than doubled in just a few years.

Everybody needs to think spring!!!

Submitted by Phil Ebert

---

**IHPA T-Shirts** *(These are membership prices. Non-member prices are available on request.)*

The t-shirts are a bright yellow shirt with brown lettering.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>size (S) (M) (L)</th>
<th>circle one</th>
<th>qty.</th>
<th>$ 8.50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>size (S) (M) (L)</td>
<td>circle one</td>
<td>qty.</td>
<td>$ 9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>size (XL) (XXL)</td>
<td>circle one</td>
<td>qty.</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shipping is $3.00 per shirt, or $5.00 for two shirts.

Shipping $___________

TOTAL $___________

Make checks payable to:
IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Send form and check to:
Melanie Bower, IHPA Treasurer
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315

---

**Apiary Registration 2008**

Maury Wills, IDALS

It is time to register your apiary sites for 2007. You may again register on-line using your pin number and password from last year. Before registering you must contact the office via email (maury.wills@idals.state.ia.us) or by phone (515-281-5783) to let us know how many apiary sites you will have in which counties. If you don’t remember your pin number and password please contact us. If you do not have a computer or are having difficulty registering on-line you may register by calling the office. If you register in this manner you must have the following apiary information available when you call:

1. Township Name
2. Landowner Name
3. Township Number
4. Range
5. Section
6. Quarter Section
7. Number of colonies at each site
SUMMER FIELD DAY
JUNE 14, 2008

- Do you want to learn how to raise your own queens?
- Do you want to have fun with old and new friends?
- Do you want to enjoy BBQ Chicken with a pot luck and delicious home made ice cream?

If so, please join us and plan on attending the Iowa Honey Producers Annual Summer Field Day June 14th from 9:00 am to about 3:30 pm at:

Spring Valley Honey Farms
14405 Hull Ave
Perry, Iowa  50220

We will have class room instruction, and afterwards breaking down in small groups for hands on grafting. We will bee make starter colonies for queen cells, making nucs for queen production, and practicing marking bees (drones, because they don’t sting, and I don’t care if a few get squished!!)

We will be showing different methods of queen rearing, from just a few, to several hundred queens.

The items you will be taking home with you are:
- The knowledge of producing your own queens.
- The book “Successful Queen Rearing” from the University of Minnesota. This is the same book Dr. Marla Spivak uses in teaching her short course, “Successful Queen Rearing”.
- Two queen cells that you can use to make your own queens.

Registration information:
Registration cost for the field day will be $20 for members and $25 for non-members.
Pre-registration to:  Melanie Bower,  IHPA Treasurer,
207 S. E. Diehl, Des Moines, Ia  503153
(515) 287-6542.

You can also register at the field day!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!
BEE HAPPY,  PAT
Beekeeping (Past and Future)
It has been reported that there are many cases of severe colony losses so far this winter. Certainly the mites have some effect on colonies as far as survival is concerned. Much more can be said about colonies and the preparation for fall, winter and spring.

More and more colonies will perish during March and April. Most of this loss can be attributed to lack of food or to supplemental foods which are not the best for retaining colony health and strength.

For the moment let’s consider the value of the supplements that are supplied to the colonies and injected into the systems of the bees which can be compared to humans and drugs each having side-effects.

We have known for a long time that bees raised on sugar syrup, or any of the other substitutes have their lives shortened by 10 days. NOW, ten days may not seem like much but when considering the short life of the honeybee it amounts to quite a bit. SO, when it comes right down to the final conclusion there IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR HONEY as far as bees and humans are concerned.

We are now looking into the month of February and it has been a bad, cold winter so far with only one brief period of reasonably warm days. Bees have had that day or two when they could have had a cleansing flight. It is only the winters that have no breaks over a six week period that really hurts colonies and causes dysentery.

We have weathered many severe winters and managed to winter our colonies successfully. I recall one winter when one of our apiaries was covered by two feet of snow over the tops of all colonies. We found the bees doing well under the cover of snow and they really wintered as well or better than those that had no snow cover.

SO, to sum it all up much or most of colony losses during the winter and spring are due to the lack of preparedness in the fall.

About forty plus years ago John Johnson, county extension director Clay county, hosted our beekeeping classes at Spencer. It was through those classes that John became interested and got involved in beekeeping.

