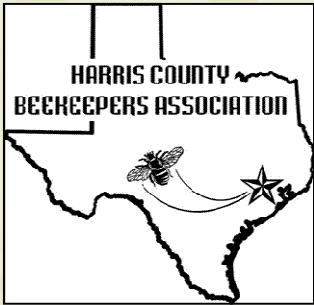


# Honey Bee Times

HARRIS COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION  
WWW.HARRISBEE.ORG  
HARRISBEE@HARRISBEE.ORG

## HCBA TO HOST 2007 TBA CONVENTION



### 2007-2008 HCBA Officers

- President**  
Don Angle
- First Vice President**  
Kara Buster
- Second Vice President**  
Jeffery Ballard
- Secretary/Treasurer -**  
Pauline Perkins
- Corresponding Secretary**  
Deborah Rankin
- Our VIPs:**
- Chaplain**  
R. B. Crellin
- Refreshments**  
Harold Kristof

The Harris County Beekeepers Association will be hosting the 2007 Annual Texas Beekeepers Convention to be held in The Victorian Hotel-Condos, in Galveston, Texas. Since the spring of this year, HCBA Officers and members have been working diligently to plan and coordinate this event. The Convention is a 3-day event which includes some free sessions for the public, as well as beekeepers seminars/workshops exclusive to

those registering for the Convention. The Convention features the "Beekeeping & Bees" educational sessions for local school children



scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2007. Coronation of the 2008 Honey Queen will take place on Saturday evening during the Banquet. HCBA still needs a

few volunteers to help with the Convention. If you can volunteer some of your time towards making this event an HCBA success, please call Don Angle—281-832-0910. All members of HCBA are encouraged to attend the Convention with family and friends in tow. Besides some great educational offerings, you will have the opportunity to network with other beekeepers throughout the State of Texas.

**Hope to see you there!**



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

2007 has been a busy year for the membership—the Rodeo, Pasadena Strawberry Festival, and now the Convention, has

consumed a lot of the Executive Committee and member's time. The Convention is close at hand, but we will not be slowing down much before or after the Conven-

tion. Our membership is steadily increasing, but in order to retain these new members and attract

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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new ones we have to meet the needs of the association in new and innovative ways.

Due to the demands on our time this year we did not get a new slate of officers put together earlier in the year. As a result during the last regular meeting the membership voted for the existing Executive Committee to remain in place with the exception of one position—Jeffery Ballard will now serve as the 2008 Second Vice President. Jeff has been very active in the association and I have every confidence he will do a great job for the membership!

Next year the HCBA will celebrate its 100th year anniversary and we want to celebrate its passing with a BANG that will be heard across the State of Texas!

By the way, we are revamping the newsletter and the HCBA website—[www.harrisbee.org](http://www.harrisbee.org). As you can see the newsletter is

in place and the website is soon to come. This is just two of the positive changes that you will see taking place over the next year.

People join volunteer associations, such as HCBA, for three main reasons:

1. To socialize with others of like interests,
2. To network with people skilled in particular areas, and,
3. For education.

Before the end of the year, the Board of Directors will be meeting to draft plans to take our association to the next level and enable us to meet the expectations of our membership.

We have lots of ideas for the coming year, but we would certainly like to hear from the membership, as well.

One of the things we want to do is to develop a “Beekeeping 101” Workshop. We have dec-

ades of real beekeeping experience in this association—let’s show it off.

On a sad note one of our members, Danny Causer, died recently. Danny’s daughter Jocelyn is in the HCBA Youth Program. Danny was very active in the association and he will be greatly missed. George Rodriquez, another HCBA member, recently lost his father, Joe Rodriquez, and his sister-in-law, Elsa Rangel. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to each of these families during this time of sadness.

And last but not least, HCBA is a family-oriented organization. We encourage members to enroll their spouse and children as members, bring them to HCBA meetings and get them involved in beekeeping!

