



# *The Buzz*



December 2017



**IOWA ROYALTY:** Carly Raye Vannoy--past Iowa Queen, future American Queen (left)  
Joy Westerkamp--current Iowa Queen (center)  
Maia Jaycox--current American Queen (right)

## President's Message – Let Us Give Thanks - Let Us Bee Positive

Though Thanksgiving has come and gone (well, maybe it's still lingering as you pack yet another turkey sandwich for lunch), giving thanks is still a big part of the season and from my perspective, I have much to be thankful for this year. If you recently attended the IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference, you know there were many individuals involved to ensure the event ran smoothly.

First and foremost, thank you to the 300+ people who felt our annual conference was an event to check out. We entertained attendees from our bordering states and a couple from Canada even ventured south to take part. Yes, we're going international! On Friday when I asked for a show of hands as to how many participants were attending for the first time, I was astounded to see so many hands go up—75% perhaps? As I mentioned to the group on Saturday morning, about five or six years ago, membership stood at around 300; today it hovers at 1800. What does that tell you? The interest in beekeeping continues to grow.

Second, I am thankful to our wonderful speakers: Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Marion Ellis, Tim Olsen, Rhonda Fleming Hayes, Matt O'Neal and Andy Joseph. Included would also be those who led the eight breakout sessions we offered. With such a variety of topics and expertise, all their presentations blended appropriately to make for a well-rounded event.

Next a big thank you to our vendors who came from several states to be a part of our event and help lighten the load of your wallet or pocketbook. They, and others, were generous with their donations for door prizes. We hope to see you next year as we descend upon Ames where we will be able to double our space.

The microphones and computer equipment worked flawlessly thanks to a man named Dan who spent two full days in the booth above the auditorium and running between the stage, the sound booth and the Youth Center. A big Thank You!

The 2017 Iowa Honey Queen, Carly Vannoy and 2017 American Honey Queen, Maia Jaycox have served our state and nation in the promotion of honey and the honeybee so well. I owe a thank you also to queen candidates Megan Eveland, Cameron Vannoy and to the new 2018 Iowa Honey Queen, Joy Westercamp, for introducing our speakers and helping out during the auction. They served us with grace and always with a smile. Meeting and visiting with all of these ladies has been a true joy.

The last several years our event was held at a hotel where there was a full staff to set up rooms, turn rooms over, pick up trash, serve food and beverages, etc. That wasn't the case at our venue this year. The team you saw wearing red 'Drone' and 'Worker Bee' t-shirts were board members, district directors and some spouses;

other family members pitched in to handle tasks when we were all occupied. I even called upon members from the Back to Basics Bee Club and the Red Rock Beekeeping Club for assistance. It really does take a village to put on an event such as this one.



Did you enjoy a cup of coffee or two or three or four? Erin Miller and Shane Bixby made pot after pot after pot of coffee both Friday and Saturday. Fortunately they got a break during the banquet when the caterer took over the reins. My thanks to them both for missing most of our event in order to serve our attendees.

The honey on the banquet tables was all donated by the clubs mentioned above and a few from the Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa club. Many thanks to those who donated the sweet reward of our labors. Standing atop the tables, the centerpieces were expertly crafted by Connie Bronnenberg and her daughter, Christa; thank you.

Who were those blue t-shirted youngsters attending to us during the banquet? They were none other than the Garfield Boosters. Didn't they do a fine job clearing our plates and helping with drinks? Some young lads had amusing personalities and if given the opportunity I'm sure they could have provided some wonderful entertainment, budding comedians indeed.

I took home some wonderful items featured at the silent auction (the hand-crafted brooms being my favorite as I'm a collector of small brooms) and given the remarkable number of items on offer, I'm betting you did too. To those of you who made or donated these items, I extend a heartfelt thank you and to those who had items featured at our live auction and those who offered themselves for auction: Roy Kraft, Pat Ennis, Jason Foley and Curt Bronnenberg. You guys rock!

Emma Jakes, Craig Greene and Elaine Finarty were the judges of the cooking contest and I'm happy to say it was so nice to see so many entries in the kitchen. It took all my efforts not to sample them in advance of the judging. If you were able to taste any of these items, consider yourself lucky for they went quickly. To those of you who took the time to create such entries, you are very much appreciated. And of course those who entered the photo contest and hive body painting contest, kudos to you too. Did you see the hive box so beautifully painted with the four seasons? It was spectacular and I'm envious it went home with Connie Bronnenberg.

We enjoyed a great showing of our dedicated mentors for 2017. If you were one, you know mentoring isn't an afternoon affair or even a weekend engagement, it's an 8- to 9-month commitment with rewards you cannot put a price on. These folks are prime candidates for next year's awards!

(continued-->)

(President, cont.)

Thanks also to Rhonda Heston who touched everyone's registration and handled payment for 300+ people; she created the nametags and kept me informed of counts for all meals. Likely she answered a hundred or more questions over our two-day event and sold a t-shirt or two. Her role also extends to keeping our books and ensuring the bills are paid.

Likely I have missed mentioning someone but it isn't for lack of appreciation, for as I mentioned earlier, we couldn't have put on an event such as this without the input of many, no matter how minor the involvement. We are fortunate for so many of you who always say yes when called upon, like those who stayed until the very end and then quickly helped fold up tables and put them away. What great team work—just like a hive of bees working in unison and with an intended purpose, drones included.

I am extremely thankful to those who serve on our board, including our dedicated district directors. We are all volunteers who worked hard to bring you an educational and fun event. Many of us work full-time jobs and handle the affairs and events of this organization after 5 p.m. and on weekends. We do it for you as well as for ourselves.

Lastly, I owe a big thank you to my husband, Theo, for tending to our 27 hives by himself. It wasn't until September that I was able to help with the harvest. He also patiently listened to my rants about the amount of work involved for the annual conference. It's true, we are both thankful the event has concluded.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President

### Annual Meeting Presentations Available

On the evaluations for the Annual Meeting and Conference, some of you asked if the speakers' presentations are available. I do have copies of Marion Ellis' two presentations: Managing Bees for Honey Production and Effective Use of Oxalic Acid. Both presentations were highly rated. I also have Erin Miller's Hive Inspections presentation. If you would like one or all, please contact me. My contact information is on the back of the newsletter and on the website.

Some speakers are more willing to share than others. Dennis vanEngelsdorp mentioned in advance that he sometimes tweaks his presentations last minute and uses videos and clips so it is not always easy to share a paper version. Some presenters also have proprietary information or photos and thus are not as willing to share but suggest visiting their website, Facebook page or other social media sites for information. I left it up to the speaker as to whether they would provide to me. Those who presented at a breakout session, I did not ask for presentation copies; however, if you contact them directly, I bet they would share.

### Iowa Honey Queen Program

I was blessed again with three beautiful queen candidates this year! Cameron Vannoy, Megan Eveland, and Joy Westercamp! I am sure that my judges had a very tough decision again this year, as all three of these young ladies were GREAT candidates! Congratulations Joy Westercamp, 2018 Iowa Honey Queen! I look forward to working with you this year! Megan is going to stay on as the Back to Basics Beekeeping Club queen and said she is planning on trying for Iowa Honey Queen again next year! Cameron is interested in being a local queen also! We are going to be working on finding interest for queens in the local clubs! If any young ladies out there are interested in being a local queen you can give me a call or ask at your local clubs. I am willing to help clubs get a queen program going!

#### Thank You from the Queen Program

"A Huge Thank You" to all of you that donated items for our silent and live auctions for the queen program! The live auction raised \$3,335.00. The silent auctions raised \$1,338.50. The quilt raffle brought in \$892.00. Queen Carly's honey raffled for \$150.00. The KitchenAid mixer raffled at \$701.00 for a total of \$7,501.50! The money raised will help with expenses to get the Honey Queen to your events! If you would like to have the Queen help you out at an event, you can contact me at 515-480-6076 or email [cbronny823@aol.com](mailto:cbronny823@aol.com).

