PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

A new season is upon us! Everyone must be working hard in preparation. Beekeepers around the country are reporting significant losses and are attributing it to the types of pesticide being used today. In Louisiana we’ve had some colony losses but not as much as other areas. Genetically modified crops, growth regulators, and imidacloprids may be at fault. Several survey links are in this issue.

Those who reserved a “Save the Honey Bee” license plate should have it by now. Others should visit, http://omv.dps.state.la.us/Special%20Plates/SpecialPlates2.asp if they desire a plate. Complete the license plate order form and mail your payment.

EPA has approved Apivar® as a section 3 to be used for controlling varroa mites. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry will continue to allow our beekeepers to get it under a section 18 until the manufacturer registers the product with the State. Amitraz is the primary chemical in this product used for varroa mite control. Follow all label directions when using chemical treatments on honey bees.

Two U. S. Enforcement Agencies, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), have announced charges linked to major commercial fraud for the following: Honey Holding, doing business as Honey Solutions, of Baytown, Texas, and Groeb Farms Inc., of Onsted, Michigan. These are two of the nation's largest honey suppliers. They have both entered into deferred prosecution agreements with the government. Honey Holding has agreed to pay $1 million and Groeb Farms has agreed to pay $2 million in fines. Both companies have also agreed to implement corporate compliance programs as part of their respective penalty agreements. More follows in this newsletter.

The Louisiana Farm Bureau meeting with the beekeepers and mosquito control groups was held on Thursday, March 21, 2013. A cooperative and productive meeting is reported in this newsletter.

The LBA has learned of another new beekeeping club that has been formed in the Vidalia area. A warm welcome to the Miss-Lou Beekeepers Association. I also learned the River Region Beekeepers of Louisiana is active again. Welcome back!

The LBA is planning for our annual fall Field Day at the Baton Rouge Lab and for our December State Convention which will be held in Covington, La. We welcome suggestions for each event as we are in the early stages of developing programs. Both events have been great educational opportunities for beekeepers.

The LBA continues to promote our “Member Get a Member Campaign.” Please refer those interested in membership in the LBA to our labeekeepers.org website, where they can join through PayPal or by submitting an application and fee.

Joe Sanroma, President
Louisiana Beekeepers Association

Honey Bees and Beekeeping, a Legacy of Service to Louisiana Agriculture.
“SAVE THE HONEY BEE” LICENCE PLATES AVAILABLE

Get in touch with the DMV to get your reserved plate or to order a “Save the Honey Bee” license plate as soon as possible at the website below and follow the instructions.

1. Go to: http://omv.dps.state.la.us/Special%20Plates/SpecialPlates2.asp
2. Type in your existing license plate number, press submit, and go to a new page.
3. At the top of this page you will see the different types of plates. Choose “Special Interests” and scroll down through the list to “Save The Honey Bee” (click on it).
4. The cost of the plate showing that it is good for two years will come up.
5. On the lower left side of this page press the link “Ordering Details”. New page!
6. On the lower left side of the new page press the link “Order Form”. New page!
7. Print the form, fill it out, include your check or money order, a copy of your current registration, and your proof of insurance.
8. Mail it in!
9. If, for some reason, you cannot complete the process online you will see a contact number on their website; call them, and they will walk you through the process.

The cost is $25.00 per year, plus all applicable fees that would normally apply to any Louisiana plate. In addition, for the first year there is a one-time handling fee of $8.00 and an administration fee of $3.50. Remember, when you purchase this plate it is a two year plate, so the cost will be $50.00. You should get some credit for time left on your old plate but don’t expect much credit. Please note that if you are replacing a four year plate you will only get credit for a portion of a two year replacement plate.

EPA ISSUES SECTION 3 REGISTRATION FOR APIVAR®

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been reviewing the registration for Apivar® in an expedited manner and has formally issued a Section 3 registration for the product. Arysta LifeScience was notified on March 11, 2013, of the conditional approval of Apivar® under a registration number of 87243-1 and will be undergoing registration review. As such, individual states will no longer have to file for Section 18 registration of the product.

This will be a big help to all beekeepers across the country in our fight to control varroa. Apivar® is formulated as a sustained release plastic strip impregnated with 3.33 percent amitraz (0.5 g active ingredient per strip) manufactured by WYJOLAB for Veto-Pharma S.A. All applicable directions, restrictions and precautions on the product label must be followed.

