American Beekeeping Federation NEWSLETTER

September/October 2012 • Vol. 70, No. 5

From the President – Mentoring

by George Hansen, ABF President

George Hansen
ABF President

I have grown as a beekeeper and a person because of what I have learned from others, especially by attending beekeeping events. Like so many beginning beekeepers, I attended a local bee club to try to get a better feel for my bees. My hobby had already grown beyond my ability to keep up with the work. I got too big too fast, and had no family or work experience with bees.

I was a public school teacher. I had thought that the few weeks of vacation in the summer would give me a chance to be a beekeeper, as well. Those of you who are or were teachers will readily understand that teachers don't really have their summers off, and beekeepers know that the most important management is done in the spring and fall. I was young and naïve.

Naïve or not, I really wanted to be a beekeeper. As a teacher, I was allotted one day a year to take for personal business. After a number of years, it was becoming clear to me that I did not want to be a teacher my whole life, and I used my personal day to attend the Western Apiculture Society meeting in Pullman, Wash. My accommodations consisted of a mattress in my Volkswagen bus parked in a university parking lot. I remember I was not even sure if I had enough gas money to get home. It was a lot further than it looked like on the map.

There were only two or three people at that meeting that I even recognized. One of them was Oliver and, after the program, we got to talking and spent a good part of the night in his camper talking bees. He still maintains he is responsible for me becoming a beekeeper. I am not sure if it was that moment in a parking lot in the middle of the night, or some other moment, but I was definitely ready to move on from teaching, and had developed a fever preceding the full-blown sickness associated with amassing a large number of beehives.

ABF President George Hansen shares his tricks of the trade with those new to beekeeping.

Besides Oliver, there were several other men in my area that were in or just past their beekeeping heyday. I cut my beekeeping teeth following these guys' experience and wisdom to develop my relationship with honey bees. The new pests and pathogens, agricultural chemicals and the challenges of pollination as a beekeeping occupation are the reality for younger beekeepers. Still, I say those older mentors had more beekeeping sense and history in them than I will ever hope to have.

As my beekeeping activity grew, and became more than a big hobby, there have been so many people and events that formed and influenced me. Once, I got my truck stuck while delivering bees to a mountain yard. I was alone. I had to drive my forklift about 20 miles to the nearest ranger station at midnight in a driving rain to call home for a ride. My wife came to the rescue with our two small children bundled into that same Volkswagen bus. That was not the first, nor the last time my wife, Susan, has bailed me out of some "adventure" gone haywire.

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Number in parentheses next to Director's name indicates the year the Director's current term ends – and whether in their 1st or 2nd term.
Directors Brandi, Gunter, Talbert and Wooten, along with the officers, comprise the ABF Executive Committee.

American Beekeeping Federation
NEWSLETTER
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Issued bi-monthly by **American Beekeeping Federation, Inc.**
Copy deadline is the first day of January, March, May, July, September and November for publications mailed at the end of the same month.

Interested in advertising? Contact Robin D. Lane, CAE, ABF executive director, at robinlane@abfnet.org or 404.760.2875.

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From the Vice President – Perspectives in Beekeeping: Remembering Easy Bees

by Tim Tucker, ABF Vice President

Tim Tucker
ABF Vice President

If you have been keeping bees for 20, 25 or 30 years or more, you know that our bees today are different. No, they didn't fly faster or they weren't bigger or smaller back then, but they were easier to manage. I actually remember having the impression that keeping bees and producing honey was a task just about anyone could master in a couple of years.

Ignorance is truly bliss and after the summer of 1997, I thought, if you only had a couple of hundred colonies, a person could make a living off honey production. Honey was selling for $3.50 per pound retail and all you needed to do was produce 20,000 pounds, watch bees all day and sell honey at the farmer's market and to friends in the area. And then you could spend the rest of January, after the ABF conference, in Hawaii. I had a few hives that required a ladder to put the supers on that year and we had to support them with braces. That year I made 55 five-gallon buckets or 3,000 pounds with 21 hives, so all I would need was 200 hives. Simple, right?

I regularly talk with a beekeeper in Oklahoma who ran 500 colonies in the 1970s and 1980s and began reviving his caring for bees with about a dozen hives two or three years ago. We have become very good friends and he calls me almost weekly with questions about management issues and "problem bees." His consistent claim is that beekeeping today is at least 10 times as difficult as it was when he used to run 500 colonies. We've had long discussions on subjects like how different the landscape is for foraging with the change that has occurred in agricultural practices in the past 30 years. Farms have been consolidated and field size expanded to where there are areas where there is nothing but single crops for a square mile. His observation is that previously he wouldn't have had to look so hard for nectar sources to utilize. Forty years ago he would have just talked to someone five miles away and put 10 to 15 colonies there and you would make 60 to 75 pounds year in and year out.

Today, you have to look harder to find areas where there is forage and, hopefully, it is out of the spray zone of agriculture. My friend notes, "We didn't feed bees, we didn't know what pollen patties where or that bees had viruses. If you kept foulbrood at bay, you usually had healthy bees." The "good old days" are remembered by us seniors, but the amazing thing is that for new beekeepers this is just the reality of keeping bees today. New beekeepers do not have the same perspective and realize that the present reality is just what we have to live with if we want to keep bees.

You have to manage, observe and learn each and every day how to better your odds. You plan to stay ahead of winter losses with making up summer splits from the hives that are good because it's what you expect. You replace your queens every year and feed the latest formula of protein supplement and essential oils to step up colony health. You have to stay on top of things and you have to know what you are doing. This makes involvement and education so critically important and that is what we are striving for at the ABF.

One of the things that I am so excited about this year is the addition of the webinar program, "Conversation with a Beekeeper," which has been implemented to provide exposure to some of our leading educators and scientists across the country. We talked about it for several years, but it has finally come together in the past few months. The "Beekeeping 101" series being offered with the assistance of Dr. Roger Hoopingarner is something that makes membership in the ABF pay for itself easily. This program continues into next year with monthly installments geared toward beekeeping for new converts. In addition, our great website at www.abfnet.org offers so much information inclusive of current news and information resources that are a great guide for beginners and old guys like me, as well.

The icing on the cake, however, is the annual North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow. The 2013 conference in Hershey, January 8-13, is shaping up to be one of the best ever and will include a meeting of the American Bee Research Council. With all of these scientists present at the meeting, we will have personal access to some of the greatest minds in the business.

