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The Bee Buzzer

Monthly Publication of the

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

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EDITOR: TIM MARSHALL

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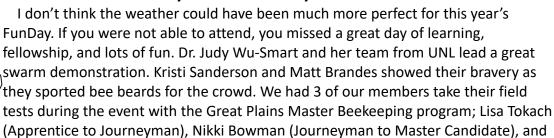
General Meeting Monday, June 17th, 2024 (7:00 p.m.)

The Barn at Kill Creek Farm 9200 Kill Creek Road De Soto, KS 66018

Main Program: Preparing Your Entries for County & State Fairs presented by Kristi Sanderson. Kristi started bee keeping in 1988 and is very active in our club and the local area as well. She is an EAS master bee keeper and helps mentor others as well as managing her own business Sweet Prairie Honey.

Beelines

By President Cheryl Burkhead



Becky Tipton earned her GPMB Master Beekeeper Certification. Congratulations to you all! Thank you to all that gave of their time to help make this annual event a success and to all of you who participated.

Hives are beginning to smell of ripening honey. I'm checking colonies and adding supers if necessary. Our primary nectar flow is on its way. I'm checking colonies that have swarmed to make sure that they have a laying queen and combining with a nuc if needed.

My colonies at the house have enjoyed an absolute perfect week for the Little Leaf Linden bloom. The weather hasn't been too hot or too windy. Minimal rain and cool nights have helped prolong the bloom period and the bees are taking advantage. It's always amazing to watch them from dawn to dusk. The trees have been humming and some nights I don't think they manage to make it back home. Perhaps they are left to sleep in the trees.

The last of the yellow sweet clover is beginning to fade. The white sweet clover is beginning to bloom, and the bees are gathering on the landing board and bearding in the evenings as they cool their home and dry down the nectar they have collected. I hope your bees are doing well and that you'll get out and observe as they work hard in gathering food to prepare themselves for winter. Hopefully they'll make a bit of surplus honey for the beekeeper this year.

2024 Meeting Dates:



- June 13th, Joli and Cecil's Open Apiary at 5:30pm
- June 17th, Monthly Meeting at Kill Creek Barn at 7pm
- June 22nd, Open Apiary at Pendleton's at 9am & 3pm
- July 6th, Open Apiary at Pendleton's at 9am
 - July 11th, Joli and Cecil's Open Apiary at 5:30pm
 - July 15th, Monthly Meeting TBD on Location





Ol' Bee Gal

One of the most interesting things about beekeeping is that it is ALWAYS changing. The weather changes, the challenges to the bees change, the science changes, and the people involved in bringing this all together for the good of the bees keep changing. Here's some new stuff that changed the way I'm thinking about my bees and beekeeping.

Did you attend the Funday? If not, you missed out on a great opportunity. Kristi Sanderson and Matthew Brandes tried a new spin on our usual Funday swarm

demonstration. We had competing bee beards. The preparation was interesting to watch. The UNL team took great care to prepare this stunt with an utmost concern for the safety of the beard wearers. The bees were selected 2 days prior. Both were from the same bee yard, and both had queens of the same age. Within minutes of shaking the bees onto the holding tray, with thousands of bees in the air and circling to find their queen, it became obvious that Kristi's queen was attracting many more bees than Matthew's queen. Bees were even recongregating on the package in which her bees had been transported (residual pheromone from the queen). But, by far, Kristi had the vast majority of all the bees from both packages. Kristi had bees from temple to belt line!

This was fun to watch, educational for many about the docile demeanor of bees in swarm mode, and a great photo opportunity! The take away from this as beekeepers is to consider the variability of the queen pheromone and how that might affect hive behavior. If you were shaking several new packages into their hives and you have one super pheromone queen, like Kristi's, you could easily end up with some hive(s) having way too few bees for growth success and one hive having way too many bees. The hive with way too many bees could experience problems, too. Too many bees would eat through stored or provided food very rapidly and could lead to starvation. Too many bees are more likely to supersede their queen and/or lead to early swarming behavior. It's just interesting!

