American Beekeeping Federation NEWSLETTER

September/October 2010 • Vol. 68, No. 5

From the Vice President

by George Hansen, ABF Vice President

George Hansen
ABF Vice President

We are entering into the nervous season. Like so many beekeepers, the end of summer and the rush to harvest also brings to me the unease of not knowing how the bees will fair through the winter. Our honey flow in western Oregon was much later than usual, and so were the late summer pollinations. Now, the window for getting our winter prep work done is looking pretty small. The weather definitely changed this last week; even a warm afternoon doesn't feel like summer. Everywhere in the Northern Hemisphere beekeepers are seeing their seasons change. We all have our own nervous season, just different seasonal triggers.

How many times will you hear it said, "If 35 percent of the cows in the United States died, then (fill in the blank)?" It doesn't matter what the almond pollination price is if your bees are dead. Dead bees don't make the beekeeper any money and they don't set any blossoms. There is a steep price attached to rebuilding an outfit, both in expenses and lost income, as well as crops put in jeopardy. And there are huge emotional costs as well.

So far, as an industry, for the most part, we have rebuilt our numbers one way or another. And the demand for bees in California almonds has tempered because of acreage taken out of production due to water shortages. This has given the impression that there is less of a crisis than the early CCD reports anticipated. The train wreck hasn't happened…yet. There's no blood on the tracks, so there isn't much of a story for our media to hype for more than a moment or two. There is not enough of a crisis to shatter partisan bickering over the budget in order to appropriate honey bee research funds in the Farm Bill. There are still too many points to be scored, and too much money to be made selling the status quo.

Like many of you, I am making phone calls all around, comparing notes, hoping that someone has the ANSWER. Is it possible somebody out there has quietly been successfully fighting the pathogens and pests? Perhaps there is some unpublished research that makes sense of it all. Maybe there is a new recipe for colored magic goo to put in the brood nest that somebody says works really well. We do have an active community information tree. Monkey see, monkey do.

I keep coming back to the big picture. We desperately need sustainable, realistic controls for known and unknown pests and pathogens. I don't doubt for a minute that the research into CCD and any of the possible suspected contributors to that condition is needed. But the fact that only a third of the winter losses in the 2010 AIA survey had symptoms resembling CCD points to a much more general failure in the honey bee's life cycle. If one couples that with the general decline in all pollinators, from butterflies to bumblebees to bats, here and abroad, it seems pretty clear that a broad change for the worse in habitat shared by all these animals is occurring.

The list of challenges to honey bee health is far too long to expect selection alone to solve them any time soon, even assuming that the list would remain static. But the list keeps changing, due to new pest introductions and mutations in the ones we have. And every year there are new chemical challenges in the environment that our bees need to deal with. I hope we identify and find ways to negate the pests, pathogens and toxins that seem to be at the root of our current problems. Beyond that, there needs to be sufficient habitat that

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Directors Miller, Rouse, Ruby and Talbert, along with the officers, comprise the ABF Executive Committee.

American Beekeeping Federation
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From the President

by Dave Mendes, ABF President

Dave Mendes
ABF President

I am sure that most beekeepers have to be optimists to continue keeping bees. This has never been truer than now. I am excited to see so much new interest in bees and beekeeping. All over the country, beekeeping classes are filled with enthusiastic people who wish to learn the "secrets" of this ancient craft. At the same time, people who have had bees for years are scratching their heads trying to figure out why they are having so much trouble keeping their bees alive recently. Clearly something is "different" today…the big question is, "WHAT HAS CHANGED?"

I had the advantage of reading George Hansen's comments (the cover story in this issue) on the "nervous season" and I agree with him that it is difficult to feel "good" about whether we have done enough to prepare our bees for winter. Only a few years ago, keeping bees was so much more predictable. If you covered the basics of adequate food and a healthy population in each hive, it was safe to assume that 80 to 90 percent of these hives would be fine in the spring. Fast forward to any winter after 2005 and beekeepers that have suffered a 50 percent + winter loss are not so confident any more. The maddening aspect of this situation is that there has been no clear difference in management to explain the successful winters from the disastrous ones. If you ask the "experts" to explain what is wrong, you will be even more frustrated since there are as many theories out there as dead hives.

So what "secrets" are best to share with new beekeepers to help them start off right? In my own management, I have focused on a "back-to-basics" approach. I have always heard that the three most important things in beekeeping are "location, location and location." This used to be the factor to determine how much honey your bees made. Now, there may be a different spin to this and location may be the most significant factor in hive survival.

If your hives are next to a corn field, soybean crop, alfalfa field, vine crop pollination, apple pollination, citrus grove in Florida or a golf course, you may have a greater problem with winter survival. The crop protection products used in these environments (i.e., pesticides that include insecticides, fungicides and herbicides) are impacting bees in a very different way than ever before. It used to be that a beekeeper saw dead bees in front of his hives when pesticides were used nearby. This is not the case with the newer formulations, which are designed to exhibit lower insect adult mortality. Pollen analysis can now document how many toxins our bees are feeding to their developing brood. The adult bees produced with these toxins do not show any physical abnormalities, but there is something "different" about them. If you have seen this effect in your own hives you may recognize that these "sick" bees do not forage properly, tend to have a much higher incidence of viruses, varroa and nosema, and the hive population will not grow enough to produce surplus honey.

Many beekeepers across the Midwest have noticed this year the disparity within a bee yard of 40 or more hives, the "sick" hives that don't die, but also don't grow. Experienced beekeepers have plenty to be "nervous" about with winter survival of these hives. A hive that won't grow during the summer, doesn't produce surplus honey, and consumes feed and medications, only to die before almond pollination or spring build up is a "big loser" for any beekeeper.

"I have always heard that the three most important things in beekeeping are location, location and location."

I have spoken to many small-scale beekeepers this year that are complaining that they are having trouble with their bees. It is not unusual to hear of 30-percent queen loss or supercedure within the first month of installation of a package or making a split. What is happening to our queens? This is another reason to be "nervous." Once beekeepers lose their ability to successfully replace their dead hives, the future of beekeeping is in jeopardy.

My back-to-basics approach begins with a "clean environment." This means we make splits or raise queens when our hives are "in the woods" and away from any agricultural area. This has resulted in better queen mating and minimal supercedure problems. The next basic item

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Government Relations Update

by Troy Fore, ABF Director of Government Relations

Frank Robinson: A Real Southern Gentleman

"Frank was a real Southern gentleman." That statement from Laurence Cutts summed up what I was told by several people who knew Frank Robinson. Frank passed away August 18, 2010, at his home in Tallahassee, Fla. He was 89 years old.

"He was always interested in bees," Sarah Robinson said as she related to me some of the highlights of her husband's career. After he got his master's degree at Auburn University in 1947, he went to work at the bee lab in Baton Rouge. There he worked with Otto Mackensen and Everett Oertel. In 1950, he moved to the University of Florida in Gainesville, where he would stay for 35 years.

Frank was a believer in the benefits of associations and how they would help beekeepers. He actively supported the Florida State Beekeepers Association, which he served as president for two years, and the Southern States Beekeepers Federation, which was a strong regional group at that time.

