

ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

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**ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
116th State Convention**

**Saturday, November 17, 2007
Illinois Department of Agriculture
Springfield, Illinois**

President Ken Haller called the 116th Convention of the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association to order at 9:00 a.m. President Haller welcomed everyone in attendance.

Steve Chard, Chief Apiary Inspector and Supervisor of Apiary Inspection, asked for a moment of silence in memory of Frank Cassidy. Mr. Cassidy was a former apiary inspector in the western part of the state. Mr. Chard introduced Chuck Hartke, Director of Agriculture. Director Hartke provided an update on the Farm Bill. He also stated that he believes agriculture will see more changes in the next 15 years than we have seen in the past 100 years.

President Haller called for the Secretary's Report. Secretary Rita Taylor reported all members had received the Minutes of the 115th Convention via the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association bulletin. Secretary Taylor read the expenses and membership for the period of November 1, 2006 to November 1, 2007. **The Secretary's Report was approved as read.** (Secretary's Report Attached)

President Haller called for the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Udell Meyer reported the income and expenditures of the Association for the period of November 1, 2006 to November 1, 2007. **The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.** (Treasurer's Report Attached)

President Haller reintroduced Steve Chard. Mr. Chard shared a detailed report on the condition of hives around the state by providing statistics of disease, mites, inspection, and chemicals approved by the United States Department of Agriculture. He stated there are currently 1,329 registered beekeepers in Illinois.

President Haller introduced the officers of the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association and provided information on issues being undertaken by the Association.

President Haller announced the 2007 Beekeeper of the Year by presenting Rich Ramsey of Lincolnland Beekeepers' Association with a plaque. Mr. Ramsey was recognized for conducting several beekeeping classes, helping anyone who desired to have honeybees, presenting at several schools/clubs, serving as Assistant Superintendent at the Illinois State Fair Bee Culture exhibit and by also serving as political liaison for the Illinois State Beekeepers' Association.

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Phillip Raines reconvened the meeting by introducing Elizabeth Watkins, Illinois Department of Public Health. Ms. Watkins shared the Department of Health rules required for a honey house and labels as well as what is required on a label. She stressed that the Illinois Department of Public Health is only interested in safety.

(Break / Door Prizes)

President Haller reconvened the meeting by asking local beekeeping associations to report on what is happening in their areas of the state.

William Buckley reintroduced Professor Jamie Ellis who spoke on, “Colony Collapse Disorder in Honeybees”. Professor Ellis works at the Florida Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory. Colony Collapse Disorder began in Florida. Nationally 155 million pounds of honey, 15 billion hives in pollination and one third of the world food production is dependent on honeybees. Beekeepers lose approximately 50 percent of their colonies each year. Professor Ellis shared slides of Colony Collapse Disorder displaying symptoms and possible causes of the disorder.

Election of Officers – President Haller introduced Jill Mayes, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee selected the following members as nominees:

President	Ken Haller
Vice President	William Buckley
Secretary	Rita Taylor
Treasurer	Udell Meyer
Northern Director	Erik Whalen-Pedersen

Jill Mayes called three times for nominees from the floor for each of the offices. After no other nominations were heard, each of the nominees listed above were elected to their respective office.

(Door Prizes)

A special “thank you” was given to Professor Jamie Ellis (interesting topics of discussion), Steve Chard (acquiring use of the Department of Agriculture building) and Rich Ramsey (arrangements for catering).

President Haller thanked everyone for their attendance, and with no further business the 116^h Illinois State Beekeepers’ Association Convention was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita C. Taylor
Secretary
Illinois State Beekeepers’ Association

Dear ISBA Members, greetings in 2008!

As you already know from past Bulletins and from the recent annual meeting, the ISBA is a great place to be in 2007 and 2008. With numerous state-wide beginning Beekeeping classes in the works, many new members in the ranks and a very strong ISBA brand, we have much to be proud of.

The strength of the ISBA comes only with lots of hard work and committed volunteers from our ISBA leadership. Here lies my challenge to you all. As you enter 2008, please consider being a part of the ISBA leadership. As you ponder your future contributions to Illinois Beekeeping, your service to the ISBA would be greatly appreciated.

The ISBA website—www.isba.us—has been updated with a new section specifically dedicated to State of Illinois Honey Processing Rules and Regulations (as well as Federal labeling guidelines). This section contains notes from the recent Fall meeting with Elizabeth Watkins as well as links to the various rules and regulations documents. Please note that this section on our site has been put together with the assistance of Ms. Watkins and she has approved its content.

After much talk over the past year or so, I am hopeful that this information will provide clarification and assistance to you and your Beekeeping businesses!

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss your future involvement.

Happy New Year!

Ken Haller
President, Illinois State Beekeepers Association

Beekeepers in Illinois

Number of Colonies	Number of Beekeepers	Percentage of Beekeepers
0	84	6.3
1-5	848	63.8
6-10	206	15.5
11-20	86	6.5
21-50	56	4.2
51-100	27	2
101-200	12	0.09
201-300	3	0.02
301-400	1	0.01
401-500	1	0.01
>500	5	0.04
TOTAL	1329	100



Steve Chard, Chief Apiary Inspector for Illinois, compiles yearly statistics on honeybees. In 2007 1329 beekeepers managed 18,821 colonies in 2213 beeyards. Ninety-four percent of Illinois beekeepers keep less than 20 colonies. Two-thirds of the State's beekeepers keep five or less colonies.

