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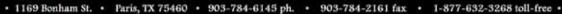
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President's Report



Dear Friends

Once again another year has come and gone. Our Convention in Corpus Christi has been held and we saw a good number of you there. Many researchers and guest speakers met together in this one place to speak about their latest findings and research results from the past year. Beekeepers and honey producers had a great opportunity to network and discuss the present and future of our industry, as well as the effects of the exceptional drought here in Texas.

Thank you to all the speakers who did such an excellent job and to all of the volunteers who made the organization and flow of the Convention look so easy. If you have ideas and suggestions for next year, or if you might volunteer to help, please respond to our new Vice President, Blake Shook's request in his report a little further on in this Journal.

We had fun too! The Queen's Banquet, where we raise money for our Honey Queen Program, was a great success. Weldon Riggs acted as our auctioneer and we enjoyed a great deal of laughter as the evening progressed. Thanks very much to all the folks who donated items for the auction, our program would not exist without your generosity.

After the Banquet the Honey Queens traditionally go out for ice cream and many of us join them. We get to meet new people and celebrate the newly elected Honey Queen and Princess. In the hotel lobby afterwards there was much joy in the piano playing and singing of the youngsters.

With the holiday season upon us, may I wish you and your families every blessing - a very merry Christmas to you all.

Eddie Priest President

Winter Delegates Meeting

TBA Winter Delegates Meeting
will be held
Saturday, February 18, 2012
at the
Stagecoach Inn
401 S. Stagecoach Road
Salado, TX 76571
(254) 947-5111



We will get together at 11:00 am and welcome all TBA Members to attend and enjoy lunch with us as we finalize plans for the TBA Summer Clinic Workshop.

Please contact TBA Delegates Committee Chair, Dick Counts, with any questions. dickcounts@bigplanet.com (903) 566-6789

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Vice President's Report

from Blake Shook

TBA



Hello Fellow Beekeepers!

First of all I would like to say "Thank-you" to all of you for electing me as your Vice President! I am very excited about the opportunity to serve in this new capacity and I am looking forward to planning the agenda for next year's Convention. Please let me know if you have any special requests.

Something I would like all of you as Texas beekeepers to keep in mind is the fact that, as a state association, TBA is in place to serve YOU. If there is anything that you need with which we can assist you, don't hesitate to let us know. I look forward to being able to help some of you with issues that are currently plaguing many of us as beekeepers in Texas. One of the many things which we will be pursuing this year is attempting to create a certification process for beekeepers and packers in our state which will make it very difficult for dishonest honey marketers to continue deceiving the public. Our hope is that this will help many of you who are being routinely hurt by some of these companies. We also hope to work more closely with the Farm Services Agency (FSA) to get notices out to beekeepers about relief programs which they are offering.

Something that is especially close to home for me which I will be working on is our Annual Convention, since I am now in charge of planning it. If there is a way I can craft a conference that better caters to your needs, please let me know regardless of whether you are a small scale, sideline or commercial beekeeper. My hope is to help TBA grow in numbers, strength, and profitability to each of you through our conference program. Paul Jackson recently told me

and John Thomas confirms that there was a day when it was not uncommon to have over 500 people attend our conference in the past history of our association. I understand that we may never be able to return to that point again, but with even more issues to face than we have ever had our need for banding together to grow stronger as an industry has never been greater. I look forward to doing what I can to help accomplish that goal and need your input to build a conference which best addresses your needs. All that being said, we already have, in my opinion, and the opinion of many others, one of the largest and best state associations in America, and I thank all of you for contributing to make it what it is today.

I considered giving a detailed report about the current Texas beekeeping industry, but I decided that would be quite repetitive at this point. We all know what the year was like. I'm sure all of you have heard the report dozens of times from other beekeepers as I have, "Not much honey due to drought, and production is down everywhere". If you made a good crop, you are very lucky, and if you still have honey, good for you because honey prices continue to climb. On a positive note, early reports from the almond groves in California seem to be good as far as pricing goes. Out of curiosity I recently asked one of the largest commercial beekeepers in the state how long he thought the almonds would be a financially viable crop for beekeepers to pollinate. His response was, "It will be a good crop as long as you are alive and keeping bees Blake". That was encouraging...another 50 years of almond pollination would be wonderful!

As a reminder, don't forget to attend our Winter Delegates Meeting on February 18th!





Director's Report

from Wendy Riggs

Alamo Area * Coastal Bend * Rio Grande * El Paso



Greetings Fellow Beekeepers!

Has it really been a year already since I was writing one of these articles? Boy, time flies!

This is supposed to be a director's "report" so I will try to report. I attended the annual TBA Convention in early November, held in Corpus Christi this year. As always, it was a great time of seeing familiar faces, meeting new ones, hearing of new research and ideas about our beloved pollinator/honey maker and checking out products that vendors in the trade show had to offer. Last year, I was elected as a director to finish out an un-expired term. This year, I was re-elected and am beginning a full two-year term. Once again, we have two young ladies representing us as spokespersons for the industry. I encourage you to make use of them and the interest they generate wherever they go. The Honey Queen and Princess are a great way to attract visitors to booths at fairs and they are also proficient at giving presentations to clubs, schools and other civic organizations.

My position on the board is Area 1. While I don't

think I'll be able to visit all the clubs in my district (one is in El Paso and I'm near San Antonio!), my goal this year is to at least make contact with each club. I'm sorry to say I did not do that last year. Sometimes my learning curve is a bit steep. My home association is Alamo Area. In November, we held our annual "Thanksgiving Feast" and officer elections. I'm excited to have a couple of our newer members getting involved in the workings of our association. Our guest speaker that evening was Danny Weaver. Danny shared some interesting stories of his early days in beekeeping, as well as some great tips for the beginning beekeepers in our association. I'm pretty sure some of the veteran beekeepers walked away with thoughts of trying out some "new" ideas, as well.

If you are a member of one of the associations in Area 1, please don't hesitate to contact me with thoughts, ideas or concerns that you may have. As your director, I'm your voice in the TBA board meetings. I look forward to serving the Texas Beekeepers Association this coming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Editor's Notes

The Journal of the Texas Beekeepers Association is provided to our members by email, in color, if we have an appropriate address to work with. The remainder of our members receive a printed black and white copy in the mail - which is much more expensive. If you presently get the printed copy and would like to have the color copy emailed instead, please let me have your email address and we will make this happen. You will also be saving the association a significant amount of money.

Next year we will add a feature on "News from the Clubs and Associations". If you have a club newsletter, would you please add me to the distribution. If you have special activities or events

that you'd like to see reported in this Journal, please let me have articles for publication. Pictures are good too!

We would like to receive comments and suggestions about the Journal and its content, so please don't hold back - let me have those ideas as well.

I'd like to express my deep gratitude to Joan Coplin, our editor for the last nine years, for her generosity in giving her time to help accomplish this transition in editorship. Hopefully we will continue to keep the high standards she has set.

Chris Doggett
ckdoggett@gmail.com
(512) 898-5500

2011 Texas Honey Queen Report

from Kaylynn Mansker

Hi there,

I heave a little sigh at the thought of this being the last article I will write to you as your Texas Honey Queen. It has been a productive year and I am so appreciative of your support of the Honey Princess and myself as we have represented you around the state. To wrap up this year, here is a report of my final events.

September 20, I traveled down to Houston for the Houston Beekeepers general meeting. The interesting thing about the bee clubs in the Houston area is that they are in close proximity to each other. Because of this, it's not uncommon to see a couple of beekeepers you've already met at one club when you visit another club. If you lived in Houston and planned right, you could almost go to a different bee meeting every week. The Houston Beekeepers were very hospitable, and Mrs. Shirley and I had a good visit with them.



September 30, I headed up to Lubbock, TX to promote at the South Plains Fair. I have been informed that no Honey Queen has attended this event in recent years. I was very happy to go because I was born in Lubbock and it still remains one of my favorite places. Benton Kastman, the local beekeeper in the area did a superb job of supplying me with equipment and display honey. He also pulled a few of his connections and landed me my first TV interview. KCBD Channel 11 stopped by our table, and I explained why I was there and some facts about bees and honey. My little segment was aired on the 6 o'clock news.

(continued on page 11)

2011 Texas Honey Princess Report

from Kellie Lenamond





I cannot believe that this is the last time that I will get to say that to you as your 2011 Texas Honey Princess. Time has definitely flown by. I am finishing up a semester of college here in Kentucky, and wishing I was enjoying the much warmer weather with you, but I am also very grateful and mindful of everything that you all have done for me as I endeavored to serve you. There are so many things that I have loved about being your spokesperson. I know of no other club, or group of clubs, that has meant so much to me as a speaker, a friend and life-long learner. I have been privileged to meet and work with so many people of different ages and backgrounds, and this has helped me so much as I pursue my career. Throughout my experience there have been smiles, tears and hugs. There have been good speeches, and those that didn't come out quite right. There have been hundreds of students, and one student. There have been perfect cooking demonstrations, and cooking demonstrations missing an ingredient. There have been early morning starts, and early morning endings. There have been all-day royal composures, and running barefoot in hotels with

Kaylynn. There have been long car drives, and impromptu talks; and of course there were all of the funny looks from every waiter who saw our beautiful sashes and crowns. There have been lost nametags and I-forgot-my-cameras, interviews and careful answers, hurting high heels and "Keep-up-with-Mr. Oakley!" photo

(continued on page 11)

Honey Queen Committee Chair Report

Dear Texas Beekeepers,

What a full year it has been for the Texas Honey Queen Program.

