



ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

January/February 2002 • Volume 84, Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Beekeepers,

Here we are again at the beginning of another year. You know what that means — resolutions. No, I'm not resolving to go on a diet! Forget it. But I am resolving to keep my colonies strong, treating them as needed to minimize diseases and pests. May I urge you to that same resolve? Not only will you improve honey production, but keeping healthier colonies will help hold down the work load of our bee inspectors. That's important. As you know, our bee inspectors are stretched thin throughout our state. We still need at least one inspector for the far northwest and one for the far southern region. For beekeepers in those regions, I ask you to consider becoming a bee inspector. If you have the experience, knowledge and interest, please contact Apiary Inspection Supervisor, Steve Chard, at (217) 785-4233.

This past December 18, I met with Steve, along with his superior, Warren Goetsch, Manager of the Division of Natural Resources, and with Rich Ramsey, now Past President, ISBA. We reviewed the current state of beekeeping affairs covering, among other topics, controlling the spread of the hive beetle, varroa and tracheal mites, and American foulbrood (AFB) both from within the state and their spread by migratory beekeepers and pollinators coming from outside the state. We didn't come to any earth-shattering conclusions, but we all agreed that while the beetles, mites and AFB will be with us probably forever, their effect on beekeeping will not diminish unless we improve and develop new ways to control them and become accustomed to treating them.

While at that meeting I failed to ask Rich Ramsey his shoe size. Whichever his size, I know I'll have tough time filling his shoes, as the saying goes. Rich has done an outstanding job over the past three years. We owe him a debt of gratitude and a rousing round of applause. I will strive to do as well as he. Meanwhile, I look forward to working with you all and hope to meet many of you as this new year progresses. I invite you to call me with any issue you can't handle through your local Association. My phone number and address are listed on the back of this bulletin. You may also contact me by e-mail at beehansen@juno.com.

John Hansen, ISBA President

MINUTES OF THE 110th ISBA STATE CONVENTION

Saturday, November 10, 2001
Illinois State Fairgrounds, Agriculture Building
Springfield, Illinois

President Rich Ramsey called the 110th Convention of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association to order at 9:10 a.m. President Ramsey welcomed the attendees, after which Earl Lutz gave the Invocation. President Ramsey called for the Secretary's Report. Secretary Rita Taylor presented her report of the Secretary's Office expenses and membership for the period of November 1, 2000 to November 1, 2001. The report was approved as read. (See the Secretary's Report elsewhere in this issue.)

President Ramsey introduced a special guest, Director of Agriculture Joe Hampton, a farmer from Shelby County. The Director offered his help in any endeavors the Association might need his assistance and invited everyone to visit the new FFA Building in Springfield. President Ramsey gave the assembly a refreshment break. Refreshments were provided by the Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you, Ladies!

Resuming the meeting, President Ramsey called for the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Udell Meyer gave his report explaining the income and expenditures of the Association. The report was approved as given. (See Treasurer's Report elsewhere in this issue.)

President Ramsey introduced Tim May, member of the National Honey Board. Tim and his father, Phil, are commercial beekeepers from Northern Illinois. Tim told of several aspects of the work of the Honey Board. Globalization, changing families, ethnic population, functional food, and retail consolidation are all considered important factors in the promotion of honey.

Tim gave the honey assessments that the Honey Board receives from beekeepers as their revenue. The National Honey Board will "sell" the honey industry by increasing the demand for honey and honey products by focusing on the unique health properties in honey, different varieties of honey, and explore new uses of honey, thus enhancing the consumers' interest for honey.

President Ramsey introduced our Chief Apiary Inspector, Steve Chard. Steve gave the Inspection Report on disease, treatment and hives inspected. Steve stated that an exemption application has been filed for the sale of Checkmite+ in Illinois. It seems we have to renew this with the USDA EPA.

Steve has spoken to several beekeepers complaining about the state mowing the sweet clover from roadways because it is considered a noxious weed. Sweet clover is an exotic weed. The state has no problem with farmers sowing sweet clover on CRP land. More information can be provided by contacting Brett Roberts at 217/353-6644.

Steve also would like the approval from the Illinois State Beekeepers Association to include the small hive beetle in the Bee and Apiary Act, Section 60.10 Definitions. Bill Buckley motioned the Bee and Apiary Act should include the small hive beetle. Ken Beauchamp seconded the motion. All votes aye.

