As I wrote in the June edition of the ABF E-Buzz, the ABF has decided to pursue a bid for hosting Apimondia in 2019. In case you are unaware of what Apimondia is, it is the world conference of beekeeping, which meets every two years in different countries around the world. In 2013 it was hosted by the Ukraine in the city of Kiev and it will be in Korea in 2015. Turkey will be hosting the event in 2017 in Istanbul where it will engage beekeepers from all over the world.

During the past year and a half, the Apimondia committee of the ABF has explored six different cities that could hold an event of this size and we have selected Minneapolis as the host city for our bid. Now, it is up to the committee to convince the delegates of Apimondia during the 2015 event in Korea to choose Minneapolis as a location for Apimondia 2019, as there will be other countries vying for the opportunity to host the event. Turkey will be hosting the event in 2017 in Istanbul where it will engage beekeepers from all over the world.

Much evaluation time went into this selection and it was chosen due to three factors that narrowed the decision down. The first was that Minneapolis is close to the honey production belt of America. Its location provides access to commercial beekeeping operations and to the University of Minnesota’s new bee lab. Additionally, it is a community that is interested in attracting convention business and the committee felt that the Apimondia conference would be the focus of the city for the event. The committee felt that in Washington, D.C. or Orlando, Fla., two other cities on our short list, that the conference would be just another event in the midst of many. Although they both have great opportunities for entertainment, the committee felt that when it comes to showing American beekeeping to the world, Minneapolis was where it needed to take place. Our second big consideration in the selection included the cost of lodging, food and entertainment. All cities we considered had advantages and it was a very difficult process to narrow down our choice.

The third factor that weighed in large was the location of the University of Minnesota Bee Lab. The site this new lab is just a 15 minute bus ride from the convention center. Another great feature of Minneapolis is that it is host to the state fair which is the second largest state fair in the country and the fair grounds are right across the street from the University of Minnesota’s campus where the bee lab will be located.

We are suggesting a time table of hosting the congress during this last week of August when the fair is taking place. I had the opportunity to visit the fair during this year’s event and it is really something. The bee exhibit is very well done and would be a great attraction for evening trips for family entertainment and great food. It is worth the trip in and of itself. Walking around the convention center was very informative and I don’t know of many places around the country where you can walk through totally covered walkways from almost every building in the downtown area. That is a big plus when thinking about getting around to restaurants and all of the close hotels. Walking around during the evening hours, I was very impressed with the number of restaurants that had sidewalk seating and lots of people and fine dining making night life very cozy. There was a really good feel to the neighborhood in the vicinity of the Hilton and the other base hotels. There’s also the Mall of America with all its shopping, restaurants, amusement park and stores. My guide, Nathan Hermiston with Meet Minneapolis, gave me a tour of the convention center, which is just a perfect location for the size of event we are talking about. There might be another small event that could go on but we would take over a large part of the convention center and be the main event. After my short time in Minneapolis, I was sure that the committee had picked the right city. We look forward to working during the coming year to produce a winning bid to host this great event. It will have been 50 years since the U.S. hosted an Apimondia congress when 2019 rolls around and I think it’s time we make it a reality.

We also had a great kick off meeting of the site committee in Minneapolis and much was laid out for a general plan to begin work. One of the things accomplished was the choice of a
## 2014 ABF Board of Directors

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  E-mail: srepasky@gmail.com

### Directors Appointed by the President:

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  E-mail: mike.r.mason@comcast.net

- **John Talbert (2016 – 2nd term)**
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  Ph: 972.843.8084 • Fax: 972.843.8084
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(EC) indicates Executive Committee member. 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.

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**American Beekeeping Federation**

**NEWSLETTER**

September/October 2014 • Vol. 72, No. 5

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 Regina Robuck, ABF Executive Director, at reginarobuck@abfnet.org or 404.760.2887.

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It hardly seems possible that another honey season is nearly over. Our bees in California have survived, up until now in spite of the drought, but have consumed record amounts of supplemental feed in most areas. We are very fortunate to have produced some summer honey in the Central Valley, primarily from cotton and alfalfa, but the total state crop will likely be one of the smallest in decades. We are praying that El Niño will come through and bring us a desperately needed abundant rainy season this winter, which is critical for native honey plants, irrigated agriculture and the entire state.

Nationwide honey production has decreased significantly over the past decade or so as a function of decreased bee colony health, changing landscape (conversion of former bee pasture to corn, soybeans and other crops), drought and other factors. Domestic honey production, which used to average around two hundred million pounds annually, has shrunk to an average of approximately one hundred fifty million pounds in recent years.

Many beekeepers are so concerned about the health of their colonies, trying to keep their numbers up for pollination of almonds and other crops, that honey production is a secondary consideration. While there is no question that pollination rental fees are the primary source of income for a great many beekeepers today, we should not lose sight of the fact that honey production remains an important component of our industry.

The National Honey Board (NHB) continues to provide positive reinforcement for our honey market through its research and promotional efforts. The work of the NHB has played an important role in maintaining and increasing the market for honey in the USA. Earlier this year, I accepted an invitation to participate in a series of NHB-sponsored events in San Francisco, Chicago and New York, where food editors, chefs, TV food personalities and other influential food industry folks learned about honey, from production to its many uses as a food or ingredient. It was my role, as a honey producer, to explain how the bees collect and store nectar in the honeycomb as well as how beekeepers remove the honey from the hives, extract and containerize it. I emphasized the fact that the nectar (soon to be honey) stored in honey comb was transported back to the hive in the bee’s honey sac and not in their digestive stomach. I also made sure that the audience was aware of the fact that honey should be considered a product of the plants from which the nectar was collected, since the color, flavor, aroma, mineral content, etc. is totally derived from nectar producing plants.

Brent Barkman, President of Barkman Honey then discussed the procedures he and other honey packers use to transform bulk honey into the shelf stable product that consumers expect. He explained that after the honey is warmed, it is run through a series of filters in order to remove small particles that would otherwise reduce the clarity of honey and which could also serve as nuclei for the granulation process. Most American consumers prefer to enjoy their honey in liquid form, and thus this filtering process is necessary in order for the honey to remain in a liquid state for at least two years. Also, it is difficult for honey to meet the USDA Grade A standard without filtering. Brent also explained the difference between the filtering he and other U.S. honey packers use and the “ultrafiltration” process used by some honey processors in other countries, which filters out everything, including the color!