**Looking forward to another year as your President!**

## COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER UPDATE

by Deborah Rankin

The honey bee population has been declining on at least four continents, including North

America, for several decades. With U. S. beekeepers reporting unexplained hive losses of 30 to 90%, ranging across the con-

tinents, there is definitely reason for concern. Several theories have been circulating as to the

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## C O L O N Y   C O L L A P S E   D I S O R D E R   U P D A T E

**(continued from Page 2)**

cause of CCD.

A group of scientists, educators, and other professionals formed the CCD Working Group and have given testimony before the U. S. House of Representatives that CCD research is mainly focusing on viruses, fungi, and pesticides as likely causal factors in CCD as they may be killing the bees directly or suppressing their immune system. Bees seem to possess little ability to tolerate pesticides.

On September 6, 2007 a news release indicated “a significant connection between the Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus (IAPV) and colony collapse disorder... IAPV, an unclassified dicistrovirus not previously found in the U. S. that is transmitted by the varroa mite, and Kasmir bee virus were only discovered in CCD hives... The researchers report that IAPV was found in all four affected operations sampled, in two of four royal jelly samples, and in the Australian sample. ...KBV was present in three of four CCD operations, but not in the royal jelly... One organism was significantly correlated with CCD: finding IAPV in a bee sam-

ple correctly distinguished CCD from non-CCD status 96.1 percent of the time....our results indicated that IAPV is a significant marker for CCD... The next step is to ascertain whether IAPV, alone or in concert with other factors, can induce CCD in healthy bees”.

While the CCD Working Group has yet to find the exact cause



or a cure for CCD, some suggestions for managing hives demonstrating CCD symptoms have been forthcoming. In March, 2007, a document prepared and released by Dennis vanEngelsdorp of the Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture, M. Frazier of Pennsylvania State University and D. Caron, at the direction of the CCD Working Group put forth these recommendations to beekeepers—

1. Do not combine collapsing colonies with strong colonies.
2. Store equipment from col-

lapsed colonies where it cannot be accessed by robber bees.

3. When you feed your bees, use **Fumagillan** in the sugar syrup to help control Nosema which lowers the bees resistance to other diseases.
4. Use **Terramycin**, not Tylan, to treat secondary infections, such as European Foulbrood.
5. Use soft chemicals such as **Apiguard, Apilife VAR, or MiteAwayII—not fluvalinate, coumaphos, and amitraz** for varroa mite control.

For more details, refer to the articles noted below on the Internet.

**Sources:**

<http://www.mailmanschool.org/news/display.asp?id=567>, dated September 6, 2007.

<http://agriculture.house.gov/testimony/110/h70329/Rexroad.pdf>, dated Marc 29, 2007.

<http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/pdfs/CCDRecommendations.pdf>

## T H E D R O N E

by Harry Eichart

There are Three types of bees that make up the colony: The Queen, The Worker and The Drone.

Of these three, the Drone is the least talked about at bee meetings and at gatherings where bees are discussed. I suppose one of the reasons they are the least talked about is because the Drone does not possess the usual bee characteristics. He has no stinger to defend himself, no pollen baskets to carry pollen. He cannot feed himself and has to be mouth - fed by his sisters, which takes a while since the Drone is a very heavy honey eater. In the fall he is driven from the hive and starves to death, so he is no threat to anyone.

His behavior patterns are few and simple, as far as we know, and his only function in his short three to four months life cycle is to mate and fertilize with the young Queens, after that he dies. However, I always feel the Drones have

much more use to the colony than we appreciate, since colonies which are denuded of Drones have never seemed to function normally, and the Workers will become lazy and will be less productive. It seems to me, they have more than one function in the hive.

Drones fly out of the hive when the weather is reasonably warm and fine. They fly about thirty to ninety feet above the ground, depending on the weather conditions. The Queens on her mating flight, flies straight up to the level of the Drones. Once she reaches the Drones, "layer of males" they are attracted to her by the sent of the substances (pheromones) produced in her mandibular glands. They form a "comet trail" behind the Queen and chase her by sight till they get within approximately three feet of her.