After a break and door prizes, President Ramsey introduced Steve Taber of Elgin, South Carolina, a contributor to *American Bee Journal*. Mr. Tabor commented there is no certain way to raise queens. He stated

DADANT TRI-STATE BEEKEEPERS MEETING

that very little research has been done on raising queens. He says to have bees do one job at a time as it disrupts all the bees if they are to do two or three jobs at a time. Bees like new comb and he told of different techniques of raising queens. Mr. Taber is against burning hives with AFB and also against inspection and treatment of bees.

Following lunch, President Ramsey reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. with the introduction of Stu Jacobson, University of Illinois at Springfield. Stu is conducting research work on queen problems. Some of the problems covered were ordering of queens, survival, acceptance, and laying. He doesn't feel the strain of bees has anything to do with survival rate. Stu had two surveys taken from members. Good records should be kept in order for you to know your hives.

Dolores Leitner took the floor to ask the ladies present if they would like to have a meeting of their own, and if so to contact her or Norma Meyer. (Editor's Note: Norma may be reached by phone at (618) 633-2429.)

Following break and door prize, President Ramsey next introduced Amy Toth, Graduate Student, University of Illinois, Urbana. Her topic, "The Skinny on Bee Fat: Can the Nutritional State of Bees Affect Their Behavior?" Amy covered four points in her presentation: (1) division of labor. This included care of brood, hive work, and foraging; (2) regulation of the division of labor; (3) nutrition, food exchange, and behavior; and (4) experiment of bee fat and behavior (a work in progress). It was brought out that communication is the key to the colonies needs. Interaction with other bees affects how quickly development occurs, and fat on the bees depends on the tasks they perform.

President Ramsey reintroduced Steve Tabor with, "A Comparison of French and American Beekeeping." Beekeepers in France are considered to be farmers. The Farm Union gives money to get young people started in beekeeping. In the USA a beekeeper goes in debt and pays interest to get started. In France the government subsidizes these farmers, but when the dirt farmer retires he has to get off the land. It was stated that France does not have as much pollination as in Indiana, for instance.

President Ramsey called for Nomination, Election and Installation of Officers. Earl Lutz acted as Chairman of this committee which included Ray Chapman and Bill Buckley. Mr. Lutz called for nominations for President. John Hansen was nominated. Three calls for additional nominations were made. With no other nominations heard, John Hansen was unanimously elected President. Chairman Lutz called for nominations for Vice-President. Bill Buckley was nominated and three calls were heard for nominations. With none being heard, Bill Buckley was unanimously elected Vice-President. Chairman Lutz called for nominations for Secretary. Rita Taylor was nominated and three calls were heard for nominations. With none being heard, Rita Taylor was unanimously elected Secretary. Chairman Lutz called for nominations for Treasurer. Udell Meyer was nominated and three calls were heard for nominations. With no other nominations, Udell Meyer was unanimously elected Treasurer. Chairman Lutz called for nominations for Northern Director. Ken Haller was nominated. Three calls for nominations were heard, and with none being heard, Ken Haller was unanimously elected Northern Director. With all officers duly elected, Chairman Lutz installed each officer to their respective office.

Udell Meyer took the floor and presented President Rich Ramsey with a gavel for his services as President for the past three years.

With time running out, President Rich Ramsey adjourned the 110th Convention at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita C. Taylor, ISBA Secretary



This year's ISBA Summer meeting is being held much earlier than usual. Nonetheless, the earlier date will allow beekeepers to attend before they get too busy with apicultural duties. The meeting, known as the Tri-State meeting, is sponsored by the State associations of Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. Dadant & Sons of Hamilton, IL, will serve as meeting host. The Heart of Illinois Beekeepers are the Illinois coordinators of this event. The meeting will provide an ideal opportunity to hear from nationally famous speakers, and restock supplies for the season ahead.

Beekeepers in the Midwest and elsewhere are confronted today by a number of very significant challenges. Not the least of these are pests, diseases, and predators of honey bees. *Sustainable Beekeeping in the Midwest* has been chosen as the theme for a Tri-State meeting which will be held Friday/Saturday, March 8/9, 2002. This will be the third such meeting hosted by Dadant & Sons. Similar events were held approximately 10 and 20 years ago.

Among the challenges to beekeeping in the 21st century are the intense practices of agricultural that are making beekeeping more and more difficult. Increasingly, even hobbyist beekeepers are challenged by the realities of the modern global market place, and these are producing a considerable strain on American beekeeping. As a consequence, over the past few decades the number of beekeepers has dropped considerably. Beekeeping in the Midwest can be sustained if beekeepers are willing to work smarter, not just harder.