Jennifer Tsuruda (University of Tennessee) told us about an experiment she tried with bees after a sugar-shake varroa test. We have been led to believe that it is more humane to do the sugar test as the bees are released back into the hive "unharmed" but coated in sugar. Jennifer's test showed that to be untrue. She marked bees involved in a sugar-shake with a pink dot, preformed the test, and released into the hive. The next day, she counted the number of pink dot bees compared to bees she marked as control and bees coated with sugar but not shaken. Guess what? The pink dot bees were not in the hive unharmed. Vigorous shaking, as is required for a sugar varroa test, is quite hard on the bees. After being sugared and shaken, the vast majority died! Jennifer's take-aways were this: the alcohol wash is a more accurate varroa sampling tool (not vastly more accurate but usually more accurate), it is better science and more humane to just kill the bees quickly than to return them to their hive sick and destined to die shortly. Maybe I didn't really learn anything new here, but I certainly have a different way of thinking about what I'm doing to my bees.

The last new thing comes from Matthew Brandes and our Facebook page. I'm going to mention it here because some of you don't do social media and may have missed this information and I think it was very interesting. A guy named David Burns (Robert is he related to you?) is on YouTube a LOT with beekeeping information.

He presented a "Red Wax Experiment" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALIGHETmyCg&t=4s. He dyed wax red for identification purposes and rolled the melted beeswax on his frame foundation. In the video you

can clearly see how the bees had utilized the red wax to make the cells adding a bit of their own wax at the edges. On frames adjacent to the waxed frame but not waxed, the bees had drawn no cells! In that wax takes high amounts of resources for the bees to produce, providing the wax for the bees encourages building of comb and optimizes the energy of the hive! I have "waxed" foundation by rubbing a block over the embossed hexagons on the foundation. I have seen little or no evidence that it benefited the bees and have rarely promoted that practice. MY MIND HAS BEEN CHANGED! Thank you, Matt and Mr. Burns. A simple experiment with interesting and meaningful results. Thank you to all who worked to make the Funday a success and who are dedicated to better beekeeping. **Becky Tipton**

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Bee Culture Magazine (link) American Bee Journal (link)

Use the links to subscribe directly...annual subscription rates under \$6 per month for both! This is fantastic information right at your fingertips. As part of your beekeeping experience, it's important to be up-to-date with the trends in bee biology, honey processing, the industry, and much more!

ASK QUINBY & REMI



Dear Quinby and Remi: I got two supers for my new hive. When should I put them on? Should I put them both on at once?

Quinby and Remi answer: If you started with foundation, as soon as your hive body frames are drawn out you can add 1 super of frames with foundation. Before adding your super, if your outside frames in your top hive body are not drawn out yet, you can move those outside frames into the frame 8 and 2 spots and then put on your queen excluder and then your first super. As your super fills you can move those frames around so that they fill out better. Joli and Cecil like to put full frames in the outside

spots and the empties in the middle. When your super frames are drawn out or you have manipulated them so that there are no frames undrawn out foundation on the outside you can add your next box. If you do not manipulate your frames the bees will go up the middle and not fill out all the frames in the supers- they like to stay in the middle best!

If, however, you have frames with drawn comb, you can add several supers at one time. The bees will work those, and it tends to stimulate honey production. You do have to move middle frames to the outside to encourage them to fill the whole super. If there's a great honey flow this may not be an issue as the bees will do the work for you!

Dear Quinby and Remi: I was just looking in my hive and the bees have these long plantlike things on their faces. What on earth is that?

Quinby and Remi answer: When the common milkweeds are in bloom, the bees get nectar from them. The common milkweed makes the insects work hard to get to the nectar and pollen. The bees must get the nectar out from the pollinia, which sticks to their mouthparts, and they have a hard time getting it off. They frequently bring those parts back the hive with them!

Dear Quinby and Remi: Should I use 9 frames or 10 frames in my supers?