The first Drone to reach her is stimulated by another sent of unknown composition produced by the Queen, which causes him to mate with her.

At the time of mating, the Drone's genitalia enter the Queen and he literally explodes, separating the queen from himself, at which time he dies. The genitalia remain in the vaginal opening of the Queen, with the torn end projecting from the tip of the Queen's abdomen. This is what is called the "mating sign". The Queen, however, does not mate with just one Drone, but on average with several about five to fifteen. She will then continue mating until her spermatheca is filled with sperms.

In all species of life, it is the female who does most of the rearing and protecting of the young, The males on the other hand are used for breeding and to keep the "line" going. It is usually the biggest and strongest who are involved with this chore.

So with the Drone his only main function for the survival of the Colony is to mate and fertilize the Queen.

### Q U O T E O F T H E M O N T H

Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you are going to get!

*Forrest Gump*

# 2007 Annual Texas Beekeepers Association Convention Agenda

## Thursday, November 8, 2007

Board Meeting (TBA Officers)  
Kids and Bees

1:00—5:00 PM Introduction to Beekeeping—Open to the Public  
Workshops for Advanced Beekeepers (Convention Registration Required)

6:30 PM Queens Reception (Convention Registration Required)

## Friday, November 9, 2007

8:30 AM General Program (Convention Registration Required)

10:00 AM Break

12:00—1:30 PM Lunch  
Queen's Luncheon (Ticket Required)

1:30 PM General Program (Convention Registration Required)

3:00 PM Afternoon Break

5:00 PM Break for Dinner (No

7:00 PM Honey & Wax (Open to the Public and Free)  
Queen's Bowl (Open to the Public and Free)

## Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:30 AM General Program (Convention Registration Required)

2:00—5:00 PM Business Meeting (TBA Officers Only)  
Introduction to Beekeeping—Open to the Public (This will be scheduled only  
if there is enough interest to schedule another session.)

7:00 PM Banquet  
Coronation of 2008 Honey Queen (Ticket Required)

The Journal of the Texas Beekeepers Association

2007 Texas Beekeepers Association Convention  
Victorian Resort and Conference Center • Galveston, Texas  
November 8 – 11, 2007



Victorian Resort and Conference Center

6300 Seawall Blvd • Galveston TX 77551  
www.victoriancondo.com

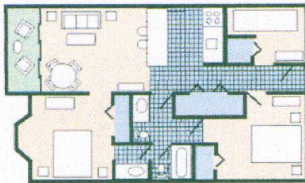
409/740-3555 • 800/231-6363



One-Bedroom Floorplan

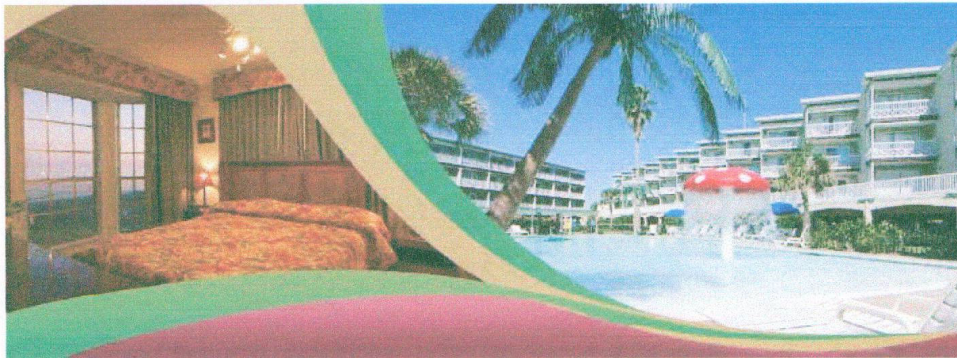


Two-Bedroom Floorplan



Special Convention Room Rates  
One bedroom condo: \$80.00 plus tax  
Available until October 21, 2007

Newly renovated Suites are Delightful! Our one and two bedroom Victorian suites feature private Gulf-view balconies, living/dining areas with sleeper sofas, full size baths and separate bedrooms with queen size beds.



