



# BEE LINE

*on Honey Notes*

September 2018

Dear Idaho Honey Producer,

Hope you are having a wonderful fall. Great weather, beautiful colors, and so much to get done. I have a three year old son named Finn that is one crazy little dude. Finn loves to run from playing with toys, bugging his sisters, and then into some sort of mischief and back around again. Always with something else grabbing his attention. At this time of year, I feel the same way. There's so much to get done with beekeeping and trying to fit it all in can be quite distracting. Extracting to finish up (way to go for you over achievers that have already got it done), bees to move around, medicate, feed, the list goes on and on with still more to finish up as we try to out race Mother Nature and the incoming winter. Then we hope things will slow down just enough to see you at the annual meeting. We have an exciting meeting planned with Dennis vanEngelsdorp from the University of Maryland and the Bee Informed Project. We will also hear from a representative from Project apis M. and Mr. Ralph Jones. We are excited to see you all there for a fun and informative time.

Brody Tomazin, President

**AG COUNTRY at the CANYON COUNTY FAIR:** The Idaho Honey Industry Association (IHIA) had a display in Ag Country at the Canyon County Fair sponsored by the Canyon County Farm Bureau. The IHIA booth joined a number of other displays of agriculture commodities during the Wednesday – Sunday event. Over 6,000 visited Ag Country during the fair and more than 1,500 quizzes were given out to those who wished to learn more inside the exhibit. IHIA had questions on both the adult and the youth quiz.

**THE FARMSTEAD CORN MAZE AND PUMPKIN FESTIVAL:** The IHIA has enjoyed a partnership with The Farmstead Corn Maze and Pumpkin Festival located in Meridian each September – Halloween. Three years ago, the IHIA invested in what is called the Honey Zip Line. Visitors to the agri-tourism venue have the chance to ride a short zip line from the flower to the hive as a bee. Along the path of the ride and in the area where you wait your turn is a variety of honey and bee facts.

The IHIA was approached by The Farmstead and was offered an opportunity to expand the honey and bee education to include a working observation hive set inside an octagon building with bee facts for visitors to read. IHIA accepted the offer and the new display will be part of the grand opening on Friday, September 21. If you visit The Farmstead, be sure to stop by and tour the honey display. A hobbyist will be present on many days to answer questions for visitors. Most likely, the funding for this project will come from the Idaho Honey Commission.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX TOUR:** Personal property taxes are a necessary evil in many counties. Food Producers of Idaho (of which IHIA is a member) and the Idaho Farm Bureau along with other groups joined forces to explore the lack of continuity in how these taxes are assessed by counties in Idaho. The specific industries included: dairy, hops, mint and honey. On September 12 a tour was held. Thanks to Nick and Tony Noyes for taking time to share the story of honey production and the use of the various types of equipment that extract honey. Similar demonstrations were also held on a dairy, at a mint operation and at a hop harvesting facility. The tour was sponsored by Food Producers of Idaho, Idaho Farm Bureau, Idaho Dairymen's Association, Milk Producers of Idaho, Idaho Mint Commission and Idaho Honey Industry Association. Members of the State Tax Commission and staff of the agency joined industry leaders for the tour. The tour took place in Canyon and Payette Counties and the Tax Tour participants joined legislators and other public officials who were participating in a Hop Awareness Tour for lunch at Parma Ridge Winery.

## **2018 Idaho Honey Industry Association Annual Meeting and Conference - November 28-29**

**Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Ph.D. is one of our keynote speakers.** Dennis, an Associate Professor at the University of Maryland, has a broad interest in pollinator health. The focus of his current work involves the application of epidemiological approaches to understanding and (importantly) improving honey bee health. Dennis is the founding president of the Bee Informed Partnership (BeelInformed.org) which attempts to provide a platform to collect “big data” on the state of managed honey bee colony health. Analysis of these data is providing important insights into the role beekeeper management practices and environmental factors (such as landscape pesticides and climate) have on keeping colonies alive.



