Hello & Welcome

See pages 2-9 to learn more about your new and returning officers, committee chairs, and other positions in the IHPA.

Iowa Honey Bee Day 2022

Check out details for Iowa Honey Bee Day at the Iowa State Capital on page 13.

IHPA Queens

See pages 14-16 to hear from the Queen Chair, 2020-221 IHPA Queen and the new 2022 IHPA Queen.

Youth Scholarship

Join us in congratulating our 2020-2022 Youth Scholarship Recipients on pages 19-21.

2022 Membership Form

Fill out your 2022 Membership Form for the IHPA on page 25.
We live in Woodburn, Iowa (south and east of Osceola). Our business name is Busted Bee. I am currently in my third year as Vice President. I am also on the following committees: Event Coordinating, Finance, Membership and the Iowa State Fair Bid Committee. My job is really wherever I am needed; I step in to help out. I have a degree from Iowa State University in Horticulture. I have lived in several big cities doing landscaping, including a summer at Walt Disney World. I would love to see more members take interest in our activities as a board and show us what type of talent they have to help out in our many, different committees, as well as on the board, or with whatever they are interested in or passionate about.

I am originally from Dakota City, Iowa, and now live in Indianola, Iowa. Owner of Foley's Russian Bees and Co-Owner of Honey Hollow Apiary & Gardens LLC. I serve as the President and Webmaster. I was a graphic design major in college, and was an assistant manager at a financial firm for 13 years. I would like membership to write to me with new programs/educational opportunities, and ideas for funding them.

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I live in Ames, Iowa. We have a business called Chunky Chicken Farms. I love teaching/taking about bees to groups of all ages. I got to travel to Nicaragua in 2020 to teach beekeeping there. My piece of advice for beekeepers is to stick with it, and learn all you can. Beekeeping is a form of agriculture, and there is no “normal” or “the way!” So keep learning and try new things.
I live in Perry, Iowa. I am currently serving as the IHPA Secretary as well as the Iowa State Fair Booth Manager. Something unique about me is that I have had to learn how to do my every day living as an amputee. A lot of times you are unable to notice I am missing a leg. I can’t thank the IHPA enough for being by my side and rooting me along the whole recovery.

My piece of advice to new beekeepers is to take the beginning beekeeping class. It’s fun and also full of knowledge. If you have questions always reach out. We have a wonderful board and many members that are so knowledgeable and would love to help others out.

Many life lessons can be learned from honeybees...use teamwork, do good for all, be efficient, live within your means, learn to adapt, seize the day, be a leader, communicate, take time to rest.....(how profound, too bad I had to steal that from the internet)

NERD ALERT! A bee’s wings stroke 11,400 timer per minute, making their distinctive buzz.

We live in Des Moines, Iowa. I am the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) State Apiarist. We own and operate Meadow BlazingStar Honey www.MeadowBlazingStarHoney.com. I serve on the IHPA board as the State Apiarist. Something unique about me....I was social-distancing way before 2019. IHPA exists for all Iowa beekeepers. We’re all here to learn and improve. Don't be intimidated. Get involved.
Chris Jackson  
District 1 Director

Chris is serving as your District 1 Director. He is located in Danville, Iowa, and has a business called Buzzy’s Bee Honey.

I was born and raised in Waukee outside of Des Moines, after college my wife (Connie) and I moved around the country for my job as an arena/convention center manager. We wanted to get back to Iowa and fell in love with Dubuque. Since 2016, I now manage and book entertainment at the Five Flags Center and historic theater. Since our kids are grown, married and starting lives of their own, what better way of filling the time away from work than tending to hundreds of thousands of bees. I am a hobbyist under the company name Country View Honey that “gifts” honey to neighbors, friends and non-profits for fund raisers. Fun Facts about me: I have met every US President since Lyndon Johnson, I was one of the last people to see Elvis alive in 1977, was in a reality TV show and witness to Ozzy Osborne biting the head off of the bat at Veteran’s Memorial Auditorium. I think people would be surprised that considering the business that I am in and dealing with thousands of people a week and handling celebrities(both nice and not so nice) that in my spare time enjoy doing things that do not involve people which drew me to beekeeping.

There is peace working hives in slow steady concentrated moves, similar to yoga with a sense of satisfaction when one puts the top back on the hive at the end of an inspection. I will admit though I had a great sense of joy this summer than volunteering at the Iowa State Fair at the IHPA booth at the observation hive and talking to children of all ages about bees and watching the faces of the parents as the children would explain the science of honeybees back at me better than any experienced beekeeper could.

After attending my first IHPA conference in 2021, I am amazed at the information that is available to both members and non-members. IHPA is here to help anyone wanting to gain information about beekeeping. The small annual fee to be a IHPA member goes a long way in monitoring and lobbying for honeybees at the state house, local education with the queen program, promotion of future beekeepers with the scholarships available and local district outreach with district representation like myself. Keeping the IHPA strong helps keep local bee clubs and Iowa Honey Bees strong.
Ed St. John
District 3 Director

My hometown is Jefferson, got a Master’s Degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology from ISU and have lived in the Ames, Boone area ever since. Started keeping bees 7 years ago and have over 60 hives now, so www.beyersbees.com was born.

