

# CAPPINGS

The Official Newsletter of the  
Kansas Honey Producers Association  
[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)



Promoting Mankind's Most Beneficial Insect – The Honey Bee! 1st Quarter 2017

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### Farmers' Market Workshops to be held in February

The Kansas Department of Agriculture, K-State Research and Extension and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment will host four regional workshops in February 2017 to assist farmers' market vendors and managers.

Workshop topics will vary slightly by location. Highlighted topics include:

- Keynote speakers on successful farmers' market vending
- KRC's (Kansas Rural Center) Tom Buller will speak on cover crops and conservation strategies at all four workshops. He and will also talk about high tunnel production at the Wichita event.
- Double Up Food Bucks SNAP matching program
- Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Certified Farmer Training
- Cover cropping and other soil health strategies

KDA's Division of Weights and Measures will also offer free scale certification at the workshops for attendees.

Dates and locations for the Farmers' Market events are as follows:

- Feb. 4 — KSU Sedgwick County Extension Office, 7001 W. 21st N., Wichita
- Feb. 10 — KSU Olathe, 22201 W. Innovation Dr., Olathe
- Feb. 11 — Greenbush Education Service Center (Dave DeMoss Education Building), 947 W. 47 Highway, Girard
- Feb. 17 — KSU Agriculture Research Center, 1232 240th Ave., Hays

**Registration forms can be found at [FromtheLandofKansas.com/FMConference](http://FromtheLandofKansas.com/FMConference) or at local extension offices.**

Many of these are complete, but occur each year in February. Contact your KSU Extension office for 2018 sessions.

### Why Join a Bee Club?

We've heard the expression that you get out of something what you put into it. Joining a local bee club is no different. That said, with just a little involvement in your local club, you will gain the following.

- **Sharing information.** Bee clubs hold meetings to share information. Speakers will share tips gleaned from their personal experiences and research.
- **Share resources** Many clubs offer equipment rental or loan programs. Beekeeping can be an expensive hobby and investing in all the necessary equipment can be financially taxing. Some clubs offer extractor rental for example. Someone may have equipment you are needing for sale.
- **Debates** Any time one is involved in a hobby like beekeeping, opinions may be strong on certain issues. Discussions on treating with chemicals, natural methods, no treatments at all can provide a lot of good fodder for thought.
- **Alternative management** Again, opinions may be quite strong on using one method over another. Some beekeepers use a variety of methods.
- **Mentors** Just as there are folks out there looking for help, there are some looking for a person to share their knowledge with! Your future mentor may be at the next meeting!
- **Make Friends** Regularly attending a meeting will result in bonding with the others.

**Survey!** If you have not visited your KHPA website lately, you will find a beekeeper survey link on the Home Page. Please take a moment to complete the questions. You will remain completely anonymous. The results will be posted occasionally so we can see what the typical beekeeper in Kansas is like. KHPA will use this information to hone our conferences to meet the needs of the typical beekeeper.

[www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)

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## President's Corner

Greg Swob

### Let the Paint Dry

Happy New Year one and all! Ready or not... it's 2017. OK, I realize you will be reading this well after January 1st, but this is the first contact most of us will have had this year. Hopefully your new year becomes all you want it to be. Turning a calendar page is usually no big deal, but removing a calendar and installing a new one to the wall is definitely an event. I want to share a wonderful blessing from near the end of last year with you. Several weeks earlier than planned, our younger daughter gave birth to a beautiful little lady named **Lillia Eve**. Lillia was born out of an emergency Caesarian Section surgery. It's exciting when your 'baby' is having a baby of her own. But it was frightening under all the circumstances. Both mom and Lillia are doing well now and I feel truly blessed to introduce this tiny four pound+ person to you. Our daughter was often somewhat of an impatient kid and apparently her little girl is also, by arriving so early!

We must embrace each New Year that we get to experience. We also need to celebrate the blessings and remember the errors of last year. As usual, I made a few errors in my beekeeping experience in 2016. I also found new techniques and tips that will be incorporated into my bee repertoire from now on.