Congratulations Joy Westercamp 2018 Iowa Honey Queen!

Our 2017 Honey Queen, Carly Vannoy, will be competing for American Honey Queen in Reno, Nevada, in January! We wish you the best, Carly! She is currently selling raffle tickets for a quilt that will be raffled in Reno. If interested in tickets you can contact Carly @ [myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com](mailto:myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com). I also need to give a Big Thank You to Heidi Love for helping set up for all of the silent auction tables! And Thanks to my daughter Christa Bronnenberg for making all the center pieces for the Banquet tables!  
Connie Bronnenberg





Reeves replaces Kenoyer--Youth Scholarships

I would like to thank everyone in the IHPA for allowing me to serve as the Youth Scholarship Coordinator for the last two years. It was a great honor and quite the adventure to do so. I am looking forward to continuing to serve the IHPA as the Web Designer and the District 5 Director. I believe Ted Reeves will do a fine job as the new Youth Scholarship Coordinator and I will continue to help him in any way I can. The Youth Scholarship Program will always be our future for the IHPA and needs more attention than I could give at this time. I am dedicated to all beekeepers around the state of Iowa with getting information to you through the website. It has been quite an adventure for me to build it and keep it updated for all to see. It sure was great to see some familiar faces and speak to some of you at our Annual Meeting. If anyone has any ideas as to what they would like to see on the website, please contact me and let me know and I will do my best to make it happen. Thank you all!

Eric Kenoyer, Web Designer and District 5 Director  
[lhpa1912@gmail.com](mailto:lhpa1912@gmail.com)

Youth Scholarship Winners – Another Record Year!

To those who were scholarship recipients in 2017, congratulations on keeping bees to November. No doubt you have learned a lot but there’s much more to learn as we settle into winter and prepare for the upcoming spring. Time to open those books once again, maybe re-take the beginning beekeeping course a second time, or read those magazine articles you couldn’t get to during the summer.

To the 2018 scholarship recipients, we congratulate you! You are going to find beekeeping is a fascinating venture. It will pique your interest on all levels and yes, you will get stung. That’s all part of it, just like getting kicked in shins if you play soccer or elbowed in the face if you play basketball. Take it all in stride and absorb as much as you can; lean on your mentors, get involved with a local club, check out the various beekeeping websites for tips and advice, and plan to attend the Summer Field Day next summer. The opportunities to learn are there for you, you simply have to take advantage of them.

Taylor Mehmen, Colo Story County  
Justin Wells, Malvern Mills County  
Logan Chandler, Newton Jasper County  
Gwen Voaklander, Osage Mitchell County  
Mallory Reed, Muscatine Muscatine County  
Charlotte Bowden, Otley Marion County  
Robert Hull, Ottumwa Wapello County  
Nate Fisher, Dickens Clay County  
Collin Witte, Rockwell Cerro Gordo County  
Kendra Robbins, Runnells Polk County  
Abigail Kelly, Des Moines Polk County  
Hannah Hill, Manly Worth County  
Garrett Meyer, Newell Buena Vista County  
Miguel Mena, Harlan Shelby County  
Jarrett Swan, Prairie City Jasper County

Jarrett Swan, Prairie City Jasper County  
Colby Bredemeyer, Bonaparte Van Buren County  
Sara Dudley, Colfax Jasper County  
Eric Keller, Gladbrook Tama County  
Jozlyn Lee, Mt. Pleasant Henry County

(pictured, Jarret Swan,  
Sara Dudley, and  
Charlotte Bowden)

Grand Prize Winners

Do you know Tom Bowman? He hails from the western part of Iowa and was the lucky winner of the full hive in the final drawing of the IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference. Thank you to Pat and Peggy Ennis for the donation. Tom was quite surprised to have won and if I’m not mistaken, thought it was a mistake his name was read.

A second hive was graciously donated by Mann Lake and June Hocksbergen was the second lucky winner of the evening. She was also just as surprised but I know from her grin she was thinking it was her lucky day.

And the drawing for the bee quilt was a tense one. Many tickets were sold to many hopefuls, so tense that we failed to collect the name of the lucky lady who won it...Sorry! (Jan. Buzz). If you purchased a ticket, thank you. We hope to entice you next year in Ames with yet another unique quilt; many expert and novice quilters are in the process of putting the squares together as you read this article.



## Introducing our new IHPA Vice President:

I am deeply honored to step into the position of Vice President and want to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Erin Miller and I call Marion (Linn County) my home. Currently my husband Shane Bixby and I care for 3 boys, 1 dog, a bird, some fish, and 22 hives.



My adventure in beekeeping started before I even knew what was happening. When my boys were little, Shane and I spent countless hours in the Cedar Rapids/Marion Library checking out books for the boys. More than a few beekeeping books always seemed to slip into the mix. Eventually, I think we read them all. A few years later, Shane decided that we should keep bees—a lifelong dream for him (me? Not so much). Shane was ready to buy the hives, bees, and gear and jump right into caring for the sweet stinging insects. I was very hesitant, but signed the family up for beekeeping classes.

We started our first year with five hives and I immediately fell in love. I found working our hives relaxing and could have spent hours watching the bees work. Caring for these wonderful creatures also opened my eyes to the flowers, trees blooming, and the changes in weather. You could say the bees made me stop and smell the roses. Bees changed my life and I wanted to learn more about their fascinating world.

To fulfill this deep desire to learn more, I went back to school in the University of Montana, and in December of 2016, I became a Certified Master Beekeeper. Today Shane and I help beekeepers start or continue their beekeeping journey with Beginner, Advanced, and Queen-Rearing Classes for Linn County Conservation.

I am looking forward to leading all the amazing volunteers of the IHPA in the planning of the 2018 Annual Conference. I would like to include more members in the planning stage of this event so stay tuned—more information to come.

Erin Miller, IHPA Vice President



Dear friends,

It has been an absolutely incredible year...Thousands of miles, 99 counties, and 467 presentations later, my reign is finally done. Thank you so much for making this possible. I appreciate having had the chance to represent you all as I shared about honey bees, honey, and beekeeping around the state. I've enjoyed connecting with many of you through My Honey Queen Adventure, my personal Facebook page, sharing my experiences as the Iowa Honey Queen. Please continue to stay in touch as the next segment of my adventure begins at the national level! Between now and my departure in January for the American Bee Federation Conference, I will be selling raffle tickets for the ABF Quilt - funds go to support the queen program. If you would like to support the American Honey Queen Program through the purchase of raffle tickets, please let me know and we can work out the details. Thank you so much for all of your encouragement and support - I am honored to have been your honey queen.

Sincerely,

Carly Vannoy,

3205 Hillsdale Drive, Urbandale, IA 50322

Cell 515-669-7178, email: [myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com](mailto:myhoneyqueenadventure@gmail.com)



## The 2018 Iowa Honey Queen is Crowned – Joy Westercamp

**Congratulations** are in order to **Ms. Joy Westercamp** who was crowned the 2018 Iowa Honey Queen on Friday, November 10. A fine young lady from Farmington, Iowa, she is also known as the Southeast Iowa Honey Queen. She is very much involved with keeping bees but has also been involved with many different 4-H programs—poultry, rabbit and swine to name a few. Her competitors were Megan Eveland of Eddyville and Cameron Vannoy of Urbandale. All three ladies were fine candidates with poise and presence; they are all winners for our association.

