

Heart of Illinois Beekeeper

A publication of the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers' Association

NEWS FROM THE HIVE

You can find us on the web at <http://www.hoibeekkeepers.org/>

Volume 106

June 2006

Number 4

Nothing but the facts, Ma'am

Bees are not fast fliers; while their wings beat over 11,000 cycles per minute, their flight speed averages only 15 miles per hour. In comparison, a true fly in the genus *Forcipomyia* beats its wings over 62,000 cycles per minute. The Australian dragonfly *Austrophlebia costalis* has been clocked flying at a speed of 36 mph.

Bees possess five eyes. The three ocelli are simple eyes that discern light intensity, while each of the two large compound eyes contains about 6,900 facets and is well suited for detecting movement. In fact, honeybees can perceive movements that are separated by 1/300th of a second. Humans can only sense movements separated by 1/50th of a second. Were a bee to enter a cinema, it would be able to differentiate each individual movie frame being projected.

While bees cannot recognize the color red, they do see ultraviolet colors.

Unlike the stingers in wasps, the honeybee's stinger is barbed. Once the stinger pierces a mammal's soft skin, the attached venom pouch pumps a mixture containing melittin, histamine, and other enzymes into the target. When the bee pulls away, the barb anchors the stinger in the victim's body. The bee leaves the stinger and venom pouch behind and soon dies due to abdominal rupture. When a honeybee stings another insect, such as a honey-plundering moth, she does not leave her stinger planted in the invader. As she retreats from the insect victim, her barbed stinger tears through the insect's exoskeleton.

HIBA Field Day

Our next meeting will be our annual field day on June 17th at Tom Elston's Home. The day will start at 9 AM with coffee and donuts and a short business meeting. At 10:00 we will have a guest speaker: Dr. Moushumir Sen Sarma. She is doing her post doctorate work under Dr. Gene Robinson at the U of I Bee Lab. Her topics will cover Asian honeybees, the bee dance language and some genomics. There will also be a period for questions. At Noon we will break for lunch. HIBA will supply the meat for the lunch and members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. After lunch we will play games beekeepers play: smoker contest (so bring your smoker and smoking material) and guess the number of bees in the jar. There will also be three hives for us to open and observe inside.

The address is 3006 Harvest Hill Ave. Bloomington, Ph: 309-829-3006. Go to <http://www.mapquest.com> and type in the address and zip and it will give you a pretty good map on how to get there.

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'Just for Grins'

There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home. --Ken Olson, Founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons. -Popular Mechanics, forecasting the march of science, 1949

MAY MEETING MINUTES

President Dave Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm on May 12th, 2006 at McLean County Farm Bureau Bldg. in Bloomington. Twenty-five members and guests were present. An introduction was made around the room with reports of spring activity in the apiaries. Treasurer Mike Moens reported a balance of \$1620.45. Nathan Sasse motioned to approve the report, seconded by Susie Stiles and motion passed. There were no additions or corrections to the Minutes of the last meeting as printed in the May newsletter. Tom Elston motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by John Hill and motion passed. Everyone was reminded to pay their 2006 dues at this meeting if they hadn't already done so.

Old Business:

Nathan Sasse reviewed the ISBA's insurance coverage. Members are covered if their event is actively promoting ISBA or HIBA. Product liability is not covered. Requests for a certificate of insurance will cost \$35 each but are not necessary for coverage. There will be more information in the next ISBA newsletter.

There was some discussion regarding the low attendance at the Beginner's Beekeeping Seminar that was held in March. It was agreed we will hold it at least one more time at Forest Park Nature Center but will move the date to February. Janet Hart will contact the Park District to let them know.

New Business: Earl Lutz reported on two events (McLean County 3rd graders and Tazewell County 5th graders) that he attended with an observation hive and information about honeybees.

The Heart of Illinois Fair will be July 7-15. This year the HIBA booth will be moved to the Agriculture Building unless there is an opening in the Youth Building. This building is where the ag show is held as well as the two floriculture shows. Members were encouraged to enter their products in the honey classes.

The field day will be June 17 at Tom Elston's. Tom has already lined up a speaker from U of I. Nathan Sasse made a motion to give the speaker \$100 for their time and gas. Susie Stiles seconded it and the motion passed.

Round Table Discussion – Swarms

President Stiles lead the members in a lively discussion on swarms, how to prevent them and how to capture them. Tom Elston brought a 5 gallon bucket that he modified to catch swarms in. For show and tell, John Hill brought an old cone-shaped smoker he had received as a gift.

