



Hi-BEE NEWS

Newsletter for the Hawai'i Beekeepers' Association (Vol. XV) February 2001

Last Chance ?!

To keep receiving this newsletter, you must be a paid-up member. After the Feb. 20th Membership Meeting, non-members will be dropped from our mailing list. There are currently 52 un-paid people. Please call our HBA Treasurer Charles Wong at 488-4355 if you are unsure of your status.

Calendar Of Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:00 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

MOANALUA VALLEY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



Membership Renewal

Membership in the Hawai'i Beekeepers' Association is open to anyone who has an interest in bees and beekeeping! You do not need to own bees or reside in Hawai'i to join. Annual fee is \$12 per person ... includes a vote in HBA elections, discounts on other bee-related publications, and a subscription to Hi-BEE NEWS and more! Foreign membership is \$20.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____

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Add'l Contribution \$ _____. Research / General Fund

Total Amt Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____

Send check payable to: "Hawaii Beekeepers Assoc."

Charles Wong, Treasurer

99-1049 Aiea Hts Dr Aiea, HI 96701

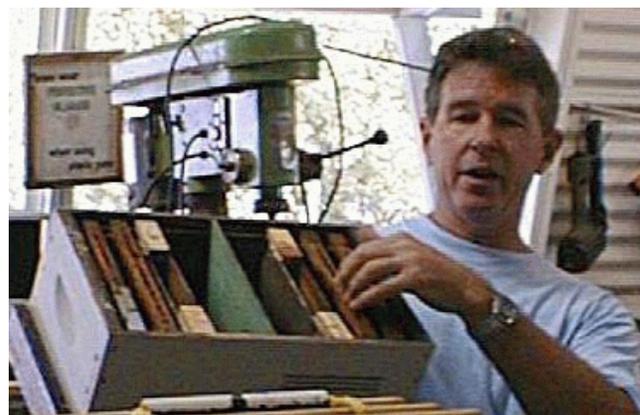
President's Corner

Aloha all!

Well we're getting into the New Year and we've got a lot to do. The survey, the website, legislation efforts, a little productive re-organization, lots of fun ideas to make happen, tours of some Big Island beekeeping organizations, and all kinds of things to help beekeeping blossom in Hawaii.

The trip to the Big Island with the American Beekeepers Federation was a lot of fun. Those who attended this conference from the HBA were Fred Salassa (chairman of the newspaper committee), Julie Moss (Director-at-large), Myself (da Prez), and of course my lovely wife Carlene (Director-at-large).

We flew up to Kona for the appointed dates starting with an entertaining (if a tad touristy) evening luau at the Kona Surf Hotel. We met a lot of nice mainland, and international (including Bermudian) beekeepers and all got to see GUS ROUSE dancing comically with some coconut shell clad hula dancers. We missed seeing RICHARD SPIEGAL's place since it had been rescheduled to a day earlier than our arrival.



(Gus displays his queen rearing mini-supers.)

We did, however, get to GARNETT PUETT's *Captain Cook Honey Co.* In a large loading room in Garnett's honey house, the mainlanders were happy to see a hive's worth of bees trying to get out from amongst the hundreds of stacked empty supers. They were attracted to the light coming through the windows in the huge warehouse doors. Garnett and a dozen onlookers stood amidst the small swarm and discussed the self-spacing frames he uses.

These self-spacing frames use extra wide endbars to space themselves. The problem for most beekeepers with using these frames is that the bees propolis them together and make them difficult to check, move or separate. This is no problem for Garnett because when he gets the super to the honey house, he tips it upside down and with one good whack on the corner all of the frames come out at once. He then breaks them apart and feeds them into the conveyor belt uncapper (which uncaps with the little rotating chains). Here's some more fun ... he then puts the frames back into the super and loads the super into a massive whole super extractor. It was quite educational seeing all of this in spite of Garnett's honey house being under reconstruction.

Additionally fun was Garnett's own personal wax museum of his own artwork. His art ranges from a half burnt gridwork of candles to a couple of carved was human busts. One of these busts has additional work done to it by the bees. He placed it in a hive and got the bees to draw comb on it, giving it the appearance of having some Star Trekky neck adornments or perhaps giant mutton-chop sideburns. Fascinating!

Next was GUS ROUSE's **Kona Queen Co.**, which was a particularly educational and entertaining visit. Gus has some great people working for him (including an interesting number of Canadians). Lots of interesting stuff there: a lilly pond tub to water the bees ... double queened, half-supered hives ... homemade beebread glop-in-a-bag a la Gilbert ... bee rock candy slabs ... the queen catching chair ... the queen attendant catching vacuum ... and finally, Gus' high speed tour herding techniques. Needless to say, we had a great time on the Big Island!

Let's look forward to a nice first membership meeting where there'll be video of some tiny Asian bees (with tiny comb) and other Asian bees with large branch hanging comb. If you'd like some food then bring enough for you. If you want to bring some for others to try, please do. I hope to see you there. Carlene and I are also planning **an event for late March or early April at Papakolea Moanalua** (this may be the last chance to have an HBA event there).

Aloha, a hui ho ... IAN DAMON



(Gus' crew ... guess how many Canadians?)

FOR SALE
Stainless Steel Honey Container - 345 gal (forklift ready)
with gate \$2150 **Fred Salassa** 842-9133

Advertising Rates

Copy, art and payment must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contact Fred Salassa or Dovlyn Shyer 842-9133 (fax 842-1184) for info.

CLASSIFIED ADS: 15 words or less, per issue:

HBA members	\$ 2.00
Non-members	\$ 3.00

BUSINESS ADS: per issue:

Business card size	\$ 7.50
Quarter page	\$ 20.00
Half page	\$ 35.00
Full page	\$100.00

A collection of American Bee Journal magazines, Bee World, and other bee-related information (video tapes & books) are available to review for HBA members at:

TRIPLE F DISTRIBUTING 808-842-9133
5 Sand Island Acc Rd # 904 Honolulu, HI 96819
(Hrs: Mon-Fri 8-4:30 pm)

We welcome any donations to add to our library!



Survey Results Update

The surveys are still arriving ... if you have not mailed yours in yet, please do so ASAP! Here is a summary of the results thus far:

The HBA is an extremely diverse group of beekeepers with various ages, education levels, professions and family backgrounds. Most HBA members are hobbyist beekeepers. Some sell commercially, but mostly as a side venue. Weekends are the best time for meetings and activities, which should include mainly educational information regarding such issues as apiary management, bee care, diseases, and processing. On site training and speakers are highly desired, keeping meetings and events each to about 4 per year.

HBA members have a great deal of beekeeping experience to share with each other. Thanks to many of you who offered to write articles, do research, host events, teach children and share your beekeeping knowledge with others. The Board will be using the surveys to determine this year's events and educational opportunities. Let's look forward to pulling together everyone's strengths and working to make the HBA both enjoyable and beneficial to all the members.

Be looking for the complete survey results ... they will be available when all the surveys have been mailed in (Hint, Hint). Mahalo ~ JULIE MOSS