I have been the Legislative Representative for IHPA for about 5 years and a Director for about a year. Organizations have been important for me my entire life. I have been President of several organizations including the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association, Iowa Trappers Assoc., the Story County Master Gardeners, the Central Iowa Water Garden Assoc. and finally the Iowa Arboretum.

Two most unique aspects of myself is that I am an expert on striped skunks (caught and de-scented over 150 of them) which I did my Masters work on relating to rabies. I also do a lot of writing on water gardens and water features and have another business called Midwest Waterscapes.

The reason to be involved with organizations like the IHPA is to not only gain unique knowledge to allow you to be a better beek but to also get to know some of the most generous nature lovers there is. When you get involved with IHPA and other groups you will want to give back by sharing your knowledge and time. This is what makes it fun for everyone.

Jamie Beyer
District 4 Director

I am originally from Wisconsin, but have lived in Solon for the last 35 years. Go Packers! I am serving as the District 3 Director for the IHPA. When I was much younger I worked in law enforcement as a patrol officer, undercover, and as a sex crimes investigator. Received a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, have an MBA and worked as an engineer and engineering manager of a large research group for 32 years. Currently I am retired and enjoying bees, dog agility training, dog flyball training and MMORPGs (Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games). I think beekeepers should know about GreenLight. GreenLight acquired Bayer’s topical RNA (ribonucleic acid) IP in 2021 for a vaccine for honey bees against varroa mites. RNA recently became widely known due to it being fundamental in covid vaccines. They have started field trials in beehives and believe that by early 2024 they will have received EPA approval and have the product in the market. Meanwhile, Dalan has received the first conditional approval for a honey bee vaccine from USDA against American Foul Brood. So, technological advances are being cross pollinated into our industry.

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Jeff Becvar Sr  
District 5 Director

I am originally from Pine City, Minnesota. Currently residing south of Indianola, Iowa. I am serving as your District 5 Director for the IHPA. I am a Retired US Army Ranger with weird hobbies. Sideliner Beekeeping is one of them. My Mentor, JD Linn, of Baldwin City, Kansas, was in his late eighties. told me "Jeff, when you think you know everything about bees, you'll find out you don't know anything about them." My piece of advice for beekeepers is before buying even one piece of equipment: 1) Get a Mentor and beekeep with your Mentor, and really pick their brains 2) Take Classes and talk to experienced beekeepers. 3) Experiment, Don't be afraid to try things out. Your bees really aren't as fragile as people make them out to be. 4) People on Multimedia aren't always a good source of viable information so be careful. (Buyer beware)

Dick Ostercamp  
District 6 Director  
Lee Heine Scholarship Committee

I am located in Eagle Grove. Our business name is Blossom St. Honey. I am currently serving as the District 6 Director, and helping Roy Kraft with the formation of the Lee Heine Scholarship. I am always up for an adventure. My piece of advice is that you attend a "Beginner Bee" class, and get involved in a local bee club. There is a lot of knowledge between members, and great friendship!
Connie Bronnenburg  
Queen Program Chair

My husband, Curt, and I operate Spring Valley Honey Farms. I am the Iowa Honey Queen Chair. I enjoy crafting in my free time (haha). Diamond art is very relaxing! I also enjoy spending time with family, especially with my grandkids.

Cheri VanSickle  
Event Coordinator

We live in Neola, Iowa, and operate Van Sickle Bees. Keeping bees isn’t easy work. You always need to be proactive, just a few days can make a huge difference in many situations.

The birth of beekeeping at the Van Sickle house started with a visit from our son, Marc one evening. He suggested that he and I start to raise bees. I had just retired from nursing and wanted something new and exciting to do with a few hours a week. I thought to myself, how hard could it be raising a few bees. So I said “Sure why not.” Marc is an Omaha Police Officer, and quickly found out that he didn’t have the time to raise and take care of the bees properly. That was 11 years ago. Our colonies have increased each year and recently we reached 200 hives. Our entire family loves caring for our bees and will always have a couple of hives around to remind us how important each bee is to our food production.
I grew up in the country outside of the small town of Clutier in Tama County. I have a Master's Degree in Community Nutrition from Southern Illinois University, and am a Registered and Licensed Dietitian in the state of Iowa. I currently work as the Seed to Table Manager at Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary in northwest Iowa. As far as we know, I am the only person that holds a position like mine in the Midwest! We have nine hives, and I am working with the FFA Advisor and students at West Bend Mallard to raise 14 of their own hives. My husband, daughter, and I (and little boy on the way in February) live in rural Renwick. In addition to being the Editor for the IHPA, I am also serving on the membership committee.

Everyone in the IHPA that I have met is very helpful, kind, and willing to share their experiences with beekeeping. Don't be afraid to reach out and connect with someone new!

IHPA Editor

Kelsey Wigans

Stephanie Meyers
Youth Scholarship
Program Coordinator

I live in Hubbard, Iowa, and serve as the Youth Scholarship Program Coordinator. I went to college as a musician and have traveled the world with music as the focus. I now own and operate my own seasonal business called Sonshine Farms that focuses on plant, produce, poultry, and honey production and sales. I still volunteer with music opportunities and love to sit and sing and play.

