

Since 1948 Exploring the wonderful world of beekeeping together

The Bee Buzzer

Monthly publication of the

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 2

EDITOR: CHERYL BURKHEAD

February 2021

General Meeting

Monday, February 15, 2021 (7 p.m.)

Join Us for a ZOOM Meeting

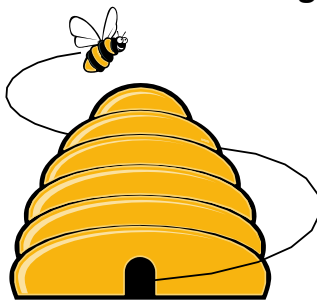
"In the comfort of your own home"

Download the Zoom App and watch from your computer, smartphone, or tablet
Log in instructions will be posted on the www.NEKBA.org website.

Main Program: Making Splits-Stuart Dietz;
Youth Scholarship Presentations-Zachary Keir and Kyzer Lehmann

Beelines

By President Ed Darlington



In this time we have before we get extremely busy taking care of our bees; the question comes to mind of how are you learning and growing. Of course, that question should also extend into the times we are busy. Do you create time to learn more about your bees?

Before I retired, I remember studying how different companies managed and either grew or shriveled. One of the companies impressed me and I desired to follow suit. That company was 3M they required their people to spend one day a week

(averaged out not necessarily literally) learning something new; something, no matter what the subject. Something that expanded either current or new skill sets.

So, my challenge to you is to identify for yourselves, what are you learning about your bees? And also, how will you become better beekeepers? Your study may be associated directly with or about your bees or it may be something that influences or affects them.

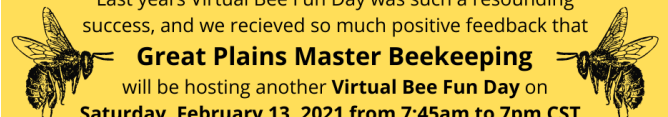
This past year I was facing downtime resulting from scheduled rotator cuff surgery. So, I set aside a half-dozen books that I hadn't been able to fit into my schedule. One of those books was Dr. Thomas Seeley's *Honeybee Democracy*. Amazing what I learned about our bees that I had not previously known!

This past year has taught me to realize (between COVID-19 and surgeries) that when unscheduled or scheduled events take place, be flexible enough to adapt, and use your time wisely.



Great Plains Master Beekeeping 2021 Virtual Bee Fun Day

Last years Virtual Bee Fun Day was such a resounding success, and we recieved so much positive feedback that



Great Plains Master Beekeeping will be hosting another **Virtual Bee Fun Day** on **Saturday, February 13, 2021 from 7:45am to 7pm CST.**

We will have a myriad of speakers including *Mike Palmer, Dr. Robin Underwood*, and many more!

The webinar will be scheduled similar to last years fun day: free with optional donations to benefit beekeepers associations and GPMB.

The registration link will be sent out in several days so make sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page, or your inbox for the details. Thank you for being a member of the Great Plains Master Beekeeping project and we look forward to seeing you!

-GPMB Team

 <https://www.facebook.com/GPMBeekeeping>

 <http://gpmb.uni.edu/>



2020 Meeting Dates: (Starting Time is 7pm. Log in a few minutes ahead on Zoom.)

- Monday, February 15, 2021
- Saturday, February 27, 2021 (Year 2 & Beyond)
- March 1, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- March 15, 2021
- April 5, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- April 19, 2021
- May 3, 2021 (Let's Talk Bees Q & A)
- May 17, 2021



Ol' Bee Gal

Bee-havers know how. Beekeepers know WHY. Knowing and understanding bee behavior and bee biology is the first step to being successful with honey bees. How do you measure success? Some would argue harvesting a nice crop of honey for your family or supplementing your income. Some evaluate success with keeping bees alive throughout the winter. Honey bees add something like 200 billion to the world economy, mostly through pollination. The value of the honey itself pales in comparison.

What did you do last weekend? Nearly 200 of you joined our merry band of beekeepers for the beginning beekeeping class. Not all were really beginners. MANY were people who have had hives a year or two and just want to understand them better. Those folks are well on their way to becoming true beekeepers!