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Government Relations Update

by Troy Fore, ABF Director of Government Relations

Troy Fore, ABF Director of Government Relations

All good things must come to an end, someone has said. So it is with my 25 years with ABF. Here's how it began.

In 1987, Frank Robinson decided it was time for him to retire as ABF secretary-treasurer (as the position was known at that time). He had already retired from the University of Florida, and he and Sarah wanted to be free to enjoy their family.

The ABF Executive Committee put out the word and I responded. I had been through the ABF ranks – member for many years, Board of Directors, Executive Committee and back to "just a member." There had been a flush of interest in beekeeping as a result of a dramatic rise in honey prices. That interest had waned and along with it the revenues of *The Speedy Bee*. I needed some added activity (income).

Three of us were invited to an Executive Committee meeting for interviews. Following my interview, I went back to my hotel room to wait for their answer. I waited, and waited, and waited. What the heck, I wondered. Eventually, I dozed off for a nap. Then the summons came. I had a job and an apology: they had made their decision quickly, but before calling me, had moved into a discussion of another issue that had dragged on for hours. I saw later that it was a fitting introduction to Executive Committee activities.

We had a brief time of transition. I made a trip down to the office in Gainesville, Fla., about a two-and-a-half-hour drive. On a second trip, I took along my two office assistants, Christina Wright and Donna Brooks. Frank and his staff worked at closing out business there.

Frank had already set up the next two conferences: 1988 in Indianapolis; and Las Vegas for 1989. Frank and I planned a pre-convention trip to Indianapolis, but when the time came, he was ill, so, ABF President Reg Wilbanks and I made the trip.

By the end of October, we were ready for the big changeover. Reg and I drove down to Gainesville in one of his trucks and loaded up the ABF office. We drove a short distance south to attend the meeting of the Florida State Beekeepers Association. After the banquet the next evening, we headed north, expecting to be at my place to unload the truck early in the morning. We had less than an hour to go when Reg's truck dropped a u-joint and our progress came to an abrupt halt.

Reg stayed with the truck while I caught a ride into Jesup, arriving about 4 a.m. A sheriff's deputy gave me a ride out to my home. I drove back out to the site and picked up Reg and the driveshaft. Reg's wife met us at the garage in Jesup and took him home. I got the u-joint replaced easily and went back down to get the truck – laden with the ABF office.

So, that's how it began. Euripides said (isn't Google great?), "A bad beginning makes a bad ending." I found the opposite to be true in this case. I had started on a new, interesting journey with some wonderful people.

In 2009, the ABF decided that a change was in order and turned over management of the ABF to an association management firm. I stayed on as director of government relations. Now, it has been decided that my services are no longer needed in that role either.

So, another change. I remain serving as executive director of the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees. Even though it is affiliated with the ABF, the Foundation is a separate legal entity. Unlike the ABF, the Foundation has 501(c)(3) tax status and can accept your tax-deductible contributions. You can contribute to the Foundation through the ABF or directly at the website, www.honeybeefoundation.org.

Powered by your contributions, the Foundation has focused on educational activities – the 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest, the Kids & Bees program and the scholarships for graduate students. When we have accumulated sufficient funds, we have given grants to bee scientists to help fund research.

I will see you at the conference and I will always be available to assist beekeepers in any way I can.

How to Contact Your Congressional Representative

Representatives

Write: The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Call: 202.225.3121
Ask for your representative's office
and request to speak to the agricultural aide.

Senate

Write: The Honorable _____
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Call: 202.224.3121
Ask for your senator's office and
request to speak to the agricultural aide.

E-mail: To locate and e-mail your representatives and senators, visit www.congress.gov.

Legislative Fund Contributions

The following ABF members contributed to the ABF Legislative Fund during the months of July and August 2012. These donations enable us to carry out the legislative initiatives that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

- *Albert Belliston, Idaho*
- *Pat Brady, Mich.*
- *Glenn Clayton, Va.*
- *Cook & Beals, Neb.*
- *Happie Bee Company, Calif.*
- *Patrick Heitkam, Calif.*
- *Kenneth Hintz, Conn.*
- *Orin Johnson, Calif.*
- *Benton Kastman, Texas*
- *Kentucky State Beekeepers Association*
- *Brian Marcy, Pa.*
- *Bill Mares, Vt.*
- *Mark Orce, N.J.*
- *Thomas Rea, Pa.*
- *Chris Reuter, Mo.*
- *S&F Honey Farm, LLC, N.J.*
- *John Shonyo, Minn.*
- *Albert Smaistrla, Texas*
- *Terra Bella Honey Co. Inc., Calif.*
- *Thompson Apiaires, Inc., Md.*
- *Kenneth Voorhes, Neb.*

Foundation Donations

The following ABF members made general contributions to the ABF Foundation during the months of August and September 2012.

Dewey Caron, Ore.
Benjamin Chadwick, N.H.
Anita Collins, Pa.
David Hackenberg, Pa.
John Hansen, Ill.
Benton Kastman, Texas
Pat Kuehl, Neb.
Tony Noyes, N.D.
Peter Sliwka, Pa.

2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow – BEE With Us in Hershey

The 2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow is right around the corner and the excitement is building. The annual meeting of the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) will be held in Hershey, Pa., Jan. 8-12, at the beautiful *Hershey® Lodge*. The ABF group rate is $119 (plus tax) per night for single/double occupancy.

The ABF is excited to be in Hershey, home to some of the bestselling chocolate in the world. This event promises to be one "sweet" meeting you won't want to miss. In addition, the 2013 conference will be a very special one because the ABF will be celebrating its 70th anniversary.

With an anticipated attendance of more than 600 beekeepers from all over North America and beyond, this conference promises to offer something for everyone. From the new small-scale beekeeper to the seasoned professional, conference organizers have planned a schedule to incorporate educational sessions at all levels. Multiple industry leaders have been invited to share their knowledge and practical experience during the conference and the response has been phenomenal. Industry experts will come together to provide up-to-date information on topics imperative to all beekeepers, including:

- **Pesticide Impacts and Interactions for Migratory Beekeepers** presented by Dr. James Frazier, Penn State
- **Timing Varroa Suppression Measures** presented by Dr. Marion Ellis, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- **Gauging the Reproductive Quality of Queens** presented by Dr. David Tarpy, North Carolina State University
- **Microbial Ecology of the Pollination Landscape: Environmentally Vectored Bacteria in the Alimentary Tract and Beebread of Honey Bees** presented by Kirk Anderson, Tucson Bee Lab
- **Bee Disease Identification** presented by Randy Oliver
- **Panel Discussion on Small Scale Bottling Regulations** facilitated by Charles Lorence
- **Panel Discussion on Urban Beekeeping** facilitated by Jim Bobb
- **Serious Sideliner Symposium** facilitated by Dr. Larry Connor

The conference will begin on Tuesday evening with a complimentary Welcome Reception for all registered attendees. Wednesday morning will kick-off with the Opening General Session followed by Shared Interest Group meetings. The 2013 American Honey Show will also take place on Wednesday. The tradeshow, as always, will feature the must-have tools of the trade, as well as the latest and greatest deals and new product ideas and will open on Wednesday afternoon and remain open during conference hours. The Honey Queen candidates will host a dessert reception with entertainment and socializing on Wednesday. Hilarity ensues on Thursday evening with dinner and interactive entertainment with a professional comedian.

