

CAPPINGS

The Official Newsletter of the Kansas Honey Producers Association www.KansasHoneyProducers.org

Well as you all know t's that time again! As most of you know, swarming is the natural method of colony reproduction. In temperate areas (like ours) it is quite a management challenge for the beekeeper. But there are ways to stay ahead of it.

Here are just a few ways to prevent swarms in your hives:

1. Provide plenty of space for your queen to lay in the brood nest.
2. Provide plenty of space for the workers to store nectar.
3. Keep young queens in all of your colonies.
4. Inspect often (every 10 days or so) once weather allows. Be sure to look for swarm cups and cells, and manage them accordingly.
5. Requeen - be SURE to locate and pinch the existing queen before introducing the new one.



Robert Burns had an excellent article in the last *Capping's* on making splits!

6. Remove brood - remove 3-5 frames of brood WITH attached nurse bees, place in a nuc with a queen cell or new queen - you've just made a new colony, or a split - OR place the frames of brood you've removed into a weaker hive (shake nurse bees off).

There are other methods of swarm management that you can read about in the books **Swarm Essentials & Honeybee Biology and Beekeeping.**

Q: What did the sushi say to the bee?

A: Wassabee!



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AUGUST 15th, 2018	
Editor	
Stephanie L. Brown	

OUR PRESIDENT JIM KELLIE

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is finally here. Our weatherman reported that this April was one of the coldest Aprils on record. That I can definitely believe. Everything pretty much appears to be at least 10 days behind. While we have a few minor nectar flows at the moment, our major nectar flows will most likely be toward the end of May. With the long winter, I did hear of higher than normal losses of colonies in the North central area moving up into Nebraska. With the ongoing drought in that area, it was just too long a time for the winter bees to hold on with the poor nutrients in a drought-stricken area. It would appear that other sections of Kansas had a fairly normal winter loss. Beekeepers are extremely busy now getting their bees up to speed, making sure they have pollen and nectar as mother nature slowly wakes up. Swarming time has begun and I have heard of many beekeepers in the urban areas catching feral swarms along with some swarms coming from their own colonies. A few are adding supers in southern areas of the state, although it is definitely early for the majority of supering up to begin.

KHPA team has had to deal with a couple of issues, but nothing too serious. We were privileged to do some education with the public in the south-central part of Kansas where thousands of colonies come into the state to pollenate Canola. The honeybees are only there for about 30 days before leaving to go on to other states to pollenate other fruits and crops. The other issue is just now beginning to show and that is bee kills from either pesticides or fungicides. While I have heard of reports effecting bees in the eastern part of the state, there have been reports of Bee kills in the north-east part. We are keeping track and following closely to better understand the situations that cause these unfortunate events. I have visited a few of the clubs around the state with information regarding bee poisoning and what you as a beekeeper can do for prevention and what happens after the bees have been killed. Since I cannot visit every club in Kansas. I will try and have the speech in article form for the next CAPPINGS. I would be glad to come to any of your local clubs to talk about pesticides, preventions and results.

The KHPA team has been also working on future events. Kristi has been busy with fair issues as a new Fair administrator is overseeing the Kansas Pride building. We believe we have all the kinks taken care of and Kristi is ready to sign on the dotted line. I talked with Joli regarding our Fall meeting. She has another round of big names coming to Great Bend at our fall meeting. I will let her tell you about the details. Becky has had some great success with the group that began their beekeeping experience. She had an article on our Facebook page telling about the young beekeepers on their way to a new world. I am sure she will give us a report on what is happening with them.

Whatever goals each of you have with your bees, I hope you can attain them this Spring and Summer. See you either at the State Fair or at the fall meeting.

I am excited to see so many beekeepers out in the community educating Children at schools and also going to adult social gatherings to educate those interested in what our honey bee can do for Mother Earth and us. Beekeepers have told me about doing Ag Days at schools. One beekeeper traveled clear out of his home country to talk to children out in the south west. Another beekeeper was busy with talking to adult social clubs and had 4 nights scheduled in two different cities. This is great! Education and promotion of what honey bees do and what the beekeepers life is like, is very helpful for the public to know and understand.



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FAIR ENTRY INFORMATION!!!

*NEW - A \$1.00 handling fee per exhibitor, due by entry deadline.

Online entries still have the option to purchase up to (6) discounted exhibitor tickets. Must be paid online, during checkout, and by August 15th.