Another aspect of my life is homeschooling my four children. My advice to beekeepers is to know that every year is different. Facing challenges and adversity head on brings about growth, learning, and lots of fun. My family has learned that re-queening is not as hard as one may think. This year we specifically learned a lot about re-queening and building nucs. It was a great way to assist with making beekeeping financially sustainable. Don't give up and don't stop learning about bees!

Youth Scholarship Coordinator

Roy Kraft
Lee Heine Scholarship Committee
2020 President

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Youth Scholarship Coordinator

Jim Obradovich
IHPA State Lobbyist

Legislative Representative
(see page 5)
Iowa State Fair Committee Members
Heidi Love & Kris Silvers (see page 2)

Doyle Kincy
I live in Urbandale and operate Kincy Apiary. I am an Assistant State Fair Booth Manager, State Fair Committee, State Fair Bid Committee, and am an all around pain in the butt. Something unique about me is that I am not two faces, or I wouldn't be wearing this one. Varroa mite is your enemy, learn how to kill them before they kill your bees!

CarolAnne Vanoy
I was raised in Green County, Iowa, on a small farm, but have adapted to city life and currently call Urbandale home. I would say that I am an "IHPA Unofficial Assistant" to Connie Bronnenberg, Assistant Fair Booth Manager and Social Media Contributor. I enjoy documentaries, Iowa history and traveling. I am an Iowa Girl through and through, and cannot imagine living anywhere else. Membership in a local club is as important as membership with the IHPA. Beekeeping is an evolving science. Membership not only keeps you informed but also keeps you connected with like-minded enthusiasts so make sure you are connected with BOTH.

Do you feel like you have a unique set of skills that would benefit the IHPA? Do you have a passion for marketing, communications, graphic design, event planning, or others? Please email President, Jason Foley, at russianbeeguy@gmail.com to see how you can be involved with the IHPA!! No age is too young, or too old, to begin volunteering. You do not have to be an expert at beekeeping. We would love to have you! Many hands make light work!
Ramblings from the Russian Bee Guy
President, Jason Foley

If you attended the IHPA Annual Conference in November or have watched our Facebook page at all, then you probably already know that I, Jason Foley, am your new president. A lot of you know me as the small town kid from Dakota City, Iowa who came to the big city for an education and never left. Others simply know me as “that Russian bee guy”. I heard that quote so many times over the years I ended up making it my email address lol.

As with the case of any presidential change, there are always concerns on what will change and what will stay the same. I can tell you that I’m not here to reinvent the wheel. I’m not going to get rid of traditions or the basics of our organization, but I do want to open it up and expand it socially, technologically, and breathe some new life into it. I want to identify some of our shortcomings and make corrections in what are causing them. I know that’s a bit vague, but it does embody the spirit of what I want to accomplish.

One of those shortcomings is membership numbers. Many people point a finger at Covid, but that is not all of it. Membership has been on a downhill slope and a good portion of that I have heard is due to not seeing the value in being a member. Currently the cost of your membership basically is an even wash for the discount you possibly see on attending the annual conference, voting rights during the business meeting, and a monthly issue of The Buzz (speaking of which, on Nov 11th, your board voted to reinstate monthly newsletters beginning with this very issue). If you are part of membership who doesn’t even go to the annual conference, then all you really are getting out of it is The Buzz. Your board is working to bring members bigger perks for the coming year. Kelsey Wigans (your Buzz editor), is reaching out to major beekeeping companies for discounts and donations that will only be accessible to active members! In fact she has already secured a fairly awesome donation from Mann Lake (I’ll let her tell you about it when the time is right, but it is several times over the value of your membership already). We also are trying to be more inclusive of the younger generations by having a bigger presence online, both with our website and with platforms like Facebook. IHPA is the biggest organization of people in Iowa with the greatest ability to create government change, promote beekeeping education, and has the huge presence at the Iowa State Fair to showcase to the whole Midwest our members’ products. However, our social media presence is very light in comparison to a lot of the other Iowa bee clubs around.

Members have been concerned I will be getting rid of the mailed copies of The Buzz, and that is just not the case. The board is looking into some current problems with The Buzz in regards to mailed, online PDFs, and emailed versions, but we are definitely still keeping the option of a mailed paper copy for those wanting it. We are also ironing-out discrepancies with ad sizes, pricing of advertising, and the classifieds.

You will still be having the traditional events like Iowa Bee Day at the Capital, Summer Field Day, Iowa State Fair, and Annual Conference. We will also still be doing our outreach through the Queen Program, Youth Scholarships, and grants. But for all of these I am challenging the board to change them up and take them to a higher level. I’d like to get feedback from membership on improvements they’d like to see with the events. In fact, feel free to email those suggestions to IHPA1912@gmail.com for myself and others to review. Now don’t just say, “make them free”. 
It’d be great if everything in life was free, but that just isn’t the case. IHPA strives to keep all of these things at the lowest price possible and to only break even. So what I am asking for is to try and come up with ideas that can really be implemented.

Another area I want to improve is communication and effectiveness of your board. As with anything with a lot of moving parts, at times it can need maintenance. Board members come and go over time and a lot of what makes your board function right now is hear say (i.e. “we did it that way last time”). Unfortunately, some details get left out or things get forgotten. Again, I’m not reinventing the wheel here, but I’m encouraging the board to write down policies, work more effectively as a team, set deadlines, trust their committees and have them return to meetings with results rather than more questions, possibly even meet more frequently.