John followed closely the colony management we had contrived over the years through trial and research. He followed very closely and in detail of the fall management for wintering colonies. Since that time only minor changes were made which may have improved the overall results only slightly. John is one instructor who has followed doing as best can be done and has done it quite successfully. All beekeepers should give it try rather than suffer such colony losses.

Glen L. Stanley
2615 Aspen Road Unit #1
Ames, Iowa 50014

Can Burt’s Bees Turn Clorox Green?
New York Times
By LOUISE STORY
January 6, 2008

In the summer of 1984, Burt Shavitz, a beekeeper in Maine, picked up Roxanne Quimby, a 33-year-old single mother down on her luck, as she hitchhiked to the post office in Dexter, Me. More than a dozen years Ms. Quimby’s senior, the guy locals called “the bee-man” sold honey in pickle jars from the back of his pickup truck. To Ms. Quimby, he seemed to be living an idyllic life in the wilderness (including making his home inside a small turkey coop).

She offered to help Mr. Shavitz tend to his beehives. The two became lovers and eventually birthed Burt’s Bees, a niche company famous for beeswax lip balm, lotions, soaps and shampoos, as well as for its homespun packaging and feel-good, eco-friendly marketing. The bearded man whose image is used to peddle the products is modeled after Mr. Shavitz.

Today, the couple’s quirky enterprise is owned by the Clorox Company, a consumer products giant best known for making bleach, which bought it for $913 million in November. Clorox plans to turn Burt’s Bees into a mainstream American brand sold in big-box stores like Wal-Mart. Along the way, Clorox executives say, they plan to learn from unusual business practices at Burt’s Bees — many centered on environmental sustainability. Clorox, the company promises, is going green.

But not even Clorox can sanitize the details of a fallout between Mr. Shavitz and Ms. Quimby that began in the late 1990s — when Ms. Quimby managed to buy out the bee-man for a low, six-figure sum. She has been paid more than $300 million for her stake in Burt’s Bees, and she spends her time traveling, refurbishing fancy homes in Florida and preserving large tracts of land in Maine. Burt himself, now 72, makes his home again in the converted turkey coop — expanded but without running water or electricity — but with $4 million or so to his name.

As unlikely as their journeys have been, Ms. Quimby and Mr. Shavitz are pioneers in an entrepreneurial movement that has lately won the affection of corporate behemoths.

Clorox was willing to pay almost $1 billion for Burt’s Bees because big companies see big opportunities in the market for green products. From 2000 to 2007, Burt’s Bees’ annual revenue soared to $164 million from $23 million. Analysts say there is far more growth to be had by it and its competitors as consumers keep gravitating toward products that promise organic and environmental benefits.

In the last couple of years, L’Oréal paid $1.4 billion for the Body Shop and Colgate-Palmolive bought 84 percent of Tom’s of Maine, which makes natural toothpaste and deodorant, for $100 million. Clorox is also creating eco-friendly product lines of its own.

Many corporate leaders have sold their shareholders on green initiatives by pointing out that they help cut costs — an argument that is more persuasive now, when energy costs are sky high. But as companies rush to put out more and more “natural,” “organic” or “green” products, consumers and advocacy groups are increasingly questioning the meaning of...
these labels.

Clorox, for one, will face plenty of skepticism. Environmentalists have long said that bleach is harmful when drained into city sewers. The disinfectant has become a stand-in for jokes about chemicals and the environment, and a new round seems to have begun this fall when the company acquired Burt’s Bees.

“Who likes Burt’s Bees now that it’s been bought by Clorox?” Alison Stewart, a host on National Public Radio, said in November. “You know, just slap some bleach on your lips, it’ll all be good.”

Clorox executives have been fighting what they call “misinformation” about bleach for years. The company says that 95 to 98 percent of its bleach breaks into salt and water and that the remaining byproduct is safe for sewer systems. And Clorox sells many products that have nothing to do with bleach — including Brita water filters, Glad trash bags and Hidden Valley salad dressings.

Still, after Clorox agreed to buy Burt’s Bees last fall, scores of customers called Burt’s Bees and accused the company of selling out. John Replogle, the chief executive of Burt’s Bees, says he personally responded to customers who left their phone numbers.

“Don’t judge Clorox as much by where they’ve been as much as where they intend to go,” Mr. Replogle says he told them. For her part, Ms. Quimby is at peace with the Clorox deal. “I feel the fact that I was able to sell the company accelerated the process of land conservation in terms of what I could do,” she says. “So if there is any negative karma, I’m neutral.”