The final member of the NHB panel was renowned chef and cookbook author, Marie Simmons. She considers a kitchen incomplete unless there are at least 10 varieties of honey available for use! Marie explained, in her own expert culinary style, how varietal honeys can be used to enhance the flavor profile of ordinary foods, turning them into gourmet delicacies. The finale of each event was a varietal honey tasting which consisted of alfalfa, tupelo, avocado and buckwheat. Marie asked the participants to describe the flavor notes of each honey variety, much like a wine tasting. As you might imagine, the most interesting descriptions were described after tasting the buckwheat honey!

After the presentations, the audience was given the opportunity to ask questions of Brent, Marie and me. There was a great deal of concern about the health of honey bees and many questions revolved around how

(continued on page 16)
Congress remains in summer recess as I write this report in late August, which is the safest time for the nation according to Will Rogers! Even though Congress is not currently in session, there is plenty going on within the government concerning the bee industry.

As a result of language in the latest Farm Bill, the USDA has requested that concerned parties submit comments pertaining to a possible Federal Standard of Identity for Honey by September 19. The comments received will be utilized in the preparation of a report from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs (FDA) describing how a Federal standard of identity for honey would be in the interest of consumers, the honey industry and U.S. agriculture. The ABF played a major role in submitting a petition to the FDA in 2006 requesting that such a standard for honey be established. The petitioners contended “the proposed standard will promote honesty and fair dealing not only in the interest of consumers, but in the interest of the honey industry as well.” The petitioners also stated that “a compositional standard for honey will serve as a tool to help combat the economic adulteration of honey.” The ABF is currently drafting comments for submission to the USDA to be included in the official record. It is our hope that the report from USDA will finally get FDA to take action on this issue.

There has been a troubling turn of events recently at the Beltsville USDA Bee Research facility. Dr. Jeff Pettis was removed from his position as lab leader and the ABF is extremely concerned with this action. Dr. Pettis has been an exemplary lab leader while he has conducted excellent research throughout his tenure as lab leader. ABF Past President, Dave Hackenberg, attended a meeting with ARS officials to discuss the situation and express our concerns about this action. Dr. Pettis has been leading discussions regarding the seed mixes used on CRP lands, on behalf of the ABF, with the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The majority of CRP acreage is in the upper Midwest and, while it would be extremely beneficial for honey bees if white and yellow sweet clover were included in the mix, so far they are not. Apparently there are some who classify these great honey plants as non-native invasive weeds and do not want them propagated on CRP lands. Although it has been frustrating, ABF will continue to push for their inclusion in these seed mixes.

In another forage related issue, Zac Browning has been leading discussions regarding the seed mixes used on CRP lands, on behalf of the ABF, with the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The majority of CRP acreage is in the upper Midwest and, while it would be extremely beneficial for honey bees if white and yellow sweet clover were included in the mix, so far they are not. Apparently there are some who classify these great honey plants as non-native invasive weeds and do not want them propagated on CRP lands. Although it has been frustrating, ABF will continue to push for their inclusion in these seed mixes.

The Crop Protection Industry, better known as the pesticide industry, has been pushing the media and Congress with the message that the problems with bee health are the result of varroa mites and lack of good forage, but not pesticides. The op-ed in Roll Call by Congressman Rooney and Valadao, which I mentioned in the previous ABF Newsletter, is an example of this line of thinking. There is general consensus among most in the bee industry that it is unrealistic to exclude pesticides from the list of issues which are negatively impacting bee health. The ABF and AHPA responded directly to the two Congressmen and plan to submit a joint op-ed of our own as well. We also continue to monitor for legislation that might be introduced which could negatively impact the bee industry with regard to pesticides.
Donate to the ABF Legislative Fund

Send your contributions to: ABF Legislative Fund • 3525 Piedmont Rd. | Bldg. 5, Ste. 300 • Atlanta, GA 30305

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Your credit card will be billed by the ABF, which will be transferred to the ABF Legislative Fund.

How to Contact Your Congressional Representative

The ABF encourages you to keep in contact with your members of Congress – both your representative and your state’s two senators. They and their staff members need to be aware of your beekeeping activities and of our industry’s needs. And they need to hear this from you. Below are some tips on how to make these contacts. If you need any assistance, please contact the ABF offices at 404.760.2875 or info@abfnet.org.

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.
The following individuals contributed to the Legislative Fund during the months of July and August 2014. These donations will help ABF’s lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C.

Mark W. Berninghausen, New York  
Nick Lissaman, California  
Raymond Nicholson, Minnesota  
Rich Ramsey, Illinois  
Cathy Jo Rufer, Minnesota  
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Don’t Miss Early Bird Registration for the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow!

The 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow takes place at the “magical” Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California, January 6-10, 2015. Join hundreds of beekeepers large and small and a vibrant community that is dedicated to ensuring the future of the honey bee for education, networking and the sharing of ideas and solutions. As an attendee you’ll benefit from:

- Two days of general sessions featuring presentations from industry experts, researchers and authors
- Informative Shared Interest Group meetings and track sessions for each level of beekeeping
- 20+ interactive hands-on workshops
- Keynote presentations from Graham White, a noted beekeeper, writer and environmental activist, and Mark Winston, a widely published bee biologist from Simon Fraser University’s Centre for Dialogue
- A Tradeshow highlighting the latest products and services in the beekeeping industry
- The 2015 Honey Show & Auction
- Coronation of the 2015 American Honey Queen and Princess
- Opportunities to network with beekeepers of all levels, vendors and industry experts
- And much, much more. Details are being added daily at www.nabeekeepingconference.com!

Register now and take advantage of the early registration rates, which will be honored through October 15, 2014. After October 15, the regular registration rates will be valid through December 10, 2014. You won’t want to miss this opportunity to experience the largest beekeeping tradeshow, outstanding educational sessions and the chance to network with your fellow beekeepers in the town where magic happens.

The lowest hotel and conference registration rates are available now, for a limited time. Visit www.nabeekeepingconference.com to reserve your hotel room and register for the conference.

More About Anaheim & The Disneyland Hotel
Celebrate the start of 2015 in Anaheim, in the heart of sunny Southern California! Average temperatures range from the high 40’s to the low 70’s, making it much warmer than most other places in January. So, take a break from the cold and join 600-800 other beekeepers to share knowledge, experiences, tips and a little fun in a beautiful setting.