He moved into national beekeeping circles, representing Florida for eight years as a Director to the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF). Then, Frank spent four years on the ABF Executive Committee. Those were tumultuous years for ABF. My instinct tells me that Frank was a calming, steadying influence during those years.

From the Executive Committee, he was elected vice president and was set to become ABF president. However, ABF secretary-treasurer Bob Banker wanted to step down and Frank was chosen to replace him. He held this post from 1978 to 1988.

When I took over as ABF secretary-treasurer from Frank in 1988, he told my wife, "I am going to give Troy a gift – I am going to stay out of his way." And he did. When I called him, he freely shared his wisdom and experience, but he never called to say, "You should have…," even though he must have felt that urge often.

As an impetuous member of the ABF Board of Directors and, later, member of the ABF Executive Committee, I occasionally chafed at Frank's "old-fashioned" ways. Then, when I sat in his seat, I could see from his perspective. I remember getting off one Executive Committee conference call and wondering how Frank Robinson had put up with Troy Fore.

Sarah said that Frank had most valued the many friends he had made over the years, "really good friends around the country."

One of those was Binford Weaver, a former ABF president who Frank had worked with in the ABF. "Frank had the ability of cut to the heart of any matter (being debated)," Binford remembered. "He could see the important points that needed to be addressed. His levelheadedness kept the ABF on course."

Binford cited Frank's ability to deal with staff people in Washington agencies and in Congress to set the appointments with people ABF legislative delegations needed to see.

"Frank held the ABF together," was a sentiment offered by Binford, as well as by Randy Johnson, another ABF president during Frank's tenure. "He was important to the ABF and to the beekeeping industry in so many ways," Randy said, adding that he felt Frank's background in dealing with university bureaucracy and scientists was especially helpful.

David Hackenberg worked with Frank Robinson as a Florida winter beekeeper, as well as in the ABF. "Frank was, well, what can you say? He was just a good man," he said. "He was well-respected by the beekeepers. They were glad to cooperate with him on his research at the university."

Laurence Cutts recalled some areas that Frank had researched, including the effects of pollination on citrus, optimum timing of nosema treatments in the Southeast and limiting pesticide losses. "A lot of it was practical research with immediate impact on the beekeeping industry," Laurence recalled. "He was a big asset to the beekeeping industry in Florida. He didn't brag about it a lot; he just did his work. He was a real Southern gentleman."

Federal Authorities Active in Policing the Honey Trade

by Troy Fore, ABF Director of Government Relations

Troy Fore, ABF Director of Government Relations

Federal authorities have recently indicted, arrested, taken pleas from, and levied sentences on a variety of persons involved in international honey trade.

The most far-reaching action was a 44-count indictment against the German-based worldwide honey trader Alfred L. Wolff GmbH and 11 German and Chinese executives and five companies associated with Wolff. The indictment alleges that they engaged in conspiracies to defraud U.S. honey packers and consumers. Among other crimes, they are said to have brought in product that was not pure honey and called it pure honey, to have brought in pure honey and called it something else, and to have brought in honey from China while claiming it had other origins.

Two of the defendants, Stefanie Giesselbach and Magnus von Buddenbrock, both former executives of Alfred L. Wolff , Inc., the Chicago-based U.S. affiliate of the German corporation, were arrested in Chicago before leaving the country in May 2008 and are cooperating in the ongoing investigation. Since then, four Chinese or Republic of China nationals, three of whom are also cooperating, have pleaded guilty to related federal charges — two of them in federal court in Chicago and two others in Seattle. This indictment brings the total number of individual defendants charged in the investigation to 15, in addition to the six corporate defendants.

On April 1, charges had been brought against a Taiwanese honey importer known as Michael Fan. Operating out of California, he set up a string of shell companies to hide his fraudulent activities of transshipping honey. He pleaded guilty on August 4 to conspiring to avoid more than $5 million in U.S. anti-dumping duties by illegally importing Chinese-origin honey that was falsely identified as coming from South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and India.

A Bellevue, Wash., honey importer, Chung Po Liu, pleaded guilty August 26 to transshipping honey. He admitted that he purchased honey from China and had it shipped to the Philippines or Thailand, where it was re-labeled to make it appear that it was a product from these countries on arrival in the United States. He was arrested back in May 2009.

Under the sentencing agreement he would spend up to 24 months in prison, pay $400,000 restitution to the government and forfeit 1,056 drums of honey that had been seized. In addition, he faces a money judgment of $400,000 and will have to sell real estate in Washington state and apply the proceeds to that judgment. Formal sentencing is pending.

Boa Zhong Zhang, a Chinese businessman involved with Liu, has pleaded guilty and will be deported back to China after being incarcerated 17 months. He shipped Chinese honey to the Philippines and to Thailand, where it was re-labeled and supplied to Liu as product of those countries rather than of Chinese origin.

A third person, Yong Xiang Yan, who was involved with Liu and Zhang, was arrested at Los Angeles International airport on May 6, 2009. He is the president of the Chinese honey company. Yan pleaded guilty October 29, 2009, and faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

Legislative Fund Contributions

The following ABF members contributed to the ABF Legislative Fund during the months of August and September 2010. These donations enable us to carry out the legislative initiatives that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

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ABF to the Rescue

By Amanda Hammerli, CMP, ABF Membership Coordinator

On average, the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) receives three to six bee infestation calls per week. These questions range from, "There is a hive in my back yard what do I do?" to "I have to remove my chimney due to the 30,000 bees that have moved in. Does my homeowners insurance pay for the repairs?" Some questions we can handle, but often we must turn to our membership database for localized help for those who call. Recently, a call came in that stumped us and, frankly, hearing their story kept me up at night.

Thirsty bees gather at the perimeter water source on the Haslem's property.

A couple from Arizona called with a major bee infestation problem. So large in fact, they had to move their daughter out of the house fearing her safety. Pat and Ann Haslem live on a 100-acre ranch near Lake Havasu City, Ariz. Recently, they had not a little bee problem, but a BIG bee problem. Millions of bees to be exact.

As you know, bees need a water source and this particular problem was nestled in the deserts of Arizona, so you can image that these were some very thirsty bees! The Haslem's had three beekeepers come to the property, along with a few bee removal services, but no one was able to help them. The couple felt as though they were trapped in their home and their quality of life was suffering because of the millions of bees that had discovered their pool, A/C units, dog's water bowl, windows, bushes, landscape water features, RV septic hose, etc. Pat said some days he'd look out at his pool to see it covered from side to side with what he described as a "blanket of bees." So many in fact, the bees had started eating at the pool liner. The Haslem's had finally reached a breaking point and were close to throwing in the towel, but made one more phone call to the ABF.

Like all calls from the general public, we listened to their problem and provided the best information available, but this call was certainly different. We could hear the desperation in their voice and their fear due to their daughter's near-death reaction to a bee sting. We knew we had to find help for this couple, so we pulled out the ABF Membership Directory and e-mailed ABF members. We researched all beekeepers in the Arizona area until we found someone we believed would provide the best help. We put them in touch with Dr. Diana Sammataro with the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson.

A few weeks went by, and we still could not shake the feeling of desperation in this couple's voice and wanted to know if they received the help they so desperately needed. I placed the call and held my breath hoping the Haslem's were in a better state of mind. The reaction I received when the Haslem's answered the phone was of joy and appreciation. The advice they received from Dr. Sammataro did the trick and they were happy to report the bee problem was under control.

