



# 2026 CIBA WINTER SEMINAR



SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026  
8:45-4:30



IOWA ARBORETUM & GARDENS  
1875 PEACH AVENUE, MADRID

## 2 Keynotes by Dr. Amy Toth, Professor at Iowa State University

- *Prairie Habitat as Forage for Honey Bees*
- *Do Honey Bees Help, Hinder, or Coexist with Native Bees in Iowa?*

## Andy Joseph, Iowa State Apiarist *State of Bees & Beekeeping in Iowa*

## Shannon Bardole-Foley, Honey Hollow Apiary & Gardens *How to Make Creamed Honey*

## Val Just and Laura Miller, Bees & Beyond *Pollinator Jeopardy - Are You Smarter Than a Second-Grader?*

## Drew Anderson, Mann Lake *New Mite Treatments and Useful Beekeeping Products*

## Alex Ebert, Ebert Honey *Preparing for Spring*

### LUNCH (INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION):

Grilled Chicken with Boursin Cream Sauce, Balsamic and Honey Glazed Pork Loin, Roasted Red Potatoes, Vegetable, Bread, and Dessert

### VENDORS:

- Spring Valley Honey Farm, Perry
- Honey Hollow, Indianola
- Mann Lake, Minnesota
- Barrels Iowa, Des Moines

### SILENT AUCTION:

Proceeds will benefit the CIBA Royalty, Susan Kelly Memorial Youth Scholarship, and Bees & Beyond programs.

## REGISTRATION

Registration: \$40  
Students\*: \$20  
CIBA Members: FREE

### Not a member yet?

A CIBA membership is just \$15 for individuals or \$20 for a family.

That means you can:

- Attend the Winter Seminar at no additional cost
- Enjoy a full year of CIBA membership benefits
- Support local beekeeping education and community

What a deal! Join CIBA and come to the seminar for free.

### Online registration only

[centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org](http://centraliowabeekeepersassoc.org)

Become a member and  
**register by March 14, 2026**



\*Students include those in beekeeping classes with free CIBA membership



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## EVENT SCHEDULE

8:20-8:45 **Registration**

8:45-9:15 **Business Meeting**  
Don Moody, CIBA President

9:15-10:00 **Morning Keynote: Dr. Amy Toth**  
*Prairie Habitat as Forage for Honey Bees*  
We have research showing that honey bees use prairie flowers as forage, especially in the late summer/early autumn. Are small patches of prairie (prairie strips) beneficial as apiary sites? What happens if bees are exposed to insecticide spraying in summer soybean fields?

10:00-10:30 **Andy Joseph, Iowa State Apiarist**  
*State of Bees & Beekeeping in Iowa*

10:30-11:00 **Break**  
*Please visit our vendors, silent auction, snacks, restrooms*

11:00-11:45 **Shannon Bardole-Foley, Honey Hollow Apiary & Gardens**  
*How to Make Creamed Honey*  
Learn about the Dyce method and view a live demonstration.

12:00-12:45 **Lunch**

12:45-1:15 **Val Just and Laura Miller, Bees & Beyond Program**  
*Pollinator Jeopardy - Are You Smarter Than a Second-Grader?*

1:15-2:00 **Afternoon Keynote: Dr. Amy Toth**  
*Do Honey Bees Help, Hinder, or Coexist with Native Bees in Iowa?*  
We have been studying whether apiaries can lead to fewer/less healthy native bees (such as bumble bees, sweat bees, etc). We have looked at whether diseases from honey bees can spread to other bee species and whether apiaries compete with wild bees for floral resources in crop fields, small farms, and prairies.