The Disneyland Hotel, a AAA Four-Diamond property, hosts the conference; attendees may take advantage of a special group rate of $109.00 (plus applicable taxes). This rate is available until December 15, 2014 or until the group block is sold out (whichever comes first). We encourage you to make your reservations early to ensure availability. Additionally, the group rate will be honored three days before and after the conference dates. So, make a little vacation out of it and bring the whole family. Reserve your room through www.nabeekeepingconference.com.

Just steps away are Downtown Disney and its restaurants, retail shops and activities. Adjacent to Downtown Disney, you’ll find the Disneyland Park and Disney California Adventure Park. So in just one location, you’ll have the amazing 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow, the AAA Four-Diamond Disneyland Hotel, Downtown Disney and two theme parks not to mention all the other features Anaheim has to offer. Make your plans now to attend and we’ll see you in January.
ABF Fundraising at the Annual Conference

by Anna Kettlewell & Patty Sundberg

With the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow just around the corner, we are eager to inform you about all the fun fundraising events at our conference in Anaheim, California. ABF membership dues are vital to sustaining our organization’s presence in the agricultural industry. Fundraising at the annual conference is also critical to the many programs the ABF implements throughout the year. At our conferences, we strive to put the FUN in fundraising!

At the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow, members have many opportunities to support the American Honey Queen Program, the ABF Legislative Fund and the ABF General Fund. Each fund is important and provides our members with value for their membership. Through your donations and assistance, we can better lobby Congress regarding the needs of beekeepers throughout the nation. We can also generate hundreds of thousands of dollars in free media publicity for the honey and beekeeping industries through the American Honey Queen Program, provide educational webinars for our members and financially support research efforts of talented scientists throughout the country.

None of these ventures is inexpensive, nor can we ever provide them enough funding, but every little bit helps. The fundraising activities are well attended and fun events for our conference attendees. Below are some of the fundraising opportunities at the convention:

- **American Honey Show Auction:** All entries in the American Honey Show are auctioned to support the American Honey Queen Program.
- **Annual Sweepstakes Tickets:** Purchase raffle tickets from ABF Directors and members of the Delegates Assembly for unique prizes (beekeeping and non-beekeeping items). Winners are chosen at the ABF banquet.
- **American Honey Queen Quilt Raffle:** Honey Queen Candidates sell tickets throughout the year to support the American Honey Queen Program. The quilt is awarded during the ABF banquet. Tickets may be purchased from the American Honey Queen and Princess prior to the convention.
- **Silent and Live Auctions:** Silent and live auctions benefiting the ABF General Fund and the Honey Queen Program are held throughout the convention. We are continuing our new tradition of combining these fundraising efforts in Anaheim.
- **Banquet Auction:** A live auction with proceeds benefiting the General Fund and Honey Queen Fund. Items are limited at this auction to the Best of Show Honey and non-honey entries and other select items.

This year, the ABF general fundraising and American Honey Queen fundraising will collaborate in some of the silent and live auctions. The ABF Welcome Reception, along with a Honey Queen Quiz Bowl, will be held on Wednesday, January 8. Instead of a live auction at this event, we will accept live and silent auction donations for the General Fund and Queen Fund auctions that will occur throughout the week. You can bring your items to that event or ship them ahead of time to the convention site.

Fundraising at the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow is critical to many of the ABF’s keystone programs. While we eagerly and happily accept your donations through your membership dues and donations throughout the year, the bulk of the fundraising for these special funds happens at the ABF conference. We need your support to continue making these programs vibrant and solvent. If you wish to donate an item to the auctions and cannot attend the ABF convention, please contact Regina Robuck, reginarobuck@abfnet.org to coordinate shipping logistics. You may make donations to special funds at any time during the year online or through checks to the ABF office.

We look forward to having you join us in the FUN of our fundraising activities at the ABF convention!
2015 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)
- Louisiana State Beekeepers
- National Honey Packers and Dealers (NHPDA)

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.

*For student rate, contact Regina Robuck at reginarobuck@abfnet.org or call 404.760.2875

<table>
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<th>REGISTRATION CATEGORY</th>
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<td>Student*</td>
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Call for Entries for the 2015 American Honey Show

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) invites you to enter the 2015 American Honey Show, which will be held during the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in Anaheim, California, January 6-10. 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 Box class this year will be “Wish Upon A Star.”

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 15, 2014.

Additional information, including official show rules and regulations and entry form, can be found on the 2015 conference Web site at ABF Web site at www.nabeekeepingconference.com or by contacting the ABF office at 404.760.2875. Good luck!
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heitkamsbees@hughes.net

FOUNDATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HONEY BEES
The following individuals contributed to the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bee during the months of July and August 2014. These donations enable us to fund grants into beekeeping research and education.

Farris Bukhari, Ohio
Dwight and Joan Gunter, North Dakota
Henry Miller, Nick Lissaman, California
Barry Thompson, Maryland
James Wickerd, California

American Beekeeping Federation Newsletter – September/October 2014
## 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Schedule at a Glance (subject to change)

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2015

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<td>ABF Research Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>ABF Resolutions Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>ABF Honey Queen Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>5:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF Membership Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>5:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF Education Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>5:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00 AM – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Honey Show Entry Drop-off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>General Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Tradeshow</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:05 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>ABF Delegates Assembly Lunch (by invitation only)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Small Scale/Sideliner SIG Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 3:45 PM</td>
<td>Package Bee and Queen Breeder SIG Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 3:45 PM</td>
<td>Commercial SIG Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 PM – 4:15 PM</td>
<td>Refreshment Break in the Tradeshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 PM – 5:35 PM</td>
<td>Joint Commercial &amp; Package Bee and Queen Breeder SIG Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 PM – 5:35 PM</td>
<td>Joint Producer/Packer &amp; Small Scale/Sideliner SIG Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF New Member Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Welcome Reception in the Tradeshow w/Live Auction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration/Information Desk Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Tradeshow and Honey Show Display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>* Auxiliary Breakfast/Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25 AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>General Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20 AM – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Beverage Break in Tradeshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:35 AM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (on own)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM – 5:00 PM</td>
<td>* Sioux Honey Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM – 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM – 5:30 PM</td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>* Dinner and Entertainment at Medieval Times</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2014 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow Schedule at a Glance (subject to change)

