****

**NEKBA 2024 Bee Yard and Teaching Apiary**

 The **Great Plains Master Beekeeper Program** and the **Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assoc**. are starting their own apiary for teaching purposes. This is funded from a grant from GPMB. The eventual goal is to meet before our monthly meetings and some Saturdays. The bee yard will be at Pendleton’s Country Market which is only about 5 minutes from the Douglas County Fairgrounds where our monthly meetings are held.

 **Pendleton’s Country Market, 1446 E 1850 Rd., Lawrence, KS**. We would like to start our gathering at 5:00 pm prior to the general meeting. We may adjust the time in the future. Bring your bee suits, wear close-toed shoes and long pants. Our goal is to meet on a few Saturday mornings, as well.

 This month **(APRIL ‘24**) you will have several opportunities to attend an open apiary/mentoring event at our club hives! Our hives were started with a grant from the Great Plains Master Beekeepers group. Last year we had 4 hives that we started from packages. It’s been fun to watch their progress. This year, 2024, we’ll be adding six (6) more colonies. Please join us at the hives. The hives are located at Pendleton’s Country Market, 1446 E 1850 Rd, Lawrence, KS 66046.

 These events are free, but we do ask that you text or call us to let us know that you are coming. Call or text Joli Winer at 913-593-3562 or Robert Burns at 913-481-3504 or Kristi Sanderson, call, or text at 913-768-4961. Please wear long pants and bring your bee suit. We will have a few suits available. We will go through the hives looking for eggs, brood, drones, and queens. We will review lighting a smoker and testing for varroa and we’ll answer your questions and talk about what you should be seeing in your hives.

**Open Apiary** are @Pendleton’s Country Market 1446 E 1850 Rd, Lawrence, KS 66046

Scheduled Dates (shown on following pages below):

1. **Saturday, April 6th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts: Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney
2. **Sunday, April 7th, 1:00-3:00 pm**
	1. Hosts: Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney
3. **Saturday, April 13th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
4. **Monday, April 15th, 5:00-7:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:
5. **Saturday, April 20th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
6. **Sunday, April 21st, 1:00-3:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:
7. **Saturday, May 4th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
8. **Saturday, May 18th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
9. **Saturday, May 18th, 3:00-5:00 pm**
	1. Hosts: Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney
10. **Monday, May 20th, 5:00-7:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:
11. **Saturday, June 8th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
12. **Monday, June 17th, 5:00-7:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:
13. **Saturday, June 22nd, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Hosts:
14. **Saturday, June 22nd, 3:00-5:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:
15. **Saturday, July 6th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Host:
16. **Saturday, July 20th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Host:
17. **Saturday, August 3rd, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Host:
18. **Saturday, August 17th, 9:00-11:00 am**
	1. Host:
19. **Sunday, August 18th,10:00-12:00 am**
	1. Host:
20. **Monday, September 16th, 5:00-7:00 pm**
	1. Hosts:

 ****

**2024 Meeting Dates:**

**2024 MENTORING APIARIES**

**Mentoring @ Joli & Cecil’s in Spring Hill, KS**

 Mentoring at our hives on the 4th Thursday of the month! Meet at the home of Joli and Cecil at 6 pm at 19201 S. Clare Rd., Spring Hill KS. We appreciate a phone call or text to know that people are coming, 913-593-3562. Each time we identify queens, eggs, larvae, light and use a smoker, do a powdered sugar mite check, and talk about what you should be doing with your bees that month. Scheduled dates are from April 2024 to September 2024. If you have beekeeping clothing, please bring it- but we do have extra suits. Wear long pants and closed-toed shoes please.

**Volunteers Needed to Host the Open Apiaries**

In April I’d like to see if we could do an open apiary each Saturday.  In May maybe 2 Saturdays and one each month after that- there are more dates listed because we don’t know who is available when.  Sign up genius link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48ADA82BABF49-48292278-beeyard>

The NEKBA Open Apiary equipment was funded with a grant from the Great Plains Master Beekeepers. The excellent educational opportunity will be held weekly in April 2024 and at least twice monthly in the other ‘active’ beekeeping months. Because of the grant and the opportunity to have the liability insurance covered by the GPMB policy, we would like for all participants to join the GPMB program at <https://gpmb.unl.edu>. Click on the ‘become a member’ tab and follow the directions to join for free.

We are looking for teachers who use Best Practice Beekeeping and Langstroth systems. We would like teachers to have five (5) years beekeeping experience and who must be willing to use our record keeping system.

The hives are located at Pendelton’s Farm Market 1446 E 1850 Rd, Lawrence, KS 66046.