Our Year 2 and Bee-yond class will be held Feb. 27th with a program targeting anyone who has had bees 5 years or fewer. Here's an over view of our program:

I will talk about why hives die. They live, they die. But if we pay attention, we can keep these losses below 10%. It's about being vigilant. Bees are livestock. We purchase them and provide them with a home and it is our responsibility to care for them to the best of our ability.

Cheryl Burkhead will talk about the choices you'll make during spring management. More hives means more choices. This is setting your hives up for success. If your hive is too big, they will thank you by swarming and your honey crop just flew away. Split your hive too small and they'll spend the summer trying to build up enough to survive the next winter. Cheryl understands spring management for optimal hive development and she'll tell you all her secrets!

Your hive wants to swarm. (That statement is flagrant anthropomorphism.) The only one sad about your hive swarming is you. Swarming is asexual reproduction. Your hive is big and needs more room. Noah Summer, member of Northland Beekeepers, will help us understand swarm behavior and use it to our advantage.

Bee enemy #1 is still the varroa mite. Integrated pest management (IPM) looks at controlling a pest (varroa) from multiple angles. To minimize the damage done by varroa, we need to keep those numbers low throughout the year, not just do a "treatment" in the fall and walk away. Sheldon Brummel, UNL and Great Plains Master Beekeeper program coordinator, will tell us the many ways you can actively control varroa to improve the overall health of your hive. You need healthy hives to survive the winter and that involves more than a single treatment.

We've packed the late afternoon with four fun and interesting sessions: Planting for Pollinators with Jo Patrick. Jo has a wealth of plant information and beautiful pictures to share. Extracting Your Harvest with Robert Hughes, owner of Jordy's Honey.

Robert will show you the equipment you will need for harvest and help you choose where to spend your money most effectively. In beekeeping and real estate, location is critically important to success. Steve Tipton will offer suggestions for choosing a great location along with some tips to moving hives. After a honey harvest or two, you will probably have a small quantity of beeswax. Kristi Sanderson will show you how easy it is to turn those sticky cappings into beautiful beeswax for candles or other craft projects.

As always, we will have a panel of our excellent master beekeepers manning the “chat box” to answer your questions. Thank you to everyone who helped with the Beginning class: Robert Burns is the Zoom wizard, Joli Winer fielded questions and presented about varroa, Kristi Sanderson taught how to get started, Cheryl Burkhead gave us the gloom and doom of honey bee diseases, Jo Patrick took us through spring inspections, and Steve Tipton warned us about winter. They will all be present to help us through Year 2. Love you guys!

Becky Tipton, Special Events Coordinator



Meet the Beek



My Beekeeping Journey, a Learning Process

Family dynamics can last a lifetime. Being the youngest of three girls, I often felt the need to keep up with my sisters. Around 2008, one of my sisters got her start in beekeeping. Watching her work her bees sparked my interest. I had to keep up with her, right? One day, she and I assisted an acquaintance as he pulled honey supers for harvest. What a great experience. Then I took a couple of Robert Hughes' beekeeping classes at JCCC. Robert strongly encouraged the class to join Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association. He emphasized that there was much more to learn. Sadly, I am told, out of those classes I attended, I am the only one that still practices beekeeping. I attribute that to some of my own persistence and NEKBA.

Gardening has always been of special interest to me. In the mid-1970's, I took some horticulture classes at Friends University, Wichita. I then transferred to a horticultural program at a Vocational-Technical School in Topeka, which I don't think is there any longer. Gardening trends have changed over the years, for the better. In the 70's we were taught to control pests with chemicals and to rely heavily on chemical fertilizer use. Emphasis was placed on supplying what would sell instead of educating the public to the

benefits of what works with our region and nature. Fortunately, the trend is shifting. The beekeeping year revolves around blooming nectar and pollen sources where pesticides and herbicide use should be applied cautiously. I knew I had found another facet of gardening to enjoy.

In my quest to convince my husband how beneficial beekeeping would be, I explained how easy it would be to give all his co-workers honey for Christmas! Boy was I naïve! Accepting that my mind was made up, all he said was, "I guess were getting bees." With the purchase of my own bees and equipment, I took the leap into beekeeping in 2009. Occasionally my husband helps, but the learning process is all mine. Last summer he experienced his first honey harvest. Each year my sister has been invaluable during honey harvest. Extraction is planned around her availability. Oh, and yes, we continue to give gifts of honey away to co-workers, family, and neighbors.