This year of 2011 for the first time ever - we have had a Texas Honey Princess, and that honor belongs to Kellie Lenamond, of Wills Point, TX. Though Kellie is a full-time student at University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg, KY, she has made time to visit Alamo Area Beekeepers Association (San Antonio); East Texas Beekeepers Association (Tyler) and Walker County Beekeepers Association (Huntsville); in addition to a school event in Rockwall for 500 children. Kellie and her family also hosted the TBA annual summer clinic at their home and farm in June. We appreciate you, Kellie, and "thank you" to the entire Lenamond Family for the contribution you all have made to TBA this year.

Our 2011 Texas Honey Queen Kaylynn Mansker has completed her goal of visiting the 16 actively-meeting beekeeping clubs around the state of Texas. Kaylynn had a bit of a celebration upon this achievement. Jimmie Oakley recently reminded us that Concho Valley Beekeepers does meet in San Angelo, Texas (unfortunately Concho Valley Beekeepers was not on the published list we were working from). So, Kaylynn, maybe you or the 2012 Texas Honey Queen will make a trip soon to central west Texas, where you will meet Travis and Maureen Lane and other beekeepers. As Kaylynn mentions in her article perhaps she will bring home another title to Texas. In that case, Kaylynn could visit Concho Valley Beekeepers as American Honey Queen or American Honey Princess. Yes, Kaylynn will be competing for the American Honey Queen Program title in Las Vegas, January 10-15, 2012. We hope you too are planning to attend the American Beekeeping Federation Convention at the Rio All Suites Hotel, where Allison Adams (2010 Texas Honey Queen) will hand over her title of American Honey Princess and Teresa Bryson from Pennsylvania will crown the new 2012 American Honey Queen.

How special it was to renew friendships at the Texas Beekeepers Convention, this past November 3-5, at the beautiful Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas and there were new folks to get to know. Thank you to all who worked hard to put the Convention together and to all who worked hard to get to the event.

For any of you who missed the gathering, we hope to see you at the 2012 convention, where you may get to sample the Collin County Honey Queen's honey ice cream in place of the honey ice cream milkshake we enjoyed this

year. Bless Weldon Riggs of the San Antonio area who just happened to mention milkshake on the elevator when we cried on his shoulder a bit about the melting honey ice cream in the cooler in my van under the 40 lbs of ice. Thus began the Thursday night Bee Buzz of the Convention.

Each of the six attending Honey Queens and Princesses had a lovely table with their scrapbook and a honey food item at the Bee Buzz. The young women and their foods were American Honey Princess Allison Adams (Tropical Juice Quencher); Texas Honey Queen Kaylynn Mansker (Honey Sandies); Williamson County Honey Queen Rebekah Jones (Mini Honey Pumpkin Pies); Collin County Honey Queen Caroline Adams (Honey Ice Cream Milkshakes); Collin County Honey Princesses Shannon LaGrave (Honey Raspberry Sauce) and Shelby Kilpatrick (No Bake Peanut Butter & Honey Cookies). What a sampling of fun foods for the fun evening. Kellie Lenamond (TX Honey Princess) was unable to join us, as were Bekah Lenamond (East TX Honey Queen) and Hayden Wolf (East TX Honey Princess).

Friday morning was the opening of the convention and each young lady was introduced. Rebekah Jones and Caroline Adams were announced as candidates for Texas Honey Queen and Texas Honey Princess. Kaylynn Mansker gave an excellent 20-minute photo review of her year as Texas Honey Queen. Kaylynn, Rebekah and Caroline then judged honey for the honey show. Noontime was the well-attended sit-down Queens Luncheon with singing entertainment and a preview of Kaylynn's marketing presentation which she will give at the American Beekeeping Convention in January. Friday evening was the honey and photo awards and the Quiz Bowl and a visit by numerous convention attendees to the local Marble Slab Creamery for ice cream. Saturday morning was the interviews of Rebekah and Caroline for the 2012 Texas Honey Queen Program. Thank you Sylvia Priest and Anne Siep for sitting in on the interviews with Violet Bourns, Jimmie Oakley, Rachael Seida and Shirley Acevedo. Saturday afternoon was the TBA business meeting.

The TBA Convention Banquet took place on Saturday evening as a very nice sit-down dinner. Awards were made. Kaylynn Mansker gave her farewell speech and received a \$2000 scholarship from Texas Beekeepers Association. Violet Bourns (East Texas Honey Queen Program Chairperson) was handed the \$600 scholarship to pass on from TBA to Texas Honey Princess,

(continued on page 10)

2012 Texas Honey Queen Report

from Caroline Adams

Hello, Beekeeping Friends,

First off, let me say a huge "thank you" to all of you for the incredible privilege of serving as the 2012 Texas Honey Queen. What an honor to be part of such a wonderful group of people as Texas beekeepers. Thank you so much for trusting me with the responsibility of representing you as I travel throughout the state (and beyond) spreading the good news about honey bees, pollination and the industry we all love. I am also thrilled to be able to work with the 2012 Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones. She is an incredible young woman and a dear friend of mine. I know we will have a wonderful time promoting honey bees together.

This opportunity is such a blessing to me and I am so looking forward to serving and working alongside you in the coming year.

A bit about myself - I am the eighteen-year-old daughter of Ned and Caryl Adams, and I live in Plano, TX. I became involved in beekeeping after my sister Allison received a youth scholarship from the Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Association. We currently keep four beehives in Parker, TX. I am studying sign language at Collin College. I play classical and traditional Irish music on the violin and mandolin, teach violin lessons to children, volunteer at a local nature museum, cook, sew, and enjoy spending time with my family.

Since being crowned at the 2012 Texas Beekeepers Association's Annual Convention in Corpus Christi, I have already had an opportunity to give a presentation. On November 18th, I visited Mark Twain Elementary School in Richardson, TX, where I spoke to 46 fourth graders. I greatly enjoy school presentations because the children

greatly enjoy school presentations because the children

Caroline pointing out the worker honey bees to toddlers at the Montessori School in Corpus Christi

are always so fascinated with honey bees. At Mark Twain, I spoke about the three kinds of bees in the hive. pollination, how honey is made, what a beekeeper does, and some of the products of the hive. The children were very sweet and asked wonderful questions - children absorb the information that you give them and it is such a joy to see their excitement as they learn about how incredible honey

bees are. What a great



opportunity to plant such important seeds in the minds of young children and to encourage them to keep honey bees themselves— perhaps someday they too will be a part of our wonderful industry.

Coming up, I am looking forward to a fair at a local church; photos and media training with my wonderful friend and co-partner, 2012 Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones; and a visit to Louisiana for the Louisiana State Beekeepers Convention.

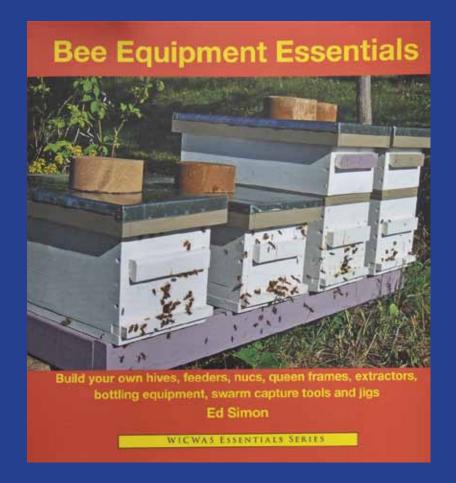
Thank you again for all the wonderful support that you show to me and the other young women and for allowing me to serve you in this capacity.

I hope to see you all very soon.



Caroline demonstrating the extractor to homeschoolers

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2012 Texas Honey Princess Report

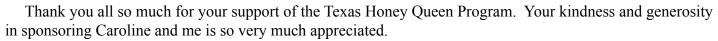
from Rebekah Jones

Dear Fellow Beekeepers and Friends,

I am so excited to be serving you as the 2012 Texas Honey Princess! I am really looking forward to traveling around the state, promoting bees and beekeeping. All of the new opportunities that I will have this year will be so beneficial to me, and I look forward to some new experiences!

For those of you who were not able to attend the convention and meet me, I would like to tell you about myself. My name is Rebekah Jones and I live in Spicewood, Texas, which is a spot in the road near Austin. I am 17 (almost 18) years old, and I am currently completing my senior year of high school. I live with my family of five and have been home-schooled by my mother my entire life. We have lots of different animals on our place, including bees. I became interested in beekeeping when my brother Caleb received a scholar-ship hive from the Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association.

Since then I have become very interested in bees, keeping my own hive and serving as the WCABA Honey Queen for two years.



May God bless you all, and I hope to see you at the TBA Delegates Meeting on February 18th in Salado, Texas!



Honey Queen Committee Chair Report

(continued from page 7)

Kellie Lenamond. Kaylynn then had the honor of crowning the 2012 Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones and the 2012 Texas Honey Queen, Caroline Adams.

After Caroline's and Rebekah's acceptance speeches and photos, the auction began led by our own beekeeper member Weldon Riggs with spotters Clint Weaver, Dick Counts and newly elected TBA President Ed Priest. So many fine items had been donated by fine beekeepers. Thank you Lavada Talbert for managing and organizing all of the donations over the course of the convention. Thank you Leslie Talbert for receiving payments for purchases, along with Mathew Mansker, Clay Adams and Garrett Swinney. Thank you Tabitha Mansker, Hannah Mansker and Jessica Swinney for helping with the handing out of the auction items to the Queens and Princesses.