This Tri-State meeting is an effort to provide Midwestern beekeepers with a substantial amount of practical beekeeping information that can help them sustain apiculture into the foreseeable future. A complete informational file in PDF format (92k) with agenda, speaker information, accommodation, and registration form is now available on the ISBA website: <http://www.isba.ws>. An information package and registration form may also be obtained directly from Dadants by writing them at 51 S. 2nd Street, Hamilton, IL 62341, or by phoning them at (217) 847-3324.

BEES AVAILABLE THROUGH HIBA BEEKEEPER

Nathan Sasse, a beekeeper in Beason, IL, and member of the Heart of Illinois Beekeepers Association, will be going to Mississippi in April to pick up a load of bees from Russell Apiaries. He will be selling these bees to anyone who is interested in them. They are a light-colored Italian bee. All queens will be marked. Nathan will be picking up two- and three-pound packages. All of the orders will need to be in by mid-March. All bees will need to be picked up in Beason, IL, ostensibly on the first weekend in April. The bees will need to be paid for in full before he departs for Mississippi in April. If you have any questions, feel contact Nathan by any of the following means. Mail: Nathan Sasse, 1709 2000th Avenue, Beason, IL 62512; Phone: (217) 447-3409; E-mail: nasasse@ilstu.edu. Prices for queens and packages will be as follows: queens - \$8.00; two-pound packages - \$ 35.00; three-pound packages - \$40.00.

ILLINOIS BEEKEEPER HONORED BY INDIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

The Indiana Beekeepers Association (IBA) named HIBA's Rebecca Wenning **Young Beekeeper of the Year** for 2001 at their annual meeting in Anderson, IN, on Friday, November 2. Rebecca was presented with a certificate and a \$500 cash prize in recognition of her efforts on behalf of beekeeping. Jerry Brelage, Chairman of the IBA selection committee, introduced Rebecca to the membership and heaped praises on her while providing a summary of her recent promotional activities. Among her many efforts cited were the following:

- ♦ keeping bees with her family since 1997,

- ♦ co-creating the annual HIBA beekeeping course in 1998,
- ♦ presenting some 60 talks to public and private groups,
- ♦ serving as the first HIBA Honey Princess during 2001, and
- ♦ having Gov. Ryan proclaim September *Illinois Honey Month*.

Rebecca is currently a 16-year-old junior at University High School in Normal where she maintains a straight-A average. From January through April 2002 she will be living in Dijon, France, as an exchange student. While greatly interested in beekeeping, Rebecca plans on a career in international relations working possibly for the U.S. State Department. After graduating from high school, she hopes to attend one of the nation's elite universities such as Georgetown, Princeton, or Yale. Rebecca is the daughter of Carl and Carolyn Wenning of Normal, IL.

MEMBERSHIP DUES RECEIVED

ISBA Chapters (November 1, 2000 to November 1, 2001):

Cook DuPage	\$324.00
Heart of Illinois	\$130.00
Illiana	\$24.00
Lake County	\$60.00
LincolnLand	\$68.00
Little Egypt	\$32.00
Mississippi Valley	\$28.00
Northern Illinois	\$132.00
Spoon River Valley	\$24.00
St. Clair	\$84.00
Wabash Valley	\$32.00
Membership At Large	\$88.00
Total Membership	\$1,026.00

Respectfully submitted,
Rita C. Taylor, Secretary, November 1, 2001

EDITOR'S NOTE: ISBA dues for 2002 are \$6.00 per member per annum; the numbers above for 2001 reflect a dues rate of only \$2.00 per annum.

SECRETARY OFFICE EXPENSES

November 1, 2000 to November 1, 2001

Postage on Bulletins	\$906.09
Postage on Returned Bulletins	\$7.00
Postage Stamps	\$68.00
Telephone	\$41.37
Copying (Kinko's) - handouts	\$12.25
Labels for Bulletins	\$26.78
Total Expenses	\$1,061.49

Respectfully submitted,
Rita C. Taylor, Secretary, November 1, 2001

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance brought forward, November 9, 2000 \$2,603.33

Receipts:

LincolnLand Beekeepers	\$60.00
Checks returned from suppliers	\$75.00
Rita Taylor - Convention registration (2000)	\$108.00
Rich Ramsey - 2000 Honey Ice Cream sales	\$20.00
Transferred from Savings Account	\$1,500.00
Carl Wenning - Credit from Check #892 (Website)	\$15.00
Rita Taylor - 2001 Honey Ice Cream Sales	\$9,374.04
Robert Walters - Honey Ice Cream	\$14.00
Rich Ramsey - 2001 Honey Ice Cream sales	\$72.00

