e-Buzz

A monthly publication of the American Beekeeping Federation

STAYER'S 530-547-4963
Quality Queen Bees

June 2026

President's Message

COLOSS

The 2026 Local North America COLOSS Conference will be held at the Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman, Washington from June 6-12, 2026. Speakers and attendees are from the US, Canada and across Europe. More than 200 participants from scientific to beekeeping and agriculture fields are expected.

We hope you had the opportunity to sign up. This is the first time it is being held in the US.

What is COLOSS? It is an international association that is focused on improving the wellness of bees at a global level. The Prevention of honey bee COlony LOSSes is a non-profit association headquartered in Bern, Switzerland.

If you want to know more about COLOSS, click here.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. seibshoosierhoney@yahoo.com or 317-432-9578

Membership News

We'd like to Welcome our newest members from Sioux Honey.

Feel free to pass this on to all your friends, beekeepers and others.

NOTE: If your profile includes a valid email address and you paid by credit card, your dues will automatically renew on your membership anniversary date. If you wish to cancel autorenewal, log into your account using your email on file and change the setting on your profile. Need assistance, just give us a call. 317-403-0583

State Delegates Assembly Update

As June begins, we are entering the busy summer beekeeping season, and our State Delegates are working to include state events in each monthly *e-Buzz* for easy reference.

At the May State Delegate Assembly meeting, delegates received an update on the membership contest, which runs through October 1, and Lisa Marie Ghezzi highlighted helpful ABF website resources, including past webinars. We welcomed 31 delegates from across the country and are making steady progress toward our goal of 40 participants at our session.

I am pleased to provide a brief update from the State Delegates Assembly, highlighting our current goals, recent achievements, and opportunities for you to get involved.

The State Delegates Assembly has set four primary objectives for 2026:

1. Appoint at least one State Delegate in every state.
2. Increase the number of states with sponsorships to 80% (40 states) at Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels.
3. Maintain current sponsorship levels among participating states.
4. Boost attendance at our bi-monthly meetings, aiming for 40 participants per session.

We encourage members to connect with their ABF State Delegate, share concerns, and help advance our 2026 goals. Your input is essential as we strengthen beekeeping across the country.

Nearly half the states now sponsor the American Beekeeping Federation, providing valuable support for members and benefits for state associations. Please renew your State Sponsorship and consider increasing your level of sponsorship. For details about your state's status or ways to contribute, contact your State Delegate or Jaydee Burns at burnsboyshoney@gmail.com.

We are encouraged by the growth in delegate participation and state sponsorships. With your continued involvement, we are confident in reaching our 2026 goals. Connect with your State Delegate, attend upcoming events, and help strengthen the future of beekeeping nationwide.

State Events

If you have a state event and would like to share it with ABF members, please send it to Jaydee Burns at burnsboyshoney@gmail.com.

The coming months offer several exciting state events:
une 5-6 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association (NEKBA)
Funday and Queen Rearing Day – Lawernce, KS

June 12-13: Illinois State Beekeepers Association (ISBA)
Summer Meeting, Springfield, IL

June 13 Massachusetts Beekeepers Association (MBA)
Mass Bee Field Day – Amherst, MA

June 13 Colorado State Beekeepers Association (CSBA)
Summer Bee College – Rifle, CO

June 13 Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA)
Summer Clinic – Victoria, TX

June 13: The Beekeepers of Indiana (TBoI)
Purdue Field Day, Purdue University, IN

June 13: Maryland State Beekeepers Association (MSBA)
Summer Meeting, La Plata, MD

June 20: Wisconsin Honey Producers Association (WHPA)
Summer Field Day, Bancroft, WI

June 20: Missouri State Beekeepers Association (MSBA)
Missouri Bee Day, Arnold, MO

June 20: Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA)
Summer Field Day, Elkhart, IA

July 9-11: Minnesota (MBA), North Dakota (NDBA), South Dakota (SDBA) Beekeeper Associations
Tri-State Beekeeping Meeting – Fargo, ND

July 16-18: South Carolina Association (SCBA)
Summer Conference, Furman University, Greenville, SC

July 18: Nebraska Beekeepers Association (NBA)
Summer Bee Fun Day, Kearney, NE

July 18: Empire State Honey Producers Association (NYBA)
Bee Olympics, Oxford, NY

18 July Vermont Beekeepers association Summer (VBAS)
Summer Meeting, TBA, VT

July 18-19: Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association (PSBA)
Bee Extravaganza, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA

July 23-25: Alabama Beekeepers Association (ABA)
Master Beekeeper Program

If you would like more information about the ABF State Delegates Assembly or about State Sponsorships, contact Jaydee Burns at burnsboyshoney@gmail.com.

State Delegates, if you 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' notice.

Regards,
Jaydee Burns, Chair
ABF State Delegates Assembly

2027 ABF Conference and Tradeshow

Our two Keynote Speakers have confirmed for our 2027 ABF Conference and Tradeshow. **Izzy Hill**, Director of Regulatory Affairs with Project Apis m.and **Dr. Jamie Ellis** Professor of Entomology in the Department of Entomology at the University of Georgia.