Quinby and Remi answer: In supers with new frames of foundation it is better to use 10 frames until the foundation is drawn out and full of honey—otherwise they can get drawn out with "crazy" comb. When you have drawn out comb you can use 9 evenly spaced-out frames. The frames will be nice and fat and easy to uncap to extract.

Quinby and Remi would love to answer your questions. Contact them my emailing their owner at heartlandhoneyks@gmail.com.

Funday Recap

A heartfelt thank you to those who volunteered to be on this year's funday committee. Those members were Jo Patrick, Melisa and Mark Suckow, Elaine Ellenz, Marty Hansen, Kristi Sanderson, Matthew Brandes, Dixie and Dale Spurlin, Cheryl Burkhead, Robert Burns, Susan Lane. Each person stepped up to handle whatever needed to be done. They all were free to offer their opinions! It was a great group, and I am so thankful to have been able to work with them!

Special thanks to the club members who stepped up to give presentations! Robert Burns, Matt Brandes and Kristi Sanderson, Jon Chitwood, Jessica Popp, Robert Hughes, Cheryl Burkhead, Robin Kolterman and Cecil Sweeney. A huge shout out to Kristi and Matthew for being such good sports and doing the bee beards! A second shout out to Cecil Sweeney for putting up with me and bringing bees for the "at the hives". We also could not have done this without the help of the UNL team led by Dr. Judy Wu-Smart and Dr. Autumn Smart. I can't possibly name all the people who came Friday night to help or helped with lunch, snacks, or putting up tables and chairs on Saturday during clean up. Thank you all so much! We're building a team! Special thanks to Steve Vernon for showing up on Saturday to just help!

Special thanks to the honey ice cream makers- Steve and Becky Tipton and Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney! I've been through the evaluations and when we have our "after event" event meeting we'll talk about how to improve next year's Funday! Our job is never done!

The 2024 Funday Quilt

This year our quilt raffle quilt was donated by Jenny Latendresse from the Li'l Red Hen Quilt Shop. Thanks to your generous donations by buying raffle tickets, we raised \$690.00. This money is raised to help fund the youth scholarship and the Military/Veteran/First Responder mentorship program. President Cheryl Burkhead was the big winner!

Funday Silent Auction

This year Jo Patrick did a great job chairing the silent auction! Many thanks to those that donated and those that bought items. Most of the money raised goes to youth scholarship and Military/Veteran/First Responder mentorship programs. A few items were earmarked for our fund needed for our future expenses for our open apiary. We raised over \$3,000!



The NEKBA Beeyard

The NEKBA Open Apiary equipment was funded with a grant from the Great Plains Master Beekeepers. This is a great program with many educational opportunities, many of which you may choose to take part in. At the open apiaries you can expect to go through hives to see all stages of brood, queens, and take part in assessing the hives and queens. A great deal of time

is also spent on using your smoker and hive tool and talking to participants about issues they are seeing in their hives. Bee suits are available and only NEKBA hive tools and smokers will be allowed in the apiary. The hives are located at Pendelton's Country Market 1446 E 1850 Rd, Lawrence, KS 66046. These events are free, but we do ask that you sign up so that we know that you are coming. To sign up use the sign-up genius link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48ADA82BABF49-48334714-look

Thursday, June 20 @ 5:30 pm Saturday, June 22 @ 9 am

If you have not come to any of our teaching sessions, you should try to make it out there. There are clean porta potties available next to Pendleton's, a short walk to the bees. We have also added a storage shed. The bees

are looking great and growing. So thankful for a grant from the Great Plains Master Beekeepers group to make this possible for us. There is no better way to learn about beekeeping than actually going into a hive with another beekeeper.

Spring Hill - Heartland Honey Beeyard

This excellent educational opportunity will be held monthly on the second Thursday of the month. Dates are June 13, July 11, August 8, and September 12th at 5:30 pm. The June topic is supering. These open apiaries offer an opportunity to go through hives with another beekeeper- we look for eggs, larva, and queens. A great deal of time is also spent on using your smoker and hive tool and talking to participants about issues they are seeing in their hives. Bee suits are available, wear close-toed shoes and long pants. The hives are located at Heartland Honey at the home of Joli Winer and Cecil Sweeney at 19201 S Clare Rd Spring Hill KS 913-593-3562 call or text or email heartlandhoneyks@gmail.com so that we know that you are coming.

