

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.hoibeekeepers.org/>

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President's Message

As I look out across the river valley today, the colors of fall are all around, letting me know that October has arrived and the 2006 summer of the honey bee is over.

Hopefully, as beekeepers, you have all of your supers pulled and if you are lucky, most of them are extracted. The best thing that we can hope for is that the bees have their hive bodies full and ready to go through until the spring blooms of 2007 will arrive.

I hope you are able to have your product available to the public for sale, and are doing a good business. We may not get rich, but we are doing a great service to those who are health conscious and looking for a healthy product.

Our annual banquet will be held on the 20th of this month at THE Q's STEAKHOUSE in Peoria. (Directions will be included in this newsletter.) We will be able to enjoy a great buffet meal, and then it will be followed by the announcement of the winners in our annual honey judging contest, and a short business meeting, including the election of officers for the 2007 season.

Our meetings this year have not always followed the rule book, or even been as we had planned but if you talk to anyone who has attended, I think you will find that everyone has had a good time getting to know their fellow beekeepers better and questions answered. It is amazing how much you can learn by listening to the trials and successes that others are going through.

I hope as you start to plan you 2007 calendar, you will make sure to set aside the time to attend the HIBA meetings. Hopefully, we will be able to get the dates for 2007 out to you by the first part of February. If you have topics that you would like to see discussed in our meetings, please let one of the officers know.

Hoping to see you on the 20th at 6 pm.

David Stiles, President HIBA

Annual HIBA Banquet

Our October meeting will be held at The Q Smokehouse Buffet on Friday, the 20th at 6 PM. Members can pick from a wide variety of delicious authentic Texas BBQ beef, pork, chicken and all the side dishes one would expect with BBQ, including dessert. The Q Smokehouse, Phone: (309) 682-8437 is at 2601 W. Lake Ave. in the West Lake Shopping Center and can be entered off of Sterling Ave. across from the Northwoods Mall. Sterling may be accessed from N. War Memorial or from I-74 and the new interchange at Sterling. After dinner, we will have our regular business meeting, results from the Honey Contest and elections of the 2007 HIBA Officers.

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'Just for Grins'

All of us are smarter than one of us. --Japanese proverb

We will always tend to fulfill our own expectation of ourselves. -- Brian Tracy

"Life is like a dogsled team. If you ain't the lead dog, the scenery never changes." [Lewis Grizzard](#).

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

President Dave Stiles called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm on September 8, 2006 at Tazewell County Farm Bureau Bldg. in Pekin. Twenty members and guests were present. Introductions were made around the room with honey crop reports. Mike Moens gave the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$1,393.62. There were no additions or corrections to the Treasurer's Report and Charlie Ott made a motion to approve it. The motion was seconded by Chuck Gold and passed. Secretary Janet Hart read the minutes of the last meeting because some members did not receive their newsletter by email. Being no corrections or additions, Chuck Gold motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by John Hill and motion passed.

Old Business:

General discussion was held about the Illinois State Fair Beekeeping Exhibit. Several members attended on Tuesday, August 15, to help sell ice cream.

Also discussed was the HIBA booth at the Heart of Illinois Fair. The location in the Floriculture Building seems good and we hope the traffic will increase next year due to some changes in the Ag Show.

New Business:

Jill Mayes reported that the ISBA's Fall Meeting would be held on November 18th at the Dept. of Ag. Building on the State Fairgrounds.

Janet and Danny Hart will represent HIBA at ICC's Garden and Landscape Day on September 9.

The next meeting will be October 20 at 6 pm at Q's Smokehouse Buffet in Peoria. Members who did not bring entries for the honey contest to be held that night can still drop them off at the Tazewell Farm Bureau bldg. or get them to Steve Mayes prior to October 19. President Stiles will appoint a Nomination Committee to present a slate of officers at the October meeting.

A round table discussion was lead by President Dave Stiles on the variety of bee products that our members are producing and their sale venues. Steve Mays brought a wide variety of honeys to taste after the meeting (some labels weren't in English).

Being no further business, Mike Moens moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Motion was seconded by Steve Mayes and meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting, everyone enjoyed honey tasting, honey treats and conversation.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hart, Secretary

Calendar of Events

October 20, 6:00 p.m. –
Banquet at. Q's Smokehouse,
2601 W Lake Avenue
Peoria. Honey Judging.
Election of 2007 Officers

November 18
ISBA's Fall Meeting
Dept. of Ag. Building on the
Illinois State Fairgrounds.
Springfield.