Exhibitors filing a paper entry form, can only purchase up to (3) discounted exhibitor tickets. Must be paid at time of entry and by August 15th.

Entry deadline is August 15 to avoid extra fees. Attached is a complete fee schedule with deadlines. Included are entry times as well as pick up times.

Kansas Honey added a new class - Class #12 - Black Label Honey *Must be submitted in a 1 lb. Queen line Jar. Judged on taste only. Exhibitor must be entered in (2) additional honey classes to be able to participate in this class

Aug 15 Entry Deadline -paperwork or online entry (Must be postmarked by Aug 15)

Aug 16 – 25 Entries still accepted with a \$5.00 late fee per item

After Aug 25 Entries still accepted with a \$25.00 late fee per item

Sept 5 Receiving Entries 12:00 noon – 8:00 pm & Pick-up of advance ordered tickets

Sept 6 Receiving Entries 9:00 am – 8:00 pm & Pick-up of advance ordered tickets

Sept 6 Receiving Entries 8:00 pm – 8:30 pm for Largest Pumpkins over 400 pounds *See Rule 12 for additional directions “plus” pick up instructions

Sept 7 Receiving Entries 9:00 am – 11:00 am & Pick-up of advance ordered tickets. ****Nothing will be accepted after the stated receiving hours.** Judging begins at 3:00 pm

***If delivering items on this day, you must obtain a delivery release tag from Gate 2 in order to drop your items via the Blue Lot. You will be given approx. 1/2 hr. to unload exhibits and depart from the lot. **Any vehicle remaining in the lot without an authorized "Blue Hangtag" will be towed at the owners expense.**

Sept 16 Entries are released between 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm ****No early releases**

Sept 17 Entries picked up between 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Perishable items not picked up by 1:00 will be donated to a local food bank unless prior arrangements have been made for their pick up

After Sept 17 Must contact KSF Admin Office to make arrangements [\(620\) 669-3881](tel:6206693881), [\(620\) 669-3621](tel:6206693621) or [\(620\) 669-3600](tel:6206693600). Remaining items should be picked up within 1 week from the closing of the fair

Best of Show : **The Kansas Honey Producers Association** will present an engraved plaque to the beekeeper with the greatest total number of points as determined by the judges. In open class division you must enter three or more classes to be eligible for this award. You must enter at least (2) two classes in their division.

Entry rules and regulations, with tips and scoring for entries : Only (1) entry per exhibitor, per class allowed

- **Extracted Honey:** also known as strained honey, is honey that has been separated from the comb by centrifugal force, gravity, straining, or other means. Shall consist of (3) three one-pound Queenline or Classic jars, no inner seals in lids. All jars must be plain and free of labels
- **Chunk Honey:** shall consist of (1) one strip of cut comb (full length of the jar) in three (1) one pound, round glass jar

Beeswax: (3) three pound block, geometric shape, not decorative, smooth surface top and bottom

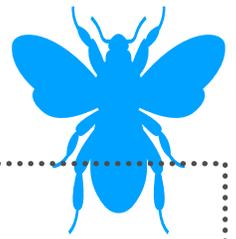
- **Beeswax Candles:** Four molded or dipped candles. No non-beeswax enhancement allowed, except wick
- **Art Design in Beeswax:** Entries must be (2) two pounds minimum weight, 100% beeswax: may be more than one piece but must be firmly joined together: may be cast in mold or carved. No non-beeswax enhancement allowed

Frame of Honey: Shallow or medium depth. Frame must be in a display case, both sides visible. Display case available upon request. Phone [913/856-8356](tel:913856-8356)

- Neither The Kansas State Fair nor The Kansas Honey Producers are responsible for items that are lost or stolen
Extracted Honey: Density (water content above 18.6% and below 15.5% will be docked) (10 pts), Absence of Crystals (10 pts), Cleanliness - Without lint, dirt, wax or foam (40 pts), Flavor (points will be reduced for flavor affected by processing) (10 pts), Container appearance - travel stains (10 pts), Accuracy of filling (20 pts) -
a. Headroom 1/2" maximum, 3/8" minimum with no visible gap between honey level and cap., **b.** Uniformity of filling
- **Comb Honey:** Uniformity of appearance (20 pts), Absence of uncapped cells or perforated cappings (20 pts), Uniformity of color (10 pts), Absence of watery capping (15 pts), Cleanliness and absence of (15 pts), Freedom from granulation and pollen (10 pts), Uniformity of weight (10 pts)
- **Cut Comb:** Neatness & Uniformity of cut, absence of liquid honey (20 pts), Absence of watery of perforated cappings, uncapped cells & pollen (20 pts), Cleanliness of product absence of travel stains, crushed wax, & crystallization (20 pts), Uniformity of appearance (color of honey capping structure, thickness of comb) (20 pts), Uniformity of weight (20 pts)