Over the years I continued to attend NEKBA meetings making many great friends along the way. For a while there was a small group of women, like me, whose husbands had no interest in keeping bees. We provided each other with encouragement. I always enjoy swapping gardening information with Rose Lee, Atchison, and Cheryl Burkhead, Berryton, among many others. The club membership offers a valuable resource. There are so many beekeepers with decades of experience, and they are willing to share with those of us that are willing to learn.

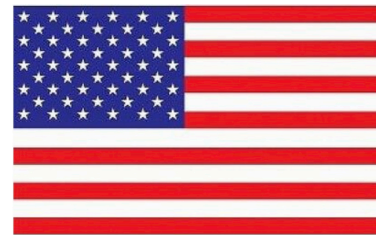
I can't say that I was successful at beekeeping in the early years, especially when trying to balance work, family, beekeeping, and life. The learning curve was steep for me. Even though I harvested about 3 gallons of honey the first year, the second and third year I failed to keep my colonies alive. There was so much to learn.

I am still learning by attending NEKBA meetings and special events. It's important to keep current on new developments and research. I have attended Beginning Beekeeping Classes since joining the club and was flattered when Becky Tipton, Meriden, asked me to teach a segment several years ago. I have also joined the Kansas Honey Producers Association. For me, KHPA has been a wonderful learning opportunity to take my beekeeping to the next level. During my years as a member of NEKBA, I served as the club secretary

for 3 years, Honey Plants Vice President for 3 more years, and am now in my third year as Special Events Coordinator for Funday. I always learn the most by getting involved and helping others.

My husband and I retired this year. He's enjoying learning to play the guitar while I am still learning about beekeeping. It's amazing what you can accomplish when you have time to inspect your colonies in a timely manner! Currently, I am working on becoming a Master Beekeeper through the Great Plains Master Beekeeping Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As I write this, we are building a long overdue honey house adjacent to our home. It will be used to extract honey, work on value added products, and store equipment. As you probably know, beekeeping is like having a baby. They both come with a lot of equipment.

Jo Patrick



Military/Veterans Apprentices Program

Greetings and welcome to all of you first-time individuals who had the privilege of taking the Beginners Beekeeping Class. I hope it intrigued your interest in getting more involved in the fascinating world of beekeeping. Spring is a most fascinating time of the year with the anticipation of what Mother Nature will bring. I hope the class was fulfilling to you, as I'm sure it was. Good luck and hoping that one of your Christmas gifts was a hive to begin your adventure.

Let me introduce myself I'm currently the Liaison for the Military/Veterans Apprenticeship program which we started in 2018. We formed a committee and had our first two Veteran Apprenticeship recipients that year. Each year we reach out to Veterans who may be eligible to receive this Apprenticeship and meet our requirements. As we have new members and existing club members, we always welcome talking

to Veterans who may be interested in this program or who would like to possibly talk to another Veteran about beekeeping. Our program was set up to help those returning from service that may benefit from working bees as a form of therapy which keeps one focused. Not all veterans fall into the guidelines for an apprenticeship, but maybe you just need to have a question answered or need some information and we have some veterans who can usually help you with that. If you or someone you know might be interested in the program, please do not hesitate to give me a call. Welcome, Thank You and Have a Fantastic Day.

(913) 438-5397

Andy Nowachek, Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison



What are you doing to improve your knowledge about bees and what are you doing to make yourself a better beekeeper? Perhaps these winter months are a good time to further educate yourself as we aren't as busy with various bee chores. There are lots of educational opportunities online as our gatherings are happening virtually. We've got many programs in the next few months with great speakers, so take advantage of these!

Many of us have jobs and must go to work every day. I have a difficult time finding enough free-time in my day for education. One of my favorite things to help me learn is to listen to various podcasts. I do subscribe to our two beekeeping magazines; *American Beekeeping Journal* and *Bee Culture*. I read articles, when I can, and keep editions for several years for reference. Perhaps you might listen to a podcast on your drive home from work or while you work in your shop. I like to listen to these beekeeping podcasts while assembling frames, hive bodies, painting, and various other activities in my honey house.