You have heard it said, "Varroa Mite is Public Enemy #1". Nothing I can think of in our world of beekeeping could be more of an understatement. I can respect if you are a no-harsh chemical treatment beekeeper. But, if you are a do-nothing-at-all beekeeper, it's high time to change. At a minimum, you need to count mites. At least you may come to know why that dead-out died before the inevitable event happened. Whether you use a soft or hard chemical, natural, other or no treatment is of course, up to you. They're your bees you have freedom of choices in their management. Don't become a problem for your neighbors to deal with by creating Varroa Bomb Hives.

We're often asked, 'What do you do with your bees in winter?' My answer is usually something like, 'In the winter I

can't do much with them, but I can sure do a lot for them.' Winter can be a busy time for beekeepers. Have you read anything new lately; outlined your 2017 business plan; repaired or built any equipment; are your hive locations listed with Driftwatch®; have you made plans to attend the KHPA spring conference at Topeka; have you renewed your KHPA and local club dues? If you are starting keeping bees this year, you should be asking these and more questions along with working on your bee projects.

Every spring at least one new-bee will come by to pick up their packages and ask something like, 'how long should the paint dry before I put these bees in my hive?' No doubt the stink-eyed look I give them isn't the answer they were looking for. Frankly, I don't know that answer. Not one paint can label I have ever read mentioned a cure time for installing bees. Which reminds me, I was supposed to have a few weeks to build something for that new granddaughter, but she arrived much sooner than planned. It also needed to be painted. Procrastination strikes again!

**Jim Kellie** shared some profound advice he learned a long time ago from **Richard Ade**. I can't quote it exactly, but it went something like, 'If you think you should be doing something... you're too late.'

Bottom line- take advantage of winter's down time now: read, study, plan, build, fix... And let that paint dry.



Lillia Eve Jenkins- Dec. 28, 2016

## ***Beekeeping classes in Kansas***

Note— Several of these courses will be completed by the time this Cappings issue reaches you. This course listing may provide an opportunity to plan for the following year, as many of these courses will likely be repeated next year. Also, if you are aware of any beginning beekeeper courses being taught in Kansas, please let us know about them so your KHPA can help promote them.

### **Manhattan—Konza Beekeepers Association**

Course taught by Nikki Bowman of the Konza Beekeepers Association. This course was a basic overview of beekeeping, through the University For Man at Manhattan, Ks. Jan. 28, 2017. More information is available on U.F.M. at:

<http://ufmprograms.org/>

### **Pittsburg—Heartland Beekeepers of Southeast Ks.**

Heartland Beekeeping Association of SE Kansas offered a One-Day Beginner Beekeepers Clinic at Yates Hall on Pittsburg State University campus, Pittsburg, KS. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, with doors open for Registration at 8:00 am. \$25 fee covers textbook, lunch on site, snacks and beverages. Pay at the Door. This class will cover all aspects of beekeeping from acquiring bees to maintaining healthy colonies year-round. If you, or someone you know is interested, please email HBASEK at: [contact.hbasek@gmail](mailto:contact.hbasek@gmail) or call 620-249-5631 to RSVP. (Course was Jan. 7, 2017 9:00-4:30 PM)

### **Hays—Western Ks. Beekeepers**

The Sternberg Museum of Natural History is hosting a bee exhibit from January 28-April 2, 2017. Mead tasting, waggle dance and other activities will be part of the exhibit. Sternberg is also hosting four sessions of beginning beekeeping courses taught by KHPA members. The class dates are Feb. 18—19 & Feb. 25-26, 2017. Members of Sternberg Museum receive a discount on the courses. Hands-on sessions at hives located on Howard Reynolds Nature Trail will supplement the course later this spring. [www.sternberg.fhsu.edu](http://www.sternberg.fhsu.edu)

### **Lawrence—Northeast Ks. Beekeepers Association**

Beekeeping Class 2017—Sundays, March 5th & 12th, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2110 Harper St., Building 21 at Lawrence, Ks. Go to [www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org) for more details and registration.

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## ***The Great Sunflower Project and Backyard Bee Count***

Here is a citizen science opportunity for nature lovers and beekeepers who would like to be more involved in the future of our pollinators. Since 2008, The Great Sunflower Project and Backyard Bee Count, has been collecting data from people all over the country. Participants have submitted information on observed and identified bee species that visit pollinator friendly plants and/or Lemon Queen Sunflowers.

As beekeepers we know the challenges our honey bees face. However, there is little research to tell us how our native bees are faring. The Great Sunflower Project hopes to compile data that will give information about the pollination of our gardens, crops and wild lands by honey bees and native bees.