The method Dr. Sammataro shared with them was perfected many years ago by Dr. Eric Erickson, former director of the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center, and was published in the *American Bee Journal* in August 1992. Dr. Erickson found that water, combined with liquid dish soap, would create a substance that would immobilize honey bees and apparently kill them within 60 seconds following exposure. This method was developed to aid those being attached by swarms of Africanized honey bees, thus preventing rescue workers from administrating aid. Dr. Erickson's idea was to create a vertical wall of spray with a fire truck water hose so that rescue workers could retrieve victims of bee attacks and administer medical attention.

If you do not have a fire truck, as was the case of the Haslem's, there is a simple way to deal with swarms of bees. As found at www.ars.usda.gov Web site, it is recommended to:

Mix ¼ cup of dish soap to a quart of water, and fill an empty sprayer bottle with it. Using the soapy mixture, spray the bees around your home. The soapy mixture

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Jody Althouse, Pa.

Frank Morrisey, N.J.

Virginia Beach Veterinary Hospital, Va. (in memory of Charlie Dougherty)

Foundation Update

By Troy Fore, Executive Director, Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees

Fundraiser at Movie Showing Benefits Foundation

A fundraiser featuring a screening of "The Vanishing of the Bees" in Connecticut raised over $400 for the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees.

Becky and Ted Jones arranged for the screening at a Hartford art theater, which was sponsored by the local Whole Foods market. The theater, Real Art Ways, donated their theater and time in the lobby for lectures and demos with observations hives. Whole Foods covered the film showing rights fee and provided advertising.

The collected donations from those attending and proceeds from sales of DVDs of the documentary amounted to $421.75.

Becky Jones is an ABF Director from Farmington, Conn. She represents the Small Scale-Sideliners Shared Interest Group on the ABF Board of Directors.

Foundation Offering Five Graduate Student Scholarships

The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees is again offering scholarships of $2,000 each to five graduate students in apiculture. This is the Foundation's sixth year to award such scholarships.

The Foundation is a charitable research and education foundation affiliated with the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF). The Foundation has benefited from a generous gift from the Glenn and Gertrude Overturf estate, and is sustained by ongoing gifts from ABF members and other supportive individuals.

The Foundation Trustees have chosen to use a portion of the grant to offer graduate student scholarships to foster professional development for young apicultural scientists. The purpose of the scholarships is to allow the recipients to attend the 2011 North American Beekeeping Conference, which will include meetings of American Beekeeping Federation, American Honey Producers Association, American Bee Research Conference and Apiary Inspectors of America, in Galveston, Texas, January 4-8, 2011. The recipients will have an opportunity to meet other researchers and beekeepers and to present their research at the meeting. The Board of Trustees looks forward to their contributions to the conference. The scholarships are available to all graduate students. Graduate students at universities outside the United States are invited to apply.

Applications for the scholarships will be accepted until October 30, 2010. Applicants should submit to the Board for consideration:

1. A cover letter from their advisor outlining the student's progress toward their graduate degree, tentative graduation date, and any other information about the student and their research that would help the committee "get to know" the student.
2. A curriculum vitae, or resume, not to exceed two (2) pages.
3. A research proposal (not to exceed three (3) pages). This proposal should outline the specific research experiments the student is conducting for their degree. The proposal should clearly state how the research benefits bees and/or beekeeping. The

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The following ABF members made general contributions to the ABF Foundation during the months of August and September 2010.

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proposal can describe research that the student is planning to perform, or the progress the student already has made toward that research. The proposal should begin with an introduction to the research problem, and should follow with clear goals and objectives that state the research questions and hypotheses. The student should then discuss the methods that will be used to answer their research questions, and the expected results or results to date. Recipients will be selected in November.

Applications must be submitted electronically to Troy Fore, Executive Director, Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, troyfore@honeybeepreservation.org.

If you have questions or need more information about the scholarship program, contact Marla Spivak, Scholarship Program Coordinator, Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, spiva001@umn.edu.

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2010 Second-Place 4-H Essay: Is My Community Honey Bee-Friendly?

by Sean Huss, Age 15, Indiana

The definition of honey bee friendly community is one that: (1) does not discourage beekeeping and has no legal restrictions to keeping bees; (2) contains good bee habitat — a diverse range of native plants and wildflowers, and cultivated crops, fruits and vegetables that can be used by the bees as sources of nectar and pollen; (3) has people who care about the environment and limit their use of pesticides; and (4) has good sources of help and education for farmers and beekeepers. According to this, definition I believe that my community is honey bee friendly and I will tell you why.

Editor's Note: *Read more of Sean's second-place essay on The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Web site at http://honeybeepreservation.org/2010/05/2010-4-h-essay-contest-winners-list/.*

(continued from page 3 – From the President)

is to provide a clean environment inside the hive. We do this by replacing half of our brood comb each year. Number three on the list is a focus on good nutrition with supplemental protein provided anytime quality fresh pollen is not available. We monitor varroa levels on a regular basis so that we can treat at the most opportune times with a product that is least damaging to the bees and comb.

So far, so good for keeping my bees safe…well maybe or maybe not! For six months out of the year, my bees may be safe "in the woods," but during the other six months they are busy pollinating three commercial crops – almonds, blueberries and cranberries. This is how I earn my living, but this is often not the best environments for keeping healthy bees. Am I doing enough for my bees in the off season to compensate for what they are exposed to on these crop pollinations?

I am not immune from the onset of the "nervous season." I feel this anxiety much more now than just a few years ago. Even though I have always been an optimist, it has been more difficult to feel positive lately. Having the opportunity to share our experiences with fellow beekeepers seems to help. I am glad that we can help each other persevere, as we all need to get through another nervous season.

(continued from page 7 – ABF to the Rescue)

will kill the bees quickly and without harmful pesticide. Do this every time you see bees at the water source you want to keep bee-free. This will kill those foragers who are telling the others in the colony where your swimming pool or water source is located. Eventually, all those bees will find a different source of water, so don't worry that you are harming the colony. You are only eliminating a few individuals.

In the Haslem's case, they used the spray bottle method for two days and were able to gain control of their property and enjoy their outside activities bee-free. They did, however, add large water sources to the perimeter of their property, which continues to attract thousands of bees on a daily bases. The point is to not harm the colony, but to redirect the bees to a different water source.

The ABF is proud to serve our members and the general public. We strive to provide up-to-date information geared toward educating the public on how to live in harmony with bees. Safety is our first priority for both bees and people. As the first option, we always recommend the caller seek professional help by contacting local beekeepers or removal services. If all else fails, we roll up our sleeves and dive into our database of members for answers. Remember this the next time that your ABF renewal notice appears in your mailbox – your membership and the institutional knowledge you possess might be the key to helping a local neighbor and, as was the case of the Haslem family, restore their quality of life!