**The Journal of the Texas Beekeepers Association**

**“Early Bird” Convention Registration**

Victorian Resort – Galveston  
November 8–11, 2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home

\_\_\_\_\_ Work

Other Info: Do You Have? \_\_\_\_\_ Fax

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

**Beekeeper Classification**  
(circle one)

**Commercial / Sideliner / Hobby**  
(300+) (25–99) (0–24)  
(number of colonies)

**TBA Membership**

**Annual Dues:**

(Nov. 1 thru Oct. 31 )

Century Club..... \$100.00

Individual Beekeeper... 20.00

2008 Member Dues \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse Dues \_\_\_\_\_

2007 Member Dues (if unpaid) \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse Dues (if unpaid) \_\_\_\_\_

**Totals:**


\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Registration**

Early Bird  
Registration  
Post Marked by  
Saturday, Nov. 3

Convention  
Registration  
at the  
Hotel

<b>Member:</b>	\$ 50.00	\$ 65.00	_____
<b>Spouse:</b> who is TBA Member	15.00	20.00	_____
who is Non-Member	25.00	30.00	_____
<b>Non-Member:</b>	75.00	90.00	No. of Tickets _____
<b>Queen’s Luncheon:</b>	20.00	25.00	X _____
Friday, 11/9/07 12:00 – 1:00 p			
<b>TBA Banquet:</b>	30.00	40.00	X _____
Saturday, 11/10/07 6:30 – 10:30 p			
Child’s Plate	10.00	12.50	X _____

Please Remit to:   
**Texas Beekeepers Association**  
Mr. Jimmie Oakley  
1799 Goodson Court  
Round Rock, TX 78664-3706  
Phone: 512/388-3630  
e-mail address: jloakley@juno.com

**Contributions:**



State Fair Honey Booth \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab Capital Campaign Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
Anti-dumping Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
Honey Bee Research \_\_\_\_\_  
Texas Honey Queen Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Cash/Check #( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

THE HCBA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT IS ON -  
HARRY REICHART

Harry generously contributes his time to the Harris County Beekeepers Association in many ways.

Probably best known is the articles he writes regularly about beekeeping—Harry has been published in beekeeping magazines and publications, such as Bee Culture.

This not only helps beekeeping education and awareness, it helps elevate the presence of

HCBA in the beekeeping community.

Harry attended the 40th International Apicultural Congress—Apimondia 2007—in Melbourne, Australia, in September.

You will soon be able to read Harry's full report on Apimondia 2007 and the field trips to some of the Australian bee yards online on [www.harrisbee.org](http://www.harrisbee.org).

Thanks Harry for all your hard

work for the association—it is greatly appreciated!



HARRY REICHART

COOKING WITH HONEY -  
AVOCADO SALAD AND HONEY DRESSING

**Dressing:**

- 1 cup vegetable oil
  - 1 tablespoon orange peel
  - 3/4 cup orange juice
  - 1/3 cup honey
  - 1 tablespoon lemon juice
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- Combine all dressing ingredi-

ents in a container with a lid. Chill and shake well before serving.

**Salad:**

- 1 large head lettuce—rinsed, cored and chilled
- 3 oranges, peeled and sections separated
- 1 large avocado, peeled and thinly cut lengthwise

Line salad bowl with outer lettuce leaves. Tear remaining lettuce and place in bowl. Place orange and avocado slices in an overlapping ring on the lettuce. Chill. Serve with the honey dressing.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

**Next Meeting —**

October 23, 2007

7:00 PM

Pasadena Town Square Mall  
Community Meeting Room  
(located behind the Food Court)

MEETING AGENDA

**HCBA  
Annual Banquet**

Members planning to attend the Annual Banquet, please contact Harold Kristof to let him know the number of people in your party. Phone: 281-648-1223. HCBA will furnish the meats for the banquet—attendees are asked to bring 2 vegetable dishes or 1 vegetable and 1 desert dish to the function to help complete the meal.