Beekeeping Classes Woo New Beekeepers and Inspire the Journeyman

Are you the “nubee” looking to learn from an experienced beekeeper? Or are you the experienced beekeeper looking for new thoughts and developments. Illinois has a place for either of you. From north to south... from east to west... beekeepers will be teaching beekeepers. Here is a list -

What	Where	When	Association	Person	Information
Intro to beekeeping class	Forest Park Pavilion Peoria	February	Heart of Illinois Beekeepers	Janet Hart	309-446-3004
UIUC Beginning Beekeeping Shortcourse	Urbana	4/12/08	Central Eastern Illinois Association	May Berenbaum	217-427-2678
Intro to beekeeping class	Springfield	March 13-27	Lincoln Land Beekeepers	Fred Gerberding	217-498-8307
Beekeeping class	Clayton, MO	2/23/08	Eastern Missouri Beekeepers	Ted Tuner	636-632-3372
Intro to beekeeping class	Quincy	2/16/08	Mississippi Valley Beekeepers	Bernie Anderws	217-938-4975
Intro to beekeeping class	Madison County Farm Bureau Edwardsville	2/10/08	St. Clair Beekeepers	Ken Kloeppe	618-458-6559
Beekeeping 101	McHenry County College Crystal Lake	Feb 6 - March5	Northern Illinois Beekeepers	Larry Kregel	815-923-4449
Field study in Beekeeping	McHenry County College Crystal Lake	April 12-19	Northern Illinois Beekeepers	Larry Kregel	815-923-4449
Towards Saving the Honeybee: A Holistic Beekeep- ing Workshop	Caledonia	5/10/08	Angelic Organics Learning Center	Gunther Hauk	815-389-8455
Intro to Urban Beekeeping: Sweetness in the City	Chicago	4/12/08	Angelic Organics Learning Center		815-389-8455

On the Subject of Money

ISBA continues to be financially solvent. In 2007 dues were paid by 606 members. The efforts of many members selling ice cream and honey at the Illinois State Fair brought in \$2544. Last June's Midwest Beekeeping Symposium earned ISBA \$917 from registration and another \$784 in ISBA sales.

Among the significant expenses of 2007 was an insurance premium of \$1188. The treasury paid \$2503 for the preparation, printing, and mailing of the *ISBA Bulletin*. The Association paid \$60 for membership in Illinois Specialty Growers Association and contributed \$175 to the Agricultural Product Promotion Fund. ISBA membership in the American Beekeeping Federation cost \$175. The ABF Legislative Fund received a \$100 contribution for CCD research.

A complete financial statement can be found on the ISBA web site—ISBA.US.

The Queen Bugles Online

No, this is not Queen Elizabeth. She has gone high tech with her email Christmas cards, but has not taken up bugling.

ISBA member, Arvin Pierce, and his wife Colleen have posted honeybee video on the internet. Among the videos is a bugling queen calling from her cell before emerging as her predecessor roams the comb. Also online is video of a praying mantis visiting the hive for a meal of honeybees.

View Arvin's handiwork at one of the following sites -

<http://s206.photobucket.com/albums/bb195/acbees/>

<http://www.zunibee.com/community/Acbees>

<http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=acbees>

Contact the apicultural videographers at colnrvn@royell.org.



The Winter Urge

January might be the slow time for beekeepers, but their mind is still in the h i v e . Thoughts run to CCD, mites, and starvation.. The urge to knock on the box or peak through the inner covers is strong. Yet

there is little to do besides wait and hope. Fall is the time for bee and beekeepers to prepare. Winter is the time to hope.

Spring can't be far away.



Dear Beekeeper,

Robin and Stella Mountain, formerly Beekeepers from South Africa now living in the USA, would like to invite you to join them on a Beekeeping Safari in South Africa, December 2 - 15, 2008. This safari is for beekeepers as well as their non-beekeeping companions.

- Beekeeping in the *Apis mellifera scutellata* region
- Lesedi Cultural Village, Cradle of Humankind, Pretoria
- Swaziland: Beekeeping in Bulembu/Visit Swazi Candle, Ngwenya Glass Factory
- 2 Full days Safari in the Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga
- Your chance to see the "Big Five" (Lion, Leopard, Rhinoceros, Cape Buffalo, Elephant)
- Beekeeping in the *Apis mellifera capensis* region
- Cape Town with visits to the African Penguin Breeding Colony, Cape Point, Table Mountain
- Kirstenbosch, the most famous South African Botanical Garden
- Visit the Winelands and Stellenbosch

Tour Price: US\$5495.00 per person sharing

For more info visit Robin's website—www.ntabatours.com.

Best Wishes,
Robin and Stella

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 2006 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 the association secretary.

Reduced Journal Rates for 2006 (*members only*)

	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr
American Bee Journal	18.70	35.40	49.80
Bee Culture	21.00	38.00	N/A
The Speedy Bee	13.25	25.25	34.00

ISBA Executive Board 2006

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POSTMASTER: Send address Corrections to Illinois State Beekeepers Association 42 74 Taylor Homestead Road, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677-4024.

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- ⇒ *Minutes of the State meeting*
- ⇒ *2008 Beekeeping classes*
- ⇒ *New updates on the ISBA website*
- ⇒ *Beekeeping in Africa?*