Back again this year is the American Bee Research Conference, which will kick-off on Thursday morning. Thursday and Friday will be dedicated to general sessions, as well as the always-popular and well-attended Serious Sideliner Symposium, which, this year, will focus on "How

I Do It." Interactive workshops will take place on Saturday morning, and the ABF will host its annual banquet on Saturday evening, as well as the coronation of the 2013 American Honey Queen and Princess. Immediately following the banquet, attendees will want to kick up their heels during a dance sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association. The week will culminate on Sunday in an informative field trip to the commercial beekeeping operations of Brushy Mountain Bee Farm and Hackenberg Apiaries.

Additional information, including registration rates, guest room accommodations, the conference schedule, invited speakers, session topics and much more, can be found on the conference website at **www.nabeekeepingconference.com**. Be sure to check the website often, as additional conference details are posted daily.

As you can see, the 2012 conference is packed full of education sessions, social and networking activities, and lots of opportunities to learn about new products and services. The tentative general session agenda and more details can be found on pages 8-11 of this issue.

Register now and take advantage of the regular registration rates, which will be honored through December 12, 2012. You won't want to miss this opportunity to experience the largest beekeeping tradeshow, outstanding educational opportunities and the chance to network with your fellow beekeepers in the town where the scent of chocolate (and, now, maybe even honey) will follow you wherever you go!

Call for Entries for the 2013 American Honey Show
Gift Basket Theme "Winter Wonderland"

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) invites you to enter the 2013 American Honey Show, which will be held during the 2013 ABF annual conference in Hershey, Pa. 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 "Winter Wonderland."

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.

The entry form and appropriate fees must arrive at the ABF offices by Friday, December 14, 2012.

Additional information, including official show rules and regulations and entry form, can be found on the 2013 ABF conference website at www.nabeekeepingconference.com or by contacting the ABF office at 404.760.2875. Good luck!

2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Tentative General Session Agenda**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2013	
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Opening Ceremonies • Call to Order and Welcome – George Greig, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture • Presentation of Colors • "Star-Spangled Banner" – led by 2012 American Honey Queen & Princess • Invocation • Response to Welcome
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	President's Address – George Hansen, American Beekeeping Federation
9:50 AM – 10:20 AM	Keynote – May Berenbaum
10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	Introduction of 2012 American Honey Queen and 2012 American Honey Princess and the 2013 Honey Queen Contestants – Anna Kettlewell, Chairperson, American Honey Queen Committee, Badger State Apiaries, Greenfield, Wisconsin
10:40 AM – 11:00 AM	ABF Legislative Update – Fran Boyd, Meyers & Associates
11:00 AM – 11:40 AM	Rob Page, Foundation Professor and Vice Provost and Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University
11:40 AM – 11:55 AM	Platinum Sponsor Presentation – Mann Lake Ltd.
11:55 AM – 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 10, 2013	
8:25 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Pesticide Impacts and Interactions for Migratory Beekeepers – Dr. James Frazier, Penn State
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	The Center for Pollinator Research at Penn State: An Overview of Research, Extension and Outreach Activities – Dr. Christina Grozinger, CPR, Penn State
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	Platinum Sponsor Presentation – Dadant & Sons
9:50 AM – 10:10 AM	Dr. Dennis Van Engelsdorp
10:10 AM – 10:30 AM	Timing Varroa Suppression Measures – Dr. Marion Ellis, Professor, Department of Entomology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Beverage break in tradeshow
11:00 AM	General Session resumes with announcements

2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Tentative General Session Agenda**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2013 (continued)	
11:05 AM – 11:25 AM	Report from the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees and Introduction of Foundation Scholars – Joan Gunter, Chairman, Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees
11:25 AM – 11:45 AM	Research Update from the Baton Rouge Honey Bee Breeding and Genetics Laboratory, Part 1 – Dr. Tom Rinderer, USDA-ARS Baton Rouge Lab, Louisiana
11:45 AM – 12:05 PM	Research Update from the Baton Rouge Honey Bee Breeding and Genetics Laboratory, Part 2 – Robert Danka, USDA-ARS Baton Rouge Lab, Louisiana
12:05 PM – 12:25 PM	National Honey Board (NHB) Marketing & Research – Bruce Boynton, CEO, NHB, Firestone, Colorado
12:25 PM – 1:55 PM	Lunch (on own)
1:55 PM	General Sessions resumes with announcements
2:00 PM – 2:20 PM	Focus on Forage – Christi Heintz, Project Apis m
2:20 PM – 2:40 PM	PAm's Research Program and Corporate Sponsorship – Christi Heintz, Project Apis m
2:40 PM – 2:45 PM	Silver Sponsor Presentation
2:45 PM – 3:05 PM	Beltsville Bee Lab Presentation #1 – Dr. Jeff Pettis
3:05 PM – 3:25 PM	Beltsville Bee Lab Presentation #2
3:25 PM – 3:55 PM	Refreshment break in tradeshow
3:55 PM	General Session resumes with announcements
4:00 PM – 4:20 PM	True Source Honey Update – Jill Clark, Dutch Gold Honey
4:20 PM – 4:40 PM	Food Safety and Honey House Inspections – Homeland Security
4:40 PM – 5:00 PM	Steve Hanlin, Iowa State
5:00 PM – 5:20 PM	Research on Methods to Control Pests of Honey Bees at CMAVE-USDA-ARS – Dr. Peter Teal