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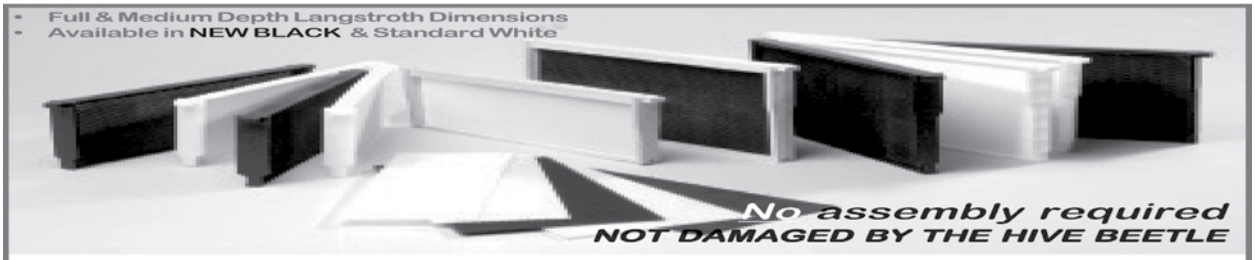

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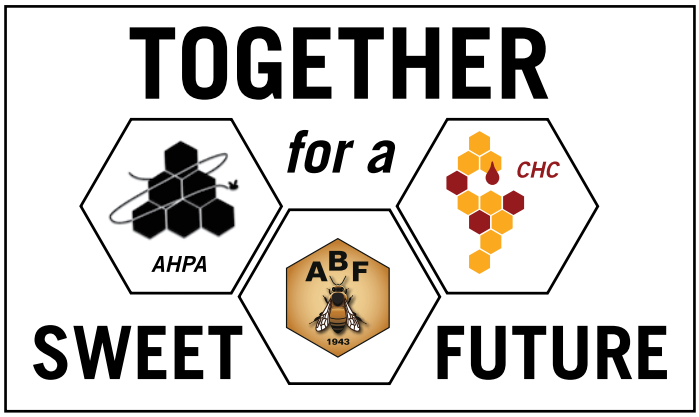
2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow

The 2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow is just a few months away and the excitement is building. A joint effort of the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF), the American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) and the Canadian Honey Council (CHC), this conference is sure to be the largest beekeeping event in the United States.



Please plan to join us in Galveston, Texas, January 4-8, 2011, for what promises to be an amazing event. The conference will be held at the San Luis Resort located right on the Gulf of Mexico. The San Luis Resort consists of four properties: The Galveston Convention Center (where most conference activities will occur), the Hilton, The San Luis Hotel and the Holiday Inn. Rooms have been blocked at all three hotels, as we anticipate attendance to exceed 1,200 beekeepers.

The conference will begin on Tuesday evening with a complimentary Welcome Reception. All registered attendees are invited and encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to revisit old friendships and meet new beekeepers who share your same interests.

We'll begin Wednesday morning with general sessions featuring presentations from Dave Mendes, president of ABF, Kenny Haff, president of AHPA, and Corey Bacon, president of CHC. We're also honored to have Dr. Jim Tew as our keynote speaker. We'll have legislative updates from all three groups, meet the 2011 American Honey Queen and Princess contestants, and find out what Ralph Jones will be offering during his business seminar, which will occur later in the week. The tradeshow will open at noon on Wednesday and will feature over 50 exhibitors. Please be sure to stop by and see all that's new in the beekeeping industry. The afternoon will be dedicated to the Shared Interest Group meetings, which are open to all in attendance, and the 2011 American Honey Show. We'll conclude the day with the annual ABF Honey Queen Reception and Quiz Bowl.

Thursday is a very full day with lots of options for you to choose from. The General Session will begin at 8:25 a.m. and continue all day. Various topics will be covered, including updates from the USDA-ARS labs, as well as presentations by industry experts from the United States, Canada and Mexico. The American Bee Research Conference (ABRC) and the Serious Sideliner Symposium will also begin on Thursday morning and continue through Friday afternoon. The tradeshow will continue to be open for your perusal. Additionally, we'll have the Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast/Meeting and conclude the day with a social activity designed with your participation. "Murder by Honey" will be the crime we need to solve, and you

Call for Entries for the 2011 American Honey Show
Gift Basket Theme "Mardi Gras"

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) invites you to enter the 2011 American Honey Show, which will be held during the 2011 ABF annual conference in Orlando. This is a prime opportunity to showcase your bees' abilities to produce the purest honey, the best wax and the most goodies.

Also, the Honey Show Committee has announced that the theme for the Honey Gift Basket class this year will be "Mardi Gras."

The Honey Show will showcase the best examples of honey and beeswax. It includes 12 classes for honey, four for beeswax and the gift basket class. After the entries are judged, they will be auctioned to benefit the American Honey Queen Program.

Additional information, including official show rules and regulations and entry form, can be found on the 2011 conference Web site at nabeekeepingconference.com or by contacting the ABF office at 404.760.2875. Good luck!

may just be the suspect. Please plan to join us for what promises to be a hilarious and fun evening.

Friday will have a similar schedule with General Session, the ABRC, the Serious Sideliner Symposium and the Tradeshow continuing throughout the day. Additionally on Friday, Ralph Jones will offer a business seminar and we'll have the Foundation Luncheon, the Honey Show Auction and the AHPA annual banquet (open to all attendees with additional registration required).

On Saturday, we'll start the morning with a variety of interactive workshops. This will also be your final opportunity to visit the tradeshow and make connections with exhibitors and conference sponsors before it closes at noon. The afternoon will feature the ABF Annual Business Meeting and finally the annual ABF banquet, where you'll be introduced to the 2011 American Honey Queen and Princess.

Although Saturday is the official close of the conference, we have one last event planned for you. On Sunday, we have reserved the conference lounge in the San Luis Hotel for "The Hive," which is a social opportunity to meet and mingle, have a little lunch and maybe even play a little pool with fellow beekeepers. You'll also have the opportunity to view a few bee films and relax a little after a very full week of conference activities.

As you can see, the 2011 conference is packed full of education sessions, social and networking activities, and lots of opportunities to learn about new products and services. The tentative agenda and details can be found on pages 16-17 of this issue. Watch for conference updates online at nabeekeepingconference.com. Register online now to ensure your place at the 2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow.

