



THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER

February 2013
Volume No. 2

The Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeeper's Association

News and Views...

The 2013 Pa Farm Show has turned the page of history. We had a great turn out of visitors and volunteers this year and we can't help but to tell you all about it. This was the third year in the new location of the main hall. We are still learning what works the best. The location is still arguably one of the best locations.

The center of attention of the exhibit area is the Apiary Learning Station. Each year we find ways to make the honeybee experience more friendly to Farm Show visitors. This year we invested in a large pop-up frame that backed up the learning station. Bill Mondjack provided the use of some of his spectacular honeybee photos that were enlarged to bigger than life status and could be seen from a great distance. Once again the PSBA was a main attraction and our involvement in the youth farm show detective program was well received and was once again the most visited stop on the learning center trail. Reaching out to the public and especially children is what the farm show is all about and thanks to the volunteers who give of their time we were able to reach out to tens of thousands of people during this week.

The ABF convention at Hershey Lodge started full swing on Wednesday, Jan 9th. I was honored to represent PSBA and do the opening welcome on your behalf. I was also pleased to introduce the Pa Sec of Agriculture, George Greig. He made a special effort away from his Farm Show schedule to welcome this national beekeeping organization to Pennsylvania. He could only stay a few minutes before his secretary and wife whisked him away for his next scheduled event.

As I mentioned with my welcome, I have been an ABF member for 17 years. I have never attended a convention. I just get the quarterly newsletter and now email updates. Someone asked me why I would remain a member? Well, from the beginning I could see that ABF is almost the only single voice for beekeeping in the United States. They take our state voices to Washington D.C. They are beekeeping's federal advocate and lobbyist. Without that effort, many battles would be lost.

I encourage every Pennsylvania beekeeper to consider joining ABF.

As mentioned in the December newsletter, the issue of getting Sect 18 approval for Apivar is before us. Again, Farm Show and ABF allowed me personal contact and discussion regarding Apivar. It was also presented at ABF. The overall consensus is to seek a Sect 18 approval for Pennsylvania. I have initiated a letter to Pa Dept of Ag, on behalf of PSBA, to seek that approval

Apivar is not a 'silver bullet'. It's not a choice for every beekeeper. However, it is an important and effective tool that can be rotated with other mite treatments. I won't go into the details of the product. There are plenty of sources where readers can find more information.

The Farm Show and ABF convention gave me an opportunity to meet and talk with many members. Opinions were coming out there on an array of topics. Some good, some challenging...I need to know those perspectives too. There are some things of which I have no control. Some things that I won't let bog down the greater intent of this organization and it's successes. I

(Continued on Page 3)

In This Issue

Now Is the Time to Plan	3
PA State Apiarist Appointed	3
2012 PA Honey Queen Report	5
Nature Notes	7
Officers and Membership Information	8
Upcoming Dates	9
Jeremy's Corner	11
2013 Honey Queen Report	13
Request for Honey Queen Form	15
W.W.B.D. (What Would Bill Do)	17
Guidelines for Honey Extracting Facility	19

News and Views (Continued from Page 1)

don't know of any organization that doesn't have some internal grumbling. I can't hope to please everyone. But, I'll give it an honest effort. The joke is, 'ask 6 beekeepers a question and you'll get 7 answers'. Why would that change now ☺

Pa State Beekeepers Association constitution includes 'promote closer fellowship between beekeepers and between County Beekeeping Associations'. One of my objectives, as incoming president of PSBA, is to pass along timely information quickly. As well as get some timely input to decisions requested of me. PSBA has input to nearly anything legislative in Pa regarding the apiary industry. I would like to tap into more than my gut reaction and experiences once in a while. I have initiated a contact group consisting of 25 local associations, past PSBA presidents, PDA, PSU and some commercial beekeepers. Decisions we make can affect everyone from the hobbyist to the migratory operators. This is a pro-active action on my part. I will reserve the right to disband or reduce it if it becomes counter-productive. My initial email contacts have been positive. This will give a voice opportunity from areas of the state that simply can't make a state meeting.