***Agenda is tentative and subject to change.*

For the full conference agenda, visit www.nabeekeepingconference.com

2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Tentative General Session Agenda**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2013	
8:25 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
8:30 AM – 8:50 AM	Marla Spivak, MacArthur Fellow and Distinguished McKnight Professor in Entomology, University of Minnesota
8:50 AM – 9:10 AM	Pending
9:10 AM – 9:30 AM	Gauging the Reproductive Quality of Queens – Dr. David Tarpy, Associate Professor and Extension Apiculturist, Department of Entomology, North Carolina State University
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	Signals of Starvation: Effects of Nutrition on Pheromone Communication in Honey Bee Colonies – Dr. Mark Carroll
9:50 AM – 10:10 AM	Microbial Ecology of the Pollination Landscape: Environmentally Vectored Bacteria in the Alimentary Tract and Beebread of Honey Bees (Apis mellifera) – Kirk Anderson, Tucson Bee Lab
10:10 AM – 10:40 AM	Beverage break in tradeshow
10:40 AM	General Session resumes with announcements
10:45 AM – 11:05 AM	Broodmapper: A Web-Based Game that Contributes to Honey Bee Research – Reed Johnson
11:05 AM – 11:25 AM	Pending
11:25 AM – 11:45 AM	NRCS Programs and Projects for Hone Bee Habitat – Doug Holy
11:45 AM – 12:05 PM	National Honey Bee Advisory Board 2012 Recap/ NHBA's Activities with EPA, State Lead Agencies and the Pesticide Industry – Dave Hackenberg
12:05 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch (on own)
1:30 PM	General Session resumes with announcements
1:35 PM – 1:55 PM	Sue Cobey, Bee Breeder/Geneticist, Harry H. Laidlaw Jr. Honey Bee Research Facility at UC Davis, and Washington State University
1:55 PM – 2:15 PM	Weslaco Bee Lab Presentation #1 – Dr. William Meikle
2:15 PM – 2:35 PM	Weslaco Bee Lab Presentation #2
2:35 PM – 2:55 PM	Pending
2:55 PM – 3:25 PM	Refreshment break
3:25 PM – 5:05 PM	Habitat Panel – Facilitated by Laurie Adams

***Agenda is tentative and subject to change.*

For the full conference agenda, visit www.nabeekeepingconference.com

2013 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)
- Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA)
- Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association (PSBA)
- National Honey Packers and Dealers (NHPDA)

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	REGULAR *(ends at 11:59 PM EST on 12/12/12)*	ON-SITE *(after 12/12/12)*
Family (Member)	$395.00	$445.00
Family (Non-Member)	$445.00	$495.00
Single Person (Member)	$285.00	$335.00
Single Person (Non-Member)	$335.00	$385.00
One-Day/One Person (Member)	$185.00	$235.00
One-Day/One Person (Non-Member)	$235.00	$285.00
One-Day/Family (Member)	$295.00	$345.00
One-Day/Family (Non-Member)	$345.00	$395.00

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.

2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Exhibitors/Sponsors *(as of 10/1/12)*

- A&O Forklift
  SERIOUS SIDELINER SYMPOSIUM SPONSOR
- Bee Informed Partnership
  GENERAL SESSION KEYNOTE SPONSOR
- Bee Ranchers Supply
- Brushy Mountain Bee Farm
- Cook & Beals, Inc.
- Country Rubes
- Dadant & Sons
  PLATINUM SPONSOR
- GloryBee Foods
- Hive Sensors, LLC
- KB Farms
- Mann Lake
  PLATINUM SPONSOR
- Medivet
  BREAK SPONSOR

Hershey® Lodge

The 2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow will be held at the* Hershey® Lodge *in Hershey, Pa. Centrally located in Hershey, this resort is home to some of the sweetest and best desserts on earth! This hotel features:

- 665 guests rooms and deluxe suites that are each feature with chocolate-themed décor and artwork
- Six different dining options ranging from casual and convenient, to an upscale restaurant featuring locally grown ingredients
- Full-service spa where chocolate is used as an ingredient for many of the services
- Five swimming pools
- In-room dining
- And…the 2013 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow

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Queen Committee Report

by Anna Kettlewell, Honey Queen Program Chair

As I write this article, we are more than two-thirds of the way through our 2012 promotional year with Alyssa and Danielle. As of late August, our representatives have visited 22 states and have plenty more to visit during the upcoming autumn months. This exceeds our states-to-date figure at this time last year by two! We are much closer to exceeding the program's 30-state goal this year.

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. I am excited to provide you with a progress report on Alyssa and Danielle's performances to date.

Alyssa's Goals and Results to Date:

1. Generate $100,000 of free publicity for the American Beekeeping Federation and the honey/beekeeping industry. As of August 20, Alyssa has garnered over $67,000 in media publicity for the beekeeping industry.
2. Deliver 150 school presentations. As of August 20, Alyssa has given 48 school presentations in several states reaching over 2,800 students. Many of her fall promotions include school presentations.

Danielle's Goals and Results to Date:

1. Participate in 35 media interviews. As of August 20, Danielle has given 29 media interviews to print publications, radio stations, television stations and online media sources.
2. Present to 25 civic organizations. With her special interest in groups such as Girl Scouts, Danielle has given 14 presentations to civic organizations including scouts, government bodies, Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs.

Joint Honey Queen and Princess Goal and Results to Date:

Expand the American Honey Queen Program YouTube channel by creating a series of educational videos. Alyssa and Danielle's passion for the industry has been evident with their creation of 14 videos, with topics ranging from collecting swarms, what it's like to be stung by a bee, installing packages and cooking with honey. Their videos give students and the general public another outlet to learn about the industry. Watch for these videos to be posted on their blog (www.buzzingacrossamerica.com) and on their YouTube Channel (AmericanHoneyQueen's Channel) in the coming months.

Recently, Alyssa and Danielle made it a goal to wear at least two bee beards this year! You'll see one of Alyssa's bee beard adventures in her article; watch for Danielle's in articles to come. More importantly, please be sure to ask Alyssa and Danielle about the status of their goals when they come to your state. Maybe you can help them reach their goals by scheduling media interviews, school presentations and civic organization presentations while they are in your state.

The Queen Committee has begun preparations for 2013. Application packets for the 2013 positions were sent to state Honey Queen program chairpersons in early September, and the application deadline quickly approaches in November. We are also taking requests for 2013 Honey Queen and Princess promotions, so please contact me as soon as you can so we can place your event on our master calendar. The sooner we hear from you, the more likely we will be able to accommodate your 2013 event. You may reach me by e-mail at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or by phone at 414.545.5514. Best wishes in all your promotions!