By visiting [www.greatsunflower.org](http://www.greatsunflower.org) you can learn more about the program. After signing up, participants are asked to devote as little as 5 minute intervals of observation time on at least 4 occasions. The project encourages observers to plant Lemon Queen Sunflowers and document their findings, but that is not necessary. Any pollinator friendly blooms will do. Lemon Queen seed ordering information is given. The website also holds a wealth of information for those wanting to learn more about native and honey bee species. Signing up allows access to more detailed information. Those involved with youth groups might consider using this opportunity to educate.

The result of the 2016 data shows that there were not enough submissions from the central states to record any findings. KHPA can put Kansas on the map.

***Jo Patrick - Olathe, KS***

# KHPA 2017 Kansas Honey Producers Meeting

Friday and Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

Ramada Inn 420 SE 6<sup>th</sup> St., Topeka KS 66607

Phone #800-432-2424 or 785-234-5400

Room rate includes a full breakfast & free Wi-Fi for \$83 per night, plus tax. Please make reservations by February 15<sup>th</sup> to get this rate. Mention that you are part of the Kansas Honey Producers group.

We have some really fine guests lined up for this meeting! Our main guest is **Dr. Keith Delaplane** from The University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences where he is a professor, Walter B. Hill Fellow and Honey Bee Program Director. He is the author of one of the very best beekeeping books *Honey Bees and Beekeeping, A Year in the Life of an Apiary*. Since he loves to go to state capitol buildings we will tour of the newly remodeled capitol building or dome.

**Note: Honey Appetizer competition**-Friday at 5:00 Members are asked to bring Appetizers and recipes to share with others- prizes will be awarded to winners

If you have questions about the program please contact me (**Joli**) at 913-593-3562-(cell) or by email at [joli@heartlandhoney.com](mailto:joli@heartlandhoney.com). Please start letting folks in your local area know so that they can save the dates.

**March 9<sup>th</sup>—Thursday night, 8 pm** Executive Committee meeting Ramada Inn Topeka KS -Mansion Dining Room

## March 10th Friday— Regency West

- 7:30-8:30 Registration: Regency Lobby & set up silent Auction to benefit the youth grant program
- 8:30-8:40 Call to order-President Greg Swob
- 8:40-9:30 The Honey Bee Superorganism and Why it Matters-Dr. Keith Delaplane
- 9:30-10:00 Break
- 10:00-10:50 Regency West: Sharon Dobesh presents about a Farm bill grant to have Kansas be part of the 2017 "National Survey of Honey Bee Pests and Diseases". Sharon is our extension honey bee specialist (25 minutes) Repairing Beekeeping Equipment-Cecil Sweeney will present. (25 minutes)
- 10:00-10:50 Alcove 5&6: KSFMNP Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Certification- If you participate in a Farmers Market that accepts these checks, it is mandatory to take this certification for 2017 to be able to accept them. Jennifer Church from the Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment presents
- 10:55-11:45 Regency West: Joanna Voigt, Kansas Rural Center (KRC) Pollinator Programming Coordinator, will talk about the work they are doing at KRC to Protect Pollinators in Kansas. Their work focuses on providing farmers with information and education on agricultural practices that protect and benefit pollinators, and on encouraging grassroots advocacy for policies that support pollinators.
- 10:55-11:45 Alcove 5&6: Making Creamed and Infused Honeys—Kristi Sanderson
- 10:55-11:45 Alcove 7: Queen Rearing—Gary Reynolds
- 11:45-12:45 Regency East: Lunch- (Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad Croissant, Potato Salad and Cookie) with *Joanna Voigt* presenting- *Improve your Lobbying Skills -the best ways to contact our legislator.*
- 12:45-1:35 Queen Polyandry and Why it Happens—Dr. Keith Delaplane
- 1:40-2:30 Regency West: Collecting and Cleaning Beeswax, Pollen and Propolis- Steve & Becky Tipton
- 1:40-2:30 Alcove 5&6: Tax Rules for Small Businesses and Hobby Beekeepers— Mark Wood
- 1:40-2:30 Alcove 7: Restoring Natives in the Suburban Garden- presented by Sami Aaron a KS Master Naturalist. Turn your garden into a wonderland for butterflies and other pollinators using native plants. You'll learn about Cost Sharing programs that will reimburse 50% or more of the cost of installing native gardens to reduce flooding and erosion and cleanse chemicals from rain water before it reaches our streams and rivers.
- 2:35 Silent Auction Ends-