Tips for June

- Drink some water!! It's getting hot out there.
- Try and work in the mornings when it's cool.
- This is usually our big month! I hope that your hives are doing well.
- Next month can have a mite explosion due to drifting from the honey flow and the bee population will stop growing, but mite population will not.
- Test for mites and start reviewing treatment options that work with the heat and your situation, plan ahead as a treatment should happen in the next couple of months.



Military/Veterans Apprentice Program

I am Buck Bradley. I will be continuing the excellent work that Andy Nowachek and his team have done over the last few years. I was born and raised in Ottawa, Kansas. After a 21-year career in the Marine Corps, I recently returned home from North Carolina and am now settled in the Baldwin City area. I have been keeping bees for

the last several years and had up to 25 hives before moving back home.

In following newsletters, I will share more information on the NEKBA Military/Veterans Apprentice program and the connection between veterans and beekeeping that dates back to the end of World War I.

I hope everyone had a good holiday season and that you have your bee equipment ready for Spring. **Buck Bradley, Military/Veteran Appr. Liaison**



Honey Plants

Depending on your location, this could be the last few weeks of the spring nectar flow. For many, the first week of July signals the end of our main nectar flow. Nectar flows vary, particularly in agricultural areas. Overall, this year's nectar flow seems to be hit or miss and off and on. The frequent rains in early May, in some parts of Northeast Kansas, were a welcome sight. Timing can be critical. Rain can wash the nectar out of blooms for a day or two. That shortens the window of

time honey bees can take advantage of those sources.

New beekeepers may become aware of their bees' change in "attitude" during the transitional time from a strong nectar flow to a dearth. Your once busy and content colonies will find themselves lacking something to forage on. Your colonies will be at peak population and all those foragers will start to get cranky. Be sure to monitor your colony's food stores and be ready to feed them if necessary. A large population in the hive and little nectar coming in can mean starvation.

In July, nectar sources shift from trees and shrubs to blooming perennials and garden crops. Often there is a lack of floral sources for honey bees to forage until sunflowers begin to bloom in August. Herbs allowed to bloom, or bolt, are welcome nectar sources for honey bees. Oregano, rosemary, thyme, chives, borage, basil, lemon balm, catnip, and mint are all eagerly visited by honey bees. In the home garden, honey bees are good pollinators of strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, cucumbers, melons, pumpkins, squash, gourds, etc. A good source to reference when searching pollinators of agricultural crops is

https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Attractiveness-of-Agriculture-Crops-to-Pollinating-Bees-Report-FINAL-Web-Version-Jan-3-2018.pdf This helpful document compares different bee species as pollinators on different agricultural crops. It also notes whether honey bees take advantage of nectar or pollen, and to what degree, of the crops listed. Alfalfa, grown for seed production, is a good nectar source. More often farmers grow alfalfa for cattle feed and mow just prior to blooming. Soybeans can be a very good nectar source. Certain factors affecting nectar production in soybeans include soybean variety and time of day. The major contributor to soybean nectar production is high temperatures. Night time temperatures at 80 F. or above aid in nectar production. Soybeans are an unpredictable crop and beekeepers can have mixed feelings about it. While soybeans don't need honey bees for high yields, soybeans benefit slightly from their pollination.

For those in a highly agricultural area, weeds may be your bee's best friend at this time of year. Between mass flowering crop periods, weeds can make up to 40% of the honey bee's diet. (Requier et al., 2015) A few of those weeds are burdock, thistles, Blue Vine, milkweeds, and sumac.

Some of the summer forbes that bees rely on include Sunflowers, Lavender. Bee balm or Monarda, Purple Coneflower, Black Eyed Susan, Milkweeds, Joe Pye Weed, Russian Sage, Mountain Mint, Ironweed, Rudbeckia, and Sedums.