Friends of the Bee Fund Contributions

The following individuals contributed to the Friends of the Bee Fund during the months of July, August and September 2012. These donations enable us to fund educational programs and services that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

- Charles Bennett, Wash.
- Benjamin Chadwick, N.H.
- Mary Desrochers, Mass. *(In honor of Kathleen Crosby)*
- Randolph Furbert, Bermuda
- Joan Gunter, N.D.
- Sam Kaplan, N.Y. *(In honor Ashleigh Walter)*
- Lisa Lazarus, Fla.
- Tony Noyes, N.D.
- Diana Sammataro, Ariz.
- Ishai Zeldner, Calif.

Beekeeper Education & Engagement System

Welcome to the Beekeeper Education & Engagement System! The BEES network is a new online resource for beekeepers at all levels. The system is entirely internet based and aims to foster *an online learning community among beekeepers*. The structure of the BEES network is broken into three ascending levels of complexity (Beginner, Advanced, and Ambassador) and three general areas of content (honey bee biology, honey bee management, and the honey bee industry).

More information about the program can be found at:
http://entomology.ncsu.edu/apiculture/BEES.html

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BEES Coupon

20% discount for ABF members only

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- Make check payable to NC State University and send to:

  David R. Tarpy, BEES coordinator
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Only one coupon per current ABF member; not available for refund; all prices and offerings subject to change without notice.
Offer available only if received by December 31, 2012.

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More information at:
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From the President
(continued from cover)

The next day I called to ask for help from a major beekeeper who I knew would have the equipment and experience to get me out. Dave had always been very supportive and even though it was a long day's drive, he came and we pulled the truck out. Besides the physical help, we shared the long truck ride, constantly talking bees and beekeeping. How many drives across the country have I shared with beekeepers and scientists, comparing notes, testing hypotheses, looking for common ground, making friends?

My first American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) meeting was in Portland, Ore., in 1992, I believe. As the then president of the Oregon State Beekeepers Association, I made a short presentation in the general session on "Beekeeping in Oregon." I can't say I had any idea of what was happening. I didn't know any of the personalities and although I attended the business meeting, I didn't really grasp what was going on. I do remember being energized by the presentations and flat out amazed by the beekeeping talent walking the halls. As a very small part of that meeting, and as the state president, I met Troy Fore. Being the executive secretary of the ABF, he was planning and running the meeting.

Troy Fore was executive secretary of the ABF for 22 years. When the ABF decided to hire a management company, Meeting Expectations, Inc., to run the affairs of the organization, it was recognized that the legislative and lobbying activities of the industry would need someone with experience, contacts and knowledge of the process to assist the ABF with these matters. Troy was hired as the director of government relations in 2009, a 20-hour-per-month position.

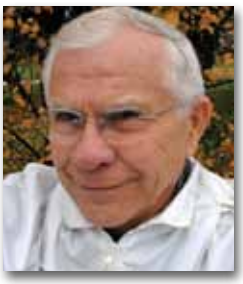
This year there has been continued rearrangement of the ABF structure to match fiscal reality with our programs. The leadership of the ABF has decided to eliminate the position of director of government relations, which means that at the end of October 2012 Troy will no longer be employed by the ABF. The legislative responsibilities will be distributed between the board, our Washington, D.C.-based lobbyists, Meyers & Associates, and Meeting Expectations. This and other adjustments will hopefully bring the costs of our legislative activities more in line with the donations that fund that activity. In making this announcement, I want to be sure to recognize Troy's long service to the ABF, and to thank him for his loyalty to the organization.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Hershey, and hope that event will become an important point in your evolving beekeeping adventure.

Save the Date: Upcoming ABF "Conversation with a Beekeeper" Educational Webinars

The ABF Education Committee has been hard at work developing new ways to keep its members engaged and informed in between ABF annual conferences each year. To this end, the ABF is pleased to introduce a new online educational Webinar series titled "Conversation with a Beekeeper." Plans are in place to host these sessions every few months. The webinars will begin promptly at 8:00 pm ET. Please see below for planned topics and respective dates.

Beekeeping 101 Series:



Dr. Roger Hoopingarner

Are you new to the beekeeping industry? Have you been around for a while but you need a good refresher course? Good news! Then the nine-part webinar series called "Beekeeping 101," presented by **Dr. Roger Hoopingarner, professor emeritus at Michigan State University**, is the place for you. This series is a comprehensive educational experience with many topics focused on the biology and management of honey bees. Remaining sessions in the series include:

- **November 13, 2012:** Winter Biology of the Honey Bee
- **December 11, 2012:** Flight and Foraging Dynamics
- **February 12, 2013:** Castes; Parthenogenesis and Sex Determination in Honey Bees; Larvae and Pupae Development
- **March 12, 2013:** Numbers, Boxcars and Bees
- **April 9, 2013:** Pollinators and Pollination
- **May 14, 2013:** Swarming

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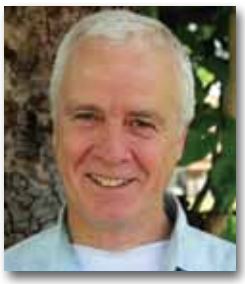
Diseases of the Honey Bee Series:



Dr. Marion Ellis

It's no secret that the fragile honey bee is subject to many different diseases and pests. In order to maintain healthy and productive hives, beekeepers at all levels need to be able to identify and manage these ailments. This webinar series, featuring **Dr. Marion Ellis, professor of entomology and apiculture specialist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, will explore pathology, etiology, epidemiology and abatement measures.

- **December 12, 2012:** Honey Bee Brood Diseases
- **January 30, 2013:** Adult Bee Diseases and Pests

More details about each session will be posted on the ABF website at www.abfnet.org closer to that particular session's scheduled date. If you're interested in registering for any of the presentations, please refer to the registration information below.

Important Session Format/Registration Information:

The sessions will be conducted via the GoToWebinar online meetings platform, which means the presenter will have a visual presentation, as well as an audio presentation. Upon entering the session online, you may choose whether to listen to the presentation through your computer's speakers or through your phone.

Reserve your spot today by e-mailing Grayson Daniels, ABF membership coordinator, at graysondaniels@abfnet.org or by calling the ABF offices at 404.760.2875. Registration will close 48 business hours before the scheduled session. Twenty-four hours before the session the registered participant will receive an e-mail confirming participation, along with the necessary information to join the session. If an e-mail address is not provided, the ABF will call the participant with the information. Questions for the speaker must be submitted 48 business hours in advance to Grayson Daniels.

