HA-BEE HOLIDAYS!
FROM ABF

Come Celebrate the ABF’s 75th Anniversary in Reno

Meet the 2018 Foundation Scholars

ABF at Apimondia 2017
# 2017 Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRESIDENT</th>
<th>VICE PRESIDENT</th>
<th>PAST PRESIDENT</th>
<th>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gene Brandi (EC)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
15346 S. Johnson Rd.
Los Banos, CA 93635
P: 209.826.2881 | Tim May (EC) |
18804 Lincoln Rd.
Harvard, IL 60033
P: 815.568.6010 | Tim Tucker (EC) |
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  jmgunter@hotmail.com

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## Interested in advertising? Contact ABF:

Sherrell Bailey, ABF Membership Coordinator – sbailey@abfnet.org
3525 Piedmont Road / Building Five, Suite 300 / Atlanta, GA 30305
P: 404.760.2875 / F: 404.240.0998 / info@abfnet.org / www.abfnet.org

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(EC) indicates Executive Committee member.

Number in parentheses next to Director’s name indicates the year their current term ends and whether they are in their 1st or 2nd term.

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Copy deadline is the first day of January, March, May, July, September and November for publications mailed at the end of the same month.
Perspectives in Beekeeping: President’s Message

The past two years have passed very quickly, and it is hard to believe that my term as your American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) President is nearly over. The past four years, including my two years as Vice-President have blended together in my mind as so many significant events have occurred within the ABF and the beekeeping industry. The ABF team has dealt with many issues confronting the bee industry in recent years, and I will highlight a few of them.

The National Strategy to Improve the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators has helped to keep the plight of our bees in the public consciousness as well as in the minds of many in Washington, D.C. and throughout the country. The formation of the Congressional Pollinator Caucus is clearly a result of this elevated level of awareness that our honey bees and other pollinators are in trouble. There is a great deal more that can be done to improve the health of our bees, and all pollinators.

The Federal agencies listed in the National Strategy have been directed to step up their efforts to help bees. EPA, for example, needs to enhance its risk assessment process, provide clear and enforceable pollinator protective language on labels of pesticide products, and reconsider the Acute Risk Mitigation Policy which was announced last January, but thankfully is not yet adopted. We have conveyed to EPA the fact that the proposed weakening of pesticide label language in the Acute Risk Mitigation Policy, by making it advisory rather than mandatory, is a huge step backwards in pollinator protection. Our discussions on this critical issue will continue with EPA in December when we will meet with members of the Office of Pesticide Programs as well as with pesticide regulators from various states who claim the long-standing mandatory (Do Not Apply........) label language is “unenforceable.”

USDA is involved with many programs helpful to our industry, including ARS research, NRCS and FSA programs, and administration of millions of acres of Federal land by the US Forest Service, some of which is suitable for apiary locations. ARS honey bee research facilities in Beltsville, Baton Rouge, and Tucson are still fully funded by Congress and we are asking that there be appropriate funds allocated to staff and operate the new ARS facility at UC Davis in California. As part of our 2018 Farm Bill discussions we are urging that the ELAP program be continued (perhaps with a higher payment cap) and that CRP acreage dedicated to pollinator habitat be increased using less expensive seed mixes that contain more honey bee friendly plants.

In addition to USDA, the Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other Federal agencies manage millions of acres of land which is suitable for apiary sites. Indeed many of these agencies have allowed managed honey bees on their land for years and the ABF will continue to work with the various Federal agencies to expand opportunities for apiary sites on public lands.

Whatever the issue, we have taken the high road in our negotiations with Federal Agencies, Congress, or anyone with whom we have dealt. There have been times, however, when we have seen the need to join with other groups, such as the Pollinator Stewardship Council and/or the Center for Food Safety, as a cosigner of petitions challenging EPA actions. For example, in April 2017 we co-signed a petition challenging the EPA “treated article exemption” which exempts the planting of pesticide treated seeds from regulation under FIFRA. We, and the other co-petitioners believe that the planting of these treated seeds should be considered a pesticide application given the many problems associated with this practice. This case is still ongoing now.

The ABF is a member of the Livestock Coalition working on transportation issues revolving around the Electronic Log Device (ELD) and Hours of Service issues to which bee haulers are scheduled to adhere. Last year, bee haulers were included in the exemption from the additional half hour rest period required of other drivers. Earlier this year, coalition efforts resulted in a 150-air mile exemption from the point of origin. Currently efforts to add flexibility to Hours of Service restrictions as well as a delay in the implementation of ELD regulations for livestock (including bees) haulers are ongoing.

The ABF has been a paid member of Apimondia, the international association of beekeepers, since 2009. This year’s Apimondia conference was held in Istanbul, Turkey in late September and ABF was represented by Virginia Webb of Georgia as our delegate. Virginia has been attending Apimondia conferences for many years and has included a detailed report on this year’s conference in this newsletter. Many thanks to Virginia for her great efforts in representing ABF and USA beekeepers at Apimondia 2017. The next Apimondia conference will be in Montreal, Canada in 2019, followed by Ufa, Russia in 2021.

During my time as Vice President and President of the ABF, we have worked closely with the American Honey Producers Association (AHPA) and indeed have submitted joint comments on many official matters of concern to the beekeeping industry. The 2017 North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow in Galveston earlier this year was the first unified conference of the ABF and AHPA since 2011 and is further evidence that we can and do work together. It is an ABF policy that we continue to work toward having unified
Perspectives in Beekeeping – cont. from page 3

drawings and all are very much appreciated. There are too many individuals to mention here, but I must express my personal gratitude to one special person: Liz Vaenoski of Clinton, Wisconsin. Liz has consistently donated valuable items, especially her famous beeswax art pieces for the benefit of the ABF. When she could travel to the conferences, Liz would bring a carload of donations and go home with a carload of items she purchased at auction! Liz will be donating items again this year which she is suggesting as gifts to anyone who donates at least $100 to the ABF Legislative Fund. Be sure to check these out at the conference in Reno!

Finally, I cannot thank my wife Christine and son Michael enough for keeping my business functioning while I have been taking care of ABF business for the past 4 years. There is no way I could have remained in business without their help!

The ABF has come a long way since its humble beginnings in 1943. During the past 75 years, the officers, executive committee, and board members have guided the organization on the right path in order that the ABF can be the well-respected organization that it is today. I have the utmost respect and gratitude for those who have served and guided this organization over the years.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the 75th Anniversary ABF Conference & Tradeshow in Reno! Keep supporting the ABF so it can support your beekeeping!

conferences with the AHPA, and at this point it appears the next possibility of a unified conference is in 2021.