To control varroa, remove honey supers before application of Apivar®, use two (2) strips per brood chamber with a minimum distance of two (2) frames between strips. Bees should walk on the strips. Leave strips in the boxes for 42 days, then remove. Reposition as needed so bees stay in contact, then leave for 14 more days. Strips must be removed after a maximum of 56 days.

A maximum of two (2) treatments, spring and fall, may be made per year if varroa mite infestation reaches treatment thresholds. Honey supers cannot be on when strips are used, and cannot be replaced until 14 days after strip removal. Protective gloves are required. Total residues of amitraz in honey and beeswax are not expected to exceed 0.2 and 9 ppm, respectively.

Footnote: The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry will continue to allow Louisiana beekeepers to obtain and use Apivar® under a section 18 until the manufacturer registers the product with the Department’s Pesticide Division. The manufacture registration should arrive within the next few weeks.
ICE & CBP ANNOUNCE CHARGES LINKED TO MAJOR COMMERCIAL FRAUD ENTERPRISE

CHICAGO — Five individuals and two domestic honey-processing companies have been charged with federal crimes in connection with a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)-led investigation surrounding illegal importations of honey from China.

The charges assert that the Chinese-origin honey was misdeclared as other commodities upon importation into the United States and transshipped through other countries to evade anti-dumping duties. Altogether, the seven defendants allegedly evaded anti-dumping duties totaling more than $180 million.

According to industry experts, anti-dumping circumvention schemes like the one announced today create a divergent market which negatively affects legitimate business. To combat this, HSI and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) have stepped up efforts regarding commercial fraud investigations that focus on U.S. economic and health and safety interests.

The charges represent the second phase of an investigation led by HSI. In June 2011, an HSI undercover special agent assumed the role of the director of procurement at Honey Holding I Ltd., which by then was cooperating with the investigation.

Honey Holding, doing business as Honey Solutions, of Baytown, Texas, and Groeb Farms Inc., of Onsted, Mich. — two of the nation’s largest honey suppliers — have both entered into deferred prosecution agreements with the government. Honey Holding has agreed to pay $1 million and Groeb Farms has agreed to pay $2 million in fines. Both companies have also agreed to implement corporate compliance programs as part of their respective agreements.

"These businesses intentionally deprived the U.S. government of millions of dollars in unpaid duties," said ICE Deputy Director Daniel Ragsdale. "Schemes like this result in legitimate importers and the domestic honey-producing industry enduring years of unprofitable operations, with some even being put out of business. We will continue to enforce criminal violations of anti-dumping laws in all industries so American and foreign businesses all play by the same rules."

The individual defendants include three honey brokers, the former director of sales for Honey Holding, and the president of Premium Food Sales Inc., a broker and distributor of raw and processed honey in Bradford, Ontario.

In December 2001, the Commerce Department determined that Chinese-origin honey was being sold in the United States at less than fair market value, and imposed anti-dumping duties. The duties were as high as 221 percent of the declared value, and later were assessed against the entered net weight, currently at $2.63 per net kilogram, in addition to a honey assessment fee of one cent per pound of all honey.

In 2008, federal authorities began investigating allegations involving circumventing anti-dumping duties through illegal imports, including transshipment and mislabeling on the supply side of the honey industry. The investigation resulted in charges against 14 individuals, including executives of Alfred L. Wolff GmbH and several affiliated companies of the German food conglomerate. The defendants were charged with allegedly evading approximately $80 million in anti-dumping duties on Chinese-origin honey. Authorities seized and forfeited more than 3,000 drums of honey that illegally entered the United States.

The second phase of the investigation, announced today, involves allegations of illegal buying, processing and trading of honey that illegally entered the United States on the demand side of the industry. Some of that honey was adulterated with antibiotics not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in honey. None of the charges allege any instances of illness or other public health consequences attributed to consumption of the honey. The investigation is continuing.
"Trade fraud can have significant implications for the U.S. economy and consumers," said CBP Chief Operating Officer Thomas S. Winkowski. "These products take jobs away from American workers and frequently violate U.S. health and safety standards, potentially endangering the public. CBP is committed to fighting these fraudulent actors alongside our government partners."

The government is represented by Asst. U.S. Attorney Andrew S. Boutros in the Northern District of Illinois.