Joy is no stranger to the Iowa Honey Producers Association. If you attended the annual meeting and conference in 2016 you know she was one of the guest speakers presenting on Ross Rounds. At the ripe age of 16, her presentation knocked the socks off of everyone. Having briefly worked with her during our recent conference, I can honestly say she is well poised to be an exceptional Honey Queen. Iowa is blessed with exceptional Honey Queens!

Though I did not have time interview Joy personally, she did take questions from the board at our meeting on Thursday, November 9. She carried herself well and provided excellent responses to questions from the board. Let me share a few aspects about Joy as presented in her application.

Community Involvement is an important piece of becoming the Iowa Honey Queen and Joy is very involved. She noted, “My 4-H career has led me to love volunteering and I enjoy giving back to my community, whether it is donating to my local food pantry or running the summer reading program at the Farmington Public Library. For the past two years, I have worked in the 4-H Exhibits Building at the Iowa State Fair to get it ready to receive projects, worked in the communications rooms, helped answer questions at the information booths, mapped the location of the many projects, and so much more. I have also volunteered at the Iowa Honey Producers Association Booth at the Iowa State Fair because I love to teach fairgoers about honey bees and to support the club.”

When asked why she would like to be part of the IHPA Royalty and what makes her a qualified candidate she replied, “I have several years of experience keeping bees myself and possess many communication skills I could utilize as Iowa Honey Queen. I have presented at countless venues and had so many

one-on-one conversations with others about beekeeping, but I never tire of the subject. My passion for keeping bees is something that has help define me as an individual. ... I would love this opportunity to give back to this hobby and to the organization that helped me get to where I am today.”

Joy first became involved with beekeeping in 2011 when she took a class through her county extension office (she was 11 years old). Today, this young lady has successfully run a treatment-free operation using Minnesota Hygienic bees and implementing IPM. She noted, “I increased the size of my apiary to 55 full-sized colonies, extracted about 1,400 lbs. of honey, and produced approximately 250 Ross Round comb honey sections. This expansion sparked my formation of the Honey War Bee Company, which is now the name under which I operate my business.”

We are very proud to have Joy as Iowa Honey Queen and we look forward to watching her develop her role. When you meet her, I am quite certain you will be impressed with her knowledge and expertise at such a young age. She has much to offer and is eager to share her passion. If you have an event you'd like her to speak at, please contact me or someone on our board who will get you in contact with her.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President



## Grand Prize Winners

Do you know Tom Bowman? He hails from the western part of Iowa and was the lucky winner of the full hive in the final drawing of the IHPA Annual Meeting and Conference. Thank you to Pat and Peggy Ennis for the donation. Tom was quite surprised to have won and if I'm not mistaken, thought it was a mistake his name was read.

A second hive was graciously donated by Mann Lake and June Hocksbergen was the second lucky winner of the evening. She was also just as surprised but I know from her grin she was thinking it was her lucky day.

And the drawing for the bee quilt was a tense one. Many tickets were sold to many hopefuls, so tense that we failed to collect the name of the lucky lady who won it...Sorry! (We do have her pic below. Name, Jan. Buzz). If you purchased a ticket, thank you. We hope to entice you next year in Ames with yet another unique quilt; many expert and novice quilters are in the process of putting the squares together as you read this article.



## Obituary:

Paul Franz Goossen passed away Sept. 7, 2017, at age 87. Matt Stewart reports his passing, and tells us that Paul held several positions in the IHPA--President, District Director, Vice President, and managed the IA State Honey Queen program. Heather Pomeroy (Wayland) was the Iowa Queen during Paul's tenure, and went on to be the National Queen. Paul taught bee classes in the Amana area, through Kirkwood Comm. College. He was a pastor as well as beekeeper, traveling to Ukraine to teach beekeeping and on ministry trips. He had gone to live near his daughter in WI in his waning years, where he passed away. Matt and Patty Stewart still manage "The Noble Bee", the honey company Paul started in the Amana area. Paul will be missed.



## Eve's Extra

Do you recognize this bee-themed KitchenAid mixer? It was displayed at the Iowa State Fair in the IHPA. Expertly crafted by Connie Bronnenberg, this mixer took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Gift Basket category. Rather than put the mixer to use in the intention it was made (baking), she put it to a much more benevolent use—she donated it to the IHPA who auctioned it off with proceeds going to the Queen Program. This unique mixer sold for over \$700 and now calls eastern Iowa home. Thank you, Connie! and thank you to the winning bidder! A win/win all around.

Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President

## 2017 Iowa Honey Producers Association Awards

The IHPA recognized people at the banquet on Friday night who have contributed in many ways through the years of service to beekeeping. Hats off to these people:

- Pioneer Award--Leonard Kurtz
- Education Award—Linn Wilber
- Education Award--Dean Johnson
- Sweepstakes Award—Pat and Peggy Ennis
- Distinguished Service Award—Shane Bixby & Erin Miller
- Distinguished Service Award—Andrew Joseph
- Distinguished Service Award—Jerry and Sheila Weldon
- Distinguished Service Award—Arvin Foell
- Distinguished Service Award--Roy Kraft
- Outstanding Youth—Emma Jakes
- Sweepstakes Award--Pat and Peggy Ennis
- Pioneer Award—Leonard Kurtz
- Lifetime Membership Award--Lee Heine



## The Ladies Reign

It wasn't until after the business meeting concluded on Friday, November 10 that we all took note of the new board of the Iowa Honey Producers Association standing on the auditorium stage ... it is made up of all women, save our past president.

At our Meet the Board Luncheon on Saturday I took a brief opportunity to introduce the board and district directors to give a snip-it of who these people are outside the bee yard. We all gather for board meetings, but given so much to discuss, we have little time to discuss our personal lives. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about each one and would like to share with you a small insight into their lives. I'll introduce you to the board today and save the district directors for the January edition of The Buzz.

**Erin Miller, Vice President**, is an OSJ Principal for a financial services company where she supervises financial advisors. She has been keeping bees for five years and is a Master Beekeeper. She has swam with sharks, climbed Multnomah Falls in Oregon and has eaten dog knowingly. On her bucket list is a visit to all 50 states and a trip to Germany with her family.

**Rhonda Heston, Treasurer**, is a commercial banking client representative for US Bank; she has been involved in banking since 1982. She doesn't like strawberries or tomatoes. Rhonda kept bees while residing in Oklahoma and has kept bees in Iowa for nine years. An Alaskan cruise and the ability to sew as much as and when she wants tops her bucket list.

**Heidi Love, Secretary**, graduated in August from RN nursing school. She is currently serving as a para-educator at the Perry

High School. The beekeeping bug bit her four years ago and she enjoys the hobby immensely. Would you believe her bucket list includes building her dream home from the ground up and to take her family to Europe again?

**Carole Vannoy, Historian** – I failed to collect her responses in advance, thus I will include them in the January newsletter. I do know, however, she homeschools her children, and she raised a fine Honey Queen (and a sister candidate).

As for me, your new president, I am the executive assistant to the president of Bankers Trust in Des Moines. My beekeeping adventure began in 2010 with two hives. Something most people do not know about me is that I religiously clean my house every Sunday. My bucket list is long but two in the top ten include walking on the Great Wall of China and attending a Rolling Stones concert.

Our lone drone, **Past President, Roy Kraft**, drives a big rig hauling refrigerated products. He has been keeping bees for many years with a break in between. He'd like to get to Alaska someday followed by a trip across the Pacific Ocean to Hawaii to see the fish around the reefs. And would you believe, he enjoys piloting model airplanes?

Three of us are in the financial industry, two of us are educators and one a professional driver. I think we're ably prepared to tackle the intricacies of running this association. We all have a passion for keeping bees and have the drive to lead our organization into the future. Our contact information can be found on the website and the back of The Buzz. We work for you as much as for ourselves so if you have a question, would like to expression a comment or offer constructive feedback, please contact one of us.