ABF continues to be the largest (and the oldest) national beekeeping organization and our membership just keeps growing! Blake Shook and the Membership and Marketing Committee have done a fabulous job of increasing our membership. The success of the ABF would not be possible without the great people who volunteer to get involved and help in so many ways. Officers, Board and committee members, conference volunteers, and others who aid the ABF are all working on behalf of the organization for the betterment of the beekeeping industry out of the goodness of their heart. None are getting paid for their services, and I appreciate all who donate their time to keep the organization functioning. I especially appreciate the efforts of Tim Tucker, Tim May, Sarah Red-Laird, Anna Kettlewell, the ABF Board of Directors, as well as George Hansen and Zac Browning who continue to represent and support the ABF in various capacities throughout the year.

Of course, the staff at Meeting Expectations in Atlanta are essential to handle the day to day ABF business such as financial matters, mail, email, phone calls, as well as conference planning and management. Many thanks to Regina, Sherrell, Micheal, Tara, Dimirte and the rest of the ME staff for their dedication to the success of the ABF.

There are many individuals who support the ABF financially by purchasing or donating items for the auctions or sweepstakes
Message from the ABF Vice President

After an encouraging start to the 2017 honey season things regressed back to the recent norm. By the end of the year we had about a 6% increase in honey production. The positive result for the past year is the health of our bees going into the winter. Although we still are experiencing high losses throughout the summer and fall we do have a greater percentage of strong hives at this time. Multiple mite treatments throughout the year and an increase in protein may be the reason, although with so many variables it is still very difficult to distinguish the reason for this small positive change.

October was a busy month with feeding and preparing our bees for winter. I also spent a week in Washington D.C. with ABF President Gene Brandi. We attended the Honey Bee Health Coalition (HBHC) meeting which took place at the USEPA headquarters in Washington. “The HBHC was formed to bring together beekeepers, researchers, government agencies, agribusiness, growers, conservation groups, manufacturers and consumer brands and other key partners to improve the health of honey bees in general and specifically around production agriculture.”

The HBHC has specific priorities to improve the health of honey bees. These priorities include; Forage and Nutrition, Hive Management, Crop Pest Management, along with Outreach Education and Communication. With its vast number of diversified members, it is not always easy to come up with a consensus decision regarding the problems concerning honey bee health. The HBHC has brought all the parties involved in agribusiness and pollinators together at one table. George Hansen is the official ABF representative on the HBHC and has always done a fantastic job fighting for the honey bee and our industry in a room that has not always shared his opinions.

For more information on the Honey Bee Health Coalition go to www.honeybeehealthcoalition.org

Later in the week Gene and I attended the 17th Annual North American Pollinator Protection Campaign Conference (NAPPC). The Conference was hosted by the American Farm Bureau Federation in Washington D.C.

“NAPPC’s mission is to encourage the health of resident and migratory animals in North America. NAPPC partners gather from the North American continent and beyond to:

• Raise public awareness and education and promote constructive dialogue about pollinators’ importance to agriculture, ecosystem health, and food supplies;
• Encourage collaborative, working partnerships among participants with federal, state and local government entities and strengthening the network of associated organizations working on behalf of pollinators;
• Promote conservation, protection and restoration of pollinator habitat;
• Document and support scientific, economic and policy research – creating the first ever international data bank of pollinator information.”

The two-day conference began with speaker’s presenting on various topics from pollinator habitat to pests, pathogens, and pesticides. Gene was one of the first day speakers and gave an informative presentation on “The current state of the beekeeping industry”

The afternoon on the first included presentations by researchers on honey bee health issues followed by breakout sessions of the NAPPC Task Forces. Gene and I are on the Pesticide Education Task Force and this group I helps educate the public on current pesticide issues involving pollinators. This task force decided on three current priorities which include: the effects of spray adjuvants on pollinators, the new EPA smart label program, and EPA’s Acute Mitigation Policy.

The second day of the conference began with “Breakfast Briefing’s” given by various pollinator supporting organizations describing the work that they have done on behalf of pollinators. The reports varied from “Pollinator friendly solar sites” to “Virus transmissions to honey bees”. That afternoon we again broke into our Task Force groups to finalize our action items. The two conferences joined together for a reception at the United States Botanical Garden on Wednesday night. Both conferences were very informative. These groups are an example of how an organization of players with differing objectives can get together and discuss possible solutions for pollinator issues. For more information on NAPPC go to www.pollinator.org/nappc.

This is my final Vice President’s Message. I want to thank President Gene Brandi for all his advice and support over the past two years. Gene has been an outstanding President for this organization and will be missed. I would also like to thank the ABF Board of Directors and Meeting Expectations for their continued dedication to the ABF. The past two years have been a great learning experience and I am honored to have served as the Vice President and representative of this great organization.

Hope to see all of you in Reno!

Tim May, ABF Vice President
Government Relations Report

by Tim May
ABF Vice President

The ABF Legislative Committee met to discuss the upcoming 2018 Farm Bill. The current Farm Bill (2014) will expire September 30, 2018. ABF President Gene Brandi and Vice President Tim May have had multiple meetings with Congressional Ag Committee staffers this year to discuss the issues that the ABF has regarding the 2018 Bill and the honey bee industry.

The ABF priorities for the Farm Bill include four main categories.

1. Continue to follow the “National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators”

2. Continue the “Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish” program (ELAP). We have recommended eliminating or at least raising the cap on the program. The current cap is set at $20M per year.

3. Continue to make honey bee and other pollinator research a priority within the USDA.

4. Expand conservation programs and lands. Allow for more managed bees on public lands. Present lower cost pollinator seed mixes for CRP and other similar programs.

The House Ag Committee has been out in front of the 2018 Farm Bill and has held multiple listening sessions throughout the country. ABF President Gene Brandi was able to speak on behalf of the ABF at the listening session that was held in Modesto, CA.

The ABF Legislative Committee will have a meeting with AHPA officers to discuss our priorities. We will come up with a consensus list of priorities for the industry and draft a letter to be presented to the House and Senate Ag Committees.

According to Representative Michael Conaway (chairman of the House Ag Committee) details on the Farm Bill will not be available until January or February, because Congress has been kept busy with tax reform and government funding legislation. Failure to get appointees approved by the Senate is also leaving the USDA short staffed.

We will be joining many other livestock organizations in petitioning for an ELD delay. The petition is being drafted by the “Livestock Marketing Association” and will contain some combination of the following three priorities:

1. Allow livestock haulers to use the entire 14 hours of on-duty time for livestock transportation.

2. Allow livestock haulers to use a flexible split sleeper berth provision, which would allow rest time to be split in at least three parts with two-hour minimum periods of rest.