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM – 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration/Information Desk Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Tradeshow and Honey Show Display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 12:10 PM</td>
<td>Track Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM – 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Kids and Bees Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:50 AM – 10:20 AM</td>
<td>Refreshment Break in the Tradeshow w/Silent Auction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>* Foundation Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (on own)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 2:10 PM</td>
<td>2nd Keynote Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:20 PM – 5:00 PM</td>
<td>ABF Business Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Reception in the Tradeshow with the 2015 Honey Show Live Auction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration/Information Desk Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Tradeshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>Refreshment Break in the Tradeshow with 2nd Silent Auction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (on own)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM – 5:30 PM</td>
<td>ABF Board of Directors Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM – 9:30 PM</td>
<td>*ABF Annual Banquet w/Live Auction and the 2015 American Honey Queen &amp; Princess Coronation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Additional registration fee required

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**Friends of the Bee Fund Contributions**

The following individuals contributed to the Friends of the Bee Fund during the months of July and August 2014. These donations enable us to fund educational programs and services that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

_Nick Lissaman, California_  
_Barry Thompson, Maryland_
America: A land of freedom and dreams; a land flowing with milk and honey. Nearly every food put on the table has been impacted in some way by the creature that makes honey, the honey bee. Yet the honey bee is not native to North America.  

Honey bees first landed in North America in 1622, when the Virginia Company of London sent some bees to the governor of Jamestown with a note that said, “the preservation and encrease (sic) whereof we recommend to you.”  

Eighty years later, the honey bee population in Virginia was thriving.  

One hundred and fifty-four years later, America became a nation. And in building that nation, the honey bee was there, every step of the way.  

Many different people came to the New World in the 17th and 18th centuries—the British, the French, the Dutch, the Swedes and slaves from Africa, to name a few, each culture bringing over its very own beekeeping techniques and turning the American colonies into an apicultural melting pot. But the trip to the New World was no easy task, for men or bees. The first attempt to transport bees to the colonies, for example, was a failure; the ship carrying them, the Sea Venture, was blown off course in 1609 and ended up lost in the Bermudas.  

Ships frequently got lost at sea, and/or passengers died during the long voyage.  

Transporting the bees involved great care on the part of the beekeepers. Honey bees were typically transported in a skep hive, a lightweight hive made of coiled rope that kept the bees cool in the summer and warm in the winter.  

While at sea, the skeps were placed in crates that were stored away from livestock and people to minimize bee stings.  

Feeding the bees would have been a challenge, but Samuel Hartlib suggested in 1655 that, “Bees may be fed with their own honey mixed with three times its quantity of rainwater...” Perhaps this is how the bees were fed while at sea.  

If the colonists and their insect companions did make it to shore alive, both became subject to new challenges such as disease, crop failure and, in the case of the bees, pests. Many hives were destroyed in the New World by pests such as the foulbrood, which killed bee larvae, and the wax moth, which ate up the wax combs and left sticky white remains behind.  

It was a risky decision for a beekeeper to decide to come to the New World, but many chose to come anyway.  

Honey bees spread out from Jamestown to the rest of the eastern seaboard. Although the second wave of honey bees didn’t come until 1638, by then the feral honey bee population had already begun to thrive. The bees pushed outward into the Middle Colonies and up into New England, where beeswax had become “plentiful, cheap, and a considerable Commerce.”  

Thomas Jefferson also noted that, “The bees have generally extended themselves into the country, a little in advance of the white settlers” and that the Indians recognized the honey bee as a sign of coming settlers, calling the little insect the “White Man’s Fly.”  

The colonists kept honey bees for a variety of reasons. Honey bees could be found pollinating England’s orchards, and so the Puritans wanted them in the New World as well. Before sugar from the Caribbean became popular, honey was the sweetener of choice for colonists, and some workers were even paid their wages in honey.  

Because hard money was in short supply, honey also became a form of currency known as “country pay”, a way to barter for essential commodities with goods from the farm.  

During the hungry times when crops had failed, honey was a quick and easy way to get energy.  

Another honey bee crop, beeswax, was an inexpensive and plentiful commodity that could be used for making candles and waterproofing fabric. It was also one of the colonies’ primary exports; in the 18th century, Virginia was regularly exporting beeswax to Portugal and the island of Madeira.  

Compact yet productive, the honey bee supported the livelihood of the American colonies.  

(continued on page 15)
The honey bee is of cultural significance as well. As the English colonized the New World, they adopted the hive as a metaphor for an ideal and well-organized society, a motif that would carry on into America’s early days as an independent nation. Bee skep images were placed on currency by the Continental Congress, images that promoted the messages of stability and national authority. It is also said that the honey bee helped win the American Revolution. The story goes that a young Quaker girl was given a message that the British general Cornwallis planned to attack the Revolutionaries that next Monday, and that the message had to be sent to General Washington immediately. The girl mounted her horse and began to ride, only to realize she was being followed by Redcoats. Cleverly, she overturned bee skeps as she rode, unleashing angry honey bees to sting the Redcoats while she galloped away. And the rest is history.

The beekeepers of colonial America relied on the industrious honey bee for pollination, honey and beeswax, as do modern beekeepers. Today’s beekeepers no longer use skep hives, but use improved hives that allow harvest of beeswax and honey without damaging colonies. Like their forebears, beekeepers today have challenges, too, as pesticides, insecticides, the varroa mite and Colony Collapse Disorder threaten the honey bee. Beekeepers work year-round combating these threats in order to keep their colonies alive to pollinate America’s crops. With their dedication to the life and health of the honey bee, it is hoped that the near 400 year legacy of beekeeping in America will continue to keep this land a “land of milk and honey.”

SOURCES CITED


ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hailey Ordal is a 16 year old sophomore who attends St. Mary’s School in Medford, OR. She has played the piano for eleven years, competes on her school’s tennis team, and is president of her dog 4-H club, with which she competes with her adorable corgi, Corky. At school, she particularly enjoys her foreign language classes, and hopes to work as an economist or in foreign relations someday. She lives in Medford, OR with her parents, her dog, and her cat, Kayo.

Research Donations

The following individuals contributed to the Research Fund during the months of July and August 2014. These donations will help ABF continue to support research efforts and grants within the beekeeping industry and community.