### Keeping It Fresh and Interesting--We need YOUR input!

If you enjoy reading The Buzz every month, and if you find it interesting and informative, please consider contributing!! This paper is only as good as the submissions that members send in. But, you say, "I can't write." Or "Someone else is better". Think about it--What intrigues you about beekeeping? What have you seen in your hive that puzzles you? Interview a mentor or mentee and include a pic and send it in. Do you do farmers' market? Tell about it. Maybe you make soap or candles or lotions. Send recipes/methods. There are always people who have not tried it before and want to get started. Do you know plants and can tell us about good pollinators? Want to brag about how good that favorite queen produced? Pictures are in color on the web, you know. Spelling and grammar errors?--no problem. We can fix that, easily.

Fact: the people who complain about newsletter content are sometimes the ones who have not contributed and tried to improve the situation. It's better to put some effort into contributing, and share your wisdom with everyone. The effort you put forth is most appreciated. Without quality, interesting and informative articles, our newsletter wanes and before long it ends up in the trash before it is ever opened. That's not our aim and would be a waste of money. With a membership teetering on 1,800, we should be able to fill the paper with quality articles and photos monthly for years to come. **What's stopping you?**



## The future for clubs?

Below are all the clubs I know of in our state. (If any of this is incorrect, please send me email) At the Annual Meeting, club representatives met to discuss how to establish clubs and how to use them more effectively. Ideas included using clubs to report winter losses and monitor mite controls. VanEngelsdorp encouraged us to interact with BeelInformed, and perhaps clubs could be used in this way, providing feedback for substantial research. We might share names of speakers and lend ideas to one another on some good programs for club meetings. Eric Kenoyer told us of a phone app that will let us

pull up IHPA easily on our phones--and then we might be able to interact via our website more easily. I am glad to use the Buzz for some of these purposes also, mostly printing articles from District Directors. Clubs can function in hosting summer Field Days. And in so many ways, clubs can grow the level of effectiveness of the beeks around the state. "Strength in numbers"--let's make our voices heard in order to improve the lives of our little friends. Go Clubs!!

Ron Rynders, Buzz Editor



## IOWA BEE CLUBS:

### Back-to-Basics Beekeeping Club

Contact: Jim & Tina Marshall  
2923 Jones Ave  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
Ph: (641)-660-0983  
[marshalljt@wildblue.net](mailto:marshalljt@wildblue.net)

### Boone River Beekeeping Club

Contact: Roy Kraft  
PO Box 1  
Goldfield, IA 50542  
Ph: (515) 293-2458  
[kroyster.rk@gmail.com](mailto:kroyster.rk@gmail.com)

### Central Iowa Beekeepers Association

Contact Mike Sander, Pres.  
1104 Scenic View  
Altoona, IA 50009  
Ph: (515) 205-9204  
[masander3@gmail.com](mailto:masander3@gmail.com)

### Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers

Contact: Ellen Bell  
10458 SE Vandalia Drive  
Runnells, IA 50237  
Ph: (515) 707-9951  
[ellenbell.ia@gmail.com](mailto:ellenbell.ia@gmail.com)

### East Central Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Dave Irvin  
2254 S. Riverside Dr.  
Iowa City, IA 52246  
Ph: (319) 351-6205

### Friendly Beekeepers of Iowa

Contact: Judy Spence  
12839 Carpenter Trail  
Carlisle, IA 50047  
Ph: (515) 988-8397  
[jespencejr44@gmail.com](mailto:jespencejr44@gmail.com)

### Great River Bend Beekeepers

Contact: David Hayes  
1749 110th St.  
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060  
Ph: 563-678-2862  
[prairiecreekfrm@netins.net](mailto:prairiecreekfrm@netins.net)

### Loess Hills Beekeeping Association

22524 Hunt Avenue  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-7978  
[LHBA@LoessHillsBA.com](mailto:LHBA@LoessHillsBA.com)

### North Iowa Bee Club

Contact: Randy Elsbernd  
19050 Thrush Ave  
Mason City, IA 50401  
Ph: (641) 420-7297  
[randleid2210@gmail.com](mailto:randleid2210@gmail.com)

### Northwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Tim Olsen  
1310 Northview Dr.  
Luverne MN 56156  
Ph: (507) 227-5919  
[nwiabeekeepersresearch@gmail.com](mailto:nwiabeekeepersresearch@gmail.com)

### Red Rock Beekeepers

Contact: Jerry/Sheila Weldon  
210 N. Iowa St (Extension Off)  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
Ph: (641) 891-4071 or 891-2268  
[weldonjs@windstream.net](mailto:weldonjs@windstream.net)

### Southeast Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Vernie Ramsey  
22781 Route J16  
Birmingham, IA 52535  
Ph: (319) 498-4355  
[Vdramsey@netins.net](mailto:Vdramsey@netins.net)

### Southwest Iowa Beekeepers

Contact: Mike & Donna Brahms  
14922 535th Street  
Griswold, IA 51535  
Ph: (712) 778-4256  
[mbrahim@netins.net](mailto:mbrahim@netins.net)

### Siouxland Beekeepers

Contact: Ron Rynders  
890 13th Ave SE  
Sioux Center, IA 51250  
Ph: (712) 449-5010  
[rrihpa@gmail.com](mailto:rrihpa@gmail.com)

### Tama County Bee Keepers

Jim & Penny Dolezal  
1460-370th Street Tama, Iowa 52339  
Ph: (641) 751-2985 or 751-2566  
[busybeeacres@yahoo.com](mailto:busybeeacres@yahoo.com)

### Quad City Beekeeping Club

Contact: Ron Fischer or Doug Dahlin  
Ph: 563-340-7498  
[qcbeeclub@yahoo.com](mailto:qcbeeclub@yahoo.com)

### Omaha Bee Club

Contact: Scott Kent  
100 South Main  
Osceola, IA 50213  
Ph: 641-414-1600  
[clarkeccb@gmail.com](mailto:clarkeccb@gmail.com)

### Omaha Bee Club

Contact: Linn Danzer  
235 E. Orchard Ave  
Council Bluffs, IA

### Southern Iowa Hive Handlers

Ph: (402) 321-3754  
Contact: Scott Kent  
100 South Main  
Osceola, IA 50213  
Ph: 641-414-1600  
[clarkeccb@gmail.com](mailto:clarkeccb@gmail.com)



Hello Everyone!

What a fantastic display of cooking, hive body designs and photography contests during the 2017 Iowa Honey Producers' Annual Meeting!

I want to thank the judges that were recruited this year: Elaine Finarty, Craig Green and Emma Jakes. Glad they had to make those hard decisions, but what a wonderful job they did!

Our photography judge this year was Dr. Robert Barnes, a professional judge from the local Oskaloosa area. I liked hearing his comments on several of the winners and photos in general!

I do have to say that several people would have won First Place entries if they had followed the rules that were submitted over the last several months in the Buzz newsletter. For example: several entries in the cooking contest didn't have their name on the back side of their recipes and without knowing who you were, you were unfortunately eliminated from the competition. Another example in the photography contest was that photos needed to be matted and names on the back of entries.

Below are the contest winners. Thank you to everyone who submitted entries in all the contests.

