e-Buzz

A monthly publication of the American Beekeeping Federation

May 2023

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President's Message

Greetings,

As we head from spring into summer most beekeepers are switching from spring pollination into honey production. I always feel a step behind this time of year. In a rush to prevent swarming,
it never seems like I can get empty boxes on fast enough.

The ABF has been working diligently on legislative concerns. Jay Miller, Fran Boyd and myself have a trip planned to Washington, D.C. later in June. Virginia Webb has a meeting with her
Georgia Representative today, May 31. She has graciously invited ABF to be a part of her meeting. Also later today, as president of ABF, I have a hearing before Agri-Canada about
honey bee health. I plan on discussing package bee exports into Canada and health risks involved with importing honey bees from certain areas of the world. The spread of the Tropilaelaps mite is a serious concern for commercial beekeepers and is a focal point of our Washington, D.C. visit and our Agri-Canada hearing. We have been warned of the seriousness of the “T” mite and need to be proactive.

I’d like to also thank Debbie Seib. As many of our members are aware, the ABF is transitioning into a self-managed organization. Without Debbie working tirelessly for all of us at ABF, this
type of management would not be possible. Her organizational skills are second to none. I’m sure she does not want recognition but I feel a huge Thank You is in order. So, thank you,
Debbie, for stepping up at a time ABF needs it the most.

In transitioning to a self-managed organization, the ABF could certainly use donations to the general fund. If you could please donate, it would help ABF now more than ever. Please send
donations to:

American Beekeeping Federation
480 Town Center St. N, PMB #253
Mooresville, IN 46158-1379

Thank you and good luck this summer.

Dan Winter
President

State Delegates Updates

Our states are gearing up for their spring/summer events and our State Delegates are highly involved. See our list of state events in the section below. Our 2023 bi-monthly

meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday every other month:

July 11th
Sep 12th
Nov 14th

Our calls feature guest speakers, an open forum for discussion on what ABF is doing for beekeepers and our industry, and delegates sharing what is going on in their states.

Meet the Delegates

Nikki Bowman, from Kansas, is serving her first year as a delegate. She is a registered nurse turned full-time beekeeper with 200 production hives as Nikki's Bee Farm. She produces honey for retail and wholesale, nucs and queens, and she teaches beekeeping to veterans at the Servicemember Agricultural Vocation Education farm (SAVE). Nikki has been a beekeeper for eleven years and a member of ABF for seven. She is a Regional Director for the Kansas Honey Producers Association. Nikki started with two hives on her 20-acre hobby farm and see how she's *grown!*

State Sponsorships

Connecticut Beekeepers Association (CBA), has been a Silver State Sponsor since 2016. Since 1891, the mission of the CBA has been to educate, research and support beekeepers in sustainable, best beekeeping management practices. This mission continues doing good work in collaboration with our members. Membership fees allow us to bring engaging programs to you. At the Connecticut Beekeepers Association, our purpose is to increase public awareness of the importance of honey bees for Connecticut agriculture and the environment. We are here to foster strong bonds among beekeepers and to promote the education and the advancement of the scientific knowledge of beekeeping and its related activities for the benefit of beekeepers and our communities. Our goal is to provide a common forum for the beekeepers of Connecticut to come together to share information and ideas. Conneticut has 14 members of ABF from Small Scale to Commercial, with one member that serves on the ABF Board of Directors.

Regional Associations

Here's the latest on our three regional organizations that meet annually. If you'd like to participate in educational sessions, apiary experience, children's program and a honey show, please register to attend a regional conference. Each conference is held in one of

their member states or provinces. Moving the conference around allows everyone an opportunity to attend a regional conference closer to home.

Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS)

Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS) will be July 31 – August 4, 2023 in Amherst, MA at the University of Massachusetts. Some of their main speakers are Dr's. Samuel Ramsey, Judy Wu-Smart, Cameron Jack, Tammy Horn-Potter, Tom Seeley along with Paul Kelly and many others. Their Format will be the same as past years with a short course (Mon – Wed) and the main course (Wed thru Fri). EAS also sponsors a Master Beekeeping Program, Awards and Scholarships. Check out their website for all the details:

https://easternapiculture.org/conference

Heartland Apicultural Society (HAS) will hold a shortened conference at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY. Save the dates for July 28-29, 2023. Visit their web page as more information will be available!

https://www.heartlandbees.org

Western Apicultural Society (WAS) will be back in full swing for their conference which will be held in Calgary, Canada September 29 – October 1, 2023. Topics will include management best practices, hive health, queen rearing, urban beekeeping, over-wintering and much more. See their website for more details;

https://www.westernapiculturalsociety.org/2023conference

State Events

If you have a state event and would like to share it with ABF members, please send it to Debbie Seib at seibshoosierhoney@yahoo.com. Here are some states events in June and July:

June 10 Wisconsin Honey Producers - Summer Meeting

June 17 Iowa Honey Producers Association – Field Day

June 17 Texas Beekeepers Association - Summer Event

June 17 The Beekeepers of Indiana – Purdue Field Day

July 14-15 Illinois State Beekeeping Association - Summer Conference

July 13-15 Tri-County Summer Conference – MN, ND, SD

July 22 Washington State Beekeepers Association – Pollinator Knowledge & Fun Fest

If you would like more information about ABF State Delegates Assembly or about state sponsorships, contact Debbie Seib at seibshoosierhoney@yahoo.com. If you are a State Delegate and would like ABF information to share at your event, send an email, including estimated numbers, to abfnet.org@gmail.com. Please give us three weeks' advance notice.

Regards,

Debbie Seib, Chair
ABF State Delegates Assembly

ABF 2024 Conference and Trade Show

Exciting Conference News...

Our conference will begin on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 with a dinner on Tuesday evening.

We are looking to show videos of commercial beekeepers in their apiaries.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the New Orleans Marriott for a discounted rate of $169 a
night (plus applicable tax and fees). The hotel is located on 555 Canal Street, New Orleans,
Louisiana 70130.

Several tours have been arranged for Monday, January 8th, 2024 at a special rate. For more information, check out our website.

Registration will begin on July 5th, 2023 with early bird registration rates through October 31,
2023. Pre-registration will close on December 26, 2023. Watch our website for more information and a link to the registration page.

Honey Queen Buzz

May was a mix of promotional and educational opportunities for Queen Selena and Princess Allison. As the weather continued to warm and the bees started buzzing, your American Honey Queen and Princess also buzzed across the country to spread the word of our industry.

Major promotional events occurred in California and Texas this month. Selena spent nearly two weeks in California, first promoting at the California Honey Festival outside Sacramento, then moving south to the Los Angeles County

Selena also spoke in local schools in California prior to the California Honey Festival. Allison made a week-long visit to Connecticut, working with a local Rotary club to speak to an entire community's third graders. In addition, Allison spoke in area high schools, focusing her presentations on the business side of beekeeping.

As we move forward to summer promotions, Selena and Allison are looking forward to many fairs, festivals, and farmers' markets, along with many media opportunities that accompany

Fair. Each event afforded her the chance to speak with a wide audience, encouraging honey use, especially local honey, along with providing audiences with greater context of the magnitude of commercial beekeeping in the State of California and throughout the country.

Thank you to our promotion organizers in this state for resuming these events with us after a few years' hiatus. We were thrilled to make a return!

Allison headed south to Texas outside Houston for the BeeWeaver BuzzFest, an event that highlights the diverse uses of honey, the gentleness of honey bees, and the products of the hive.

As schools approach the end of the year and as many students are studying ecosystems, insects, plants, gardens, and various agricultural topics, May and early June are great months for the Queen and Princess to visit schools. Allison and Selena made stops in their local communities, reaching several elementary schools and thousands of students.

these visits. Don't forget about adding some 4-H, scout, civic organization, summer school, and camp presentations to these visits when they come to your state. The Queens are still available for virtual presentations to groups throughout the country, if your state can't yet host a multi-day promotion in your area.

The Queen Committee is beginning to focus on the Queens' promotional schedules in September and the rest of the fall, so please reach out as soon as you can to confirm your fall event dates, including your state conventions. You may reach me at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or 414.545.5514 to schedule a presentation or promotion with Selena and Allison. Happy promoting!