Check out some of the interviews from our 2025 conference. Gene Brandi, Marla Spivak, and Micheal Simone Finestrome.

Would you like to share your latest presentation, educational knowledge or maybe a hands on workshop? Call for Presentations is open until June 7th. You must submit this form below to be considered.

Registration will open on June 1. Join us next year in Galveston, Texas for another great adventure.

Be sure to keep watch on our website for 2027 ABF Conference Information.

Our block of rooms are at Moody Gardens Hotel, Seven Hope Blvd, Galveston, Texas 77554 connected to the Moody Gardens Conference Center. You may call the hotel directly at 1-409-683-1299.

The Hotel provides complimentary wireless internet access throughout the property, including the guest rooms. Complimentary self-parking is available for all guests or valet parking is available for $25.00 for overnight and $13.00 for Hotel garage self-parking. Group rates ($169) are available two (2) days before the start of the conference and two days after, based upon availability.

Only use the number above and do not allow someone to contact you saying they represent the hotel or ABF.

Honey Queen Buzz

May was a productive and fruitful promotional month for Queen Delanie and Princess Oceanna! The first part of the month continued with school presentations in California and Texas on the elementary and middle school levels along with other local events. Delanie also made a stop at the San Diego County Beekeepers Club meeting and also served as a judge for the San Diego County Fair's honey show. Honey entries were judged a month ahead of her actual promotions at the Fair in June.

The end of the month brought more intensive promotional visits. In mid-May, Delanie was busy with events in other parts of California, notably the California Honey Festival and the Los Angeles County Fair. The Honey Festival capitalizes on the Queen's visit annually, promoting the event throughout the community, especially with the Queen or Princess speaking in schools. At the event itself, Delanie worked with area beekeepers and the event coordinators to promote our industry throughout the Woodland community outside Sacramento. A few days after this visit, Delanie was back in action at the popular Los Angeles County Fair with the Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association. She provided presentations to school groups visiting the fair and was an active worker in their exhibit. Thank you to both organizations for making these annual, successful events for our organizations!

Oceanna participated in World Bee Day festivities in the City of Reno, Nevada, in late May. The City is a Bee City USA and works hard to promote all pollinators throughout the week of World Bee Day. Oceanna promoted in the community at local schools and through the media and also was a guest speaker at the main event! The Save the Bees Foundation in Reno does an excellent job coordinating a great schedule for our spokespersons each year! To wrap up May, Oceanna participated in the BeeWeaver company's annual BuzzFest in Navasota, Texas. The company open house provides many learning opportunities for the public about the beekeeping industry along with highlighting the BeeWeaver company's history and products.

Summer schedules are nearly complete for both our Queen and Princess, but we are taking your requests for September through November now. If you have a state convention or fair or festival or other educational event in these fall months, contact me now to see if we can schedule Delanie or Oceanna to participate. You can reach me at honeyqueen99@hotmail.com or 414.545.5514. Happy promoting!

National Honey Board Research Investments Support Honey Bee Health and Beekeepers

The National Honey Board (NHB) continues to invest in research focused on improving honey bee health, colony survival, and the long-term sustainability of domestic beekeeping. Working with Project Apis m. and leading researchers across the country, the NHB funded more than 15 studies in 2024-25 that address some of the industry's most pressing challenges.

Recent projects examined colony losses, pesticide and fungicide impacts, Varroa mite treatments, understanding Tropilaelaps and new potential tools for managing viruses and Nosema infections. Additional studies explored overwintering success, bee nutrition, regenerative agriculture practices, and ways to strengthen disease resistance in honey bee populations. Together, these projects reflect the NHB's commitment to practical, science-based solutions that support beekeepers, pollinator health, and agriculture.

Each year, the NHB designates a minimum of 5 percent of its annual revenue to production research, and that money is managed by Project Apis m's research grant process. The NHB's funding supports nearly 40% of total research grants.

Over the last 20 years, the NHB has funded more than $6 million in bee research studies.

As vital members of our ecosystem, honey bees pollinate more than 90 crops, including many of the fruits, vegetables and nuts that we enjoy on a regular basis. But in addition to the delicious foods we see on our plates, these honey bee-pollinated ingredients also make flavorful beverages. Raise a glass to our hard-working pollinators with this summer-inspired sipper!

Honey Strawberry Tea Cooler

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pint - fresh strawberries, stemmed and cleaned
- 1/4 cup - honey
- 1 can (6 oz.) - frozen orange juice concentrate
- 2 cups - brewed green tea, cooled

- 1/2 cup – water

DIRECTIONS:
In a blender or food processor container, combine water, strawberries and honey; process until smooth. Add orange juice concentrate; process until well blended.

Stir into cooled tea.

Serve over ice.

Photo and recipe courtesy of the National Honey Board. For more honey recipes, visit honey.com.

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