**Cooking Contest:**

Candies: 1.) Granola Bars - Keri Kenoyer; 2.) Honey Peanut Butter Fudge - Julie Swett

Breads: 1.) Honey Carrot Cake Bread - Julie Swett; 2.) Pumpkin Donuts - Amy Jakes

3.) Pumpkin Muffins - Keri Kenoyer

Jams: 1.) Honeyed Caramel Apple Jam - Marlene Mogel

Snacks: 1.) Honey Pickled Peppers - Teri Dickinson; 2.) Honey Peanut Butter Granola –

Vickie Arkema; 3.) Sweet Snack Mix - Keri Kenoyer

This 'n That Edibles (BBQ sauce, others sauces, dressings, marinades, Honey Butters, fruit dips,

ice cream, sorbets, fudge pops): 1.) Rhubarb Butter - Julie Swett; 2.) Honey Mustard –

Jacquelyn Edeker; 3.) BBQ Sauce - Keri Kenoyer

Main dishes, soup, breakfast: 1.) Brown Butter Garlic Honey Roast Carrots - Julie Swett;

2.) Strawberry Soup - Jacquelyn Edeker

**Hive Bodies Contest:**

Youth: 1.) Taryn Peffers; 2.) Lainey Peffers; 3.) Phillip Miller

Adult: 1.) 4 seasons painted box - Carol Wehr; 2.) Purple Coneflowers - Bonnie Bishop;

3.) Pronghorned Antelope - Cecelia Patterson

**Photography Contest:**

Marketing: 1.) Mary Wiltgen - hexie jars with lily flower in center; 2.) Mary Wiltgen - stacked

hexie jars; 3.) Dominic Shover

Extracting Honey: 1.) Lisa Carlson - honey dripping; 2.) Karen Fountain; 3.) Todd Edeker

Bees on Flowers: 1.) Karen Fountain - judge called this "Broken Wings"; 2.) Jacquelyn Edeker –

bee on pink flower; 3.) Eve Vanden Broek - bee on white flower

General Beekeeping: 1.) Mary Wiltgen - yellow bee suit looking at hives; 2.) Tina Meyer - Bee on

finger; 3.) Wendy Peffers

I am glad to say that next year we will be having the Mead competition back. Please stay tuned to the Buzz Newsletter and look for information regarding that in Erin Miller's (new VP) messages as well as in the messages from me (Jodi Kraft).

Once again thank you for your entries. We will do it again next year, and I am looking forward to seeing all that you have prepared, painted and gone out and shot with your cameras.



Happy Holidays! Jodi Kraft

### One Beekeeper's (veterinarian) Observations:

I especially enjoyed Dennis van Engelsdorp's talk on Saturday at the annual meeting, right up to the point that he said that he was checking "in-coming" pollen for pesticides. When I asked him if glyphosate (RoundUp) was on the list of things he was testing for, the answer was no, "That test costs \$300". I didn't tell him he could have his own urine checked for about \$150! Glyphosate has a 20- to 22-year half-life, so I know if they tested for it, they would find it.

I was told early in my career, that you wouldn't ever be chastised for not knowing, but, you would be chastised for not looking! If they're not looking for it, how do they ever expect to find it?

In the meantime, from what I've seen of my bees going into the winter, I will continue trying to get trace minerals (liquid RSP) and probiotics (Bio-Pro) in them any chance and any way that I can.

A little better explanation of what I'm using would be:

Liquid Reed Sedge Peat (RSP): comes from decaying organic matter that was covered up by the glaciers and as such, makes it rich in fulvic and humic acids. These acids are large molecules that have numerous reaction sites that make them a natural chelating agent and also a toxin binder. The fulvic acid tends to chelate trace minerals in the diet and makes them more available to the organism consuming them. The humic acid tends to be a toxin binder (mycotoxins) as well as tying up heavy metals that are not necessarily beneficial to the organism. The RSP also contains a wide spectrum of organic trace minerals coming from the decaying organic matter. As such it also is an excellent carbon source for normal gut flora.

Bio-Pro Beneficial organisms:

Lactic acid bacteria: Lactic acid bacteria is a generic term for bacteria that convert large amounts of sugars into lactic acid through lactic acid fermentation. Through the production of lactic acid, lactic acid bacteria also inhibit the growth of pathogenic microorganisms and other various microorganisms by lowering the pH.

Yeast; known as a fermentation starter, yeast is a microorganism necessary for the brewing of alcohol and the making of bread. Taxonomically, yeast is a eukaryotic. It differs from fungus in that it generally is unicellular throughout its life. Yeasts live in sugar-rich environments such as in nectar and the surface of fruits. In Bio-Pro, yeast produces many biologically active agents such as amino acids and polysaccharides.

Phototrophic Bacteria: Phototrophic bacteria (also known as photosynthetic bacteria) are an ancient type of bacteria in existence from before the Earth had its present concentration of oxygen. As its name indicates, these bacteria utilize solar energy to metabolize organic and inorganic substances. Research has also reported on its effectiveness in applied use in agriculture, aquaculture, and animal husbandry. Phototrophic bacteria are involved in various metabolic systems, and play a major role in nitrogen cycling and carbon cycling. Because this role allows the other microorganisms to co-exist, phototrophic bacteria are the essential element in Bio-Pro.

As I've said before, how they will over-winter will tell the tale if the nutrition is working. So far, it really looks promising.

Bruce Rafoth, DVM [www.practicalagsolutions.com](http://www.practicalagsolutions.com)



To the left are the people who were the center of a lot of attention at the Annual Meeting. What a great group of ladies! We are proud, as a state, to be developing such enthusiastic beeks! On the left is candidate Megan Eveland, retiring Iowa Queen Carly Vannoy, reigning Queen Joy Westerkamp, reigning American Queen Maia Jaycox, and candidate Cameron Vannoy. On Saturday morning, Carly challenged our clubs to develop a queen or ambassador program. If a young person in your club has potential to spend time touring around promoting the hobby, please contact Connie Bronnenburg and learn how to get a queen program started. Who knows what might happen?



## Overwintering Double Nucs Project Talks and Workshops

For nearly three years, the NW Iowa Beekeepers Association has been testing the potential of overwintering late season splits in double nuc equipment. The overwintering double nucs project was graciously underwritten, in part, by a donation from the Iowa Honey Producers Association. NWIABKA project coordinator, Tim Olsen is willing to provide overwintering double nucs information to bee clubs.

For the costs of travel expenses, Olsen is offering the overwintering double nuc information in two options:

30 - 45 minute overview talk

1 1/2 - 2 hour workshop that includes the overview, plus detailed steps for double nuc set-up and colony management

An electronic meeting platform can also be considered for the overview talk.

For more information contact: Tim Olsen -

email: [nwiabeekeepersresearch@gmail.com](mailto:nwiabeekeepersresearch@gmail.com);

or call, [507-227-5919](tel:507-227-5919).

## 2018 Membership Dues

Iowa Honey Producers Association membership year is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. In an effort to create a new Membership Directory prior to the 2018 Iowa State Fair, I need everyone to complete the form in this issue of the Buzz. For the Directory to be useful, a current phone number and e-mail address (if available) is essential for each member.

Did you know your annual membership dues could be tax deductible? Iowa Honey Producers Association is a 501©3 corporation. Your subscriptions to hobby magazines could also be tax deductible. **Consult your tax professional for more information.**

Thank you for your help in getting and keeping all beekeepers connected. If you have any questions, please call or email Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2124.

Amy Toth has served the IHPA as a researcher working at ISU to improve the health of bees. She is interested in helping beeks in Puerto Rico recover after their huge hurricane losses. Below is the text of a plea for us to help out. Perhaps your club could raise funds to sponsor a pallet?

### ADOPT A PALLET TO HELP BEEKEEPERS ON PUERTO RICO & USVI RECOVER

CAMPAIGN GOAL: 1,000 Langstroth hives to help replace hives destroyed by hurricanes.

DONATION: \$1,500 'Adopts' a Pallet containing components for 50 Hives. Your generous contribution will leverage other Campaign funds to pay full costs.

WHEN: ASAP! Pallets are being assembled, ready for adoption. Beekeepers on Puerto Rico & USVI need your help!