Mark W. Berninghausen, New York
Dwight and Joan Gunter, North Dakota
Nick Lissaman, California
Paul Schaefer, Wisconsin
Barry Thompson, Maryland
James Wickerd, California
Bees in the U.S.A.
(continued from cover)
	heme and we decided on “Bees in the U.S.A.” which we can hopefully sing to Bruce Springsteen’s “Born in the U.S.A.”

It will take a great deal of hard work and we need people to join committees in the next month or two to help coordinate the effort. If you would like to help, contact me, or Regina at the ABF office. We will get you involved in the monthly conference call and on the sub-committee where you might feel helpful. The committees in need of assistance to host the conference include:

- **Budget and Finance:** This committee works to actively solicit the funds necessary to complete the bid process. This will be the biggest part of how successful we might be in accomplishing all the aspects of selling the U.S. as a host country to the Apimondia delegates.
- **Site Coordination:** Members will work with Minneapolis and the State of Minnesota to develop planning for the marketing of this location to the delegates who select the successful bidder.
- **Bid Presentation:** This group coordinates between the other three committees and plans all aspects of the bid presentation in Korea in 2015.
- **Program:** Members develop the program that will be presented to the delegates.

I believe that the world is ready to come to the U.S. and explore American beekeeping as it happens here. There are many aspects that make the way we operate here unique and very interesting to others from around the world. Let’s get it done.

Honey: More Special Than Ever
(continued from page 3)

the bees are doing. There was also a genuine interest in honey, a desire to learn more about it and how it can be used in unique ways to improve other foods. All in all it was a great educational experience for the participants, and Brent, Marie and I really enjoyed the opportunity to tell the story of honey.
HONEY DEFENSE FUND

The following individuals contributed to the Honey Defense Fund during the months of July and August 2014. These donations will help ABF continue to support research efforts and grants within the beekeeping industry and community.

Jonathan King, SC
Jerry Poelman, AB Canada
William Spear, TX

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My Friend Jim

by Chappie McChesney

My friend Jim Whiteside is a special man that you should get to know. He doesn’t see himself as special, but he is for many reasons. I want to share with you just a few and I think you will agree that Jim is indeed special.

Jim is not a beekeeper. Most of my friends are, but Jim is a friend to all beekeepers as he helps point out to others the plight of the pollinators in his art.

I met Jim at the High Springs Gallery on Main Street in the little town of High Springs, Florida. Some of you will recognize the name of the city as Dadant has one of its warehouses located here.

This little art gallery is run by the member artists who display and sell their work to the locals and to the many visitors that come to this town seeking antiques and things from the past. It is a tourist stop along Interstate 75 just above Gainesville and we see lots of visitors from all states and many foreign countries as well.

We are also known for the pristine springs and rivers in the area that provide excellent cave diving and leisurely rafting on nice sunny days. On weekends, the students from the University of Florida flock to the springs and rivers to cool off and relax. Alligators are often spotted along the banks as you drift slowly with the currents.

Jim spends many hours in the Suwannee valley area fields painting the things he loves. Old buildings, barns, wildlife, pastoral scenes that mesmerize as you gaze on the beauty are some of his favorites and it shows in his work.

Jim started at an early age developing his artistic talents because of two special friends he had in his childhood. One was his pastor that encouraged his artistic talents by allowing him to draw cartoons for the church bulletins. Another was a scout leader that was also an art teacher at his school when Jim was just 12 years old. Mentors can make a difference in the life of anyone if we pay attention and have the desire to learn.

I recently asked Jim if he would be kind enough to donate one of his watercolor paintings to help the North Central Florida Beekeepers Association raise funds for the Cutts Foundation during our National Honey Bee Day event.

The Cutts Foundation is striving to raise funds to build a new research lab at the University of Florida where Dr. Jamie Ellis heads up a great program of young scientists, students, and volunteers. Our pollinators need help to survive in this day of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). That is what scientists call the loss of so many hives for reasons not understood at this time.

Jim went right to work to produce another great work of art which he donated and we auctioned off on National Honey Bee Day on August 16th. See the photos on our website. www.floridabees.org

The watercolor painting is of beekeepers working their bees and the title Jim gave the painting is, “The Beekeepers.” Along with the painting came a certificate of authenticity and a nice frame. The high bidder on this beautiful work of art was none other than our auctioneer, Laurence Cutts, or as we call him, “Mr. Deep Pockets”.

Now that is not the end of the story, as I went back to see Jim and told him how much we appreciated his help in raising funds. Then I told him about our American Beekeeping Federation convention coming up in January. I also told him how wonderful it was to have the American Honey Princess to come down to help us by promoting our event on local TV and then working all day at the event.

(continued on page 19)
Knowing how much we need to save our honey bees and how much it takes to keep any organization going, Jim is now going to paint a new watercolor painting for our fundraising efforts for the Honey Queen program in January. This one will be 18”x24” with a bee theme.

But it doesn’t stop there. He is painting a sign into the picture that will make it possible for anyone who wants to buy a print can do so and have your name, company name, photo of your choice, or whatever you want on the sign put into the painting.

All you will need to do is send him the information and he will make a print with your subject put into the picture, sign it and send it to you. Of course this will not be available until after the ABF convention in Anaheim in January. Please visit www.abfnet.org/ for more information.

But if you would like a print of the painting that Laurence Cutts purchased, you can send your request to watermarksbyjim@hotmail.com

Jim is supporting beekeeping with his artwork and it would be nice if we supported him as well.

I look forward to his latest work that I will be bringing to the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow. See you there!
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**MISCELLANEOUS**

**ABF Auxiliary** .......................................................... 701.537.5214
Secretary/Treasurer, Louise Johnson, 34147 310th Street, Guttenberg, IA 52052. The Auxiliary is asking for contributions for the American Honey Queen Fund of 2 cents per day for a year. This will make additional funds available for our American Honey Queen and American Honey Princess. Let’s help make this the best year in honey promotion.