A few of the blooming annuals to consider planting are Zinnias, Nasturtiums, Mexican Sunflower, Hyacinth Bean Vine, French Marigold, and Vervain.

Two shrubs to consider for nectar in summer are Heather and Caryopteris. Heather is an evergreen shrub that honey bees forage in Scotland to create the famous Scotlish Heather Honey. With good care, heather can grow in zones 4–8, it may need some protection in winter. Caryopteris is a hardy shrub with unique, vivid violet-colored blooms. It reaches a height of 3-4 ft. **Jo Patrick, Honey Plants Chairman**

NEKBA Merch available at the general meetings! Get your T-Shirts and sweatshirts with the NEKBA logo! T-Shirts are available in goldenrod, cranberry and blue. Sweatshirts are zip-up hoodies in grey.





Chocolate Honey Ice Cream

4c. milk

1 tsp. salt

½ cup cocoa powder

2 1/2 c. liquid honey

12 egg yolks—slightly beaten

8 oz. semi-sweet chocolate pieces (I used chocolate chips)

8 cups heavy cream

1 TBSP real vanilla

In a large saucepan, combine the milk, salt and cocoa powder. Bring to a simmer. Remove from heat and stir in the honey. Pour a small amount of the honey/milk mixture into the egg yolks; stir well. Pour the yolks into the milk/ honey. Cook and stir over low heat until slightly thickened or temp reaches 165 degrees. Do NOT boil. Remove from heat and stir in the chocolate pieces until chocolate is melted. Refrigerate until chilled—stir occasionally. Stir in cream and vanilla and freeze according to your ice cream maker's directions. Makes about 6 quarts. (The chocolate base is very thick after being refrigerated. Using an immersion blender to stir the "pudding" creates a smoother finished ice cream.) Makes about 6 quarts.

Vanilla Honey Ice Cream

6 cups milk

2½ to 3 cups honey—light

8 eggs

¼ tsp. salt

6-7 cups cream

4 TBSP real vanilla

Heat milk in a saucepan over medium heat to approximately 150 degrees. (Do not boil.) Stir in the honey and salt. (Do not add honey to the cold milk and then heat—the ice cream will separate.) Beat the eggs. Stir a small amount of the milk and honey into the beaten eggs. Add all the egg mixture to the remaining milk and honey mixture, stirring well. Cook and stir over medium heat about 10 minutes or until the temperature reaches 165 degrees. Cool thoroughly. (Overnight) (Tip: using an immersion blender to stir the ice cream base creates a smoother finished ice cream.) Stir in cream and vanilla filling the freezer can to the appropriate line. Freeze according to your ice cream maker's directions. Makes about 6 quarts.

Honey Ice Cream Recipe-For the fruit batches

For a 1 ½ gallon batch

6 cups whole milk

6 cups whipping cream

2 1/4 cups honey

3 Tablespoons vanilla (peach I use 1T. Almond Extract and 2T. Vanilla)

4 cups masticated fruit (I add a little sugar to get it juicier)

Pour into ice cream container and mix per ice cream maker instructions

NORTHEASTERN KS BEEKEEPERS' ASSOC. 2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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I would like to receive the	newsletter, <i>The Buzzer,</i> by email	Yes	No	
Membership Northeasterr	KS Beekeepers per year (July-De	c. \$12.50)	\$25.00	
Additional family members wanting voting rights \$1.00 per person			\$1.00	
Additional family member	s name			
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American Bee Journal (discounted rate through association)			1 year \$29.75	
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Make checks payable to: NEKBA or Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Assn.

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terr., Shawnee Mission, KS 66202 ph. 913-481-3504, <u>rburnshoney@gmail.com</u> **You may join, re-new, register, donate and pay online at <u>www.nekba.org</u>**

MENTORING-SWEET PRAIRIE HONEY

Need help with your hives? -Spring inspections, installing packages, making splits, queen evaluation, diagnosis of pests and diseases, mite monitoring and treatment, etc. I can help you with your beekeeping needs! I am a certified master beekeeper with 30+ years of beekeeping experience. I will leave you with a written course of action after our session at your hives. Call or text 913-768-4961 or email Kristi Sanderson at sandersonk09@gmail.com for pricing and appointment times.