Go to <https://giraylab.wixsite.com/tugrulgiraylab/daily-news-bee-rescue-campaign> for photos and updates from Puerto Rico & the USVI on the Campaign.

Please complete and return the contact information below. Send payment for \$1,500 and this completed form to the

Pollinator Partnership

Attn: Adopt a Pallet for Puerto Rico Beekeepers

423 Washington Street, 5th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94111

Organization/Individual(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) YES! We would like to include personal notes and/or photo with our pallet. Please contact us.

Contact [KR@pollinator.org](mailto:KR@pollinator.org) for instructions re payment by credit card. An invoice is available on request. A receipt for your tax-deductible contribution will be sent to you. Questions? Contact Tom Van Arsdall, P2 Director of Public Affairs, at [TVA@pollinator.org](mailto:TVA@pollinator.org) or 703-509-4746.

Established in 1997, the Pollinator Partnership (P2) is a 501(c)3 [Tax ID #: 943283967] headquartered in San Francisco, California. P2's mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research. P2 is managing a growing collaborative partnership to help beekeepers on Puerto Rico and the USVI. Visit [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org) for more information.

## Recipes with Emma Jakes

I can't believe I've been doing this for over a year! It gets harder every time to decide what recipes to do each month and I haven't even been through half the book. There are so many good recipes yet to try! This month I decided to try making a dip for all of you Christmas dip lovers and spiced nuts for a tasty crunchy treat to go with all your standard Christmas goodies (or for any time in the rest of the year when your hankering for a quick and tasty snack!)

### Marie's Honey-Garlic Cream Cheese Dip:

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese	2 tablespoons honey
1 teaspoon garlic salt	

Blend all ingredients at room temperature until smooth. Refrigerate for several hours. Great with crackers.

This recipe took roughly 15 minutes to make. It was nice and simple, and tasted really good! We used normal Ritz<sup>®</sup> crackers, but any kind would be great. It's also good with the dip not quite smooth. So, if you are having trouble getting everything combined, that's okay!

### Spiced Nuts:

3 cups nuts of your choice (try walnuts, almonds, pecans, etc.)	
1 egg white	1/3 cup honey
2 teaspoons cinnamon	1 teaspoon cardamom
½ teaspoon sea salt	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Unroll some foil over a baking sheet. Measure out three cups of your favorite nuts. Dump them onto the baking sheet. Spread them out evenly over the baking sheet. Mix the egg white and honey in a small bowl. Measure the spices and salt and then add to the egg-honey mixture. Slowly pour over the nuts. Bake for 15-20 minutes until nuts are crisp but not burned! When the nuts cool down, put them into small jars and wrap with pretty ribbons. Be sure to save some for your family to enjoy. Beware: these nuts are addictive!

This recipe was also very simple to make and super tasty! True to its word, these nuts were addictive. It's always fun when I, the cook, learn something new. This month, I learned that cardamom is extremely expensive (\$38/lb! I didn't buy a full pound). But it was well worth it! Everyone deemed them to be good.

Emma Jakes

(Editor's Note: I am always impressed with how professionally Emma's recipes are presented. She makes it feel like you're wearing an apron and helping and smelling all the good things. Though she's still in high school, she served our organization by judging the cooking contest at the Annual Meeting! Emma is also a potter, and she submitted a piece of pottery to the auction at the Annual Meeting. What a blessing to have her contributing all the time. If you've tried her recipes and like the column, you should send me a note and tell me that. I'd like to have something to encourage Emma with.)

What would you try...

...if you knew you could not fail?

### 2018 Membership Dues

Iowa Honey Producers Association membership year is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. In an effort to create a new Membership Directory prior to the 2018 Iowa State Fair, I need everyone to complete the form in this issue of the Buzz. For the Directory to be useful, a current phone number and e-mail address (if available) is essential for each member.

Did you know your annual membership dues could be tax deductible? Iowa Honey Producers Association is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your subscriptions to hobby magazines could also be tax deductible. **Consult your tax professional for more information.**

Thank you for your help in getting and keeping all beekeepers connected. If you have any questions, please call or email Rhonda Heston, IHPA Treasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2124.

### Merchandise Sale

We have lots and lots of the "old style", yellow t-shirts, as well as a few 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirts. There are limited numbers in certain sizes. The new price is \$6 per shirt, plus \$5 shipping. When ordering, please state the size you would like as well as an alternate size. We have sizes youth small through adult 3XL. We will make every attempt to fill your order with the size requested, but we may have to substitute a different size. Please include your phone number and/or an e-mail address that we can contact you if need be.

Also, we now have Iowa Honey Producer bumper stickers. The cost is \$4 each. We still have IHPA Hats and Aprons. We also have two different style magnets for \$5 each. Don't forget to order your Keep Calm and Keep Bees T-Shirts. These make excellent Christmas gifts for the beekeeper and non-beekeeper on your list.

Contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2126. Checks can be mailed to Rhonda at 52735 187th Ave, Chariton, IA 50049.

### Cookbook Sale

In 2016 IHPA collected your recipes and created a new cookbook. This is a great cookbook. There are more than 400 delicious recipes. In anticipation of a strong demand for the new cookbook, IHPA ordered two runs of the cookbook. The original price of the cookbook was \$10. We are lowering the price to \$5 each. If you wish to order a case of 30, the individual book price is \$3 or \$90 a case. These cookbooks can be resold at Farmers' Markets, Craft Fairs, etc. These cookbooks make a great, inexpensive gift for out-of-state family and friends. The cookbooks can be mailed to you at a cost of \$5 per individual book. Other arrangements can be made for case lot sales.

Please contact Rhonda Heston, IHPATreasurer@gmail.com, r.heston@yahoo.com or 515-724-2126 for further information.



For those of you who never went to an Annual Meeting, this is what the table looks like at the Silent Auction. Great items, many home made. Great fun. Be sure to plan to come to Ames next year and take some of these home. Promotes the Queen programs.



Dennis Van Englesdorp was a deeply challenging speaker, and very entertaining to boot. No one who attended the conference can forget the slides of the wet dog--he used a slow-motion shaking dog, slobber flying all over, to illustrate what happens when a non-treated hive is present near your hives--varroa spread to every nearby hive. And the photos he brought to the lectures of varroa, enlarged many, many times, are unforgettable as well. What a monster we have on our bees! Well equipped to destroy our bees. They don't suck blood; they suck out the fat, and fat bees are crucial for going into winter. They open the bees to viruses, and that kills our bees. All in all, we learned far more about mites over the weekend than we really wanted to know, but we deepened our resolve to fight the little buggers!





Above is a photo of Dr. Marion Ellis as he presented to us at the Annual Meeting in Oskaloosa. Dr. Ellis has worked in the world of bees for many years, teaching at the University of Nebraska, and now retired in Omaha by grandkids. What a wealth of knowledge! In his quiet, authoritative way, he taught us everything from the basics of successful production hives to the uses of oxalic acid. I keep hearing him casually mention truths about beekeeping--"poorly-managed bees in a good location make more honey than well-managed bees in a poor location". "A strong colony will not accept a new queen". "One hive with 60K bees will produce more than two hives with 30K bees each". "If bee population peaks too early, bees will swarm". "Know your plants and how much they produce for the bees". What a dear man!

Say, did you know that the varroa opens a hole in the larva inside the cell, and then reaches over to the cell wall with her butt and pastes her poop opposite the hole? That way, young mites can find the entrance hole in the little larva. Now there's something you didn't learn if you didn't attend the Oskie conference...

Oxalic acid does not build up on wax; only in honey. Mix up OA and sugar water and dribble onto the seams between the frames when temps are between 35 and 55 and the cluster is loose. Do this late in fall, near Thanksgiving. The sugar allows the OA to stick to the bees. Check online for recipe.