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**Dutch Gold Honey, Inc** ............................................. 717.393.1716

**MEL-O Honey, Inc** .................................................... 507.263.8599
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**Honey Tree, Inc** ....................................................... 800.968.1889

**Sioux Honey Association** ........................................... 712.258.0638
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**PUBLICATIONS**

**American Bee Journal** ............................................ 217.847.3324
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Interested in advertising in the Federation Marketplace?
Contact Regina Robuck, ABF Executive Director, at 404.760.2887 or reginarobuck@abfnet.org.
In August of each year, I compose my article to ABF members that highlights the American Honey Queen and Princess’s goals for the year. Susannah and Elena have worked tirelessly to achieve their goals for their work this year. As of late August, our representatives have visited 19 states and have plenty more to visit during the upcoming autumn months. We are on track again to meet the American Honey Queen Committee’s goal to promote in 30 unique 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. Below is a progress report on Susannah’s and Elena’s performances to date.

**Susannah’s Goals & Results to Date**

1) Visit 20 unique states. As of August 15, Susannah has visited 14 unique states. She has promoted in two of those states multiple times. She’s well on track to reach her goal by October!

2) Generate $100,000 in media publicity for the ABF and beekeeping industry. As of August 15, Susannah was nearly 75% to this goal, and will likely exceed it before the ABF convention in January. She has had media publicity in most of the states she has visited, including television and radio interviews and newspaper publicity for the industry.

**Elena’s Goals & Results to Date**

1) Create six YouTube videos. As of August 15, Elena has developed five videos, and one has been published on the American Honey Queen Program’s YouTube Channel. The remainder will be published throughout 2014, so stop back often to see more!

2) Develop an Instagram account for the American Honey Queen Program. As of August 15, Elena and the Program’s social media coordinator are putting the final touches on this account and hope to have it operational before the end of the year.

Together, Susannah and Elena have a third goal to develop a Honey Queen/Princess presentation packet for Scout Groups, 4-H Groups, FFA Groups, etc. Susannah and Elena continue to develop this material and will have a final product prepared by December.

As Susannah and Elena visit your states, please be sure to ask them about the status of their goals when they come to your state. Maybe you can help them reach their goals by scheduling media interviews or helping them produce a YouTube video while they are in your state. Even if they don't visit your state, consider setting up a remote interview for them; the Honey Queen and Princess are regularly available by phone to take media interviews (newspaper and radio). Both are skilled at interviews and would promote honey in your state well, even from afar!

The Queen Committee has begun preparations for 2015. Application packets for the 2015 positions were sent to State Honey Queen program chairpersons in early August, and the application deadline quickly approaches in November. We are also taking requests for 2015 Honey Queen and Princess promotions, so please contact me to place your event on our master calendar. The sooner we hear from you, the more likely we will be able to accommodate your 2015 event. You may reach me by email at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or by phone at 414.545.5514. Best wishes in all your promotions!

**HONEY QUEEN FUND**

The following individuals contributed to the Honey Queen Fund during the months of July and August 2014.

- Nick Lissaman, California
- Paul Schaefer, Wisconsin
- Barry Thompson, Maryland
It was a busy time for the Honey Queen Program in late July and early August! I traveled across the country working at conventions, fairs and media interviews to promote honeybees and to educate the public about the importance of pollinators.

I traveled to St. Cloud, Minnesota, July 16-19, to attend the Minnesota Honey Producers annual convention. Throughout the weekend, I enjoyed talking with beekeepers who I met on my earlier trips. I spoke about my travel experiences so far this year and about the ways in which the Honey Queen Program can work with beekeepers to educate the public. I also really enjoyed hearing the many different presentations throughout the weekend about new bee programs that are growing across Minnesota. It was great to hear that the plans for the new University of Minnesota Bee Lab are moving forward and that many different individuals and organizations have donation options to help with the building costs. During the weekend, the Minnesota Honey Producers presented a check for $10,000 to the university team to help with the new bee lab. Any donations for the project will make a difference and help to support bee research! Dr. Marla Spivak and her team of researchers at the University of Minnesota are working on many different projects to promote bee health. One of the new projects that I found quite interesting was a research project to determine varieties of native flowers that are planted in grass will bloom after mowing. This could really help bees and other pollinators find food more easily so that they can conserve energy. Thanks to Liz Schroeder and the Minnesota Honey Producers for making it possible for me to participate in their annual meeting.

Next, I flew to New Jersey to work with the Northwest New Jersey Beekeepers Association at the Warren County Farmers’ Fair, July 25-29. This was my first visit to New Jersey, so I was very excited to see the agriculture in the state. To promote the fair, I interviewed on a local radio station, WRNJ, shared information about the story of pollination and invited people visit the fair to learn more about these great insects. My 15-minute interview was worth approximately $800 in free honeybee publicity!

At the bee booth, fairgoers enjoyed looking inside an observation hive and trying to locate the queen. We also taught fairgoers more about honeybees by placing a nuc inside a bee cage and showing the behaviors of bees while flying outside of their hive. Additionally, we passed out about 800 bee-friendly plants throughout the first weekend of the fair. The New Jersey State Beekeepers Association applied for and received a grant from the State of New Jersey, which enabled them to pass out those 800 seedlings at 10 fairs across the state. The plants were low maintenance seedlings from local nurseries which are known to be good pollinator plants. By advertising the plant giveaway on the radio and in press releases, we raised awareness about the importance of pollinating insects and we had a wonderful response. All the plants were gone by the end of the second day, and many people expressed an interest in learning more about helping honeybees. Since we know that bees and other pollinators often have a difficult time finding food during late summer and fall, encouraging people to plant good nectar and pollen plants can be very helpful to the bees in the area. Pollinator.org has lists of pollinator-friendly plants that will grow in all different areas!

The beekeepers also set up a special screened-in bee cage so to perform hive demonstrations. I gave presentations in the bee cage several times during my visit and answered many questions from fairgoers; people were very surprised to learn just how many bees are in our hives and how far they will fly to gather food. While I was in New Jersey, I also visited Washington Crossing (continued on page 24)
State Park to see the spot where General Washington crossed the Delaware River during the Revolutionary War. I was very excited to see the beautiful pollinator garden located inside Washington Crossing State Park which was covered in bees, butterflies and moths! Thank you to Karin Weinberg for arranging my promotions and to the whole Weinberg family for welcoming me during my stay.