2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Tentative Agenda

(as of October 5, 2010)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2011	
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Opening Ceremonies • Call to Order & Welcome – Todd Youngblood, President of Texas Beekeeping Assoc. • Presentation of Colors (Sons of the American Revolution Honor Guard) • "Star-Spangled Banner" and "O Canada" – led by American Honey Queen & Princess • Invocation by Blake Shook • Response to Welcome by Todd Staples, Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas
	President's Address: • Dave Mendes, ABF; Kenny Haff, AHPA; Corey Bacon, CHC
9:50 AM – 10:00 AM	Jay Miller to introduce Ralph Jones (to provide information on Business Seminar sessions)
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Keynote – Dr. Jim Tew, Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM	ABF Legislative Update, Fran Boyd
10:50 AM – 11:10 AM	AHPA Legislative Update, Richard Adee
11:10 AM – 11:30 AM	CHC Legislative Update, Heather Clay
11:30 AM – 11:45 AM	Mann Lake Sponsor Presentation
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Introduction of 2010 American Honey Queen and 2010 American Honey Princess and the 2011 Honey Queen Contestants – Anna Kettlewell, Chairperson, American Honey Queen Committee, Badger State Apiaries, Greenfield, Wisconsin
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch recess (all are on own for lunch). Be sure to visit with the Honey Queen Candidates and purchase your raffle tickets.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2011	
8:25 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
8:30 AM – 8:50 AM	Development of Attractants and Repellents for Control of Honey Bee Pests – Dr. Peter Teal, USDA-ARS, Gainesville, Florida
8:50 AM – 9:10 AM	The UCD and WSU Stock Importation Project – Dr. Susan Cobey, University of California
9:10 AM – 9:30 AM	Dream Fields – Dr. Jeff Pettis, USDA-ARS Beltsville Lab, Maryland
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	Targeting Bee Pests with Genetics – Dr. Jay Evans, USDA-ARS Beltsville Lab, Maryland
9:50 AM – 10:10 AM	Honey Bee Health Surveillance: A Successful Program to Restore Bee Health – Dr. Medhat Nasr, Crop Diversification Centre North, Alberta, Canada
10:10 AM – 10:40 AM	Refreshment Break in Trade Show
10:40 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
10:45 AM – 11:05 AM	An Update on Recent Findings on the Biology and Control of Nosema ceranae – Dr. Stephen Pernal, Beaverlodge Research Farm, Alberta, Canada
11:05 AM – 11:25 AM	Report from the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees by Joan Gunter, Chairman, Introduction of Foundation Scholars
11:25 AM – 11:40 AM	Dadant & Sons Sponsor Presentation
11:40 AM – 12:00 PM	Honey & Health – Dr. Ron Fessenden, Colorado Springs, Colorado
12:00 PM – 1:25 PM	Lunch
1:25 PM	General Sessions resumes with announcements
1:30 PM – 1:50 PM	Overview of Research at the USDA Lab in Baton Rouge – Dr. Tom Rinderer, USDA-ARS Baton Rouge Lab, Louisiana

For the full conference agenda, visit nabeekeepingconference.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2011 (continued)	
1:50 PM – 2:10 PM	Research in Molecular Biology at the USDA Lab in Baton Rouge – Dr. Lanie Bourgeois, USDA-ARS Baton Rouge Lab, Louisiana
2:10 PM – 2:30 PM	The Saskatraz Honey Bee Breeding Program – Albert Robertson, Meadow Ridge Enterprises, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
2:30 PM – 2:50 PM	National Honey Board Marketing & Research Programs – Bruce Boynton, NHB CEO, Firestone, Colorado
2:50 PM – 3:20 PM	Refreshment Break in Trade Show
3:20 PM – 3:40 PM	Identifying the Origin, Nectar Types, Blending, and Transshipping of Honey – Dr. Vaughn Bryant, Texas A&M University
3:40 PM – 4:00 PM	Evidence-Based Solutions to Pathogen-Induced Colony Collapse – Nitzan Paldi, Beeologics LLC, Miami
4:00 PM – 4:20 PM	The Importance of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators to US Agriculture: 1992-2008 – Dr. Nicholas Calderone, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
4:20 PM – 4:40 PM	Honey Bee Pharmacology – Dr. Marion Ellis, Professor, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
4:40 PM – 5:00 PM	Best Management Practices for Beekeepers Pollination AG Crops – Chris Heintz, Project Apis m
FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011	
8:25 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
8:30 AM – 9:10 AM	Loss of Honey Bee Colonies: Unraveling the Interactions Between Pathogens and Pesticides – Diana L. Cox-Foster, Maryann Frazier, Jim Frazier and Chris Mullin, Penn State
9:10 AM – 9:30 AM	National Honey Bee Advisory Board – Clint Walker, NHBAB, Co-Chairman, Rogers, Texas
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	The Effects of Fungicides on the Physiology and Health of Honey Bees – Dr. Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman, USDA-ARS Tucson Lab, Arizona
9:50 AM – 10:10 AM	TBD – Dr. Mark Carroll, USDA-ARS Tucson Lab, Arizona
10:10 AM – 10:40 AM	Refreshment Break in Trade Show
10:40 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
10:45 AM – 11:05 AM	World Honey Supply and Demand and How it Relates to the North American Market – Gordon Marks
11:05 AM – 11:25 AM	Almond Industry Perspective – Dan Cummings
11:25 AM – 11:45 AM	Effects of Neonicotinoid Insecticides on Bee Behavior, Physiology, and Health: Current Research at UMNTBD – Judy Y. Wu, Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota
11:45 AM – 12:05 PM	News from the Mexican Beekeeping, Challenges, Opportunities and Prospects – Porfirio Galindo, President ONA, Organización Nacional de Apicultores (National Organization of Beekeepers), Mexico
12:05 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch recess (all are on own for lunch)
1:30 PM	General Session resumes with announcements
1:35 PM – 1:55 PM	Impact of Nutritional Stress, Varroa and Nosema Acting Either Singly or Together on Honey Bee Strength and Survival – Dr. Frank Eischen, USDA-ARS Weslaco Bee Lab, Texas
1:55 PM – 2:15 PM	Temperature, Diet and Other Factors on Small Hive Beetle Growth and Reproduction – Dr. William Meikle, USDA-ARS Weslaco Bee Lab, Texas
2:15 PM – 2:35 PM	TBD – Elise Gagnon, True Source Honey
2:35 PM – 2:55 PM	TBD
2:55 PM – 3:15 PM	TBD – Dr. Jose Luis Uribe Rubio, Mexico
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall
3:45 PM – 4:05 PM	TBD – Presentation by Homeland Security
4:05 PM – 4:25 PM	Iridovirus and Microsporidian Linked to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD): What, If Anything, Can Beekeepers Do to Reduce Losses? – Dr. Jerry Bromenshenk, University of Montana
4:25 PM	American Honey Show Auction (all proceeds benefit the American Honey Queen Fund)

For the full conference agenda, visit nabeekeepingconference.com

2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Registration Rates*

If you are a member of any of the following organizations, you qualify for the Member Rate:

- American Beekeeping Federation (ABF)
- American Honey Producers Association (AHPA)
- Canadian Honey Council (CHC)
- Canadian Provincial Organizations
- American Association of Professional Apiculturists (AAPA)
- American Bee Research Conference (ABRC)
- Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA)
- Texas State Beekeepers
- National Honey Packers and Dealers Association (NHPDA)

	REGULAR (ends at 11:59 PM EST on 12/16/10)	ON-SITE (after 12/16/10)
REGISTRATION CATEGORY		
Family (Member)	$375.00	$425.00
Family (Non-Member)	$425.00	$475.00
Single Person (Member)	$275.00	$325.00
Single Person (Non-Member)	$325.00	$375.00
One-Day/One Person (Member)	$175.00	$225.00
One-Day/One Person (Non-Member)	$225.00	$275.00
One-Day/Family (Member)	$275.00	$325.00
One-Day/Family (Non-Member)	$325.00	$375.00

**Note: Non-member rates include a one-year membership to the American Beekeeping Federation. Family is defined as two adults. Children under 18 years of age admitted free.*

2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Exhibitors
(as of 9/30/10)

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San Luis Resort

The 2011 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow will be held at the San Luis Resort in Galveston, Texas. The San Luis Resort, which is the perfect location for both conference attendees and families, features 30 acres of beautifully landscaped surroundings and consists of four properties:

The Galveston Island Convention Center
The Galveston Island Convention Center features state-of-the-art meeting space, elegantly appointed décor, and beautiful views of the Gulf of Mexico. All meetings associated with the 2011 North American Conference & Tradeshow will be held at the Convention Center.