I’ll also be pushing for more recognition of any and all who play a part in things. Sometimes we forget the efforts that went into making an event happen, or don’t acknowledge a donation that supported a teenager’s path into beekeeping. I saw some great strives to improve this last year, and I stand behind those efforts for the coming year.

And finally, I wholeheartedly support growing our Annual Conference to be known as the best in the Midwest (heck, maybe it already is since I don’t seem to hear much about any other conferences, but I think we should strive for more). It’s not a goal that can be done in a single year or by magically snapping my fingers. It’ll take time and a lot of effort. It goes back to my challenge for making our events better. One way of making annual conference better is by having more big name speakers instead of our normal 2 or 3. Now, speakers don’t just fall off trees and aren’t available at a moment’s notice. Much of the planning for annual conference happens a year or two in advance. So if we want to do better for this year and way better the year after, now is when we really have to be working towards that goal. I’m trying to set wheels in motion for better funding opportunities to support said speakers and new aspects to our conference so attendees don’t feel like we keep hitting repeat on the event each year. I’d like to see more bee club participation and representation during it. I also want to entice more vendors to the events; not just equipment suppliers, but crafts, arts, local homestead vendors, and the likes. Don’t worry, I do not plan to perpetually stay in office and some of what I am saying may imply that. Your IHPA was geared to have new blood come in regularly and infuse it with life. That was something I heard Curt Bronnenberg say and have taken it to heart. Just know this is who your president is, and what I am working towards for you.

-Jason Foley-

Do you know how to count to six?!
Honey bees have six legs, five eyes, four wings, three body parts (head, thorax and abdomen), two stomachs, one proboscis
Hello everyone,

WOW, we did it! Not only were we able to have a Field Day this year, but were able to have a 2021 Fall Conference too. What a great conference it was. Awesome speakers, great sponsors, and amazing vendors. My main purpose for this article today is to thank everyone who helped, participated, or spoke at our 2021 Fall Conference.

One person can’t put on an event single handed. At this time I would like to thank all of our sponsors. Our promotional sponsors were: Spring Valley Honey Farms, Foley Russian Bees/Honey Hollow Apiary and Garden, and FBN Insurance. Mann Lake was our Queen Luncheon sponsor. These companies were responsible for the promotional items that were handed out during the conference. THANK YOU!

Our break out and topic speakers deserve a big hand for sharing their knowledge with all of us: Abigail Kelly, Mike Naig, Emma Jakes, Jeff Becvar, Jason Foley, Andy Joseph, Zach Zoopman, Stephanie Meyers, Jamie Beyer, Ashley St. Clair, Curt Bronnenberg, Adam Ebert, Tyler Holton, Kristi Ostercamp, Tom Hart, Sara Todd, Connie Bronnenberg, and Chris Jackson. All of you definitely “Kept the Knowledge Flowing”. THANK YOU!

Weren’t our conference vendors amazing? Lappe’s Bee Supply, Dadant, Mann Lake, FBN Insurance, CIBA, Phil Ebert, and HillCo, LLC had a huge variety of merchandise for our members to choose from. THANK YOU!

Our silent and live auctions provided funds for our association to meet our goals to promote honey and provide our youth with hives of their own. Thank you to each of our members who purchased items during our auctions. Also, a special thanks to Roy Kraft for being our auctioneer. THANK YOU!

We can’t forget all the ladies of the IHPA who donated many hours through the year to make individual quilt blocks and then assembling each block to make all of our beautiful quilts. THANK YOU!

I hope everyone who attended the conference got a chance to meet and talk to Bob Binnie and Kamon Reynolds. Both of these speakers were not only awesome but they were great sports by helping IHPA raise $1,000.00 for the Youth Scholarship programs. Thank YOU!

I would like to thank my committee members, Tom Hart and Kris Silvers, for their help and support. THANK YOU! Thank you again everyone for making the 2021 IHPA Fall Conference a successful event during an very unpredictable year. THANK YOU!

-Cheri Van Sickle
Event Coordinator
Press Release for Iowa Honey Bee Day
at the Iowa State Capital on
Wednesday, March 30th

The Iowa Honey Producers Association is hosting a Legislative Reception/Breakfast on Iowa Honey Bee Day. It will be in the Rotunda of the Iowa Capital Building on Wednesday March 30th. It will be from 7AM to 9AM and all interested elected officials, honey bee keepers and citizens are invited.

We are going to be asking Governor Kim Reynolds to sign a Proclamation designating March 30th as Iowa Honey Bee Day along with many City Mayors and County Supervisors across the state. In the proclamations they will be stating that honey bee and native insects are important pollinators for a third of the food we eat. Honey bees face serious threats from invasive pests, decreasing bee friendly forage, variable climate and increasing pesticide and herbicide pressure. IHPA expects beekeepers and concerned citizens from across the state to attend this reception and meet their Legislators.

We have established a great tradition of having a legislative breakfast on this special day. I believe this is the 4th year we have had it. We missed last year, of course. It is a great and fun way to meet legislators and other beekeepers that want to learn the legislative process. We do have an influence on legislation that favors honey bees. Please check out the IHPA website for pics of a Honey Bee Day Breakfast from a few years ago. https://www.iowahoneyproducers.org/events-photos

For more information please contact:
Jamie Beyer, Iowa Honey Producers Association,
269 U Ave., Boone, IA 50036. beyersbog@aol.com 515/231-0215

Quilt Blocks Need to be Returned February 1

February 1st will be right around the corner, now that the holidays are over.