I am not ruling out conference calls. I think conference calls can be useful, but poor participation was the norm.

Charlie Vorisek,
President PSBA

Now Is the Time to Plan...

Predicting the future in beekeeping, as in any endeavor, is difficult. But there are several things that we can predict with high probability, and we must plan our beekeeping based on these highly likely events. For example, some of our colonies will die over winter, and some of those that survive will attempt to swarm. Now is the time to plan for these eventualities. If colonies die, will you investigate the cause? Will you irradiate the combs? Will you replace dead-outs? If you chose to replace dead colonies, how will you do so? Will you buy packages or nucs or make splits (with or without purchased queens)? If you will be purchasing packages and/or queens, now is the time to place your orders. Many (most?) package supplies sell out early.

Now is also the time to make swarm prevention/control plans. May is too late! For swarm control, will you use the Pagden, Snelgrove, Demaree or shook swarm method? Now is the time to refresh your knowledge of these methods. Plus, each of these swarm control methods has specific equipment requirements. Without the needed equipment, you will be unable to carry out your desired plan.

Also consider honey production. We all dream that 2013 will yield a bumper crop of honey, but are we prepared if our dream comes true? Now is the time to purchase and prepare supers for the bumper crop. Without sufficient supers on hand, some of the crop may be lost. Also consider which types of honey you will produce: liquid, cut comb, chunk honey or comb honey (Ross Rounds, Hogg Half Comb, etc.). Make sure that you have the necessary supplies for all the types of honey you wish to produce.

By planning carefully (not dreaming) you will be prepared to harvest the largest crop that this year's weather permits.

Vince Aloyo
Vice President

PA State Apiarist Appointed

Dear Pennsylvania Beekeepers,

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce the appointment of Karen Roccasecca as the Pennsylvania State Apiarist. We appreciate Karen's willingness to serve Pennsylvania's more than 2,700 registered beekeepers in this new role.



Many of you already know Karen as an apiary inspector, a position she's held at the department since 2006. In this role, Karen and her team of seven seasonal inspectors worked with the state's approximately 2,700 registered beekeepers that have more than 5,000 bee yards containing about 42,000 bee colonies. She's also been instrumental in the study of Colony Collapse Disorder.

In her new role Karen will continue to support and protect the apiary industry.

You will hear more from Karen moving forward, but I encourage you to reach out to her to introduce yourself or with any questions. You can contact Karen at kroccasecc@pa.gov or by phone at 717-346-9567.

Thank you for your continued support of our agriculture industry and for all that you do to keep farmers farming.

Sincerely,

George Greig, Secretary
PA Department of Agriculture

PA Honey Queen Report

Hello once again fellow beekeepers! Has it really been a year already? I write this, my final newsletter, with many emotions. First of all I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to be your 2012 Pennsylvania Honey Queen as I traveled the state promoting the industries that we love.

January was a very busy month for the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association. To start the successful month, the 2012 American Honey Queen, Alyssa Fine, the 2012 American Honey Princess, Danielle Dale and I attended the Governor's Reception, on January 3rd, for the official kick-off of the 96th annual Pennsylvania State Farm Show, in Harrisburg. The following day we helped PSBA President, Charlie Vorisek, Lee Miller, and Jim Thompson, who wrote the book on honey judging, judge the honey exhibits. Thank you to everyone who entered in the farm show this year. It was a great display! Saturday morning, I presented a gift basket filled with honey and beeswax products to the Secretary of Agriculture, George Greig, on behalf of Governor Tom Corbett. Once he accepted gifts from all of the commodity representatives, we prepared for opening ceremonies. The third annual Parade of Agriculture took place in the large arena, where I was proudly representing the PSBA. That evening we crowned our 2013 Pennsylvania Honey Princess, Jessica Aurand. On Sunday, I divided my time between the three PSBA sponsored booths - Learning Center, Food Court, and the Market Place - answering questions and selling PA Honey. On Monday, I had the opportunity to help with the live honey extraction on the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN). The hour-long demonstration was full of information for the estimated 2 million viewers. Overall, the 2013 Pennsylvania Farm Show was a huge success! With record-breaking crowds every day, it was a great for PSBA to be a part of this event.