From July 30-August 8, I traveled to Washington State for the Clark County Fair outside Vancouver. I arrived before the fair opened and had two radio interviews to promote the fair and share information about the exhibits in the Clark County Beekeepers’ Bee Barn. It was a very busy week and approximately 100,000 people attended the fair during the time that I was there! During my eight days in Washington, I was very busy all across the fairgrounds. On the first day of the fair, I was one of the three judges in the open class honey show. Honey shows are a great way to involve all the beekeepers in the association and the beautiful hive products shown can help to highlight the range of hive products for fairgoers. Every day different events were scheduled at fair grandstands, which hold 10,000 people; I was introduced and spoke to the crowd before the shows to invite them to visit the Bee Barn. It was a great way to encourage people to visit the bee exhibits, and when you mention that you’re passing out free honey candy, they make a point of stopping by! Later in the week, I judged 4-H beekeeping items; it was inspiring to see all of the different crafts created 4-Hers of all ages! Being able to show at the fair is a great way to encourage kids of all ages to take pride in their products and learn even more about bees. Youth at the Clark County Fair could enter items into the 4-H competition through the fair shows and into the open class competition with the beekeeping association.

I was also involved with many different media interviews in Washington to promote the Clark County Beekeepers exhibit. I had two radio interviews before the fair started to invite people to visit the bee barn and to share some information about the importance of the honey bees in our everyday lives. During the fair, I had four different television interviews from the fairgrounds in which I showed different hive products from the honey show, including capped frames and comb honey, and explained the process of honey production. In one interview, we filmed the bees in the observation hive showing the queen, drones and workers, and explained the role of each bee in the hive. The television coverage was worth more than $22,000 in free publicity and many people approached me throughout the week to mention that they had seen the interviews, which was why they had decided to come and visit the bee barn! Several different promotional clips were also printed in local media prior to and during the fair giving the bee barn information and highlighting the importance of bees. On my last day at the fairgrounds, The Columbia, the regional newspaper, sent a reporter and photographer out to the bee barn to write a short story. The reporter came with a few prepared questions, but, when she saw the excellent educational displays and heard all of the questions from fairgoers, she became very interested in the bees and asked a huge variety of questions ranging from hive behavior to benefits of bees and uses of hive products. What started out as a short interview lasted over an hour, as the reporter asked more in-depth questions and learned more about bees, she even ended up visiting the hive inside our bee cage! The next morning the article was on the front page of the paper and was even picked up by several other news sources in the area! It was great to know that over 60,000 people would have a chance to learn a little bit more about bees.

I particularly enjoyed seeing all the different agriculture in Washington, especially sampling many of the different locally produced berries, pollinated by honeybees! I am very thankful to John and Mary Ann Morrison for making my trip to Washington possible and for hosting me as the twenty-first consecutive honey queen to stay

(continued on page 25)
From Washington, I traveled to Indiana to work with the Indiana State Beekeepers Association at the Indiana State Fair August 9-17. I worked with the Indiana Honey Queen Katie Neighbors and the Honey Princess Teresa Nance throughout the week, teaching the public about honeybees. Throughout the fair, we also demonstrated different honey recipes, passed out samples of honey, and explained what was happening inside an observation hive. The Indiana State Beekeepers Association also had a booth inside the fair’s Pioneer Village. The goal of the village is to teach about the history of farming and living in earlier times. The beekeeping booth in the Village is used to make hand dipped beeswax candles and teach about the properties of beeswax and the history of beekeeping. On the first day of the fair Queen Katie and I had a television interview from the wax booth and explained some of the properties of beeswax. I also taught a class about beeswax molding and the many uses of wax.

In the second week of the Indiana State Fair, the beekeepers had a booth in the “Taste of Indiana” exhibit showcasing local agriculture industries and the many items which they produce. Agriculture industries from all over the state were represented, and fairgoers had the opportunity to taste the delicious products produced locally. I had a busy day passing out honey samples and answering questions about the different products produced from a hive, many people were interested in bee pollen which was a great way to explain the vital pollination services which honey bees provide. Thank you to Kristy Dooley for arranging my trip to Indiana and all of the different presentations throughout the fair. The Indiana State Fair was a very busy promotion and I enjoyed helping with all the many different presentations!

I am looking forward to my upcoming visits to New Jersey, Minnesota, and California in the coming month! To see more pictures and updates follow the American Honey Queen Program on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AmericanHoneyQueenProgram or at our blog BuzzingAcrossAmerica.com. If you would like to invite Princess Elena or me to attend your event or if you would like more information about the American Honey Queen Program, contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or by email at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com.

From the Honey Queen
(continued from page 24)

in their home!

Q...
Howdy, ABF members! The middle of July marked the beginning of my busy travel season. Between flights, I have stayed busy uploading videos onto the American Honey Queen Program YouTube Channel. To enjoy these videos please visit our channel at:
https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericanHoneyQueen.

Before I headed on out of state travel, I participated in two local promotions. On July 15, I spoke the Union County Board of Commissioners in my home county. I was pleasantly surprised when they bestowed upon me an award of recognition for traveling the United States this year to further education and public awareness of the importance of honeybees. I spoke during their meeting about honeybee population decline and how residents of Union County could help by planting wildflowers that bloom during different parts of the year to give the bees better nutrition. I explained that when the bees have better nutrition they can better protect themselves from the issues causing them harm. Finally, I encouraged Union County and Pennsylvania leaders to plant bee-friendly wildflowers in highway medians and on the sides of roadways to give natural resources to the honeybee and other pollinators. Every little bit helps in reversing pollinator decline! My second promotion was on July 17, when I headed to Selinsgrove, PA to speak at God’s Grownups. God’s Grownups is a church group that meets and brings in speakers on various subjects to educate adults. I spoke to around 40 people about honeybee biology, the beekeeper, and pollination. While eating lunch, I explained about how many of the foods they were here due to honeybee pollination.

In late July, I headed out on the first leg of my busy travel season. My first stop was in Minneapolis, Minnesota to work with the University of Minnesota at their Pollinator Party. Before the event, I was interviewed by Fox 9 TV’s The Buzz about how important honeybees are and why it is important to plant bee-friendly flowers in your garden. This five-minute TV interview alone generated around $6,000 of free media for the beekeeping industry! The Pollinator Party was packed full of people selling honey and teaching about honeybees to the over 2,000 attendees. University students spoke to attendees about their Bee Squad, a group at the university who care for hives on various properties in the city that want bee hives, but would prefer someone else work them. It is a fantastic opportunity for the students to learn more and for the resident owners to get pollination of their gardens and flowers. This would be a terrific program for other universities to replicate. There were also multiple observation hives on the premises. I highly recommend taking observation hives with you in your home state while teaching, because it is a great attention getter and tool for explaining the honeybee hive. The University also made and sold honey ice cream with sunflower seeds to raise funds for the university and use the sunflowers seeds as a conversation starter for pollination. I send a special thank you to Chris Kulhanek for hosting me during and showing me a little of Minneapolis’s fantastic charm! Thank you to Gary Reuter and Marla Spivak for the invitation to the event and for allowing me to see the University of Minnesota’s hives.