Thank you Texas Beekeepers for donating your special items and for purchasing them, raising \$6012.00 for the Texas Honey Queen Program.

Bless you for your generous hearts and thoughtful expressions of gratitude for our 2012 Honey Queen and 2012 Honey Princess.

Caroline and/or Rebekah look forward to visiting your club or local event.

We look forward to hearing from you. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Shirley Acevedo shirley@acebees.com (214) 542-8276

Rachael Seida rachaelseida@hotmail.com (214) 578-3477



2011 Honey Queen Report

continued from page 6

Moving right into October, I visited the Metro Beekeepers in Burleson, TX. The program of the evening was about wax moths, so, in addition to talking about Queen/Scholarship programs, I told about my family's run-ins with wax moths. This club has also seen a lot of growth in interest in beekeeping. They have outgrown their meeting place and are looking into larger possibilities in the area.

For the last time, I went back to Houston. This time, though, Allison Adams (American Honey Princess) accompanied me. We went down on a Saturday to attend the Harris County Beekeepers Annual Banquet. We were there three days and had a full schedule. When we arrived, after settling in a bit, we judged the club's contest honey. That evening we attended the Banquet and were the main program. Allison and I took turns speaking about our year as Texas Honey Queen/American Honey Princess and practical ways to have a local Queen program. Sunday we had a day of rest and attended church with our host family, Clyde and Sarah Hughes and children. Monday morning we received a tour of Ellington Airfield, which was extremely interesting. I've always been interested in anything military and Air Force especially. The great advantage to us being there on that particular day: the air show had been going on that weekend. So all the planes were leaving Ellington while we were there. The B52 Bomber had to be my favorite. That plane was huge and loud. After our tour, Allison and I gave a school presentation to a Lutheran school. We had a good size group, about 180 students. It was a very fun trip, and thank you to all of the Hughes' for hosting us.

October was also State Fair Month. As is custom, the Honey Queens and Princess from around the state came up to Dallas to promote cooking with honey and the beekeeping industry. Eight girls participated this year. I did six cooking demonstrations and two beekeeping presentations. We always have such a great time cooking at the Fair and this year was no different. The State Fair is really a perfect place to promote because there are thousands of people coming through the building and we are provided ample opportunities to share facts about honey bees and the use of honey.

The last week in October, my mom and I drove to Waco to visit the Heart of Texas Beekeepers. This

was the last club I needed to visit to reach my goal of visiting all 16 regularly-meeting clubs in the state. The beekeepers in Waco have grown as well and keep adding new beekeepers to their numbers.

Next on my calendar came the annual Texas Beekeepers Convention. It was so nice to see so many of you down in Corpus Christi. I know it was a long drive for most of us, but it really was worth it.

Kids Learning About Bees, held on Thursday, was another success this year. It was well attended by home school families and private schools from the area. All the Honey Queens/Princesses present helped out by leading groups or manning stations. During the Convention, we Honey Queens/Princesses put on quite a show. At the Queen's Luncheon we sang for everyone our version of 'Lollipop' (changed to 'Honey Bee'). I also gave everyone a sneak peak of my marketing presentation for the American Honey Queen competition coming up in January. Friday night we had the awards ceremony and Queen's Quiz Bowl, which is always a time when we laugh a lot and get to see how much we all really know about bees! Saturday, at the banquet, I was very pleased to crown your 2012 Texas Honey Queen, Caroline Adams and Texas Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones. Both of these girls are well qualified and know their stuff; they will serve you well this coming year.

So with that, all I can say now is THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for such a great year. I absolutely love Texas and nothing thrills me more than to have been this state's Honey Queen; you all are worth every minute of promoting.

I'll be sure to let you know how things go in January; I will do my best to bring home another title for Texas!

2011 Honey Princess Report

(continued from page 6)

opportunities and long poses, quiz bowls and scrapbooks, training sessions and handbooks, articles and reports. Among all of these there have always been supportive, wonderful beekeepers to help us serve you to the best of our abilities. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for supporting me during my reign as Texas Honey Princess. I look forward to seeing you again in the future. I love and miss each and every one of you, and encourage you to never stop gaining knowledge about God's fabulous creature that has brought us all together, the honey bee.

In Memoriam Bruce Rodie

1949 - 2011



picture by Claire Fraser

President Bruce Rodie wore many hats: had many friends.

by Tom Bower, Membership Secretary Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Our president, Bruce Rodie, got his start as a beekeeper after he joined the military, and he kept bees, on and off, the rest of his life.

He would set up beehives, when the opportunity presented itself, at the numerous bases where he served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, recalled his sister, Elizabeth H. "Betsy" McGaughey.

"He had bees in Arizona, Maine, even Belgium," she said.

Retired USAF Lt. Col. William Bruce Rodie passed away on Oct. 18 at San Antonio Military Medical Center (formerly Brooke Army Medical Center). His only son, Christopher, and his former spouse and longtime friend, Sandy Rodie, both of College Station, were at his side. Bruce was 62.

"What I remember about him is his loyalty," said his sister, of San Fernando, Calif. "Once you were a friend of Bruce's, you were always his friend. He had friends from back in grade school and he kept in touch with them."

As a beekeeper, Bruce was at the top of his craft. At the time of his death, he was winding up his first term as president of the Alamo Area Beekeepers Association, after serving two years as vice president.

As vice president, Bruce set a high standard for the position, effectively taking on the role of program chairman for all meetings, and working closely with the president and other members of the Executive Committee to organize the agendas for AABA field days that became ever more popular with the public at-large.

Under Bruce's leadership as president, membership grew nearly 30 percent; Stock Show honey sales grew 12 percent, on top of a 42 percent increase in 2009; and a record-breaking crowd of 190 attended the club's April 30, 2011 annual Field Day & Picnic in Bandera. Bruce also took advantage of opportunities and suggestions from the Executive Committee to advance the AABA's presence at two additional events – the New Braunfels FolkFest and the Mitchell Lake Audubon Center's Fall Wildlife Festival and Plant Sale – and he saw to it that the annual field day was held a month earlier, making it easier for members to obtain honey bee packages, nucleuses and queens.

The net result is there are now more members of the club who also are beekeepers.

There were many more facets to Bruce's life than beekeeping.

"He had a lot of different circles of friends," recalled Chris Rodie, explaining his father worked at TMI-The Episcopal School of Texas, where he was known as the "gardening angel," and where his family and friends celebrated Bruce's life with a funeral service in All Saints Chapel on Oct. 29.

"He also had his Boy Scout family and his 'brain trust' of fellow military retirees at the Starbuck's on Blanco Road. And let's not forget his racquetball friends," his son added.

Bruce was born Feb. 22, 1949 in Hackensack, N.J. to Edward Bruce and Margaret Constantine Hardenbergh Rodie. After graduating from high school, his sister recalled, Bruce learned his boating skills during a summer job delivering mail in the Bahamas. He received a bachelor's degree in economics from Ohio Wesleyan University, where he was a member of the Air Force ROTC and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon graduation, commencing a 25-year service career in missilery. He later earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Northern Colorado and an MBA from the University of Montana.

(continued on page 37)

Update on the Search for an Assistant Professor of Apiculture Department of Entomology, Texas A & M University

Letter to the TBA 2011 Convention from Dr. David W. Ragsdale

First, I want to apologize that I cannot attend your annual meeting in person. Margie and I had such a wonderful time last year and we were looking forward returning this year. Unfortunately, we scheduled the annual Entomology Science Conference in College Station a year in advance and this year the conference overlaps with your annual gathering. The annual Entomology Science Conference gathers all AgriLife Research and Extension personnel from around the State of Texas for a meeting on campus where graduate students, post-docs and campus-based faculty can exchange ideas. There are short presentations on the research and extension programs conducted over the past year. We also use this time to plan for the upcoming year. I just cannot miss this important planning and reporting conference. So, I wish you well with your meeting and hope to be able to attend next year.

The search for an Assistant Professor in Apiculture began by interviewing candidates in February and March. In the end, we interviewed five candidates and made four offers (one candidate withdrew and accepted a position in Ohio). Three of those candidates had a significant other that was also employed at a University and thus we spent a great deal of time trying to line up a second job. In the end, we were unsuccessful in meeting any of the candidates' needs.

were far more senior in experience than a typical applicant for an Assistant Professor position (multiple years of experience at another University). So I'm encouraged that we have what is an attractive position, but the economic reality is we just don't have the flexibility in the budget to accommodate these highly experienced faculty along with helping fund a second faculty position for a trailing loved one.

The good news is that the Dean has approved reopening the search process and we will begin speaking to potential candidates in early November when the Entomological Society of America holds its annual meeting. Scientists from around the world attend this meeting with many talks on apiculture. The plan would be to advertise and collect applications in November and December, and to interview perhaps as early as January. I'm confident we will find a suitable candidate who has the scientific expertise to be successful at one of the best research universities in the country while at the same time hold high the land-grant mission of conducting basic and applied research that will benefit the beekeepers in Texas.

I hope you have a productive meeting.

And my bid for that burnt orange painted hive box remains at a solid \$0.01.