History is the nightmare
from which we are trying
to awaken.

--James Joyce

The aim of education,
should be rather to teach
us how to think, than
what to think.

--James Beattie

Talent is only the starting
point. --Irving Berlin

There is no such thing as
a failed experiment,
only experiments with
unexpected outcomes.

-- Buckminster Fuller

An army of principles can
penetrate where an army
of soldiers cannot.

--Thomas Paine

Many ideas grow better
when transplanted into
another mind than in the
one where they sprang
up. -- Oliver Wendell
Holmes.

Thick, not thin

Progressive Grocer

OCTOBER 01, 2006 -- Sara Lee Food & Beverage's newest fresh bread line, Hearty & Delicious, is the Downers Grove, Ill.-based company's first all-natural bread product. Featuring richly textured, thicker slices, in line with the rising consumer preference for wide-loaf breads, the line comes in six varieties, including 100% Whole Wheat, 100% Whole Wheat with **Honey**, Home-Style Buttermilk Bakery Bread Made with Whole Grain, and Old-Fashioned Potato Bakery Bread Made with Whole Grain. The 100% Whole Wheat loaves offer 22 grams of whole grains per slice, while the Made with Whole Grain varieties have five grams. Notes Sara Lee director of product nutrition Frances Coletta, "[The items] provide opportunities for consumers to increase their whole grain intake with the very sandwich they eat." A 24-ounce loaf retails for a suggested \$2.89.

Honey Bee Pollination Crisis: Shortage of Bees May Reduce Crop Production

Unprecedented losses of honey bees to a parasitic mite are threatening U.S. crop production, with impacts ranging from almonds to zucchinis.

The American Beekeeping Federation estimates that about 50 percent of the honey bee colonies in California have been killed or severely weakened.

In January, as beekeepers began preparing to place their beehives into California orchards to pollinate almonds, they found that varroa mites had decimated their bees, leaving many of the colonies dead and others severely weakened. The death of so many bees is creating a pollination shortage, threatening the almond crop - the first to bloom in the spring. Beekeepers and almond growers have trucked in beehives from as far as Florida to meet the demand. To help with the pollination and to re-populate empty beehives, beekeepers have air-freighted bees to California from Australia.

"I have sent bees to California for almond pollination for years, but this year I sent additional hives to help with the crisis," said David Ellingson, a Minnesota beekeeper who is president of American Beekeeping Federation.

Beekeepers have been relying upon chemical treatments to control varroa mites, but the mites have become resistant to those chemicals. The mites attach themselves to the honey bees, sucking blood from adult bees and brood, resulting in dead, deformed, and weakened bees, and reducing the colony's ability to survive.

The shortage of bees for the almond crop is a clear indicator that further pollination shortages for fruit, berries, vegetables, tree nuts, oil seeds and legume crops are likely to develop throughout the United States. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, about one-third of the human diet is derived directly or indirectly from insect-pollinated plants and about 80 percent of this insect pollination is accomplished by honey bees.

"A shortage of honey bees for pollination will impact the quality, quantity and price of many agricultural crops," said Ellingson. "We are learning of massive losses throughout the U.S."

Beekeepers are looking to science for solutions to the crisis. "We need USDA — and the agricultural colleges — to step up their honey bee research activities," said Daniel Weaver, a Texas beekeeper and vice president of the American Beekeeping Federation. "Unfortunately, the President's budget would actually cut beekeeping research funding. We are asking Congress for additional funds to put more scientists to work on solutions to this crisis."

The beekeeping industry has initiated efforts of its own to promote honey bee research. The American Beekeeping Federation has established a research and education foundation to collect private funds and direct them to bee research. Last year, the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees granted scholarships to six graduate students working in the subject. The Foundation is repeating its scholarship program again this year.

"We are attempting to attract bright young minds to the field of beekeeping research," said Foundation Chairperson Randall Johnson of Nampa, Idaho. "Regrettably, we are getting started a bit late, and we have very limited funds to work with."

The American Beekeeping Federation has 1,200 members from across the country, who are involved in all aspects of the beekeeping and honey industry. For more information, write to the American Beekeeping Federation/Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, P.O. Box 1337, Jesup, GA 31598, ph. 912-427-4233, e-mail info@ABFnet.org or visit www.ABFnet.org.

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: _____
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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

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**** FOR YOUR INFORMATION ****

AMOUNT PAID: _____ **CHECK #** _____

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