The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to Alex’ Ebert by email to TheBuzz@ABuzzAboutBees.com (also alex.ebert@eberthoney.com) or by mail to The Buzz, c/o Phil Ebert, 14808 S. 102nd Ave. E., Lynnville, IA 50153. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of each month to be included in the following month’s newsletter. The Buzz is a monthly newsletter published by the Iowa Honey Producers Association which is an affiliate of the Iowa State Horticultural Society.

FOR SALE: 2 or 3 pound packages of Italian bees with Queen. Picked up in Cedar Rapids or Aurora, Iowa in April. Bees from Hill-Ward Apiary in California. All orders must be received by February 28 and full payment due by April 1st.

Call Douglas Child 319-634-3682 2/13

FOR SALE: 2#, 3# and 4# packages. The 4# can come with one or two queens. Your choice of Italian or Carniolan queens. We are getting two loads in April. Prices available in late January. We can take orders prior to that if you put down a deposit.

Contact Phil ehoney37@netins.net 641-527-2639 or Alex alex.ebert@eberthoney.com 641-821-9648

FOR SALE: 50 frame stainless steel Root extractor in good working order with side dump. The extractor is located in Illinois.

Call Phil Ebert for info. 541-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

FOR SALE: 38mm white Snap Caps with inner seals-8 cents each in boxes of 1800. Smaller quantities are slightly higher.

Contact Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

FOR SALE: Honey Styx
I sent 2 barrels of honey to Oregon to have put into styx, so these are Iowa honey. Good flavored light honey.

$0.08 each in boxes of 2000 or $160
$0.10 each for 500-1999
$0.12 each for less than 500

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

FOR SALE: The following items were acquired from an estate. All items are in new condition. 400 sheets of deep, wax coated Plasticell foundation-60 cents each; 400 deep frames-unassembled-50 cents each; 54 deep hive bodies-$12.50 each; 10 pro Max feeders (2 Gal) with caps and ladders-$6 each; 24 moving screens-$2 each; 1 box with 184 24oz bears with caps-$50; Partial box of honey bee containers-$25; 34 cases of 9 oz hex jars with lids-$6/case; 140 sheets of 4 1/4" wax coated Plasticell foundation-50 cents per sheet.

Contact Phil Ebert 641-527-2639 or e-mail ehoney37@netins.net

FOR SALE: 300 used 4 way clip pallets #1s $8.00, #2s $3.00.

3 Walter Kelly 72 frame, slotted extractors with newer motors and speed controls, all run good $1250.00 each.

Brood & singles for sale in May near Sioux City.
Cell 605-310-3248
Lyndo Ruyter
1221 10th St.
Hawarden, IA 51023

FOR SALE: Approx 170 Shallow-5 3/4, and 20 Medium-6 5/8"-Honey Supers located in Vinton, IA.

All have 9 Frames of drawn comb. They are stored in my garage and have moth crystals on them. There is no moth damage. I would like to sell them to a honey producer.

I can be reached by phone at 319-472-3810 or by E-Mail -- m.duncan@q.com

FOR SALE: Pamphlet on Successful Management available:
Ten Pages $12 including postage.

Contact:
Glen L. Stanley
2615 Aspen Road #1
Ames, Iowa 50014
TELE> 515 292 3243

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President’s Message
January 2013

Hello to all, my name is Pat Ennis and I am honored to be the current president of the IHPA. I think the way to start this is to tell you a little about myself. I first started beekeeping in 1981 in northern Wisconsin with two hives of bees. Wisconsin is a beautiful place, but there are a lot of black bears that like to rip apart bee hives, it’s a sad and discouraging thing to see bee hives spread all over the ground.

Over time I had built up to 80 hives of bees. In 1992 I sold my hive and moved from Wisconsin to north Iowa. Once again I started up beekeeping, keeping up to 120 hives.

In 1996 I attended my first Iowa Honey Producers Meeting in Marshalltown. I didn’t know any one there and at breakfast Friday morning, Bob Cox was the first to introduce himself and asked if he could join me, and I have attended ever since.

In 2004, I had the opportunity to work honey bees full time, and took a job with Guss Ross at Kona Queen Company in Kealakekua Hawai, which is on the Big Island. I’d have to say this was the BEST job I’ve ever had (sorry Curt), but while I was there, I discovered I’m Claustrophobic and I can’t live on an island.

When I returned to Iowa, I wanted to be more involved in beekeeping, educating myself and others. In 2006, I accepted the position of Vice President for the IHPA, a position I found very rewarding and enjoyed.