When you picked up your quilt blocks in November, the information sheet inside indicated that these blocks need to be mailed back to me by February 1st, 2022 (Jodi Kraft, PO Box 1, Goldfield, IA 50542-0001). I am looking forward to receiving all of them back so I can start designing the quilts and other projects. For questions please contact Jodi (515) 293-2476.

Happy sewing!!  
-Jodi Kraft
Royal Proclamation

Abigail Kelly - 2020-2021 Iowa Honey Queen
Allison Hager - 2022 Iowa Honey Queen

I would like to thank all the members for all of the donations to the Queen program for the silent and live auction. We raised a total of $7454.00 for the queen program. (Quilt raffle $895.00 Silent auctions total $1396.50 and live auction $5162.50) The money raised will help with expenses to get our queen to libraries, farmers markets, the field day and the State fair! If you would like our queen, Allison Hager to be at an event for you, contact me @515-480-6076. I would also like to thank Jason Foley for the purchase of the leftover honey styx from the fair for the queen program.

Thank you to all of the local queens for attending the annual meeting and all of the work you did to get ready for the silent auctions and live auction. It was a stiff competition again this year and I can't tell you ladies enough what a great job you all did! I am glad that you all have decided to stay on as local queens and your local clubs are very lucky to have you! Big congratulations to Allison Hager, I look forward to working with you as our honey queen! Last but not least, thank you Abigail for a great two years as the Iowa Honey Queen! You had a bit of a challenge because of covid, but you made the best of it! It has been a wonderful two years having you! I can't leave out your sisters and your mom, you all have been a great team to work with!

-Connie Bronnenberg, Queen Chair
I have officially completed my reign as Iowa Honey Queen. I had the opportunity to give 109 presentations, events, and virtual programming across my reign as Honey Queen. I am so thankful for everyone who has supported me as I have fulfilled my duties. In the rest of this article, I share about the presentations I have had since my last Buzz article.

One of the highlights of my reign was being able to have the State Fair this year. To kick off the fair, I participated in the State Fair Parade. I was joined by local level honey royalty, Emma Jakes, the Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa Honey Queen; Ellie Nusbaum, the Central Iowa Honey Queen; Jason Vernon, the Central Iowa Honey Ambassador; Veronica Vonderohe, the Northern Iowa Honey Queen; Buzz the Bee; Little Bee; and a few fellow beekeepers. I was at the fair nine of the eleven days. Throughout the Fair, I gave or helped with numerous presentations including a cooking with honey presentation and a presentation aimed for kids. I was able to give three radio interviews during the Fair and judge two cooking contests.

I had just a few other programs after the State Fair to finish out my reign. On September 12th, I spoke to an Ankeny 4-H club about how to use beeswax to make lotions, lip balms, and candles.

I spoke to another 4-H club on October 3rd about the importance of honey bees. With 4-H clubs, I always encourage them to explore the world of honey bees so they can turn that into a 4-H project to enter at their county fair. On October 14th, I spoke to a Des Moines area Girl Scout Troop. This troop did a great job thinking through questions and coming up with logical answers. Their troop leaders did an awesome job planning various honey bee themed activities. My final presentation was on October 22nd at Victory Christian Academy. I spoke to the 4th, 1st, and kindergarten classes. At the school, I answered lots of questions including questions about stings, honey, and the smoker.

At the annual conference, I wrapped up my duties as Honey Queen. I directed our Queen Candidates as they competed for the title of 2022 Iowa Honey Queen, introduced speakers, helped organize the silent and live auction, shared about my reign, and interacted with so many of you. I had a wonderful time at the conference. I am excited to see how Allison makes the role of Iowa Honey Queen unique and how she shares her passion for honey bees. Best of luck, Allison!

-Abigail Kelly, 2020-2021 Iowa Honey Queen
Hello everyone!

I am Allison Hager and I am your 2022 Iowa Honey Queen! I am honored and super excited for this role and cannot wait to see what this year has to offer.

I enjoyed meeting so many people at the annual conference and learned so much from the presentations given and from people telling me their own experiences. I want to thank everyone who took the time to make me feel welcome and helped me thus far. I hope to continue meeting new people and continuing growing a relationship with those I have met.

For those who do not know me, I am from Bellevue, Iowa and graduated from Marquette Catholic High School in 2018. I am a recent graduate from Kirkwood Community College with an Associate’s degree in Agriculture Business. I am now currently at Iowa State University pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Business Management.

I received the IHPA Youth Scholarship in 2013 and have been a part of promoting honey bees and beekeeping ever since. When I was in 4-H I created various posters discussing many topics on honey bees, such as pollination, decrease in numbers, fun facts, and more! Many of these projects went on to the Iowa State Fair for display. I also love photography and love capturing honey bees on flowers. I often enter these pictures in local competitions, in which they do well. I have given several presentations in my area discussing the importance of pollination to children of all ages.