On Tuesday, January 8th, I made my way to the sweetest place on Earth, Hershey PA, for the North American Beekeeping Conference & Tradeshow, hosted by the American Beekeeping Federation. This event brought beekeepers from all around the world came together to attend seminars and business meetings; I was there for a different reason, to represent Pennsylvania Beekeepers.

During the week I worked with Emily, representing Minnesota, Caroline, representing Texas, and Sarah, representing Wisconsin. Meeting these very hard working and talented queens was such an amazing opportunity. Over the five days I participated in the Quiz Bowl, Kids and Bees workshop, and many different auctions benefiting various ABF programs. I also sold raffle tickets during the week and welcomed beekeepers to our great state. When the week came to an end, I am proud to say that I represented Pennsylvania Beekeepers the best that I could. Caroline Adams from Texas was selected as your 2013 American Honey Queen and, my roommate, Emily Campbell from Minnesota was selected as your 2013 American Honey Princess.

I have had such an amazing year being your 2012 Pennsylvania Honey Queen. Thank you to everyone involved with the PSBA for all of your support over the past year. Without all of your help I would not have had the opportunity to travel to 33 different counties, traveled to 17,304 miles, presented 168 times, and spoke to over 8.6 million people. I want to send a special thank you to the queen committee for all of their hard work and dedication to the program, which has helped the program become what it is today!

I want to wish Queen Elena Hoffman and Princess Jessica Aurand the best of luck! I know that these two young ladies will have a fabulous year and do a great job representing the PSBA in 2013. If you would like to invite them to your event please contact Rachel Bryson at brysonrachel@yahoo.com or 717-643-0010 as soon as possible to save the date.

Thank you again!

Jessica Long



2012 Pa Honey Queen, Jess Long, takes a few questions from PCN crew at the 2013 PA Farm Show held in Harrisburg.

Photo by Charlie Vorisek

Package Honey Bees

3# Package with a marked Queen

\$85.00

Available first week of April 4, 2013

Lee Miller

**3180 Ridge Road Extension
Freedom, PA 15042**

724-544-2900

Nature Notes

The **coldest** weather of winter is probably over. January is Pennsylvania's coldest month. Snow, however, is not absolutely linked to cold. As readers should remember, we get snow when wet air meets cold air. That often happens in February and March.

During warm spells, yellow flowers of **winter aconite** and white **snowdrops** add a cheery note to February. Aconite may carpet the ground in a woods, soaking up sunlight before tree leaves are out, and, on warm, still days, filling the air with fragrance. The fragrance, of course, is produced to attract pollinators, including our bees.

South-facing slopes not treated with lawn weed-killer are great places to plant the tiny bulbs of **thomasina crocus**. The violet crocus flowers may even spring open during a warm spell in January. These crocuses spread to make clumps of early spring flowers.

How do we know the **earliest date** for a crocus in our own yards? A sheet of paper taped to a kitchen cabinet door can have a list for recording dates. The first aconite, snow-drop, and crocus. The first cardinal and house finch singing. First daffodil, red maple, and spring beauty. Pretty soon the almanac list takes up a whole page. Bird arrivals, too: chimney swifts, tree and barn swallows, chipping sparrows, and the noisy house wren. The first "ee-oh-lay" of a wood thrush in April.

In SE Pennsylvania, a **great horned owl** was sitting on eggs in the last week of January. Why so early? Great horned owls do not build nests; they appropriate last year's hawk or squirrel nest. Starting early may keep the owls from having to compete with (or kill) red-tailed hawks that will re-use last year's nests. Raising large young takes a long time. The young owls start hunting their own food when young rabbits and squirrels are venturing out from their homes.

Red-tailed hawks, large soaring raptors, light below with a dark belly-band, hunt by spotting prey from the air or by still-hunting from a perch, often pouncing on a rodent in the grass beside a highway. Red-tails occupy the same ecological niche as great horned owls. They are similar in wing-spread and foot size. One is on the day shift, the other on the night shift. In swampy areas, red-shouldered hawks and barred owls share a niche.