Tickets were drawn and several door prizes were awarded. Being no further business, Nathan Sasse made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mike Moens seconded it and the motion passed.

Everyone enjoyed sampling and voting on the honey contest entries. Tom Elston and his wife Judy brought the winning entry of honey sweet potato biscuits with ham.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hart

Calendar of Events

June 17 – Field Day at Tom Elston's, Bloomington
Hive opening, beekeeping contests. Speaker from U of I. The club will provide meat and drinks, members to bring side dish or dessert

July 7 to 15 – Heart of Illinois Fair, Peoria.
Volunteers needed to work HIBA booth with observation hive. See Bob Coppernoll to sign up.

August 15 – HIBA Day at the Illinois State Fair, Springfield.
Volunteers are needed to help sell honey ice cream and represent HIBA

September 8, 7:30 p.m. –
Tazewell County Farm Bureau Building, Pekin. Commercial supplier representative to speak (*Dave Stiles will line up*)
Honey Tasting, Bring contest entries

October 20, 6:00 p.m. –
Banquet at Q's Smokehouse, Peoria. Honey Judging.
Election of 2007 Officers

Our greatest glory is
not in never failing, but in
rising up every time we fail.
--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Prayer is not an old
woman's idle amusement.
Properly understood and
applied, it is the most potent
instrument of action.
--Mahatma Gandhi

HIBA Honey Cook-off Contest

During our last meeting, we held the Third Annual Honey Cook-off Contest. Three members had entries. Tom & Judy Elston made Honey Sweet Potato Biscuits with Ham. Susie Stiles presented her Honey Fruit Sauce with chicken over rice and Janet Hart made Honey Spice Cookies. After votes were tallied, Tom and Judy Elston won first place and were presented the book, "Mites of the Honey Bee" edited by Thomas Webster and Keith Delaplane as their prize. Below are two of the recipes:

Honey Sweet Potato Biscuits with Ham

2 cups all-purpose flour	¾ cup mashed cooked sweet potato
1 tablespoon baking powder	(1 large sweet potato baked until tender, peeled and mashed)
½ teaspoon salt	1/3 cup Amber Bee Co. honey
¼ cup vegetable shortening	½ cup milk (about)
1 tablespoon grated orange peel	

Combine flour, baking powder and salt in large bowl. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles size of small peas. Add orange peel, sweet potato and honey; mix well. Add enough milk to make soft, but not sticky, dough. Knead 3 or 4 times on lightly floured surface. Pat dough to 1-inch thickness and cut into 2 1/4-inch rounds. Place on ungreased baking sheet.

Bake in preheated 400 degree F oven 15-18 minutes or until lightly browned.

Split biscuit in half, spread honey mustard on biscuits and add ham

Honey Fruit Sauce

3 Tablespoons of Cornstarch	½ teaspoon of salt
½ teaspoon of Thyme	1 cup of Honey
½ cup of Cider Vinegar	¼ cup of Pineapple juice (Drained from the pineapple)
¼ teaspoon of curry powder	1 ½ cup of water or broth
1 can (11 ounce) Mandarin orange sections , drained	
1 can pineapple tidbits, Drained (Juice used above)	
¼ cup Maraschino Cherries, Drained	

Combine the cornstarch, spices, salt, honey, vinegar, water and juice in a saucepan and mix well. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until the mixture boils and thickens. Add drained fruit, heat till warm.

Serve over meats, vegetables or rice.

For Sale: Chuck Gold has an 80 gal. SS Double boiler from Kelley, catalog #203. Dimensions are 35 " high by 29" in diameter. Chuck is asking \$200.00 and can be reached at 309-697-6095.

2006 HIBA Membership and Magazine Subscription Form

	1 yr.	2 yr.	
2006 HIBA Dues	\$14.00 ___		NAME: _____
AM. BEE JOURNAL	\$17.20 ___	\$32.75 ___	ADDRESS: _____
BEE CULTURE	\$17.00 ___	\$32.00 ___	CITY/ZIP: _____
SPEEDY BEE	\$13.25 ___	\$25.25 ___	COUNTY: _____
Total enclosed	_____		PHONE: _____
			EMAIL: _____

Would you like the newsletter e-mailed to you Yes ___ No ___

No. of Colonies: ____, LB. Of Honey Produced in 2005 ____, Year Started Beekeeping: _____

Make checks to: Heart of Illinois Beekeepers' Association

Mail to: 11720 W Rte 150, Brimfield, IL 61517

++++++ **DETACH ABOVE FORM AT DOTTED LINE** ++++++

**** FOR YOUR INFORMATION ****

AMOUNT PAID: _____ **CHECK #** _____

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