In 2008 I started working for Curt and Connie Bronnenberg of Spring Valley Honey Farms, in Perry Iowa. They currently manage around 4,000 hives and pollinate Almonds in California. They also sell honey, beekeeping equipment, packages, queens and whatever else you may need to keep bees.

When you get this newsletter, our bees will be in California for Almonds, but for most of our “Buzz” reading members, your bees are here in Iowa. This should be around the first to second week in January and hopefully you did your fall health inspection to have healthy bees going into winter and built up plenty of food stores by feeding a good quality food and or honey. If weather permits, check food supply and have something READY if the bees need it, don’t let them starve for lack of food stores. A candy board is a good winter food as it doesn’t add extra moisture to the hive. Have a plan, educate yourself and try to be prepared. February and March are critical months for starvation.

I have been married to my wife, Peggy for 9 years. I have two adult sons and one grandson. I enjoy anything outdoors (hunting, trapping, fishing and of course beekeeping) and Peggy and I try to go horse camping as much as possible.

In closing, I’ll do the best I can for the IHPA, but the IHPA is not one person, it is a lot of people making the organization work, so if you would like to do more, please let me know and we will find a place for you to help.

BEE HAPPY!!!
Pat

We Want to Hear What You Have to Say,

A number of board members gathered recently to discuss on how to get “The Buzz” out in a timely manner. We know this is a concern for many of our membership. Please be patient as we try to resolve this issue.

One of the items of concern was the lack of articles and information submitted, and as the due date approached, with not enough information present, leaving Alex to fill the empty space.

So in light of this, we are asking for articles about beekeeping from our beekeeping membership to submit to “The Buzz”.

Everyone has a story about beekeeping; how did you get started, a humorous happening, a learning experience, some beekeeping wisdom, a story from a youth, your experience as a mentor, an event you attended. A picture you wish to share, or a favorite honey recipe. Your article needn’t be a page long, unless you wish, but a paragraph or two would be great. So please help us out and share your stories by submitting your beekeeping articles.

*** Please note the due date for articles is now the 10th of each month and not the 15th.

Please send them to: thebuzz@abuzzaboutbees.com or alex.ebert@eberthoney.com

We look forward to hearing to what you have to say.

Peggy Ennis, IHPA Historian 2/13

Change of Address

Please send membership dues and merchandise orders to your new Treasurer, Rhonda Heston, at 52735 187th Avenue, Chariton, IA 50049. She can be reached at 525-724-2124.

Are your Membership dues current?

Please check the back of this Buzz to see the date your dues are paid through. If the date is December 31, 2012, your 2013 membership dues are now due.

Remember, the 2013 membership dues are $20 for an individual membership and $5 for each family member living in your household.

Please send your membership dues and renewal form to:

Iowa Honey Producers Association
Attn: Ronda Heston
52735 187th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049
January is upon us and if you did your mite checks, had a good queen, with ample supplies of food stores - your queen, following the longer days of daylight, will gradually be increasing her brood cycle getting ready for spring. This is the beekeepers down time, a time to reflect and plan for the coming year, maybe this will be the year of…..

So what can I (we) do to be ready when spring gets here? One thing to do is read. One book I plan on reading this winter is “Better Beekeeping” by Kim Flottum. There is a lot of good older and many newer books out there, “The Backyard Beekeeper”, “The complete Step-by Step Book of Beekeeping” and “The Honey Handbook” just to name a few.

The second important thing we can do is plan for the future. Are we planning for growth or staying where we are in numbers of hives of bees? What do I do with our splits in the spring? Yes, you will have to make a decision on what to do with your overwintered hives this spring, because if you don’t, your hives WILL make that decision for you by swarming. If you learn to control swarming, you will increase honey production. Spend some time inspecting and fixing up old supers, frames and general bee equipment. Do I need to purchase more equipment? Is this the year I am going to raise my own queens, try to produce comb honey or enter items for the state fair?

Another thing to think of is attending and getting involved local bee meeting, clubs and field days. Take a beekeeping class or help teach one. Take some time and fellowship with other beekeepers. There are a lot of bee clubs in our state. Look on the back of the “Buzz” for contact information on these.

Go to other state meeting, field days and celebrations. Dadant will be celebrating 150 years and is planning a meeting for March 15 & 16 2013 in Hamilton IL. They will have plant tours, speakers and I think a lot of fun. Dadant is going to limit this to 500 people. For more information: www.dadant.com

One more thing to think of is getting the “American Bee Journal” or “Bee Culture” magazines. Keep up with what’s going on in the beekeeping world.

I’ll see you again next month.