"We applaud the efforts of HSI, CBP, and other agencies involved in this complex, long-term investigation to enforce the laws that exist to protect U.S. consumers and the honey market," said Gary S. Shapiro, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

The HSI-led National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center) assisted with this investigation. The IPR Center is one of the U.S. government's key weapons in the fight against counterfeiting, piracy, and commercial trade fraud. Working in close coordination with the Department of Justice Task Force on Intellectual Property, the IPR Center uses the expertise of its 21-member agencies to share information, develop initiatives, coordinate enforcement actions and conduct investigations related to intellectual property theft. Through this strategic interagency partnership, the IPR Center protects the public's health and safety, the U.S. economy and the war fighters.

To report IP theft or to learn more about the IPR Center, visit www.IPRCenter.gov. To report commercial fraud, contact CBP!

Note: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) sent this bulletin 02/20/2013 at 02:14 PM EST. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities on a number of key homeland security priorities. For more information, visit www.ICE.gov. To report suspicious activity, call 1-866-347-2423 or complete our tip form.

**BEE INFORMED PARTNERSHIP (It is now time for your active participation)**

Are you ready to survey? The Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) is a USDA/NIFA (U.S. Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture) funded project with the stated goal of reducing colony losses. The program is a collaboration of research institutions, Universities and beekeepers in the US.

BIP and the nation’s beekeepers, cooperatively seek solutions to reduce colony losses. While some beekeepers are experiencing near normal loss levels, others are experiencing devastating losses. BIP seeks a collective approach to gather and share information on what works and what doesn’t work. We need your participation on two annual electronic surveys, covering both annual colony losses and management strategies. The information, after coming directly from beekeepers, is then analyzed and displayed graphically in a way that is easy to understand.

Beekeepers can find out which management techniques correlate to lower colony loss when beekeepers anonymously share data. More data is always more accurate than less data. Last year’s survey included over 5,000 participating beekeepers sharing information.

As the third year of these surveys approaches, the goal of the partnership is to increase participation and report it so it is more significant and meaningful to beekeepers. This third year of data will enable us to conduct multifactorial analysis and report results on a more regional basis; especially in states with large participation. Commercial beekeeper data will be separated to highlight this group’s special needs and concerns.

The cost for participating is free. It will take less than 20 minutes to take both surveys. In return, you will have access to the compiled data from all aspects of bee management. The information you enter into the survey is completely anonymous deigned to improve everyone’s beekeeping success.

Go to beeinformed.org to see what we have gathered so far and sign up for this year’s survey. The surveys will be available beginning March 29th and will stay open until April 15th. For more information, to sign up to participate or to fill out a survey on March 29th, visit beeinformed.org or email Karen Rennich, BIP Project Manager at usbeesurvey@gmail.com
USDA NATIONAL HONEY BEE SURVEY

Allen Fabre, LDAF Program Coordinator, March 2013

The LDAF is being funded by the USDA to conduct a survey throughout Louisiana. This is the second year that we have participated in this survey with 25 bee keepers surveyed last year and 24 to be surveyed in 2013. Please see the description of the survey below if you want to participate. I have already done 10 of the 24 and need others finished by the end of June 2013. Participants must have 8 colonies in one yard that I can sample for the survey. Pests/diseases found in your bees will be reported, which can help you make better decisions on management. Email me at allen_f@ldaf.state.la.us or call me at 225-978-2403 to sign up.

Survey Summary: A composite sample of adult bees will be collected from 8 colonies in each of 24 apiaries. Sample equipment and kits will be provided to the states by the University of Maryland. Eight colonies will be opened and a frame that contains young developing brood will be removed to shake the adult bees into a collection wash tub. Two ¼ cups of bees will also be collected from the colonies and put into an alcohol bottle and in a live bee box for each apiary. A single brood frame from each colony will also be “bumped” to dislodge exotic parasitic mites like Tropilaelaps and/or pests such as the small hive beetle.

A composite sample of live bees from each apiary will be placed in a ventilated cardboard box and sent to USDA ARS for analysis of viruses. Results from these samples will be provided to the State Plant Health Director, State Apiary Specialist and Beekeeper within 12 months. A composite sample of bees in alcohol will be placed in a large alcohol vial and the filtered wash from the comb “bump” will be in a smaller alcohol bottle; these samples will be sent to the ARS for analysis of Nosema, tracheal mites, small hive beetle, Tropilaelaps and other pests. Results from these samples will be provided to the State Plant Health Director, State Apiary Specialist and Beekeeper within 4 months.