- **Comb Honey:** (3) three "rounds" "cassettes" (clear lids both sides, no pressure sensitive label), or "basswood sections" (cardboard carton with window, no producer name or address)
- **Cut Comb Honey:** (3) three comb honey cut and placed in commercial plastic comb honey boxes (4" x 4")
- **Crystallized/Cream Honey:** Shall consist of three glass jars between (8) eight ounce and (16) sixteen ounce. All jars must be the same
- **Gift Package:** Items must be clearly labeled, as they would be offered for sale - except any marks identifying the entrant must be obscured or removed, or fictitious. Fictitious labels must meet legal label requirements. Gift package, if wrapped, must be able to be unwrapped for judging. Homemade food items must have recipes attached. Gift packages must contain at least 50% producer
- **Honey Gift Package:** Originality / Creativity (20 pts), Quality of products (20 pts), Variety, i.e. other products from the hive (20 pts), Commercial appeal (20 pts), Neatness of workmanship (20 pts)
- **Chunk Honey:** Uniformity of cut (20 pts), Absence of watery cappings, uncapped cells & pollen (20 pts), Cleanliness of product / container (downgrade for travel stains, foreign matter, wax flakes, foam and crystallization) (20 pts), Uniformity of appearance in capping structure, color, thickness of chunks and accuracy and uniformity of fill (20 pts), Density and flavor of liquid portion of pack (20 pts) - **a.** Density (water content above 18.6% will be marked down) **b.** Flavor (points will be reduced for flavor affected by processing)
- **Crystallized / Creamed Honey:** Fineness of crystals (20 pts), Uniformity and firmness of product (25 pts), Cleanliness and freedom from foam (affected by processing) (20 pts), Flavor (points will be reduced for flavor affected by processing) (15 pts), Color (10 pts), Accuracy of filling and uniformity (10 pts)
- **Beeswax:** Cleanliness (35 pts), Uniformity of appearance (15 pts), Color (straw to canary yellow) (15 pts), Aroma (15 pts), Absence of cracks and shrinkage (15 pts), Appropriate weight (5 pts)
- **Beeswax Candles:** Cleanliness, color quality of wax (straw to canary yellow) (25 pts), Design and overall appearance (25 pts), Finishing details (Molded: wick trimmed to 1/2" flat finished bottom - Dipped: last drip left on) (25 pts), Uniformity of appearance and shape (25 pts)
- **Art Design in Beeswax:** Color (20 pts), Cleanliness (25 pts), Artistic Merit (25 pts), Originality (25 pts), Appropriate weight (5 pts)
- **Frame of Honey:** Uniformity of appearance (25 pts), Absence of uncapped cells (20 pts), Uniformity of color (15 pts), Absence of watery cappings / perforated (20 pts), Cleanliness and absence of travel stains (20 pts), Freedom from granulation and pollen (10 pts)

Volunteer at the Kansas State Fair

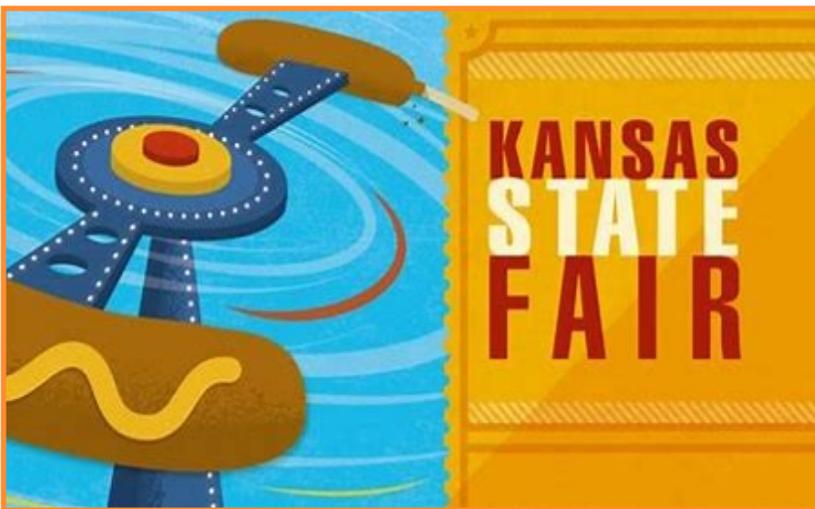


Come volunteer at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson on September 5-16. The fair starts every year the Friday following Labor Day and runs for 10 days. This is the largest event in Kansas every year and is attended by around 335,000 people.