The San Luis Hotel
The San Luis Resort offers 250 elegant accommodations and has been awarded the AAA Four-Diamond Award for five consecutive years. The resort features a luxurious spa, premier steakhouse and stylish boutique.

Note: The San Luis resort will provide shuttle transportation to/from the Convention Center from each property based on the conference schedule.

The Hilton
Located adjacent to the Galveston Island Convention Center, the Hilton features 240 guest rooms, onsite dining and a lobby bar for socializing.

The Holiday Inn
The Holiday Inn is an eight-story, full-service hotel located directly across from the beach and the Gulf of Mexico. The property features 180 guest rooms offering a casual and comfortable décor.

Secure your room today by visiting the 2011 Conference Web site at nabeekeepingconference.com

(continued from cover – From the Vice President)

is safe and has nourishing feed for bees and other pollinators.

On that subject, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced recently the seed lists for government conservation and habitat programs. Their Web site, nrcs.usda.gov, has a tab for Pollinator Plants, if you are interested. The ABF worked hard with other organizations to make sure those seed lists made sense for honey bees and other pollinators.

Habitat for pollinators is now one of the core goals that must be considered in funding those federal and state conservation programs. It seems to me that on land over which we have control, or on land where we have influence over the management, that we should be considering enhancing the habitat for bees and other pollinators. We should be encouraging our growers to consider developing these habitat areas as well, not just for honey bees, but for sustaining populations of other pollinators. There are grants and offsets that could make a difference financially. There are many programs administered by NRCS, as well as the Farm Service Agency (FSA), and by the states to encourage habitat improvement. Even a patchwork of small sites in major agriculture or urban areas has been shown to be significant. No matter what defenses we can provide for our bees, or engineer into their makeup, bees will need a clean, safe habitat if we expect them to thrive long term. These conservation programs are small positive steps to that end.

This is the nervous season. We wish we had the answers, we wish we had control. We hope we are doing enough of the right things. See you in Galveston for the 2011 ABF annual conference. There is a lot to be learned.

Hobbyist Membership Level Renamed to Small Scale

by Robin E. Dahlen, CAE, ABF Executive Director

Good news for small scale beekeepers! We have learned from many of you that the term “hobbyist” may not accurately represent your commitment to beekeeping. Even though you operate 25 colonies or less, beekeeping is much more than a just a hobby.

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) Board of Directors has heard your comments and is now pleased to announce that the “Hobbyist” name will be replaced. **This membership type will now be called Small Scale.** The annual dues amount of $50 for this membership type will not change. In addition, the name of the Hobbyist-Sideliner Special Interest Group (SIG) will change to Small Scale-Sideliner SIG.

Over the next few months, we will work to update the ABF Web site, newsletter and other areas to reflect the new name across all areas of ABF communications and correspondence. The Board of Directors is also working on a new category of financial support to address the interest of non-beekeepers that wish to support ABF activities – the ABF “Friends of the Bee” program. Details regarding this new initiative will be available soon!

Thank you for your continued support of the ABF and the beekeeping industry. Should you have any questions regarding this membership type change, please contact the ABF Membership Department at 404.760.2875 or info@abfnet.org.

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	11-39 bags.....	~~$ 59.95~~ per bag	~~$ 53.95~~ per bag	$ 56.95 per bag
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From the Honey Queen

By Lisa Schluttenhofer, 2010 American Honey Queen

As fall draws near, Honey Queen promotions are keeping me very busy! Before leaving for several large trips, I met with Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Joe Kelsay and Deputy Director Tony Hahn in June to speak with them about how they can support beekeeping in Indiana through regulatory and marketing efforts. They were amazed to find out how important honeybees are to crops in Indiana and the United States. In conjunction with this visit to Indianapolis, I appeared on Indy Style, a live lifestyle program on WISH-TV, and provided approximately 60,000 viewers with new ways to use honey. Several cities around the nation are creating these "lifestyle" programs; these are perfect venues for Honey Queen interviews and on-air cooking demonstrations.

July began with a trip to Medina, Ohio, to work with the Root Candle Company. This company, revered for their beeswax candles, invited me to participate in Legacy Days. During this event, they opened up their factory for public tours for the first time in 141 years! On Friday, July 9, there was a VIP event with community members and government officials of the Cleveland, Medina and Akron communities. The next morning, approximately 2,300 people lined up at the doors for the public tour to learn about the processing of beeswax into candles. At the end of the tour, I handed out samples of six different honey varietals, which created a connection for the community between candles and honey bees. Throughout the weekend, I had the opportunity to work with Root staff members. I would like to specifically thank Heather DeRosha for planning this fantastic promotion.

Queen Lisa distributes honey samples at the Root Candle Company in Medina, Ohio.

I returned to Kentucky for the Lexington Farmers' Market and Bluegrass Lions Fair, July 16-19, where I worked with three separate beekeepers to promote their honey. The Lexington Farmers' Market is hailed as one of the 15 best in the nation and draws 3,000 consumers each day! After the market, the Lions Fair was next on the list. Primarily an urban fair, there was an emphasis on bringing agriculture to the public's attention; I judged the first ever entries in the Honey Show with the help of Reg Campbell, president of the Bluegrass Beekeepers Association, and Phil Craft, Kentucky State Apiarist. Reg and her husband, John, were fantastic hosts. Farmers' markets are a terrific way to utilize the Queen or Princess's marketing and sales skills in your area!

In Indiana, local promotions awaited the remainder of July. I participated in the Boone County 4-H Fair, working at the Agriculture Education Center operated by the Western Boone FFA. It was a great opportunity to share how honey bees are an important part of agriculture. With this promotion, RadioMom 91.1 interviewed me about honey bee pollination and Colony Collapse Disorder. A few days later, the Frankfort Hot Dog Community Festival provided an opportunity for me to help a local beekeeper sell his honey and educate the public about honey varietals.

August began with a trip to New Jersey. Before I left, I conducted a phone interview with WRNJ radio in Hackettstown, reaching 40,000 listeners with the message of honey bees pollinating fruits and vegetables in the Garden State. The overall value of the free radio advertising I have generated in the past few months is approximately $1,640. During my stay in New Jersey, I worked at the Warren County Farmers' Fair with the Northwest New Jersey Beekeepers Association, where I participated in five cooking demonstrations. Cooking with honey and providing recipes encourages the public to use and purchase local honey. There was also a live hive demonstration, where I inspected a nuc and showed the audience what goes on inside the beehive. I extend a thank you to Karin Weinberg who facilitated my visit.