3. Apply the 150 air-mile exemption to the back end of the haul.

We are confident that we will receive a delay, but to come up with a long-term solution for mandatory ELD and livestock hauling the Livestock Coalition will have to present a unified request on these issues.

Member Milestones

**Milestones for September and October 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 Years</th>
<th>15 Years</th>
<th>40 Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janet Brisson</td>
<td>Gilbert Vannoy</td>
<td>Darryl Rebuck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Creighton</td>
<td>Kenneth Voorhes</td>
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<td>Russell Dittfurth</td>
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<td>Clay “Bear” Kelley</td>
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<td>60 Years</td>
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<td>Nick Lissaman</td>
<td>Jill Clark</td>
<td>Phil May</td>
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<td>Ray McAllister</td>
<td>Marla Spivak</td>
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<td>Cheryl Nelson</td>
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<td>65 Years</td>
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<td>Robert Nelson</td>
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<td>Donald Schmidt</td>
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<td>Ken Olinger</td>
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<td>George O’Neil</td>
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<td>Perry Plescia</td>
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<td>Stephen Repasky</td>
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30 Years

David R. Hackenberg

40 Years

Darryl Rebuck

60 Years

Phil May

65 Years

Donald Schmidt
OHB has been raising queens for more than 50 years. We raise Italian, Carniolan and Saskatraz queens and bees in the heart of Northern California and on Hawaii’s Big Island. These carefully chosen locations allow us to provide our bees with the purest environments and the best food sources, and to offer our customers premium quality queens and bees year round.

Donate to the ABF Legislative Fund

Send your contributions to: ABF Legislative Fund / 3525 Piedmont Rd. / Building Five, Ste. 300 / Atlanta, GA 30305

- $100
- $500
- $ ___________________

Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: __________________________ Zip:____________________
Phone: ________________________________ E-mail: _________________________________________________

Gift may be made by:

- Visa
- Mastercard
- American Express
- Discover
- Check (made payable to the ABF Legislative Fund)

Credit Card: ___________________________________________________________________________________
Exp. Date: ______________________________________________________ Security Code: ___________________
Cardholder Name: _______________________________________________________________________________
Cardholder Billing Address: _________________________________________________________________________
Signature: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Your credit card will be billed by the ABF, which will be transferred to the ABF Legislative Fund.
Celebrate 75 Years of the ABF at the 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow

MANY FACETS. ONE ABF.
Grand Sierra Resort
Reno, Nevada
January 9-13, 2018

CELEBRATE the 75th Diamond Anniversary of the ABF at the 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow, January 9-13, at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada. Discover the many facets of the ABF with four days of spectacular educational sessions, networking and fun.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! In addition to family-focused conference activities, the Grand Sierra Resort features FunQuest, the largest arcade in northern Nevada, two laser-tag arenas, a bounce house, climbing apparatus, Grand Adventure Land Park, and a 50-lane bowling center.

Shine Bright in Reno!
• Hear from experts, trendsetters & influencers.
• Learn best practices.
• Shop a tradeshow full of the latest beekeeping innovations.
• Showcase your skills in the 2018 Honey Show.
• Have next-generation fun at the Kids and Bees program.
• Network with 900+ fellow beekeepers

Optional activities include:
• Auxiliary Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday Afternoon.
• Thursday Night Social - Bowling with Dinner
• Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Luncheon on Friday
• ABF Annual Banquet on Saturday evening with the Coronation of the 2018 American Honey Queen and Princess

You won’t want to miss this opportunity to experience the one of the largest beekeeping tradeshow, outstanding educational sessions and the chance to network with your fellow beekeepers from all over the world.

ONLINE REGISTRATION ENDS DECEMBER 15*

DON’T WAIT. REGISTER TODAY.
http://abfconference.com/registration
*after Dec. 15, onsite registration will be available

Guest Room Reservations:
The Grand Sierra Resort
2500 E. 2nd Street | Reno, NV 89595
Telephone: 775.789.2000 | Toll Free: 800.501.2651

Reservations:
Reservations can be made online at The Grand Sierra Resort
https://aws.passkey.com/event/49002863/owner/16854/home

Additionally, reservations can be made by calling the resort directly at 1.800.501.2651 (please be sure to request the ABF or beekeepers room block).

Room Rate: $99.00 per night plus taxes and $2.00 tourism surcharge per room, per night. Current occupancy tax is 13% and sales tax is 7.725%. Resort fee has been waived for ABF attendees.

Deadline: The discounted group rate is available until December 15, 2017, or until the room block is full (whichever comes first). After this date, the discounted group rate may no longer be available.

The Resort fee (which is waived for ABF attendees) includes:
• Unlimited use of the swimming pool (seasonal) and fitness center
• In-room wireless internet and local calls
• Two (2) bottles of water per day in room
• Round-trip transportation to and from the Reno Tahoe International Airport via shuttle
• Self and valet parking
The Grand Sierra Guest Rooms, feature 420 sq.ft. of the perfect blend of luxury and style. Each room is adorned with custom leather and suede furniture accented in warm, rich colors and feature a 32-inch flat screen television and a coffee maker. Be sure to visit the conference website at [http://abfconference.com](http://abfconference.com) for more information on each property and to make your reservations. We encourage you to make your reservations early as we anticipate selling out at all three properties.

75-YEARS STRONG! Make your plans today to join us in Reno for a brilliant conference and a celebration of the association’s 75 years of accomplishments.

GUEST ROOM RESERVATIONS WARNING: On occasion, a Housing Company may contact potential conference attendees and advise that the conference hotel is almost sold out and that they need to make their reservations with them at that time. This is not accurate! No one should or will be calling you to make your hotel reservations. All reservations must be made directly with the hotel via telephone or online link.

CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR THE 2018 AMERICAN HONEY SHOW:
Gift Box Theme “Let Freedom Ring”

The American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) invites you to enter the 2018 American Honey Show, which will be held during the 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow in Reno, Nevada on January 9-13. This is a prime opportunity to showcase your bees’ abilities to produce the purest honey, the best wax and the most goodies.

The Honey Show will showcase the best examples of honey and beeswax. It includes eighteen (18) classes twelve (12) for honey, five (5) for beeswax and the gift box class. The gift box theme for 2018 is “Let Freedom Ring.” 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, 2017. You MUST BRING your honey entries to the conference yourself. NO entries will be accepted at the ABF offices.