Beekeeping’s Fun Side

WEAVER’S famous QUEENS and Package Bees
★ Buckfast ★ All-American

The R Weaver Apiaries, Inc.
16495 CR 319, Navasota, TX 77868
Phone: 936-825-2333 Fax: 936-825-3642
Email: rweaver@tca.net www.rweaver.com

The Russians are coming
The Russians are coming
The Russians are coming

Your are invited to join the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association January19th @ 1:00pm at the Bonanza Family Steak House, 5029 NE 14th St., Des Moines, IA to learn more about these Russian Honey Bees. We will show a informative short DVD about Russian Queens and then our speaker Manly Bigalk, Certified member of the Russian Honeybee Breeder Association, will give a message about his experience with Russian Honeybees and then answer any questions you may have.

HISTORY:
The Russian Honeybee stock was imported from the Primorsky Krai region in East Russia by Dr. Tom Rinderer (USDA Honeybee Breeding, Genetics & Physiology Laboratory Baton Rouge, LA) in 1997. Russian Honeybees are both resistant to Tracheal and Varroa mites. These Russian Honeybees had been exposed to Varroa Mites for approximately 150 years. 100 Queens were first imported to Grande Terra Island, 25miles off the cost of LA and 17 bloodlines were developed for use by commercial Queen Breeders. Mr. Bigalk is one of those queen breeders. Russian Honeybees are more than twice as resistant to Varroa Mites than other honey bees. Hybrids are only partially resistant to mite and fade with subsequent generations and are somewhat defensive.

CHARACTERISTICS:
- Russian Honeybees are very good honey producers.
- Russian Honeybees overwinter very well. (Russian rarely starve during winter).
- Russian Honeybees are good pollinators.
- Russian Honeybees are breed for gentleness.
- Russian Honeybees are not a race of honeybees, but a combination of Italian, Carniolan, Caucasian, and German Black Bees.
- Russian Honeybees are less inclined to rob other colonies.

Please join CIBA Jan.19th to learn how these Russian Honeybees may fit in your operation.

Sincerely,
Arvin Foell
CIBA president

Calling All Quilters (and everyone else)

During the Annual Meeting several quilters were talking about their second favorite pastime - quilting. The question was asked how many people would make a quilt block if they were provided the fabric and asked to make a block of their choice.

The current line of thinking is that everybody interested would be provided a group of fabric, you would be asked to make a block of of a certain size, using only the fabric provided. When the
When the quilt is complete, it would start its journey around the state with the Iowa Honey Queen and Iowa Honey Princess. While on the journey tickets would be sold to have the opportunity to take the quilt to your house. The drawing would be held during the Iowa Honey Producer's Annual Meeting in November 2013.

The proceeds of the ticket sales would benefit the Queen program. If you are interested in making a block, please send an e-mail to Rhonda Heston at R.Heston@yahoo.com. The results will be posted in an upcoming issue of The Buzz.

I looked at one of the yards Alex has been watching. The colonies looked great. As we move into mid December, the weather has been very mild. It's helpful when the bees get a flying day every once in a while. They can fly out and dump their load. It takes a lot of stress off them. In two more months we can begin to evaluate where we are at.

We have been having trouble getting our creamed honey to set up. I am going to put some new starter in the pot. In general, the honey from this year has been very slow to granulate. I used barrel 89 last week. It was still liquid. The early barrels and the late ones have granulated but not the ones in the middle.

Our final job for the year is yard rent and Christmas cards. Alex puts together a card with bee pictures on it. We put a card and a Christmas letter in the boxes of yard rent. One year I was really pressed and decided to skip the cards. As I delivered the yard rent, people went through the boxes looking for the card first. After all, how often do you get a Christmas card with bee pictures on it? Now, we take care to get the cards made.

Happy holidays to all!!!!

Submitted by Phil Ebert
2012 IHPA Annual Meeting Contest Results

Thank you to everyone who entered the Mead, Photo, and Cooking contests at the 2012 Annual Meeting. Here are the results of each contest along with some tasty recipes from the cooking contest. Enjoy. We look forward to all the entries at next year's meeting!