One long flight later, I arrived in Portland, Ore., to work with John and Mary Ann Morrison and the Clark County

Beekeepers Association of Vancouver, Wash. John and Mary Ann are fantastic hosts who arranged a week of exciting promotional activities. August 5 began with an in-studio interview with Studio6 on KoinTV. The next day, I headed to the Clark County Fair in Washington, attended by over 260,000 people. At the fair, I gave introduction speeches at grandstand events, judged 4-H and open class beekeeping and honey projects, participated in "celebrity" judging activities and worked at the Clark County Beekeepers Association Bee Barn. This educational beekeeping showcase included two observation hives, honey show entries, a live hive gazebo and many other beautiful displays. The Bee Barn won the coveted Black and White Award for having the most educational exhibit of the fair! This was an amazing promotion that brought a lot of attention to honey and beekeeping in Washington and Oregon. As the fair continued, I participated in another television interview on KATU 2, based in Portland. During the past few months, I have generated an estimated $26,800 through television appearances.

Queen Lisa participates in a television interview at the Clark County Fair in Washington with KATU 2 from Portland, Ore.

I was then back to Indiana August 13-22 for the Indiana State Fair. Working with 2010 Indiana Honey Queen Kelsey Salmon and 2010 Honey Princess Lacy Dooley was a pleasure. The Indy Style show that I appeared on in June invited me back for a live taping at the fair; Kelsey and Lacy joined me to make a peanut butter honey dip for an after-school snack during this six-minute interview. A total of 16 honey cooking demos kept me very busy throughout the fair. In addition, August 21 was National Honey Bee Awareness Day. In the morning, Lacy and I headed to Terre Haute, Ind., for promotional activities. I participated in a radio interview with HI 99.9, gave a speech on "Beekeeping Across America," and helped with several children's events.

If you are interested in learning about Indiana's Honey Bee Awareness Day activities, contact Tina Bown at tibrze@aol.com. That afternoon, we returned to Indianapolis for a celebration of Honey Bee Awareness Day at the state fair. Local celebrity and government contestants answered questions about honey bees. During this time, I had the exciting opportunity to work with visiting Texas Honey Queen Allison Adams. She provided great information about beekeeping in Texas and the southern United States.

My trip to the West Virginia State Honey Festival brought the month of August to an exciting close. While there, I met with Commissioner of Agriculture Gus Douglass about the beekeeping industry. These governmental meetings are a way for the Honey Queen or Princess to encourage legislation, including Standard of Identity laws that legally define and protect the honey industry. August 26 began with an early morning television interview with WTAP in Parkersburg, W. Va. I also had the opportunity to speak at a Wood County Rotary Club meeting and to meet with county commissioners and the mayor of Parkersburg. Next on the agenda was a radio interview; during this time I participated in a live broadcast and recorded a 10-minute segment, which aired the next day on WLTP 910. In the days preceding the festival, I spoke with over 500 local elementary students. During the festival, many activities were available for families to learn about beekeeping past and present. I gave speeches on "Beekeeping Across America" and "The Hive's History." The festival was a great success in promoting honey and attracted approximately 4,000 visitors. I extend a special thanks to Tom Riddle, president of the West Virginia State Honey Festival, and Jan Emge, my hostess for the weekend.

I'm looking forward to upcoming trips to Maryland, California, Pennsylvania and Maine. Princess Amy and I are working as hard as we can to promote the honey industry, and we would love to join you at a farmers' market, festival or simply to work with schools, civic groups and media in your area. We still have availability on our November and December schedules, so if you have an event in mind, please contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or via e-mail at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com. I'll "bee" seeing you this fall!

From the Honey Princess

By Amy Roden, 2010 American Honey Princess

As summer began, my promotions seemed to become nonstop! During the months of June and July, my promotions were widespread across Wisconsin. On June 19, I attended the Janesville Farmers Market to help local beekeepers, Janet Kassel and Lois Swanson, sell their honey and beeswax products. I had a five-minute interview with WISCTV Channel 3 in Madison. The station was very interested in the benefits of buying local honey, as well as local produce aided by honey bee pollination. The interview aired during three different newscasts, generating approximately $9,000 in free publicity.

Princess Amy points out the queen bee to young fairgoers at the California State Fair.

The Ozaukee County Breakfast on the Farm gave me an opportunity to promote honey in an agricultural environment. On June 26, I worked with Nick Thill to promote local honey to the 3,944 attendees. I talked with many farmers about the importance of honey bee pollination of the alfalfa they feed their dairy cows during the event.

Seventy-five Wisconsin beekeepers attended the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association (WHPA) summer meeting on July 10. I enjoyed sharing my experience about my year as the American Honey Princess and hearing many great stories from beekeepers about their year. Shortly after that, on July 12, I attended the Dodge County Press Banquet to speak to 75 fair board members and the media about honey bee pollination being an important aspect to their dinner. On July 13, I presented to 20 students in a cooking and gardening class at Green Tree Elementary in West Bend.

I travelled to Turners Fresh Market in Waupaca on July 17. During my visit, I gave two cooking demonstrations and a children's presentation. I demonstrated the taffy apple salad recipe, which you can find in the American Honey Queen/Princess recipe brochure (available at www.abfnet.org), and bees in the garden coleslaw, which can be found at www.honey.com. I also had a newspaper interview with the *Waupaca County Post* and made it into two other newspapers for publicity valued over $3,000.

My next stop was Wisconsin Farm Technology Days in River Falls from July 20-22. This event is Wisconsin's premier agriculture showcase and, this year, it drew over 40,000 people. I would like to extend a thank you to Dale and Joyce Wolf for hosting me and scheduling this promotion. I helped them sell their products, including honey, creamed honey, beeswax, lip balm and lotion bars. This was another agricultural environment that allowed me to gain press coverage through *Agri-News* from Rochester, Minn.

Thanks to the Sacramento Area Beekeepers Association, I attended the California State Fair in Sacramento from July 27 to August 1. Over 195,050 people attended the fair during my visit. I worked in the beekeepers' booth, giving honey samples and discussing honey bees with the aid of an observation hive. Sampling five different honey varietals every day is a great promotional tool for education. Fairgoers were surprised to learn honey comes in over 300 different varieties that are all natural in the United States. Some people have the misconception that a flavor is added to the different varieties of honey, and this is a great way to encourage people to try natural honey. I also attended an event at Soil Born Farm, an organic, urban farm where people visit to learn and experience growing produce. I gave two presentations and spoke to families about the farm's crops that are

pollinated by honey bees. During my visit, I also visited the UC-Davis Bee Lab. They have a wonderful staff who took time out of their day to speak with me. It was absolutely fascinating to learn how they artificially inseminate such a tiny insect at the lab! Thank you to Brian and Darla Fishback and Mil and Linda Sutter for hosting me and arranging my appearances during my visit to California.

The Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) conference was held at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., in early August. During my visit from August 4-7, I had an opportunity to meet 575 beekeepers from the eastern side of the country and speak to them about becoming ABF members and utilizing the American Honey Queen program. This was a great educational experience as well; I learned more about marketing honey by different uses at the conference. Thank you to EAS Chairman Jim Bobb, all of the EAS officers, Dave Mendes, and Carol Cottrill for giving me the opportunity to attend this year's conference to not only expand my knowledge on the beekeeping industry, but also help with the conference activities.

Princess Amy promoted honey and the Wisconsin State Fair during a visit to the Boys and Girls Club in Milwaukee.