We set up the honey booth on the 5th and the 6th and start selling on the 6th around 1:00. The sign up program sign up genius will go live online in March at the time of the state meeting in McPherson. You may see me there and pick your volunteer times or go online at signupgenius.com to volunteer. The signup will be called 2018 Kansas State Fair. If you have signed up the past 3 years and submitted your email you should get notified when the program is available to volunteer on.

I will need help unloading trailers of honey and supplies, setting up counters and shelving used in the booth, labeling honey, lotion bars, lip balms. Once the fair starts help is needed in the honey booth at the observation hive in the educational area, selling honey and other related products, sampling creamed honey and answering questions about, honey, bees, and beekeeping. On Sunday evening September 16th the honey booth is closed down and help is needed to inventory and pack up left over products, store counters and shelving in our on site storage area, and load up the trailer. It takes many willing hands and people with varying skills to make our time at the fair a successful.

We also have lots of fun so sign up early and sign up often. See you in McPherson in March and then see you in Hutchinson in September.



Bees

by: Jack Prelutsky

Every bee

There ever was,

Is partly sting,

And partly buzz.



The Kansas Honey Producers Association Fall Meeting

Friday and Saturday, October 26 and 27, 2018
2920 10th St., Great Bend KS

Best Western Angus Inn and Adjoining Perkins Restaurant & Meeting Rooms

At our spring meeting a committee was formed to try to do something a little different to increase attendance at the fall meeting of the Kansas Honey Producers. We came up with the idea of trying to do some “workshop” type presentations. I think I’ve lined up a program to meet the needs of many of our members.

We’ll be meeting at the Best Western in Great Bend, 2920 10th St. You can make your reservations at any time as our block is all set up. To get the block pricing please make your reservation by October 11th. You can reserve your room by calling 620-792-3541. Room rates are \$75.95 per night for exterior rooms and \$80.95 for interior rooms.

We will have two meeting rooms and will have two programs going on at the same time. I will do a separate mailing with the registration information and the program when it is complete.

Our guest speakers will be:

Gary Reuter: Apiculture Technician, University of Minnesota

Gary will do a 1-day (Friday) Queen Rearing Workshop that will be limited to the 32 people – there will be a nominal fee charged for some of the materials. Saturday you will be able to check your grafts—so maybe an hour on Saturday too.

Gary will also do a Mead making presentation
Ginger Reuter: Beeswax expert and fun person
Ginger will do a beeswax workshop and an Encaustic painting demo—both of these may turn into a hands on—details in the next mailing.

John Miller: Commercial Beekeeper, Gackle SD, Newcastle CA and Blackfoot ID. Miller Honey Company produces millions of pounds of honey each year.

John’s topics will be:

Twenty Steps to Not Becoming Rich
Succession Planning and the ABC’s (anywhere but California)

The Big Trends Driving Beekeeping

The Next Ten Years will be the Best Ten Years in Beekeeping

The Beekeeper’s Lament a book by award-winning journalist Hannah Nordhaus tells the remarkable story of John Miller, one of America’s foremost migratory beekeepers, and the myriad and mysterious epidemics threatening American honeybee populations. In luminous, razor-sharp prose, Nordhaus explores the vital role that honeybees play in American agribusiness, the maintenance of our food chain, and the very future of the nation

Cheryl Burkhead – Honey Plant Person will share her knowledge of the bloom period of pollinator plants in our area.

Pat Randol is from Winterset Iowa and operates Randol Honey Farm. She has quite a few hives and does several Farmers Markets in the Des Moines area. She will present on Making Goats milk soap with honey and making lotions and lotion bars. They also make creamed and flavored honey, collect pollen and so much more. They also have a website that they sell from. I keep thinking of more talks Pat can give!