I have a few favorites and I'd encourage you to give them and others a listen. *Beekeeping Today* is a podcast with Jeff Ott and Kim Flottum and provides the latest in beekeeping news, information, and entertainment for today's beekeeper. I suggest one listen to Season 3, Episode 31 with Dr. Samuel Ramsey and also Season 3, Episode 33 with Dr. Marla Spivak. More recently, Kim Flottum has a new and shorter podcast called, *Honey Bee Obscura* with Kim and Jim. They focus solely on honey bees and honey bee management. Former *Bee Culture* editor, Kim Flottum and longtime *Bee Culture* contributor and former OSU Extension Specialist, Dr. Jim Tew, discuss topics important to beekeepers everywhere in short and concise episodes. *Pollination* is another favorite. It's from the Oregon State University Extension Service and tells the stories of researchers, land managers and concerned citizens who are making strides to improve pollinator health. Dr. Andony Melathopoulos, Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health in the Dept. of Horticulture at Oregon State University, serves as moderator and has various guests that discuss not only honey bees but other pollinators. Additional segments regarding establishing pollinator habitat are also very informative. *2 Bees in a Podcast*, is hosted by members of University of Florida's Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory and will advance your understanding of honey bees and beekeeping. *2 Million Blossoms* podcast with Kirsten Traynor will soon launch and promises a broader range of educational opportunities focusing on all sorts of pollinators.

Make a resolution this year to learn; attend an online conference, have a listen to a podcast, and make an effort to log in to your local bee club's gatherings. You'll be glad you did!

Cheryl Burkhead, Editor

If you care about us, as we care about yours, you'll make no delay and send in your dues-

We try awful hard; we work without pay- to help you keep bees, in a practical way.

Your continued support, will help us grow. The Editor and staff -thought you'd like to know.



Tips for February

- Renew your club membership if you have not done so. How can you tell? *Check the date on your mailing label.*
- If you get your **Buzzer** by email, you will have received a statement in the body of your email message stating that your membership has expired.
- Send in your registration for the Year 2 & Beyond workshop. Find a friend or relative to take the beekeeping class with you.
- Register to attend Kansas Honey Producers Spring program in March and get involved in your state organization.
- Get your queens and packages or nucs ordered!
- A good winter project is to melt down your wax cappings –the smell of beeswax will warm your soul.
- Make sure your lids are still on your hives.
- On a warm day (if the bees are flying, it is warm enough for a quick check) check your bees and see if you have to move some frames of honey around to get it closer to the cluster.
- Repair any old equipment that you have sitting around—spring is just around the corner. You'll be needing it soon.
- Clean those recycled frames—foundation over 5 years old is too old, replace it. Some people write on the top bar of new frames what year the frames were put in the hives-that helps you to know when they need to be replaced.
- Brood rearing begins this month; food consumption increases quickly—double and triple check food.
- Resolve to keep better bee records for 2021.
- Read at least one new beekeeping book this winter or listen to a podcast.
- Work on your bee equipment.
- Check the front of your hives for skunks scratching on them. Beekeepers can be quite creative in eliminating skunks!
- Subscribe to a beekeeping magazine this year - *American Bee Journal* and *Bee Culture*.

ASK QUINBY & REMI



Dear Quinby and Remi- I can't decide if I want to do a foundation-less hive or a hive with foundation. Do you have any thoughts?

Remi and Quinby answer: Frequently, Cecil and Joli are asked to stop by someone's beehive to offer advice. Several years ago, someone called and asked if they would come look at his hive because his hive was foundation-less. He was a new beekeeper, and he couldn't tell what he was looking at. This was a first-year hive. After they got into it, they realized why he couldn't tell what he was looking at—he couldn't look at anything—because all he had in his hive was “crazy” comb. The bees had built the comb crosswise to his frames and he literally could not get them out of the hive without destroying the comb. One of the joys of beekeeping is the actual joy of looking at a frame and determining what is going on in the hive—can you see eggs, larva, the queen, brood, pollen, honey, varroa etc. Each frame tells a story of what is happening in that hive. So, if you can't see your frames because they are so fragile, then you are essentially missing one of the greatest joys in beekeeping. They have helped people who did have frames that were foundation-less that you could pull out, but they were so fragile that you couldn't tip the frame up to look for eggs and larva. There was great danger to the foundation falling out- destroying all the hard work of the bees. Frequently, in our area, the combination of the heat and humidity of our area plus the weight of the bees on the foundation plus the tilt of the hive combines to make a disaster and can cause the collapse of the foundation. Many times, there is a recommendation to use a starter strip of