Additional information, including official show rules and regulations and entry form, can be found on the 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow website at [abfconference.com/american-honey-show](http://abfconference.com/american-honey-show) or by contacting the ABF office at 404.760.2875. The website also includes a link to some helpful Honey Show hints and tips. Good luck and Shine Bright!
## 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow

### Schedule at-a-Glance *(subject to change)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Afternoon</strong></td>
<td>Committee Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Morning</strong></td>
<td>Opening General Session</td>
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<td><strong>Noon</strong></td>
<td>Tradeshow Opens</td>
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<td>ABF State Delegates Luncheon (Invitation Only)</td>
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<td><strong>Afternoon</strong></td>
<td>General Session Continues</td>
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<td><strong>Evening</strong></td>
<td>Welcome Reception with Entertainment in the Tradeshow</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morning</strong></td>
<td>SIG Meetings (Small Scale/Sideline, Package Bee &amp; Queen Breeder, Honey Producer/Packer and Commercial Beekeeping)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All Day</strong></td>
<td>Tradeshow</td>
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<td>American Bee Research Conference</td>
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|  | Track Sessions  
  • Small Scale  
  • Serious Sideline  
  • Commercial |
| **noon** | Auxiliary Lunch/Meeting (Optional) * |
| **Afternoon** | General Session |
|  | Live & Silent Auctions in the Tradeshow |
| **Afternoon/Evening** | Bowling Social Activity w/ Dinner (Optional)* |

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<tr>
<td><strong>Morning</strong></td>
<td>General Session</td>
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<td>Kids and Bees Program</td>
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<td><strong>All Day</strong></td>
<td>Tradeshow</td>
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<td>American Bee Research Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>noon</strong></td>
<td>Foundation Luncheon (Optional) *</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Afternoon</strong></td>
<td>Keynote Presentation</td>
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<td>ABF Business Meeting</td>
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<td>Honey Show Live Auction</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morning</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Beekeepers Workshop/Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Morning/Afternoon</strong></td>
<td>Interactive Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening</strong></td>
<td>ABF Annual Banquet with the Coronation of the 2018 American Honey Queen and Princess (Optional)*</td>
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Members of the following organizations will receive a registration discount:

- American Beekeeping Federation
- Nevada Beekeepers Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All rates are in US dollars</th>
<th>EARLY REGISTRATION by 10/31/2017</th>
<th>REGULAR 10/31/2017 - 12/15/2017</th>
<th>ONSITE after 12/15/2017</th>
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<td>PAYING MEMBER</td>
<td>NON-MEMBER</td>
<td>PAYING MEMBER</td>
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<td>Single Registrant</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>$310.00</td>
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<td>$435.00</td>
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<td>$190.00</td>
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<td>$215.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student &amp; Educator Rate**</td>
<td>$50 per day</td>
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**Family is defined as 2 adults and any children living in the same household.

** Students and Educators will be required to show valid school ID at the conference.

Cancellation Policy

Registration cancellations received in writing on or prior to 12/15/2017 will be refunded minus a $50.00 administrative fee. Registration cancellations received after 12/15/2017 will not be refunded.

PLEASE NOTE:

All non-member registrants will receive a one-year entry level membership to the American Beekeeping Federation to be processed following the conference in late January/early February 2018. You will be notified once your memberships have been activated.
2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow
Sponsors (as of 11.29.17)

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* Additional registration fee required
Kids and Bees Program: Call for Volunteers in January

This coming January, the Kids and Bees main event will be at the 2018 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow in Reno, Nevada.

On Friday, January 12th from 9:00 – Noon, local and visiting elementary-aged kids are welcomed to the Nevada room in the Grand Sierra Resort to participate in the “Kids and Bees” program. This no-charge educational program has been a traditional featured event with the American Beekeeping Federation Conference for over 20 years, and is a “don’t miss” opportunity for school groups, home schooled kids, scouts, and clubs. Kids and their teachers or parents can expect a room full of hands-on exhibits under the themes of, “The Art of Beekeeping,” “The Science of Beekeeping,” “The World of Beekeeping,” and “The Future of Bees: It’s Up to You!” They will learn about the art and science behind beeswax, honey, pollination, ultraviolet bee vision, and so much more! Students will make their way through each station, engaging with beekeepers and Honey Queens from around the US, and in activities that will harness their senses and imaginations.

We’ll need about thirty volunteers to make this program a success! If you would like to lend a smile and some bee knowledge, please email me at sarah@beegirl.org or for more information and registration visit https://abfkidsbees.eventbrite.com.

Please, also, help us spread the word to anyone you know who is attending with their kids, or anyone in the Reno area.

The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Presents: an Educational Event

Friday, January 12th 9am – noon
Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada
at the American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshows
information & registration: https://abfkidsbees.eventbrite.com
ABF DONATIONS

The following individuals contributed to the ABF Funds during the months of August, September and October 2017. These donations enable us to fund programs and services that will benefit ABF members and the American beekeeping industry.

Legislative
Janice Sina, Connecticut
Patty Sundberg, Montana
Roy Abel, Florida
Barry Thompson, Maryland
Nick Lissaman, California
Lawrence Kelley, Virginia
Thomas Rea, Pennsylvania
Sunshine Apiary Inc., Montana
Kenneth Voorhes, Nebraska
Bob Miller, California
Honey Land Inc., Montana

Friends of the Bee
The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.
Barry Thompson, Maryland
Honey Land Inc., Montana
Walter Blohm, New York
In Memory of Dale Bauer from the Bauer Family, Minnesota

Research
Roy Abel, Florida
Barry Thompson, Maryland
Todd Keller, Oregon
Maxine Keller, Oregon
Dewey Caron, Oregon
Nick Lissaman, California
Honey Land Inc., Montana
Walter Blohm, New York
Bob Miller, California

The Foundation
for the Preservation
of Honey Bees, Inc.

Honey Queen
Barry Thompson, Maryland
Nick Lissaman, California
Honey Land Inc., Montana
Harland Vehrs, Wisconsin
Elaine Holcombe, Tennessee
Thomas Rea, Pennsylvania

Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.
Barry Thompson, Maryland
Nick Lissaman, California
Honey Land Inc., Montana
Walter Blohm, New York
Rob Brandt, California
David Ellingson, Minnesota

Honey Defense
Nick Lissaman, California
Honey Land Inc., Montana
Benton Kastman, Texas
Walter Blohm, New York
Bob Miller, California

SHOW YOUR PRIDE

ABF would like to see how you are showing off your “Proud to be an ABF Member” sticker!
Post your pictures to our American Beekeeping Federation Facebook page.
2017 Apimondia Congress – Istanbul, Where the Continents Meet

Apimondia is the International Federation of Beekeepers Associations and other organizations working within the apicultural sector. Founded in 1949, the organization exists to promote scientific, technical, ecological, social and economic apicultural development in all countries in cooperation of beekeepers’ associations, scientific bodies and individuals involved in apiculture worldwide. It also aims to improve apicultural practice and to render the obtained products profitable to the beekeeper.