From Minneapolis, it was time to fly to Columbus, Ohio for the Ohio State Fair. Throughout the time I attended the fair, an estimated 500,000 were in attendance. This large event had plenty of people to teach about honey bees! I gave a cooking demonstration each day, where I taught about the versatility of honey and its many forms, such as comb and creamed honeys. The Ohio State Beekeepers Association put together an exhibit with vendors selling honey, large posters of life inside the hive for onlookers to view, and a fenced in mock apiary that had everything except live bees for people to tour and see what life inside the typical apiary is like. I also manned observation
From the Honey Princess
(continued from page 26)

hives, where I taught about how the queen bee lays her eggs and why beekeepers mark queens. My favorite part of this trip was performing my first bee beard at the State Fair! I had roughly 2,000 honeybees on my face, and it was a great way to show the public how gentle honeybees are. My bee beard demonstration drew a crowd of 60 people! When Barry Conrad performed his beards, I prepared the crowd by talking about the three types of bees in the hive and explaining throughout the beard how the process worked. I thank Anne Blackwell and family for being spectacular hosts and to thank Barry and Carmen Conrad for their generosity and help throughout the week.

After Ohio, I headed to New Jersey for the New Jersey State Fair. My visit was full of fantastic presentations and media opportunities! Each day I had at least one presentation in the fair’s 4-H Education Center. I played a video on pollinators and pollination produced by the New Jersey Beekeepers Association, spoke about honeybees, answered questions, and handed out samples of creamed honey, comb honey, and liquid honey. It was beneficial to show fairgoers honey’s versatility, different forms, and benefits. Most viewers had no idea that you can eat honey straight from the comb and that you can actually chew the wax like gum!

I also gave cooking demonstrations and open hive demonstrations at the fair. For hive demonstrations, I typically had a member of the Sussex County Beekeepers Association assist. Hive demonstrations are really great to use at fairs or festivals because it gives a true representation of the hive. Often when I teach someone about beekeeping, they cannot truly comprehend what I mean without showing them the hive box and frames. This was a fantastic way to use the “wow” factor to convince people that honeybees are gentle and really show what beekeepers do when checking the hive. People were amazed that the honeybees live that way and didn’t consider us a threat. They also love when you shake a frame of bees onto your arm and are shocked that the bees will not sting! To give the fair some buzz, I completed the first ever bee beard at the New Jersey State Fair and my second bee beard! Thanks to this bee beard demonstration, I was given the opportunity to be interviewed for the New Jersey Herald and made the front page of the paper with a color photo! I finished up my time at the fair with a radio interview on 102.3 WSUS with Steve Allen. We highlighted my bee beard, how consumers could purchase local New Jersey honey at the fair’s beekeeping booth, and how honeybees have a gentle nature. This station reaches nearly 10,000 listeners every day in Northwestern New Jersey and parts of Pennsylvania and New York. I thank Joel Medina and his family for welcoming me into their home and treating me as if I was one of their own children. I also thank the Sussex County Beekeepers Association and president Deb Cowell for their support throughout the week.

I headed back to Pennsylvania for Ag Progress Days. The Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association promotes the consumption of honey by selling honey, honey sweetened ice cream, and honey root beer. I work the booth, teaching consumers about the uses of honey, honey varietals, and encouraging them to purchase honey products. I also attended a luncheon during the event and the opportunity to speak with many of Pennsylvania’s agricultural representatives, including Governor Tom Corbett and Secretary of Agriculture George Greig. In their speeches, they discussed how beekeeping helps the state’s economy and how agriculture is a tradition in Pennsylvania. This was the perfect conversation starter for me with Governor Corbett. We discussed beekeeping and pollination’s role in agriculture and how beekeeping isn’t just a hobby, but also the livelihood and tradition of many families in this country. It was a wonderful opportunity to hopefully spur interest in Pennsylvania beekeeping, starting the seed of interest with Pennsylvania’s representatives, and maybe in the future watching that interest and passion spread further and more potently throughout all of the United States.

I’ve visited 11 states so far. There’s still plenty more trips to come including Florida, Kentucky, Alaska, and many others. If you haven’t heard of us being in your state, consider inviting us! If you are interested in having Susannah or me attend your promotion or lend a helping hand in your state, contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or via email at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com!
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www.dadant.com
Summer is coming to an end and fall is a busy time for beekeepers with the completion of harvesting the honey and preparation of the hives for winter. We look forward to the 2015 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in Anaheim, California January 6-10. Registration is now open at www.nabeekeepingconference.com so make your plans to attend the conference.

The ABF Auxiliary will have a table in the tradeshow area promoting our honey industry. Please plan on visiting the table where we will have bee motif items and note cards for sale. We also encourage you to bring items to sell at the table.

If you are not already a member, we would love to have you. It is simple to join ABF Auxiliary. Our dues are $10.00 and can be sent to Louise Johnson our secretary/treasurer at louisej@alpinecom.net or paid in January at the conference Auxiliary table.

Continue taking those pictures for the photo contest; we hope to have lots of entries.

Enjoy a first place winner recipe in the baking contest from the Reno convention.

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**Honey Caramel Buzzers**

*by Carol Shaw*

- 16-20 cups large (at least nickel size) cereal or corn puffs
- 1 cup HONEY
- ¾ cup brown sugar-packed
- ½ lb. Butter
- 1 tsp. Soda

**DIRECTIONS**

- In a large pan, melt butter together with honey and brown sugar.
- Boil for 2-3 minutes stirring constantly.
- Add 1 tsp. Soda. Keep stirring. It will expand 3 to 4 times.
- That is why you use a large pan. Pour mixture over cereal or corn puffs. Stir to coat. Bake at 225 degrees for 45 minutes. Stir every 10 minutes.
- Cool. When cool break apart and put in air tight container.

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