



U of I Dean Has Background In Entomology

February 1 marked the starting date for Dean Michael Parrella, 15th Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho. Parrella comes to U of I from the University of California, Davis, where he has served as the chair of the Department of Entomology and Nematology and associate dean of Agricultural Sciences. He has also served as the Western Regional Administrator for the IR-4 program and was a board member of the Sacramento/Yolo County Mosquito Abatement District, the California Crop Improvement Association, and the Robert Mondavi Institute for Food and Wine Science.

"I am excited about joining the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho. The president and provost have a wonderful vision to move the university forward, and CALS has a critical role to play," Parrella said. "As the dean, I look forward to working with faculty, staff, students and stakeholders to make the college all that it can be."



Parrella has a bachelor's degree in animal science from Rutgers University, and a master's and doctorate in entomology from Virginia Tech.

His research is focused on developing integrated pest management (IPM) programs for greenhouse and nursery crops with an emphasis on biological control. He has published more than 100 refereed publications and more than 200 trade press/limited distribution articles.

Parrella was also recently elected as the vice president-elect of the Entomological Society of America (ESA), and he will assume the duties as president of the society and preside over the ESA annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2018.

American Beekeeping Federation

Jonathan Millet is a board member for the American Beekeeping Federation and passed along this information from the national organization.

Hello everyone,

We are rolling out the 2016 ABF Complimentary Membership for New Members today, February 1, 2016.

You will also all receive an email that explains the new program and includes a link to the sign up page. This email is designed to be able to be forwarded to your friends, local club members, an anyone else who might be interested in receiving a free, new ABF membership for 2016.

Thank you very much for your support. If you have any questions, you can give me a call at 404-760-2875.

Sincerely,
Valerie Lake, Membership Coordinator
American Beekeeping Federation



FFA Expos

The spring of the year brings a number of FFA Expos where high school students provide instruction about agriculture

experienced by producers. Here is a quick summary of the legislation: Senator Abby Lee (R-Fruitland) is sponsoring legislation that would include bees and beehives to the list of claims that can be made to the Department of Fish & Game to receive compensation funding from the Expendable Big Game Depredation Fund. Currently, only honey is included in Idaho Code. The Idaho Honey Industry and the Fish & Game Commission have joined the Idaho Farm Bureau in supporting this bill. Here is the history of S1340:

- February 25 Passed the Idaho Senate by a vote of 35-0-0 (Senator Lee sponsor)
March 11 Passed the Idaho House by a vote of 66-0-4 (Senator Miller sponsor)

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

Research

The Idaho Honey Industry Association board of directors met on Friday, January 15. At that time, they took under consideration their expenditures for research in the coming year. A check in the amount of \$12,450 was sent to Project Apis m. for honey research projects. Project Apis m. has been reporting to the Idaho members at the past few annual meetings and the research conducted by Project Apis m. has been helpful to the honey industry in the Gem State.

The funds represent memorial and auction monies generated in the name of honey producer **Guy Lemmons**, who passed away in 2015. The family had requested that all memorials be set aside for research. During the annual IHIA Auction in December, additional funds were generated for this purpose in memory of Guy and a total of \$12,450 was established as the **Guy Lemmons Memorial Research Project**.