In February and March, bird-watchers check **woodlots** for big, stick nests up high in mature trees. Mature woodlots are easier for big birds to fly through than a forest thick with young growth. The top of a female great horned owl's head with ear tufts (not ears) may be visible on a nest now.

Winter for our bees ends with **maple bloom**, a dependable pollen source. Colonies that survive to maple bloom should explode in size to be ready for the spring honey flow. Why many of our colonies do not build up in spring, as colonies once did, is a continuing and frustrating mystery.

Jupiter is still brilliant in our night sky. On a dark night,

the **Pleiades** star cluster is visible above Jupiter. The seven brightest stars in the Pleiades look like a tiny Big Dipper. Subaru is the Japanese name for the Pleiades; check the badge on the front and back of a Subaru. Below Jupiter is **Aldebaran** ("al-DEB-ah-ran"), a red giant first magnitude star. The other easily-visible red giant star is **Betelgeuse** ("beetle juice"), one of Orion's shoulders.

Orion with his belt of three bright stars is followed across the night sky by his dog **Canis Major** (Big Dog). Blue-white **Sirius** is the bright star in Canis Major and is the brightest nighttime star we can see. We see one brighter star in the daytime.

Tim Sterrett



Obituary

Lucinda J. "Joann" Frey, 69 of York Springs, PA entered into God's hand with her loving family by her side, Saturday, September 15, 2012 at the York Hospital. Born April 27, 1943, in Gettysburg, PA she was the daughter of the late Harold P. and Lottie M. (Baker) Irvin. She was the wife of John R. "Dick" Frey Sr. to whom she was married to for 50 years. Mrs. Frey was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Heidlersburg where she was very active in the Prayer Shawl Ministry. She retired as a field representative for Rep. Steve Nickols. She was a member of the York Springs Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary, the Adams County Council of Republican Women, the Adams County Republican Committee of Women, the school board of Bermudian Springs High School, the IRA E. Lady American Legion Post #262, the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association and also a Longaberger Consultant. In her free time she enjoyed spending time with her granddaughters, knitting, and volunteering with various organizations. In addition to her husband, Joann is survived by her son, Dwayne E. "Buzz" Frey and his wife Annette of York Springs, PA, her daughter Beverly A Weaver, of Hanover, PA, three granddaughters, Erika Weaver, Jessica Frey, and Emily Weaver.

Joann worked alongside her husband John in the bee business from the start in 1973 until they sold the business in 2008. Even though she was allergic to the bees, she was determined to do her fair share of the work.

She worked for many years with the PA State Beekeepers' ice cream stand at the PA Farm Show. She won numerous awards for her talent of using honey and beeswax in many ways. In 2008 she won Best of Show in the baked goods class with her apple pecan pie. She also won numerous first place awards for individual competitions with wax moldings, baked goods, candles, candy, etc. She also won many awards for Educational displays promoting honey.

Upcoming Dates To Remember



Deadline for the March issue of *The Pennsylvania Beekeeper* is February 25th.

Western PA Beekeeping Seminar

February 15-16, 2013 at the Four Points by Sheraton, Mars, PA. For more information, contact the Penn State Extension, Beaver County, at 724-774-3003.

Introduction to Beekeeping

Saturday, February 16, 10:30 a.m. at 32 Comm. St., Honesdale. The program is free but registration is required. To register or for additional information, contact Charlie Kinbar at purepahoney@gmail.com or call 570-727-2544.

Beekeepers of the Susquehanna Valley

Saturday, February 16, 2013 7:00 p.m. at the Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, Danville. For more information, email: info@thebeeyard.org or visit <http://www.thebeeyard.org>

Introduction to Beekeeping

February 20, March 6 & 20, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. at the Lehigh Carbon Comm. College, Schnecksville. For additional information, contact Lee Fleischman at 610-360-7508 or bees@fleischmanfamily.org

Montgomery County Beekeepers

Wednesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center, Creamery. Stanley Forman, M.D., Partner in Allergy and Asthma Specialist based in Blue Bell will speak about allergic and non-allergic reactions to honey bee, wasp, yellow jacket and hornet stings, methods of testing for allergic reactions and treatments for desensitization. For more information, contact Mark Antunes at 484-995-0768 or email honeyhillfarm@verizon.net.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Lehigh County Ag. Bldg., Allentown. Beekeeping Equipment: Review, Basics & options. Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 for more information.

