

91st Annual Florida State Beekeepers Association Convention

Orange Blossom Beekeepers Association is hosting the 91st Annual Florida State Beekeepers Association Convention October 27-29, 2011. The event will be held at the Orange County Extension Offices located at 6021 S. Conway Road, Orlando, Florida.

The kick-off event will be a BBQ on Thursday October 27, beginning at 6:00 p.m., catered by Metro Catering. The BBQ will be at the Extension Offices location. The convention begins Friday the 28th at 8:30 a.m. with exciting speakers, presentations and a cooking demonstration by the 2011 Florida Honey Queen, Jayla Gillaspie. A first ever presentation of "Queen of the Sun" will be shown in the auditorium (go to the following website: <http://queenofthesun.com/about/story> for more info about this great movie). A box/bag lunch will be provided and vegetarian sandwiches provided only if you check the appropriate box on the registration form. The cost of the convention is \$25.00 per person. This includes the "Queen of the Sun" movie showing as well as the "A Day in the Bee Yard" event on Saturday.

As the "Queen of the Sun" movie is a special one-time only showing, members of the public are cordially invited to come view it. The cost for non-registered guests is \$5.00 for the movie only

The Annual Banquet and auction will be held Friday night at the Holiday Inn International Airport, 5750 T.G. Lee Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32822. A "Taste of Italy" menu is planned, with vegetarian items included. Cost per person for the banquet is \$40.00. The auction will include the entries from the Welsh Honey Show and Judging which will take place earlier in the day Friday. A special room rate of \$81.00 will be provided. Let the reservations person know you are with FSBA when making your reservation for the special rate. call 407-851-6400 for reservations.

Saturday morning we will return to the Extension offices for "A Day in the Bee Yard" workshops and some fun events such as a smoker lighting race, a "put on your bee suit" race and a relay. Prizes will be awarded to winners! Again, members of the public who wish to visit may do so at their own risk and at no cost. Only registered convention guests may participate in the activities and hive examinations, however.

We have some great FREE door prizes to give away. OBBA is donating FIVE (5) deep supers with 10 assembled frames and foundation, lids and bottom boards as raffle items.

Honey Show

A Welsh Honey Show will be taking place during this convention. Not only will honey be judged, but 100% pure beeswax candles, photos, artwork, fabric sculptures, new gadgets or inventions and other things relating to beekeeping will be judged. We will not be able to judge mead as Orange County has a strict policy against alcohol on its premises and we respect that.

Honey show rules and tips are found below.

A volunteer will be taking your name and issuing you a secret number at time of registration (Friday morning, October 28) between 8:30-9:30 a.m. YOU will hand carry your products to a secret, secluded area designated solely for the show. The next people to touch your honey will be the judges only.

Remember - if you do not pre-register you must pay for the BBQ. Also, a box lunch will NOT be provided if you do not pre-register.

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