## **Honey Letter 2009**

Though we have not yet resumed our beekeeping out of doors, we do have a lot of bee decorations in our house. We have bee sculptures, bee toys, bee trivets, bee hot pads, bee towels, bee tea pots, cups and saucers, bee vases, numerous small teddy bears dressed in bee disguises, bee puppets, bee ornaments, bee door pulls, bee candles, bee wind vanes, bee garden ornaments, bee decorated clothing, bee buttons, bee aprons, bee stationery, bee paper embossers, bee wax molds: everywhere I look there are bees.

This is mainly because of the wonderful enthusiasm of all of our family and friends who see a bee object and promptly obtain it for our everlasting pleasure!



My favorite bee sweater (I have several) is one hand knitted by my friend Kathy in St. Paul, Minnesota. She and her daughter Eloise saw an adorable little teddy bear who wore a beekeeper's veil on his head and a sweater with a bee hive and tiny little bees on the chest and intricate little squares around the sleeves and bottom of the sweater. This tiny little sweater was the inspiration for a hand made, Lyse sized version which she carefully made with every detail the same as the tiny little bear. After carefully making this masterpiece, she entrusted it to her husband, Dave, who sent

it off post haste to my OLD office address. Though it had been about five years since my office had moved, the Iowa City Post Office kindly sent it on to me!! Since I fortunately have two copies of the toy bear with my matching sweater, whether I am at home or at work when I am wearing mine, I can demonstrate the fantastic duplication of the masterpiece!

Though the bees have disappeared nearly everywhere else—there is NO CHANCE that the bees will disappear from our house. We hope to tell the story of real bees next year if we are able to finally resume our apiculture (beekeeping).

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Love, Aubrey, Beau, Tom and Lyse