BEEKEEPERS.COM

<u>Beekeepers.com</u> (Jordy's Honey Company) in Lenexa, KS. Beekeepers.com is your only local full-service beekeeping store. We carry a full line of Beekeeping Supplies, Protective Clothing, Bottles, Bee Packages, Nucs and Queens. Visit our website Beekeepers.com, to view our entire line of beekeeping supplies. You can also shop in-person at our store in Lenexa. We ship queens directly to YOU! Order at QueenBees.com. Queens available March - October. Our hours are Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00, Saturday 9:00-12:00. You can find our honey at The Overland Park Farmers Market. **Robert Hughes**, 14054 W 107th St, Lenexa, KS 66215, 913-681-5777 or <a href="mailto:emailto:mem

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.

CB'S HONEY

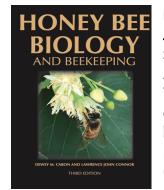
CB's Honey offers pure raw Kansas honey available in 5 gal buckets. Grafted queens and queen cells, and a limited number of nucs/packages. CB's Honey | Facebook. Located just SE of Topeka. 4521 SE 61st Street, Berryton, KS 66409. Call or text Cheryl Burkhead at 785-224-9077 or cherylbhoney@gmail.com

CEDAR RIDGE BEES

5 Frame Nucs for Sale. We are your local Premier Bee Products Dealer specializing in plastic foundation made entirely in the U.S.A. We sell bucket feeders and other bee equipment. Call or text Philip Knaus at 785-581-4216 or contact us at cedarridgebeehives@gmail.com - Check out our bees and products at www.cedarridgebees.com Cedar Ridge Bees 585 N 500 Rd, Overbrook, KS 66524.

T CREEK BEES AND HONEY - Tecumseh/Berryton, KS

Tecumseh Creek winds its way through the home yard lending its name to the brand. Located between Lawrence and Topeka, T Creek offers 5-frame nucs, online honey sales, custom honey packing, wholesale delivery to the Topeka / Lawrence area, 5-gallon buckets of honey, and drop-shipping wholesale service to rural grocery stores and agritourism destinations. Visit www.tcreekbees.com Email: tcreekbees@gmail.com or find the bees on Facebook. Order 2024 5-frame nucs by visiting the website and completing the nuc order form. Owner: Tim Urich. LLC in the State of Kansas and licensed by Kansas Dept of Ag.



Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping, Third Edition, Dewey M. Caron and Lawrence John Connor,

\$90 postage included. This book should stay on the dashboard of every beekeeper's truck. It's that good, and that necessary. Kim Flottum, Bee Culture. This comprehensive textbook easily replaces many beginner books while adding comprehensive details of bee biology essential to becoming a successful beekeeper and student of the honey bee. First released in 1999, Honey Bee Biology and Beekeeping is widely accepted as a major textbook of Apiculture (beekeeping). Beekeepers and bee clubs use it to teach other beekeepers. Universities use it to teach college students bee biology and beekeeping. It

concentrates on the 'why', 'how' and 'when' of beekeeping. It explains bee and beekeeping basics in a manner meaningful to people who lack an extensive background in biology. Yet it is not over-simplified and provides a meaningful source of beekeeping information for the informed beekeeper. The Third Edition has been carefully edited, updated and expanded to 480 pages. New chapters have been added, as have colorful new graphics and photographs. The Glossary has also been expanded. **Wicwas Press LLC Kalamazoo**, **MI 49001 - www.wicwas.com**

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

Address Service Requested

Meeting Monday, June 17th, 2024 - Kill Creek Barn

The Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers' Association

Membership is open to anyone interested in bees or bee culture. Dues are \$25.00 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 \$12.50 for ½ year. Additional members of a family wanting voting privileges shall be assessed dues at \$1.00 per year. Youth memberships (18 years of age and younger) are \$12.50 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 to 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. 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.

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