BACK in 1984, at the end of their first summer together, Mr. Shavitz suggested that Ms. Quimby use some of his beeswax to make candles. She did, and the candles sold for $3 a pair at a crafts fair. Ms. Quimby then started experimenting, making beeswax polishes for shoes and furniture from recipes she found in an old farmer’s manual. Those products found some fans, but didn’t sell well.

When the pair incorporated as a company — in 1989 or 1991, no one can quite remember when — Mr. Shavitz owned one-third and Ms. Quimby owned two-thirds, she says. The famous Burt’s Bees lip balm was born in 1991, and that item, a combination of beeswax and sweet almond oil, helped the company find a niche in personal care products.

Mr. Shavitz was still active in the company in 1993, when they moved its base to North Carolina. Sales had reached $3 million a year, and they wanted to find a state with lower taxes and more workers to keep their business growing, Ms. Quimby says.

During this time, the couple had a falling-out, their romance became strained, and Mr. Shavitz decided to return to Maine. It is unclear exactly when he moved back permanently; Ms. Quimby said it was in 1993, but in a written response to questions, Mr. Shavitz implied that it was later.

What is clear is that Mr. Shavitz lost out on a huge payday. In 1999, Ms. Quimby bought out his one-third share in Burt’s Bees by buying him a house in Maine. Much grander than a turkey coop, the home cost $130,000, Ms. Quimby says. She now calls that figure “embarrassing” considering how much she made from the company. Mr. Shavitz did not respond when asked if he hired advisers to determine whether he had been paid a fair valuation for his stake. He sold the house in Maine a few months after Ms. Quimby bought it for him because, she says, he missed his turkey coop. (He has since enlarged it to about 12 feet by 20 feet.)

By 2000, Burt’s Bees was pulling in $23 million in revenue, according to the company. Ms. Quimby said she had always intended to sell the company and had received offers for quite some time before she put it up for auction in 2003. That year, AEA Investors, a private equity firm in New York, paid Ms. Quimby $141.6 million for an 80 percent stake in Burt’s Bees. If Mr. Shavitz had held onto the stake he traded to Ms. Quimby for $130,000, it would have been worth about $59 million.

At the time of that deal, Mr. Shavitz demanded more money and Ms. Quimby said she agreed to pay him $4 million. Burt’s Bees also pays Mr. Shavitz an undisclosed amount each year for using his name and image on its products. Through a Burt’s Bees spokeswoman, Mr. Shavitz declined to comment on any payments he had received or the reasons for his fallout with Ms. Quimby. When asked if he and Ms. Quimby were still friends, Mr. Shavitz said, “Sure.”

“What happened between us in our personal relationship in the past is history,” he said in a statement. “The magic of living life for me is, and always has been, the magic of living on the land, not in the magic of money.”

Under AEA’s watch, Burt’s Bees products expanded into stores like CVS, Walgreens and Target. AEA hired Mr. Replogle from Unilever, where he was general manager for the company’s North American skin care business, to be chief executive. This fall, AEA accepted Clorox’s bid. Ms. Quimby sold her remaining 20 percent share in Burt’s Bees to Clorox for about $183 million.

Ms. Quimby, 57, now runs Happy Green Bee, a company that makes organic clothing for children. She says she spent more than $50 million to buy 100,000 acres where she tries to restore the land to its natural state by blocking hunting, closing roads and dismantling bridges.

In the meantime, the task of defending Clorox’s purchase of Burt’s Bees has fallen on Mr. Replogle’s shoulders. He says that in six months, he will post a blog on the Burt’s Bees site about whether he thinks Clorox is making enough progress on its green initiatives. He says Burt’s Bees’ 380 employees have an opportunity to influence the direction of Clorox, a company that generated $4.8 billion in sales last year and employs 7,800 people.

Burt’s Bees maintains its founders’ green philosophies. Employees’ bonuses are based in part on how well the company meets energy conservation goals, and there are prime parking spaces for staff members who drive hybrid cars or carpool. It buys offsets for 100 percent of its carbon emissions and is working toward a goal of sending no trash to landfills by 2020.

Mr. Replogle calls his current job a “mission” and says he is trying to reinvent business with an idea he calls “the Greater Good,” based on the founders’ ideals. The premise is that if companies are socially responsible, profit will follow: Burt’s Bees not only prioritizes the natural origin of its ingredients but also emphasizes animal rights, responsible trade, employee benefits and the environment.