Other topics that will be presented are:

Tricks for Finding Queens

Making Creamed Honey

Please mark your calendars for October 26th and 27th in

Northeastern Kansas Beekeepers Funday-Chips off the Old Bloke

**A Day to Honor Dr. Chip Taylor-All of his Doctoral Students will be attending
Saturday June 2nd, 2018 Registration 7:30-8:30 -- Program 8:30-5:00**

**Fee includes snacks, lunch, homemade honey ice cream and a full day of
fun Bring your veil and protective clothing if you would like to work through
hives Cost \$50 per person for those pre-registered, \$60 at the door**

Children under 5 free, ages 6-18 \$20 and \$25 at the door

joli@heartlandhoney.com

**A dinner will be offered for an additional fees--Pre-register by May 21st, 2018
Douglas County Fairgrounds 2110 Harper Street, Lawrence KS Register and
pay online at www.NEKBA.org**

For more information contact Joli Winer at 913-856-8356



Dr. Orley “Chip” Taylor

is the founder
and Director of
Monarch Watch
an outreach pro-

gram focused on education, research
and conservation relative to monarch
butterflies. He is a retired Professor in the
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary
Biology at the University of Kansas. He
trained as an insect ecologist. Starting in
1974, Chip has studied Neotropical Afri-
can honey bees (killer bees) in French
Guiana, Venezuela, and Mexico. Chip
has been an incredible support to the
beekeepers in Kansas. His swarm demo
is always a highlight of the Funday. We
love and respect him.

Dr. Marla Spivak has been affiliated
with the University of Minnesota since
1993, where she is currently Distin-
guished McKnight Professor in the De-
partment of Entomology. She is the au-
thor and creator of numerous beekeeping
manuals and videos, and scientific arti-
cles. She is developing practical applica-
tions to protect honey bee populations
from decimation by disease while making
fundamental contributions to our under-
standing of bee biology. Her TED talk
“Why Bees are Disappearing” is the
buzz!



Dr. Mark Winston is the recipient of the 2015 Governor General's Literary Award for Nonfiction for his book *Bee Time: Lessons From the Hive*. One of the world's leading experts on bees and pollination, Dr. Winston is also an internationally recognized researcher, teacher and writer. He currently is a professor at Simon Fraser University and has directed Simon Fraser University's Centre for Dialogue for 12 years. His other books include *The Biology of the Honey Bee* and the soon to be released *Listening to the Bees*.

Dr. Jose Villa is now retired from being research entomologist with the United States Department of Agriculture's Honey Bee Breeding and Physiology Research Station in Baton Rouge. His work included the Russian Bee Project and *Nosema*.

Dr. Gard Otis retired from the School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph. He studies the ecology, behavior, and evolution of insects, with an emphasis on honey bees, their pests, and butterflies. He is most proud of his study of the swarming behavior of honeybees; the breeding project that greatly reduced the impact of the honeybee tracheal mite on bees in Ontario; and the rediscovery of the honey bee species, *Apis nigrocincta*, in Indonesia. He has improved the lives of rural Vietnamese farmers through beekeeping.

Dr. David Roubik, is an entomologist at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. For most of his career he has studied tropical insects, especially bees. He has studied African bees, Vulture bees, pollen of native bees and the pollination of Central American Coffee plants by African bees—making for better tasting coffee! He has written *Ecology & Natural History of Tropical Bees*, *Pollination Ecology and the Rain Forest* and *Pot-Honey A Legacy of Stingless Bees*.

Dr. Judy Wu-Smart is the Extension & Research Entomologist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Entomology. The UNL Bee Lab pursues research questions and extension programs focused on stressors impacting pollinator health in both managed and wild bee communities.

Dr. Marion Ellis is a retired professor of entomology at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Ellis is a world-class researcher on several topics relating to honeybee health. He retired in 2014 and continues to be one of our favorites. • Swarm Demo with Dr. Chip Taylor • Douglas County Master Gardeners Flower and Plant Sale Dreher Bldg. Patio • Vendors: To be Announced • Silent Auctions to support the Youth Scholarship and Military/ Veteran Programs and the Educational Efforts of

Kansas Honey Producer's Association
Robert 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 _____

Renew On Line
www.kansashoneyproducers.org

Phone# _____ Email 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 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. Email: rburnshoney@gmail.com

Mail to: Robert Burns, 7601 W 54th Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66202 Phone# 913-831-6096

The Kansas Honey Producer's Association is a nonprofit 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.