Since rejoining the Apimondia in 2009, more American Beekeepers are becoming involved with this international organization.

The host city for this year was Istanbul, Turkey, a city of more than 8,500 years of history. This city between two continents, Europe and Asia is the former capital of Roman, Byzantine and the Ottoman Empires. Today Istanbul is the largest city in Europe, with a population of nearly 15 million. The Apimondia Congress was held near the city center at the Istanbul Congress Center.

Opening ceremonies for the 45th Apimondia Congress was a spectacular showcase of Turkey culture. With greetings from the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and ending with Turkish dancers, including a performance by the Turkish Whirling Dervishes.

Each day of the Congress, attendees had multiple choices of programs to attend. Over 400 different presentations in the areas of Bee Biology, Bee Health, Beekeeping Economy, Bee Flora, Technology and Quality, Apitherapy and Beekeeping for Rural Development. A key note speaker opened each day’s sessions, and it included Brian Smith from Arizona State University who’s keynote speech was on Sub-Lethal Stress that Affects Behavior of Native Bees and Honeybees.

One of the most attended programs involved a round table talk on adulteration of honey. During the continental regional commission meetings every commission listed combating adulteration of honey as a global issue. Adulteration detection is becoming more difficult as these food fraudsters continue to improve their way of masking their fake product.

Over 300 poster presentations of projects and research findings from almost every country in the beekeeping world were presented during the Apimondia Congress. Many of the authors of these posters were at their display to explain the work they were doing and answer questions.

One of my favorite parts of Apimondia is the World Beekeeping Contest including the World Honey Show. This year was exceptionally large with more than 1,000 entries. I was fortunate to participate as the senior honey judge for the Commercial Honey Classes.

Closing ceremonies were just a spectacular as the Opening Ceremony, with a wonderful laser light show of the Congress. More than 13,500 registered attendees, making this the most attended Apimondia Congress ever.

The Slovenian Beekeepers presented this fabulous honeycomb dome utilizing virtual reality technology to turn participants into a bee.

The most visited booths at the ApiExpo were booths of the candidate countries for Apimondia 2021. Russia was by far the largest booth in the Expo, and each day did something extra special for all delegates. One of the best parts of the congress is the ApiExpo, where many of the largest beekeeping supply dealers and honey packers show off their latest in beekeeping equipment and innovations. This year’s ApiExpo was reported to be the largest, with over 190 different participants. It was a pleasure to see several Americans showing at the ApiExpo, including Mann Lake with Jack and Bette Thomas in attendance.

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2017 Iowa Honey Queen Carly Vannoy
Carly Vannoy is the 18-year-old daughter of Scott and Carole Vannoy. She is a senior in high school and resides and keeps bees Urbandale, Iowa, with her family. Carly has enjoyed her duties as the 2017 Iowa Honey Queen, giving over 400 presentations across the state during her reign. When not busy with Honey Queen activities, she enjoys dancing, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

2017 Nebraska Honey Queen Shelby Kittle
Shelby Kittle, 18, is the daughter of Rod and Tammy Kittle of Ord, Nebraska. She is a senior at Ord Junior/Senior High School and taking online classes through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in plant and insect sciences. Shelby wants to obtain a degree in Agriculture Education and become a teacher. She runs her own honey production business based off the 15 hives that she owns. She also manages Supervised Agricultural Education project for FFA. Shelby enjoys running her multiple businesses, drawing, cooking, kayaking, and beekeeping.

2017 Pennsylvania Honey Queen Kayla Fusselman
Kayla Fusselman, 22, is the daughter of Brian and Diane Fusselman of Kempton, Pennsylvania. She is a 2017 graduate of Kutztown University and earned her bachelor’s degree in Art Education. Kayla is a member and serves as the secretary of the Kutztown School District’s Agriculture Education Advisory Board. She is also a published co-author of Kutztown University, a researched pictorial history book detailing the 150 years of education at her alma mater, Kutztown University. In her free time, Kayla enjoys painting, scrapbooking, traveling, playing with her dog and pet skunk, and working with the bees.

2017 Texas Honey Queen Megan Pettibon
Megan Pettibon is the 19-year-old daughter of Patrick and Christie Pettibon and lives with her 10 siblings in Greenville, Texas. She has been involved with Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association for 14 years and served as the 2016 Collin County Honey Queen. She has a true passion for teaching and takes every opportunity to educate others about honeybees. Megan is currently earning her business degree in Organizational Leadership from Texas A&M University and will be graduating next year with her bachelor’s degree.

2017 Wisconsin Honey Queen Jenny Gross
Jenny Gross is the 20-year-old daughter of Bill and Mary Gross of Oostburg, Wisconsin. She is a sophomore at Concordia University Wisconsin studying Hospitality and Event Management through the Accelerated Business Scholars Program (dual bachelor’s and master’s degrees). At school, Jenny is a student ambassador, a social media copywriter, and an orientation leader. She is involved in women’s ministry, Bible studies, and mission trips. In her spare time, Jenny enjoys painting, singing, theatre, playing ukulele, and beekeeping.
2018 Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees Scholars

Thanks to scholarships awarded by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, four budding scientists from all over the country are presenting their research at this year’s conference. The $3000 awards will enable the graduate students to meet fellow honey bee researchers and people in the industry they hope to serve.

Shilpi Bhatia
Shilpi Bhatia is a second-year graduate student in the Environmental Health Sciences program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). Her project entails Virus-Honey bee disease resistance laying the foundation for breeding virus-resistant honey bee stocks in the U.S. which is an important trait for commercial beekeepers and bee breeders in the U.S.

Katie Lee
Katie Lee is a University of Minnesota Ph.D. candidate advised by Dr. Marla Spivak. Katie is using data collected by the Bee Informed Partnership’s Tech-Transfer Teams to develop treatment recommendations for Varroa destructor and to identify regional and temporal baselines for different diseases and pests in commercial colonies. She is also working to identify factors associated with failing queen bees.

Alexander McMenamin
Alex is a third year Doctoral student at Montana State University working with Dr. Michelle Flenniken. He studies honey bee host-pathogen interactions including (1) how bees defend themselves against viral infection and (2) molecular analysis of Lake Sinai viruses.

Surabhi Gupta Vakil
Surabhi Gupta Vakil received her BS and MS degree in Entomology from Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University, India. Currently she is a PhD student at University of Nebraska Lincoln, to enhance agricultural landscapes to increase forage availability and reduce neonicotinoid insecticide exposure to improve the health of bees in agroecosystems.