My main goal as the 2022 Iowa Honey Queen is to talk with as many people as I can about honey bees, beekeeping, and honey products, and really focusing on my passion for pollination. I feel that many people outside the beekeeping world do not understand that they can make just as much of an impact on the environment as a beekeeper does. You do not need to be a beekeeper to help honey bees, even though it sure helps! I would like to explain additional ways to help, like planting bee friendly flowers and plants at home, or finding a way to use less chemicals on plants, or even just spreading awareness on pollination and honey bees! I firmly believe each individual has a way to help honey bees, or any kind of pollinator, especially since pollinators do so much for us!

-Allison Hager, 2022 Iowa Honey Queen
Now that it is January, many of us are contemplating eating a little healthier and getting rid of those delicious holiday treats! Between wanting to be healthy, and thinking fondly of summer, I decided to try out a honey strawberry smoothie. I tried out a few other delicious treats but with the size of the January Buzz, I will keep you all in suspense until next month!

**Honey Strawberry Smoothie (Pg. 164)**

1 cup milk  
1/4 cup honey  
2 cups strawberries, hulled  
1 pint vanilla frozen yogurt or ice cream

Combine all ingredients in the blender; process until smooth.

**Emma’s Notes:** Yummy! This recipe definitely made a lot more than I was expecting. I was expecting to need a double batch to make sure there was enough for my family, but it was more than enough for our five. The contents of the blender expanded quite a bit with all the air from blending it. Since we did not have any fresh strawberries, I chose to use frozen strawberries instead and used vanilla yogurt instead of frozen yogurt of ice cream. It gave the same consistency, and was very convenient, especially since strawberries are out of season in January. Overall, we really liked it. The vanilla mellowed out the tart of the strawberries and gave a very balanced flavor. In the future, when I am not trying to eat as healthy, I may try adding chocolate chips (like chocolate covered strawberries) or half a banana for more variety.
State Apiarist, Andrew Joseph, shared various “problems with frames” during a session and how problems can be remedied. In this case, American Foul Brood, the only solution is to burn the hives.

Left to right: Bob Binnie, Curt and Connie Bronnenburg, and Kamon Reynolds pose with an engraved hive tool that was part of the Silent Auction.

The hive tools brought in $1,000 to the auction!

Bob Binnie, of Blue Ridge Honey Company, gives a presentation about queen rearing.

Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary students had the pleasure of sitting with royalty during the Scholarship Luncheon.
Youth Scholarship Program  
By: Stephanie Meyers

Scholarship students are between the ages of 13 and 16 years old. They are selected following an application process and interview. Students are awarded with a package of bees, including a queen, one complete hive which includes a standard bottom board with entrance reducer, two hive bodies with frames and foundation, two medium supers with frames and foundation, telescoping cover with inner cover, division board feeder, hive tool, smoker with shield, bee brush, hooded jacket/veil, a pair of leather gloves, appropriate nails for construction of hive bodies, free beginner bee keeping classes, one year IHPA membership which includes "The Buzz" publication, and a mentor for a year! Upon successful completion of the year, as evaluated by the mentors and the Youth Scholarship Coordinator, students are awarded permanent ownership of their equipment.

Congratulations to the Scholarship Class of 2020!

Mentors: Curt & Connie Bronnenberg  
Ted Reeves  
Craig Bradke

2020 Outgoing Members Not Pictured:

Students  
Colin Backes  
Cassidy Baker  
Tucker Cain  
Elise Church  
Makinzie Fischer  
Margaret Lind  
Reagan Schmitz  
Trenton Sheehy  
Annalise Tiffany

Mentors  
Bill & Louise Johnson  
Ray Kapp  
Lynn Danzer  
Tedd Becker  
Jim Marshall  
Tim Laughlin  
Steve Hanlin  
Unknown  
Kris Kohl

Lane Whirrett  
Mentors: Kris and Gregg Silvers
Congratulations to the Scholarship Class of 2021!

Scott Bormann
Mentors: Roy Kraft

Garrett Cooley
Chris Jackson

Madelyn Lee
Rich McInnis

Maximus Parker
Mentors: Kay Bailey & Tom Bowman

Krista Polson
Abigail Kelly

Trey Voeller
Julie Sparks

2021 Outgoing Members Not Pictured:

Daisha Cox  Steve Hanlin
Nicholas Hansen  Joe Culwell
Madison Schwoob  Matt Puetz

Isaac White
Mentors: Gregg Lind & Doug Hess
Congratulations to the Incoming Scholarship Class of 2022!

Noah DeSotel
Location: Marshalltown
Mentors: Mike and Julie Swett

Leo Klemm
Des Moines
Mentors: Mike and Julie Sander

Luka Smith
Centerville
Wayne Scott

Trace Turner
Location: Woodward
Mentors: Tim Kimrey

Zane Wihlm
Cumming
Angie Croll and Ted Reeves

Nicholas Wise
Marshalltown
Mike and Julie Swett

We are working on putting together a list of people who are interested in being mentors for future scholarship students. If you would like more information on what it looks like to be a mentor or would like to be considered for this awesome opportunity, please call/text Stephanie Meyers at (641) 691-5036 or email at sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com.
Phenology Field Guide Planner for Beekeepers Available
By: Julia McGuire

Julia McGuire is offering Iowa bee club leaders and bee class instructors a digital draft copy of a new beekeeping planner. Digital drafts will be sent by email in Dec. She has received a Farmer-Rancher grant from the North Central Region of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program to produce the Phenology Planner for Beekeepers.

