



Merle Fisher of Granville, Mifflin County, auctions apiary items for the benefit of the Pennsylvania State Honey Queen and Princess program.

Several past Honey Queens and Princesses returned to the hive for the 1994 Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association fall/winter meeting. Returning for the event was (back row) Jona Hoover, newly crowned 1995 Honey Queen; Melissa Swartz, 1994 Honey Queen; Rebecca Fisher Gerhart, 1980-81 Honey Queen; Sarah Hill, 1975-76 Honey Princess; Freya Schmidt-Phillips, 1960 Honey Queen. Front row, Robin Staudenmeyer-Johnson, 1983 Honey Queen; Stephanie Yoder, 1993 Honey Queen; and Jennifer Henry, 1993 Honey Princess.

Honey Queen

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management and organizational skills I needed."

In an auction to benefit the Honey Queen program, more than 20 items of apiary interest were auctioned off by Merle Fisher of Granville, Mifflin County. Aprons, honey pots, beeswax candle centerpieces, and eight bears filled with raspberry flavored honey were some of the items brought up for bid. Proceeds from the auction will help send 1994 Honey Queen Melissa Swartz to the national Honey Queen contest in January.

The Beekeepers Association is the sole supporter of the queen and princess program. In 1950, the Association obtained permission to promote their honey products at the Farm Show in Harrisburg. They began the Honey Queen and Princess program two years later.

Earlier in the day, PSBA president Sandy Fisher welcomed attendees. Jim Frazier from the Department of Entomology at Penn State spoke about foraging, pollinating, and harvesting. Greg Kirkham of Old Guard Insurance Group spoke on liability issues and insurance needs. A business meeting was held after lunch. Maryann Frazier from Penn State's Entomology Department spoke on the pollination of cucumbers, and Audrey Snyder and Julie Freeman covered honey cookery.

The afternoon panel discussion addressed the problems of diseases and mites. Serving on the panel were apiary inspectors from four states including James Steinhauer from Pennsylvania, Grant Stiles from New Jersey, Bob Wellemeyer from Virginia, and I. Barton Smith from Maryland.

Officers for the PSBA are president Sandy Fisher, vice president Tom Owczarzak, and secretary/treasurer Yvonne Crimbring. The Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association fall/winter meeting for next year will be held at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg on November 17 and 18.

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