CIBA February Newscast

Dear Friends!

Welcome to February and the coldest month of the year as they say.  It is amazing how anything can survive the brutal cold, especially our bees. How they cluster to generate heat and to keep the queen warm in order for the sperm in her to remain viable is totally amazing. Understanding how they do this along with thousands of other amazing facts about them is the reason that I (along with most of you) are into beekeeping. Yes, we can make a "few" dollars but let's face it – beekeeping is not a big money maker for the hobbyists and side liners.

**Winter Seminar**

Your Officers and Board of Directors have been busy hosting programs and planning future programs.  We had a very successful Winter Seminar in January with more than 230 people who participated virtually. The Program Committee will be making the Winter Seminar presentations available to our members for free and for nonmembers to get the presentations for a small fee to cover our costs. More information about this will be forthcoming.

**March Meeting**

We are planning a zoom meeting on March 27th (fourth Saturday in March). This is a departure from our normal time of the third Saturday but that is when our speaker, Ellen Bell, can present. Her topic is Spring Management in Beekeeping. This will include feeding, mite control, splitting a hive and swarm prevention. Reserve that Saturday for spending some quality time learning from one of Iowa's experts.

**Auction** **Update**

We are going to have the auction in April and it will be online. We apologize for the need to cancel last year, and we have decided that a live auction is not an option for us this year either. The details of how it will work will be in our next newsletter and Newscast.  NOW is the time to think about what you want to purchase as well as what you want to sell.  **This is an auction by beekeepers for beekeepers.** We will be advertising what is going to be sold in advance of the auction.

**Membership Renewals**

Finally, get your membership or renewal into Linn Wilbur to make sure you can get the Winter Seminar information for free as well as a lower commission charge to sell items at the Auction. There are many advantages to being a member, but these are two of the best reasons.

The membership application can be downloaded from the [website](https://www.centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org/membership) (an electronic form is available); a printable form is also attached to this message.  Note the change in name/address to send the form - Linn Wilbur is acting as Treasurer until the March elections.

**American Bee Journal**

The following is an excerpt from a recent email sent by the American Bee Journal:

In a normal year, we send thousands of free issues of American Bee Journal to clubs across the country to hand out to workshop and conference attendees. But since most of these meetings are held virtually for now, we’ve made our December issue available for free at [**https://americanbeejournal.com/**](https://dadant.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5fd2b1aa990e63193af2a573d&id=59f2a0c5f0&e=057fbca8a4). Read it online, or download a full PDF. And share the link with all your clubs and beekeeping friends!

Take care!

Jamie Beyer, CIBA President