Mead Contest
1. Ron Wehr
2. Mike Brahms
3. Mike Brahms

Category
Dry
Semisweet
Spicy

Photo Contest
1. Ben Van Wyk
2. Jo Ann Brahms
3. Jack Brahms

Category
Youth
Youth
Youth
General Beekeeping
General Beekeeping
General Beekeeping
Marketing & Promotions
Photo specific to Honey
Photo specific to Honey
Bee on a Flower
Bee on a Flower
Bee on a Flower

Cooking Contest
1. Becky Elsbernd
2. Pat & Peggy Ennis
3. Ms Eve Vandenbroek

Category
Norwegian Christmas Wassail
Honey Peanut Brittle
Honey Oatmeal Chews
Honey Almond Crunch
Honey-sweetened Thumbprint Cookies

Norwegian Christmas Wassail
Simmer for 10 minutes.
2 qt. apple juice or cider
4 C. orange juice
4 T. lemon juice
3/4 C. Clover Honey

Tie in cheese cloth:
2 T. whole cloves
2 T. whole allspice
4 cinnamon sticks

Honey Peanut Brittle
1 C. Honey
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/4 C. peanut butter


Honey Oatmeal Chews
1/2 C. butter
3/4 C. Honey
1 egg
1t. vanilla
2 1/2 C. sifted flour
1/2 t. baking soda
1/2 t. baking powder
1/4 t. salt
1 C. quick cooking rolled oats
1 C. flaked coconut
1/2 C. chopped almonds

Cream butter and honey until light and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. Sift together flour, soda, baking powder, and salt. Add to creamed mixture. Stir in oatmeal, coconut and nuts. Spread in a greased 13 1/2 x 9 inch baking pan. Bake at 350 for 20 to 25 minutes. When cool, cut into bars about 1 1/2 x 2 1/2 inch. Makes 30.

Honey Almond Crunch
1. Pat & Peggy Ennis

3/4 C. raw Honey

Combine almonds, honey, butter, and salt in 10° sauté pan over medium heat. Stir constantly, cook until almonds & Honey begin to turn amber. Remove from heat and stir in corn flakes. Pour over onto parchment lined baking sheet and let cool 5 to 10 minutes. Break into pieces. Store in air tight container. Makes 3 cups or 6 servings.

Honey Peanut Brittle
1. Pat & Peggy Ennis

2/3 C. Honey

Honey-sweetened Thumbprint Cookies
2/3 C. raw Honey

1. Julie Swett
2. Julie Swett
3. Patty Stewart
Your favorite jam or preserves - Elderberry

Preheat oven to 350° with the rack in the top third of oven. Line two backing sheets with parchment paper. In a large mixing bowl, pour the warm, melted coconut oil over the honey and whisk in the vanilla extract. In a separate medium bowl, combine the flour, oats, cornstarch, sea salt, baking soda and lemon zest. Add the flour mixture to the honey and stir until just combined. Let the dough sit for 2-3 minutes. Stir once or twice again - the dough should be quite stiff.

Roll the dough into balls, one level teaspoon at a time and place an inch apart on baking sheets. They will spread when baking. Using a damp pinky finger, make a well in the top of each ball of dough. Fill each "well" to the top with 1/8 tsp. of jam. Bake 7-9 minutes or until the bottom and edges are just golden. Resist the urge to over-bake as these cookies (except for peanut chunks if using chunky). Let cool on a rack for 10 minutes.

Using a small ice cream scoop or tablespoon, drop rounded tablespoons of dough on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper; press lightly with a fork. Bake for 10-11 minutes (though they may seem a bit soft, this is OK and will keep them chewy). Let cool on a rack for 10 minutes.

Pumpkin Praline Pie
Preheat oven to 350° with the rack in the top third of the oven. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, baking soda & salt; set aside. In a separate mixing bowl, combine peanut butter, oil, vanilla & Honey. Stir until smooth. Add the flour mixture and stir until combined. The mixture may still be crumbly. Let sit for 10 minutes. Stir in chopped chocolate. If mixture is too crumbly, let sit for another few minutes to come together.

Put cucumbers and onions. Bring to boiling saucepan, melt the butter over low heat. Add chopped nuts. Spoon batter into greased mini-muffin cups. Bake 10-12 minutes.
Featured Beekeeper of the Month

Our featured beekeeper of the month is Selena Rinehart. She is a participant in the Iowa Honey Producers Association mentor program this year. Rodney and Cara are her parents and she is the middle of five siblings. Selena earned academic and agricultural scholarships and is currently attending Dordt College where she is playing softball. She has a heart for those less fortunate and is considering agriculture missions or youth ministry. Animals, agriculture, cooking and baking, and friends and learning are some of her interests.

Selena found out about the IHPA mentor program through her Ag teacher. Her mentor is Steve Hanlin. After Selena became interested in beekeeping her family joined her and is now learning about beekeeping. Her younger brother, Daren, attended some classes with her. Selena says her two reasons for learning beekeeping are to help the environment and honeybees are really cool. She enjoys the whole beekeeping process of feeding the bees, finding the queen, checking the frames, disease prevention and best of all collecting honey. She says, "Honeybees are so amazing and complex. It makes me think of how amazing God is and His creative imagination."