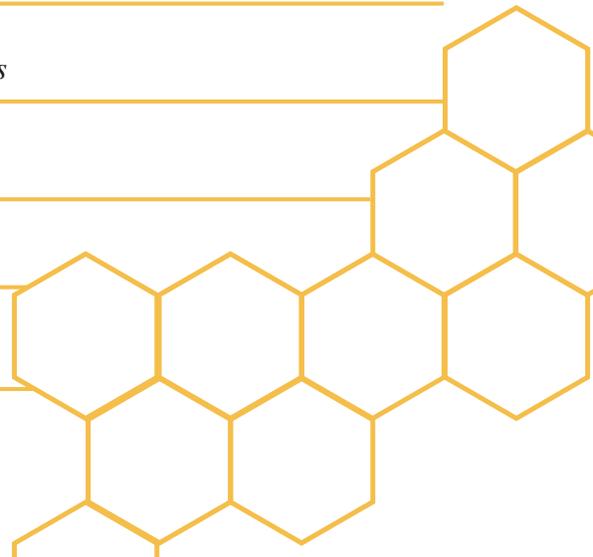
2:00-2:30 **Break**  
*Please visit our vendors, silent auction, snacks, restrooms*

2:30-3:00 **Drew Anderson, Mann Lake**  
*New Mite Treatments and Useful Beekeeping Products*

3:00-3:45 **Andy Joseph, Iowa State Apiarist**  
*Session Title Coming Soon*

3:45-4:15 **Alex Ebert, Ebert Honey**  
*Preparing for Spring*

4:15-4:30 **Wrap-up**  
Gary Rohmiller, CIBA Vice President





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## SPEAKERS



### **Dr. Amy Toth**

Amy Toth is a Professor Iowa State University since 2010. She leads the Integrative Insect Sociobiology Laboratory in the Departments of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology and Plant Pathology, Entomology, and Microbiology. Her lab focuses on the behavior, genetics, ecology, evolution, and conservation of social bees and wasps. She teaches courses in bee biology and beekeeping and animal behavior. She received her BA in Biology from Bard College in New York and PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Illinois.



### **Andy Joseph**

Andy Joseph has served as State Apiarist with the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship since 2008. In this role, he divides his time among regulatory responsibilities such as apiary registration, inspections, and diagnostic testing for disease and mite treatment resistance; beekeeper outreach through courses, meetings, publications, and coordination of inspectors statewide; and public education on bees, beekeeping, and agricultural ecology. Additionally, he and his family run Meadow Blazing Star Honey, a small bee and honey business. They live in Des Moines.



### **Shannon Bardole-Foley**

Shannon started beekeeping in 2014 when she first met her husband, Jason Foley. Shannon's favorite part of beekeeping is producing Ross Rounds in her 8 Russian hives. In addition to running the honey business, Shannon works for Iowa United Methodist Camps and fosters kittens.



### **Val Just**

Val started beekeeping in 2015 with 3 colonies in their urban backyard. Just Iowa Honey was established in 2017 when they produced too much honey for family consumption! Currently, John and Val maintain about 30 colonies at 5 urban and rural bee yards in central Iowa, including the Blank Park Zoo. Val is an avid environmentalist and gardener; she replanted her flower gardens with 90% native plants after taking the Polk County Master Gardener program. She is passionate about pollinators and co-chairs a Bees & Beyond pollinator education program, providing presentations to central Iowa second graders.



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## SPEAKERS



### **Laura Miller**

Laura Miller co-chairs CIBA's Bees & Beyond program. She has been keeping bees as a hobby since 2010 on an acreage north of Ames where she lives with her husband and bee partner Dave Miller. She joined CIBA several years later to learn more about beekeeping and edited the quarterly BEELINE newsletter for 5 years. Also fueling her passion for bees are the presentations she has been giving the past few years, mostly to second-graders and senior citizens.



### **Drew Anderson**

Drew Anderson is a Commercial Sales professional at Mann Lake who has supported commercial beekeepers nationwide since 2015, focusing exclusively on their needs since 2020. Known for his industry knowledge, responsiveness, and relationship-driven approach, Drew works closely with beekeepers as they navigate the complex challenges facing the American beekeeper. He holds a degree in Health Care Management from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. Drew is also co-owner of Legacy Honey Co. and, outside of work, enjoys spending time with his wife, Michelle, and their two daughters.