Like most natural-products companies, Burt’s Bees has the luxury of charging
It’s Mead making time…

This year at our annual meeting in Marshalltown on November 7th & 8th; I’d like to have a mead judging contest. So if you are a mead maker or would like to try to make mead to bring to the meeting, it’s time to get started. If you never made mead, where do you start? I get all of my supplies for wine and mead at www.midwestsupplies.com, or you can do a Google search for mead recipes; or if your not into using the computer just call me and I’ll bee happy to send you some things to help you get started.

We are planning to do things a little different this year, and not have the Marshalltown Convention and Visitors Bureau help us with wine, cheese and crackers. We will bee using the mead for our social hr. and still have the cheese and crackers, and we will have enough to go around for everyone. (If we don’t receive enough mead, we will use other home made wines)

The three categories for the mead judging (at this time) are: dry mead, sweet mead, cyser, and few others I haven’t thought of yet. Any suggestions let me know.

So, if you would like to have your mead judged, bring it to the annual meeting for the mead judging contest. Or you may just bring your mead for the social hour. Please call or email me and let me know what you can bring, and remember, this is all just for fun! BEE HAPPY! PAT ENNIS

home: 641-444-4767;
CELL: 515-293-2601;
E-MAIL: flat_lander@lycos.com
Mann Lake Ltd.

See us first for all your supply needs, big or small. Our knowledgeable staff is ready to serve you! We offer fast, courteous service at the most competitive price. Let us give you a quote today.

The Only Source You Need For Beekeeping & Candle Making Supplies

Mann Lake Ltd.
501 S. 1st Street
Hackensack, MN 56452-2001

Phone: 800-880-7694
Fax: 218-675-6156
Email beekeeper@mannlake ltd.com

LAPPS BEE SUPPLY CENTER

500 SOUTH MAIN STREET
REESEVILLE, WISCONSIN 53579

Beekeeping & Candlemaking Supplies

FREE CATALOG
1-800-321-1960

“Serving the beekeeper for 25 years”

For All Your Packaging Containers For Packing Honey
(No Order Too Large or Small)

BL Plastic Containers

“We Built Our Business on Service, Quality, and Dependability.”

Elmer C. Lynn
405 Kimberly Lane
Des Moines, IA 50327

Phone: 515-266-6112
Fax: 515-266-1112

32 YEARS SERVING USA BEEKEEPERS
MAKE US YOUR SOURCE
BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT
CANDLEMAKING EQUIPMENT
SOAPMAKING EQUIPMENT
PACKAGE BEES
QUEENS
UNIQUE CONTAINERS
EXPERT INFORMATION

HIGH FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP

FREE CATALOG ON REQUEST

B & B Honey Farm

5917 Hop Hollow Road
Houston, Minn. 55943

Information 1-507-896-3955
Order Line 1-800-342-4811
Fax 1-507-896-4134
Email bbhoney@acegroup.cc
Pressed for Time?
DADANT COMPLETE HIVES & SUPERS
We Now Offer Assembled Equipment Primed and Painted for You.
No Paint to Buy! No Mess to Clean (1 primer coat and 1 white exterior latex coat)

Assembled/Painted Bottom Board
Ship Wt. 8 lbs. Each
C91201P $15.99 ea.

Complete Hive with “Beeswax Coated” Plasticell Foundation
Ship Wt. 33 lbs. and 17 lbs.
(Ships in two cartons)
C52101P Carton of 1, $98.95 ea.
5 or more $93.00 ea.

- 10-9 1/8” Grooved Top Bar Frames with Beeswax Coated Plasticell Foundation
- Superbly constructed 9 5/8” Commercial Ponderosa Pine Hive Body, Painted
- Metal Frame Rests
- Painted Telescoping Cover with Galvanized Metal Top
- Inner Cover
- Reversible Painted Bottom Board for Summer and Winter Bee Entrance

Hive Body or Super with Frames and Foundation

9 5/8 Painted Hive Body
C51101P comes assembled with 10-9 1/8” Grooved top bar frames with beeswax coated Plasticell foundation installed in the frames. Commercial grade wood, painted.
Ship Wt. 19 lbs.
C51101P Carton of 1, $49.95 ea.
20 or more $46.95 ea.

6 5/8 Painted Super
C31501P comes assembled with 10-6 1/4” Grooved top bar frames with beeswax coated Plasticell foundation installed in the frames. Commercial grade wood, painted.
Ship Wt. 15 lbs.
C31501P Carton of 1, $39.95 ea.
20 or more $37.50 ea.