foundation and the idea is that the bees will then draw the wax out correctly in the frames. Unless your foundation is anchored from the top to the bottom you still run the risk of having the same situation—plus, remember the bees can't google how they should draw out the foundation, so they don't always follow the directions. If you don't want to use plastic foundation, an alternative might be to use wired foundation. You will additionally have to wire them into the frames, but you will be using a sturdy beeswax foundation that will hold up to our conditions and allow for frame inspections. It is also nearly impossible to extract honey from foundation-less frames in supers. So, you must crush and strain the honey; the bees must replace all that wax the following year.



Dear Quinby and Remi- My hive died. How do I take care of the equipment? Can I re-use the honey and frames in my next hive?

Quinby and Remi answer: It is best to brush the bees out so that they do not mold on the cells. Save your honey for your next hive in the spring; you can do this in several ways. If you have a second hive, you could just set the box of honey on your other hive. The bees will take care of it and if that hive needs more food, they'll have it. If that food is still there in the spring, you can still add it to your new hive. If that isn't an option, you could freeze your frames of honey. If that isn't an option, just take it inside and store it in a bee tight area, like a garage. I would not suggest putting it in a plastic bag but protect the hive with cardboard or keep the lid on it. As a last resort, keep the honey

in the bee yard and close the entrance. The only problem with this option is that the hive can be robbed out of honey if the bees can find a way to get in. If you can save the honey, it is a really good boost to a new hive! You can reuse your brood frames too! Brood frames naturally turn brown as each successive brood emerges, so the fact that your wax has turned brown is a good thing.

Dear Quinby and Remi—I just want to learn about bees so much! Any ideas how I can achieve that?

Quinby and Remi answer: You can still catch the 2nd Year and Bee-yond class, so sign up for that. Our state meeting of the Kansas Honey Producers is March 6th with several great guest speakers including Samuel Ramsey and Clarence Collison – the program is attached. On February 13th, the Great Plains Master Beekeepers are having a Funday! Oh my gosh! So many great guest speakers for all levels of beekeeping. It is a must, and it is free- though they will ask for a donation. For information go to www.gpmb.unl.edu. Quinby and Remi are happy to answer your questions. You may contact them through Joli at joli@heartlandhoney.com.



The Honey Pot

by Becky Tipton

Need a little munchie for all the zoom meetings this month. This mix has a more sophisticated flavor than the stuff we mix up for the kids trail mix. The egg whites provide a little extra crunch in the finished snack.

Sweet and Spicy Snack Mix

Ingredients:

4 Servings

1 cup honey

1 cup each 2 kinds of square cereal (Crispix, Chex, etc)

½ cup mini pretzel twists

½ cup unsalted cashews

- ½ cup pecan halves
- ¼ cup whole almonds
- ¼ cup unsalted peanuts
- 1 egg white
- 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon chipotle powder (ground)
- 1 teaspoon chili powder (ground)
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper

Directions

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees F. Lightly coating a baking sheet with non-stick spray, line with parchment paper, then coat with baking spray once more. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the honey, cereals, pretzels, cashews, pecans, peanuts, and almonds. In another bowl, beat the egg white until foamy, then stir in the maple syrup, cinnamon, chipotle powder, chili powder, salt, cumin, and cayenne. Drizzle over the cereal and nut mixture, then toss to coat.

Spread the mixture in a single layer on the prepared baking sheet. Bake for 1 hour, stirring once every 20 minutes. The mixture is done when dry to the touch. Remove from the oven, place the pan on a cooling rack, and let cool completely.



Starting from Seed

Have you ever thought about growing your own perennial flowering plants from seed? Starting from seed can be a cost-effective means to expand diversity and overall size of your pollinator gardens. Starting from seed indoors is a fun and rewarding way to benefit your bees and getting a jump on the growing season.