**RALPH JONES to return:** In 2017, Ralph Jones, former instructor for Farm Business Management courses, spoke to at the Annual Conference on Decision Making. Because of the positive response from that presentation, we invited Ralph to return in 2018. At the time of this writing, we have not confirmed a specific title for the presentation that Ralph plans to make but can assure you it will be seasoned with wisdom, experiences and provide tremendous insight into dealing with day-to-day situations.

## UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS

November 6 is the General Election for the State of Idaho. At that time, 105 legislators will be elected along with the Constitutional officers for Idaho and the two Congressional Representatives from the Gem State. There is an organization that exists (IHIA is not a voting member) called ANRIPAC (Agriculture Natural Resource Industry Political Action Committee) that tries to learn as much about candidates as possible through surveys that are sent out. Below are those individuals who ANRIPAC has voted to support with campaign funds toward their election. We felt as Idaho voters you may like to see the list of candidates supported by ANRIPAC. By our research, a determination has been made that these individuals have strong ties to agriculture, and understand and support agriculture and natural resource issues.

### ANRIPAC - 2018 General Election

| <u>District/Position</u>             | <u>Candidates Supported</u>     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Governor                             | <b>Brad Little</b>              |
| Superintendent of Public Instruction | <b>Sherri Ybarra</b>            |
| Senator, District 1                  | <b>Jim Woodward</b>             |
| Representative, District 1           | <b>Sage Dixon</b>               |
| Representative, District 2           | <b>Vito Barbieri</b>            |
| Senator, District 3                  | <b>Don Cheatham</b>             |
| Senator, District 4                  | <b>Mary Souza</b>               |
| Representative, District 4           | <b>Jim Addis</b>                |
| Representative, District 4           | <b>Paul Amador</b>              |
| Senator, District 5                  | <b>David Nelson</b>             |
| Representative, District 5           | <b>Bill Goesling</b>            |
| Representative, District 5           | <b>Caroline Nilsson Troy</b>    |
| Representative, District 6           | <b>Thyra Stevenson</b>          |
| Representative, District 6           | <b>Mike Kingsley</b>            |
| Senator, District 7                  | <b>Carl Crabtree</b>            |
| Representative, District 7           | <b>Paul E. Shepherd</b>         |
| Representative, District 9           | <b>Judy Boyle</b>               |
| Senator, District 10                 | <b>Jim Rice</b>                 |
| Senator, District 11                 | <b>Patti Anne Lodge</b>         |
| Senator, District 12                 | <b>Todd Lakey</b>               |
| Representative, District 12          | <b>Robert Anderst</b>           |
| Representative, District 12          | <b>Rick D. Youngblood</b>       |
| Senator, District 15                 | <b>Fred S. Martin</b>           |
| Representative, District 15          | <b>Patrick McDonald</b>         |
| Representative, District 19          | <b>Mat Erpelding</b>            |
| Senator, District 21                 | <b>Clifford Bayer</b>           |
| Senator, District 22                 | <b>Lori Den Hartog</b>          |
| Representative, District 24          | <b>Linda Wright Hartgen</b>     |
| Representative, District 26          | <b>Steve Miller</b>             |
| Representative, District 26          | <b>Sally Toone</b>              |
| Representative, District 27          | <b>Scott Bedke</b>              |
| Senator, District 28                 | <b>Jim Guthrie</b>              |
| Senator, District 29                 | <b>Mark Nye</b>                 |
| Representative, District 29          | <b>Dustin Whitney Manwaring</b> |
| Representative, District 30          | <b>Gary L Marshall</b>          |
| Senator, District 33                 | <b>Dave Lent</b>                |
| Senator, District 34                 | <b>Brent Hill</b>               |
| Representative, District 35          | <b>Jerald Raymond</b>           |
| Representative, District 35          | <b>Rod Furniss</b>              |