York County Beekeepers

Thursday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. in the Rhul Community Room, Penn State York Campus. Bill Sprenkle will be talking about “The Basics of Rearing and Evaluating Queens.” Contact Gail Leasure at 717-968-0911 or email snewgeese@yahoo.com for more information.

North East PA Beekeepers

Wednesday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. at 32 Comm St., Honesdale. Contact Charles Kinbar at 570-497-6402, email: purepahoney@gmail.com

Monroe County Beekeepers

Wednesday, March 13, at the Monroe County Environmental Center. For more information, contact Bob Armstrong at 570-620-9421 or email RJArmstrong1@verizon.net

Beekeepers of the Susquehanna Valley

Tuesday, March 19, 2013 7:00 p.m. at the Christ Memorial Episcopal Church, Danville. For more information, email: info@thebeeyard.org or visit <http://www.thebeeyard.org>

Montgomery County Beekeepers

Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center, Creamery. Mark Antunes will speak on “Swarm Prevention and Capture, plus Making Splits.” For more information, contact Mark Antunes at 484-995-0768 or email honeyhillfarm@verizon.net.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers

Thursday, March 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Lehigh Gap Nature Center. Spring Start-up. Contact Steve Finke at 610-737-7676 or email sjfinke@msn.com for more information.

York County Beekeepers

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. in the Rhul Community Room, Penn State York Campus. Dennis VanEngelsdorp will be speaking on “The Bee Informed Partnership: Management Practices that Work and those that Don’t.” Contact Gail Leasure at 717-968-0911 or email snewgeese@yahoo.com for more information.

2013 EAS Conference and Short Course

Monday-Friday, August 5-9, 2013, at the West Chester University, West Chester, Pa. visit the [EAS website](#) for more information.

PSBA Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 10, 2013 at the Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia, PA. The picnic is being hosted by the Montgomery County Beekeepers’ Association. Watch for additional information.

(Continued on Page 17)

Spring Bee Packages

Spring bee packages to be picked up
April 15th, 2013

Italian 3 lb. package w/queen - \$82.00
Additional \$3.00 for marked queen

Packages can be picked up at
307 Valley Drive, Rochester, PA 15074

To order packages,
please call Tom Johnson at:
724-312-7584 (cell) or
724-728-6826 (home)

Jeremy's Corner

If the page on which this newsletter is printed represents all of the knowledge that is available to day, how much of it do you know? For me, the period at the end of this sentence is probably too big to represent accurately the range of my knowledge.

To make it more confounding, the volume of that knowledge is expanding exponentially (by some estimates it doubles every 84 days) so the period becomes increasingly smaller by comparison, and increasingly less significant.

Indeed, according to the futurist Ray Kurzweil, the technological revolution (whereby technology doubles in power each year and declines in size and cost) will lead to exponential growth to the point that the amount of knowledge will have increased one billion-fold by 2049. That is beyond my ability to imagine.

For much of my life I was passionate about history, in particular European and African history, and that ardor gradually enlarged to include education in general. (As an aside, my degree, with majors in history and geography, did not include so much as one course in American history!) I soon realized that if I taught only what I knew then I was confining students to one miniscule period on a large page, a drop of water amid the ocean of knowledge. The challenge of the educator (as compared to the teacher) is to arouse students' curiosity so that they begin to explore the water for themselves and find, hopefully something about which they will feel passionate and someone about whom the feel passionately to share it with. In the words of the Jewish proverb, "Confine not your children to your own learning, for they are of a different generation."