2017 Apimondia Congress – cont. from page 15

Congress. In the contest to host the 2021 Apimondia, the Russian Beekeeping Organization, sponsored by their State Government, was the winner. It was a tight race between Russia and Denmark.

The day after the Apimondia Congress closes, attendees can attend the Technical Tour. This year’s tour included a trip to the Asia side of Turkey where we visited a local honey farmer’s market, an apiary of more than 300 hives that included regional bee races, Anatolian, Caucasian and Mugla bees. Finally, we took a tour of the Balparmak Honey Company, one of Europe’s largest honey packing operations.

In 2019 the city of Montreal will host the 46th Apimondia Congress and I encourage everyone to attend this wonderful world beekeeping congress. I plan to be there.
Shine Bright Like a Diamond in Reno 2018 Sweepstakes

Winners will choose from prizes listed at the ABF registration desk. First ticket drawn gets first choice and so on. A big THANK YOU to all folks who generously donated to the Sweepstakes.

Prize 1:
Microsoft Surface with keyboard
(Dutch Gold Honey & Sioux Honey Association)

Prize 2:
50 Queens (Kona Queen)

Prize 3:
$500 gift card for Bee Supplies
(David Hackenberg)

Prize 4:
One family registration to the 2019 ABF Annual Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC (ABF)

Prize 5:
5 night stay at 2018 ABF Conference, Reno, Nevada
(From Lee Heine)

Prize 6:
$500 merchandise certificate for Dadant & Sons

Prize 7:
$500 merchandise certificate for Mann Lake Ltd.

Prize 8:
50 Queens for Heitkam’s Honey Bees

Prize 9:
50 Queens: 25 Wooten’s Queens & Bees & 25 Steve Park Apiaries

Prize 10:
50 Queens: 25 Wooten’s Queens & Bees & 25 Daren Wooters Bee Farm

Prize 11:
50 Queens: 25 Olivarez Honey Bees & 25 Big Island Queens

Prize 12:
Apple Watch Series 1
(Lance & Patty Sundberg)

Prize 13:
Cannon Camera
(Lance & Patty Sundberg)

Prize 14:
$200 gift card
(Lance & Patty Sundberg)

Prize 15:
FLIR C2 pocket-sized thermal camera
(Barkman Honey)

Prize 16:
50 Queens
(Kona Queen)

Prize 17:
$500 merchandise certificate for D&J Apiary

The drawing will be held at the ABF Banquet, Saturday, January 13, 2018. Winners MUST be present to win! All proceeds benefit the ABF.

Bee Connected:
ABF Facebook Fan Page

If you are a member of Facebook, you can be a fan of the ABF Facebook page. All you have to do is simply search Facebook for “American Beekeeping Federation” to access the page and click the “Like” button to become a fan.

Everyone is welcome. To date, we have over 24,750 fans and are reaching new fans each day.

If you have a Facebook fan page for your business or local beekeeping association, let us know and we’ll add you to our lineup.

Please feel free to post your beekeeping photos on our page, write on our wall and keep sending your friends to our page. Stay tuned for ABF updates, fun facts, recipes and photos of our ABF members doing what they do best!

by Regina K. Robuck
ABF Executive Director
FEATURES OF THE ABF CONFERENCE INCLUDE:

- Fantastic general session presentations from industry experts
- Track sessions for all levels of beekeeping
- Interactive, hands-on workshops
- Vendor tradeshow with the latest and greatest products and services
- Breakfast/Meeting for Commercial Beekeepers
- 2019 Honey Show
- Coronation of the 2019 American Honey Queen and Princess
- Lots of networking and social opportunities
- And much, much more!

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- Shopping galore
- Natural attractions such as Brookgreen Gardens, Conway Riverwalk and Murrells Inlet MarshWalk

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FD-351  Pro Health  gallon (Makes up to 200 gallons)...................... $ 99.95
FD-352  Pro Health  5 gallon (Makes up to 1000 gallons).............. $ 449.95
FD-353  Pro Health  55 gallon (Makes up to 11,000 gallons)......... $3995.00

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2017 is quickly ending, and it’s hard to believe that it is almost time for another ABF conference. This year was highlighted by several new promotional venues, along with the expansion of our repeat promotions. The Queen Program’s media outreach efforts again exceed the $200,000 in value this year, and the Queen and Princess have brought honeybees and honey to the attention of consumers young and old nationwide from Alaska to Florida, California to Maine!

Queen Maia and Princess Hope are eager to share their promotional journeys with you at the American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow in Reno. You will have plenty of opportunities to learn about their year, from attending the Auxiliary luncheon, where they will present on their various promotions and give members tips for successful honey promotions and honeybee educational events, to viewing their pictorial documentation of their year at the trade show. They’ll be present throughout the conference for you to catch up with them and learn about their work for our organization.

2018 marks a significant milestone for the American Honey Queen Program. At the annual banquet, the 60th American Honey Queen will be announced. She, along with the American Honey Princess, will embark on another exciting year of promotional events. Thank you to all members who have reached out with their 2018 promotional dates. We are excited to have our new representatives have a busy year as we celebrate our program’s anniversary!

You can learn more about the applicants for the Queen and Princess positions on pages 22-25. The Queen Committee is eager to meet these women and learn about their promotional journeys in their respective states. You will have plenty of time to interact with these finalists throughout the convention. Please consider supporting the American Honey Queen Program at the conference, by participating in the live and silent auctions benefitting ABF programs, the American Honey Show auction, and the American Honey Queen quilt raffle. This year’s beautiful quilt was crafted by Karen Lorence of Illinois, and will be on display at the conference and is pictured right.

Maia and Hope continue promotions through December. I encourage you to contact me at 414.545.5514 or honeyqueen99@hotmail.com to provide me with dates and details for promotions for our 2018 representatives. We look forward to an excellent Conference & Tradeshow in Reno and success in upcoming promotions!
BETTER BEELIEVE IT: The .buzz is Real!

Build a meaningful and relevant bee brand on the web with .buzz and invest in bees’ future. Register your .buzz domain, get everything you need to build a website and $10 will be donated to protecting the bees. Get started today - www.thehive.buzz

ALREADY HAVE A WEBSITE?
Claim your brand across the web; register the .buzz version, then redirect to your existing URL.

For each year of a new .buzz domain name registration, www.thehive.buzz will contribute $10 to the American Beekeeping Federation Legislative Action Fund.
American Honey Queen Report

I can’t believe the year is almost over! This has been an amazing opportunity that I wouldn’t trade for anything in the world. Here are some highlights from my travels between August and October.

I traveled to Syracuse, New York, August 23-26. New York was filled with some great opportunities, including a television and radio interview, a cooking demonstration, and two live hive demonstrations at the New York State Fair.