BEEKEEPER/MOSQUITO CONTROL MEETING

Jimmy Dunkley, LBA Board Member & Newsletter Editor

On Thursday, March 21, 2013 the Louisiana Farm Bureau hosted a second meeting to discuss issues related to honey bee losses and mosquito control pesticide applications. Allen Fabre, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Program Coordinator took the lead in arranging this meeting as a follow-up to our first meeting, which was held in December 2012. That meeting included concerned beekeepers, state and extension agency personnel, and Mr. Matthew Yates, former Director of East Baton Rouge Mosquito and Rodent Control.

At this second meeting additional representatives from Mosquito Control Units and a representative from the Center of Disease Control (CDC) were invited to attend to provide an overview of their programs. Beekeepers and mosquito personnel provided positive information on strategies for dealing with potential bee colony losses and mosquito spray applications. Of general concern for beekeepers was to set up a protocol that would provide beekeepers with notification of areas being sprayed, timeframes for reporting bee losses, and sampling procedures for pesticide residue. Of general concern to mosquito control was having information so beekeepers could be notified and bee location information so they could be mapped to avoid spraying by ground applications whenever feasible. The development and posting of the protocol would then be posted by all.

Working out the complete details of a protocol will be done by a smaller committee of all concerned parties. The Louisiana Beekeepers Association (LBA) appreciated this opportunity to work with the proposed committee on this issue and hopes our efforts will help minimize bee losses related to mandated mosquito spray programs. We also express our thanks to the LDAF and Mr. Allen Fabre for taking the lead on this issue.

NEW BEEKEEPING CLUBS

Miss-Lou Beekeepers Association

A meeting for a new beekeeping club was held the first week of February 2013. The Miss-Lou Beekeepers Association meets on the second Monday of each month at 250 Airport Road, Vidalia, LA 71373. Officers will be elected at the April meeting. Contact Ken Ensminger at 318-336-5729 (H) for information.

River Region Beekeeping of Louisiana

The River Region Beekeepers organized in the 1980’s and was active in Harahan until Hurricane Katrina. In 2011, as River Region Beekeeping of Louisiana, the club re-activated with monthly workshops. They meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at 1301 N. Florida, Covington, LA 70433 at the Ag Center building of the fair grounds. Contact Julian Laine, Jr. at 985-635-1440 and/or 504-858-3525 for information.
AIA LIST OF VARROACIDE TREATMENT ALLOWANCES

Andrew Joseph, AIA Iowa, March 22, 2013

Hopguard: Section 18 allowance. According to Mann Lake, it is available in: AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NY, OH, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV

Apivar: Brand new Section 3. According to Gabe Dadant, it will be a couple more weeks before the EPA provides the list of states which will be licensed.

Api Life Var: Section 3, but apparently not licensed in all states. According to Brushy Mtn, it is available in: AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NY, ND, OH, OR, PA, SC, ND, TX, WA, WV, WI, WY

Apiguard, Checkmite+, Miteaway Quick Strips (Formic Acid): Section 3. I understand these products are available to all 50 states.

Sucroicide and Sucrashield may have expired in some states. I understand that they are still around in others.

Another “missing” product is Hivastan. I haven’t looked up the allowances for this product. I’m pretty sure there are a number of states that allow it.

The use of raw “actives” such as liquid formic, oxalic, various essential oils, menthol is not registered and technically aren’t approved in the US. I believe technically this could even be extended to the use of powdered sugar for Varroa control! We all know some of these methods are well-researched and proven safe and effective, but that doesn’t make them “approved”.

THE ANNUAL BEE CHASE

Jimmy Dunkley, LBA Newsletter Editor, March 2013

I always like to write a little story about swarm season and the annual bee chase. Each season adds to my already bountiful bag of beekeeping lore. After all, it’s no ordinary chase. I’m a “bee hunter” and my trophy is a large cluster of free bees, just off the ground, at eye level, in a small shrub or tree. It sounds like a fantasy as swarms are always too high to reach, but this year it happened, not once but twice within three days.

My ex-secretary is my swarm call coordinator, always having all the information I need to help the public and help myself. I must admit that I trained her so well that she now provides me with information that I don’t ever remember telling her to obtain. Of course, that notion could be because of my ever advancing age.