Best Wishes,

David

Dr. David W. Ragsdale is Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology, 412 Minnie Belle Heep Center, 2475 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-2475. (979) 845-2510

East Texas Beekeepers Association adds to Queen Program

On Dec. 1, 2011 East Texas Beekeepers Association welcomed our 2011 Honey Queen, 16 year old Miss Bekah Lenamond as our representative in 2012, and 2011 Honey Princess, 16 year old Miss Hayden Wolf as our 2012 Honey Princess. We also added to our Queen program a third young lady, 15 year old Miss Martha Jeske as 2012 Honey princess-in-waiting. We are looking forward to a great year of beekeeping, talking about the honey bee with everyone who will listen, and meeting all the newly crowned Queens and Princesses.

Happy New Year Violet Bourns, ETBA Honey Queen Chairperson



Bekah Lenamond, Martha Jeske and Hayden Wolf

Corpus Christi The Jewel by the Sea

Convention Report by Jimmie Oakley

The Omni Marina Hotel & Resort in Corpus Christi, Texas, was the site of the Texas Beekeepers Association Convention this year. The meeting took place the first weekend in November, starting on Thursday morning the 3rd and concluding Sunday morning the 6th, providing three full days of events and activities.

Thursday morning the activities opened with a 9AM start to an all day Master Beekeeping seminar conducted by Dr. Larry Connor of *Wicwas Press* from Kalamazoo MI. This year there were 18 who paid the additional registration fee to attend the advanced class. It was a learning experience.

The Kids Learning About Bees (KLAB), coordinated and directed by Texas Honey Queen Chair, Shirley Acevedo & Rachael Seida, was special in Corpus in that it involved two off-site schools plus a session at the hotel. All of the Honey Queens & Princesses took part in the presentations at the Montessori School in Corpus assisted by both of the Swinney's, Garrett & Jessica in bee suits. At the hotel Queens, Princesses and beekeepers alike made up the group that manned the education stations in the large Padre ballroom as another Montessori group learned about bees on site. One more school was scheduled on Friday afternoon as the Queens & Princesses traveled to the Driscoll school district to do another presentation with the assistance of Rachel Jones donning a bee suit and Hanna Mansker for being Buzzy Bear. (see related story on KLAB p. 22)

The TBA Executive Committee met on Thursday morning also to take care of preliminary business of the Association. Chaired by TBA President, Todd Youngblood, the Committee took up important issues and considered the budget for the coming fiscal year (2011-2012).

In the afternoon the vendors began to set up the Trade Show in the Conference Center. This year five vendors were present: Dadant & Sons; Mann Lake, Ltd.; Walker Honey Company; Texas Insurance & Financial Services and the American Beekeeping Federation.

The annual "Bee Buzz Social and Honey Queen

Reception" was hosted on Thursday evening by American Honey Princess, Allison Adams; Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker; Collin County Honey Queen, Caroline Adams; Wm. County Honey Queen, Rebekah Jones; Collin County Honey Princess, Shelby Kilpatrick and Collin County Honey Princess, Shannon La Grave. Each of the ladies decorated a table with items that represented their interest and accomplishments and displayed their scrapbooks. As usual there was a great turnout with good food and drink and the renewing of old friendships. Burleson Honey Company of Waxahachie, TX and Sabine Creek Honey of Josephine, TX, generously sponsored the finger food and beverages this year, and the Honey Queens and Princesses offered (honey) sweet treats to all who visited their lovely display tables.

Friday morning was the official start of the Convention with the presentation of colors by the Veterans' Band Color Guard of Corpus Christi, the Invocation by TBA Vice President, Ed Priest and the welcome given by TBA President, Todd Youngblood. Next the Honey Queens were officially introduced by Shirley Acevedo, Texas Honey Queen Chair. Attending this year was American Honey Princess, Allison Adams from Plano, TX; Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker from Nevada, TX; CCHBA Honey Queen, Caroline Adams from Plano, TX; WCABA Honey Queen, Rebekah Jones, from Spicewood, TX; CCHBA Honey Princess, Shelby Kilpatrick from Copper Canyon, TX and CCHBA Honey Princess, Shannon La Grave from Farmersville TX. Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker, gave a powerpoint slide presentation of her year to the appreciation of the beekeepers assembled.

TBA President, Todd Youngblood, addressed the Convention and gave his 2011 Review of Beekeeping in Texas.

Dr. Steve Cook, a first time speaker at the Convention is a new researcher at the USDA ARS Lab in Weslaco, Texas. He spoke on physiology, nutrition and toxins and improving honey bee health.

After the morning break, Dr. Larry Connor took center stage and gave an interesting and entertaining talk entitled Confessions of a Traveling Beekeeper, rated by some as the best of the conference.

The Honey Queen Program hosted the Queen's Luncheon during the noon hour, giving the Queens

and Princesses opportunity to share some personal and charming experiences. (see related story in Queen Chair report on p. 7)

The afternoon general session opened with State Bee Inspector, Paul Jackson, from the Texas Apiary Inspection Service at Texas A&M University in College Station updating the beekeeper on progress at the Inspection / Honey Bee Research Facility and what to expect in the coming year. Dr. William Meikle from the USDA Honey Bee Lab in Weslaco gave a presentation on his research and findings on the Small Hive Beetle. He was followed by Raul Rivera from Weslaco speaking on improving honey bee pollen substitutes.

After the afternoon break our special guest speaker, Dr. Ann-Michele Francoeur, PhD from Montréal, Québec, Canada, spoke on her efforts to promote technology from the lab to the beeyard by training university students in techniques and setting up quality field labs to help detect and eradicate honey bee diseases. Her power point presentation showed examples and gave details of the work.

On Friday evening the awards from the TBA Honey, Wax and Photo Contest were presented. Henry Graham from Weslaco, TX hosted the award presentation this year and was assisted by the Honey Queens and Princesses. As each category was announced and ribbons handed out the Honey Queens posed so pictures could be taken to record the event.

The Honey Queen Program took center stage to close out the evening in good-natured competition as the Honey Queens and Princesses entered into their annual Quiz Bowl competition to exhibit their bee knowledge, complete with a new bell (ringer) for each contestant. It was an enjoyable contest with Henry Graham as Master of Ceremonies and participation from all the ladies and members from the audience. Thank you ladies!

Dick Counts from Arp, TX, Delegates Committee Chair, hosted a Delegate's Breakfast on Saturday morning that was well attended. Accomplishments were acknowledged in local scholarship programs and future activities utilizing the KLAB in local meetings were discussed. The site selected for the winter delegates meeting is the Stagecoach Inn in Salado, TX on February 18th at 11AM. (see announcement on p. 3) TBA Exec. Sec. and ABF Director John Talbert opened the final session of the Convention on Saturday morning speaking on the 2012 North American Beekeeping Conference and Trade Show in Las Vegas, NV, with details of activities and an invitation for all present to attend.

Next, Dr. Frank Eischen from the USDA Honey Bee Lab in Weslaco gave a presentation on the disease Nosema Cerenae and its impact on honey bees followed by his thoughts on feeding bees through the winter in preparation for early pollination services. After the morning break a round table discussion completed the morning session. Todd Youngblood, John Talbert, Blake Shook and Chris Moore each gave a short presentation on their operations with focus on a different element and took questions.

The Texas Beekeepers Association held its annual business meeting on Saturday afternoon to hear committee reports, pass resolutions and elect officers for the coming year. The meeting was called to order when a quorum was determined by President Todd Youngblood. As is the custom at each Convention, John Thomas acknowledged all those members that had passed since the last meeting and a rather long list (seven members) was read with the attendees pausing for a moment of silence in respect. Reports were given by Jimmie Oakley, Treasurer, Chris Doggett, Publicity Director, Shirley Acevedo, Honey Queen Co-Chair, John Talbert, State Fair Committee, Dick Counts, Delegates Chair, and Todd Youngblood, TBA/TAMU Liaison. All reports were approved as read. Next Blake Shook read the resolutions coming out of committee and all were approved. John Talbert gave the last committee report on the Constitution and By-Laws changes. Printed copies of the changes were available at the meeting and were published thirty days prior to the calling of the Convention. The changes to the By-Laws and Constitution passed without opposition with only one amendment to change the wording to read the chair of the Nominating Committee will be a Past President, instead of the immediate Past President. There was a motion from the floor to amend the membership classification from Hobbyist to Small Scale which passed after some discussion. The Nominations Committee report was read and the membership elected a slate of officers that had Ed Priest from San Antonio as the new President and Blake Shook of

(continued on page 16)

Membership Report 11-6 by Jimmie Oakley

2012 Renewing Members

9/29	Money	Guy	McKinney, TX	40
10/20	Brantley	Casey	New Braunfels, TX	20
10/24	Coplin-Courtney	Margie	Dickinson, TX	20
10/25	Baker	Wayne M.	Temple, TX	20
11/3	Hutchinson	Glenda E.	Dallas, TX	20
11/5	Chesnut	Robert L.	Fairfield, TX	20