Sitting at the feet of a man like Dr. Ellis for a while humbles a person. Whether you have kept bees for a year or a lifetime, you can learn something from beekeepers like this. We are all thankful that our organization includes authorities, and that we can import such skilled and knowledgeable speakers.

Please plan already now to attend the 2018 conference!

(The only classes offered in Iowa by two Certified Master Beekeepers.)

### **2018 Beginner Beekeeping Class**

Two classes are being offered—Monday and Friday.

#### **2018 Beginner Beekeeping Monday Night : Times 7-9pm**

Jan. 22, Feb. 5 and 19, Mar. 5 and 19, Apr. 2. Aug. Extraction TBD, and Aug. 27.

#### **2018 Beginner Beekeeping Friday Night : Times 6-9pm**

Jan. 19, Feb. 2 and 16, Mar. 2. Aug. Extraction TBD, and Aug 27. (Mon)

#### **2018 Beyond Basics: Advanced Beekeeping Class**

**Date: March 3-4, Times 9 to 3. Cost: \$75.00 per person**

#### **2018 Queen Rearing Class**

**Date: June 23-24, 9am to 3pm. Cost: \$75.00 per person**

*For more information and to Register:*

[BeeapartBeetogether.com](http://BeeapartBeetogether.com)

### **Russians:**

Starting January 1st at 10am central standard time you can begin placing your orders for Russian Nucs and Queens from Foley's Russian Bees. Russian Queens 1-10 are \$38 each, discounts for larger orders

5-frame Russian nuc \$152 each

2- & 3-pound Carniolan packages available for pre-order mid-January

Complete hive kits, and hive components also available

To place an order, visit us on the web at [www.russianbee.com](http://www.russianbee.com)

### **FOR SALE:**

Approx. 50--6 5/8 supers in decent shape: \$6 each. I also have 12 6 5/8 supers with empty frames—no foundation: \$12 each. We also have new, commercial grade, unassembled supers for \$10 each. Contact Phil Ebert at 641-527-2639 or email [ehoney37@netins.net](mailto:ehoney37@netins.net)

### **FOR SALE:**

Will have a few nucs for sale in the Spring. The nucs will have locally mated survivor queens.

Rhonda & Steve Heston South 6 Apiary [515-724-2124](tel:515-724-2124)

If you would like a copy of Marion Ellis' presentations:  
Managing Bees for Honey Production and Effective Uses of Oxalic Acid, or Erin Miller's presentation on Hive Inspections, please send your e-mail request to Eve Vanden Broek at [mrstheo@iowatelecom.net](mailto:mrstheo@iowatelecom.net).

### What's In Store for 2018?

The New Year is fast approaching and I have some lofty goals for our board in 2018. The Annual Meeting and Conference has just concluded and not five days have gone by and members are asking me what we are going to focus on at our all-day strategic planning session scheduled for Saturday, January 6. Several have offered their thoughts on which areas we should focus and I have mine. We decided in September an all-day meeting is necessary as our board meetings are filled with topics and some do not get the discussion time they deserve. Additionally, our membership is strong and we have to remain fiscally responsible and oversee the health of the organization, two very important key elements.

In September I attended two workshops put on by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines: the Basics of Being an Effective Board Member and What You Need to Lead. Both were an excellent use of time and hopefully what I learned along will help guide our board through our discussions. Fortunately, Doyle Kincy, Eric Kenoyer and Roy Kraft also attended one workshop and I will use them to help facilitate our meeting. The input of everyone on our board is crucial and will be solicited.

Some items on the discussion list will include the development of a strategic plan; better budgeting strategies and a review of our fiscal responsibility; do we have adequate resources, are our fundraising efforts sufficient; a review and detailed description of our youth scholarship and queen programs; a discussion about the annual meeting and where we need to make changes/improvements; a review of the by-laws and mission statement; a review of our organizational structure; board and director role responsibilities will be established to provide to prospective candidates; website content; and the creation of a 1-, 3- and 5-year plan. I do not expect we will accomplish all in this one meeting but it will be a start and every one of us will be responsible for more than we have in the past.

Our ears are open if you care to share. Our contact information can be found on the back of the newsletter and on the website. "The success of a non-profit organization is measured not by votes or profits, but rather by the achievement of its unique mission..."  
Eve Vanden Broek, IHPA President

#### Beginning Bee Classes:

Saturdays mornings, Feb. 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00-11:00 AM. Field day included in June. Classes include doing nuc splits and swam catching. Cost: \$40.00 or \$10.00/class. Free for Veterans. Location: Cherry Glen Learning Farm, [3989 NW 94th Ave., Polk City, IA 50226](#) Ray Meylor at [515-450-](#)

**FOR SALE:** Approximately 100 empty 6 5/8 supers. Rough condition, but they hold frames. Selling choice for \$3 each or take them as they come off the stack for \$1 each. We also have new unassembled supers for \$10 each. Contact Phil Ebert at [ehoney37@netins.net](mailto:ehoney37@netins.net) or call [641-527-2639](tel:641-527-2639) (office) or [641-521-6361](tel:641-521-6361) (cell)



#### P & P Honey and Bee Supply, Inc.

Raw honey by the bucket or barrel

~Also offering~

Beekeeping supplies and equipment--Containers--Beeswax--Education.

Promoting the beekeeping craft since 1981

**Pat and Peggy Ennis**

**2105 110<sup>th</sup> St, Goodell IA 50439**

**641-444-4767 / [flat\\_lander@lycos.com](mailto:flat_lander@lycos.com)**

**Like us on facebook**

Beekeeping Classes across Iowa

Want to learn more about beekeeping? Want answers to some of the puzzling issues facing our little pollinator friends? Need to have your skills increased, or need to re-learn what you missed, now that you’ve kept bees for a season?

Here’s the list of the places where beekeeping classes are taught this coming season. Listed behind the location is the basic dates the classes are happening. If you want more information about a class in your area, please go to [iowahoneyproducers.org](http://iowahoneyproducers.org) and the entire chart will be included on the website. You will find specific dates, costs, contact people, names of teachers, location of the class and times the classes are meeting.

Please note that that some of the class listings below are marked; "**class information for 2018 TBD (To be determined)**". Many are having the class next year, they just haven't set the dates yet. Please feel free to contact them. Thank you, Peggy

Ankeny	Jan-Mar	Mason City	Feb
Albia	Jan-Mar	Mt. Pleasant	Feb-Mar
Calmar	Jan-Feb	Newton	Jan
Cedar Rapids	Jan-Oct	Okoboji	Feb
Council Bluffs	Apr-May	Okoboji	May
Davenport	Feb-Mar	Okoboji	TBD (advanced)
DesMoines	Jan-Feb (Tue)	Oskaloosa	Jan-Mar
DesMoines	Jan-Feb (Thur)	Ottumwa	Jan-Feb
DesMoines	Jan-Mar (advanced)	Peosta	Jan-Mar
Fairfield	Mar	Polk City	
Ft. Dodge	Jan (advanced)	Sioux Center	Feb
Fredricksburg	Jan-Mar	Toddville	Jan-Aug (Mon)
Indianola	Jan-Mar	Toddville	Jan-Aug (Fri)
Iowa Falls	Jan-Feb	Toddville	Mar (advanced)
Keosauqua	Mar	Toddville	June (queen rearing)
Knoxville	Jan-Mar	Washington	Feb
Marshalltown	Jan-Feb	Waterloo	Jan-Apr



Do you know of someone in your area who might like to start raising bees? Likely your friend does not get the Buzz. Please contact them and inform them of the class happening within their reach.

Please note that not all of these courses are sponsored by the Iowa Honey Producers Association, and the information presented by the instructors is not necessarily endorsed by the IHPA. Additionally, none of the courses is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship and the information presented by the instructors is not necessarily endorsed by IDALS.



