



BEE LINE

on Honey Notes

January 2016

President's Greeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2015 conference in Boise the first part of December. It was great to see familiar faces but also to meet new folks who are showing interest and involvement in our industry. It was obvious that one of the missing beekeepers was long-time, faithful member, Guy Lemmons. However, the Lemmons family was there in full support and we appreciate their attendance and participation.

The planning committee did an excellent job in identifying a variety of presenters and a broad list of topics. There are plenty of challenges facing the beekeeping industry. The IHIA board and officers remained the same for the coming year. I look forward to working with this dedicated group of individuals who communicate throughout the year to improve the day-to-day operations of the organization. Also, a special thanks to the staff at AMG for their services in handling administrative responsibilities for IHIA.

It will be my pleasure to serve as your President in 2016. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with questions, concerns, or ideas that would help to strengthen and improve this organization.

Andrew Puckett
President

Western Apicultural Society

Some members may be aware that the IHIA recently became a member of the Western Apicultural Society (WAS). With this note, I'd like to introduce the IHIA membership to the overall purpose and functions of the Society. Many thanks to Fran Bach, the WAS Editor, for providing the information necessary to compose this note.

The Western Apicultural Society is a registered non-profit, strictly non-political, educational beekeeping organization founded in 1977, primarily for the benefit and enjoyment of beekeepers throughout western North America. One of WAS's primary goals is to help meet the educational needs of beekeepers in the western states and provinces, a region that includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming; the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory; and the northern Mexico states.

The WAS membership includes educators, hobbyists, sideliners, small, medium and large commercial beekeepers, plus a variety of commercial suppliers and vendors. The Society works hard to support the needs of the membership, primarily through the publication of the *WAS Journal*, a quarterly publication (westernapiculturalsociety.org/w-a-s-journal) focusing on beekeeping topics and events occurring across western North America. The *Journal* is received by the approximately 500 Society members, advertisers, past conference speakers, other professionals and regional beekeeping clubs.

In addition to the *Journal*, WAS distributes "Items for Beekeepers," an electronic newsletter generally distributed on a weekly basis. The newsletter places an emphasis on summarizing current beekeeping news, activities and events that are of interest to our membership.

The most significant activity sponsored by the WAS is an annual conference that is convened at various locations throughout the region. Since the population out West is considerably less dense, the WAS conference is smaller than the annual conference of our counterpart, the Eastern Apicultural Society. However, the quality of our event is underlined by the number of Easterners who participate every year and appear to appreciate our more intimate gathering, along with the excellent opportunities to network with other beekeepers and speakers. The emphasis of the conference explores new research findings presented by well-connected academics and senior extension people, who are able to deliver the latest and best information available.

The 2016 WAS conference will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, from October 12th to 15th. For additional conference details, watch the WAS website (westernapiculturalsociety.org). Finally, WAS will celebrate our 40th anniversary at our 2017 annual conference, to be held at UC Davis in California, the place where it all began.

Steve Sweet
IHIA Board, Hobbyist Representative
WAS Board, Idaho Director

Annual Meeting Highlights continued from front page

DUES: The annual dues notice is enclosed for your consideration of membership with IHIA. Dues for 2016 will be \$50/individual/year. The IHIA membership fee is for only one person. On the back of the board roster is a list of those who were members in 2015. We look forward to adding your name to our membership roster in 2016.

HOBBYISTS: The hobbyists met on Friday afternoon following the IHIA conference. They elected Steve Sweet, Boise Hobbyist Beekeeper to represent them on the IHIA board of directors for the coming year.

RESEARCH SUPPORT: The board of directors approved research money be sent to Project Apis m. in the amount of \$5,000 and to Pheasants Forever, Inc., Idaho project, \$3,000.00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS: The membership approved two by-law changes, one that established two-year terms for board of director members and a second that established two-year terms for officers. The following will serve as officers for the coming year under the new provisions:

President: Andrew Puckett
Vice President: Scott Hamilton
Secretary/Treasurer: Josh Reisinger

Elected to a two-year term on the board of directors:

Jonathan Millet, Greenleaf (*past president*)
Nick Noyes, Fruitland (*District I*)

Dan Mudd, Salmon (*District II*)
Brody Tomazin, Blackfoot (*District III*)

A roster of current serving board members showing their terms is enclosed for your reference. Please feel free to contact IHIA board members if you have industry or organization related questions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Enclosed is the 2015 Executive Director report from Rick Waitley and Benjamin Kelly, Association Management Group. Please review the report as an update of what has been happening in IHIA over the past year. One of the highlights for the year was the investment in The Farmstead Corn Maze with a Honey Bee Line (you can see a video of the Bee Line on the IHIA website at www.idahohoney.org). Participants had a great time being the bee between the pollen and flowers but also learned some interesting facts about the honey industry while standing in line waiting their turn.

HONEY PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS: At the annual conference, IHIA had a number of National Honey Board promotional items and other items (bookmarks, honey finger puppets, coloring and activity books, etc.) available for producers to use in promoting the industry. Enclosed is a bookmark, one of the items developed in-house at AMG. If you would like additional bookmarks, please contact the IHIA office and indicate the quantity that you would need to have when visiting schools and hosting farm visits.

LOOKING AHEAD: The 2016 conference will be held on **December 1-2** in Boise at the Red Lion Downtowner. Please continue to watch the IHIA website – www.idahohoney.org— for updates of information and activities surrounding IHIA. If you have items that need to be posted to the website, please send them to the webmaster, Nic Gibson at nic@amgidaho.com. Progress continues in trying to relocate the Idaho Honey Commission out of the Department of Agriculture into Association Management Group in Meridian to have the commission more in coordination with the association. We will keep you posted through the Bee Line as this process continues.

RESEARCH ALLOCATIONS: The IHIA board of directors will meet on Friday, January 15, for a conference call to discuss the allocation of funds for research for the coming year. These funds are ones generated through the annual auction. If you have pet projects or know of valuable research that should be considered for funding by IHIA, please let one of your IHIA board members know in advance of the meeting.

THE HONEY STORE

2330 Hwy 30
Fruitland, ID 83619
Phone: 208-452-7035

Hours: Monday-Friday 10-5
Saturday 10-1

Nick and Shilo Noyes

We have a wide variety of Honey, Beeswax Candles and Idaho products. So stop by and see us!