If you are unable to make the session, don't fear! Each session will be recorded and available on the ABF website for member-only access.

If you have any questions about the series, the GoToWebinar platform or other general inquiries, please e-mail Grayson Daniels at graysondaniels@abfnet.org. The ABF is excited to offer this series and we will hope you are excited to be a part of it!

From the Honey Queen

by Alyssa Fine, 2012 American Honey Queen

Hello again, beekeepers! Summer is in full force as I write this and I have been busy as a bee. I spent a large portion of the last few months on the road promoting the importance of honey bees across the United States.

To round out the month of June, I attended a few regional events. On June 20, I gave three presentations accompanied by a honey fruit punch cooking demonstration to a group of 55 Girl Scouts in Bethel Park, Pa. On June 23, I traveled to Monaca, Pa., to attend Pennsylvania State Senator Elder Vogel's Kids Extravaganza, an annual educational fair attracting more than 1,500 visitors. I worked with a representative from the Beaver Valley Area Beekeepers Association to answer questions around the observation hive. I rounded out my local events on June 24 when I attended Triple B Farms Raspberry Festival, an event in my own neighborhood. This promotion celebrating the bountiful raspberry harvest was special for me and my family because we place our honey bees on that property. I spent the day talking to visitors to the Bee Barn, which hosted an observation hive and an animatronic worker bee who answered questions, as well.

On June 28, I traveled a few hours north to Jamestown, N.Y., to work with Terri and Ben Whitney of the Chautauqua County Beekeepers Association. I met them in Tampa, Fla., earlier in the year, and they requested a visit to their area to promote honey bees and attend their association's summer picnic. During the course of the day, I gave two presentations about the inner workings of the hive to 115 children as part of a Boys and Girls Club summer program, interviewed with a local radio station and took part in two newspaper interviews before I even got to the beekeepers' picnic! Combined, my media interviews generated over $3,700 in free publicity for the industry! Later in the evening, I attended the summer picnic where I spoke to beekeepers about my role as Honey Queen and showed them a sneak preview of my scrapbook of my travels. Thank you to the Chautauqua County Beekeepers Association for inviting me to their event!

Starting July 11, I began a five-week block of travel, first flying to St. Louis, Mo., to attend the Heartland Apicultural Society annual conference. During the three-day event, I gave daily cooking demonstrations with the Indiana Honey Queen and Princess, Elisabeth Burnell and Brooke Mandel. As a speaker, I also taught a session titled "Giving Beekeeping Presentations to the Public." This class used my own unique experiences as Honey Queen to give suggestions about effective teaching technique for the general public. For example, the most important thing a beekeeper can do before giving a presentation is to create a basic outline or script detailing what he wants to convey to the audience. I encourage you to do the same as you prepare for these presentations. I thank Phil Craft, Carol Shaw and Kristy Dooley for organizing my trip to the conference.

On July 14, I headed to Sacramento, Calif., to stay with hosts Brian and Darla Fishback for the California State Fair. The primary purpose of my 10-day visit was to attend the California State Fair to work "On the Farm" – a functional agricultural area with a working observation hive or with beekeepers at the California State Beekeepers Association booth handing out local honey samples. In addition to educating around the hive, I also had the opportunity to give a cooking demonstration in the kitchen pavilion for an audience of 40 fairgoers. During my stay, I also promoted at a Natural Foods Co-op Store and Soil Born Farms, an urban farming initiative. One of the most memorable parts of this trip was my visit to UC-Davis and the Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven where I met with Kathy Garvey, best known for her "tethered bee sting" photo. I found myself in front of her camera and the subject of her next Bug Squad blog posting, which was shared on over eight different websites at last count.

My next stop was Columbus, Ohio, for a brand new Honey Queen promotion July 24 through August 2 – the Ohio State Fair! I stayed with gracious hosts Carmen and Barry Conrad and Anne Blackwell, who made me feel right at

Queen Alyssa's 5.5-minute television interview with Indy Style reached over 250,000 people!

home while I worked with Ohio beekeepers in the DiSalle Pavilion, where I gave daily cooking demonstrations and assisted with bee beards. To assist with the bee-beard demonstrations, I stepped inside of a mesh tent in the pavilion and, with the help of other beekeepers, I brushed an artificial swarm of honey bees onto each volunteer's neck. After helping to apply seven beards, on my last day at the fair, it was finally my turn! At first I was quite nervous, knowing that in moments, 10,000 honey bees would be clinging to my face; however, I made it through without a single sting and I might even volunteer to wear one again in the future. Don't ever let anyone tell you that there aren't perks to being the Honey Queen! Thank you to the Ohio State Beekeepers Association for giving me the amazing opportunity.

Queen Alyssa models a bee beard at the Ohio State Fair after helping with many demonstrations earlier in the fair.

On August 3, I arrived in to Indianapolis, Ind., to stay with hosts Lynn and Margaret Bierlein and attend the Great Indiana State Fair. Every day I worked with the Indiana Honey Queen and Princess, Elisabeth Burnell and Brooke Mandel, at the Indiana State Beekeepers Association (ISBA) booth, which features two varieties of Indiana honey – classic clover and bold, dark mint. Fairgoers had the opportunity to sample each honey and learn more about how different honeys are produced. Many left with their own Indiana honey bear! In addition to selling honey and beeswax products, the Indiana Honey Queen and Princess and I gave cooking demonstrations on the Ag Hort Building stage three times each day, reaching approximately 1,215 people during the nine days I was in attendance. We also shared two radio interviews and a television spot, generating over $8,000 in free advertising for the American Beekeeping Federation. On my last night of the fair, Queen Elisabeth and I dressed in traditional pioneer clothing and visited the fair's Pioneer Village section, a rustic portion of the fairgrounds that features technologies early settlers employed to shape young America. The ISBA sponsors a beeswax candle dipping booth where fairgoers can see how beeswax was processed into hand-dipped taper candles. In the Pioneer Village, Queen Elisabeth and I spoke about beekeeping in America's early days. The first settlers relied on honey bee colonies for a source of sweetener and valuable beeswax.