In many cases, native plants require some type of pre-treatment to germinate, such as chilling, wetting, or abrasion of the seed coat. But there are a number of native plants that are easy to grow from seed without that extra step. Keep in mind that wildflower seeds are meant to be planted

shallow, just below the soil surface. Planting too deep may affect the germination rate of your seed.

Easy to germinate wildflowers that don't require seed stratification include purple coneflower, Black Eyed Susan, Joe Pye Weed, blanket flower, cardinal flower, some varieties of bee balm, grey headed coneflower, smooth and aromatic asters, as well as several milkweed varieties.

During the germination time frame, the soil covering your seed should be kept damp. Once germination of your seed occurs, misting the young plants should be done lightly multiple times a day. Once your seedlings have 3-4 leaves, you can transplant from the smaller seedling trays into a 3-4-inch diameter pot to allow for finishing off. Once your plants are 6-8 inches tall and the last chance of frost has passed, your young plants can be moved outdoors. It is always best to allow the new plants that have been grown inside a couple of days to sit outside in filtered sun before planting. A gradual transfer to the outdoors is less stressful and limits the chances of leaf scald. After transplanting outdoors, make sure your supplemental watering program allows for the soil around your wildflower planting to stay damp. It normally takes about 4-6 weeks for your new plantings to establish a strong root system that can withstand limited water resources. Growing wildflowers from seed is both rewarding and affordable. Seeing that first seedling emerge from the soil can lift your spirits and give you a feeling of accomplishment. The cost of planting a decent sized pollinator garden can easily cost several hundred dollars. Starting from seed allows you to save a few bucks and may allow you to plant an even larger area for the honey bees, native bees, and butterflies.

Chad Gilliland- Honey Plants Chairman



Spring 2021 Virtual Kansas Honey Producers Meeting

Saturday March 6, 2021

www.kansashoneyproducers.org

Joli Winer, Program Chairperson 913-593-3562 or joli@heartlandhoney.com

We will be having our Spring Kansas Honey Producers meeting on Saturday, March 6, 2021 via Zoom. You must register for the meeting to have the Zoom link emailed to you. To view the presentations at a later date you will need to register for the meeting. **Dr. Samuel Ramsey's** presentations will not be recorded and will therefore not be available for viewing except during the actual meeting.

We are planning to have a virtual silent auction and some value-added presentations. We hope to have some sessions where you can choose which presentation you would like to attend. There will be a charge for the meeting since we are paying our guest speakers to present. The entire program for the meeting will be listed online at www.kansashoneyproducers.org by January 15th.

Guest speakers will include **Dr. Samuel Ramsey** and **Dr. Clarence Collison**.

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association

Bee Funday June 5, 2021

NEKBA Funday promises to bring you the latest beekeeping information from top notch apiculturists, researchers, and industry businesspeople. Funday will be held in a virtual format. There will be breakout sessions to accommodate those of all skill levels and interests. The cost of this daylong event will be \$25.00. Videos of selected presentations will be available for viewing for one month following the event. To learn more and to register, go to www.nekba.org.

For information, questions, or suggestions please call or text Jo Patrick at ((913)645-8947

Or email Jo@brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net



L-R: Jennifer Tsuruda, Jim Tew, Elina Nino, Walter Steve Sheppard, Judy Wu



Beth Conrey and Autumn Smart

MENTORING-SWEET PRAIRIE HONEY

Have a Master Beekeeper help you at your beehive? I have an EAS and a Mid-West Master Beekeeper certificate. Evaluating your hives after winter, installing package bees, re-queening, making splits, or a one-on-one lesson at your beehive are just some of the things we can do. After each visit, I will leave you with a written evaluation sheet from each hive we go through. Call or text Kristi Sanderson at 913-768-4961 or email sandersonk09@gmail.com for pricing and appointment times.

FISHER'S BEE SUPPLIES

We carry a complete line of beekeeping supplies. We have woodenware, smokers, containers, foundation, beekeeping books, extractors, queens and package bees. We also have extractors for rent. We will trade wax for supplies. Our hours are: 1:00 - 5:00pm Monday - Friday and Saturday after 8:30am. Please call before coming to make sure we are here. JEAN FISHER 4005 N.E. 132nd Street, Smithville MO 64089, 816-532-4698

THE HAWLEY HONEY COMPANY

For Sale: White Clover honey strained in 5-gallon buckets. We will pack it in your jars for an extra fee. Bee equipment (new and used), Jars, foundation, bears, comb honey, used extractors. Bees: frames of brood. Corn syrup or sugar by the 5-gallon bucket or barrel. *If you need it, we probably have what you want.* Nucs for sale. New stainless-steel extractors from 4-frame, 12-frame & up. Raymond Cooper, 220 N Elm, Iola KS 66749. Call: 620-365-5956 after 8:00 p.m.