## **Spring 2017 KHPA conference continued**

(Friday, March 10 continued)

- 3:00 Tour of the Capitol Building- no charge tour of either the dome or the other parts of the capitol Building—please carpool due to limited parking
- 5:00 Regency West: Honey Appetizer competition-members are asked to bring Appetizers and recipes to share with others- prizes will be awarded to winners.
- 6:00 Dinner and Program: presentation by 2016 Grant Recipients Stringtown Beekeepers & SAVE- Soldier Agricultural Vocational Education Program. Gary LaGrange presents about how his program is progressing. He'll offer suggestions on how other groups can involve soldiers in beekeeping in their area. (Buffet: Sliced Beef, Baked White Fish, mashed potatoes, gravy, wild rice, Green Beans, Corn, Rolls, Salad, Hot cobbler)

### **March 11<sup>th</sup>, Saturday**

- 8:00-8:30 Registration-Silent Auction set up
- 8:30-9:20 Regency West: How Immunology can Make us Better Beekeepers—Dr. Keith Delaplane
- 9:20-9:50 Regency West: Veterinary Feed Directive: Don't Shoot the Messenger! - Dr. Lisa Tokach, DVM
- 9:50-10:05 Regency West: Break
- 10:05-10:55 Regency West: Making Splits and Re-queening—Greg Swob
- Alcove 5&6: How to make a Beeswax Sculpture— Bridget Lee Presents (if you have been to the Kansas State Fair you have seen Bridget's beeswax sculptures)
- 11:00-11:50 Regency West: Catching Swarms & Bee Removal, Todd Preator- Save the Bees Rescue Co.
- Alcove 5&6: Getting Entries Ready for the Fair and Judging Honey shows. This will include all entries. Also tips on how to judge honey-since many of us are asked to judge at our county fairs. (Speaker to be determined)
- 11:50-12:50 Regency East: Lunch - Turkey club, Pasta Salad, Cookie
- 12:50-1:40 Regency West: Emergent Properties in the Honey Bee Colony, Dr. Keith Delaplane
- 1:45 End of Silent Auction
- 1:45-2:35 Regency West: Producing your own Queens-Queen Rearing—Ron Smail, Iola, Ks.
- 1:45-2:35 Alcove 5&6: (2 sessions) HIDI (How I Do It) Making Cold Process Soap and Skin Care Products— Becky Tipton
- 2:40-3:30 Alcove 5&6: (session continues) HIDI Making Cold Process Soap and Skin Care Products— Becky Tipton
- Regency West: Using Top Bar Hives for Special Populations— Steve Messbarger
- 3:35-4:00 Regency West: Members meet with area directors
- 4:00 Regency West: Business meeting

**Program, speakers or times subject to change**

# The Kansas Honey Producers Association Spring 2017 Meeting Registration Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ write email address clearly

Check here if you would like to receive your newsletter by email

List names of those registered for name tags \_\_\_\_\_

Children-please list for a name tags-- under 18 free \_\_\_\_\_

Choose 1: I plan to tour the Capitol Building Dome \_\_\_\_\_ or regular tour \_\_\_\_\_ neither \_\_\_\_\_

## Meeting Registration for both days-includes Friday both lunch & dinner & Saturday lunch:

Per person if paid before February 27th (\$90 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Children –price for meals only –no fee under 18 (\$27 X \_\_\_\_\_)= \_\_\_\_\_

## Meeting Registration Friday Only, Fee includes Lunch & Dinner:

Meeting Registration for Friday only if paid by February 27th (\$68 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Children –meals only no registration fee-under18 (\$18 X \_\_\_\_\_)= \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner only on Friday (in case someone wants to join us) (\$33 X \_\_\_\_\_)= \_\_\_\_\_

## Friday Only, Fee includes lunch only Friday

Meeting registration for Saturday only if paid by February 27th (\$40 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Children –lunch only no registration fee-under18 (\$9 X \_\_\_\_\_)= \_\_\_\_\_

