

# Heart of Illinois Beekeeper

A publication of the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers' Association

NEWS FROM THE HIVE

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My fellow HIBA Members,

We have one more HIBA meeting of 2000 and it may be the biggest and best yet. We plan a full evening of events: honey show, honey princess crowning, and election of next year officers. It is also the 100th anniversary of HIBA. So, come help celebrate the festivities.

In my last President's message, I had lamented about my bee's honey production being only 60% of last year. As usual, the bees proved me wrong. I don't know where or when they collected it, but they produced more than I thought. Probably 80% of last year's weight which might fall into the "average year production." I should be extracting the last of the honey this week to get a final count. Please bring your final honey weight to the October meeting so Carl can put it in the next ISBA newsletter and we can brag about it.

Keep on buzzin'



Thomas Elston  
President

## OCTOBER 13 MEETING FEATURES BANQUET, MUCH MORE

The October 13 meeting will be the last of the year for the HIBA membership. Nonetheless, it is expected to be the highlight of the year as several important events will take place. First and foremost, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of this Association that has been known under various names during the past century.

Another important event will be the election of officers for the coming year. Both Tom Elston and Carl Wenning will be stepping down from their current positions and will need to be replaced.

The October 13 meeting will also feature the annual Honey Show. Complete details about the Honey Show will be found further on in this newsletter. Categories as well as entry requirements and deadlines will be found on page 3.



Last but not least, HIBA will have the honor of crowning the first Honey Princess for the new millennium. Julie Stevig and Rebecca Wenning will be present for this meeting, and an election will be held to determine the Honey Princess. Members will recall that Rebecca and Julie gave presentations at both the June Field Day and the September membership meeting.

The 100th Anniversary celebration will begin with a meal (on your own) at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Woody's Family Restaurant, 18706 Springfield Rd., Groveland, IL 61535. Groveland is just outside of Morton, IL. (Groveland is located between Morton and Pekin.) A map showing the location will be found on page 2.) Should you need the phone number of Woody's for reference, it is (309) 387-6750.

The evening's meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. with members ordering from the menu. A small room with a holding capacity of approximately 40 has been set aside for us. If you intend to dine at Woody's, you must make reservations with Carl Wenning (by phone at 309-454-4164 or by e-mail at [cjwennin@ilstu.edu](mailto:cjwennin@ilstu.edu)) by Tuesday, October 10th.



The approximate location of Woody's Family Restaurant is shown by the star. Don't forget to make reservations by calling Carl at (309) 454-4164 or e-mailing [cjwennin@ilstu.edu](mailto:cjwennin@ilstu.edu).

### MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15 GENERAL MEETING

The September meeting was held in Normal on Friday, September 15. Eighteen members and guests were in attendance. The membership was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Tom Elston. The minutes of the meeting at the June field day were approved as published in the *Heart of Illinois Beekeeper* newsletter. Jean Nyman gave the Treasurer's report. Carl Wenning reported a communication from the National Honey Board requesting HIBA's participation in a honey recipe contest. Carl will enter a recipe on behalf of HIBA. Tom thanked Earl and Nola Lutz for hosting the June field day again this

year, and summarized events taking place there, and at both the Heart of Illinois and State Fairs.

Plans were discussed for the October 13 banquet meeting. Carl will arrange for a meeting facility in a restaurant in either Pekin, Morton, or Peoria. The banquet will be held at a restaurant with a separate meeting room. The meeting will feature the election of the 2001 Honey Princess, the annual Honey Show, and the election of next year's HIBA officers. Tom indicated that he will be putting together a nominations committee, and told the membership that neither he nor Carl would be running for elective office. Tom noted further that Carl would also be resigning from his post as editor of the Heart

of Illinois Beekeeper newsletter, a position that he has held for the past three years. Members should contact Tom Elston if they are interested in any of these positions.

President Elston then introduced the Honey Princess candidates for 2001. Julie Stevig gave an 8-minute presentation focusing on the medicinal uses of bees and their products. Rebecca Wenning followed with an 11-minute presentation dealing with the promotion of beekeeping and honey. Each presented portfolios relating to their beekeeping activities following the talks.

Rick Nuss of the Central Eastern Illinois Beekeepers' Association then spoke and presented a home video. During introductory remarks he noted how the Small Hive Beetle was making headway across the U.S. by hitching rides on produce trucks, and moving along with the hives of migratory beekeepers. He also stated that the SHB successfully had overwintered in Minnesota, and that we should expect to see this pest here soon. He noted that CheckMite+ (coumaphos) does work, and that beekeepers might want to purchase some in advance of their arrive in Illinois. He spoke briefly about the establishment of Terramycin-resistant American Foulbrood in southern Georgia that has arrived from Argentina. It was noted that beekeepers will have to resort to burning (the standard Illinois policy for Foulbrood) to control this disease. Rick also noted how recent aerial spraying for seed companies using Pounce and Sevin to control the Japanese beetle in the Rantoul area has been causing huge honey bees losses. It appears as though the commercial sprayers would rather pay claims for honey bee losses than to take the time to forewarn beekeepers about spray-

ing. Claims have been filed. He has average only 29 pounds per colony this year due to the spraying.