When we teach students what to think rather than how to think (and standardized tests can all too easily reinforce this – what is referred to in some countries as 'the tyranny of the test',) we are drumming our knowledge into them rather than developing the mental skills they will need long after they have left our care.

The word 'education' comes from 'educare', which means to draw forth, not to pour in.

Am I saying that there is no room for basic, fundamental knowledge? Of course not, as long as that is not all there is. And even at some of the best institutions of learning in this country there is evidence that the scales weigh more heavily in favor of the what rather than the how.

And then twelve years ago I discovered honey bees, or perhaps they discovered me. And gradually another dot on the page came into focus. It was a new area to explore. Certainly I had enjoyed biology at school and always had an affinity for nature, but never before was there this invitation to jump into the deep end, to get gloriously wet.

And gradually the dots began to connect themselves, patterns emerged, a 'network of learning' that was enticing and rewarding. The content, the challenges, were new to

me, but the principles (analysis, synthesis, evaluation and application) were the same, and the skills that I had tried to develop in others could be applied to this new droplet of glistening water.

The rewards are never ending and, like blowing up a balloon, the more air (i.e. knowledge) that is introduced, the greater the surface area that is exposed to the unknown. It is not overwhelming; in fact the challenge is appropriate. Besides jig saws I also enjoy doing sudokus and crosswords ... but not if they're easy. If they are it's simply routine, no more than rote memory using the lower order thinking skills (recall and comprehension.) To be satisfying there is a need to be extended, to be stretched and challenged. There is nothing quite so fulfilling as reaching an apparent impasse and using the higher order thinking skills to move past it.

The same applies to keeping honey bees. At first I was satisfied just to learn, to keep them alive over winter, to find the queen and read a frame. Now the joy comes from choosing to extend myself, essentially by reading, by attending good conferences and rubbing shoulders with others who are similarly inspired, and by listening.

In this respect the bees have been great teachers for me, not least about life, both mine and theirs.

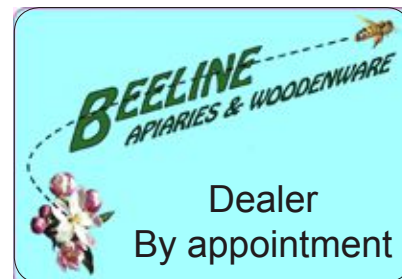
Jeremy Barnes

Beeline Apiaries & Woodenware Dealer

**Package bees for Spring 2013
\$75.00**

Tentative dates: April 13 & April 20

Nucs: \$100.00



**Myron Showalter
178 Milnor Road
Greencastle, PA 17225
717-598-8184**

PA Honey Queen Report

By: Elena Hoffman

Hello, fellow beekeepers! I hope that as we reach the heart of winter all of you are faring well! I'm excited to introduce myself as the 2013 Pennsylvania Honey Queen! As of now, I am a senior in high school currently residing in Union County. I am in the National Honors Society and am a member of my high school's Spanish and Interact club. I plan to attend college in the fall at West Chester University for Biology.

In January I began my promotion year at the Pennsylvania Farm Show. My activities there included working in the ice cream stand, helping at the learning center, and participating in a cooking demonstration. I helped to sell honey ice cream and waffles and met some outstanding beekeepers while working in the ice cream stand. At the learning center I answered many questions from the public about the live observation hives and gave children bee stamps. Then Jessica, our 2013 Honey Princess, and I helped a chef prepare salsas with honey for a live crowd. I had a fantastic time!

During the last weekend of the Pennsylvania Farm Show I also attended the American Beekeeping Federation's convention in Hershey. During the two days I was at the convention I watched how the auction worked to raise money for the American Honey Queen Program and I attended their annual banquet, where I was honored to see the new American Honey Queen and Princess crowned. It was an excellent experience and I enjoyed meeting the beekeepers at the banquet.

I am excited for my year of promoting the beekeeping industry and PSBA. I am looking forward to meeting many beekeepers and teaching about the importance of the industry. I am honored to have been selected as this year's honey queen. To invite me or Princess Jessica to an event, contact Rachel Bryson, queen program chair, at brysonrachel@yahoo.com or 717-300-0146.

Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program

The Pennsylvania Honey Queen is the main promoter and educator of the beekeeping and honey industries in Pennsylvania. She is a representative of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association and travels throughout the state for one year educating the public on the importance of honeybees.

Education is the main goal of the Honey Queen Program and the Honey Queen provides an educational, engaging 30 minute school presentation, which is adjusted to all grade levels. During this presentation, the Honey Queen covers the life cycle of honeybees and their many jobs, pollination, products of the hive and the role of beekeepers. This presentation can be easily modified to present to civic organizations, homemakers groups, clubs and after school programs. In addition, the Honey Queen can provide an educational booth for a fair, farmers market or even a store promotion.

To invite the Pennsylvania Honey Queen to your event, please see the form on the reverse side. All presentations are free of charge.

More information on the Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program is available at www.pastatebeekeepers.org/queen.htm or on Facebook at "Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program."

Thank you and we look forward to working with you.

Rachel Bryson
Pennsylvania Honey Queen Program Chair
610 Strite Rd.
Chambersburg, PA 17202
Phone: 717-300-0146
brysonrachel@yahoo.com

Hartzell's Honeys and Bee Supplies

We are located in Western Pennsylvania near Brookville.
Contact us for your bees and beekeeping supplies.

**We are currently taking orders for Three Pound Packages.
They will be available for pickup April 21st weather permitting.
Price \$89.00, limited supply available.**

Pay by check, or use your Visa/Master card or Discover if you prefer.

Contact: Jeff or Jackie to place your order today.

We look forward to supplying your beekeeping needs.

(814) 849-2760 Website: <http://www.hartzells-honeys.com>

Request for Pennsylvania Honey Queen Presentation

Name of Association, Business or Individual: _____

Title of Event: _____

Location of event: _____

Date of Event: _____

Description of Event: _____

Queen's Chaperone for event: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Name of Host Family with whom the Queen will stay overnight (if necessary): _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Would you like to make a donation to the program?

- Suggested - \$50: _____
- Other amount: _____
 - Checks can be made payable to the "PSBA Promotion Fund"

Signed by: _____ Date: _____

Return to:

Rachel Bryson
PA Honey Queen Program Chair
610 Strite Rd.
Chambersburg, PA 17202

Upcoming Dates (Continued from Page 9)

PSBA Annual Conference

Friday and Saturday, November 8 & 9, 2013 at the Best Western Inn/Country Cupboard, Lewisburg. Additional information will be posted on our website <http://www.pastatebeekeepers.org> as it becomes available.

Introduction to Beekeeping

An Introduction to Beekeeping program will be held Saturday, February 16, starting at 10:30 a.m. at 32 Comm. St., Honesdale. The program is free but registration is required. To register or for additional information, contact Charlie Kinbar at purepahoney@gmail.com or call 570-727-2544.

Do you know?

We had two people that attended our Annual Conference in Lewisburg who paid their PSBA dues along with the registration fee and we are unable to find them in our membership list. Does any one know Beverly Ross or Wally Blohm? If so, please have them contact Yvonne so she can record their information and receive our newsletter. Thank you for your help.

W.W.B.D. (What would Bill do?)

We regret that there is no article this month. If you have a question you would like to send to Bill Mondjack, Master Beekeeper, please email it to him at: billzbeez@mondjackapiaries.com with the subject line being WWBD, and he will respond with an opinion as 'what he would do' if the problem or situation was his.

Watch for the February Special Edition to include articles and photos on the 2013 Farm Show and ABF Convention.

For Sale

Spring and Summer 5-Frame Nucs

Available for pickup in
Lewistown, PA

Call for availability and pricing.
800-736-6205
Ask for Aaron

Stony Springs
APIARIES
Cogan Station, PA
570-998-9464

NORTHERN BRED STOCK

We are committed to hygienic and mite resistant lines that are winter hardy. We utilize a chemical free natural selection breeding program and isolated mating yards.