## Saturday Only, Fee includes lunch on Saturday

Meeting registration for Saturday only if paid by February 27th (\$40 X \_\_\_\_\_) = \_\_\_\_\_

Children –lunch only no registration fee-under18 (\$9 X \_\_\_\_\_)= \_\_\_\_\_

Membership for Kansas Honey Producers Association: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Membership 2017 (18 years of age or under) Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ \$7.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership 2017 Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are not a member of The Kansas Honey Producers add \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_*

*(includes a 1 year membership in KHPA) or if you need to Renew*

Donation for Grant Project \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Note: No receipts will be sent

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: Kansas Honey Producers Assn or KHPA mail to Robert Burns, 7601 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202*

*913-481-3504 or email [rburnshoney@gmail.com](mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com)*

Registration & payment now accepted with PayPal at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)

# *It Happened in Galveston!*

**KHPA members recap experiences at the American Beekeeping Federation/American Honey Producers Assn. joint convention in Galveston, Tex. - January 2017**

The first keynote speaker, **Jonathan Lundgren** spoke about how we have become too dependent on pesticides and we need to find different farming practices. We need to learn innovative farming practices and heal the soil. Today's agriculture has become simplified with large monoculture farms. We need to diversify the farm so that the pollinators have a variety of plants from which they can choose.

There were presentations about imports of adulterated honey into the United States. Finding adulterated honey coming into the US has become very scientific. There are several tests that the honey is put through to help detect if other sugars have been added. The problem is that when a way is found to detect the added sweeteners, the offenders find a different sweetener that is not detected with current technology. Now they are able to sell their adulterated honey as pure honey. It is an ongoing battle to protect the honey market.

We were able to choose from many different breakout sessions. They were for beginning beekeeper, serious sideliner and the commercial beekeeper. They presented anything from honey bee biology to the effects of temperature extremes on queen performance. Saturday we had classroom sessions where you could learn anything from how to prepare your business for sale, make candles, or learn about instrumental insemination of Queens. There were even 3 presentations from members of the **KHPA**.

It was not all work; there was a large tradeshow with vendors from all over the world attending, trying to sell the latest and best gadgets to help with your bees. There were silent auction tables set up several different days. We were even able to go to the Moody Gardens Rainforest Pyramid. The evening featured a tour of the rainforest, 3-D and a 4-D movie, dinner and entertainment by **Terry Brown** a country western singer and his wife **Hilda Machado**, a professional trick and fancy roper. The conference ended with banquets and live auctions.

**Marietta Graham**

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Here are a few of the main the messages I took away from the conference:

**Nutrition** – I know it is hard to believe, but not so long ago beekeepers were advised to not feed their colonies. That of course has changed dramatically. The trend today is to pay attention to microbials in feed. Most are designed to act as probiotics that enable bees to digest feed. In my view, the jury is still out on the effectiveness of these feed additives. Most of the speakers on this topic reported ongoing and future research.

**Honey prices** – **Darren Cox**, President of the **American Honey Producers Association** offered an interesting talk on honey pricing. He observed that not so long ago about 70 percent of the honey consumed in America was produced in America by American beekeepers. Today, about 70 percent of the honey consumed in America is produced by foreign beekeepers. He and others later in the conference suggested that this provided growth opportunities for American beekeepers, i.e. to replace foreign imports with domestically produced honey. Normally, this would be correct, but (and these are my thoughts) there is a pricing problem that may deter increased American honey production. Foreign honey producers have driven down the price of honey so much that the incentive for American producers to increase honey production is diminished.

**Sustainable beekeeping** – Of all the presentations I attended, the one offered by **Steve Page** on Sustainable Beekeeping was the most useful. Steve represents the Coweta Beekeepers Association in Sharpsburg, Georgia. I came away from this 30 minute presentation with about ten pages of notes. The essence of **Steve's** presentation was based on the notion that everything the beekeeper needs to sustain an apiary comes from the bees. The most notable example is in how they split colonies in the spring and fall to 1) expand their apiaries, 2) increase honey production, 3) reduce swarming, and 4) interrupt the Varroa reproductive cycle.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not make the case for joining the **ABF**. When I started beekeeping on my own (about three years ago) my knowledge of the craft was limited to what my grandfather and great-grandfather taught me as a young boy. Unfortunately, this was before I had enough sense to listen and perhaps more importantly, the advent of the Varroa mite. So, I started on my own venture with very little information. Like most beekeepers I read a lot of books, accessed some interesting websites, subscribed to magazines, and watched YouTube videos. After attending my first **KPHA** meeting I soon realized that *free* advice is often worth a lot less than what you pay for it.