During my television interview on WSTM Channel 5, I conducted a live hive demonstration so people around the State could see what they could experience if they came to the fair. This fast interview generated several thousand dollars of free publicity for the industry. I also worked with beekeepers from around the Syracuse area, selling honey at the State Fair, learned about more urban beekeeping, and promoting the industry at Rosamond/Gifford Syracuse Zoo. It was a great experience, and a gracious thank you goes to my host Alayne Doan.

My next stop was in Grand Island, Nebraska, for the Nebraska State Fair August 28-September 4. I had the pleasure of working with Nebraska Honey Queen Shelby Kittie and together we gave many cooking demonstrations. I made the Hot Honey Snack Crackers from the Queen Program’s recipe brochure, and Shelby made Peanut Butter Honey truffles with a chocolate center. Both were delicious! I also helped in the Nebraska State Beekeepers Association’s honey booth, where all the money they raised funds the state’s youth program, selling honey and honey ice cream. The booth also had four observation hives, and I talked to the fairgoers about bees at the hives. I thank Brian Nilson, alongside whom I worked, for inviting me to work at the fair.

When I started my journey this year I was extremely excited to participate in bee beards and the Palo Cedro Honeybee Festival in California gave me the chance to wear my third bee beard with the help of Shannon and Glenda Wooten. I visited the northern California area September 5-11 for a variety of events. Not only did I speak and participate in the bee beards at the festival, I also worked with the area beekeepers selling honey and encouraging families to plant bee friendly flowers in their yards. I also had several full days of speaking with students in surrounding towns and radio interviews with four different stations. During my school presentations, I brought an observation hive with me, and the students were in awe when I showed them the queen. Special thanks go out to Glenda and Shannon Wooten.

After a short break home, I was back on the road, this time in Massachusetts, September 29-October 6. Being from Iowa, I’m used to having fairs in the summer before school is in session. As I have visited more fairs nationwide this year, I kept seeing more and more schools come through the fairs for field trips. What a great opportunity for these students to learn about agriculture! At the Topsfield Fair, I presented to 12 different groups of students who made a special trip to the honeybee building just to learn. The Essex County Beekeepers Association has a Honey Ambassador program, which allows young adults to help teach about honeybees, and we worked closely during the fair. The bee building at the fair has four different observation hives and many different hive products for sale. It was a fantastic time working with Chris and Pete Delaney, who hosted me, and the rest of the Essex County beekeepers in Massachusetts.

I spent the next weekend, October 7-8 outside Baltimore, Maryland, at the Oregon Ridge Nature Center Honey Harvest. Here, I gave two hive demos on one day; unfortunately, on the second day, the weather was not very nice, so the hive demonstrations were cancelled. Nevertheless, honey extraction demonstrations took place on both days, and I spoke to attendees about how honey moves from comb to bottle. This was a great family event with many different learning opportunities about all aspects of nature and how they work.
together. The Oregon Ridge Nature Center has two hives that sit on grounds during the year with a beekeeper that comes and tends to the bees. I thank Linda and Gene Williamson for welcoming me into their home for my stay in Maryland and Justine Schaeffer, the manager of the nature center, who coordinated my visit.

My next stop was the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Georgia, October 9-14, and it was a great experience. I spoke with the different beekeepers working there about how they have been keeping their bees over the past 20-plus years. There was an observation hive, so I spoke with families that were passing by about what the bees were doing inside their hive. Along with the observation hive, the Heart of Georgia Beekeepers sold honey and had an interesting honey display. The display was arranged specially with lights that showed how many years the honey booth had been at the fair; this year was the twenty-eighth year! A big thank you to my hosts Cynthia Davis and her family and Bill Wilford and his family for allowing me to stay with them and to Rick Moore for arranging my visit.

I arrived in Montana for several promotions from October 15-22. The Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) in Billings was a big helping hand in getting to my goal of speaking to 5,000 students this year. At this Ag in the Classroom event, I presented to close to 2,000 students about honeybees and pollination. The NILE event was a two-and-a-half-day event where area students moved very fast through different learning opportunity stations focused on different parts of agriculture. I also had an interview with the Billings Gazette, and the article highlighted honeybees’ impact on agriculture and our food. After the NILE event, I attended the Montana State Beekeepers Association Convention in Bozeman. I spoke to the members about my year so far, what work I have accomplished for the industry, and what these experiences have done for me. I stayed with Patty and Lance Sundberg, who were great hosts!

My next trips include the Wisconsin Honey Producers Association convention, the Iowa Honey Producers Association annual meeting, and a trip to Illinois. Additionally, later in November, I will visit Orlando, Florida, to work with 2014 American Honey Queen Susannah Austin, for a week of honey promotions!

I would like to thank everyone for all your support over this past year as I served as the American Honey Queen, with a special thank you to ABF for allowing me to help represent them this year. At the beginning of this year, I unsure of what I wanted to do with the rest of my life, but, during this year, working with many different people, it gave me a clear direction about my career path. I decided to major in Agricultural Business with a minor in Communications, and I owe it to all of you. I cannot thank you enough for helping me out in that aspect of my life. Remember to always have a Bee-u-tiful day and to contact Anna Kettlewell at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or 414.545.5514 if you have promotion requests for me, Hope, or the 2018 American Honey Queen and Princess!
So many exciting events have happened these last few months. I have been to eight different states, I’ve demonstrated bee beards twice, went to Alaska, and saw the trees in the fall in Maine, which is something I would love to see again! Join me now as I share with you places you may have never been to before.

The Minnesota State Fair was so big! I arrived on August 24 and promoted through September 1. The beekeeping exhibit was huge. There were areas to sell honey, give hive and bee beard demonstrations, present cooking demonstrations, along with areas for photo contests, honey contests, and bee-related items contests. I had many opportunities to work with the media in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, including four television interviews with the Food Network, Fox 9, KARE 11, and WCCO. These 13 minutes of airtime generated nearly $19,600 in free publicity. I also had five radio interviews with WCCO, then Buzz 102.9, Go 95.3, KKWE, 1500 ESPN for a total of 34 minutes of airtime. In these interviews, I highlighted honey and today’s industry issues. I also worked with the consumers, giving five open hive demonstrations a day. I loved showing the public inside the hive and putting honey on my finger to show them where it comes from in the hive. Minnesota was a great state where I reached so many people in so many ways. Thank you to Emily Campbell for hosting me and arranging my many interviews and presentations, to all my escorts for helping me, and to the Minnesota Honey Producers Association for inviting me to work at your fair. Also, thank you to Minnesota Honey Queen Sarah Doroff, for helping me throughout the week and teaching me so much!