On March 4th, a very rainy day, she called me to collect a swarm. I was reluctant to get involved but she insisted that it was in a shrub about 5 feet off the ground and it was bigger than a basketball. Reluctantly I called the man. He was at work and had not seen the bees for a couple of hours but he insisted they had been there for several days. I really was not interested in getting wet for nothing but it was only about 5 miles from my house, so I loaded up my gear and headed off in the rain. I got to the house and there they were; 5 to 6 pounds of bees about 5 feet off the ground. I cut the small limbs around the cluster and the bees hardly moved. On my final cut I was able to hold the entire swarm and lower them into my bee box. I lost only a few dozen bees and had a very fine collection to add to my apiary.

On March 7th my ex-secretary called again with the same story but this time it was sunny and freezing cold. The swarm was also smaller and about 10 miles from the house, so I asked the homeowner if they would mind paying me $10.00 to cover my gas. They agreed and off I went again. I got to the house and the homeowner pointed out a 3 pound swarm of bees in a small shrub about 4 feet off the ground. The limbs were a bit larger so I decided to brush the cluster of bees into my nuc box. Oddly enough, it was so cold that the bees did not want to break cluster and in two or three passes with my bee brush I had almost all of the bees in my box. I collected my money and off I went. I must say it was another great bee chase and another successful bee collection!

Bee hunting can be a lot of fun but you can do a lot of running around and the bees won’t be so easy to collect. They are either too high to reach or gone all together. In these two cases it was “Easy, Peasy” and two more colonies for my apiary. Three weeks later and two quarts of sugar syrup each and both colonies are doing well. Sometimes it’s hard and sometimes it not! Sometimes the Lord works in mysterious ways!
**Researchers ID Queens, Mysterious Disease Syndrome: Key Factors in Bee Colony Deaths**

Matt Shipman (Courtesy North Carolina State University News Service, Raleigh, NC)

A new long-term study of honey bee health has found that a little-understood disease study authors are calling “idiopathic brood disease syndrome” (IBDS), which kills off bee larvae, is the largest risk factor for predicting the death of a bee colony.

“Historically, we’ve seen symptoms similar to IBDS associated with viruses spread by large-scale infestations of parasitic mites,” says Dr. David Tarpy, an associate professor of entomology at North Carolina State University and co-author of a paper describing the study. “But now we’re seeing these symptoms – a high percentage of larva deaths – in colonies that have relatively few of these mites. That suggests that IBDS is present even in colonies with low mite loads, which is not what we expected.” The study was conducted by researchers from NC State, the University of Maryland, Pennsylvania State University and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The study evaluated the health of 80 commercial colonies of honey bees (Apis mellifera) in the eastern United States on an almost monthly basis over the course of 10 months – which is a full working “season” for commercial bee colonies. The goal of the study was to track changes in bee colony health and, for those colonies that died off, to determine what factors earlier in the year may have contributed to colony death. Fifty-six percent of the colonies died during the study.

“We found that colonies affected by IBDS had a risk factor of 3.2,” says Dr. Dennis vanEnglesdorp of the University of Maryland, who was lead author on the paper. This means that colonies with IBDS were 3.2 times more likely to die than the other colonies over the course of the study.

While the study found that IBDS was the greatest risk factor, a close runner-up was the occurrence of a so-called “queen event.”

Honey bee colonies have only one queen. When a colony perceives something wrong with its queen, the workers eliminate that queen and try to replace her. This process is not always smooth or successful. The occurrence of a queen event had a risk factor of 3.1.

“This is the first time anyone has done an epidemiological study to repeatedly evaluate the health of the same commercial honey bee colonies over the course of a season,” Tarpy says. “It shows that IBDS is a significant problem that we don’t understand very well. It also highlights that we need to learn more about what causes colonies to reject their queens. These are areas we are actively researching. Hopefully, this will give us insight into other health problems, including colony collapse disorder.”

The paper, “Idiopathic brood disease syndrome and queen events as precursors of colony mortality in migratory beekeeping operations in the eastern United States,” is published in the February issue of Preventive Veterinary Medicine. Co-authors of the study include Dr. Eugene Lengerich of Penn State and Dr. Jeffery Pettis of USDA. The work was supported by USDA and the National Honey Board.