The planner has a calendar of monthly bloom times and beekeeping activities specific to Iowa and surrounding counties, and a place for writing your own notes. Grant funding makes it possible for beekeepers in Iowa and the surrounding counties to get a free planner. Free planners are available in two rounds: the first is through group reservation by instructors and club leaders; the second is by individual request for beekeepers who do not fit into the first round (anyone not in a club or enrolled in a class) while supplies last.

To receive a digital draft, send email to julia@juliecache.com with your title and group name. To receive a hardcopy for groups (round 1 -- please send the name of group and number of group members including yourself) or for yourself (round 2), send an email to julia@juliecache.com. Hardcopies will be printed mid-December by an Iowa beekeeper-owned business and distributed by arrangement in early January. First come, first serve; requests beyond the funded inventory will be quoted a price in Feb.

For more information about the Phenology Planner for Beekeepers, visit http://juliecache.com/bee-plant-phenology-planner/

For more information about SARE, visit: https://projects.sare.org/sare_project/fnc21-1289/

Want to update IHPA members about what is going on in your bee club?! Please submit information to IHPA Editor, Kelsey Wigans, ihpaeditor@gmail.com by 11:59 p.m. on the 10th of the month before you want to see the information published.

Details as to what would constitute an article vs. an advertisement will be published in the February 2022 edition of The Buzz.
Central Iowa Beekeepers Association
2022 Winter Seminar
Saturday, March 19, 2022
Grimes Community Complex, Grimes, IA

Dr. Tom Seeley (via Zoom)
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
How a Honey Bee Swarm Moves to its Chosen Home & Hive Thirst: How Does a Honey Bee Colony Regulate Its Water Collection

Dr. Carol Fassbinder-Orth
Creighton University, Omaha, NE
The Science of Bee Decline

Randall Cass
Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Small Hive Beetles--What you need to know

Andy Joseph
IDALS, Ankeny, IA
Transitioning into Sideline Scale Beekeeping

Registration info and material at CIBA website: (www.centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org)

All-day seminar  Gourmet box lunch from Palmer's Deli
Breaks with drinks and snacks

$40 registration, $35 for current CIBA members & $20 for students (college and K-12)

Registration deadline Tues., March 15, 2022
No walk-in registrations

Questions?
Jamie Beyer 515.433.0194  Jeremiah Kusel 515.447.3203  Linn Wilbur 515.382.4882
Honey Bees

apiary  bee hive  beekeeper  beeswax
colony  drone  foragers  guard bees
hive  honeybee  honeycomb  kelleys honey
nectar  pollen  queen
swarming  worker bee
Iowa Honey Producers Association  
Annual Membership Form 2022  
Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.  
The expiration date will be above your mailing address on "The Buzz"  
One copy of "The Buzz" will be sent per household address  

Please print legibly.  

PRIMARY MEMBER

NAME: ____________________________  
ADDRESS: ____________________________  
CITY: ____________________________ STATE: _______ ZIP CODE: __________  
COUNTY: ____________________________ DISTRICT: __________  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: ____________________________  
PHONE NUMBER: ____________________________  

$20.00 $ __________  

SECOND MEMBER at the same address

NAME: ____________________________  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: ____________________________  

$5 $ __________  

NEXT MEMBER at the same address

NAME: ____________________________  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: ____________________________  

$5 $ __________  

Additional Years of Membership + Donations:

Additional year(s) of membership  PRIMARY  # OF YEARS ______ at $20 $ __________  
Additional year(s) of membership  NEXT  # OF YEARS ______ at $5 $ __________  
Additional year(s) of membership  NEXT  # OF YEARS ______ at $5 $ __________  
Fairbooth Renovation Fund - Funds to be used for improvements $ __________  
General Fund - Funds to be used for day to day expenses $ __________  
Queen Fund - Funds to be used to help the Queen in her travels $ __________  
Youth Program - Funds to be used to provide students with needed supplies $ __________  
Lee Heine Scholarship $ __________  

Sub-total $ __________  

I prefer to receive "The Buzz" newsletter via [ ] Email [ ] Mail [ ] Both  
Because of an increase in postage, mailed copies of The Buzz will have an additional $10 fee $ __________  

TOTAL $ __________  

May we publish our information in the Association Directory YES [ ] NO [ ]  

I would like to be contacted about ideas I have for the IHPA, and to learn more about serving on committees YES [ ] NO [ ]  

I would like to be a Mentor for the Youth Scholarship Program YES [ ] NO [ ]  

If you would like to pay via credit/debit card, please send an e-mail with your registration form to: ihpatreasurer@gmail.com to receive a link to pay online via credit/debit card  

Please make checks payable to: Iowa Honey Producers Association or IHPA  

For Mailed Payments (check or cash) Lisa Montgomery, 2543 170th St Livermore, IA 50558  

*************** ***************** *******************  
For Office Use: Pmt Rcvd ______ Check # ________ Amount ________ Entered ________
I want to hear from you! I would like to create a map of ALL of beekeepers in Iowa! Have you ever seen a map with pins on it for people visiting places? I want to know where you are, with how many hives!
Email IHPA Editor, Kelsey Wigans, at ihpaeditor@gmail.com

Have you ever seen those Burma Shave signs on the roadways? Could you foresee the IHPA posting signs on roadways, and having people recognize the IHPA for designing them? What would you like the signs to say? Funny, factual, or otherwise!
Email your thoughts to ihpaeditor@gmail.com

Prices for advertisements for the 2022 year will be published in the February edition of The Buzz.