2012 Renewing Members at Convention

11/3	Acevedo	Shirley	Princeton, TX	20
	Adams	Caroline	Plano, TX	20
	Ash	E. T.	College Station, TX	20
	Baxter	Bill	Kerens, TX	20
	Borntrager	David	Beeville, TX	20
	Borntrager	Leroy	Beeville, TX	20
	Bourns	Violet	Tyler, TX	20
	Brantley	Mary Jo	Jefferson, TX	20
	Brantley	Stanford	Jefferson, TX	20
	Butler	Blake	Rogers, TX	20
	Coplin	Joan	Alvin, TX	20
	Coplin	Steve	Alvin, TX	20
	Counts	Dick	Arp, TX	20
	Doggett	Chris	Thrall,TX	20
	Doggett	Shirley	Thrall,TX	20
	Dufner	John	Hackensack, MN	20
	Eischen	Frank	Harlingen, TX	20
	Fink	Richard J.	San Antonio, TX	20
	Fucik	A. J.	El Campo, TX	20
	Fucik	Barbara	El Campo, TX	20
	Graham	Henry	Weslaco, TX	20
	Hahn	Russell A.	Ganado, TX	20
	Heinrich	Gary	Mathis, TX	20
	Holland	Todd	Marble Falls, TX	20
	Holloway	Rodney L.	Hearne, TX	20
	Jackson	Paul W.	Bryan, TX	20
	Johnson	Arlene	Paris, TX	20
	Johnson	Randy	Paris, TX	20
	Jones	Cynthia G.	Spicewood, TX	20
	Jordan	Margaret	Corpus Christi, TX	20
	Kastman	Benton	Lubbock, TX	20
	Kelling	Michael	Brenham, TX	20
	Kilpatrick	Susan	Copper Canyon, TX	20
	Latner	Ray	Paris, TX	20
	Latner	Wendy	Paris, TX	20

Corpus Christi

(continued from page 15)

Blue Ridge, TX as the new V.P. The odd numbered positions for Director at Large (1-3-5) were filled and the elected nominees were Wendy Riggs of Floresville, Clint Weaver of Navasota and replacing an outgoing director Ray Latner was Rodney Holloway of Hearne, TX. Also elected was Russell Swinney in Area 2 to finish out the term for Blake Shook who became Vice President. The meeting adjourned in order at 3:34 PM

On the final evening of the Convention in Corpus Christi the Annual Awards Banquet took place in the Marina View Room. It was well attended by 70 beekeepers and family members. After a delicious formal dinner of lime marinated chicken breast the presentation of awards took place. Dr. John G. Thomas presented the Meritorious Service Award for 2011 to Lavada Talbert of Josephine, Texas and V.P. Blake Shook presented the Beekeeper of the Year to John Talbert of Josephine, TX. Congratulations to the Talberts.

The TBA Honey Queen
Coronation is always the "crowning"
event of the evening. This year
Kaylynn Mansker, the 2011 Texas
Honey Queen, first crowned the Williamson County Honey Queen, Rebekah Jones as the "new" 2012 Texas
Honey Princess and then
Collin County Honey Queen, Caroline Adams, of Plano, Texas, as the
2012 Texas Honey Queen. She also
presented both ladies with a bouquet
of roses.

The evening wrapped up with the Honey Queen Auction that always follows the Banquet and Honey

(continued on page 17)

Membership Report 11-6 continued

2012 Renewing Members at Convention

MacWithey	Kevin	Fredericksburg, TX	20
Mansker	Gary	Nevada, TX	20
Mansker	Wanda	Nevada, TX	20
Mansker	Kaylynn	Nevada, TX	20
Miekle	William G.	Weslaco, TX	20
Molnar	Albert C.	Webberville, TX	20
Molnar	Marjorie	Webberville, TX	20
Montalbo	Domingo Jr.	Little River, TX	20
Moore	Chris	Kountze, TX	100
Oakley	Jimmie	Round Rock, TX	20
Oakley	Kay E.	Round Rock, TX	20
Paulson	John	Plano, TX	20
Priest	Edward	San Antonio, TX	20
Priest	Sylvia	San Antonio, TX	20
Riggs	Weldon	Floresville, TX	20
Riggs	Wendy	Floresville, TX	20
Rivera	Raul	McAllen, TX	20
Seida	Rachael	Wylie, TX	20
Shook	Blake	McKinney, TX	20
Shook	Kathleen	McKinney, TX	20
Siep	Anna	Farmersville, TX	20
Siep	Tom	Farmersville, TX	20
Spaulten	Jimmy	San Antonio, TX	20
Stewart	Tom	Corpus Christi, TX	20
Swinney	Russell	Plano, TX	20
Swinney	J'Neena	Plano, TX	20
Talbert	John J.	Josephine, TX	20
Talbert	Lavada	Josephine, TX	20
Taylor	McCartney	Austin, TX	20
Thomas	John G.	Bryan, TX	20
Thomas	Janice	Bryan, TX	20
Weaver	Clint	Navasota, TX	20
Wilson	Lance	Austin, TX	20
Youngblood	Todd	Pearsall, TX	20

2012 New Members at Convention

11/3	Adams	Caryl	Plano, TX	20
	Benskin	David	Orange Grove, TX	20
	Benskin	Susan	Orange Grove, TX	20
	Cleveland	Dwain	Glen Rose, TX	20
	Cleveland	Polly	Glen Rose, TX	20
	Cook	Steve	Weslaco, TX	20
	Cummings	Aaron	Conroe, TX	20

Corpus Christi

(continued from page 16)

Queen Coronation. The charity auctioneering for the evening was masterfully handled by Weldon Riggs of Floresville, TX. With the Honey Queens and Princesses presenting the items, the TBA members held up their hands to raise over \$5,700.00 to fund the Honey Queen program and provide an educational scholarship for the new Texas Honey Queen and Texas Honey Princess.

By the numbers, one hundred twenty-five (125) people were issued badges for the Convention, many of them young people. Forty-three (43) people attended the Queens' Luncheon and there were 71 at the annual Banquet. There were seventy-two (72) beekeepers that renewed their membership (paid dues) at the Convention and there was fourteen (14) new members joining TBA while at the Convention.

The Executive Committee held a final meeting on Sunday morning presided over by TBA President, Ed Priest, to welcome the new Directors and approve the 2012 TBA Budget.

Thanks to all who worked to make the Convention so successful.



Membership Report 11-6 continued

2012 New Members at Convention

Dezarn	Rebecca	Conroe, TX	20
Houlihan	Deborah	Corpus Christi, TX	20
Jones	Rebekah	Spicewood, TX	20
Jordan	Stephen	Corpus Christi, TX	20
Kemp	Shawn	Navasota, TX	20
Kohnke	Chris	Katy, TX	20
LaGrave	Shannon	Farmersville, TX	20
Oakley	Caleb	Waco, TX	20
Sorrell	Gordon	El Campo, TX	20
Stone	Donna	Beeville, TX	20



2012 Renewing Associations

11/22 Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association



Mail All Renewals/Inquiries to: Jimmie L. Oakley

1799 Goodson Ct. **Phone:** 512/388-3630 **Phone:** 512/388-3630 **e-mail:** *jimmie.oakley.att.net*

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Explanation of Membership Status as shown on label:

***12.....2012 Membership dues paid

***11......2011 Membership dues paid, but not 2012

If label reads:

Mr. and Mrs. (Name) = Both are members Mr. (Name) = Only Mr. is member Mrs. (Name) = Only Mrs. is member

NC.....Non-Commercial

CEN......Century Club COM.....Commercial COML.....Complimentary Copy LFM....Life Member

Membership Renewal is due January 1 of each year. If the renewal date on your label is not ***12, please renew today.

Please Send All Membership Inquiries to:

Texas Beekeepers Association

Mr. Jimmie Oakley 1799 Goodson Court

Round Rock, TX 78664-3706

Phone: 512/388-3630 jimmie.oakley@att.net

Beekeeping Classification: Membership Category:

Century Member......\$100.00 Commercial......(301 plus colonies) Individual Member......20.00 (a person)

	2010-11 Fins	uncial	2010-11 Financial Bal Sheet and P&L	\Box
Prof	Profit and Loss Statement (November 2010 through October 2011)	gh October 2011)		6,349.05
Ordina	Ordinary Income/Expense		6210 - Baakkeening Evnence	22.1.65
	4001 - Association Dues	300.00	6245 - Miscellaneous Expense	223.87
	4010 - Century Club	900.00	6295 - Web Site Fees & Development	10.00
	4020 - Membership Dues	6,495.00	6300 - Fund Raising Expense	6,056.41
	4115 - HoneyBeeResearch	2,773.55	6324 - Computer Repair&Maint	268.00
	4130 - Legislative Fund Contribution	230.00	6500 - TBA Convention Expense - Kerrville, Texas	
	4165 - Honey Queen Auction	8,147.00	6502 - Banquet & Luncheon Rooms 4,393.69	
	4166 - Queen Fund Contribution	570.00		
	4167 - State Fair Honey Booth	285.00		
	4190 -Reimbursed Expense	144.15	Expense	
	4200 - Newsletter Income		6530 - Convention Speakers 2,690.02	
		44.00	6560 - Convention Special Events 170.85	
	d Income	90.00	Total 6500 - TBA Convention Expense	8,015.37
		,643.70	6600 - TBA Queen Program Expense	6,357.66
	Total 4200 - Newsletter Income	1,777.70	6670 -Que enScholarshipExpense	2,000.00
			6680 -Que en Chair Expense	241.76
	ting	,551.00	6700 -TBA State Fair Booth Expense	2,695.51
		212.00	6235 - Lic & Fees Expense	66.50
		,442.50	6750 - TBA Marketing Committee Expense	1,000.00
	rtisement	,000.00	6999 - Uncate gorized Expense	139.00
		,008.00	Total - Expense	33.644.78
	10tal 4500 - Fund Kaiser Income Vermille Torus	6,213.50	Other Transmo	4,5/9.12
			Curci mecanic	
	4501 - TBA Registration 4,45	1,452.50	7005 - MoneyMktCking Interest	4.12
		2,533.50		13.000
	4531 - TBA Wax & Honey 14	142.00	Balance Sheet (As of October 31, 2011)	
	4541 - TBA Sponsor Fees	0.00		
)t 10	100.00	Assets	
		,600.00	Current Assets	
	Total Income	38 223 90	CHECKIIIB/SAVIIIBS 1001 - TRA Checking@WellcForgoRonk	13 702 97
Gross Profit	Profit	38,223.90	1005 - TBA CML Prem.Mo/Mkt.Savings	8,247.04
			1050 - Anti-Dumning Kund	747 85