JORDY'S HONEY

Beekeepers.com is your local Kansas City Bee Company. We carry a full line of Beekeeping Supplies, Bees and Queens. Visit our web site Beekeepers.com for your all your beekeeping supplies and to pre-order any items to be picked up at the Overland Park Farmer's Market. Go to our Web Site and QueenBees.com to order your Queens. We are available Monday-Friday 9:00-4:30, Saturday by appointment only. Robert Hughes, 14054 W 107th St, Lenexa, KS 66215, 913-485-9132 or email RobertLHughes2000@yahoo.com

COTTIN'S HARDWARE & RENTAL

Cottin's stocks a full line of beekeeping equipment year-round including items manufactured by Harvest Lane Honey, Little Giant, and Bug Baffler. Products include hives, supers, frames, foundations, extractors, tools, and protective apparel. We also stock a full line of Home Brewing Mead Making supplies. Located in Lawrence, KS at 1832 Massachusetts Street (South of Dillon's). We are open Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. You can follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Call us at 785-843-2981 or email us at hardware@sunflower.com

GOLDEN PRAIRIE HONEY FARMS & SAVE FARM AGRICULTURAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Our active duty & veteran students learn skills in woodworking & metal work by building beekeeping equipment, while learning beekeeping & honey production in our apiaries and extracting kitchen. We sell beekeeping supplies, containers, bottled & bulk honey, Packaged Bees, and Nucleus Bees. A Charitable, Educational Non-Profit, 501(c)(3), Proceeds go back into the training program. Hours Mon - Fri, 9-4. Golden Prairie Honey Farms, 8859 Green Valley Dr., Ste 4, Manhattan, KS 66502 Phone: (785) 370-3642 - Email gphfarms@gmail.com or order online at goldenprairiehoney.com

Next to Nature Farm

As your local Dadant dealer, let us fulfill your beekeeping supplies and equipment needs. High quality 5-frame Italian nucs with VHS Minnesota Hygienic Queens. Contact us at nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com or call Chad Gilliland at 785-491-1978. Come check us out at www.nexttonaturefarm.com

The Association does not endorse nor evaluate the advertisements, products or services offered in the Buzzer.

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Assoc.

Year 2 and Bee-yond Beekeeping Class

Feb. 27, 2021

Virtual meeting via Zoom—Log in will be emailed to each participant.

Are you a beekeeper or a bee-haver?

-Etiquette of Zoom/virtual meetings:

Mute yourself unless it is suggested by the moderator that you unmute to speak

Questions may be entered into the "Chat Box" (bottom of screen)

If you wish your question directed to a specific person, please indicate

-Silence your phone. (Not a problem as long as you remain muted)

-Questions are welcome. If the speakers don't know the answers, they will try to find the answers for you. We have over 300 years of beekeeping experience represented today.

-We will make every effort to stay on schedule. Our speakers have valuable information.

Information is more important than a rigid time clock. We will be patient and respectful.

-Visit our sponsors and thank them for their contributions.

-We are a not-for-profit association. Everyone here is a volunteer. We appreciate your support and patience.

9:00 – 9:10 **Introductions**—Ed Darlington, President

9:10-10:05 **Why Hives Die?** Becky Tipton
Winter losses average over 30% you can beat those odds.

10:05-10:15 **Break**

10:15-11:15 **Spring Management for Year 2** Cheryl Burkhead To feed or not to feed?
Splits, equalize, and comb management. How to introduce a new queen.

11:15-11:25 **Break**

11:25- 12:30 **Swarm Biology** Noah Summers Why hives swarm and how to
make the most of hive growth

12:30 – 1:00 **Lunch** (Enjoy bee-utiful pictures from our members and arranged by Cheryl
Burkhead.)

1:00-2:00 **Hive stressors and IPM** Sheldon Brummel The key to keeping hives
healthy.