The IHPA board will be having a meeting on January 8th. If you have something that needs to be discussed amongst the board please contact President, Jason Foley
IHPA OFFICERS

President: Jason Foley
13778 Summerset Rd.
Indianola, IA 50125
Ph: (515) 991-4666
russianbeeguy@gmail.com

Vice President: Kris Silvers
2088 310th Ave
Woodburn, IA 50275
Ph: (515) 418-0996
IHPA.VP@gmail.com

Secretary: Heidi Love
18115 F Ave.
Perry, IA 50220
Ph: (515) 729-1761
bhlove5@aol.com

Treasurer: Lisa Montgomery
2543 170th Street
Livermore, IA 50558
Ph: (303) 842-1135
ihpatreasurer@gmail.com

Historian: Zack Koopman
3909 Arkansas Drive
Ames, IA 50014
Ph: (515) 291-2089
zakoopman@gmail.com

Past Pres: Roy Kraft
PO Box 1
Goldfield, IA 50542
Ph: (515) 293-2458
kroyster.rk@gmail.com

Event Coordinator: Cheri VanSickle
24148 Sumac Road
Neola, Iowa 51559
Ph: (712) 566-9294
vansicklemm@hotmail.com

Webmaster: Jason Foley
Russianbeeguy@gmail.com

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District 1: Chris Jackson
524 South 2nd Ave.
Danneville, IA 52623
Ph: (319) 850-6559
chrisjjackson1977@gmail.com

District 2: H.R. Cook
16293 Country View Drive
Dubuque, IA 52002
Ph: (785) 554-6529
stagemaster35@gmail.com

District 3: Ed St John
1642 Oak View Dr. NE
Solon, IA 52333
Ph: (319) 491-4343
esj178@gmail.com

District 4: Jamie Beyer
269 U Avenue
Boone, IA 50036
Ph: 515 231-0215
beyersbog@aol.com

District 5: Jeff Becvar
18592 128th Avenue
Indianola, IA 50125
Ph: (515) 537-5260
rgrbecvar@gmail.com

District 6: Dick Ostercamp
112 N Hewett Ave
Eagle Grove, IA 50533
Ph: (515) 851-2572
dostercamp@hotmail.com

IHPA QUEEN PROGRAM

Connie Bronnenberg
14405 Hull Ave
Perry, IA 50220-6343
Ph: (515) 480-6076
cbronny823@aol.com

IHPA EVENT COORDINATOR

Cheri VanSickle
24148 Sumac Road
Neola, Iowa 51559
Ph: (712) 566-9294
vansicklemm@hotmail.com

IHPA WEBMASTER

Jason Foley
Russianbeeguy@gmail.com

PROGRAM LEADERS

State Apiarist: Andrew Joseph
Ph: (515) 725-1481
andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov

IDALS website: www.agriculture.state.ia.us

ISU Entomologist: Amy Toth, PhD
amytoth@iastate.edu
www.public.iastate.edu/amytoth/Toth_lab/Home.html

ISU Extension Beekeeper: Randall Cass
Ph: (515) 294-2507,
randall@iastate.edu

Legislative Rep: Jamie Beyer
(see District 4)

IHPA Queen Program:
Connie Bronnenberg
14405 Hull Ave
Perry, IA 50220-6343
Ph: (515) 480-6076
cbronny823@aol.com

Youth Scholarship:
Stephanie Meyers
26362 G Avenue
Hubbard, IA 50122
Ph: (641) 691-5036
sonshinefarmsia@gmail.com

Bee Emergency Program Info:
Roy Kraft
(see President)

Editors for "The Buzz"

Kelsey Wigans
402 SE E Avenue
Gilmore City, IA 50541
Ph: (319) 215-7483
ihpaeditor@gmail.com

Lisa Montgomery
lisabzhoney@gmail.com

"ISU : Iowa State University
Please take the time to renew your IHPA membership for the 2022 year! This edition of The Buzz is a complementary mailing to remind you that your membership has probably expired, unless you have undated this at the Annual Conference, or have paid for multiple years. If you feel the expiration date (located above the mailing address) on your copy of The Buzz is incorrect please contact Kelsey Wigans and/or Lisa Montgomery right away!

**Exciting news!** Mann Lake is donating 2 1/2 Gallons of Pro-Sweet and 10 pounds of Ultra Bee Patties to two lucky winners that **renews and/or joins the IHPA by January 10th, 2022**. Winners will be announced in Feb edition of The Buzz.

This will be a year you won’t want to miss what is coming out in The Buzz. The Membership Committee is hard at work trying to confirm perks with your 2022 membership from companies like Dadant, HillCo, Lappe Bee Supply, and more!

In order to keep receiving further editions of The Buzz you HAVE to renew your membership. NEW this year: you may have your Buzz emailed to you! If you opt to receive a paper copy of The Buzz there will be an additional $10 charge to your membership for the year because the price of postage has increased.

Happy New Year! -Kelsey Wigans