I returned to Wisconsin for the state fair August 8-12. Over 876,000 people visited the fair as I worked the WHPA's honey booth, gave two cooking demonstrations and had three radio interviews. In the honey booth, I helped sell seven different varieties of honey, honey lemonade, honey mustard, Sprecher's root beer made with honey and beeswax. I had the opportunity to work with 2010 Wisconsin Honey Queen Abby Tracy during a radio interview and joint cooking demonstration. In my radio interviews with WCOW 97.1 (Sparta, Wis.) and 99.1 WMYX (Milwaukee), I discussed the importance of honey bee pollination directly and indirectly to many fair foods, including famous Wisconsin cheese curds. One morning during the fair, I spoke to 118 students at Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club in Milwaukee. This is a great venue to target during the summer months, as students are not in school, but spend most of their days in an educational environment. Thank you to the Kettlewell family for hosting me during my visit!

From August 16-23, I visited the beautiful state of Oregon. Over 120,000 people attended the Clackamas County Fair in Canby, where I taught people about honey bees in the observation hive and gave two cooking demonstrations. I also had a store promotion at Cutsforth's Thriftway during my stay. Shoppers enjoyed honey samples and finding the queen in the observation hive. A store promotion is a great way to encourage honey sales. Thank you to Chuck and Jeanne Sowers for hosting me during my visit to Oregon!

I am currently in Louisville, Ken., to help wrap up the 2010 Kentucky State Fair. The Kentucky State Beekeepers Association offers everything from honey sampling and an observation hive to rolling wax candles at the 11-day fair. Rolling wax candles is an activity that can be done in any venue, including fairs, festivals and educational events. It helps adults and children learn that honey bees make beeswax, in addition to honey, and provides a way to talk about the many uses of beeswax. Following my stay in Kentucky, I will continue with promotions in Minnesota, Ohio, Kansas and Maryland.

This year has been a wonderful experience and has given me many opportunities. Some of my upcoming promotions include state fairs, honey festivals, classroom presentations and media interviews, which are all great starting points if you are interested in developing a promotional opportunity for the American Honey Queen or Princess. To schedule an appearance with me, please contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com.

Queen Committee Report

By Anna Kettlewell, Honey Queen Program Chair

As I write this article, we are more than halfway through our year with Lisa and Amy, and it's been a tremendous promotional year so far. To date (August 27, 2010), our representatives have visited a total of 17 states, and have plenty more to visit during the upcoming autumn months. By October, they will have visited at least 25 states!

At the beginning of each year, the Queen and Princess set goals for what they want to accomplish for the ABF during their year of service to our organization. Lisa and Amy had impressive goals. I thought I would take this opportunity to give the members a progress report on their performances.

Lisa's Goals and Results to Date

1. Reach 5,000 students through school presentations and make presentations to students in all grades K through 12. As of August 27, Lisa has reached 3,000 students and has given presentations to students in all grade levels (and even some college students). She will quickly surpass the 5,000 mark during her fall promotions.
2. Help start or revitalize one state honey queen program and support existing honey queen programs. To date, Lisa has been a huge advocate for the Honey Queen Program and has supported many through her travels. She has answered questions about queen programs in several states and has been encouraging states to send their representatives to the ABF conference.
3. Expand Honey Queen Program to legislative visits, promoting at various government levels. Lisa has had meetings with lawmakers and government officials in Mississippi, Indiana and West Virginia, and is helping to develop helpful hints on these kinds of visits for future honey queens.

Amy's Goals and Results to Date

1. Present to 5,000 people through civic, agricultural and educational presentations. Amy is well on her way to reach this goal. As of August 27, she has reached 2,870 people through various presentations.
2. Give 30 media interviews. As of August 27, Amy has had 15 interviews, including newspaper, radio and television mediums. With her upcoming promotions, she will likely surpass the 30 interviews goal.
3. Encourage at least 10 people to join the ABF. Amy has been a big promoter of the ABF so far this year, speaking about the organization in Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and North Carolina.

Please be sure to ask Lisa and Amy about the status of their goals when they come to your state! If you have an event at which you would like to have Lisa or Amy appear, please contact me as soon as possible.

The Queen Committee is gearing up for 2011. Application packets for the 2011 positions have been sent to state honey queen program chairpersons and the application deadline quickly approaches in November. We are also taking requests for 2011 Honey Queen and Princess promotions, so please contact me as soon as you can so we can place your event on our master calendar. You may reach me by e-mail at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or by phone at 414.545.5514. Best wishes in all your promotions!

Milestones

Congratulations to the following ABF members that have reached milestone years during the months of August and September 2010:

20 Years

Dwight Gunter, N.D.
Kevin Young, Penn.

25 Years

Howard Ainsworth, La.
Lyle Franklin, N.Y.
Randolph Furbert,
Hamilton Parish, Bermuda
Derald Kettlewell, Wis.
Jeannine May, Ill.

30 Years

Roy Abel, Fla.

35 Years

Edward Weiss, Conn.

Milestones Errata

The ABF inadvertently omitted Patrick Heitkam of Orland, Calif., from the "Milestones" list in the January/February issue of the *ABF Newsletter*. Patrick celebrated 20 years of ABF membership in January 2010. Congratulations, Patrick!

From the Auxiliary

by Carol Shaw, ABF Auxiliary President

I hope that all your honey is harvested and in the barrels or bottles by this time. The bees should be put to bed for the winter with plenty of honey to keep them over the coldest of days. Our thoughts are turning to apples, pumpkins and all the good things we can make to eat with honey. Fall is the time we think about getting things ready for the winter. We also need to remember the ABF annual conference in Galveston, Texas, in January and begin to make plans to attend.

I have been encouraging you to take photographs during these summer months and try out recipes using honey as the main sweetener. Time is getting shorter for both of these activities. In this article, I have included the new rules for ABF Auxiliary Photo Contest. These rules where updated at the Orlando conference in January 2010 and are as follows:

Four Categories:

- Adults and Beekeeping
- Kids and Beekeeping
- Honey
- Bees and Nature (i.e., bees on flowers, bees on frame, hives in orchard)

Requirements:

- Submit two 5x7 photos for each entry (5x7 size before matting)
- At least one photo must be matted for judging (single matt only)
- 3x5 index card must be attached to back of photo with name, address and photo category

Notes:

- Photos must be submitted by noon on Wednesday of conference
- Photos can be submitted by proxy or mailed to committee member if unable to bring in person
- Amateur photographers only
- If any of these requirements are not met, photo will be disqualified
- Photos will not be returned
- Waiver for rights to photo will be signed at the conference

Judging Criteria:

- Awards
  - 1st/2nd/3rd Place in each category
  - Best of Show – selected from 1st Place in each category; award will be gift from Auxiliary
  - People's Choice – based on greatest number of votes from public; voting will take place from 12:00 p.m. Wednesday to 12:00 p.m. on Thursday; award will be gift from Auxiliary
- First in each category and People's Choice will be auctioned at banquet
- 2nd and 3rd Place will be sold at silent auction, unless one is chosen as People's Choice Award (see above item)
- All photos will be on display in trade show on individual table with black table cloth and mini-easels

Please read over these rules and follow them carefully. Keep taking those photographs and enter the photography contest at the ABF conference in Galveston! The revised rules for the Cooking with Honey Contest will be in the next *ABF Newsletter*.

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Additional conference details and registration available online at nabeekeepingconference.com.