Ken Beauchamp - 2001 Honey Ice Cream	\$48.00
Rita Taylor - 2001 Honey Stix Sales	\$136.00
IBA - 1/4 split proceeds Summer Meeting	\$27.32

Total Receipts \$11,449.36

Total Cash \$14,052.69

Disbursements:

Rich Ramsey - bills for 2000 Fall Meeting	\$293.71
Tom Webster - 2000 Speaker	\$202.00
Ken Beauchamp - Copies for Farm Progress	\$12.00
John Hansen - Postage for attendance prizes	\$3.96
Crowne Plaza Spfld - 2000 Room rental, etc.	\$602.89
Booth Rental at Ill. Products Expo.	\$150.00
Sec. of State of Ill. - 2001 Annual Report	\$5.00
Carl Wenning Placing I.S.B.A. on Web Site	\$85.00
Rich Ramsey Phone Card	\$20.58
Rita Taylor 1999-2000 Office Expenses	\$250.00
C-Far - 2001 dues	\$250.00
Country Mutual Ins. Co. - Renewal	\$833.00
American Beekeeping Federation Dues	\$75.00
American Honey Producers Assoc. Dues	\$75.00
Illinois State Fair - booth electricity	\$65.00
Ron Fischer - 2001 A.B.F. Meeting	\$100.00
Kinko's - Sign for Open Class Exhibits	\$20.62
Phil May - 2001 A.B.F. Meeting	\$100.00
Udell Meyer - 2000 Honey Ice Cream sales exp.	\$199.90
State of IL Dep. of Rev. - ice cream sales tax	\$614.00
Benson Ice Cream Co. - Honey Ice Cream, etc.	\$5,839.80
Pita Taylor - 2 cans honey for Honey Ice Cream	\$100.00
Earl Lutz - 2001 State Fair Services	\$50.00
Rochester Elem. Student Act's. - Ice cream storage	\$150.00
Rich Kern - Hauling freezers	\$75.00
No. Ill. Bkprs. Assoc. - Youth in Beekeeping	\$50.00
Cook-DuPage Bkprs. Assoc. - Honey Stix	\$136.00
Dave's Trophies - Past Pres. gavel & engraving	\$35.00
Carl Wenning - I.S.B.A. Newsletters	\$1,486.41

Total disbursements \$11,879.87

Total Cash on Hand less disbursements \$2,172.82

Net Balance on Hand in Checking Account \$2,172.82

Savings Account No. 4148-3 Balance Nov. 9, 2000 \$2,124.74

Interest earned since Nov. 9, 2000 \$29.25
Withdrawal (\$1,500.00)

Saving Account No. 4148-3 Balance Nov. 8, 2001 \$653.99

C-D No. 112787 November 9, 2000 Balance \$3,350.07

Interest earned since Nov. 9, 2000 \$180.76

C-D No. 112787 November 8, 2001 Balance \$3,530.83

C-D No. 112834 November 9, 2000 Balance \$3,338.57

Interest earned since Nov. 9, 2000 \$178.03

C-D NO. 112834 November 8, 2001 Balance \$3,516.60

Respectfully submitted,
Udell Meyer, Treasurer, November 8, 2001

I have examined the records for the Illinois State Beekeepers Association from November 2000 to November 2001. All records are in good order and all accounts were reconciled correctly. The balances reflected on this Treasurer's report are correct.

Brett A. Bruhn, Auditor, November 9, 2001

Membership in the Illinois State Beekeepers Association is open to all persons interested in bees and beekeeping. Beekeepers are urged to join through their local associations. Dues for 2002 are \$6 for the calendar year, **January 1 through December 31 only**. Dues include a subscription to this newsletter, the *ISBA Bulletin*. Beekeeping journals are available at about 25% discount to members as listed below; rates are subject to change without prior notice. **Make checks payable to:** Illinois State Beekeepers' Association and mail to: Rita Taylor, Secretary, 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.

Please indicate new or renewal subscription when ordering journals.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send old and new address six weeks prior to date of change when practical to: Rita Taylor, Secretary, 4274 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.

Association Journal Rates for 2002 (members only)

	1 Yr.	2 Yr.	3 Yr.
<i>American Bee Journal</i>	\$15.70	\$29.88	\$42.15
<i>Bee Culture</i>	\$17.00	\$32.00	N/A
<i>The Speedy Bee</i>	\$13.25	\$25.25	\$34.00

ISBA Executive Board 2002

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