I finished this block of promotions in Gainesville, Fla., August 13-18, where I worked with the North Central Florida Beekeepers Association to promote National Honeybee Awareness Day. During the week, host Chappie McChesney set up a variety of promotional events leading up to the big day on Saturday. I gave two cooking demonstrations, both in my host hotel and in a local grocery store, participated in two television interviews and a 25-minute radio interview, and spoke at a meeting of the Alachua County Beekeepers Club. Overall, I helped to generate over $6,200 in free advertising for honey bees and beekeeping in Florida. I was also treated to a tour of the University of Florida Bee Labs by Dr. Jamie Ellis. The world of honey bee research is truly astounding, and I am so thankful for the devoted researchers in this field of study, working constantly to better understand our bees. On the last day of my visit, I attended a celebration of National Honeybee Awareness Day in Ocala, Fla. It was wonderful to see a large number of non-beekeepers of the surrounding community attend the event in support of honey bees. During the day, my job was to introduce speakers as they took the stage, but I also gave a presentation myself about the American Honey Queen Program and my responsibilities as I travel across the country. At the end of the day I assisted with an auction to raise funds for the North Central Florida Beekeepers Association. Thank you to the association members for inviting me to this wonderful event!

I start another six-week block of traveling across the United States very soon, with stops in New Jersey, Minnesota, California, Kansas, Washington and Maryland. In the meantime, please stay up to date with my travels across the country. Visit www.facebook.com/AmericanHoneyQueenProgram for photos and videos from the road. If you'd like to invite the American Honey Queen or Princess to your event this year or next year, please contact Program Chair Anna Kettlewell at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or 414.545.5514. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to meeting you on my travels!

From the Honey Princess

by Danielle Dale, 2012 American Honey Princess

As I write this, summer is in full swing and has given me wonderful experiences from coast to coast to promote the beekeeping industry.

On June 20, I presented to 18 Girl Scouts in Bangor, Wis. The girls learned about how honey bees are important to agriculture even in their small dairy community and the many different uses for honey. I also had a 10-minute interview that day with WWIS FM 99.7-AM 1260 in Black River Falls. Throughout the interview, I answered many questions about CCD and the increased interest in beekeeping throughout the United States.

Princess Danielle being interviewed by Channel 11 out of Battle Ground, Wash., at the Clark County Fair.

Next, I promoted in northern Iowa. On June 22, I had three interviews, two newspapers and one radio, reaching over 100,000 people in the surrounding area, and visited a day care. The following day, I attended the Dubuque Farmers' Market. Over 32,000 people come to this market every Saturday and it covers 16 blocks. I pointed out the queen in the observation hive and handed out samples of raspberry honey iced tea. Handing out samples of your honey or a recipe made with your honey is a great way to get people coming back for more. I thank Bill and Louise Johnson for arranging my promotions and being wonderful hosts!

From June 27 through July 5, I was in California for a great new promotion – the 100th anniversary of the Alameda County Fair, just outside Oakland. I worked with the Alameda County Beekeepers Association (ACBA) in their award-winning bee booth, which contained an observation hive, beekeeping equipment and other great visuals that helped explain importance of honey bees. I gave several presentations on the kids' stage, distributed honey samples on Farm Fresh Thursday, and presented the winner's plate during the horse race. On the fair's Kids' Day, children came to the booth to play a "bee game." The game's clues were in the booth, and, if they answered all the questions right, they received a honey stick. I also spoke at the awards banquet about the importance of educating the public about beekeeping and honey bees. I participated in several events outside of the fair, including presenting to an Oakland daycare, to 60 members of the Niles/Fremont Rotary Club and to the Fremont City Council. The City of Fremont recently passed an ordinance allowing beekeeping in the city, so I thanked the council for its support and spoke about the importance of honey bee pollination in California and the United States. I extend my deep thanks to Russell Shaffer and the ACBA for arranging my promotions, and Suzanne Muller for being a fantastic host during my stay!

Back in Wisconsin in July, I spoke at a church group and a summer school class near my home. The summer school students were taking the class to learn more about plants and, of course, their pollinators. I also caught up with Wisconsin beekeepers at the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association's summer meeting on July 14. I gave a presentation to 75 attendees about my role as the American Honey Princess, my promotions up to date and the ABF. I also drew names for door prizes, including a free one-year membership to the ABF.

On July 19, I participated in Minneapolis's second annual Pollinator Party, produced by the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Department, to bring greater awareness of the importance of our pollinators. The event included live hive demonstrations by University of Minnesota scientist Gary Reuter, honey ice cream and many educational booths. I had the pleasure of working with 2012 Minnesota Honey Queen Emily Campbell at a booth that taught people about the role of guard bees. We gave people a scent to smell, which represented their hive, and then they smelled three other scents, which represented bees that were trying to get into the hive. They had to tell us which of the bees they would let into the hive. Everyone was fascinated to learn that honey bees can communicate through pheromones. I thank Gary and Ginger Reuter for being wonderful hosts during my stay!

I attended the LaCrosse Interstate Fair in West Salem, Wis., on June 27 to work with my local association, the LaCrosse Area Beekeepers, at our bee booth. I sold honey and the crowd-favorite honey sticks, pointed out the queen in the two observation hives, and answered questions about the industry. The LaCrosse Area Beekeepers recently added "Bee City" to its exhibit. The association took hive boxes and made them into buildings. They painted and designed each building and gave them unique names like "The Waggle-Dance Studio" or "Royal Jelly Donut Shop," and gave everyone that came to it an educational pamphlet with information on each building with bee-related facts. You can check out photos of the Bee City on the Queen Program's Facebook page! I also had three interviews at the fair: five minutes with News Channel 8, which aired twice; and two interviews with Cow 97 radio for a total of seven minutes, generating approximately $1,760 in free publicity for our industry!

My next stop was New Jersey to attend the Warren County Farmers Fair from June 28 through August 2. I had the pleasure of working with the Northwest New Jersey Beekeepers Association at their bee booth, which included wildflower and clover honey from the local area, an observation hive and a bee cage for hive demonstrations. I had the opportunity to give a hive demonstration during the fair. Everyone was enthralled as I talked about the different parts of the hive, the three types of bees and pointed out brood. I also gave a honey punch cooking demonstration from the booth. I also had a six-minute studio radio interview that aired on three stations, reaching over 100,000 people! Thank you to the Northwest New Jersey Beekeeping Association for inviting me to the fair and to Ted and Karin Weinberg for being fabulous hosts.

Next, I promoted at the Clark County Fair in Ridgefield, Wash., August 3-8. This fair is one of the top 10 in the country and brought a tremendous amount of awareness to the beekeeping industry. I worked with the Clark County Beekeepers Association in their amazing bee barn. The bee barn was very educational and contained an observation hive, beekeeping equipment, a caged area for hive demonstrations and a honey display. I had several media interviews throughout the fair, including two television interviews on KPTV Fox 12 and Channel 11, and 34 inches of print in two newspapers, generating $8,200 in free publicity. I also gave hive demonstrations and was a judge for two honey displays and other celebrity events. I thank the Clark County Beekeepers Association for allowing me to promote with them, and John and Mary Ann Morrison for arranging this fantastic promotion and being wonderful hosts.