While working with bees, Selena says she learned to stay calm. Her brother has been stung many times because he freaks out when the bees get near him. She says, "As a new beekeeper, I learned the hard way, but always wear your veil! I did not one time and got stung on a lymph node behind my ear, which cause me lots of problems. I had headaches and a stiff neck and eventually got antibiotics and my stiff neck and headaches went away. Moral of the story: wear your veil!"

Next spring she is thinking about getting a second hive. She may learn how to split her original colony. The reason for the increase is, last year's crop of 12 jars was not enough.

Good luck in college and keep learning about beekeeping.

Submitted by Ron Wehr
Annual Financial Report for 2012:
This will be the last financial report I will be reporting to you as Rhonda Heston is your new treasurer. I have enjoyed being your treasurer for the last five years but due to family responsibilities I felt it would be in the best interest of the Iowa Honey Producers Association to relinquish the position. I hope Rhonda will enjoy the position as much as I did. — Melanie Bower

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**IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION**
**INCOME STATEMENT**
**YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sales</th>
<th>10-1-11 thru 9-30-12</th>
<th>10-1-10 thru 9-30-11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales Taxable</td>
<td>$ 15,501.00</td>
<td>$ 10,323.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales-Non Tax</td>
<td>$ 70,643.00</td>
<td>$ 86,144.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Goods Sold</td>
<td>(38,653.00)</td>
<td>(31,031.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Profit-Sales</td>
<td>$ 47,491.00</td>
<td>$ 41,670.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$ 3,885.00</td>
<td>$ 3,690.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>$ 5,362.00</td>
<td>$ 6,254.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queen Income</td>
<td>$ 3,667.00</td>
<td>$ 94.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Income</td>
<td>$ 4,013.00</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Income</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$ 4,921.00</td>
<td>$ 4,946.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$ 21,848.00</td>
<td>$ 14,984.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Profit</td>
<td>$ 69,339.00</td>
<td>$ 56,654.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

| General                    | $ 8,254.00           | $ 19,554.00          |
| Mailing                    | $ 4,206.00           | $ 4,695.00           |
| State Fair                 | $ 29,281.00          | $ 17,733.00          |
| Queen Program              | $ 3,319.00           | $ 3,050.00           |
| Annual Meeting             | $ 8,842.00           | $ 7,372.00           |
| Education Program          | $ 2,186.00           | $ -                  |
| Youth Program              | $ 1,812.00           | $ -                  |
| Misc. Expenses             | $ 1,599.00           | $ 538.00             |
| Total Expenses             | $ 59,499.00          | $ 52,942.00          |
| Net Income/Loss            | $ 9,840.00           | $ 3,712.00           |

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**IOWA HONEY PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION**
**BALANCE SHEET**
**YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2012**

**ASSETS**

| Current Assets              |                      |
| Cash-Checking               | $ 25,526.00          |
| Savings-Wells Fargo         | $ 31,793.00          |
| Savings-Comm. Choice CU     | $ 25.00              |
| WF Savings- Bickle Award    | $ 1,000.00           |
| Savings CD-Comm. Choice CU  | $ 10,323.00          |
| Accounts Receivable         | $ 5,158.00           |
| Inventory                  | $ 10,055.00          |
| Total Current Assets        | $ 83,880.00          |

**LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL**

| Current Liabilities         |                      |
| Accounts Payable            | $ 300.00             |
| Sales Tax Payable           | $ 841.00             |
| Pre-Paid dues               | $ 1,371.00           |
| Total Current Liabilities   | $ 2,512.00           |
| Capital                    |                      |
| Retained Earnings-General   | $ 80,368.00          |
| Retained Earnings-Bickle Award | $ 1,000.00        |
| Total Capital               | $ 81,368.00          |
| Total Liabilities & Capital| $ 83,880.00          |
Central Iowa Bee Supply
Cash and carry bee equipment
supplier of woodenware, tools,
suits, medications, and nutritional
products from Dadant & Sons.
Custom woodenware built by our
own cabinetmaker, Don Charleston,
is also available.

Owners: Susan Jones and
George Jones

Our shop is located at
14535 NE 88th St., Maxwell, IA.
Phone numbers 515-387-8707 and
515-450-8296, or online at our website
www.cibees.com Email us for your bee
supplies at cibees8707@gmail.com

Open: Thurs. 5-8 p.m.,
Saturday 10 a.m-4 p.m., or call us.

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