I was led, by **Tim Tucker**, then the President of the **ABF** and a beekeeper from Niotaze, Kansas, to membership in the **ABF**. Membership in this organization, like many others, provides access to various newsletters and contact with other beekeepers. But, for me, the main benefit of **ABF** membership lies in the *Conversations with a Beekeeper Webinar Series*. These online webinars cover a broad range of topics of interest to all beekeepers. More importantly, they are taught by experienced beekeepers that are vetted by the **ABF**. Previous webinars are archived on the **ABF** website.

I encourage all beekeepers to consider joining the **ABF**. Go to their website <http://www.abfnet.org/> and click on the Education & Events button to learn more about the webinar series and the Membership button to learn more about the benefits of joining the American Beekeeping Federation.

**Dr. Brian L. Withrow**

# Honey bars recipe

Makes 2 dozen bars

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 cup walnuts, chopped

Glaze:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

In a large bowl, stir the sugar, flour, baking soda, and cinnamon until evenly mixed. Then add in the egg, vegetable oil, honey, and nuts. Stir until the mixture is smooth. Spoon into an ungreased jelly-roll pan or 9 by 13-inch pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 20 minutes.

*To make the glaze:* In a small bowl, stir together the powdered sugar, vanilla, water, and mayonnaise until smooth and creamy. Spread onto the honey bars while they are still warm. Store the bars in a sealed container or cake safe. These will stay fresh for 3 to 4 days.



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## Northeast Kansas news

The on again, off again Kansas weather has definitely been unpredictable. With a couple of brief warm-ups, members have been able to check out their apiaries in the northeast corner of the state. Feed-back that I have gotten so far is that the brief warm-ups have been nice and allowed folks' the opportunity to inspect hives and maneuver frames of honey when needed and supplemental feed when necessary. In some cases colony sizes have been small and combining hives has been the next course of action.

Our beginning bee keeping class for NEKBA will be held on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-5:30 pm with registration from 12-1 pm at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The first session on March 5<sup>th</sup> will focus on aspects of basic equipment, installing new packages, and colony management. Session 2 on March 12<sup>th</sup> will have our guest speaker Dr. Keith Delaplane focus on honey bee biology and disease/pest pressures of honeybees.

Other topics of interest for session 2 will focus on extracting honey and location consideration for placement of your hives. On the scholarship front, NEKBA has chosen 5 great young candidates to sponsor for our 2017 youth scholarship program. The interview process was a fun experience listening to each young person talk about their desire to enter the world of beekeeping.

**Chad Gilliland, NE Regional Director**

## News from North Central Kansas Beekeepers:

In spite of some cold spells, losses seem to be below average to this point in North Central Kansas. Why? Who knows, but growing awareness of management practices may be a helpful factor. The North Central Kansas Beekeepers will be meeting on Sunday, February 12, in The Upper Room of the United Methodist Church of Kanopolis with our Kansas Honey Producer President, Greg Swob, speaking on late Winter/Early Spring hive management and preparations for beekeepers. Meeting is 2-4 PM, and will have time for general questions.

Greg will also share information on the upcoming state KHPA meeting. For more information, contact Jim Morford at either 785-531-1050 or [jrm0614@gmail.com](mailto:jrm0614@gmail.com). If you know of someone new to beekeeping or interested in getting started this Spring ... this is a great opportunity to invite them to come or come with you.

**Jim Morford**

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**Do you have- Stories? Advertisements? Questions? News? Send them to: Cappings Editor**

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**[gswob@mwenergy.com](mailto:gswob@mwenergy.com)**

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## Tuckerbee Nucs for 2017

We raise six frame nucs. For \$150 you get a laying Queen with five frames of bees and brood. If you want the sixth frame Tim will give you a price depending upon how much brood is on the frame. If you don't want it we use it for raising Queen's.

Compare with anyone else on the market. Our product is usually ready in early May; however, weather conditions could delay until later in May. With us you get 20 per cent more bees and brood for a much faster start.