2:00 – 2:10 **Break**

2:10-2:40 **Planting for Pollinators** Jo Patrick Jo will introduce you to the main
nectar sources for NE Kansas and suggest the most beneficial plants for your
property.

2:40-2:50 **Break**

2:50- 3:20 **Extracting your harvest** Robert Hughes
Equipment choices and strategies for harvesting your honey crop.

3:20- 3:50 **Moving hives and improving apiary locations** Steve Tipton
If your hives aren't productive, evaluate the existing location and forage.

3:50-4:00 **Break**

4:00- 4:30 **Wax rendering** Kristi Sanderson
Small-scale wax rendering. Taking care of one of your most valuable products.

4:30-5:00 **Ask the speakers.** Highlights for 2020 programs with NEKBA
Steve Messbarger, NEKBA Program Chair
Jo Patrick, NEKBA Funday Chair person



Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Association
Robert Burns, Treasurer
7601 W 54th Terr
Shawnee Mission KS 66202-1129

Address Service Requested

Meeting via Zoom

Monday, February 15, 2021

The Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

Membership is open to anyone interested in bees or bee culture. Dues are \$15.00 per calendar year (December 31-December 31) for the first in the family joining. Those joining in July or later in the year may pay \$7.50 for ½ year. Additional members of that family wanting voting privileges shall be assessed dues at \$1.00 per year. Youth memberships (18 years of age and younger) are \$7.50 per year. Please submit new memberships and renewals to the treasurer or on-line at www.nekba.org.

The Bee Buzzer is the official publication of the Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association, Inc. and is published monthly. Commercial ads are accepted in the newsletter for a fee; non-commercial ads by paid members are accepted & are free.

The library of the association is free to all members. Books may be checked out at the meetings and kept for a period of 30 days. The bee publications, *The American Bee Journal* and *Bee Culture* can be subscribed through the treasurer or on-line. The *American Bee Journal* is offered at a discount through the association only.

The Association meets each month, generally on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. except during the months of January and July. Beekeeping classes will tentatively be held in January and March for 2021. This is a non-profit organization; elected officers serve without pay. Everyone is invited to attend the meetings. Check *The Bee Buzzer* or website at www.nekba.org each month for the actual date, time and location. If the weather is bad, call an officer or check the website to find out if the meeting will be held or cancelled.

2020 Officers

President: Ed Darlington , 2804 E 174th St., Belton, MO 64012	edarlington49@gmail.com	816-331-4934
1st VP (Program Chair): Steve Messbarger , 9802 S Burr Oak Circle, De Soto KS 66018	smessbarger55@gmail.com	913-226-2849
2nd VP (Librarian): Cecil Sweeney , 19201 S Clare Rd, Spring Hill, KS 66083	joli@heartlandhoney.com	913-593-3851
3rd VP (Honey Plants): Chad Gilliland , 23338 Kissinger Rd, Leavenworth, KS 66028	nexttonaturefarm@gmail.com	785-491-1978
Secretary: Janet Campbell , 2880 SW Plass Ave., Topeka, KS 66611	jensnana@rocketmail.com	785-266-2763
Treasurer: Robert Burns , 7601 W 54 th Terr., Shawnee Mission KS 66202	rburnshoney@gmail.com	913-481-3504
Youth Scholarship Chair: Joli Winer , 19201 S. Clare Rd. Spring Hill KS 66083	joli@heartlandhoney.com	913-593-3562
Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison: Andy Nowachek , 10921 W 91 st Terr, Shawnee Mission KS	awn@everestkc.net	913-438-5397
Editor: Cheryl Burkhead , 4521 SE 61st St., Berryton, KS 66409	cbfritz@aol.com	785-224-9077
Special Events Coordinator (Class): Becky Tipton , 9491 X Road, Meriden, KS 66512	bstbees@embarqmail.com	785-484-3710
Special Events Coordinator (Funday): Jo Patrick , 611 E Sheridan, Olathe KS 66061	brian-patrick@sbcglobal.net	913-645-8947
Webmaster: Robert Burns , 7601 W 54 th Terr., Shawnee Mission, KS 66202	rburnshoney@gmail.com	913-481-3504

Visit our Website at www.nekba.org. Save time. Re-new on-line.