38 223 90	1001 - TRA Checking@WellsFargoBank	13 702 97
8.223.90	1005 - TBA CML Prem.Mo/Mkt.Savings	8,247.04
	1050 - Anti-Dumping Fund	242.85
	1100 - TBA - Honey Queen Fund	4,353.98
31.95	1204 - Honey Bee Research Fund	7,508.55
	1206 - TBA Legislative Fund	250.00
	1209 - HoneyBeeLabCapitalCampaignFund	17,556.73
	Total Checking/Savings	51,862.12
	Total Current Assets	51,862.12
1,800.00	Fixed Assets	
	1712 - TBA Trailer & Fixtures	4,000.00
	Total Fixed Assets	4,000.00
	Total Assets	55,862.12
	Liabilities & Equity	
	3900 - Retained Earnings	51,278.88
	Net Income	4,583.24
	Total Equity	55,862.12
4,517.10	Total Liabilities & Equity	55,862.12

2,092.53 563.73 444.08 600.00 684.86 131.90

600.00 600.00 600.00

Expenses
6125 - Bank Service Charge
6190 - Contract Labor
6192 - Executive Secretary
6193 - Tre asure r
6194 - Web Master
Total 6190 - Contract Labor
6200 - Newsletter Expenses
6202 - Newsletter Print/Copy
6204 - Newsletter Print/Copy
6206 - Newsletter Handling
6206 - Newsletter Edit & Format
6208 - Newsletter Office Expense
6208 - Newsletter Office Expense
70tal 6200 - Newsletter Edit a

Texas Beekeepers Association 2011 Resolutions Saturday, November 5, 2011 Corpus Christi, Texas

1. **Whereas** the Texas Beekeepers Association (TBA) Annual Convention was informative and entertaining; now therefore.

Be it Resolved that TBA expresses appreciation to the following:

- Omni Hotel for hospitality and professionalism
- TBA Executive Secretary John Talbert & Vice President Edward Priest for program assembly
- Dadant & Sons, Mann Lake Supply, Texas Insurance, Walker Honey Farm and Larry Connor for door prizes and support.
- Stanford and Mary Jo Brantley for their gift of a TBA Annual Custom Glazed Cookie jar for auction to raise money for TBA Queen Fund.
- John Talbert, Blake Shook, Jim Rowe, Brandon Pollard, Matthew and James Mansker and the many daily booth volonteers for their efforts in erecting and manning the TBA Honey Booth at the State fair of Texas.
- 2. **Whereas** Chris Doggett has taken the position of Publishing Director, **Be it Resolved** that TBA would like to welcome Chris and thank him for his future service.
- 3. **Whereas** Joan Coplin has dedicated years of outstanding service to TBA as Newsletter Editor, **Be it Resolved** that TBA would like to express immense gratitude for her tireless service and welcomes her future consultation and participation.
- 4. Whereas TBA enjoys a smooth and seamless convention;

Whereas Shirley Acevedo, Rachael Seida, J'Neena Swinney, Ann Siep, Garrett Swinney, Jessica Swinney, Rachael Jones, and the state and local honey queens planned, designed and coordinated the Honey Queen Events and **Kids Learning about Bees**,

Be it Resolved that TBA expresses appreciation to the aforementioned parties for the success of the Convention.

5. **Whereas** TBA has made it known that they are against the mislabeling and adulteration of non-honey products as honey,

Be it Resolved that TBA continue to pursue the adoption of a Standard of Identity for Honey.

- 6. **Whereas** there is a lack of communication from FSA regarding honey bee programs, **Be it Resolved** that TBA would like to pursue a process to make its members aware of current programs.
- 7. **Whereas** the TBA encourages the honesty and ethical marketing and promotion of pure honey in Texas, **Be it Resolved** that the TBA will pursue a set of guidelines for the certification for honesty and ethics in the marketing and promotion of honey.





Listing of Local Beekeepers Associations in Texas

Please forward any changes and/or additions to John J. Talbert, Executive Secretary, *john@sabinecreekhoney.com*

Alamo Area Beekeepers Association

Edward Priest - 210/722-7380 *edward_p@sbcglobal.net*

9570 Maidenstone - San Antonio, TX 78250 **Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday on odd # months; at

Helotes Ind. Baptist Church 15335 Bandera Rd; Helotes @ 7 pm

Concho Valley Beekeepers Association

Travis Lane - 325/653-7226 6427 Goodland Lp - San Angelo, TX 76901 *cvbeeassoc.com*

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month Jan-Nov Texas A&M Research and Extension Center 7887 US Hwy 87 N, San Angelo @ 7:30 pm

Central Texas Beekeepers Association

CentralTexasBeekeepers@gmail.com www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org 1997 Tonckawa Hills Ln - Brenham, TX 77833 Meetings: Monthly on the 4th Thursday (except November and December) at the Washington County Fairgrounds

Brenham @ 7 pm

Coastal Bend Beekeepers Association

Tom W. Stewart - 361/852-4218 daletoms@aol.com

Michael Kelling - 979/277-0411

411 Catalina Place - Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Meetings: Not currently meeting.

Collin County Hobby Beekeepers Assn.

John J. Talbert - 972/843-8084

john@sabinecreekhoney.com
P O Box 6 - Josephine, TX 75164

www.northtexasbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month;
Heard Craig Hall, 306 N. Church St,
McKinney @ 6:30 pm

Dino-Beekeepers Association

Dwain Cleveland - (254) 396-0655 dwaincleveland@windstream.net www.dino-bee.com

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of month Chachi's Mexican Restaurant Highway 67 in Glen Rose @7pm

East Texas Beekeepers Association

Richard Counts - 903/566-6789

dickcounts@bigplanet.com
16239 Audrey Lane - Arp, TX 75750

www.easttexasbeekeepersassociation.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of each month;
Room 104, RTDC Building; 1530 NE Lp 323

Tyler @ 6:45 pm

Fort Bend Beekeepers Association

Jeff McMullan - 281/980-2363 cell: 281/615-5346

jeffmcmullan@comcast.net

74 Hessenford St. - Sugar Land, TX 77479

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month (except December) Conference Room, Fort Bend Co. Extension Office, County Fairgrounds
Rosenberg @ 7 pm

Golden Triangle Beekeepers Association

Wallace Commander - 409/982-0907 2445 Green Avenue - Port Arthur, TX 77642 **Meetings:** Not meeting regularly.

Harris County Beekeepers Association

Derek Furstenwerth - 713-946-9497 bluemarble@furstenwerth.net
614 Vista Road - Pasadena, TX 77504 www.harriscountybeekeepers.org
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month
Golden Acres Center - 5001 Oak Avenue
Pasadena @ 7 pm

Heart of Texas Beekeepers Association

Butch Trigleth - 254/733-1880 *combowelder76@aol.com*511 Edwards St., Riesel, TX 76682

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month (except December) Mama Baris Restaurant 1201 Hewitt Drive, Hewitt @ 6:30 pm

Houston Beekeepers Association

Rita Willhite - rwillhite@seitel-inc.com 7611 Fondren Rd - Houston, TX 77074 www.houstonbeekeepers.org

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month; Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bisonnet St. Houston @ 7:30 pm

Metro Area Beekeepers Association

Weldon Hamilton

www.metrobeekeepers.net

P O Box 151222 - Fort Worth, TX 76108 **Meetings:** 2nd Monday of each month; United Co-op Services Community Room, Bethesda Rd at I 35 W., Burleson @ 6:30 pm

Montgomery County Beekeepers Assn.

Valerie Craft - 936/760-3298

valsherbal@aol.com

116 Gregory Road - Conroe, TX 77304 or contact: Carlos Madruga 936/523-0135 - *madrugacarlos@hotmail.com* **Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of each month at Montgomery County Library on I-45 Conroe @ 7 pm

El Paso Beekeepers Association

Sarah Downing - 915/859-7725 1030 N. Zaragosa, Ste A; El Paso, TX 79907 **Meetings:** Not meeting regularly.

Permian Basin Beekeepers Association

J.C. and Dean Brittingham 915/332-2215

2312 N. Adams - Odessa, TX 79761 **Meetings**: Not meeting reguarly.

Pineywoods Beekeepers Association

Cecil Hunt - 936/632-5357 clh12@consolidated.net

301 Carriage Dr. - Lufkin, TX 75904 **Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month Chamber of Commerce Building, Highway 287 and Highway 58 Intersection

Lufkin @ 7:30 pm

Red River Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Bennie J. Watson - 940/767-0207 1952 - A Hines Blvd. Wichita Falls, TX 76301-7961 **Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) Bolin Science Hall, Room 209

December) Bolin Science Hall, Room 209 Midwestern St. University Wichita Falls @ 7 pm

Rio Grande Valley Beekeepers Assn.