The study abstract follows:

“Idiopathic brood disease syndrome and queen events as precursors of colony mortality in migratory beekeeping operations in the eastern United States”

Authors: Dennis vanEnglesdorp, University of Maryland; David R. Tarpy, North Carolina State University; Eugene J. Lengerich, Pennsylvania State University; and Jeffery S. Pettis, USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory

Published: February 2013, Preventive Veterinary Medicine

Abstract: Using standard epidemiological methods, this study set out to quantify risks associated with exposure to easily diagnosed factors on colony mortality and morbidity in three migratory beekeeping operations. Fifty-six percent of all colonies monitored during the 10-month period died. The relative risk (RR) that a colony would die over the short term (<50 days) was appreciably increased in colonies diagnosed with Idiopathic Brood Disease Syndrome (IBDS), a condition where brood of different ages appear molten on the bottom of cells (RR = 3.2), or with a “queen event” (e.g., evidence of queen replacement or failure; RR = 3.1). We also found that several risk factors—including the incidence of a poor brood pattern, chalkbrood (CB), deformed wing virus (DWV), sacbrood virus (SBV), and exceeding the threshold of 5 Varroa mites per 100 bees—were differentially expressed in different beekeeping operations. Further, we found diagnosis of several factors were significantly more or less likely to be associated with a simultaneous diagnosis of another risk factor. These finding support the growing consensus that the causes of colony mortality are multiple and interrelated.
PLEASE RENEW YOUR LBA MEMBERSHIP!

LBA memberships have almost doubled over the last two years. The LBA is excited about this growth and sincerely appreciates your membership support. If you have not completed and submitted your membership renewal for 2013, please use the membership application at the end of this newsletter and send your renewal to our treasurer as soon as possible. The January issue of our newsletter was your last issue if you allowed your membership to expire. Please don’t delay any longer and renew your LBA membership today.

Please feel free to make additional copies of this Bulletin and provide them to others interested in beekeeping and our organization. Reading the information provided below by our membership chairman will help you join us in our recruiting efforts by participating in our “Member Get A Member Campaign.” Prizes are awarded to the top three recruiters annually! The current campaign begins November 1st, 2012 and ends October 31st, 2013.

There are many challenges facing beekeepers. Our organization provides a voice to Louisiana beekeepers and lets state government know that we are an important part of Louisiana’s agricultural industry. There is strength in numbers, so help us help you through your membership support!

“MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN”

Membership in the Louisiana Beekeepers Association (LBA) is a privilege, but more importantly, an obligation. Louisiana beekeepers can only help themselves and their industry by participating in the dialogue that sets our state’s beekeeping policies. Anchored in a rich tradition of service, the LBA has always promoted a healthy, productive beekeeping industry. This can only be accomplished through a strong state beekeeping organization. To accomplish this we need the help of more beekeepers. Our current membership is growing but still consists of less than 50% of the state’s beekeepers. We have to continue to mobilize if we are to remain an effective voice for all Louisiana beekeepers.

You can help us and help yourself by joining the LBA today. Equally importantly you can recruit other beekeepers to join the LBA! To help increase our membership we are continuing our “MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN.” Simply talk to fellow beekeepers about their participation in their state beekeeping association through membership. In addition, ask their assistance and support in recruiting other LBA members. There is strength in numbers and if the LBA is to be the beekeepers voice we need a large membership.

Our membership application contains a referral blank to be used to list the member that recruited the new member to join the LBA. An award awaits three individuals (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place) that enlist the most new members in 2013. The award will be presented at our annual convention, which will be held in the St. Tammany Parish area the first weekend in December 2013. Please feel free to contact any officer or board member if you need more information on promoting membership in the LBA.

Thank you for your support,

Robert G. Taylor Sr.
LBA Membership Chairman

Rules for the "Member Get A Member Campaign"

1. Each year the contest start date is November 1st, continuing through the next calendar year to the contest end date of October 31st.
2. 1st place: Plaque and $50.00 check. 2nd place: Ribbon and $25.00 check. 3rd place: Ribbon and $10.00 check. The local club in which the first place winner is a member will win a one year associate membership valued at $25.00.
3. The winners will be contacted before the convention by the "Member Get A Member Campaign” chairman in order to see if they will be attending the convention. If they will not be attending, for whatever reason, their award will be sent home with a person of their choice. It is up to the winners to make these arrangements.
4. LBA officers and board members can participate in the contest, but cannot win the contest.
Commercial Business Ads

The Louisiana Beekeepers Association would like to thank all of our sponsors who have placed business advertisements with our organization. We encourage our membership and visitors to our website to consider the fine products and services they offer when selecting a vendor to fulfill their business and/or personal needs.