Rick then moved on to describing problems he had in 1996 with 92 colonies of Africanized honey bees in Rantoul, Illinois! Rick told how he had purchased 92 packages of bees from a supplier in Georgia, and how that supplier had used not his own queens but queens imported from Texas. These queens turned out to be Africanized. After a dog was killed by his new bees, Rick investigated. Samples sent to Beltsville, MD, confirmed the presence of AHB. Rick was able to requeen all 92 colonies using a "moon suite." Rick ran about 30 minutes worth of video showing work with these AHB colonies in Rantoul, and also illustrating his beekeeping and queen rearing practices in Georgia where until recently he has maintained operations. One of the things that Rick described was a very successful double-screen method of queen production that he uses. According to Rick, "Given the problems with queen production in the South, Northern beekeepers might want to start learning how to produce their own queens."

The evening's program drew officially to a close at about 9:15 p.m. After the meeting the membership enjoyed honey ice cream, apple crisp baked with apples from the orchard of Earl and Nola Lutz, and a variety of other treats. Friendly chatter continued until about 10:00 p.m.

### **2000 HONEY SHOW GUIDELINES**

These guidelines for submission of apiary products will be followed for this year's October Honey Show:

Only one entry per contestant per division will be permitted. There are no entry fees. Entries must be delivered only to the Tazewell Agricultural Center in Pekin by noon on Friday, October 13th. Entries must be label free, but specimens should be submitted in bags or boxes that clearly denote the name of the contestant along with a statement of which extracted honey products are to be entered into which color grades. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded this year for the top three entries in each division; ribbons will go to the others. Everyone is encouraged to enter apiary products into the friendly competition. Entries will be accepted only in the classes identified in the following table:

#### **GETTING THE WORD OUT**

Carl Wenning represented HIBA at the ISBA's display booth at the Farm Progress Show near Cantrall, IL, on Wednesday, September 27th. Hundreds of people stopped by the

display to learn about honey bees, and about pollination services provided by our apian friends. The display consisted of the observation hive, a cornucopia filled with fruits and vegetables, and several informational fliers.

#### **DATE SET FOR 4TH ANNUAL HIBA BEEKEEPING COURSE**

Mark your calendar now to participate in the 4th annual HIBA Beekeeping Course. The date has been set for Saturday, February 10. The workshop will be held in Bloomington at the McLean County Farm Bureau Building. Over the past three years nearly 150 households have been introduced to beekeeping, with a significant number of the program's graduates going on to become beekeepers. A tentative agenda may be found on the HIBA web site at the following URL: <http://www.phy.ilstu.edu/~wenning/HIBA/HIBA.html>

#### **HONEY SHOW CLASSES**

- Liquid honey: One 1-pound jar each entry (glass or plastic bottle). Three categories exist within this class: 1) Light, 2) Light amber, and 3) Amber.
- Creamed honey: One 1-pound or one 2-1/2 pound wide mouthed jar per entry.
- Comb honey in standard (4"x4") plastic box: One 13- to 16-oz. comb per entry.
- Half comb honey: One cassette per entry.
- Ross round section: One 8-oz. section per entry.
- Chunk honey (wide-mouthed jar filled with comb and surrounded with liquid honey): One 1-lb. or one 2-1/2-lb. wide-mouthed jar.
- Frame of honey for extracting. One shallow frame per entry.
- Beeswax: Entries may be of any size, shape, or design, either plain or molded. Judging will be on the basis of wax quality only.

**Don't forget to make your October 13 meal reservations by Tuesday, October 10. Call Carl Wenning at (309) 454-4164 or e-mail him at [cjwennin@ilstu.edu](mailto:cjwennin@ilstu.edu). Give the number in your party. Please call by 6:00 p.m. so that we can get the information to Woody's in time. Space is limited. CALL TODAY!**

# 1999 HIBA Membership Application/Renewal Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE NUMBER ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

LBS. 1998 PRODUCTION \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF PRODUCING COLONIES \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR STARTED BEEKEEPING \_\_\_\_\_

## 1999 Association Rate Journal Subscriptions

*Orders for journals are accepted January through May only.*

	Renewal	New	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	Amount
<i>American Bee Journal</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$14.50	\$27.50	\$39.00	\$ _____
<i>Bee Culture</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$13.00	\$25.00	N/A	\$ _____
<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$13.50	\$25.50	\$34.25	\$ _____

Please be certain to indicate "renewal" or "new."

**Dues** Check membership application type:  Renewal  New \$ 10.00

**Total Submitted for Journals and Dues** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Remit this application/renewal form along with membership dues and payment for desired journals to: Carl J. Wenning, HIBA Secretary, 21 Grandview Drive, Normal, IL 61761-4071. Make checks or money orders payable to "HIBA." For answers to questions about membership, contact the HIBA Secretary by phone: (309) 454-4164 or e-mail: [cjwennin@ilstu.edu](mailto:cjwennin@ilstu.edu) [www.phy.ilstu.edu/~wenning/HIBA/HIBA.html](http://www.phy.ilstu.edu/~wenning/HIBA/HIBA.html)

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