Billy Wright - 956/464-5042 Route 5, Box 74 - Donna, TX 78537 **Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday of each month; TAMU Res. and Ext. Center, 2401 E. Highway 83 Weslaco @ 7:30 pm

Trinity Valley Beekeepers Association

Alan Eynon - 672/231-5702, Ext. 104 abees@swbell.net 9702 Vinewood Drive - Dallas, TX 75228 www.tvbees.org

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of each month (except August), Science Building Rm S100, Eastfield College; 3737 Motley Drive Mesquite @ 7 - 9 pm

Walker County Area Beekeepers Assn.

Mark Short - 936/291-1879

mshort5150@yahoo.com

34 Davis Road - Huntsville, TX 77320 **Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at Walker County Extension Office, #1 Tam Rd. Huntsville @ 7 pm

Williamson County Beekeepers Assn.

Jimmie Oakley - 512/388-3630 jimmie.oakley@att.net - www.wcaba.org
1799 Goodson Ct. - Round Rock, TX 78664
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month
(except December) 1st United Methodist
Church - 410 E. University Ave
Georgetown, TX 78626 @ 7 pm

Kids Learning About Bees

KLAB and School Visits in Corpus Christi *from Shirley Acevedo*

Kids Learning about Bees (K-LAB) looked different this past November at the TBA Convention in Corpus Christi and was very successful. J'Neena Swinney of CCHBA contacted private schools and home-schoolers in the Corpus Christi area with an invitation to come to KLAB. Tom and Dale Stewart (Corpus Christi beekeepers) were supportive. Dick Brown (Corpus Christi beekeeper) provided honey bees in an observation hive for the events for children. Since many TBA convention attendees were coming from afar and were unable to volunteer for the Thursday morning KLAB, the schedule looked like this:

10 AM Thursday, November 3 Montessori School – Corpus Christi

Each of the six Honey Queens and Princesses talked about one aspect of honey bees to 56 children & toddlers and then taught the students a bee song. Youth beekeepers wearing bee suits were Jessica and Garrett Swinney.

11:30 AM - 2 PM Thursday, November 3 Omni Hotel Padre Ballroom

155 home-schoolers & private-schoolers came to KLAB. Allison Adams (American Honey Princess) and Kaylynn Mansker (Texas Honey Queen) every 15 minutes guided groups of approximately 25 through the stations:

- 1) sign-in managed by J'Neena Swinney
- 2) a new brood box with frames (borrowed from Ray Latner of Dadant) managed by CCHBA Honey Princess Shannon LaGrave
- 3) bee suits managed by WCABA Honey Queen Rebekah Jones with Rachel Jones wearing a bee suit
- 4) extractor (borrowed from Dadant) managed by CCHBA Honey Queen Caroline Adams
- 5) foundation candlemaking managed by Anne Siep and Rachael Seida
- 6) honey sticks and honey bee hand stamping managed by Jessica Swinney
- 7) honey sales managed by Garrett Swinney.



Sign-in table, Jessica & J'Neena Swinney



Picking up Observation Hive from Dick Brown Dick Brown, Caroline Adams, Allison Adams, Shannon LaGrave, Shelby Kilpatrick and Kaylynn Mansker



Honey Queens and Princesses teaching children a bee song

2:45 – 3:15 PM, Friday, November 4 Driscoll Elementary School, Driscoll

The day following KLAB and after the Queens' Luncheon, the six Honey Queens and Princesses went to Driscoll Elementary School in Driscoll, TX, about 30 minutes away from Corpus Christi. This was not technically a KLAB event; rather it was an opportunity to reach out to youth in the Corpus Christi area. The school gym provided the setting for 120 children in grades 3-5 as each of the Honey Queens and Princesses spoke about some aspect of honey bees. Buzzy Bear made an appearance. Thank you, Hannah Mansker, for dressing as Buzzy Bear. Thank you, Wanda Mansker, for helping with transportation to the school. Thank you, Blake Shook, for bringing Buzzy Bear to the TBA convention.



Kaylynn Mansker describing Jessica and Garrett Swinney's bee suits



Allison Adams with the children from Montessori School, Corpus Christi



Caroline Adams demonstrating the extractor to home-schoolers



Rolling Foundation Candles Rachael Seida and Anne Siep

Convention Registration









Williamson County Association members Shirley Doggett and Kay Oakley work the registration desk along with Janice Thomas of Bryan, TX

Executive Committee Meeting



TBA Leadership meeting on Thursday morning in Executive session were (counterclockwise) Ray Latner - Area 5 Director, Randy Johnson - Area 4 Director, Ed Priest - TBA V.P., Blake Shook - Area 2 Director, *Todd Youngblood – TBA President,* John Talbert – TBA Exec.Sec., Clint Weaver – Area 3 Director, Jimmie Oakley - TBA Treasurer, Chris Doggett – TBA Editor (taking picture), Chris Moore - Area 6 Director, and Wendy Riggs – Area 1 Director (not shown).

Master Beekeeping Seminar



Dr. Larry Connor of Kalamazoo, MI presented the all day Master Beekeeping Seminar on Thursday.



The Master Beekeeping Seminar was attend by seasoned beekeepers and novice beekeepers alike.

Bee Buzz Social Honey Queen Reception



Williamson County Honey Queen Rebekah Jones expresses herself at the Queen's Reception



John and Susan Paulson members of Collin County Bee Assn. visit with WCABA Honey Oueen, Rebekah Jones



Texas Honey Queen Chair, Shirley Acevedo, works with Collin County Honey Queen, Caroline Adams, to get her display set up assisted by hotel staff and Susan Kilpatrick of Copper Canyon, TX.



Collin County Honey Queen, Caroline Adams serves honey ice cream to visitors as Dr. Albert Molnar of Webberville, TX looks at her display table.



TBA Exec.Sec John Talbert and Honey Queen Dad, Gary Mansker, visit with ABF Honey Princess, Allison Adams, and Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker



Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker, and Queen Mom, Wanda, visit with Area Director 2 Blake Shook and wife Kathleen of McKinney, Texas

Friday Morning Convention Opening



The Veterans' Band Color Guard did the honors at the opening of the TBA Convention



TBA President Todd Youngblood provided the Welcome to Corpus Christi to those at the State Convention on Friday morning.



TBA Vice President, Ed Priest, from San Antonio provided the Invocation



Dr. Steve Cook Honey Bee Research Entomologist at the Weslaco Bee Lab

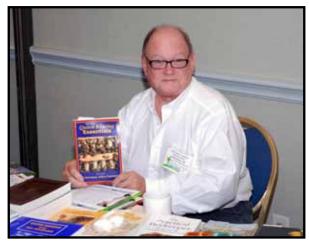


Jimmie Oakley, TBA Treasurer, observes the proceedings at the Opening Ceremonies



TBA Honey Queen Co-Chair, Shirley Acevedo, introduces those on the podium during the opening session: Honey Queen Co-Chair Rachael Seida; Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker; American Honey Princess, Allison Adams; Williamson County Honey Queen, Rebekah Jones; Collin County Honey Queen, Caroline Adams; Collin County Princesses, Shannon LaGrave and Shelby Kilpatrick.

Exhibitors and Coffee Break



Dr. Larry Connor, owner of Wicwas Press, has a well stocked table in the Trade Show, including his own book, Queen Rearing Essentials



Domingo Montalbo of Walker Honey Company answers a question for Area Director Blake Shook from McKinney, TX



Wendy Riggs, Area 1 Director, discusses items in the catalog with Manager Ray Latner at the Dadant & Sons booth at the Trade Show on Friday as Allie the Service Dog "in training" waits patiently at her feet



John Dufner of Hakensack, MN visits with Margaret Jordon of Corpus Christi in the Mann Lake . Ltd. Booth at the Trade Show



Cassidy Popp and Gordon Sorrel representing Texas Insurance & Financial Services, Inc. provide TBA members information on their services and offer all who guess a chance to win the \$50 Candy Jar



The Coffee Break sponsored by Sabine Creek Honey at the Trade Show is visited by A.J. Fucik, Randy Johnson, Cindy Jones, WCABA Honey Queen, Rebekah Jones and Russell Swinney

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Queens' Luncheon



CCHBA Honey Queen, Caroline Adams



Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker previews her ABF presentation



CCHBA Honey Princess, Shelby Kilpatrick



Shelby Kilpatrick, Shannon LaGrave and Rebekah Jones are all the "buzz"



CCHBA Honey Princess, Shannon LaGrave takes center stage



The Honey Queens and Princesses provide vocal entertainment



Benton Kastman with ABF Princess, Allison Adams visiting with Anne and Tom Siep, CCHBA members from Farmersville, TX



Wendy Riggs speaking with Cassidy Popp, Rachael Seida and Wanda, Gary and Tabitha Mansker

Friday Afternoon



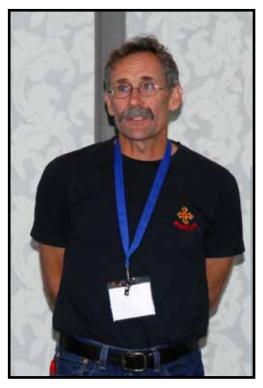
Area 3 Director, Clint Weaver, draws for door prizes



Paul Jackson, State Apiary Inspector



Guest Speaker Dr. Ann-Michele Francoeur from Canada explains her research program and answers questions from Dr. Holloway and Dr. Meikle



Dr. William Meikle from USDA Weslaco Bee Lab on the Small Hive Beetle

Honey and Photo Judging



White Honey - 1st Tabitha Mansker, 2nd Hannah Mansker



Light Amber - 1st Russell Swinney, 2nd Jimmie Oakley



Photo Contest Winners - 1st Joan Coplin, 2nd & 3rd Wendy Riggs



Amber - 1st Dwain Cleveland, 2nd (Caleb Oakley for) Kevin MacWithey, 3rd Steve Jordan, 4th Margaret Jordan



Best of Show - the Swinney Family, Russell, Jessica, J'Neena and Garrett

Queens' Quiz Bowl



CCHBA Honey Princess, Shannon LaGrave gives a presentation assisted by ABF Princess, Allison Adams and WCABA Honey Queen Rebekah Jones



CCHBA Honey Princess, Shelby Kilpatrick presents, supported by CCHBA Honey Queen, Caroline Adams and Texas Honey Queen Kaylynn Mansker



Two teams: Shelby Kilpatrick, Caroline Adams, and Kaylynn Mansker, vs. Rebekah Jones, Shannon LaGrave, and Allison Adams, with Henry Graham of the Weslaco Bee Lab asking questions. Garrett Swinney and Matthew Mansker were scorekeepers.