For all others who would like to advertise in the Bayou Bee Bulletin please submit an annual fee of $25.00 by check payable to the Louisiana Beekeepers Association. Upon receipt your business ad will be included in six issues of our newsletter annually and on our website. Post your fee to LBA Treasurer, Mr. David Ferguson, P. O. Box 716, Brusly, LA 70719.

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LOUISIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION INC.
OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Joe Sanroma</td>
<td>1062 Hwy. 1176</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lajoeehc@aol.com">lajoeehc@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICE PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Randy Fair</td>
<td>611 Evans Loop</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:randy@beebumbler.com">randy@beebumbler.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SECRETARY</td>
<td>Margaret Prell</td>
<td>104 Charwood Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:martp@bellsouth.net">martp@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>TREASURER</td>
<td>David Ferguson</td>
<td>P.O. Box 716</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dwferguson315@cox.net">dwferguson315@cox.net</a></td>
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LBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2013

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<tr>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<th>E-Mail Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stanford Brantley</td>
<td>504 W. Harrison Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesley Card</td>
<td>3258 Koll Road</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:wesleycard@yahoo.com">wesleycard@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Dunkley</td>
<td>2064 Fern Street</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Beebop4923@cox.net">Beebop4923@cox.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bud Evans</td>
<td>332 Island Road</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bobby Frierson</td>
<td>9246 Arnold Road</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Beefrierson53@hotmail.com">Beefrierson53@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy J. Haley</td>
<td>212 Charles Preuett Rd.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:thaley@fs.fed.us">thaley@fs.fed.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Hebert</td>
<td>2720 W. Aladin Road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Taylor, Sr.</td>
<td>38233 Lee’s Landing Rd.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rt@honeybeeremoval.com">rt@honeybeeremoval.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Weeks</td>
<td>1498 Mock Road</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tomcat357@juno.com">Tomcat357@juno.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Buteaux</td>
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PLEASE CONTACT THE CLOSEST LBA OFFICER OR BOARD MEMBER FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR STATE BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATION

LOCAL BEEKEEPING CLUBS AND CURRENT PRESIDENTS/CONTACTS

<table>
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<th>CLUB</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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<td>BAYOU</td>
<td>Warren Hoag, Jr.</td>
<td>1115 S. Lake Arthur Avenue</td>
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<td>337 824-0937</td>
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<tr>
<td>TANGI-TAMMINGTON</td>
<td>Kevin Mixon</td>
<td>29909 Elmore McKibney Ln.</td>
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LOCAL BEEKEEPING CLUBS PROVIDE A VALUABLE RESOURCE TO AREA BEEKEEPERS PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON MEETING SITES, DATES, AND TIME FOR THEIR MEETINGS
“MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN”

Membership in the Louisiana Beekeepers Association (LBA) is a privilege, but more importantly, an obligation. Louisiana beekeepers can only help themselves and their industry by participating in dialogue that sets our state’s beekeeping policies. Anchored in a rich tradition of service, the LBA has always promoted a healthy, productive beekeeping industry. This can only be done through a strong state beekeeping organization. To accomplish this we need the help of more beekeepers. Our current membership consists of less than 50% of the state’s registered beekeepers. That has got to change if we are to remain a voice for Louisiana beekeepers.

You can help us and help yourself by joining the LBA today. More importantly you can recruit other beekeepers into joining the LBA. To help increase our membership we have launched a “MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN.” Simply talk to fellow beekeepers about their participation in their state beekeeping association through membership. In turn, ask their assistance and support in recruiting other LBA members.

Our membership application contains a referral blank to be used to list the member that inspired a new member to join the LBA. An award awaits three individuals (1st, 2nd, and 3rd. place) that bring in the most new members in 2013. The award will be presented at our annual convention, which will be held the first weekend in December. Contact any officer or board member if you need more information on promoting membership in the LBA.

Thank you for your support,

Robert G. Taylor Sr.
LBA Membership Chairman

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

LOUISIANA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2013 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
“MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN”

Name: ___________________________________________ Parish: ____________________________

Street Address: ____________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______ Zip: ____________________________

Phone: ___________________________ E-mail address: ____________________________

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Please send your check or money order payable to the Louisiana Beekeepers Association Inc.
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*Membership Expires December 31st*

Referred by: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________