Next, I was off to the Maryland State Fair September 2-4, where I had the opportunity to work with Maryland’s beekeepers selling honey, dipping beeswax candles, and teaching the public. The Maryland Beekeepers Association focused on teaching the public about the different uses of honey and how to become a beekeeper. Their booth had five varieties of honey from black locust honey to buckwheat honey. In addition to my work at the fair, I had a newspaper interview with Delmarva Farmer. I thank Lloyd and Ruth Ann Snyder for hosting me and arranging my visit!

I visited Ohio September 5-10 for the Lithopolis Honeyfest. This was a highlight of my year, because I had my first two chances to demonstrate a bee beard! My first day started with a television interview on the “Good Day Columbus” show. In the 30-minute interview, I showed the viewers how to harvest honey, where to buy honey, what is going on with the bees, and then assisted the interviewer with a bee beard! It went well except that he kept talking while doing the interview and ended up getting stung a few times with most of the stings ending up around or in his mouth. This special interview brought in $36,000 in free publicity and many people viewed it on TV and Facebook. I also gave six school
presentations and had two radio interviews to promote the industry and the Lithopolis Honeyfest. At the main event, I gave open hive demonstrations and tried my first bee beard! As I held the tray up to my neck for the beekeepers to pour 30,000 bees on me, I thought to myself, “What am I doing?” I closed my eyes and let them crawl onto my neck and face. It was a crazy feeling! After the demonstration, I asked, if I could do another one! Thank you to Carmen and Barry Conrad for an amazing experience and for scheduling all my events. I also thank Anne Blackwell for being my host.

I headed to Dubuque, Iowa, for a variety of events, including farmers’ markets, school presentations, and the Plagman Barn Show September 12-17. At the different farmers markets, I sold honey products and taught shoppers about honeybees. I had great media interviews with KDST 99.3 radio, Eastern Iowa Shopping News, Decorah Journal, and Clayton County Register reaching over 28,180 people. My last event in Iowa was the Plagman Barn Show, a pioneer day for people to see how the olden days worked. I had an observation hive and shared information with over 4,000 people who attended. Thank you to Bill and Louise Johnson for all the hard work and love that you put into the honey bees and teaching others.

Next was a four-day trip outside San Diego, California, September 19-23 to visit six different schools and talk to over 1,230 students. I enjoyed seeing the lights turn on in the kid’s eyes when they finally understood why we need honeybees in this world. I asked three students to write at least one question on the www.buzzingacrossamerica.com blog where Maia and I answer kids’ questions and have activity ideas for them. We received so many questions, and they are still coming in. This trip was special, because I stayed with my aunt, who was an excellent host!

Straight from California I traveled to Wasilla, Alaska where the trees were already turning colors and temperatures ranged from 30-50°. I stayed with another aunt and uncle, who showed me the last frontier. My trip was for school presentations, and I visited nine schools in the Wasilla and Palmer area outside Anchorage. It was wonderful speaking with over 1,200 students in grades K-12. I was surprised at how many beekeepers were in Alaska, and I loved learning how they take care of their bees and some new beekeeping tips in Alaska.

Honey Queens and Princesses spend time together at the fair to work the bee booth and give cooking demonstrations. I made a Honey Strawberry Punch for the fairgoers and encouraged them to buy real Texas honey. In the bee booth we have a big wall skep to display many of our Texas honeys. Thank you to John Talbert, Ruth Ramos, Jimmie Oakley, and my mom, Christie Pettibon, for all your work coordinating our fair promotion! We really appreciate you all a lot.

With two months left in the year, I have several more promotions, including stops in Texas, Louisiana, Wisconsin, and Illinois before our ABF Conference & Tradeshow in Reno. Thank you all for your continued support as I represent beekeeping throughout America! This year has been life changing for me. I can’t express enough how thankful and grateful I am to all of the ABF members for allowing me to be your spokesperson this year. Your love for beekeeping is contagious, and you have passed that on to me. I have gained skills and confidence that will help me in life, and now I have great friends all over the nation to visit Contact Anna Kettlewell at 414.545.5514 or honeyqueen99@hotmail.com if you have a promotional event to schedule with me, Maia, or the 2018 American Honey Queen and Princess.
Have You Caught The Buzz?

Sent via e-mail monthly to all ABF members, ABF E-Buzz is a key member benefit and is published to inform members about ABF activities, as well as key happenings in the beekeeping industry.

If you haven’t been receiving the newsletter, please be sure to contact the ABF office at info@abfnet.org or 404.760.2875 to ensure we have your most up-to-date contact information. Also, if you wish to contribute content to the newsletter, please contact Tim Tucker, ABF E-Buzz editor, at tuckerb@hit.net. We welcome your submissions!
From the Auxiliary

Winter is on its way and the Auxiliary is preparing for the 75th Anniversary of the American Beekeeping Federation at the 2018 Conference & Tradeshow. We hope to see you in Reno, Nevada shining bright with us! Please stop by and visit the auxiliary booth at the conference and purchase your tickets for the Auxiliary Luncheon. The luncheon will be held Thursday, January 11, and tickets are only $40.00. Please also consider purchasing tickets for the American Honey Queen Quilt where all proceeds will go towards support of the American Honey Queen Program.

Photo contest information and rules:

Categories:
- Adults and Beekeeping
- Kids and Beekeeping
- Honey
- Bees and Nature (bees on flowers, bees on frames)
- Pollination and Beekeeping

One entry per category please

Requirements:
- Submit two (2) 5x7 photos for each entry (5x7 before matting). At least one photo must be matted for judging (single mat only). 3x5 card must be attached to back of photo with name, address, and photo category.
- Photos must be submitted by 12:00 pm noon on the Wednesday, of conference week.
- Amateur photographers only.
- Photos will not be returned. A waiver for rights to photos will be signed at ABF Conference & Tradeshow. Winner will be asked to submit their picture in high res JPEG to ABF for publication.
- Entries will be accepted via mail to an address listed in the newsletter, prior to the conference, for those entering that cannot be at convention by noon Wednesday.
- Only one entry per person per category will be accepted, to enable more participation in the competition.
- Photo Contest will be advertised online/newsletter throughout the year.

If requirements are not met, photos will be disqualified. Photos will not be returned. Waivers for rights to the photos will be signed at conference.

Honey Recipe

Caramel Fruit Dip

INGREDIENTS:
- 1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup caramel ice cream topping
- 1/4 cup Honey
- 1/4 tsp ground cinnamon

DIRECTIONS:
1. In small mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese until smooth.
2. Beat in the caramel topping, honey and cinnamon.
3. Serve with fruit (good with apples).
4. Store in refrigerator.

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