National Honey Board®

NATIONAL HONEY BOARD AND JUSTIN'S HOST BUZZ-WORTHY EVENT IN NYC

Just weeks ahead of National Pollinator Month in June, the National Honey Board (NHB) teamed up with long-standing Honey Saves Hives partner Justin's to host a buzz-worthy event for influencers and top-tier media. The event, held at HOWM Cocina & Cocktails in New York City, featured a three-course meal, with dishes made using Justin's variety of almond butters and honey, as well as pollinator-dependent ingredients. Attendees were also treated to a signature beverage menu consisting of themed honey cocktails and mocktails, in addition to a variety of honey beers and meads.

But this event was about so much more than just delicious food and drinks.

Together with Justin's and Project Apis m. (PAm.), the NHB was given the opportunity to educate attendees on the importance of honey bees and their pollination work, with a focus on the "1 in 3 bites of food" that is brought to us by pollinators. To bring this to life, the event featured an observation hive from local beekeeper Nick Hoefly of Astor Apiaries, in addition to the pollinator-inspired menu.

Images Credit: National Honey Board

During the dining experience, members of the Justin's, NHB and PAm teams shared about the value of pollinators and the importance of protecting them. In a continued effort to show their support, the Justin's team announced their Planting for Pollinators Pledge and a donation to Project Apis m. in the amount of $33,000 (representing the approximate 1 in three bites of food we consume made possible by pollinators) for funding honey bee research to improve honey bee health and vitality.

The event was well-attended and created quite the buzz on social media with attendees sharing about their experience.
We look forward to seeing more stories from this event as we move into National Pollinator Month.

RECIPE for May

Linda Leuer, of Hamel MN, explains why this family favorite has been a "go to" cake recipe for her.

When my boys were young, they couldn't drink milk but they could have yogurt. This was a cake they could eat. And it's one dessert that doesn't taste overly sweet, which is always a nice change of pace.

You can liven up the flavor with different fruits and even different types of honey.

Rustic Honey Cake

Ingredients

1/2 cup butter, softened
1 cup honey
2 large eggs, room temperature
1/2 cup plain yogurt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
Assorted fresh fruit and additional honey
Chopped pistachios, optional

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°.
2. Grease a 9-in. cast-iron skillet.
3. In a large bowl, beat butter and honey until blended.
4. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition.
5. Beat in yogurt and vanilla.
6. In another bowl, whisk flour, baking powder and salt; add to butter mixture.
7. Transfer batter to prepared skillet.
8. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 30-35 minutes.
9. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.
10. Serve with fruit, additional honey and, if desired, chopped pistachios.

Can you freeze Rustic Honey Cake?

Securely wrap cooled cake in foil; freeze. To use, thaw at room temperature and top as directed.

Test Kitchen Tip

The beauty of this cake is how delicious it is all on its own, but we do recognize that some folks just can't imagine having a cake without frosting. If you're in that camp, just spread some cream cheese frosting on the cooled cake.

Nutrition Facts

Per Serving: 300 calories; fat 8g; cholesterol 191mg; saturated fat 2g; carbohydrates 14g; mono fat 3g; poly fat 2g; sugars 13g; protein 40g; vitamin a 74.3IU; vitamin c 2.5mg; thiamin 0.1mg; riboflavin 0.4mg; niacin equivalents 9.1mg; vitamin b6 0.7mg; folate 6.2mcg; vitamin b12 0.8mcg; sodium 426mg; potassium 412mg; calcium 16mg; iron 1.5mg.

Recipe and Image Courtesy of Taste of Home

Register Here

Sunday, June 4 AT 8 PM ET
Open Q&A with Dr. Jerry Hayes

Dr. Jerry Hayes has been writing a popular Q&A column in American Bee Journal for over 30 years. He is presently the Editor of Bee Culture magazine. With over 40 years of beekeeping knowledge, very little stumps him. Let's see what we can do. Beekeeping keeps us asking questions and he's the man to ask. Join us for a fun light-hearted talk about our bees.

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