Assembled Frames with Foundation
Carton of 10

9 1/8” GTB/GBB
Ship Wt. 11 lbs.
C75210 C/10 Frames $27.10 ea.

6 1/4” GTB/GBB
Ship Wt. 9 lbs.
C76210 C/10 Frames $26.50 ea.

Call for quote on large quantity pricing on unpainted hives or supers.

51 S. 2nd Street, Hamilton, IL 62341 • 1-888-922-1293
1318 11th Street, P.O. Box 1735, Sioux City, IA 51102 • 1-877-732-3268
www.dadant.com • dadant@dadant.com
Officers

President: Donna Brahms
65071 720th St.
Cumberland, IA 50843-8125
(712) 774-5878
Mbrahms@netins.net

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

Secretary: Mary Ebert
705 Hwy. #1 West
Iowa City, IA 52246
(319) 354-6686
Mebert@netins.net

Treasurer: Melanie Bower
207 S.E. Diehl
Des Moines, IA 50315
(515) 287-6542
melrb@msn.com

Past President: Curt Bronnenberg
1433 Hull Ave.
Perry, IA 50220
(515) 465-5936
CBronny823@aol.com

District Directors

District #1 Vernie Ramsey
22781 Route J16
Birmingham, IA 52535
(319) 498-4355
Vdramsey@netins.net

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

District #3 Margaret Hala
1988 Vine Ave.
Marshalltown, IA 50158
(641) 752-2981
Mhala@marshallnet.com

District #4 Phil Ebert
14808 S. 102nd Ave. E.
Lynnville, IA 50153
(641) 527-2639
Ehoney37@netins.net

District #5 Pat Randol
2505 Carriage Trail
Winterset, IA 50273
(515) 462-4768
prandol@fbx.com

District #6 Larry Boensmen
6724 200th Street
Ocheyedan, IA 51354
(712) 735-4205
lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Queen Co-Chairs

Regina Jager  (641) 660-0772
Louise Johnson  (563) 252-2340

Iowa Beekeeper Clubs

Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club
Contact: Eves Cadwallader
2420 285th St.
Oskaaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 673-3993
weic@kdsi.net

Central Iowa Beekeepers Association
Contact: Arvin Foell
30930 530th Ave.
Kelley, IA 50134
Home phone 515/597-3060
Cell phone 515/450-9494
ajfoell@hxcomm.net

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers
Contact: Frank Pering
210 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50315

Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers
Contact: Terry Dahms
3086 Sycamore Trail NE
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 336-5919
Terry.dahms@gmail.com

East Central Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Pat Ennis
1040 Union Ave.
Goodell, IA 50439
(641) 444-4767
Flat_Lander@lycos.com

North Iowa Bee Club
Contact: Louise Johnson
34147 310th St.
Guttenberg, IA 52052
(563) 252-2340
Louisel@alpinecom.net

Northeast Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Larry J. Boernsen
6724 200th St.
Ocheyedan, IA 51354
(712) 735-4205
Lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Southeast Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms
65071 720th St.
Cumberland, IA 50843
(712) 774-5878

National Honey Board
www.honey.com

American Beekeeping Federation website
www.ABFnet.org

Additional Links and Emails

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

IDALS Contact
Maury Wills
(515) 281-5783
maury.wills@idals.state.ia.us

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

IDALS Contact
Maury Wills
(515) 281-5783
maury.wills@idals.state.ia.us

Robert Haxton
Food Processing Plants
Iowa Dept. of Inspections and Appeals
rhaxton@dia.state.ia.us

Iowa Beekeeper Clubs

East Central Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Terry Dahms
3086 Sycamore Trail NE
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 336-5919
Terry.dahms@gmail.com

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

Northwest Iowa Beekeepers
Contact: Larry J. Boernsen
6724 200th St.
Ocheyedan, IA 51354
(712) 735-4205
Lm5kbees@iowatelecom.net

Southwest Iowa Honey Producers
Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms
65071 720th St.
Cumberland, IA 50843
(712) 774-5878

Additional Links and Emails

IDALS website
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

IDALS Contact
Maury Wills
(515) 281-5783
maury.wills@idals.state.ia.us

Robert Haxton
Food Processing Plants
Iowa Dept. of Inspections and Appeals
rhaxton@dia.state.ia.us