- PA Certified Breeder Northern Queens and Nucs
- Members of Northern State Queen Breeders Association
- Top Quality Queens and Nucs Available May thru September
- 2013 Northern Nucs \$90.00
- 2013 Northern Queens \$22.00
- All Nucs are 5 Frame Deeps

Italian Package Bees and Queens for Sale:

Delivered to the Lehigh Valley

3 lb. Package w/Queen - \$88
Queens - \$21

Add \$3.00 for marked queens

Available for pickup on or about April 14
(Actual date may change due to weather)

Contact

Bill Mondjack: 610-751-4483
billzbeez@mondjackapiaries.com

or

Steve Finke: 610-737-7676
sjfinke@msn.com

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIVISION OF FOOD SAFETY

GUIDELINES FOR THE SANITARY OPERATION OF
HONEY EXTRACTING FACILITIES

All honey producers in PA must register as a Food Establishment. The registration fee is \$35.00/year. Honey producers that are registered with a fee may legally place the statement "Reg. PA Dept of Agr." on their product labels.

Exempt from registration fees, but not inspection, are "food establishments that are in compliance with the Honey Sale and Labeling Act **and** in which **100%** of the honey offered for human consumption is produced or processed **on the farm** in which the food establishment is located". Exempt honey processors may voluntarily register with a fee, if they desire to label their products as above.

Below is a general guideline* for sanitation of a honey production site. This is not a complete list of potential requirements. Any requirements under the Code of Federal Regulations may apply. Any persons selling interstate should contact their local FDA office and register as a food processor.

- **FLOOR, WALLS AND CEILINGS:** The floors, walls, and ceilings of the facility shall be kept in good repair and adequately cleaned.
- **VENTILATION:** All ventilating openings shall be screened or equipped with mechanical devices to exclude insects. NOTE—It is understood that it is impossible to keep all bees out of an extracting facility, but they shall be kept to a minimum.
- **LIGHTING:** Lights over exposed food zones shall be protected against adulteration through breakage. All facilities shall have sufficient light to permit efficient operations including cleaning.
- **WATER SUPPLY:** The water supply shall be adequate for the operation and convenient to the operation of the facility. Hot water shall be available for cleaning. All facilities shall have potable water. The supply should be tested approximately two weeks before the extraction process of the season.
- **SANITARY FACILITIES:** Toilet and hand washing facilities for the operation shall be convenient to the operation. The facility must be maintained in good repair and in a sanitary fashion.
- **VECTOR CONTROL:** Pests of any kind should not be in a food establishment. No chemicals or poisons shall be used to control insects or rodents while supers of honey are stored in the facility or extracting of honey is in process. Follow label instructions on pesticide containers; only use approved pesticides. PETS are not allowed in the honey processing, extraction or bottling site.
- **EXTRACTION COMBS:** Honey shall be extracted only from combs that are free from brood of the bees and/or larva of wax moths.
- **EQUIPMENT:** Extractors and tanks shall be of non-corrosive finish, or shall be lacquered or painted with lacquers of paint of a type approved for food contact.
- **WASHING EQUIPMENT:** Extractors and tanks shall be washed at the beginning and end of the extracting season. Extractors shall be covered when not in use.
- **PRODUCERS RETURNABLE BULK CONTAINERS:** Before refilling all used bulk containers; the outside shall be cleaned but not necessarily the inside.
- **RAW HONEY:** Honey for further processing shall be as clean as if run through an 18-mesh strainer.
- **WORKERS:** Shall wear clean, washable clothing and shall keep hands clean at all times. Hair restraint shall be worn. Workers may not process honey or honey products when ill.
- **VEHICLES:** Truck floors shall be cleaned before hauling supers of honey.
- **PORTABLE EXTRACTING PLANTS:** Portable extracting facilities and equipment shall meet all cleanliness requirements of stationary plants.
- **LABELING:** Honey must be in compliance with the Act of July 20, 1974, Honey Sale and Labeling Act. Honey must additionally be labeled as required under the Code of Federal Regulations.

*This is NOT an all inclusive list of requirements for a honey production site, but is intended to be a general guideline of food safety issues that must be addressed.