The Buzz Newsletter Article Submissions

Please send submissions, classified ads, and photos to [rrihpa@gmail.com](mailto:rrihpa@gmail.com)

Or mail to The Buzz, c/o Ron Rynders, 890 13th Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250 Cell 712-449-5010

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 All Your Packaging Containers For Packing Honey

( No Order To Large or Small )

### BL Plastic Containers, LLC



**"We Built Our Business on  
Service, Quality, and  
Dependability."**

**BL Plastic Containers Inc**  
**12726 Base Lins Rd**  
**Kingston IL 60145**

**Phone : 515 266 6112**

**Fax : 515 266 1112**

**email [monty2@charter.net](mailto:monty2@charter.net)**  
**[www.blplasticiowa.com](http://www.blplasticiowa.com)**

**New Owners Deb & Tom Montavon**



## Foley's russian bees

Foley's Russian Bees is a Des Moines, Iowa based producer of Primorsky Russian bees and beekeeping equipment. We specialize in Russian mated queens and Russian nucleus hives. We also are a provider of Carniolan packages. When you are in need of bees, we can help!

To place an order, check us out on the web  
**[www.RussianBee.com](http://www.RussianBee.com)**



Helping Beekeepers Keep Bees

## Honey Bee Ware

Packaged Bees ♦ Nucs ♦ EquipmentSupplies ♦ Education  
Honey Candy ♦ Honey Mustard ♦ Honey Stixs

Your one stop shop for all your beekeeping equipment and supplies!

N1829 Municipal Dr., Greenville, WI 54942  
**920.779.3019**

**[shop.honeybeeware.com](http://shop.honeybeeware.com)**

An authorized distributor for Mann Lake and Kelly Beekeeping

### SPRING VALLEY HONEY FARMS, PERRY IOWA

See us for:

**Corn Syrup:** 40# bucket--\$18.00

50# bucket--\$23.00

Your container--.40/lb

500# + .35/lb

**Protein Patties:** \$2 each, or case of 40 \$70.00

**Honey:** 50# \$127.00 (\$2.40/lb + \$7—bucket)

**Honey Styx:** 1-499 cost .15 each

500-1,999 cost .12 each

Box of 2,000 costs .09 each--\$180

Connie [515-480-6076](tel:515-480-6076). Curt [515-480-6075](tel:515-480-6075)





Quality and service that can't be beat anywhere in the industry.  
See a full list of beekeeping products in our catalog!

### Varroa EasyCheck



M014908

### Premium Smokers

M00928



### Apiguard or Apivar for Varroa Mite Control



M01480

M01490

### VarroaVap Vaporizer to use with oxalic acid for varroa mite control

M01780



### Assembled Starter Kit



C52201P

### Quality Woodenware and Foundations

See our full line of attractive honey containers.



M00010

### New 2015 Edition of The Hive and the Honey Bee

### Tools



### Full Line of Honey House Equipment



### Little Wonder Hand-Extractor Kits

M00396KIT - Hand  
M00403KIT - Power

**Request a Free Catalog today!**  
(on-line version available at [www.dadant.com](http://www.dadant.com))

Many styles from which to choose

### Economy Vent Suit V01260(size) Suit



AMERICA'S OLDEST & LARGEST BEE SUPPLY COMPANY



[WWW.DADANT.COM](http://WWW.DADANT.COM)

TOLL FREE 1-888-922-1293

- 51 S. 2ND STREET, HAMILTON, IL 62341 PH (888) 922-1293 •
- 1318 11TH STREET, SIOUX CITY, IA 51102 PH (877) 732-3268 •

# The Buzz Newsletter

Iowa Honey Producers Association  
52735 187th Avenue  
Chariton, IA 50049



## 2017/18 IHPA Leaders

**Pres:** Eve Vanden Broek  
134 Holland Dr.  
Pella, IA 50219  
Ph: (515) 491-6760  
[mrstheo@iowatelecom.net](mailto:mrstheo@iowatelecom.net)

**Vice. President:** Erin Miller  
5470 Kacena Ave  
Marion, IA 52302  
Ph: (319) 360-4913  
[Erinmiller722@msn.com](mailto:Erinmiller722@msn.com)

**Secretary:** Heidi Love  
18488 E Ave  
Dawson, IA 50066  
Ph: 515)729-1761  
[bhlove5@aol.com](mailto:bhlove5@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Rhonda Heston  
52735 187<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Chariton, IA 50049  
Ph: (515)724-2124  
[r.heston@yahoo.com](mailto:r.heston@yahoo.com)

**Historian:** Carole Vannoy  
3205 Hillsdale Dr.  
Urbandale IA 50322  
Ph: (641)780-8947  
[lowabeekeepinghistory@gmail.com](mailto:lowabeekeepinghistory@gmail.com)

**Past Pres:** Roy Kraft  
PO Box 1  
Goldfield, IA 50542  
Ph: (515)2932458  
[kroyster.rk@gmail.com](mailto:kroyster.rk@gmail.com)

**Directors:**  
**District 1:** Jim Marshall  
2923 Jones Ave  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
Ph: (641)660-9930  
[jim.marshall@musco.com](mailto:jim.marshall@musco.com)

**District 2:** Shane Bixby  
5470 Kacena Ave  
Marion, IA 52302  
Ph: (319) 360-4913  
[shanebixby@aol.com](mailto:shanebixby@aol.com)

**District 3:** Mary Wiltgen  
3025 270th St  
Fredricksburg, IA 50630  
[tmwilitgen@gmail.com](mailto:tmwilitgen@gmail.com)

**District 4:** Doyle Kincy  
7304 Monroe Ct  
Urbandale, IA 50322  
Ph: (515) 710-4752  
[dwkincy@msn.com](mailto:dwkincy@msn.com)

**District 5:** Eric Kenoyer  
1270 Upland Lane  
Van Meter, IA 50261  
Ph: (515)490-2477  
[ekenoyer@aol.com](mailto:ekenoyer@aol.com)

**District 6:** Dave Korver  
3314 510 St  
Maurice, IA 51036  
Ph: (712) 562-6528  
[dpkorver@frontier.com](mailto:dpkorver@frontier.com)

**State Apiarist:** Andrew Joseph  
Phone: (515) 725-1481  
[andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov)  
**IDALS website:** [www.agriculture.state.ia.us](http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us)  
**Amy Toth, Assistant Professor Iowa State University Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology**  
[amytotoh@iastate.edu](mailto:amytotoh@iastate.edu)  
[www.public.iastate.edu/~amytotoh/Toth\\_lab/Home.html](http://www.public.iastate.edu/~amytotoh/Toth_lab/Home.html)  
**Mary Harris** [maharris@iastate.edu](mailto:maharris@iastate.edu)  
**National Honey Board:** [www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com)  
**American Honey Producers Association:** [www.ahpanet.com](http://www.ahpanet.com)  
**American Beekeeping Federation:** [www.ABFnet.org](http://www.ABFnet.org)

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

**Youth Scholarship:**  
Ted Reeves  
17400 Illinois St.  
Ackworth, IA 50001  
Cell/Text: (515)720-7617  
[Beekeep-er@reevestkd.com](mailto:Beekeep-er@reevestkd.com)

**The Buzz Newsletter:**  
Ron Rynders  
890 13th Ave SE  
Sioux Center, IA 51250  
[rrihpa@gmail.com](mailto:rrihpa@gmail.com)  
Cell- (712)449-5010

**Bee Emergency Program Information:**  
Vern Ramsey  
22781 Route J16  
Birmingham, IA 52535-8162  
Phone: (319)498-4355  
[vdr Ramsey@netins.net](mailto:vdr Ramsey@netins.net)