My next stops were the Wisconsin State Fair, August 10-14. At the fair, I sold several varieties of honey, honey products, including Sprecher's Cream Soda (made with honey), honey lemonade, honey ice cream and beeswax products. I gave samples of the different varieties of honey, and people were excited to taste the difference between strong buckwheat honey and mild alfalfa honey. I also gave an educational presentation about honey bees and beekeeping, followed by a cooking demonstration each day on the stage. Consider working with your fair superintendents to obtain stage time for the Queen at your event. This encourages fairgoers to visit your exhibit and buy product and gives them ideas on how they can use honey. I also gave a presentation at a senior center, which was covered in two local newspapers. I extend my warm thanks to the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association for giving me the opportunity to bring greater awareness to honey at the fair.

My next stop was the Kentucky State Fair, August 15-21. On the opening day of the fair, I attended the commodity breakfast and spoke with Commissioner of Agriculture James Comer and Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear about the importance of honey bees to agriculture. During the fair, I worked with the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association in their very popular honey booth. The exhibit contains honey from throughout the state for sale, along with beeswax candles. There was also an educational area and the opportunity for people to roll their own beeswax candle. I had a four-minute television interview on "Great Day Live" on WHAS 11, reaching nearly 300,000 people! On August 18, National Honeybee Awareness Day, I attended the St. Matthews Farmers Market in Louisville and handed out samples of honey from every beekeeper at the market. I thank Sean Burgess, Lorie Jacobs and the Kentucky State Beekeepers Association for arranging this great promotion!

I will continue with promotions almost constantly for the next three months, with stops in West Virginia, New York, Maryland, Ohio, Washington and Arizona. Keep an eye on the American Honey Queen Program YouTube channel for promotional videos from my travels! Contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or honeyqueen99@hotmail.com to arrange a Honey Queen or Princess visit for later this year or 2013!

2012 Second-Place 4-H Essay: The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community

by Tucker Van Brunt, Age 12, N.H.

Picture yourself walking through a field when all of a sudden you see an active bee hive with bees swarming around it. What's your first instinct? Run, of course! You may not think about the great things that bees do and how much we rely on these small insects to support our food diet.

Most people think that honey bees don't have a large effect on their everyday lives, but they would be wrong. Think about how much would be gone if bees didn't pollinate. One third of our food (such as almonds, cranberries and blueberries) directly relies on bee pollination.

Beekeepers started to notice bees disappearing in 2006. Some blame pesticides, others call it a disease. But, either way, the name given to the disappearing bees is Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Honey bees are abandoning their hives – 600,000 of the 2.6 million bee colonies in the USA are nowhere to be found.

Where are the bees going? How will it affect us? We depend on the honey bee to pollinate local New Hampshire resources of food like apples, peaches, raspberries, blueberries and cranberries. To get a better sense of the honey bee, the best resource is a local beekeeper.

Editor's Note: *Read more of Tucker's second-place essay on The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Web site at http://honeybeepreservation.org/2012/05/2012-4-h-winning-essays/.*

From the Vice President
(continued from page 3)

This is one you just can't miss and you need to bring a friend. You couldn't do a bigger favor to them and you may not have to spend as much time on the phone explaining things to them. The main agenda is filled with a great line-up of speakers for just about everyone, and the Serious Sideliner Symposium is one of the best "how-to-get-it-done" programs ever! At last count, there are over 50 speakers slated to present the latest and most relevant ideas. So, let's get 1,000 beekeepers to Hershey…what do you say? Register today by visiting the conference website at www.nabeepeeingconference.com. Hope to see you there!

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Milestones

Congratulations to the following ABF members that have reached milestone years during the months of July, August and September 2012:

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Barry Hart, Ga.
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Kenneth W. Voorhes, Neb.

15 Years
John E. Ferree, Va.
Patricia L. Johnson, Calif.
Kirsten May, Fla.
Garrett Puett, Hawaii
Margaret Reid, Ohio

20 Years
Oscar V. Carlson, Wis.
Anna Kettlewell, Wis.

25 Years
Kitty Lou Gamber, Pa.
David R. Hackenberg, Pa.
Colin May, Ill.
Mark McCoy, Fla.
Patricia Sundberg, Mont.
Joe Traynor, Calif.

30 Years
Barry Thompson, Md.

35 Years
Marion Ellis, Neb.
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From the Auxiliary

by Shelley Rodenberg, ABF Auxiliary President

Fall has arrived with the cooler weather and the leaves starting to fall. I hope all of you have competed harvesting the honey that the bees have produced this year. I know the productions have been lower in some areas of the states. Hopefully your crops will be plentiful and the bees are in good health!

I am getting excited at the prospect of attending our 2013 Northern American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in Hershey, Pa., January 8-13. I haven't had the opportunity to visit that part of our country. The Auxiliary will host a booth at the tradeshow and we hope you will stop by to say hello!

I also hope that you will all consider entering our Honey Baking Contest during the conference. We would love to sample all of your sweet treats! The rules for the Honey Baking Contest are listed below:

Categories:

- Cookies
- Bars
- Candy
- Snacks

Rules:

- More than one entry is allowed that uses at least or more than 51 percent Honey or all Honey.
- Choose six identical cookies, bars, and candy or snack pieces. Place on a white paper plate and put in a clear plastic bag (the Auxiliary will provide plates and bags.)
- Make two copies of the recipe. Do not put your name or personal information on your recipe card.
- Bring your entries to the Auxiliary booth in the exhibit hall at the conference.

Judging:

- **Outside Appearance:** 30 maximum points
- **Inside Appearance:** 20 maximum points
- **Eating Quality:** 50 maximum points

Best of luck in your preparations for the contest!

And, finally, you should have received a letter from the ABF Auxiliary if you have been a member in the last three years. Auxiliary dues are $10 and everyone is welcome to join. They may be paid and sent to: Beth Hackenberg, 799 Grange Hall Rd., Milton, PA 17847.

ABF Auxiliary Officers

President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer	Historian	Past President
Shelley Rodenberg	Lillian Kelley	Beth Hackenberg	Rachel Bryson	Carol Shaw
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