After the Ice Cream



The 'Ice Cream' bunch gathered after the Quiz Bowl in the Marina Foyer for a spirited sing-a-long: pictured (l to r) Jessica Swinney, Rebekah & Rachael Jones, Russell Swinney, Caroline Adams, Shannon LaGrave, Hanna & Kaylynn Mansker (playing piano) Allison Adams, Tabitha & Matthew Mansker, Samuel & Caleb Oakley

The Awards Banquet



Dignitaries seated at the Head Table: TX Honey Queen Co-Chair, Shirley Acevedo, ABF Honey Princess, Allison Adams, newly elected TBA President, Ed Priest & wife Sylvia, plus newly elected TBA V.P. Blake Shook and wife Kathleen, TX Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker, and TX Honey Queen Co-Chair Rachael Seida.



Dr. John G. Thomas presents the 2011 Meritorious Service Award to Lavada Talbert of Josephine, TX.



TBA President, Ed Priest, presents a \$2,000.00 scholarship to 2011 Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker



TBA Vice President, Blake Shook, presents the 2011 Jim Petty Memorial Beekeeper of the Year Award to John J. Talbert of Josephine, Tx



The Talbert Family shows off their awards, John - Beekeeper of the Year Award, Lavada - Meritorious Service Award, and Leslee - her award winning parents.



The President and First Lady: Edward and Sylvia Priest of San Antonio, Texas.



Area 6 Director, Chris Moore, enjoys a dessert.



New members, Aaron and Rebecca Cummings of Conroe, TX



TBA President, Ed Priest with Violet Bourns, ETBA Honey Queen Chair, as he presents her a scholarship for TX Honey Princess, Kellie Lenamond.



Janice and Dr. John Thomas of Bryan, TX support the Honey Queen Program



Charity Auctioneer Extraordinary, Weldon Riggs of Five R Farms in Floresville, TX



2011 Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker, crowns Rebekah Jones of Spicewood, TX 2012 Texas Honey Princess.



2011 Texas Honey Queen Kaylynn Mansker flanked by the new 2012 Princess and Queen, Rebekah Jones and Caroline Adams, respectively.



Caroline Adams of Plano, TX is crowned 2012 Texas Honey Queen by outgoing Texas Honey Queen, Kaylynn Mansker.



The new Royal Families pose for a group picture (l to r) front row: Emma Moon, Cindy Jones, Rebekah Jones, Caroline Adams, Allison Adams; back row: Caleb Jones, Rachael Jones, Paul Jones, Ned Adams, Carly Adams and Clay Adams.



TX Honey Queen Co-Chair Rachael Seida, 2012 TX Honey Princess, Rebekah Jones, 2012 TX Honey Queen, Caroline Adams, and TX Honey Queen Co-Chair, Shirley Acevedo.



Grandson Austin Mangum pleases Grandpa A.J. Fucik as he demonstrates his determination bidding in the auction.



Shirley Acevedo is pleased to have the winning bid of \$55 on the Tea Set donated by Mann Lake Ltd. ABF Honey Princess, Allison Adams, was the presenter.



TBA President, Ed Priest and Auctioneer Weldon Riggs get into the Christmas spirit early by donning their Santa hats.



His grandparents are smiling as Austin Mangum holds the object of his desire (refractometer), but it was John Dufner of Mann Lake, Ltd. that had the winning bid of \$450.00 on the item which he immediately gifted to young Austin.



After some spirited bidding Jennie and Skip Mann of Forestburg, TX claimed the Art Deco Bee statue.



Chris Moore of Kountze, TX has the winning bid of \$60 for the Best of Show light amber honey.



Mary Jo Brantley and Stanford pick up a bargain on a combo of "his & hers" Honey Meade donated by Ace Honey



CCHBA Honey Princess Shannon LaGrave is thrilled to have her 1st Place Extra White jar of honey go to the Fucik's for a mere \$200.00 a pound.



2011 ABF Honey Princess, Allison Adams, has the honor of presenting the famous Corpus Christi Convention Commemorative Cookie Jar, thrown in Marshall, TX, and donated by the Brantley's of Jefferson, TX. This year it went to Lavada Talbert for a cool \$1,025.00.



: Dr. Albert Molnar and wife Marjorie will sleep warm under the magnificent Queen's Quilt they got for the winning bid of \$925.00 at auction on Saturday night. The quilt was custom made by Becky Holloway of Hearne, TX. Quilt was presented by 2012 TX Honey Queen & Princess. (actual proceeds \$1,000.00 after donation by the Oakley's)



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Bruce Rodie

continued from page 12

While serving as commander of a squadron missile combat crew at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., according to the obituary written by his son, Bruce successfully fired a test missile designed to carry a nuclear payload that landed within 100 yards of the target. In his usual demure manner about such successes, Bruce was heard to say that, when dealing with a nuclear payload "that shouldn't make much difference in the outcome."

While in Belgium, Bruce learned to speak fluent French. And, at his last post, Howard Air Base, Panama, Bruce picked up Spanish and took pride in his job as commander of the base's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Services, where he succinctly described his work as "keeping an eye on the slot machines and making sure the Mongolian barbecue came out right."

After retirement, Chris said his father shifted his focus to family affairs, where he served as co-owner of the civil engineering magazine *Public Works*, and he oversaw daily operations and, later, the sale of the magazine. After his father's death, Bruce began managing the Rodie Family Foundation charity. Of particular note, said his son, Bruce was very proud to have received the U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Institute Regional Award. He also served more than five years as assistant scout master for Troop 285, lodged at Coker United Methodist Church, where he helped many scouts earn the photography merit badge, along with other badges, and he was known for putting together photo montages of troop events.

"He had a way with words.... He was always good for a laugh," said Troop 285 Scoutmaster Bill McCalister. "The photography work he did was very meaningful. He made a lot of attempts to get the boys with their dads."

In honor of Bruce, Troop 285 is working with the National Boy Scouts of America leadership to get the beekeeping merit badge reinstated. Among those supporting the effort is the AABA's own Bridgette Sharpe.

At TMI, where Chris Rodie attended from sixth grade until his graduation in 2003, Bruce and Sandy Rodie contributed significantly to the prep school's fundraising campaigns and especially toward the beautification of the campus grounds, where Bruce continued to labor until the day before his passing. Bruce also managed an annual \$15,000 scholarship awarded by the Rodie Family Foundation.

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"He was a cool guy to know. He was always on an even keel. He was a polite and gracious gentleman," said retired USAF Brig. Gen. Sue E. Turner, who is in a morning coffee klatch that Bruce called his "Brain Trust." "He made a difference in our group and we're feeling his loss."

Bruce also is survived by his mother, Margaret Constantine Hardenbergh Rodie, of Northridge, Calif. and his brother-in-law, Robert Edward McGaughey III.

Bruce was buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on Nov. 1. His final resting place is in Section 82, Grave 538. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to the TMI Gardening Fund, c/o TMI-The Episcopal School of Texas; 20955 West Tejas Trail; San Antonio, TX 78257.

"His family was the foundation for how Bruce treated people throughout his whole life," his sister, Betsy, recalled. One of the reasons he had so many friends, she explained, was that he was such a great communicator. "When he met somebody, he wouldn't burn bridges later on. Even before there was email — and we all know how Bruce used to love to send emails — in the early days he loved writing letters. He was a great correspondent."

Yes. I think that's something we're all going to miss.





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9570 Maidenstone
San Antonio, TX 78250

(210) 722-7380

Executive Secretary

John J. Talbert john@sabinecreekhoney.com P.O. Box 6 Josephine, TX 75164 (972) 843-8084

Vice President

Blake Shook blake@desertcreekhoney.com 1920 Grassmere Ln. #1131 McKinney, TX 75071 (214) 886-6899

Treasurer

Jimmie L. Oakley jimmie.oakley@att.net 1799 Goodson Ct. Round Rock, TX 78664 (512) 388-3630

Past President

Todd Youngblood *ybldhny@sbcglobal.net* 526 N. Roosevelt Pearsall, TX 78061 (830) 334-3820

Publicity Director

Chris Doggett ckdoggett@gmail.com 400 County Road 440 Thrall, TX 76578 (512) 898-5500

Directors -at-Large and Local Associations Served:

Wendy Riggs

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Randy Johnson

(903) 982-5889

arlene@hughes.net 4626 FM 196 N Paris, TX 75462-9806

East Texas Pineywoods Trinity Valley



Rodney Holloway

holloway.r@att.net 10190 Old Hearne Road Hearne, TX 77859

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