Quantities are limited.

**Tim 620-306-1522**

**Norbert 620-216-0202**





# Tidbits



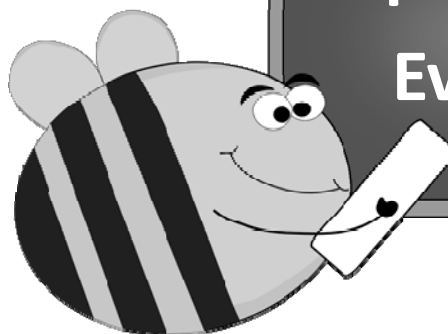
*Sharon & Jim Rowan displayed jellies at Washington D.C. during festivities of the 2017 swearing in ceremony for Kansas Congressman Mike Pompeo.*

## BBQ— Backyard Beekeeping Question

**Q**– I plan to sell honey at the local farmers market this year. What information do I need to have on my labels?

**A**– The state of Kansas has a guide for selling foods at farmers markets. Label requirements are included in that guide. Our friends at From the Land of Kansas® are also very helpful. Take a look at a candy bar label for example and you will see the information listed there as what is required on all food labels. Assuming this is honey with no additives, your label should say HONEY in bold lettering. Net weight must be included—both in ounces/pounds and grams/kilograms. Your contact information must also be included—name (yours or your business) and address. You should include phone number, website, etc. to give your customers information they need to contact you. Honey does not have an expiration date, but our Ks. food processing facility inspector requires us to list the date the honey container was filled on the label. You might be a chemical-free beekeeper, but do not use 'Organic' on your label unless you are registered as an organic honey farm. Scales must be certified by a commercial scale company annually to assure they are accurate. If you attend a From the Land of Kansas® regional farmers market workshop in February, bring your scale along so it can be certified by a state Weights and Measures specialist. For complete market regulations, use this link to Kansas farmers market guide: <http://www.agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/food-safety-lodging/food-sales-at-farmers'-markets>

# Upcoming Events



## Spring 2017 KHPA conference

**March 10—11, 2017**

**Ramada Inn**

**420 SE 6th St., Topeka, Ks**

**800-432-2424 or 785-234-5400 for reservations**

**Call before February 15, 2017 for room rate**

## 2017 From Land of Kansas Annual meeting and Farmers Market Conf.

**March 16-17, 2017 Bluemont Hotel**

**1222 Bluemont Ave– Manhattan**

<https://fs22.formsite.com/KansasDeptAg/2017FLOK/index.html>

## Heartland Apicultural Society

**Annual conference– July 13-15, 2017 Evansville, Ind.  
at the University of Southern Indiana**

[www.heartlandbees.org](http://www.heartlandbees.org)

**(Agenda not completed yet)**

## Northeast Ks. Beekeepers Association

### Fun Day

**June 3, 2017**

**Speakers include: Jennifer Berry - Un. of Georgia, Scott Debnam– Un. of Montana & others**

**2110 Harper St.- Lawrence, Ks.**

**Monthly NEKBA meetings are third Monday evenings at Douglas Co. Fairgrounds—2110 Harper St. Lawrence, Ks.**

[www.nekba.org](http://www.nekba.org)

Kansas Honey Producer's Association  
*Cappings*  
R Burns  
7601 W. 54th Terrace  
Shawnee Mission KS 66202

## Address Service Requested

## Kansas Honey Producer's Association Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail Address* \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Kansas Honey Producer's Association per year (Jan.-Dec.) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person \$1.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family member's names:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Membership (18 years of age or under) \$7.50 \_\_\_\_\_

American Bee Journal 1 year subscription \$24.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Bee Culture Magazine (formerly "Gleanings") 1 year subscription \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: KHPA or Kansas Honey Producer's Association or pay on line at [www.kansashoneyproducers.org](http://www.kansashoneyproducers.org)**

**Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202 Phone# 913-831-6096 or email- [rburnshoney@gmail.com](mailto:rburnshoney@gmail.com)**

The Kansas Honey Producer's Association is a non-profit IRC 501(c)5 agricultural-educational organization, run by dedicated volunteers, and supported primarily by membership dues (subscriptions). The IRC status means that the association is a tax-exempt organization. While donations are always welcome, they are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, membership dues and subscriptions may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

